



Legislative and Governmental Update

SESSION OVERVIEW



The 2015 Session officially began last week with the first Committee Week (January 5-9), another round of committee meetings is scheduled for next week (January 20-23) with three more weeks of meetings in February before the Session officially

begins on March 3. FSBPA's agenda for the 2015 legislative session is straightforward but impossible to predict, and with limited opportunity to impact timing and ultimate resolution. In turn, our governmental strategy will have to be adaptive and unfortunately end-loaded.

Our mutual objective and initial starting point must be to target our current (2014/15) legislative appropriation of \$47.3 M in state funding for beach projects. May sound reasonable and easily achieved, especially given the numbers swirling around Amendment 1 implementation of the 33 percent documentary stamp tax allocation for environmental programs. However, it is not for many political as well as technical reasons. They include the complex trust fund structure required for amendment implementation since all dollars must flow through a single trust fund (Land Acquisition) that the

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Suites on Sand Key

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District 13
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2015 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
September 23-25, 2015
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It's never too early to make your
Hotel Reservation!
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Legislature must first agree upon, then the inherent conflict associated with competing programmatic allocations. All this has been made more difficult by misinformation, competing interpretations of what the amendment means, and the lack of recognition or appreciation for current levels of program funding from doc stamps. There is no great windfall: many programs currently receiving doc stamps may have substantial losses in funding. In turn, implementation of Amendment 1 will be anything but easy, and all environmental acquisition and improvement must be purposeful and linked to specific management objectives. Our advocacy strategy has both an overriding as well as immediate goal. We must work together to ensure that beaches are part of a water issues-dominated discussion surrounding Amendment 1, while maximizing funding from documentary stamp revenues and non-recurring GR for statewide beach projects for FY **2015/16**.

Unfortunately, the beach program is expected to be starting 2015 in a familiar place. Since 1998, the statutory provision of documentary stamp revenues annually has been \$30 million. In recent years, the Legislature has provided additional discretionary funding from General Revenue to both accommodate the doc stamp revenue decline as well as exceed the statutory \$30 M. While the Association has worked to demonstrate that the statutory intent of providing at least \$30 million annually for statewide beach projects is clearly no longer adequate, and the Legislature's recent allocations indicate agreement, the Department in recently submitted budget schedules has again requested just \$25 M for FY 2015/16. It is not likely the Governor's budget recommendation will include more.

The final draft of DEP's Local Government Funding Request (LGRF) for next fiscal year totals approximately \$100 million (which is up \$10 M over the 14/15 total request) with what appears to include 52 beach and inlet projects plus post-construction monitoring. The 15/16 LGFR has not yet been officially transmitted by DEP to the Governor and Legislature. Despite last year's generous funding by the Legislature, we are not making inroads and apparently won't until we sustain a predictable and dedicated funding level substantially greater than \$30 M annually. As the Association has noted far too many times, the problem remains – too many worthy, critically-needed projects go unfunded from year-to-year despite their exceptional State return-on-investment, and documented tourism, storm damage reduction, recreational and environmental benefits.

Fortunately, we have an exceptional resource to promote. We need to make sure our mutual 2015 message is heard from numerous coastal communities and interests, and is transmitted and heard clearly by lawmakers in Tallahassee—**Beach Management needs to be a significant program consideration in the framing and funding associated with Amendment 1**. The discussion has begun in the Senate Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee Meeting update that follows. FSBPA also has the responsibility to

maximize the amount of funding for, and number of projects receiving appropriations for, FY 2015/16. This year's \$47.3 million is a one-time only occurrence, and will be extremely difficult to secure again this coming year, given the emphasis and focus on Amendment 1 and water policy. FSBPA's Board of Directors and working team of staff and consultants can't do it alone. Please lend your immediate and targeted support. Decision-makers must recognize Florida's beach management program is a current statutory recipient of doc stamp revenues, clearly recognized in the Constitutional language, and the continued and increased expenditure of such dollars is an outstanding return-on-investment.

AMENDMENT 1 and WEEK 1

As noted, The Senate Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee held a workshop on Amendment 1 last week (Wednesday, Jan 7). Senate staff provided a presentation regarding the specifics of the Amendment, members of the committee asked questions and expressed opinions about proper uses of the money, and members of the public, and the environmental community in particular, gave public comment.

Senators recognized that land acquisition is important, but commented that it is important to recognize that Amendment 1 is about more than just acquisition of land. There was a significant amount of discussion regarding the extent to which infrastructure projects should or should not be included in Amendment 1, and there will likely be much debate about that issue going forward. Some feel that infrastructure projects should not be included at all, while others think that infrastructure projects that provide some environmental benefit should be included. Many members of the environmental community are concerned that member water projects will dominate Amendment 1 funding, leaving other programs vulnerable.

The Water and Land Legacy coalition (Environmental groups that crafted and orchestrated the Amendment initiative) presented a joint proposal for program funding that notably included \$150 million for Florida Forever (including \$10 million for trails) and \$80 million for Springs.

They also included \$20 million for beaches. In testimony, Eric Draper (Audubon) stated that the Legacy groups recognize that the beach program has traditionally been funded with doc stamps and has often received supplemental General Revenue, and that this could continue to be the case. This was definitely the "glass half-full" – but maybe that is a bit too optimistic. First, several non-coastal Senators noted their support for including beaches, especially the Chair. While there is a lack of support within the coalition for beach nourishment, by distributing their funding distribution list with beach management included, takes the question of eligibility or intent off the table. It is clear indication that beach management will be a part of the

discussion. Further, their allocation proposal is certainly not part of the Constitutional amendment language or was it part of the voter campaign. It just surfaced by targeted interests last week, and is of course non-binding on legislative implementation.

