



About Shoreline

news from the Florida Shore and Beach Preservation Association

August 2023

2023 Florida Resilience Conference September 27-29 ♦ Marriott Harbor Beach Fort Lauderdale featuring FSBPA's 66th Annual Policy Meeting



We are thrilled to announce the 2023 Florida Resilience Conference program is [now on-line!](#) After months of letter writing, zoom calls, and abstract reviews, and with the help of the highly talented planning committee, the result is an incredible program that includes nearly 33 hours of presentations intersected with 4 hours of networking (and a little more time sprinkled in for mingling with new and old acquaintances). The format of the program includes four concurrent sessions that focus on beach management, energy, gray and green infrastructure, and smart planning. There will also be an Opening and Closing plenary session to bookend concurrent sessions with comprehensive discussions on statewide resilience initiatives.

The event kicks off in seven weeks in vibrant Fort Lauderdale, and it is your best opportunity to learn about the latest policies and funding for Florida's beach management program and to build connections that will strengthen our voice on the importance of preserving and protecting our coastlines. Plus, you can invite your colleagues to join the discussions on resilience in other sectors. Visit our conference website to see the conference program and to reserve your registration and hotel room at the beautiful Marriott Harbor Beach.



Photo courtesy of VisitLauderdale CVB

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Conference Highlights for Beaches

- ◆ Opening Remarks by Florida Senate President, Kathleen Passidomo
- ◆ Legislative Keynote by Representative Thad Altman, Chair of the Ag & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee
- ◆ Keynote from our host, Broward County, with remarks by Representative Chip LaMarca, Alternating Chair of the Joint Committee on Public Counsel Oversight
- ◆ USACE Jacksonville District Commander's Update by Colonel Booth
- ◆ Presentation from Florida's Chief Resilience Officer, Wes Brooks
- ◆ Updates from the Department of Environmental Protection, including Deputy Secretary Adam Blalock, Director Alex Reed, and Deputy Director Lainie Edwards
- ◆ Presentation from Division of Emergency Management's Chief of Staff, Luke Strickland
- ◆ Hurricane response panel discussions by state and federal agencies and local governments
- ◆ ...And many more....

The 2023 annual membership meeting will be held on-site at Marriott Harbor Beach on September 28 at 12:00 pm

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2023 Florida Resilience Conference

featuring the
66th FSBPA Annual Policy Meeting

September 27-29
Marriott Harbor Beach ♦ Fort Lauderdale, FL

Schedule at a Glance*

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

1:00 pm – 2:55 pm Florida Resilience Conference General Session
3:25 pm – 5:35 pm Beach Management Track and other concurrent tracks
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm