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FSBPA Governmental Update

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DEP Joint Coastal Permit Update: May 2009



Concurrent with all the legislative/budget issues that have been ongoing the past two months, the regulatory

functions of the Bureau have not abated. Two months ago, we updated you on the status of several Joint Coastal Permit authorizations. What follows is an update since the March issue of Shoreline on a few relevant Final Orders and Notice of Intent documents processed by the Bureau of Beaches and Coastal Systems. In addition, a sampling of ...

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USACE Jacksonville District: Federal Project Status Updates

Feasibility Studies:



US Army Corps of Engineers

• **St. Johns County** – Jacksonville District recently received Federal Stimulus funding for this project. Scopes of work are being prepared to contract out NEPA, environmental resource surveys, and additional geotechnical investigations using the stimulus funds. The Beach Fx economic model calibration is in progress with the model in final preparations for initial without project condition run. The first Beach-fx model run is expected by Spring 2009. Milestone of Feasibility Scoping Meeting is set ...

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Governmental Update

By Debbie Flack
Director of Governmental Affairs

The 2009 Legislative Session is finally over. Beaches were certainly a visible part of the process, impacted from the beginning to end by a \$6 billion budget shortfall for FY 09-10 and the stealth appearance of legislation addressing oil and gas drilling off of Florida's beaches.

FSBPA's legislative agenda was quite successful, but the unprecedented strategic challenges ahead must temper any post-session celebration. Our dedicated funding source for beaches, from the documentary stamp tax, is virtually non-existent, and is not expected to recover anytime soon. Legislative attempts to undermine the regulatory provisions of Chapter 161, the Beach and Shore Preservation Act, appear to be on the increase. And the continued debate and monetary enticement of opening Florida's waters to offshore drilling may divide our long-established coalition of coastal counties and cities.



Recognizing the present economic realities, our pre-session legislative goal was to merely sustain a statewide beach management program for FY 2009-10. After seeing the Governor's budget recommendation of less than \$5 million for beaches projects and our \$30 million annual statutory commitment for beaches reduced to less than \$1 million in the official revenue allocation for the coming fiscal year, our final funding achievement for beaches is really quite amazing. All we had hoped for was the ability to recycle (revert/reappropriate) existing program dollars to fund a few federally cost-shared nourishment projects, and to cover, at least in part, the state share of post-construction monitoring costs for numerous projects. Early on, and throughout the process, our concern was focused on whether and to what extent the beaches trust fund (Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund) would be swept, redirecting project dollars to general revenue. Could we save these targeted dollars for 2009-10 beach projects, using for justification the leveraging of federal dollars? It didn't go precisely as planned, but we were largely successful. Added to this concern was the overriding question of whether conforming legislation might alter or even delete the statutory allocation of documentary stamp tax revenues for dedicated beach funding. This may be largely symbolic at this point in time, but real estate transactions will recover and securing state revenue set-asides, as was done for beach management over a decade ago, is increasingly difficult if not now virtually impossible.

A few weeks ago the House and Senate passed their separate budgets. Both appropriations bills included \$12,216,696 for FY 2009-10 projects, post-construction monitoring, and inlet management -- the exact amount produced by the reversion exercise requested by the Legislature.



That should have been the end of the story since the budget conference process targets differences in the House and Senate positions. Of course, there was a lingering hope that beaches might be the unlikely recipient of a few "new" dollars either made available through passage of various revenue-generating initiatives or as a result of other program reductions.

Allocations for conference were challenging, delaying the process until the last Wednesday of the regularly-scheduled session. Session was extended one-week for budget-related considerations only. Surprise is an understatement when, expecting beaches not to be in play in conference, the first Senate offer for beaches was just \$9.5 million (not \$12.2 million). The Bureau of Beaches and Coastal Systems, spared cuts to this point, was down 16 positions. The House counter-offer for beach projects of just \$8.65 million indicated things might get worse. It turns out that this conference committee's (general government/natural resources) allocation was considerably less than either chamber's passed budget -- an occurrence I don't think I have ever witnessed. As feared, and even anticipated all along, some old general revenue dollars for hurricane recovery were swept, as were sales tax revenues used for the first time to fund the Bureau.

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DEP came up with an internal fix for the Bureau, reducing their final staff loss to 5 positions. After a weekend conference marathon of meetings between the Senate Ways and Means Chair and the House General Government Council Chair, by Sunday evening beaches remained just one of a few unresolved issues. The very last Senate offer, immediately accepted by the House, was \$15 million for statewide beach projects. Proviso was subsequently finalized, the budget printed, and the Conference Report for SB 2600, the General Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2009-10 was approved Friday May 8. What a journey! It is a certainty that the commitment to Florida's beaches by a number of lawmakers, truly our champions and advocates, from the beginning to the very end of the process, made an incredible difference.

Proviso insures these dollars will go primarily to federally-authorized nourishment projects on DEP's 2009-10 Priority List on a ready-to-proceed basis while maximizing federal dollars leveraged. Further, proviso directs funds to the top three DEP-ranked inlet management plans, according to FSBPA's 2008 legislative initiative. The department may also spend up to \$2.6 million for post-construction project monitoring, consistent with recommendations in the Beach Management Working Group's Report to the Legislature.

All-in-all, with guidance from our local BeachWatch governments and with the support of their in-house and contract lobbyists, our long-established partnership in preserving Florida's beaches remains alive and well!

In coming Shorelines, we will devote separate discussion to this session's well-financed and promoted oil and gas drilling legislation in Florida's waters from immediately to 10 miles offshore. HB 1219 went from conception to passage (70-43) by the House in less than a week. It was not heard in the Senate, but proponents promise this session was just the start. We will also begin exploring the possibility of identifying secondary funding sources for beaches and the likelihood of generating legislative support for such. We hope to broaden the discussion of both of these issues in our future newsletters and in formal presentations at FSBPA's Annual Meeting, September 16-18, at Amelia Island.

For those of you tracking or interested in one or more beach-related bills from the 2009 session, here is Lisa's summary:

Here are the bills that did pass:

- Management of Wastewater (HB 707), which requires investigation of proximate wastewater treatment facilities when certain health advisories are issued for a beach
- Gulf County (HB 1369), a local bill, related to the Coastal Construction Control Line reestablishment
- Taxation of Documents (SB 2430 & SB 1960), which closes a loophole that allowed landowners to avoid the documentary stamp tax on certain transactions
- Land Use for Conservation Purposes (HB 7157), which specifies conservation purposes for which land must be used in order to qualify for an ad valorem tax exemption (Our thanks to the Caribbean Conservation Corp. for insuring the inclusion of coastal lands)
- Coral Reefs (SB 1004/HB 1453) passed as an amendment to HB 1423, establishes the "Florida Coral Reef Protection Act"

A few bills stalled in the last few days of Session, did not have a companion bill, and/or died in messages, including:

- Endless Summer and Let's Go Surfing License Plates (SB 860/HB 193, SB 1560/HB 49)
- Regulatory Reform (HB 7143/SB 2026) included Ch. 161 RAI provisions, and at one point a preemptive habitat provision
- Regulation of State Lands and Oil and Gas Resources (HB 1219)
- Environmental Protection (SB 2104)

And finally, a couple of bills were heard in at least one committee earlier in the session, but did not progress through committees of reference:

- Public Access (SB 488/HB 527)
- Beach Safety (SB 144/HB 665)

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City of Sarasota's 2.6 Mile Lido Key Beach Renourishment Project Completed in April

Introduction

The Lido Key Beach Renourishment Project area is located on Lido Key, located on the west coast of Florida and within the City of Sarasota, and is approximately 20 miles south of Tampa Bay. Lido Key is positioned between New Pass and Big Sarasota Pass, and is about 2.6 miles long. The 2009 project commenced on March 5, 2009 and was completed on April 13, 2009, lasting 40 days including weather delays. The project was constructed by Weeks Marine, Inc.

Recreational Area and Beach Use

The upland coastline bordering the project area consists of both publicly and privately owned property. Of the total project area, 40% of the uplands are publicly held. The public lands are comprised of three city owned parks and approximately 750 public parking spaces located adjacent to the project area. There are three public beaches within Lido Key, North Lido Beach, Lido Public Beach and South Lido Park.



Pre-Construction photograph taken on March 5, 2009.



Post-Construction photograph taken on April 8, 2009.

North Lido Beach is located one quarter mile northwest of St. Armand's Circle, off of John Ringling Boulevard. Lido Beach is located one half mile southwest of St. Armand's Circle, on Ben Franklin Drive. Lido Beach includes restrooms, concession stands, a gift shop, playground equipment, cabana beach rentals, a meeting room, and a handicapped accessible observation deck. South Lido Park is located on Ben Franklin Drive at the southern tip of Lido Key. The park includes restrooms, picnic tables, cooking grills, playground equipment, a volleyball court, a canoe trail and an observation tower and decks. Lido Key has 1,475 full time residents and 1,000 seasonal residents. During peak season, the residential population of Lido Key increases to 2,500 people. The beach also provides important sea turtle nesting habitat, including nesting by the endangered loggerhead sea turtles.

Project History

The initial beach nourishment project constructed by the City of Sarasota occurred during April and May 1998. Approximately 285,000 cubic yards of sand was placed along an approximate 0.85 mile project area. The sand for the first beach nourishment project was obtained from two borrow areas located approximately 5 and 6 miles offshore in the Gulf of Mexico, directly west of Lido Beach. In 2001, the Lido Key First Beach Renourishment Project was constructed by the City. The project was constructed during a two-month period between March and April 2001 and nourished portions of the Key not addressed during the 1998 project. The southern shoreline of Lido Key was nourished with the placement of approximately 360,000 cubic yards of sediment along a 1.35 mile project area. The borrow area for the project is located approximately 8 miles west of Lido Key Beach. In 2003, the second beach renourishment project was constructed. It included areas of the initial project and first beach renourishment project. Between December 2002 and February 2003, approximately 125,000 cubic yards of sand was excavated from New Pass channel, and placed along 1.5 miles of shoreline. New Pass was selected as the sand source due to its outstanding aesthetic sediment quality, an important issue for the tourist oriented Lido Key economy.

Since 1998, construction of the three beach restoration projects by the City of Sarasota resulted in the combined placement of 770,000 cubic yards of sediment on Lido Key. The mean high water shoreline, on average, was advanced by over 150 feet in the project area.



Lido Key Following 2009 Beach Renourishment Project

Impact of Storms

Between August and September 2004, Florida experienced four hurricanes which impacted Lido Key. Hurricane Charley made landfall on Florida's west coast just south of Captiva Island, continuing with hurricane strength across the Florida Peninsula and into the Atlantic Ocean near Daytona Beach. Hurricane Frances initially made landfall on Florida's east coast before traveling across the state to the west coast, weakening to a tropical storm and finally dissipating. Hurricane Ivan moved north through the Gulf of Mexico, making its initial landfall along the shores of Alabama and the Florida panhandle. Last, Jeanne struck the Florida east coast and also moved to the west coast. Although none of these storms directly struck the Lido Key beach, the large waves created by the hurricanes impacted the beach, resulting in shoreline recession and loss of beach volume. In 2005, Hurricane Wilma also impacted the beach at Lido Key. Hurricane Wilma crossed Florida from the west coast to the east coast. Other tropical systems also impacted beach erosion in 2007 and 2008, resulting in the need to renourish Lido Key to restore the beach to its previous condition.

Project Design and Construction

The 2009 Lido Key Beach Renourishment Project consisted of the placement of approximately 450,000 cubic yards of sand along a 1.54 mile segment of the Lido Key coastline. The project re-constructed the 2003 beach renourishment project and utilized the New Pass channel and ebb tidal shoal as the project borrow area. New Pass was also used as the source of sand for the 2002/2003 project. The project construction cross-section provided for an average berm width extension of 135 feet at a berm elevation of +3.9 feet (NAVD). Project construction began on March 5, 2009, with the conclusion of sediment placement occurring on April 13, 2009. Weeks Marine used the hydraulic cutterhead dredge *Captain Frank* to construct the project. Photographs No. 1 and No. 2 provide a typical before and after view of the project area.

Beach Renourishment Sediment Source

The sediment source for the project was the New Pass navigation channel and southern ebb tidal shoal located at the north end of Lido Key. New Pass was selected as the sand source for the project because of the aesthetically high quality sediment present in the Pass in relatively high quantities. Additionally, the City wanted to excavate and re-open the navigation channel through New Pass to re-establish the federally-authorized navigation channel. Since 1964, the USACE has conducted several dredging events of the New Pass channel for navigational purposes, with sand transferred onto the northern portion of Lido Key and southern end of Longboat Key. Pass dredging and bypassing occurred on a number of occasions between 1964 and 1997, and has contributed to the mechanical placement of approximately 2.20 million cubic yards of sand along the beaches of Lido Key.