Diana and I have begun member and legislative staff meetings in earnest and have many more scheduled for next week and the Week of Feb. 2-6. They have been productive and have thus far focused on key projects with significant funding requests for FY 15/16, and justifying a reasoned and defensible beach funding range for consideration as part of the Amendment 1 discussion—and it's a whole lot more than \$20 million. It's a heavy lift. Beaches need to be a frequent mention as part of this important discussion. Anything you can do to reinforce our efforts will be of benefit to the future of Florida's beaches.

OTHER GOVERNMENTAL NEWS

Last month, Governor Rick Scott announced the appointment of Jon Steverson as Secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Steverson most recently served as Executive Director of the Northwest Florida Water Management District. He also previously served as the Legislative Affairs Director for DEP under Governor Scott and coordinated environmental policy for under Governors Crist and Bush. Many years ago, he served as the environmental advocate for the Florida Association of Counties. His background makes him well-suited to handle beach policy and funding issues and FSBPA enjoys a long history of working with him on beach issues.

There is little in the way of pre-filed legislation in the area of environmental law. However, FSPBA will be monitoring SB 284 by Senator Diaz de la Portilla relating to permitting, simply because it opens up chapters 373 and 403 and has a broad subject matter. The bill relates to water management districts and exactions.

Debbie Flack, President, FSBPA

Diana Ferguson, Legislative Affairs (Rutledge-Ecenia)

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2015 Tech Conference February 4-6 Clearwater Beach Marriott Suites on Sand Key

If you haven't already done so, please make sure you plan to join us for FSBPA's upcoming national technical conference. The 2015 Planning Committee has developed an excellent program, and we anticipate many outstanding presentations, covering a variety of topics. As is tradition, there will be a few "home-town" presentations, and Thursday will be busy with concurrent sessions running all day. Please make sure to review the conference program prior so that you can plan which sessions you want to attend. The program can be viewed on the following pages as well as the most up-to-date version of the program online at <http://www.fsbpa.com/documents/2015TechConferenceProgram.pdf>.



Clearwater Beach
Photo courtesy of the City of Clearwater

With much expressed interest in the topics of turbidity and hardbottom, two highly anticipated sessions have been devoted to these subjects. FDEP will be presenting as part of these panels, and the program allows for time following each of these two sessions for extended discussion by the presenters and audience. In addition, there will be a few presentations on the topic of sea level rise – shoreline change response, effects on beaches and beach nourishment, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers guidance on the subject.

Some other highlighted presentations include presentations on environmental windows, the Florida Habitat Conservation Plan, taxation and spending relative to beach nourishment, coastal structures permitting, and an update on the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management's Hurricane Sandy response initiatives. There will also be project-specific presentations focused on coastal structures, storm events, performance, and monitoring.

To register for the conference, visit the [conference website](#) and sign-up online.

**Register
NOW!**

The conference hotel, the Clearwater Beach Marriott, has sold out of rooms. There are two hotels that are less than two miles away from the Marriott. The **Wyndham Garden Clearwater Beach, Reservations 727-443-7652** and the **Holiday Inn Clearwater Beach, Reservations 727-447-6461**. For complete details on these hotels, [click here](#).

Please join us in February on Sand Key!

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**28th Annual
National Conference on Beach Preservation Technology
PROGRAM
February 4-6, 2015
Clearwater Beach Marriott Suites on Sand Key**

Wednesday, February 4, 2015

OPENING SESSION

1:00 p.m. to 5:35 p.m.

1:00 p.m.

Welcome

1:10 p.m.

An Overview of Pinellas County's Nourished Beaches and their Performance

John Bishop, Ph.D. and Andrew Squires, Pinellas County, FL and Ping Wang, Ph.D., Coastal Research Laboratory, Department of Geology, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL

1:35 p.m.

The Port Everglades Sand Bypass Project: An Important Future Sand Source for SE Florida Beaches

Christopher Creed, P.E. and Steven Howard, P.E., Olsen Associates, Inc., Jacksonville, FL and Nicole Sharp, P.E., Broward County, FL

2:00 p.m.

The Relocation of *Acropora Cervicornis*, Other Non-Acroporid Stony Corals, and *Xestospongia Muta* (Barrel Sponges) Associated with the Port of Miami Dredging Project

Keith Spring and Anne McCarthy, CSA Ocean Sciences Inc., Stuart, FL

2:25 p.m.

Exhibitor Recognition

Tyler Tracz, PSM, Degrove Surveyors, Inc., Jacksonville, FL

2:30 p.m.

Professional Exchange Break

2:55 p.m.

Fate of Fines Study: Sediment Loss During the Hydraulic Dredging Process

Jase Ousley, P.G., U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District, FL and Jennifer Coor, Ph.D., Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Water Resource Management, Tallahassee, FL

Subject to change, any updates as necessary will be made online and presenters notified

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Wednesday, February 4, 2015

OPENING SESSION continued

3:20 p.m.

