

Shoreline

March 2011

news from the Florida Shore & Beach Preservation Association

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(this is a separate pdf file)

IN MEMORIAM
Dr. Nick Kraus
February 3, 2011

IN MEMORIAM
Charles F. "Charlie" Stevens
February 19, 2011

The 24th Annual Tech Conference is a wrap!

Thank you! As sponsor and organizer of the 2011 National Conference on Beach Preservation Technology, February 9-11, FSBPA was extremely pleased with the outcome. Attendance was the highest we have seen in recent history, for our first visit to the City of Jacksonville. We benefited from a great program and the strong attendance of the Jacksonville District "team" of the Army Corps of Engineers.

We certainly appreciate all of the work that the Executive Committee, Conference Planning Committee, and FSBPA's Lisa Armbruster did to put together another outstanding program this year. Attendees enjoyed presentations from around the country. Some of the highlights included the opening and closing general sessions, where topics presented included the expiration of federal shore protection project life, sea level acceleration in the U.S., the denial by the Corps of a shore protection project, and beach management program sustainability. Dr. Kevin Bodge's early morning "Structures 101" session on Thursday got many folks up and received nothing but rave reviews. His class was followed by a jam-packed program of concurrent sessions, where attendees were able to choose from sessions and papers on a variety of topics including more on structures, environmental issues, sediment transport modeling, successful projects, and much more. Many attendees had a hard time deciding which sessions to attend and which to skip!



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Our conference sponsors were most generous with their support. Conference amenities especially the wonderful welcome reception, the varied professional breaks, and the luncheon buffet were favorably noted by many in attendance. We were also fortunate to have a great group of exhibitors and a full exhibit hall.

To our planning committees, speakers, attendees, sponsors and exhibitors, thank you for making the 2011 National Conference on Beach Preservation Technology a great success. FSBPA's Board of Directors and staff, as well as all of the individuals involved in putting the program together, greatly appreciate your continued support.

Mark your dates now for the 25th Annual Tech Conference. **It will be February 8-10, 2012, at the Marriott Hutchinson Island Resort in Stuart, Florida.** February in Southeast Florida cannot be all bad especially with outstanding hotel rates and easy airport access.



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2011 Legislative Session

By Debbie Flack



After many weeks of committee meetings, the 2011 Session will officially begin March 8. FSBPA's BeachWatch advocacy strategy will once again focus on appropriations and sustaining Florida's beach management program. Lisa Armbruster, who will be tracking substantive legislation, and I will be joined by Diana Ferguson during the upcoming session. Many of you may know Diana from her recent role as legislative counsel for the Florida Association of Counties (FAC). Her contractual services are a very welcomed addition to our small "team".

With unprecedented revenue shortfalls and resulting budget challenges, the funding battles are already evident at the committee level, and are anticipated to grow considerably worse. FSBPA is enlisting the assistance of a number of our local government lobbyists, both in-house and contract. If together we can't get the message out to remind all Legislators from coastal cities and counties that healthy beaches drive Florida's tourism economy, the statewide beach management program may be in jeopardy. Its dedicated funding source, the documentary stamp

tax on real estate transactions, remains severely depressed with no signs as yet of recovery. Let's not forget, over the past few years a number of very successful issue-specific environmental programs, most dependent on doc stamp revenues, have been zeroed out as part of the appropriations process. It says a lot that during this time the beach program has been sustained by the Legislature with scarce non-recurring general revenue dollars. We have been cautioned that these GR dollars will be in even shorter supply going into the 2011 Session. FSBPA cannot be the sole voice for beaches in Tallahassee – we will need your community's support both here and back home.

Our starting point is not promising. There is no funding in the Governor's Recommended Budget for statewide beach projects. DEP transmitted separate beach and inlet management lists, in priority order, of local government funding requests for FY 2011-12. The two lists include 59 individual projects as well as multi-project categories for post-construction monitoring and design/feasibility studies totaling more than \$100 million. This agency submittal did not provide a viable starting point for member discussion of beach funding. In an effort to jumpstart initial discussion, FSBPA put forth a "short list" relying on DEP's project rankings and recent years' legislative funding of \$16 million (2010-11, \$16.5 million including a one-time only \$1 M in the Jobs Bill, and \$15.5 million in 09-10), a far cry from original intent of \$30 million annually but even further from no funding at all or the corresponding percentage cap of 2.12 of the doc stamp allocation. This translates into funding options involving the top 12 beach projects on DEP's list plus 10% allocations for post-construction monitoring and inlet management (s.161.143, F.S., provides that at least ten percent of the total amount the Legislature appropriates shall be used for the 3 highest ranked inlet projects). This scenario with a \$16.2 million price tag may be overly-optimistic, but at least can be

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justified and can also be adjusted downward over the next 2 plus months. It is a reasoned and noble objective – these dozen projects have a construction cost of \$13.5 million and when coupled with federal and local matching dollar provides Florida's beaches with a statewide program of over \$55 million for FY 2011-12. First step along the way is to get funding for projects into either Chamber's appropriations bill, in any amount, just to insure program survival. Sustaining the beach trust fund (Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund) is critically important as well. Obviously, with the Governor proposing to do away with 125 separate trust funds, we will be just a very small part of a much larger philosophical debate between the Executive and Legislative branches.

On another front, FSBPA is consciously going to try to limit the substantive legislation we will be tracking, monitoring or lobbying this session. On our radar screen thus far is a Deepwater Horizon recovery bill (SB 332), beach waters bill (SB 526), a number of major “tweaks” to the local option tourist tax statute, anticipated regulatory reform and permit streamlining changes “floating” around the Capitol, and a local bill or two.

A final word on recent events in Washington—

It is great when FSBPA's informal “educational” resource role with Florida's Congressional Delegation works well. While a bit chaotic for a Friday night, we were able to maintain frequent



contact with many of you and Congressman Bill Young's Office in efforts to defeat an amendment to the FY 2011 Continuing Resolution, offered by Bourn (R-GA), which sought to prohibit use of monies from the funding bill from being used by the Corps of Engineers for beach nourishment. Since Florida has over \$25 million in the spending measure it was a big deal. The amendment, with Congressman Young speaking against it, was soundly defeated 74-348 by a bipartisan vote which included the entire Florida Delegation. Instead of disastrous precedent, beaches got a resounding vote of confidence. Now we still await final word on

the House Republican position on percentage funding reduction of Corps discretionary construction projects. Even if it is in the 20% range, it doesn't compare to what would have happened if Amendment 246 had passed on February 18.

With formal policies in place in both the House and Senate against earmarks for at least the next two years, maintaining the federal partnership on behalf of Florida's beaches with the State and local government sponsors will be solely dependent upon recurring Civil Works funding as part of the Corps budget. We have a start, albeit modest, in the President's budget recommendations for FY 12 released on January 14 – just over \$17 million for 7 projects. I am encouraged after recent discussion with the commitment of the Jacksonville District of the Corps to Florida's federally-authorized shore protection projects. It may be a difficult road – limited dollars causing delays – but all of them are at this time.





Charles F. "Charlie" Stevens
November 3, 1950-February 19, 2011
Senior Project Manager
Jacksonville District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Charlie Stevens passed away unexpectedly on 19 February, 2011. He was a loving husband to Victoria Stevens, a recognized coastal expert and colleague, an avid fisherman, and a friend to so many.

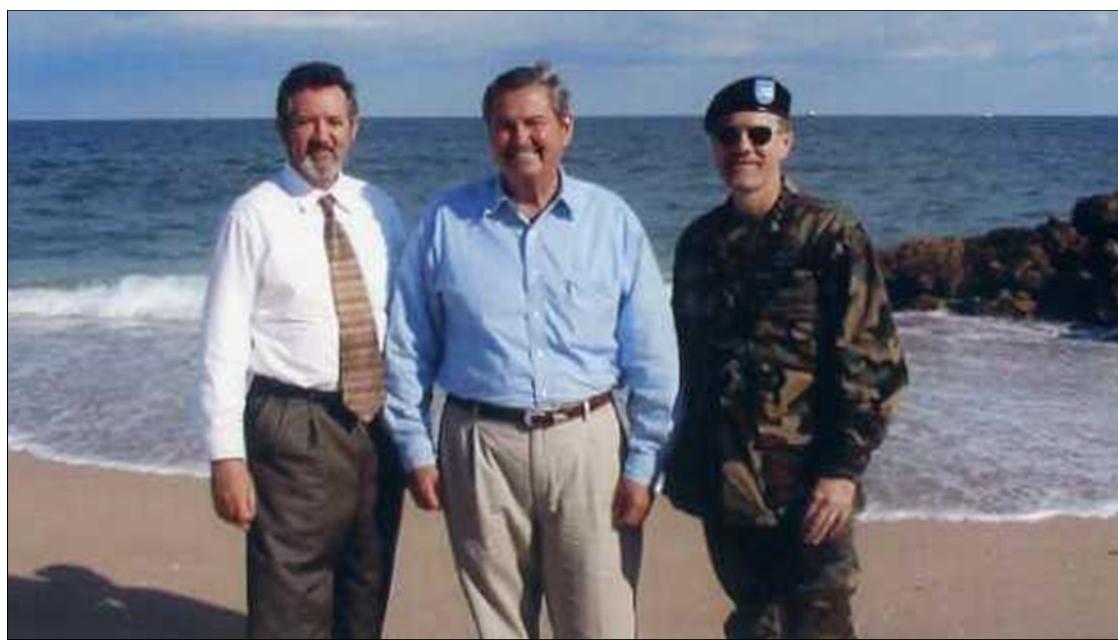
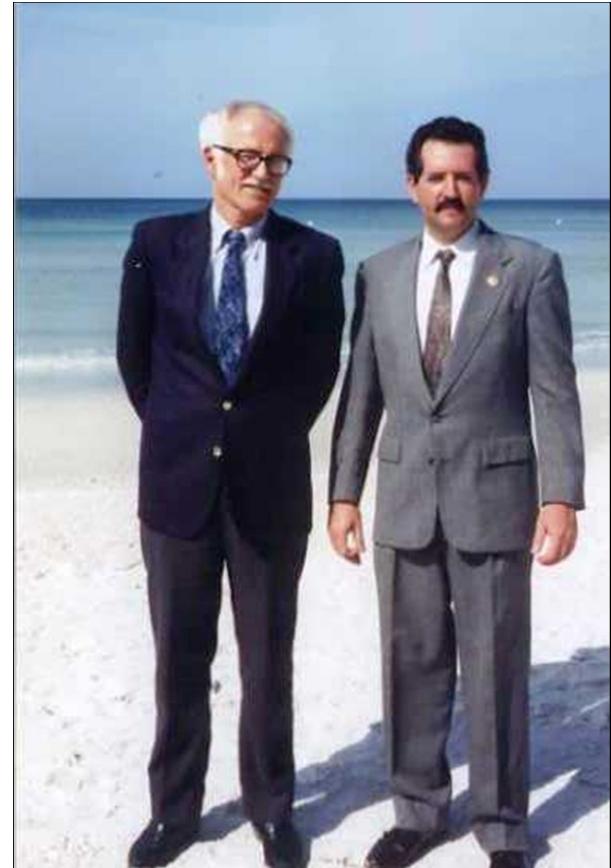
Charlie Stevens began his Corps of Engineers career as a member of the Jacksonville District on September 14, 1977. Charlie originally started in Coastal Section, Planning Branch, Engineering Division in Sep 1977 and moved to Project Management Division in the summer or fall of 1990. In his 13 years in Planning Branch, Charlie touched or was directly responsible for almost all of the coastal feasibility studies conducted during this time frame. Some of his notable contributions included the Martin County feasibility report, the Sand Key GDM and the Captiva Island GDM. Charlie was also the lead designer and instrumental in the major restoration of El Morro Fortress in San Juan, Puerto Rico, which included a massive breakwater structure around the fort.

