Nicole Elko is a coastal geologist who is Secretary of the American Shore and Beach Preservation Association and President of Elko Coastal Consulting in Charleston, SC. She has 16 years of experience in the coastal field and has managed or assisted with 20 beach nourishment projects along the U.S. East and Gulf coasts. She has experience working with local communities and various state and federal agencies, particularly the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Dr. Elko has eight peer-reviewed journal publications. She is also an experienced public speaker having given numerous presentations on coastal process and policy to audiences such as the CERB, the U.S. House Science & Technology Committee, at technical conferences, and county and municipal commission meetings.

Dr. Elko is Chair of the ASBPA Science & Technology Committee which provides science-based guidance to Congress and federal, state & local agencies on national coastal policy issues. Her business provides coastal processes research, education, monitoring, and advocacy services with a focus on beach restoration. She teaches a Beaches 101 training course to regulators and elected officials in the Carolinas. In August 2014, she organized the first meeting of South Carolina beach communities and is now coordinating the formation of a SC coastal advocacy association. Nicole and Rob Holman (Oregon State Univ) were co-chairs of the Nearshore Processes Research vision meeting held in Kitty Hawk in April 2014.