Results from the Turbidity Monitoring Working Group

Martin Seeling, PWS, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Water Resource Management, Tallahassee, FL

3:55 p.m.

The Reality of Mixing Zone Requirements

Tara Brenner, P.G., Thomas Pierro, P.E., and Lauren Floyd, CB&I Coastal Planning & Engineering, Inc., Boca Raton, FL

4:20 p.m.

Panel and Audience Discussion

4:45 p.m.

Improving Florida's Beaches: USFWS and USACE Partnership Under 7(A)(1) of the Endangered Species Act

Aubree Hershorin, Ph.D. and Jase Ousley, P.G., U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District, FL and Ann Marie Lauritsen, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Saint Petersburg, FL

5:10 p.m.

An Update on the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management's Hurricane Sandy Response Initiatives

Jennifer Culbertson, Ph.D., Bureau of Ocean Energy Management Headquarters, Department of the Interior, Herndon, VA

5:35 p.m.

Adjourn

6:30 p.m.

Welcome Reception

Location: Exhibit Area

Sponsored by Tensar International and Marriott Clearwater Beach Suites on Sand Key

Thursday, February 5, 2015

7:35 a.m.

Professional Exchange Break, sponsored by Van Scoyoc Associates

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

8:05 a.m. to 10:10 a.m.

SESSION A

8:05 a.m.

UMAM Updates and Progress of Rule Development Process

Lainie Edwards, Ph.D., Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Water Resource Management, Tallahassee, FL

8:30 a.m.

The Value of Hard Bottom and Hard Bottom Monitoring

Eric Summa, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District, FL

8:55 a.m.

Hardbottom Monitoring Standard Operating Procedures for Beach Nourishment Projects

Lainie Edwards, Ph.D., Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Water Resource Management, Tallahassee, FL

9:20 a.m.

JCP Environmental Monitoring – Making it Meaningful, A Case Study – Charlotte County Stump Pass Erosion Control Project Seagrass Monitoring

Kimberly Colstad, Coastal Technology Corp., Vero Beach, FL and Kris Thoemke, Ph.D., Coastal Engineering Consultants, Inc., Naples, FL

9:45 a.m.

Panel and Audience Discussion

10:10 a.m.

Professional Exchange Break

Co-Sponsored by Norfolk Dredging & Atkins

SESSION B

8:05 a.m.

Cutting Edge Developments of Combined Bathymetric/Topographic LiDAR as a Support Tool in the Coastal Zone

Rupert Forester-Bennett, Pelydryn, Exeter, UK

8:30 a.m.

Planes, Boats and Booties – Sea Bright to Manasquan Beach Profile and Groin Surveys

Tim Cawood, PLS, McKim & Creed, Wilmington, NC

8:55 a.m.

Detailed Visualization of Project Volume Changes

Patrick Snyder, P.E. and Albert Browder, Ph.D., P.E., Olsen Associates, Inc., Jacksonville, FL

9:20 a.m.

Vulnerability of Indian River County's Coast to Episodic Storm Events

David Swigler, P.E., Gordon Thomson, P.E., and Julien Devisse, CB&I Coastal Planning & Engineering, Inc., Boca Raton, FL and James Gray, Indian River County, FL

9:45 a.m.

2014 Anna Maria Island Beach Nourishment Projects Construction and Post-Construction Monitoring

Michelle Pfeiffer, P.E. and Thomas Pierro, P.E., CB&I Coastal Planning & Engineering, Inc., Boca Raton, FL and Charlie Hunsicker, Manatee County, FL

10:10 a.m.

Professional Exchange Break

Co-Sponsored by Norfolk Dredging & Atkins

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Thursday, February 5, 2015

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

10:40 a.m. to 11:55 a.m.

SESSION C

10:40 a.m.

Honeymoon Island Beach Restoration Project – Phase II Funding Overview and Construction Update

Andrew Squires and John Bishop, Ph.D. and Pinellas County, FL and Brett Moore, P.E. and Mohamed Dabees, Ph.D., P.E., Humiston & Moore Engineers, Naples, FL

11:05 a.m.

Evaluation of Bahamian Sand as a Nourishment Source for Long Key State Park

Peter Seidle, P.E., Applied Technology and Management, Inc., West Palm Beach, FL, and Cheryl Miller, Coastal Eco-Group, Deerfield Beach, FL

11:30 a.m.

Development of Estero Island Coastal Management Plan

Josh Carter, P.E., Coast & Harbor Engineering, a Division of Hatch Mott MacDonald, New Orleans, LA, Matthew Campbell, P.E. and Arpit Agarwal, Coast & Harbor Engineering, Inc., a Division of Hatch Mott MacDonald, Austin, TX, and Keith Laakkonen, Town of Ft. Myers Beach, FL

11:55 a.m.

Luncheon

SESSION D

10:40 a.m.

Coastal Structure Permitting in Florida: Part II

Jason Engle, P.E. and Tori White, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District, FL

11:05 a.m.

Recent Applications and Advancements for the Strategic Use of Coastal Structures

Thomas Pierro, P.E., CB&I Coastal Planning & Engineering, Inc., Boca Raton, FL

11:30 a.m.

Headlands, Living Shorelines and Breakwaters: Design, Construction and Performance of Three Cool Sites Along the Potomac River Estuary

C. Scott Hardaway, Jr., Virginia Institute of Marine Science, College of William and Mary, Gloucester Point, VA and James Gunn, Coastal Design and Construction, Inc., Gloucester, VA

11:55 a.m.