In 1990 Charlie became one of the pioneers in the Programs and Project Management Division of the Jacksonville District and became a lead Project Manager. During this period, he developed the Dade County BEC project, one of the largest shore protection projects in the Corps and the Nation. This project presented many challenges which with his leadership skills were able to overcome. More recently, he was responsible for the creation of an innovative Reef ball breakwater design, the first of its kind in this country, to be constructed along the Dade County project. He managed and directed large-scale beach renourishment efforts in Broward and Palm Beach counties and also managed the 10-mile Duval project for several years in the 1990's. He was one of the first pioneers on the use of non-domestic sand for shore protection projects in the State of Florida. He worked relentless hours with Congressional Staff, Sponsors, private sector and with State/Federal Resource agencies in resolving this critical issue of availability of sand for shore protection projects. Mr. Stevens was called upon numerous times to be a subject matter expert during hurricane season to provide his technical advice on the engineering solutions for damaged coastline and was key in coastal restoration following hurricanes.

Charlie demonstrated leadership and organizational expertise in the Coastal and Shore Protection program; he has given numerous technical presentations on the subject to include publishing in the ASCE Civil Engineering magazine. Dedication, devotion to duty, honesty and his concern for others were constantly visible throughout his exemplary and distinguished career. He was always striving to improve and recently became a Project Manager Professional after passing the required test by the Project Management Institute demonstrating his continued passion for professional development and support to the Corps. His achievements and outstanding service have tremendously benefited the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the state of Florida, and the many local communities he worked with.

Of all of the projects Charlie spearheaded, he will be remembered most for being a good guy, a great friend, loyal, sincere, and always giving of himself. You left us too soon. We will miss you Charlie.

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Our thanks to Jackie Keiser, USACE Jacksonville District, for putting this tribute together.

US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS BRIEFING

By Candida Bronson, Chief, Coastal/Navigation Section, Jacksonville District

PROGRAMMATIC INFO

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is currently operating for FY11 under a Continuing Resolution Act (CRA) which will expire on March 4, 2011. This CRA kept the funding ongoing at about 2010 levels, with some contingency with-held. Contract awards are still proceeding if the project was included in the House and Senate draft appropriation bills. It is unknown if Congress will extend the CRA, pass a normal appropriations bill, or an Omnibus Appropriations Act with specific program/project funding. Meanwhile, discussions continue on the FY12 budget. The President's Budget is usually released the first week of February but may be delayed until mid-February this year.

The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) has the lead on the revisions to draft Principles and Standards (P&S) for water resources projects in response to WRDA 2007. Following the release to the public last year, CEQ is evaluating comments from the National Academy of Science and the general public. CEQ has identified areas of improvement in their revision of the draft P&S, after which, CEQ has scheduled distribution for participating agency review in April 2011 and distribution for public review in June 2011. The President is expected to sign the new P&S in late 2011. As a follow-on effort, CEQ is expected to direct agencies to develop their own procedures to conform to the interagency procedures (guidelines) and ER 1105-2-100 (known as the Planning Guidance Notebook (PGN)) will need to be updated to incorporate new policies and procedures to reflect the new P&S. Major comments included emphasizing the National Objective for water resources development and management activities and recommending acknowledgement that many considerations beyond strict benefit-cost comparisons are important in water resources decision making and are necessary to meet societal objectives.

PERSONNEL CHANGES

Laurel Reichold accepted a temporary position for one year, moving from Planning to Project Management. She will be managing the navigation projects for Miami, Port Everglades, and Palm Beach.

FEDERAL PROJECT STATUS UPDATE

STUDIES:

- **St. Johns County** –Initial study

information to support the Feasibility Scoping Meeting (FSM) was compiled, including problems, opportunities, study objectives, existing and future without project conditions, and initial alternatives. Coastal engineering and economic modeling work with Beachfix has been completed for the without project conditions and work continues to incorporate new guidance on sea level rise and parameters to describe the alternatives. The FSM package, which includes most of chapters 1-5 of the feasibility report was submitted to South Atlantic Division (SAD) in May 2010 and has been through several reviews. The HQ review has now been completed in anticipation of a February 2011 meeting. Activities for the remainder of FY11 are on hold pending funding.



