



About Shoreline

news from the Florida Shore and Beach Preservation Association

May-June 2024

This month's shoreline features important agency updates from the USACE Jacksonville District and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection about planning and preparing for the upcoming hurricane season. In this edition, we are also excited to introduce a Member Spotlight and announce the call for Award Nominations is open for the 2024 Florida Resilience Conference. Additional conference updates are available on page 2.

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FLORIDA RESILIENCE CONFERENCE
ENSURING FLORIDA'S FUTURE

www.floridaresilienceconference.org

featuring the 67th
Florida Shore & Beach Preservation
Association Annual Meeting

**3RD ANNUAL CONFERENCE
SEPTEMBER 11-13, 2024**

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**Call for Abstracts
is now open**

Now Accepting Award Nominations for the 2024 FSBPA Annual Meeting

We are thrilled to announce the 67th Annual FSBPA meeting will again celebrate individuals for exceptional work in beach preservation, coastal engineering, leadership, public service, and coastal research! Nominations for these time-honored awards will be accepted until July 12, 2024. If you know someone deserving of recognition for their outstanding contributions to beaches and coastal communities, don't miss this opportunity to nominate them! Visit our [website](#) for the nomination form, list of award categories, and past award winners.

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2024 Florida Resilience Conference featuring the 67th FSBPA Annual Meeting



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2024 Hurricane Season is Fast Approaching USACE Jacksonville District Coastal Navigation Program Makes Hurricane Preparations and Shares what Happens before and after a Storm Hits



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The first of June will be upon us very soon and with that will be the beginning of the 2024 hurricane season. As residents of Florida, there are a number of ways that we may prepare, such as stocking up on non-perishable items, restocking the battery supply that has somehow dwindled, or giving our generators a tune-up. Similarly, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Jacksonville District follows its own pre-season checklists. While we are all bracing for what is expected to be a very active storm season, here's a general overview of how we prepare to be "storm-ready" for our beach and navigation projects and what happens after a storm passes.



Brevard County (Mid-Reach), CSRM Project

Pre-Storm for USACE Coastal Projects:

1. Confirm USACE volunteers for beach inspections to perform preliminary damage assessments.
2. Determine contract capacity for post storm surveys.
3. Non-federal sponsors should document pre-storm conditions with photographs and beach surveys. If it's not possible to obtain standard surveys even rough measurements to the mean high water line can be valuable in documenting storm impacts. Prior to a storm, USACE project managers will reach out to their sponsors to obtain as much of this information as possible.

Post-Storm for USACE Coastal Projects:

1. USACE project managers will coordinate with non-federal sponsors to determine when/if staff is available for preliminary damage assessments to walk the beach and discuss intentions to request Public Law (PL) 84-99 assistance. PL 84-99 is the Corps of Engineers' basic authority to provide for emergency activities in support of State and Local governments prior to, during, and after a flood event (to include hurricane and coastal storm-related damages). The Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies (FCCE) appropriation provides funding for PL 84-99 authorized activities.
2. USACE deploys multiple teams of 2-3 across the state to perform preliminary damage assessments post-storm. The goal is to complete each of the preliminary damage assessments within in 5 days of the storm's passing.

3. Per PL 84-99, non-federal sponsors have 30 days from the Public Notice to request rehabilitation assistance. As a part of that public notice, we will ask that sponsors provide survey documentation with your request for assistance. Documentation would include photos, text description, and distance to prominent profile features such as dune crest, dune toe, berm crest, high water line, and low water line. The distance can be measured with tape or paced off (and converted to feet/meters) from a fixed reference point such as an R-monument, seawall/corner, pavilion, walkover, tree, etc.
4. Conduct post-storm surveys of beaches, where necessary.
5. Initiate Project Information Report (PIR).¹ A determination of whether the storm was considered an 'extraordinary storm' and 'significant damages' occurred is one of the initial steps of the PIR, see below for more details.



How is an 'Extraordinary Storm' determined by the Corps of Engineers?