Luncheon

Conference Luncheon Sponsors

Coastal Tech, a G.E.C., Inc. company

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TetraTech

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Thursday, February 5, 2015

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

1:15 p.m. to 2:55 p.m.

SESSION E

1:15 p.m.

Development and Adoption of Updated Inlet Management Plans – Port Canaveral Inlet Management

Ralph Clark, P.E., Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Water Resource Management, Tallahassee, FL and Kevin Bodge, Ph.D., P.E., Olsen Associates, Inc., Jacksonville, FL

1:40 p.m.

Wiggins Pass Inlet Management Plan Implementation and 1st Year Performance

Stephen Keehn, P.E., Julien Devisse, P.E., and Tara Brennar, P.G., CB&I Coastal Planning & Engineering, Inc., Boca Raton, FL and Gary McAlpin, P.E., Collier County, FL

2:05 p.m.

Design and Expansion of the Sebastian Inlet Sand Trap

Michael Jenkins, Ph.D., P.E., Applied Technology and Management, Inc., West Palm Beach, FL and Martin Smithson, Sebastian Inlet District, Indian River County, FL

2:30 p.m.

Modern and Historical Morphodynamics of the John's Pass – Blind Pass Dual-Inlet System, Pinellas County, Florida

Mark Horwitz, P.G., Ping Wang, Ph.D., Ming Xie, and Jun Cheng, Coastal Research Laboratory, Department of Geology, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL

2:55 p.m.

Professional Exchange Break

Sponsored by Sand Transfer Systems

SESSION F

1:15 p.m.

Beach Restoration throughout Okaloosa and Walton County, Florida

Duncan Greer, Taylor Engineering, Inc., Destin, FL

1:40 p.m.

Environmental Windows, A Closer Look

Bill Hanson, Great Lakes Dredge and Dock Co. LLC, Oak Brook, IL

2:05 p.m.

An Evaluation of Environmental Windows on Dredging Projects in Florida, USA

Terri Jordan-Sellers and Aubree Hershorin, Ph.D., U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District, FL

2:30 p.m.

Evaluating Expected Dredging Costs for Highly Variable Market Conditions

Steven Howard, P.E., Olsen Associates, Inc., Jacksonville, FL

2:55 p.m.

Professional Exchange Break

Sponsored by Sand Transfer Systems

Thursday, February 05, 2015

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

3:25 p.m. to 5:05 p.m.

SESSION G

3:25 p.m.

Current Methods of Calculating Beach Visitation Benefits of Beach Nourishment Projects

Michael Trudnak, P.E., Taylor Engineering, Inc., Jacksonville, FL and William Hunt, retired USACE, Jacksonville, Florida

3:50 p.m.

Comparison of Taxation and Spending Relative to Beach Nourishment

Jimmy Sellers, M.B.A., Coastal Tech, a G.E.C., Inc. company, Vero Beach, FL

4:15 p.m.

The Florida Beaches Habitat Conservation Plan: A Collaborative Effort

Jennifer McGee, Ph.D., Thomas Ostertag, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Tallahassee, FL, Lisa Robertson, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee, FL, and Brian Powell, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Vero Beach, FL

4:40 p.m.

Adjourn

SESSION H

3:25 p.m.

The Coastal Defense Application: Evaluating Nature's Role in Coastal Protection in Southeast Florida

James Byrne, Chris Bergh, Caitlin Lusic, The Nature Conservancy, Big Pine Key, FL and Zach Ferdana and Greg Guannel, Ph.D., Natural Capital Project, Stanford, CA

3:50 p.m.

Coastal Resiliency in Broward County

Samantha Danchuk, Ph.D., P.E., Nicole Sharp, P.E., and Jennifer Jurado, Ph.D., Broward County, FL

4:15 p.m.

A Case Study in Applying Natural Resources Management for Coastal Resiliency: The City of Miami Beach Dune Management Plan

Margarita Wells, City of Miami Beach, FL

4:40 p.m.

Climate Change and Population Dynamics of Coastal Dune Plants: Will *Dalbergia* Eat the Beach This Year or Next?

Robert Barron, Coastal Growers, Inc., Boynton Beach, FL

5:05 p.m.

Adjourn

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Friday, February 6, 2015

7:30 a.m.

Breakfast Break

Sponsored by Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Company

CLOSING GENERAL SESSION

8:00 a.m. to 12:25 p.m.

8:00 a.m.

Shoreline Change in Response to Sea Level Rise on the Southwest Coast of Florida

James Houston, Ph.D., U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center, Vicksburg, MS

8:25 a.m.

Sea Level Rise Effects on Beaches and Beach Nourishment

Andrew Condon, Ph.D. and Michael Walther, P.E., Coastal Tech, a G.E.C., Inc. company, Vero Beach, FL

8:50 a.m.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Guidance on Sea Level Change and Application in Coastal Storm Damage Reduction and Ecosystem Restoration Projects

Heidi Moritz, P.E., U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Portland District, OR, and Matthew Schrader, P.E. and Mark Shafer, P.E., U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District, FL

9:30 a.m.

Living With Sea Level Rise

Douglas Mann, P.E., CB&I Coastal Planning & Engineering, Inc., Boca Raton, FL

9:55 a.m.

Guest Speaker: Congressman David Jolly, Florida's 13th Congressional District

10:10 a.m.