Project Funding Sources

The beach of Lido Key was impacted by hurricanes which struck in 2004 and 2005. As a result, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) determined that Lido Key beach, as an engineered beach nourishment project, qualified for FEMA funding to repair the hurricane damage to the beach. FEMA funding was available to address the majority of the costs associated with mobilizing and demobilizing the dredge into the project area, as well as fund replacement costs for the sediment lost due to hurricane activity. In addition, the City opted to place additional sand volume on the beach to address background erosion (non-hurricane related erosion) to restore the beach to its original post-construction 2003 beach width. Project costs which were not addressed through FEMA funding were divided between the State of Florida, Department of Environmental Protection and the City of Sarasota. The project cost for the beach fill portion of the 2009 Lido Key Beach Renourishment Project was approximately \$4.8 million.

Project Engineers

Coastal Planning & Engineering, Inc. (CPE) has served as the coastal engineering consulting engineers for the City of Sarasota since 1989. CPE provided all the engineering services required for the 2009 project including project design, geotechnical investigations to locate the beach fill sediment source, environmental studies, State and Federal permitting, funding assistance, erosion control establishment, beach and hydrographic surveying services and all other services required to implement the project.

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Project Challenges

The challenges presented by the Lido Key Beach Renourishment Project were related primarily to the identification of a high quality sediment source for the project. CPE had determined that the highest quality sediment available for the project was located within New Pass. However, the volume of sediment contained within the navigation channel was determined to be inadequate for construction of the beach renourishment project. The amount of sediment available within the navigation channel was approximately 100,000 cubic yards of material. An additional 350,000 cubic yards, at minimum was required for the project. CPE conducted extensive geotechnical investigations of the ebb tidal shoal located off the north end of Lido Key and along the side of the navigation channel to locate the additional sand. Two concerns were the potential coastal effects from excavating a portion of the ebb tidal shoal and the potential presence of cultural resources within the ebb tidal shoal. Geotechnical investigations had revealed that the sediment contained within the ebb tidal shoal was of the highest quality for the project. Nevertheless, during geotechnical investigations, numerous magnetic anomalies were detected within the shoal which could have been related to resources of archeological value. Extensive archeological studies were conducted to investigate those magnetic anomalies. The magnetic anomalies were investigated through direct observation or through excavation into the shoal. Those magnetic anomalies which were buried too deeply to be recovered and identified were protected through the establishment of a buffer zone which prevented excavation in the vicinity of those objects. As a result of this effort, the State of Florida, Division of Historic Resources provided project approval.

A second issue of concern addressed the potential effects to the coastline from excavating the ebb tidal shoal. Extensive modeling was conducted by CPE to determine the potential coastal effects from removal of the sediment from the proposed borrow area for the beach renourishment project. The modeling study utilized an advanced 2D/3D integrated model known as DELFT 3D. In addition to modeling the total excavation of two potential borrow area options, the "without project scenario" was also modeled for comparison to the borrow area options. Model results indicated that the estimated effects of the excavation fell within the natural historic variability of the erosion patterns exhibited on both Longboat Key and Lido Key. As a result, the State of Florida issued the permit for excavation of the channel and ebb tidal shoal at New Pass.

There were no overriding environmental concerns related to the renourishment of the project other than protection of threatened or endangered species which included both shorebirds and nesting sea turtles. The beach renourishment project was constructed prior to the commencement of sea turtle nesting season, thus sea turtles were avoided during project construction. The construction of the beach nourishment project resulted in the restoration of sea turtle nesting habitat on Lido Key. Shorebirds which utilize Lido Key are primarily concentrated at the north end of Lido Key. In response to the need to protect the shorebirds, the contractor was required to avoid construction activity or pipeline placement on the north end of Lido Key. The pipeline was submerged from New Pass and made its beach landing at the approximate center point of the beach renourishment project area. Thus, the area where shorebirds are most active was entirely avoided by project construction.

Success of the Project

The construction of the beach nourishment project was concluded in mid-April 2009. Approximately 450,000 cubic yards of white sand were successfully placed on Lido Key. The project restored the beaches of Lido Key to the condition prior to the devastating hurricanes of 2004 and 2005. Lido Key beach provides storm protection for the upland roads and buildings, recreational beach area for both residents and the highly important tourist economy and environmental habitat for nesting sea turtles and shorebirds.