**South Ponte Vedra Beach,
St. Johns County**

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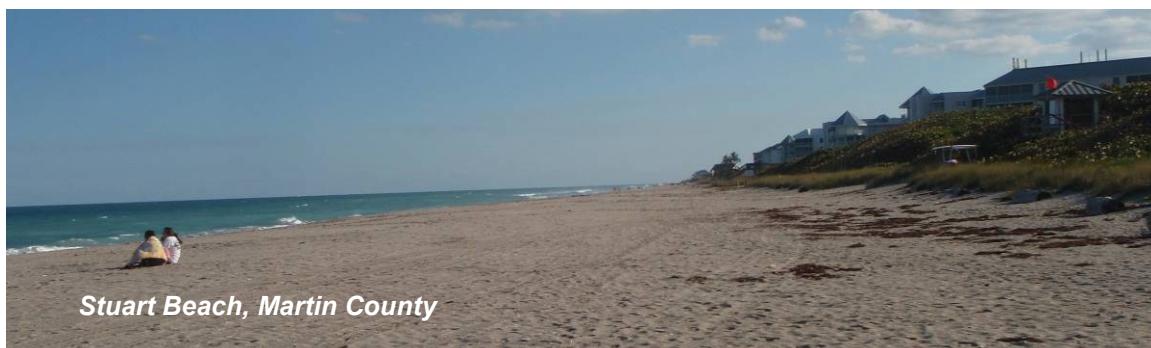
- **Flagler County** – Economic modeling work with Beach-fx to identify the without project future conditions is complete. Initial study information to support the Feasibility Scoping Meeting (FSM) was compiled, including problems, opportunities, study objectives, existing and future without project conditions, and initial alternatives. ATR was completed and the Feasibility Scoping Meeting package was submitted to SAD in August 2010 and on to HQ in September 2010. HQ comments have been received and addressed and the FSM has been scheduled for January 28, 2011. FY11 activities will include continuing geotechnical investigations to locate borrow material, a hardbottom survey, BeachFX modeling, and alternative development.
- **St. Lucie County** –Economic modeling setup in Beach-fx is currently being done, which will identify the without project future conditions. SBEACH has also been calibrated; all of this data will be used to set up Beach fx for model runs that will commence in September and likely run through December. Documentation of existing and future without project conditions in the study area is ongoing. The Team is working towards a Feasibility Scoping Meeting (FSM) date of August 2011, for South Atlantic Division (SAD) and Headquarters review of existing and future without project conditions and the first 5 chapters of the feasibility report. The Sponsor is moving ahead with planning for a more immediate non-Federal initial nourishment project. The Federal feasibility study is separate and will investigate feasibility of many alternatives, including initial and periodic nourishment. The non-Federal Sponsor is conducting environmental surveys and initiating an environmental impact assessment.
- The **Brevard County Mid-Reach General Reevaluation Report (GRR)** team has recently completed the ATR of the Final Report and final revisions have been made. The final report was submitted to SAD and subsequently to HQ in September 2010. Comments were received from HQ and responses provided in December 2010. The report will go to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for final approval. As the Division Commander has approved the report, a Preconstruction, Engineering and Design (PED) agreement will be initiated, outlining the engineering and design phase of the project.



Indialantic, Brevard County

- **Jupiter/Carlin Shore Protection Project** - Palm Beach County has started a 934 report/NEPA document for Jupiter/Carlin Segment to extend Federal participation for the next renourishment. The Sponsor will be running the Beach-fx model. Federal participation has expired and congressional funds have not been appropriated on this project, to date. Therefore, Corps involvement has ceased until congressional funding can be attained.
- The **Palm Beach County, Ocean Ridge LRR** is being prepared by the project sponsor in anticipation of their next reimbursable nourishment. The LRR is required to support a new project partnership agreement for the reimbursement.

- The **Draft Ft. Pierce Shore Protection Project GRR** seeks an additional 50 years of Federal participation in the project as well as the inclusion of groins to the project area. The sponsor is currently running Beach-fx, and the GRR is undergoing further evaluation to establish the tentative plan. A Draft GRR is expected to be completed by the Sponsor in May 2011, and then will begin undergoing reviews by Jacksonville District.
- **Broward County Shore Protection Project - Segment I** (north county line to Hillsboro Inlet) – Integrated GRR and NEPA document – Preparation of the GRR and NEPA document for initial construction of this segment has been initiated by the Jacksonville District. SAJ initiated Beach-fx data collection and shoreline biological surveys. Additional funding is needed prior to completing the Feasibility Scoping Meeting documentation, which is part of the discussions with the sponsor in modifying the Project Management Plan. **Segment II** – GRR Addendum and NEPA document – Sponsor has initiated their GRR Addendum for the upcoming renourishment. **Segment III** – A Draft Detailed Design Report (DDR) has been completed to address the subsidence/erosion of the beach fill at the northern end of Segment III under the authority for the Shore Protection Project. Jacksonville Office of Counsel reviewed the document for authority, and recommends using this document to support a new Project Cooperation Agreement. As such, approval of the DDR is likely to be at SAD.
- The **Martin County Draft Limited Reevaluation Report (LRR) and Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS)** evaluates impacts to the Benefit/Cost ratio of the approved Shore Protection Project due to the use of a new borrow area. Turtle-friendly beach construction templates are also being evaluated for use on this project. Following review at South Atlantic Division (SAD), the EIS was released for public review and a public workshop held on December 16, 2010. The public review period ended on January 7, 2011. The team is addressing comments and revising the document, with expected submission of the final report to SAD in February 2011. A request for exclusion to the Independent External Peer Review requirement was also submitted to HQ. Following that decision and any further revisions, the report will be approved at SAD, allowing the start of plans and specifications for FY12 construction.