Professional Exchange Break

Sponsored by Van Scoyoc Associates

10:35 a.m.

Introduction to the Coastal Engineering Program at the University of North Florida, Jacksonville, Florida

William Dally, Ph.D., P.E., University of North Florida, Jacksonville, FL

10:45 a.m.

Analysis of a 10-Year Nearshore Wave Data Base and Its Implications to Littoral Processes

Luis Montoya and William Dally, Ph.D., P.E., University of North Florida, Jacksonville, FL

11:10 a.m.

UAS for Coastal Applications: Understanding the Regulatory Environment

Adam Benjamin, UF/IFAS Fort Lauderdale Research & Education Center, University of Florida, Fort Lauderdale, FL and Earl Soeder, PSM, GPServ, Inc., Orlando, FL

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Friday, February 6, 2015

CLOSING GENERAL SESSION continued

8:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

11:35 a.m.

Coastal Engineering Haitian Style

Gary Zarillo, Ph.D., Department of Marine & Environmental Systems, Florida Institute of Technology, Melbourne, FL, Timothy Blankenship, P.E., Coastal Systems International, Inc., Coral Gables, FL, and Jean Lucien Lligonde and Joseph Philoxy, CHRAD, Petion-ville, Ouest, Haiti

12 noon

Passive Dewatering – A Soft Way to Extend the Life of Beach Nourishments

Kenneth Christensen, EcoShore Int'l, Inc., Boca Raton, FL, Sandy Nettles, P.G., Nettles & Associates, Inc., Palm Harbor, FL, and Frank Gable, Ph.D., Department of Marine and Ecological Sciences, Florida Gulf Coast University, Fort Myers, FL

12:25 p.m.

Conference Adjourns

Subject to change, any updates as necessary will be made online and presenters notified

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CONFERENCE PROGRAM ADDITION**Friday morning's Closing Session****Congressman David Jolly, Florida's 13th Congressional District**

Congressman Jolly will be a welcomed and a most appreciated addition to our closing session's program.

(Friday, February 6, at 8 a.m.)

Florida, especially its beaches and FSBPA, is so fortunate to have Congressman Jolly in the Pinellas County seat historically held by Bill Young, the recognized Congressional champion of beach management, and FSBPA's Golden Statesman Award Winner in 2007 for his commitment during the first 50 years of the State's and the Association's efforts to protect our coastal resources. I am confident we will all benefit from his timely comments and perceptions regarding current issues, concerns and opportunities involving the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers federal shore-protection program as well as Congressional program oversight and funding in FY 2015 and beyond.

As Congressman Jolly welcomes us to the 13th District on February 6, let's make sure to express the appreciation of all the various beach interests present at this year's conference.

D. Flack

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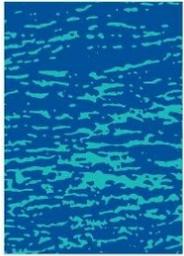
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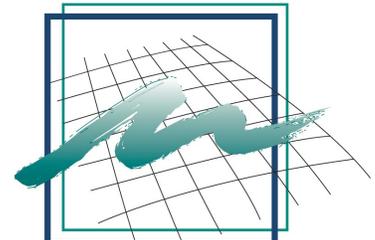


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S Y S T E M S
I N T E R N A T I O N A L

Pretzels & Candy Bar Break



Morning Beverage Breaks



VAN SCOYOC
A S S O C I A T E S

Friday Breakfast Break



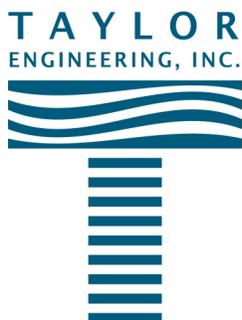
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28th Annual National Conference on Beach Technology Exhibitors



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Sebastian Inlet Sand Trap Expansion

Martin Smithson, Director, Sebastian Inlet District

The following article relates to a presentation to be given at the 2015 Tech Conference, Thursday afternoon, February 5, 2015.

Dredging of the Sebastian Inlet to maintain navigation dates back to the 1920's. There have been various dredging events in every decade since. As a means to maintain and stabilize the inlet, a sand trap was established in 1962. The original design, based on a University of Florida Coastal Engineering Lab Study, was a trapezoidal shaped sediment trap with a surface area of 40 acres and an effective volume capacity of about 300,000 cubic yards. Initial construction removed over 230,000 cubic yards of sand and 43,000 cubic yards of coquina rock. The rock was placed adjacent to the jetties and the sand was placed on the beach to the south.



Coquina Rock removed from trap

In 1965 a concrete arch bridge was completed, spanning the Sebastian Inlet as State Road A1A. This connection between Brevard and Indian River Counties would enhance the lives of many living in barrier island communities nearby. Meanwhile, the Sebastian Inlet District, in an effort to increase the efficiency of the sand trap, began expansion efforts in 1972. Over 420,000 cubic yards of sand was dredged and placed on the south beach and interior upland spoil areas. Explosives were used to deepen the western end of the sand trap by fracturing the underlying coquina rock. After two blasts, the operation was shut down by Florida DOT due to excessive vibration of the new A1A bridge. The resulting craters became known as the western lobes of the sand trap.

