



Mitigating Damages From Coastal Wetlands Development: Policy, Economics and Financing

LEONARD A. SHABMAN and SANDRA S. BATIE

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Abstract

Public programs to reduce the rate of coastal wetlands losses are based upon an ambiguous policy framework. Also, scientific uncertainty about the services of wetlands make credible economic valuation difficult, thus reducing the utility of benefit-cost analysis within the wetlands regulation process. Reform of national wetlands programs can result in enhanced maintenance of wetlands stocks and accommodation of development pressures. The policy reforms proposed in this paper will result in achievement of these objectives in an economically efficient manner.

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