- The **Manatee County Shore Protection Project LRR** is being prepared by the project sponsor in anticipation of their next reimbursable nourishment. The LRR is required to support a new project partnership agreement for the reimbursement.

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REGIONAL SEDIMENT MANAGEMENT:

- The revised **Dade County Letter Report** was submitted to Headquarters and comments received in Jul 2010. The report was revised with findings of the **Southeast Atlantic Regional Sediment Management Plan for Florida**. Additional documentation was requested on the viability of deep-water sources, upland sources, and sources in other counties. NEPA documentation was also requested prior to supporting non-domestic sources. The Jacksonville District plans has provided draft responses to comments and had several discussions with HQ on the path forward. Completion of a NEPA document is required prior to submitting anything to the ASA(CW), including domestic and non-domestic sources.

ENGINEERING AND DESIGN:

- Borrow area investigations continue in **Sarasota County**. The **Lido Key** project is looking at alternative sources, currently focusing on 3.2 million cubic yards identified in Big Sarasota Pass. Once the sand source is identified, a Limited Reevaluation Report with NEPA document will be completed to document the new construction cost. For the **Venice Beach** project, additional core borings will be taken this spring along with cultural resources surveys to document the new borrow area. A Limited Reevaluation Report and NEPA document will also be completed for this project.



Lido Key, Sarasota County

- The **Pinellas County, Sand Key** team is completing plans to use a new borrow area for the next renourishment. A draft environmental assessment has been completed, but work remains on the MMS agreement and FDEP permits. A third request for additional information was received with a request for hardground surveys not previously thought to be impacted.
- In **Dade County**, work was funded for a **Section 227 Project** at 63rd Street in Miami and was reinitiated in August 2008. Construction funding was received in Sep 2009. A design - build contract is being evaluated in cooperation with the Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM) and Reef Innovation, Inc. Genesis modeling is underway to determine the minimum structural footprint and the exact project location. A draft NEPA document has been completed and a WQC permit application submitted, along with responses to the first request for additional information. It is expected that plans and specifications will be completed and the contract award scheduled for construction following Dade County Contract E award. Plans and specification are scheduled for initiation in FY11 on Contract G, for the remainder of sand available is scheduled for construction in FY12.

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- **Ft Pierce Beach** is scheduled for initiation of plans and specifications (P&S) in FY11, however, as only limited carryover funds are available this action is on hold. Following review of the FY12 President's Budget, the decision will be made on whether to use the funds for P&S or for review of the GRR under preparation by the sponsor. Delay of the P&S could affect the ability to construct in FY12.
- **Ft Myers Beach** is expected to receive beach quality material from channel maintenance dredging during the next event. In FY11, the team is working on updating the NEPA document. Pending funding, the construction may occur in FY12.
- **St Lucie Inlet O&M** is expected to place beach quality material from channel maintenance dredging in the nearshore during the next event. In FY11, the team is working on updating the NEPA document. Pending funding, the construction may occur in FY12.
- **Broward County Segment 2 FCCE** construction is scheduled for FY13. The team has initiated preparation of plans and specs towards this effort.

CONSTRUCTION:

- FY11 Construction:

Intracoastal Waterway - Bakers Haulover O&M: dredging commenced on November 18, 2010 and is scheduled for completion in February with some beach placement. **Intracoastal Waterway – Matanzas**



O&M was separated from the St Augustine portion to simplify the FDEP permit, which was received on 1 Sep. The beach placement area was shortened to 3000 feet well south of the breach. Construction is scheduled to start in April 2011. **Kings Bay/Fernandina Entrance Channel O&M** is scheduled for dredging in January 2011 using beach placement. **Intracoastal Waterway –St Augustine O&M** has been rescheduled for summer FY11 construction with beach placement at the request of FIND. The team continues to work with FDEP on the permit. The **Duval County** shore protection project is scheduled for April 2011 award of the construction contract. The team is working on plans and specs and coordinating with MMS on the use of the borrow area. **St Johns County, St Augustine** beach nourishment project is delayed until the FDEP permit is secured, currently working on RAI #4 received on January 7, 2011. Additional modeling of the ebb shoal is underway at our Engineer Research and Development Center. Upon receipt of the permit, construction will likely be in summer 2011. **Dade County** contract E has received the notice of intent to issue the WQC permit on December 10, 2010. The memorandum of agreement with MMS is still under review. The current schedule is for award of the construction contract in June 2011. The Reefball breakwater to be installed at the **63rd Street** hotspot as an innovative design with funding through the Engineer Research and Development Center was also delayed until after the Contract E construction. **Pinellas County, Gasparilla and Estero Islands**, are scheduled for construction of groins and a portion of the beach nourishment by the project sponsor with later reimbursement. **Pinellas County, Sand Key** is scheduled for summer 2011 construction and the team is currently working through the MMS agreement and WQC permit application, including concerns over hardbottom monitoring. Due to funding constraints, construction will be limited to the northern half of Sand Key. **Palm Beach Harbor O&M** dredging is scheduled to begin in late January 2011 including beach placement of material from the channel and settling basin. SAJ is also pursuing approval to expand the settling basin to allow more flexibility in scheduling dredging events.