Additional dredging of the trap took place in 1978 with 188,000 cubic yards of sand placed on the south beach to offset erosion. Approximately 100,000 cubic yards of rock was also removed and stockpiled on Coconut Point adjacent to the inlet. Subsequent dredging events in the 1980's and 1990's typically placed over 200,000 cubic yards of material on the south beaches. Much of the dredged sand came from the deeper lobes of the trap and the adjoining navigation channel. However, as the dredge progressed over the sand trap template, the cutter head easily churned through the soft coquina rock, discharging a mixture of sand and rock. With an increasing focus on the success of sea turtle nesting, rock deposits on the beach were

ultimately restricted by State and Federal permitting agencies. Rock fragment removal from the beach actually took place following one event.

The fill rate of the sand trap was typically every four years. From 1999 to 2000, in an effort to supplement this sand source, additional Truck Haul projects took place delivering sand to the beach from upland sand sources. In 2003 Indian River County completed a large beach renourishment project using an offshore sand source immediately downdrift of the inlet. Following the active 2004 hurricane season, the sand trap was completely full and overflowing by 2007. Knowledge of the trap's irregular bottom with ridges of soft coquina rock forming furrows from previous dredging events, made engineers leery of dredging too deep. The fear of placing rock on the beach resulted in the establishment of a buffer elevation limiting the cutter head depth. This buffer elevation was set for the 2007 FEMA sponsored dredging event to offset sand losses from Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne.

Keeping the cutter head three to four feet above the elevation dredged in the past, avoided rock, but resulted in a reduced total sand volume for beach placement. The 2007 event produced only 86,000 cubic yards from the sand trap, versus the typical 200,000+ cubic yards. Shortly thereafter, the Inlet District decided to pursue a project that would expand, deepen and create a more uniform sand trap. The potential of such a project increasing the efficiency in sand bypass, gained the support of the FDEP Bureau of Beaches and Coastal Systems. Additional cost-share funding was provided through an amended agreement with the District.



Sand and rock screening at DMMA

In 2013 the District's coastal engineering consultant, Applied Technology & Management, provided design, permitting, bidding and construction management services for a trap expansion to -18 feet NAVD. Orion Marine Construction, Inc. won the bid and mobilized onsite in early 2014. Initial dredging of the trap and channel delivered 106,000 cy

of beach quality sand to the District's bypass template south of the inlet. By the end of the allowable dredging window in late April, the cutter head was getting into underlying coquina rock. At this point the discharge pipe was moved to the District's upland Dredged Material Management Area (DMMA). This 6-acre facility was constructed with State cost-share funding in 2011.

The Orion dredge, equipped with an aggressive rock cutting head, cut through the sand and rock mix for 30 days. Over 50,000 cy was removed from the sand trap expansion template and placed in the DMMA. That material is now being screened to separate sand and rock and is being prepared for beach placement via truck haul. The Sebastian Inlet State Park will utilize the rock material to stabilize roads and parking areas.



Orion Dredge

With the success of the approximately \$4 million Sebastian Inlet Sand Trap expansion, the District can now expect dredging events to produce beach quality material in a more cost effective volume range of 200,000 cubic yards. These efforts improve the District's inlet management and sand bypass objectives. It will be determined into the future if the expansion results in a reduced frequency of channel shoaling and trap dredging events. More efficient dredging will certainly save taxpayers dollars.

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FEDERAL PROJECT STATUS UPDATES – January 2015



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FEASIBILITY STUDIES:

- **St. Johns County** – St. Johns County feasibility study includes shoreline areas in South Ponte Vedra Beach, Vilano Beach, and Summerhaven. Re-scoping efforts were completed in FY-14 to modify the study to current Corps feasibility study 3x3x3 standards. Unexpected federal funding was received in the amount of \$525,000 to move forward with the study in October 2014. Under 3x3x3, consistent funding should be received to finish the study within 3 years. The team has resumed work on the study and plans to complete the Alternatives Milestone in March 2015. Alternatives identified will provide hurricane storm damage reduction in highly erosive areas along the shoreline. The restart comes at a time when all three reaches of the project area are seeing increased erosion threatening structures and State Road A1A.
- **Flagler County** – The Chief of Engineer's Report was signed by Lieutenant General Thomas Bostick on December 23, 2014. With this signing, the Corps is certifying that the beach and dune project is environmentally sound and economically beneficial to the nation. The Chief's Report will now go to the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), and then to the Office of Management and Budget for review. After these reviews, the report goes to Congress for future authorization.
- **St. Lucie County** – Re-scoping efforts were completed in FY2014 to modify the scope of the study to current Corps feasibility study 3x3x3 standards. Vertical team concurrence that the St. Lucie feasibility study is in compliance with the new policy was received on October 21, 2014. Unexpected federal funding was received in the amount of \$414,000 to move forward with the study in October 2014. The team has resumed work on the study and will begin the intermediate screening of alternatives leading to the final array of alternatives being identified in November 2015. Alternatives identified will provide hurricane storm damage reduction in highly erosive areas along the shoreline in St. Lucie County. The Chief of Engineers Report is currently scheduled for July 2017.

OTHER MAJOR PLANNING REPORTS:

- **Indian River County** – Limited Federal funding in FY-14 provided for initial study scoping for the new 3x3x3 standards, including completion of a draft project management plan, draft review plan, schedule, and study budget. Vertical team concurrence that Indian River County is in compliance

with the new policy was received on October 21, 2014. Discussions continue on future Federal funding to allow the study team to begin work. This project is authorized but has not had previous Corps participation in construction. A general reevaluation report (GRR) will be completed to verify the economic justification to support a project partnership agreement for future cost-shared work.

