

Regional Science Consortium

Erosion

Vocabulary

1. **Breakwater** – A rock pile placed offshore in order to mitigate wave action.
2. **Erosion** – The geologic process wherein earthen materials (soil, rock, etc.) are worn away and transported by natural forces such as wind or water.
3. **Glacial Erratic** – Glacially-deposited rock differing from the size and type of rock native to the area in which it rests.
4. **Groin** – A man-made anti erosion structure constructed perpendicular to direction of longshore drift.
5. **Longshore Drift** – The transportation of sediment along a coast parallel to the shoreline due to incoming wave direction.
6. **Mitigation** – The action of reducing the severity, seriousness, or painfulness of something.
7. **Sediment** – A solid material that is moved and deposited in a new location.
8. **Tombolo** – A sandspit that forms reaching for the midpoint of a breakwater. When fully formed can function as a groin.
9. **Unconsolidated** – Loosely arranged, not stratified.