Flagler County Feasibility Study Moving into the Plan Formulation Phase

A Feasibility Scoping Meeting (FSM) was held for the Flagler County Hurricane and Storm Damage Reduction (HSDR) Feasibility Study on 28 January 2011. This meeting marked the first major study milestone where the Corps vertical team (Jacksonville District, South Atlantic Division, and Headquarters), the local sponsor (Flagler County), and Federal and state agencies (FDEP, FDOT, BOEMRE, and FFWCC) got together to reach agreement on the problems and solutions to be investigated during the feasibility study and the scope of analysis required. The meeting focused on understanding the future without project (FWOP) conditions which describe what damages are likely to happen in the study area over a 50 year planning horizon if a Federal project is not implemented. The FWOP damages were determined using Beach-fx, a Monte Carlo event based simulation model that integrates coastal processes with economic valuations. For Flagler County some of the considerations for FWOP conditions that were incorporated into the model included multiple sea level rise scenarios, the future actions of property owners to armor their storefront property under coastal construction control line (CCCL) regulations, and future actions by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to keep State Road A1A open.

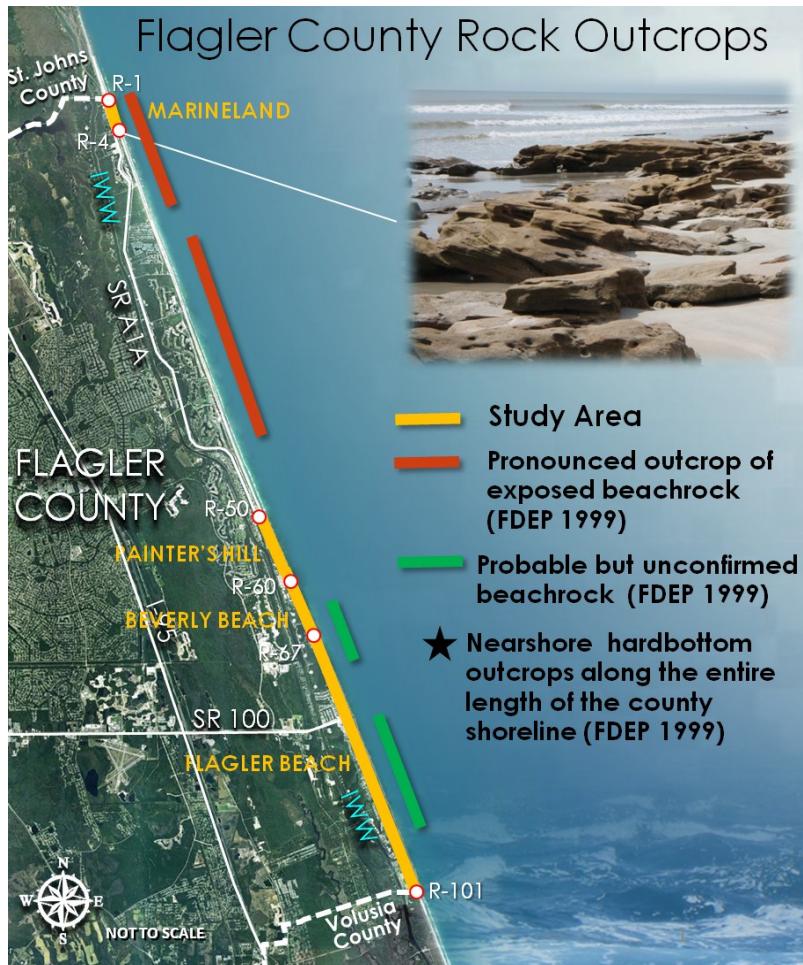


A full array of non-structural and structural management measures, to address the problem of erosion threatening coastal development, was presented at the FSM. These measures had been screened on how they could potentially contribute to the Federal Objectives of national economic development (NED), environmental quality (EQ), regional economic development (RED), and other social effects (OSE). The measures that will be looked at in more detail in the next phase of the study include:

- Relocation of A1A
- Condemnation of structures and land acquisition
- Seawalls
- Revetments
- Sand covered soft structures
- Beach nourishment
- Submerged artificial multi-purpose reef
- Dunes and vegetation

Next, rough cost estimates will be developed for these measures. The measures will be combined to form alternatives which will be further developed by scaling the management measures in length and size for specific locations. The output from Beach-fx can be used to analyze individual reaches of the study area, and formulate alternatives based on specific damages most likely to occur in specific reaches. As the alternatives are developed, the alternative evaluation criteria of completeness, effectiveness, efficiency and acceptability will be considered.

Constraints that limit how measures can be implemented will be refined as more information is gathered. Constraints that will influence plan formulation include the location of potential nearshore rock outcroppings and the availability of a viable, beach compatible sand source. A contract to perform a nearshore side scan survey to locate hardbottom is in the works, and both offshore and upland sand sources are currently being investigated. An important planning consideration will be to avoid impacts to hardbottom.



Beach-fx will be used to determine future with project (FWP) damages for alternative plans. The difference between the FWOP and FWP damages less the cost of the alternative plan gives the net benefits for a specific alternative plan. The NED plan will be the plan with the greatest net benefits. The NED plan will be the recommended plan unless the local sponsor wishes to recommend a Locally Preferred Plan (LPP). The LPP can be recommended if it is economically justified, and if it costs more than the NED plan the local sponsor must pay for the cost difference. Since Beach-fx explicitly accounts for uncertainty in economic valuations, physical attributes of infrastructure, and damage estimates, quantitative values can be given to the uncertainty associated with the benefits used to make decisions.