From paragraph 5-20e of Engineer Regulation (ER) 500-1-1, to be eligible for Rehabilitation Assistance, the Project must be substantially eroded/damaged by wind, wave, or water action of *an other than ordinary nature*. USACE defines this as an "extraordinary storm". An extraordinary storm is a storm that, due to length or severity, creates weather conditions that cause significant amounts of damage to a Project. The PIR must include justification that substantiates the occurrence of an extraordinary storm. The Jacksonville District prepares a description of the storm event, an analysis of the storm characteristics, and a determination if the event is classified as an extraordinary storm, per the guidance described above. If more than one District is involved such as a storm that has impacted more than one state or region; one determination of extraordinary storm may be drafted to cover all impacted areas. The determination of whether a storm qualifies as extraordinary will be made by the Director of Civil Works, in consultation with the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works (ASA(CW)) if necessary. Justification will include relevant data from the National Weather Service.

How is 'Significant Damage' determined by the Corps of Engineers?

Paragraph 5-20e of ER 500-1-1, as updated by Section 3029(a)(2) of WRRDA 2014 states:

(2) "Significant amounts of damage" have occurred when:

- (a) the cost of the construction effort to effect repair of the Coastal Storm Risk Management (CSRM) project or separable element thereof (exclusive of dredge mobilization and demobilization costs) exceeds one million dollars and is greater than two percent of the original construction cost (expressed in current day dollars) of the CSRM project or separable element thereof; or,
- (b) the cost of the construction effort to effect repair of the CSRM project or separable element thereof (exclusive of dredge mobilization and demobilization costs) exceeds six million dollars; or,

¹ Can only complete a PIR for projects that have been initially constructed.

(c) more than one-third of the planned or historically placed sand for renourishment efforts for the CSRSM project (or separable element thereof) is lost;

In order to determine if significant amounts of damage have occurred the team will need to compute the following costs and quantities:

1. Quantity of material lost in the design berm due to the storm and compute the cost to repair the design berm to the pre-storm condition.
2. Quantity of material lost due to the storm and compute the cost to repair the project to the pre-storm condition.
3. Quantity of material for planned renourishments of the project .

USACE can also inspect non-federal beaches for damage if given a mission assignment to do so by FEMA through the state Emergency Operations Center.

Navigation Projects:

Similar to our coastal projects, advance preparations for our navigation projects kicks-off roughly one-month prior to June 1st with an informal pre-storm season huddle between USACE, NOAA and USCG to ensure everyone is on the same page for the upcoming season and to identify any issues with USACE and/or NOAA survey vessels (assets/boats) or crews.

Upon the actual start of hurricane season, USACE typically executes a Task Order for contract survey services to cover the entirety of Jacksonville District's area of responsibility. This is a backup in case our survey vessels are down, destroyed, or otherwise unavailable.

Pre-Storm for Navigation Projects²:

1. On or about 72 hours prior to the projected storm impacts, there are daily port coordination calls begin with each/affected USCG sector (Jacksonville, Miami, St. Pete, Key West, San Juan) separately.
2. Identify USACE and NOAA's Navigation Response Team vessels and crew status/locations.
3. Identify possible storm path/projections and estimate impacts.

²Military harbors require additional coordination not outlined herein.

4. Start the process of pre-positioning assets and crews:
 - a. Some assets travel on trailers, some by ocean, some along the intracoastal waterway.
 - b. Identify any logistic issues, i.e., lodging locations, warehouse storage issues, port fuel availability for survey assets, any USCG mooring issues during storm passing, etc.
5. Coordinate with and identify a survey plan for each harbor. USACE directs their assets while working with NOAA to direct their assets.

Post-storm Navigation Projects:

1. Seas must be ≤ 3 ft before survey vessels can launch. As soon as conditions are safe to get on the water, the survey plan for each harbor is executed with the intent to complete the survey and provide mapped results to USCG within 24-48 hours of storm passing.
2. If any issues are encountered with USACE or NOAA survey assets or they are unable to survey, then the contracted surveyors are engaged.
3. Post-survey coordination with USCG continues until each port is reopened.
4. Once surveys are complete and all ports are reopened, the USACE's survey assets are demobilized and released back to their regular duties.