- The **Draft Ft. Pierce Shore Protection Project GRR** seeks an additional 50 years of Federal participation in the project. Alternative analysis is ongoing by the sponsor and consultants. Once complete, findings will be incorporated into a draft GRR, which will undergo review by Jacksonville District. The District was asked to evaluate the real estate values in the structure inventory, which was completed and provided to the non-federal sponsor.
- **Jupiter/Carlin Shore Protection Project** - Palm Beach County has submitted a draft Section 934 report and NEPA document for the Jupiter/Carlin Segment to extend Federal participation for the next renourishment and out to 50 years of Federal participation. Following review of the data and report, revisions were recommended to the Beach-fx model. Having received Federal funds for Palm Beach County projects, the model revisions and completion of the 934 report are being conducted at the Jacksonville District.
- **Broward County Shore Protection Project - Segment II 2nd Renourishment** – Limited Reevaluation Report (LRR) and Environmental Assessment (EA) – Issues from NMFS during public release have been resolved and a biological opinion was received in November 2014. EFH consultation has also been completed. The final LRR, including EA, was submitted by the County in December 2014. Once SAJ completes back check review, the final report will undergo ATR and legal reviews prior to submittal to SAD for approval.
- The **Dade County Limited Reevaluation Report (LRR) and Environmental Assessment (EA)** will evaluate the use of a new sand source for the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project. The draft report has been completed and will begin Agency Technical Review (ATR) at the end of January 2015. The report focuses on use of multiple sand sources for the projects needs over the remaining period of Federal participation.
- **Lee County, Gasparilla** – A Section 934 report has been initiated to determine the Federal interest in extension of Federal participation in cost-sharing from the current 10 years to a 50-year period of Federal participation, or an additional 40 years. On-going efforts focus on the Beach-fx model setup.
- **Sarasota County, Venice** – A Limited Reevaluation Report (LRR) and Environmental Assessment (EA) are underway to evaluate economic and environmental changes to the approved Hurricane and Storm Damage Reduction Project due to the use of a new offshore borrow area. The draft report was reviewed at SAD and the EA was also released for public and agency review. Following revisions, the final report and EA were reviewed by the agency technical review team and were submitted to SAD on September 15, 2014.

REGIONAL SEDIMENT MANAGEMENT (RSM):

- The Jacksonville District has been officially named the South Atlantic Division's Center of Expertise (CX) for RSM. With this designation, SAJ will lead a virtual team of subject matter experts from SAD to further operationalize RSM throughout the District. Work has begun to quantify the value of RSM provided by jointly managing navigation, coastal storm damage reduction, and ecosystem restoration projects.
- The **Nassau and Duval Counties RSM** effort continued with funding from the Corps' national RSM program. A technical report will be published by the Corps' Engineer and Research Development Center (ERDC) in FY15, documenting the findings.
- Jacksonville District's "**Ship to Shore: Fate of Fines in the Dredging and Placement Process**" effort gathered data from FY14 navigation O&M and beach nourishment dredging and beach placement events in order to quantify the loss of fine sand as material is dredged and transported from dredge sites to placement areas. Samples collected from several dredging projects in Florida were collected and processed in FY14. FY15 will see a continuation of these efforts with analysis of the sample findings.
- **Turbidity Compliance for Beneficial Use of Sand Dredged for Navigation** – As part of SAJ's CX role, they will be working with the Corps' Mobile District to collaborate with FDEP on turbidity requirements for beneficial use of dredged sand.

ENGINEERING AND DESIGN:

- **Nassau County** – The permit application for the next renourishment was submitted to FDEP and a request for additional information received in August 2014. The additional information has been provided to FDEP. FY15 efforts will focus on completing the permitting, plans and specifications for a 2016 renourishment event.
- **Duval County** – A borrow area survey was completed in August 2014 to support the next renourishment planned for 2017. FY15 efforts will focus on updating NEPA documentation for the new proposed borrow area adjacent to the Jacksonville Harbor ODMDS.
- **St. Johns County, St. Augustine Beach** – The engineering team is currently evaluating monitoring data to revise the erosion rates and quantities for the next renourishment event. Investigation into potential offshore sand sources is ongoing. The next renourishment is scheduled for 2017.
- **Sarasota County, Lido Key** – The Jacksonville District presented modeling results and potential borrow area location at Big Sarasota Pass at a series of public meetings in the project area in winter and spring 2014. A NEPA scoping meeting was also held in July 2014. Compiling the permit application and continuation of the NEPA process are on-going.

- **Brevard County Mid-Reach** - A Design Agreement was executed in October 2014 and PED kickoff meeting was held in December 2014.

CONSTRUCTION:

- **Sarasota County, Venice** – Dredging is scheduled to begin this month (January 2015). An estimated 750,000 cubic yards will be placed.

- **Palm Beach County, Jupiter/Carlin, Delray Beach, Ocean Ridge, and North Boca Raton** –The Jupiter/Carlin project was completed January 4, 2015. Delray Beach, Ocean Ridge, and North Boca Raton projects were awarded in one contract. The contractor completed Ocean Ridge and Delray Beach segments and a portion of the North Boca fill, before needing to stop work at the end of the turtle window on April 30, 2014. The contractor has return to North Boca and the project was complete the work in December 2014.