The Flagler County study is the first of several Jacksonville District HSDR feasibility studies coming up on the FSM milestone, including St. Johns County and St. Lucie County. Both of these studies are using Beach-fx to determine FWOP damages.

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Update on Beach Restoration and Inlet Maintenance Projects – DEP BBCS

JOINT COASTAL PERMITS

Final Orders - Beach Restoration, Nourishment, Inlet Bypassing/Sand Transfer Projects:

Patrick Air Force Base Shore Protection (Brevard County) – Request to nourish 3.1 miles of beach using 310,000 cubic yards of sand from an offshore borrow or upland source. The Final Order was issued on 2/22/11.

South Amelia Island Beach Nourishment (Nassau County) – proposed nourishment of 3.4 miles of shoreline fronting the Atlantic Ocean using 2,000,000 cubic yards of sand from a borrow area located offshore of Nassau Sound. The Final Order was issued on 2/21/11.

Wiggins Pass Maintenance Dredging (Collier County) – A five-year permit authorizing the maintenance dredging of approximately 50,000 cubic yards of beach-compatible sand from the navigation channel, with placement in the nearshore off of Barefoot Beach, was issued on 1/24/11.

Fort Zachary Taylor Groin and Segmented Breakwater Rehabilitation (Monroe County) – A ten-year maintenance permit to rehabilitate/restore an existing terminal groin and four segmented breakwaters to their original design profile was issued on 1/21/11.

Miami Beach Truck Haul (Miami-Dade County) – A major modification to an existing permit to place approximately 226,000 cubic yards of sand on three segments of shoreline (Sunny Isles, Bal Harbour and Miami Beach) was issued on 1/06/11. The permit expiration date (3/24/19) was not modified.

North Keewaydin Island Phase II (Collier County) – A permit authorizing the construction of two additional low profile T-groins (in addition to the structures already in place on this property south of Gordon Pass) was issued on 1/04/11.

Hillsboro/Deerfield Beach Nourishment (Broward County) – A five-year permit authorization was granted on 12/15/10. The permit authorizes the placement of approximately 375,000 cubic yards of sand along a 7,175 ft. segment of shoreline. The Notice to Proceed was issued on 2/03/11; construction is scheduled to commence in early March.

Lower Pensacola Harbor Maintenance Dredging (Escambia County) – A ten-year authorization for the periodic maintenance dredging of the federal channel and entrance channel into Pensacola Pass was issued to the USACE Mobile District on 12/09/10. The majority of the material will be placed in the swash zone off of Perdido Key.

St. Augustine Inlet and AIWW Maintenance Dredging and Beach Placement (St. Johns County) – A ten-year authorization to allow periodic maintenance dredging of the St. Augustine Inlet Entrance Channel and intersecting portion of the AIWW and encroaching adjacent shoals, with disposal of material either on the beach or in the nearshore south of the Inlet, was issued to the USACE Jacksonville District on 12/08/10.

Phipps Ocean Park Beach Nourishment Modification (Palm Beach County) – A short-term (expiration date of 3/14/11) major modification of the Phipps permit was issued on 11/04/10, to accomplish repairs to the dune and berm along the permitted restoration project template resulting from Tropical Storm Fay. Approximately 56,000 cubic yards of sand will be placed utilizing sand from an upland source. Sand placement activities along this shoreline segment (which includes a portion of the Reach 8 shoreline) are underway at this writing.

Singer Island Dune Restoration (Palm Beach County) – A five-year authorization (for a single placement event) to construct a dune restoration project along an approximately 5,300 ft. segment of shoreline was issued on 10/28/10. Up to 75,000 cubic yards of sand from an upland source will be utilized. Project construction commenced in early January and was completed in February 2011.



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Photos of completed dune restoration project at Singer Island, taken on February 20, 2011, courtesy of Palm Beach County ERM.

Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway Maintenance Dredging and Beach Placement – Matanzas Inlet (St. Johns County) – A ten-year authorization to dredge approximately 250,000 cubic yards in the vicinity of the inlet, with placement along 3,100 ft. of shoreline in Summer Haven, was issued to the USACE Jacksonville District on 10/20/10.

Mid-Town Beach Nourishment Modification (Palm Beach County) – A minor modification to the existing Mid-Town Nourishment Permit was issued on 9/20/10. The authorization allows for a one-time placement of approximately 52,000 cubic yards of sand from an upland sand source within the previously-permitted project template to restore damages attributed to Tropical Storm Fay. Sand placement activities were initiated in December 2011 and were completed in early February 2011.

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Charlotte County Erosion Control Project (Charlotte County) – in May, 2010, the Department issued a major modification to authorize the maintenance dredging of Stump Pass channel to restore navigable depths and alignments. The sand placement includes the Stump Pass State Park shoreline (approximately 1 to 1.3 miles in extent, depending on shoreline condition) to the north of the Pass, and along 2.9 miles of shoreline to the south (Knight/Don Pedro Islands). The Notice to Proceed was issued on 11/10/10, construction commenced on 12/06/10, and construction is nearly complete at this writing.



Photo of the Charlotte County Erosion Control Project North Beach Fill

Notice of Intent/Draft Permits Processed:

Miami-Dade Federal Erosion Control Project - Contract "E" (Miami-Dade County) – proposed one-time nourishment of 1.65 miles of North Miami Beach shoreline using 300,000 cubic yards of sand from an offshore borrow area, as well as nourishment of 44th Street and 27th Street shorelines using 220,000 cubic yards of sand from the accretional portion of Lummus Park beach. The NOI and Draft Permit were issued on 12/10/10.