The beach of Lido Key is known through the United States as a wonderful beach experience destination and also an important economic asset to both the City and State (Photo 3). The Key includes a number of motels and hotels which cater to both national and international visitors to Lido Key. St. Armand's Circle, within one quarter mile of the beach, includes high end restaurants and shops for tourists visiting Lido Key. Thus, the beach is integral to both the local and State of Florida economies. The beach is also the reason many residents live on Lido Key. Beach use is high at all times during the year. In addition to recreational use, the beach is also important in providing storm protection. Prior to the City's efforts to restore and maintain the beach, the main beach road (Gulf Drive) was almost lost to beach erosion. A condominium on the south end of Lido Key had continual problems with waves hitting the building. With the restoration of the beach, storm protection was provided for both public and private property adjacent to the beach. Last, the restoration of the beach returned habitat which had been lost to erosion. Sea turtles nest in the restored beach and shorebirds roost on the newly placed sand.

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Alex DavisShaw, P.E, PTOE, Project Manager of the Lido Key Beach Renourishment Project (right)

Alex DavisShaw, P.E, PTOE, is the City Engineer for the City of Sarasota, Project Manager for the Lido Key Beach Renourishment Project, and an FSBPA Board Member

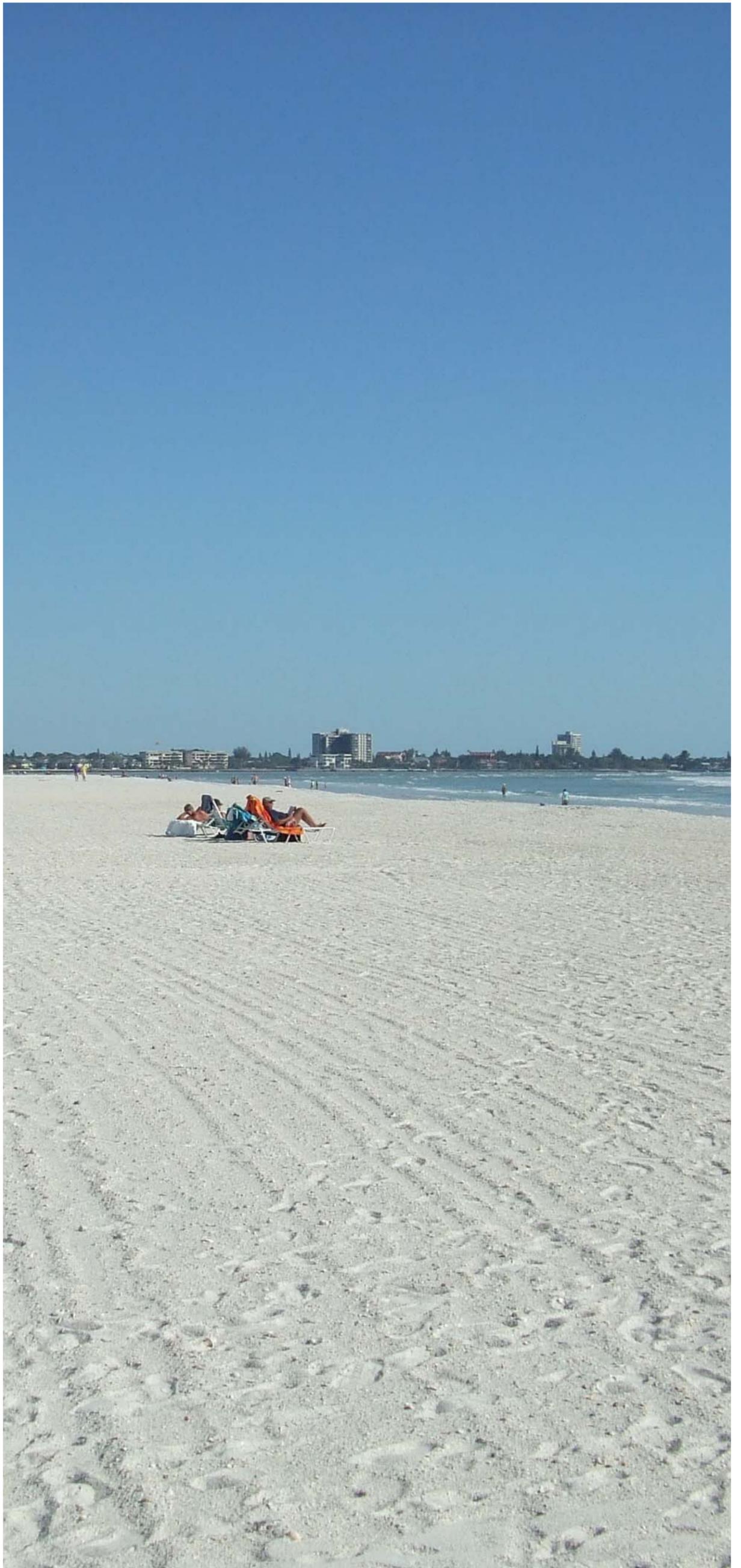
Alex DavisShaw started with the City of Sarasota in 1989 as an Engineer in Training (EIT) and was promoted to Assistant City Engineer, PE in 1991 upon receipt of her license.

