

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service states the following regarding CBRS units on its website:

www.fws.gov/habitatconservation/coastal_barrier.html states in part, “The law encourages the conservation of hurricane prone, biologically rich coastal barriers by restricting Federal expenditures that encourage development, such as Federal flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program. CBRA [the Coastal Barrier Resource Act] is a free-market approach to conservation. These areas can be developed, but Federal taxpayers do not underwrite the investments.”

www.fws.gov/habitatconservation/Coastal_Barrier_Resources_Act_2-10-05.pdf further states “Developing coastal barriers, however, is risky business. They serve as the mainland’s first line of defense against storm surges and hurricane winds. Aware of their risk and value, Congress adopted the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) in 1982. That law is the essence of free-market natural resource conservation; **it in no way regulates how people can develop their land, but transfers the full cost from Federal taxpayers to the individuals who choose to build.**” [emphasis added] The response to the question “How Does the Public Benefit?” is, “Taxpayers across the country do not pay to develop – and rebuild again and again – risky and biologically rich places.”