Beach nourishment is one of the ways that the shoreline is stabilized. However, it is very expensive, and it is not permanent. Huge amounts of sand are either dredged in from offshore or brought in by dump trucks.

As mentioned beach nourishment is not a permanent solution. One solution that is permanent is a sea wall. A sea wall is a permanent structure placed to prevent waves from advancing into the shore. While the sea wall does a good job of protecting what is behind it, it does nothing to protect the seaward side of it from beach erosion.

Another permanent structure are jetties. Jetties are usually built in pairs and encompass a bay or inlet. They are built perpendicular to the shore. The jetties block the movement of sand along the coast on only 1 side as it builds up on the side of the jetties, however the down current side of the jetties does not get any deposition of sand and there is no beach.

Many times jetties are built along the shoreline to protect a inlet or to build a nice beach area, however there is a down current problem where you starve the down current of sand that helps protect the beaches from erosion.

River deltas have also been dredged to provide shipping lanes for huge barges. This allows sea water to backflow and displace fresh water areas, killing off many plants that help prevent erosion.

Overwash is when the waves breach over the sand dunes and deposit sand inland. Many times the dunes are totally washed away and deposited inland covering vegetation, roads, houses, etc.