Alex has a BS in Civil Engineering from the University of Illinois and an MBA from Nova Southeastern University. In 2003, she received her certification as a Professional Traffic Operations Engineer. In October 2005 Alex became the City Engineer. As City Engineer, Alex oversees the day-to-day activities of the Construction, Transportation, Development and Permitting and Administration work teams of the Engineering Department.

While with the City of Sarasota, she has worked on the Residential Traffic Calming program and developed a grass roots program to address traffic concerns in residential neighborhoods. This has been one of the most popular programs the City of Sarasota offers to its citizens. She is also project manager for the City Shoreline projects including the Bayfront Mooring Field project and Lido Beach Renourishment project.

She has served on the FSBPA Board of Directors since 2007.

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DEP Joint Coastal Permit Update, May 2009

By Michael R. Barnett, P.E., Chief
Bureau of Beaches and Coastal Systems

Concurrent with all the legislative/budget issues that have been ongoing the past two months, the regulatory functions of the Bureau have not abated. Two months ago, we updated you on the status of several Joint Coastal Permit authorizations. What follows is an update since the March issue of Shoreline on a few relevant Final Orders and Notice of Intent documents processed by the Bureau of Beaches and Coastal Systems. In addition, a sampling of recently-completed or ongoing construction projects are briefly highlighted below. These construction permits authorize federal and local governments to construct large scale infrastructure projects.

Beach Restoration/Nourishment/Inlet Management Plan Implementation Projects**Recently Completed Projects and Projects Under Construction:**

Lido Key Post-Storm Nourishment (Sarasota County) – the nourishment of 1.5 miles of Gulf of Mexico shoreline, utilizing sand from the seaward margins of the New Pass ebb shoal, was constructed between March 5 and April 13, 2009. A total of 464,000 cubic yards of sand was placed along this critically-eroded shoreline segment.



Sarasota County, Lido Key Post-Storm Nourishment Project
(Photo by Vince George, DEP, April 9, 2009)

Doctor's Pass Maintenance Dredging (Collier County) – the dredging of approximately 33,000 cubic yards of material commenced March 13 and was completed on April 29, 2009. All maintenance dredged sediments were placed in the nearshore.

Wiggins Pass Maintenance Dredging (Collier County) – the dredging of 50,000 cubic yards of material with nearshore placement was accomplished between February 12 and March 8, 2009.

Ft. Pierce Shore Protection Project (St. Lucie County) – the nourishment of approximately 1.3 miles of shoreline immediately south of the Ft. Pierce Inlet using approximately 186,000 cubic yards of sand from Capron Shoal began on May 6, 2009 and will be completed by the end of May.

Recently Issued Final Orders:

Eglin Air Force Base Beach Restoration (Okaloosa County) – Five-year authorization to restore 5.1 miles of Air Force Base shoreline fronting the Gulf of Mexico (3 discontinuous shoreline reaches) with 2.7 million cubic yards of sand from an offshore borrow area.

Matanzas Pass Dredging and Disposal (Lee County) – Ten-year maintenance permit to maintain federal navigation channel; 2009 event will remove ~219,000 cubic yards of material, to be placed in the nearshore along one mile of the Fort Myers Beach shoreline south of the pier. A Pre-Construction Conference is scheduled for May 8, 2009.



Miami-Dade County, Proposed Miami Beach Truck Haul Nourishment Project at 63rd Street
(Photo by Richard Noyes, DEP, March 2009)

Miami Beach Truck Haul Nourishment (Miami-Dade County) – Major modification to allow placement of approximately 305,000 cubic yards of sand along Sunny Isles, Bal Harbour and Miami Beach shoreline segments using upland sourced sand. These placement areas are added to the three shoreline segments currently authorized by the permit (27th, 44th and 55th Streets). A Notice to Proceed was issued to Miami-Dade County on April 22, 2009. Construction is scheduled to commence in mid-May.