Construction of the Jupiter Carlin project in Palm Beach County

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FDEP Division of Water Resource Management Agency Updates



DEP Leadership Changes

Governor Rick Scott appointed Jonathan P. Steverson as Secretary of the Department, effective December 29, 2014. The Cabinet confirmed the appointment on January 13, 2015. Jon served at DEP from 2011 to 2012 as Special Counsel on Policy and Legislative Affairs and acting Deputy Secretary for Water Policy and Ecosystem Restoration and as the Executive Director of the Northwest Florida Water Management District since 2012. Prior to coming to the Department, he served in the Executive Office of the Governor from 2005 to 2009 in multiple roles including Environmental Policy Coordinator.

Secretary Steverson appointed Paula Cobb as Deputy Secretary for Regulatory Programs effective January 5, 2015. This position provides oversight and direction to the Divisions of Air, Water and Waste and the department's regulatory districts. Paula has most recently served as the Director of the Division of Air Resource Management, and has previously practiced environmental and administrative law in the private sector.

Second Workshop on the CCCL Rule is February 12th

On February 12th, DEP will host the second workshop to discuss the proposed amendments to Chapter 62B-33, F.A.C., and creation of the CCCL Applicant's Handbook which contain the rules and procedures for coastal construction and excavation seaward of the coastal construction control line or 50 foot setback.

The workshop will be held at 9:30 AM in Room 609 of the Bob Martinez Center at 2600 Blainstone Road. A live Webinar will be available. Participants may register at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6431938877060464385>.

The rule update is substantial updating of the program. Please see <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/beaches/rule-dev.htm> for drafts of the rule, forms and applicants handbook.

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Chapter 62B-41, and 62B-49, F.A.C. Updates

The Department is currently in the process of noticing rule development for Chapter 62B-41, F.A.C., and anticipates holding the rule development workshop in February 2015.

In addition, a Notice of Change is being prepared for Chapter 62B-49, F.A.C., which is expected to be published in late January or early February 2015. For the most up-to-date posting of notices, workshops, and associated materials, please visit <http://dep.state.fl.us/beaches/rule-dev.htm>.

Workshop 3 on the Auditor General's Operational Audit

The Beach Management Funding Assistance Program will be hold a third workshop on February 19th, from 9:30 to 11:30 am, on the Auditor General's recommendations from the 2014 Operational Audit. The report, and previous workshop materials can be found at <http://dep.state.fl.us/beaches/programs/becp/ag-rpt.htm>. The webinar will first address Rate Standardization (Recommendation #2) and continue the discussions regarding Conflicts of Interest (Recommendation #1). Further information will be forthcoming. Participants may register for the webinar through the program's webpage.

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2015 FSBPA Annual Conference * September 23-25 * Duck Key, FL



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It's never too early to make your hotel reservations for the upcoming Annual Conference in Hawk's Cay! Below is a link to make your reservation online. The hotel is offering several different types of accommodations, so you might want to consider bringing the family along! There are rooms with bunk beds, Islandview and Waterview rooms, and a 2 bedroom Sunset Villa equipped with all the amenities, just like being at home.



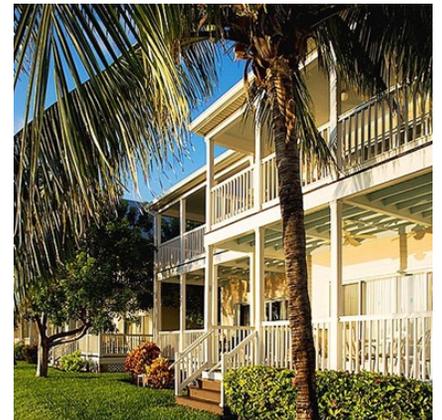
Standard 2 queen beds, hotel room

For complete descriptions of the room types and pictures, [click here](#).

- \$169 Islandview Hotel Room
- \$169 Standard Hotel Room with a King and Bunk Bed (No Balcony)
- \$169 Standard Hotel Room with 2 Queen Beds (No Balcony)
- \$209 Waterview Hotel Room
- \$259 2 Bedroom Sunset Villa

HOTEL RESERVATION LINK FOR THE 2015 FSBPA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

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2 Bedroom Sunset Villas

Would you like purchase an FSBPA T-Shirt?

We would love to get your feedback on Hawks Cay/ FSBPA logo t-shirts for the conference. If you would be interested in purchasing a t-shirt, let us know at mail@fsbpa.com. We will also be sending out a survey within the next month to get your feedback.

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Shoreline

A monthly electronic publication of the Florida Shore & Beach Preservation Association.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS**FSBPA Conferences**

February 4-6, 2015

2015 Tech Conference

Clearwater Beach Marriott

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Hawks Cay * Duck Key, Florida

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**For more information, please contact
Teri Besse via email, teri@fsbpa.com**

OTHER DATES OF INTEREST

February 24-26, 2015

ASBPA 2015 Coastal Summit

Washington, DC

March 3-May 1, 2015

2015 Legislation Session

March 6-8, 2015

8th Annual Florida Marine Turtle Permit Holder Meeting

Crowne Plaza Melbourne-Oceanfront

Melbourne Beach, Florida

May 11-15, 2015

2015 Coastal Sediments Conference

San Diego, CA

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