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The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) May-June 2024 Updates



Time to Plan for Fiscal Year 2025-26 Beach Management Funding Requests

It is time to review and update your long-range plan and apply for next year’s funding. Several projects got nourished this year with Army Corps of Engineers emergency funding, or with state emergency funds, but there is still plenty to do to keep our beaches in good condition. Please don’t forget to review the Strategic Beach Management Plan and the Guidance for Local Government Funding Requests: Ranking Criteria for Beach and Inlet Management Projects as applications are being developed. All information is available at <https://floridadep.gov/rcp/beaches-funding-program>.

There are new project managers this year, so don’t assume they will know everything about your project! Here is the schedule:

FY 2025-26 Local Government Funding Request Schedule:

Entity	Task	Days	Rule	Due Date
DEP	Call for applications.			6/1/2024
Sponsor	Application deadline.	60	Yes	7/31/2024
DEP	Draft project assessments released.	33	No	9/2/2024
Sponsor	Local sponsor comments due.	21	Yes	9/23/2024
Sponsor	Signed Resolution due.	21	No	9/23/2024
DEP	Final project assessments released.	14	No	10/7/2024
DEP	Draft LGFR released for external review team.	14	No	10/21/2024
DEP	External review team comments due.	14	No	11/4/2024

Hurricane Restoration Reimbursement Grant Program (HRRGP) to be Expanded and Extended

The HRRGP was instated following Hurricanes Ian and Nicole, as a mechanism to financially assist private homeowners living in coastal impacted areas. The law was initially implemented following the December 2022 special session, and then revised and extended in the legislative session ending in 2023. The law has been revised and extended again, pending signature of the governor. The funds were not being utilized as quickly or fully as anticipated, therefore the scope of the program is being expanded in the current proposed revision. Eligible homeowners and local governments must live on the beach in the following counties: Brevard, Broward, Charlotte, Collier, Duval, Flagler, Indian River, Lee, Manatee, Martin, Nassau, Palm Beach, Saint Johns, Saint Lucie, Sarasota and Volusia.

Beginning July 1, 2024, local governments and municipalities may apply for program funds to implement large scale sand placement projects in impacted counties that protect upland structures and provide benefits to property owners at large. Funding will be distributed on a first come, first serve basis, with up to 100% of costs eligible, for projects that can be completed by July 1, 2025. No more than 50% of the remaining program funds (as of July 1, 2024) may be used for this purpose.

Additionally, for private owner sand construction projects, the “eligible costs” reimbursement limit of \$300,000 has been revised to be 100% reimbursable and no longer requires any cost share component. For armoring projects on eligible condominiums or cooperatives, the “eligible costs” reimbursement limit has been increased from \$300,000 to no greater than \$600,000 per parcel, with no greater than 50% of the total incurred costs for eligible projects being reimbursable.

The proposed law would also extend the expiration date of the grant program to July 1, 2025, and authorize the department to amend the emergency rule as needed. Please see the DEP Hurricane Information web page <https://floridadep.gov/hurricane> for more information.

Hurricane Preparedness and Response Planning

The 2024 Tropical Atlantic Hurricane Season is upon us, and it is crucial that our state and local governments coordinate with federal partners to address the need for response and recovery actions to rebuild from the impacts of a storm. Before the storm season begins, our staff will contact local governments and their representatives to request that they provide pre-storm and post-storm surveys to the department. It's important to note that this request is not mandatory. Your survey data will assist the department to determine the volume of sand eroded from an engineered beach during a particular storm event, and it will enable us to estimate the costs involved in restoring the beach to its pre-storm condition. This year, in addition to offering a designated upload location on our website for your surveys, the department will also introduce an innovative method to enhance efficient data collection. We will be integrating Survey 123 to simplify the submission process for your pre-storm and post-storm assessment reports, making it more streamlined and convenient. Our goal is to implement a system that leverages digital technologies to simplify submission, ensure data accuracy, and enhance the overall efficiency and speed of reporting, thereby boosting our recovery efforts.