Recently Processed Notice of Intent/Draft Permits:

Brevard Mid-Reach Beach Restoration (Brevard County) – Five-year authorization to restore 7.6 miles of Atlantic Ocean shoreline with 900,000 cubic yards of sand from an offshore borrow area.

Recently Completed JCP Applications:

Singer Island Segmented Breakwaters – Request to construct 11 segmented rubble mound breakwaters along an approximately 1 mile shoreline segment of Atlantic Ocean shoreline in northern Palm Beach County.

As with the March 2009 article, the Department recognizes that much work remains to restore and maintain the critically eroded beaches in Florida. Of the 825 miles of sandy beach shoreline in the Sunshine State, 396.4 of those miles have been designated by the Department to be Critically Eroded. To date, 208.6 miles (~53%) of those shoreline miles are under active management. We have several applications in processing at this time that are nearing a complete status, and will continue to work diligently to issue the requisite Notice of Intent and Draft Final Order associated with each file as timely as possible.

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FEDERAL PROJECT STATUS UPDATES**FEASIBILITY STUDIES:**

St. Johns County – Jacksonville District recently received Federal Stimulus funding for this project. Scopes of work are being prepared to contract out NEPA, environmental resource surveys, and additional geotechnical investigations using the stimulus funds. The Beach Fx economic model calibration is in progress with the model in final preparations for initial without project condition run. The first Beach-fx model run is expected by Spring 2009. Milestone of Feasibility Scoping Meeting is set for October 2009.



Flagler County – Beach-fx economic modeling continues and is on the same general timetable as St. Johns County. Nearshore geotechnical investigations have been completed by HALCROW. The potential sand source in State water did not appear favorable. Borrow area development is still ongoing and will likely move to Federal waters. Environmental surveys are underway. The sponsor plans to have a draft borrow area document completed by late summer 2009.

Volusia County - on hold. No non-Federal funding.

St. Lucie County – Jacksonville District will be initiating Beach-fx work during FY09. A Review Plan (RP) is underway, and is required to be completed before point project funds will become available for use. The non-Federal Sponsor is conducting environmental surveys and performing assessments.

OTHER MAJOR PLANNING REPORTS:

The **Brevard County Mid-Reach General Reevaluation Report (GRR)** team has completed the draft report. The report recently received Cost Certification and the revised cost/risk analysis has been approved. The final draft has been submitted to SAD and Headquarters. We are currently awaiting Headquarters' approval to release the report for concurrent independent external peer review and public review.

The **North Boca Raton Second Periodic Renourishment Revised Final Limited Reevaluation Report (LRR)** was approved by Corps South Atlantic Division (SAD) in June 2008. SAD endorsed the Project Cooperation Agreement package for Corps Headquarters review and approval in September 2008.

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 has requested waiver of Beach-fx to in order to use originally utilized model, SDM. This request still awaits guidance from South Atlantic Division.

The **Draft Ft. Pierce Shore Protection Project GRR** has been completed by the non-Federal Sponsor. The GRR seeks an additional 50 years of Federal participation in the project as well as the inclusion of groins to the project area. The Review Plan (RP) has been sent to the Planning Center of Expertise (PCX) and awaits approval.

Broward County Shore Protection Project - Segment I (north county line to Hillsboro Inlet) - 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 has initiated Beach Fx data collection. **Segment II** – GRR Addendum and NEPA document – Sponsor has initiated their GRR Addendum for the upcoming renourishment. **Segment III** – Preparation of a Detailed Design Report (DDR) by Jacksonville District was requested by the Broward County project sponsor to address the subsidence/erosion of the beach fill at the northern end of Segment III under the authority for the Shore Protection project.

The Brevard County, Florida Independent Coastal Expert (ICE) Letter Report has been revised per SAD, HQ, and Planning Center of Expertise (PCX) comments. The revised report underwent Agency Technical Review (ATR) by the PCX in September 2008. SAJ final review was completed on 17 December 2008. The final report has been sent to South Atlantic Division and Headquarters for concurrent review. Headquarters policy review is complete, the revised report awaits ASA(CW) decision if recommended mitigation is appropriate and warrants budgetary priority.

In **Dade County** work was funded for a **Section 227 Project** at 63rd Street in Miami and was reinitiated in August 2008. A design and build contract is being evaluated in cooperation with the Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM) and Reef Innovation, Inc. Upcoming, Genesis modeling is underway to determine the minimum structural footprint and the exact project location. NEPA and WQC are completed, the Joint Coastal Permit will be submitted this month.