Recently Completed JCP Applications:

St. Johns County Beach Nourishment – request from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to excavate 3.1 million cubic yards of sand from the St. Augustine Inlet ebb shoal complex and place the sand along the federally-authorized shore protection project Atlantic Ocean shoreline (2.9 miles). The suspense date for intended agency action is 04/21/11.

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For Immediate Release: January 26, 2011

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Victory for Florida's Threatened and Endangered Sea Turtles

FEMA agrees to comply with the Endangered Species Act, yet a new report says major reforms still needed to save sea turtles and their sensitive coastal habitat

Miami, FL – Threatened and endangered sea turtles that nest along Florida's coast are set to benefit from a court approved agreement between conservation organizations and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regarding its National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). According to the settlement, FEMA must consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service under the Endangered Species Act regarding the impacts of the NFIP, which currently subsidizes development in vital sea turtle habitat.

The agreement concludes a federal case brought by National Wildlife Federation and Florida Wildlife Federation challenging FEMA's practice of issuing federal flood insurance in storm surge areas along the Florida coast. Under the NFIP, FEMA subsidizes insurance for buildings in areas prone to storm surges, providing insurance that is not available on the private market. Making this insurance generally available directly enables the development of Florida's delicate beaches, which sustain 90 percent of turtle nesting habitat in the United States.

"Subsidizing development in storm surge areas not only destroys habitat, but also puts communities at risk and wastes taxpayer money," said Manley Fuller, President of the Florida Wildlife Federation. "This settlement will require FEMA to scrutinize its flood insurance program as it relates to wildlife and maybe even use a bit more common sense before issuing flood insurance in our state."

"This agreement has a great chance of ensuring that perverse federal insurance subsidies will no longer encourage inappropriate and harmful new construction in important sea turtle habitat," said Jim Murphy, lead counsel for National Wildlife Federation on the lawsuit. "Yet even this major victory alone is not enough to save sea turtles from the onslaught they face."

According to a new report released in conjunction with lawsuit settlement, sea turtles face an uncertain future in America. *Sea Turtle Homecoming, Class of 2010: A Proactive Conservation Agenda for Florida* catalogues the array of threats facing sea turtles, including loss of habitat, beach armoring, harmful fishing practices, marine pollution, oil spills and climate change. In response to these threats, the report lays out four key actions needed to ensure a safe future for sea turtles in Florida:

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- 1. Uphold adequate funding and support for the development and implementation of the Florida Beaches Habitat Conservation Plan** and initiate a comprehensive reevaluation of the state's Coastal Construction Control Line Program and other coastal management policies.
- 2. Eliminate costly subsidies that encourage inappropriate and harmful new construction and rebuilding in ecologically important and high hazard coastal areas** by placing common sense limits on Florida's Citizens Property Insurance Corporation and National Flood Insurance Program coverage and expanding the Coastal Barrier Resources System.
- 3. Enhance protection of less-developed coastal lands by supporting targeted land acquisitions and increased incentives** through a combination of public and private resources and programs, including Florida Forever, the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund, and ensuring that Deepwater Horizon oil spill funds are dedicated to coastal restoration.
- 4. Commit to meaningful strategies to combat climate change by implementing recommendations established under Florida's 2008 Energy and Climate Change Action Plan** and enact strong federal policy to significantly reduce the state's and nation's global warming pollution, promote cleaner, safer energy resources, and provide dedicated funding for safeguarding our natural systems and human communities in an era of climate change.

"Our report asks people to think about what kind of homecoming turtle hatchlings that emerged this year can expect when they return in 30 years," said Patty Glick, Global Warming Specialist at the National Wildlife Federation. "More importantly, it lets people know that we all play a role in determining how positive that homecoming will be."

The report was released jointly by National Wildlife Federation, Florida Wildlife Federation and the Sea Turtle Conservancy. By highlighting the human-caused threats facing sea turtles, the groups hope to motivate Floridians to take the actions needed to save them.

"The BP oil spill disaster was a major wake-up call for Floridians," said Gary Appelson, Policy Coordinator for the Sea Turtle Conservancy. "It took something that huge to remind us what is at stake for our state. Florida's beaches and the wildlife they sustain are a national treasure. It is time we all play a larger role in safekeeping that treasure for future generations."

To download a copy of the report, visit www.nwf.org/seaturtlehomecoming

National Wildlife Federation is America's conservation organization, inspiring Americans to protect wildlife for our children's future.

The Florida Wildlife Federation is a private, statewide, non-profit citizens' conservation education organization composed of thousands of concerned Floridians and other citizens from all walks of life who have a common interest in preserving, managing, and improving Florida's fish, wildlife, soil, water, and plant life.

*It is the mission of the **Sea Turtle Conservancy** to ensure the survival of sea turtles through research, education, training, advocacy and protection of the natural habitats upon which they depend. The Sea Turtle Conservancy is based in Gainesville, FL*

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FSBPA Conferences

September 14-16, 2011

FSBPA Annual Conference

Eden Roc Renaissance Miami Beach
Miami Beach, FL

OTHER DATES OF INTEREST

Florida Legislative Session

Convenes March 8, 2011, scheduled to adjourn
May 6, 2011

March 1-3, 2011

ASBPA Coastal Summit

Reagan Center, Washington, DC

May 2 - 6, 2011

Coastal Sediments '11

Miami Regency Hyatt
Miami, Florida

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

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