Survey documents may be deposited at the department's website at the following link:
ftp://ftp.dep.state.fl.us/incoming/beaches_jcp/Storm_Data_Submission/.

The Survey 123 form is available at: <https://arcg.is/Oaqv4> or by scanning the QR code below.



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Monitoring: Hard Bottom, Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV), Turtles and Birds!

Benthic monitoring needs to be conducted during the summer growing months (May 1-September 30 for hardbottom; June 1-September 30 for SAV.) Diligent efforts to accomplish permit required activities and surveys for anticipated permit applications and modifications within the specified time frame should be made. Additional information on ftp sites, commonly used forms, tutorials and guidance can be found <https://floridadep.gov/rcp/beaches-inlets-ports/content/tools-applicants>.

Turtles and shorebirds are now nesting on our beaches. Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWCC) monitors will be on all the restored beaches and can respond to any issues or questions regarding potential impacts to these species. FWCC's Imperiled Beach-nesting Bird (IBNB) Species Conservation Measures and Permitting Guidelines will go into effect Oct. 1, 2024, so hopefully bird monitors should be getting their required monitoring experience this summer. See <https://myfwc.com/license/wildlife/ibnb/>.

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Member Spotlight

Ocean Village Property Owners Association



Nestled on the beautiful beaches of South Hutchinson Island in Fort Pierce, there is a visionary alliance of 1,200 property owners who have gone to extraordinary lengths to preserve and protect their coastline. In this edition of Shoreline, we introduce the inspiring efforts of the Ocean Village Property Owners Association and their commitment to restoring a resilient dune system to combat coastal flooding and erosion.

Ocean Village's endeavor to restore its beach-dune system began in the 1970s when a team of interested property owners initiated a bold plan to re-introduce 60,000 sea oats along a barren shoreline. Using a new technique for the time, the sea oats thrived, but they were no match for a 1984 nor'easter that flooded Ocean Village and destroyed 60 vehicles. Following the nor'easter, the Ocean Village Beach and Dune Committee was formed and managed by visionaries Martha Hardy, Audrey Napp, and Eileen Emery. This formidable group sought FSBPA membership and participated in meetings to learn about shoreline protection measures from coastal experts. The committee hired Coastal Tech to design and construct a dune restoration project, and they developed a comprehensive dune management plan. The committee also successfully advocated for a modest assessment to offset the cost of maintaining and improving the dunes.



Historic photo -Ocean Village from beach to beach club

Like many Florida coastal communities, 2004 Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne wreaked havoc on the Ocean Village shoreline. The dune system was topped in three places, and most of the vegetation and about 12,000 yds³ of sand were deposited in roads and parking lots. The Beach and Dune Committee went back to work. A subsequent dune restoration project was undertaken, and Committee Chair, Ed Pryor, hired Robert Barron to design and maintain the dunes for the next twenty years.

Today, the thriving dune system performs extraordinarily well at protecting upland structures from coastal erosion and flooding and providing pristine nesting and recreational areas. The Beach and Dune

Committee continues to advocate for a healthy dune system and most recently, member Lee Hearn recorded the property’s dune geomorphology, flora, and fauna. Under the leadership of Carolyn Fortuna, the Committee released the *2024 Coastal Beach & Dune System Review*, offering a historical perspective and baseline report for property owners and other communities facing similar challenges. While speaking with Dr. Fortuna, I learned she reflects on the importance of collaborating with people who have historical knowledge and can give first-hand accounts of storm impacts – with and without a dune system. Carolyn also emphasized that if we can understand what happened in the past, we will more likely be able to adapt to changes in the future.

I hope you will join us in reading this [insightful report](#). Dune restoration is a proven strategy to combat erosion and flooding, and the road taken by Ocean Village offers a successful model for other communities to replicate.



P-SS II & Ocean at Dunes



Looking down to SSII from crossover 5

Shoreline

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS**FSBPA Events**

September 11-13, 2024

3rd Annual Florida Resilience Conference

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