The **Martin County Post Authorization Change Report has been completed** by SAJ. This report evaluated impacts to the Benefit/Cost ratio of the approved Shore Protection Project due to the use of a new borrow area. The report revised the Benefit/Cost ratio to 4.5. Following review of the report, Headquarters recommended that a Letter Report be completed to summarize the use of the new borrow area. Additionally, turtle-friendly beach construction templates are being evaluated for use on this project.

Egmont Key - Final Public Notice stating "no further action by USACE" was sent out to the project mailing list on April 7, 2009.

BORROW SITE INVESTIGATIONS:

The **Martin County** borrow area investigation is complete. The Corps is beginning to evaluate borrow area alternatives offshore of Martin and St. Lucie Counties. Hard bottom mapping for **Martin County** is completed and no impacts are anticipated. At the request of FDEP, samples have been submitted to the laboratory for carbonate analysis to examine the potential for cementation following placement of the sand.

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Bathymetric surveys for **Sarasota County** are complete. Further borrow area delineation will resume at the plans and specs level late March or June.

The **Pinellas County, Sand Key** borrow area investigation is underway. Geotechnical work and surveys are complete. The sponsor will be applying to the FDEP for permits to use the borrow area.

In **Flagler County** a sand search project is currently underway. Reconnaissance level bathymetric and seismic surveys of sand sources within state and Federal waters have been completed by Halcrow in support of the current Feasibility Study. Halcrow has prepared a proposed scope of work to collect additional vibracores within state waters. The date for vibracore collection has not been determined.

Plans & Specs are being prepared to utilize all remaining domestic sand sources offshore of **Dade County** as directed by the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) in his 10 December 2007 memo to the Director of Civil Works recommending a three tiered approach to meet Dade County's beach renourishment needs. The Corps has submitted the Biological Assessment to NMFS and USFWS. And is awaiting the Biological Opinion.

REGIONAL SEDIMENT MANAGEMENT:

A large push is being made to participate in the Gulf of Mexico RSM initiative, utilizing existing stakeholders to assist in a regionalization of information and technology. Currently, three complete regional sediment budgets for the sandy coast of Florida are available covering: Northeast Atlantic, Southwest Gulf, and the Central and Southeast Atlantic Regions

The Corps was recently awarded funding from the National RSM Program to initiate an **RSM study for the St. Augustine Inlet Vicinity**. A report is being prepared which will summarize four Federal coastal and navigations projects in the vicinity and likely recommend changes to current management practices and O&M schedules. Additionally, as part of the RSM study we are completing an STWAVE analysis in order to assess the possibility of ebb shoal dredging impacts to the nearshore wave environment.

The Southeast Atlantic Regional Sediment Source Study for Florida has been completed by GEC and Halcrow for SAJ. The report is currently available on: <http://planning.saj.usace.army.mil/rsm>. This Regional Sediment Management report approximates the volume of sand that remains offshore of Palm Beach, Broward and Miami-Dade Counties and compares that volume with the amount required by Federal and non-Federal nourishment projects over the next 50 years.

The Southeast Atlantic Regional Sediment Management Plan for Florida is currently being prepared by Taylor Engineering. A final report is expected by mid July 2009. The Plan will be an **Addendum to the Dade County Letter Report**. The Regional Management Plan will expand on the previously completed Southeast Atlantic Regional Sediment Source Study (Halcrow, 2008) to evaluate sand sources currently available to St. Lucie, Martin, Palm Beach, Broward, and Miami-Dade Counties in order to address long term needs along Florida's Atlantic coast. Additionally, this document will examine the feasibility of including non-domestic sediment as an alternative source to Southeastern Florida's sediment needs.

CONSTRUCTION:

Manatee Harbor construction dredging is underway. The project work consists of removing shoals from the Manatee Harbor Entrance Channel by means of dredging and bed leveling. The contractor performing the dredging is Subaqueous Services, LLC.

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CALENDAR

FSBPA CONFERENCES

September 16-18, 2009

FSBPA Annual Meeting

Amelia Island Plantation

Amelia Island, FL

<http://www.fsbpa.com/conferences.html>

OTHER DATES OF INTEREST

October 14-16, 2009

ASBPA National Coastal Conference

Trade Winds Island Resort

St. Petersburg Beach, FL.

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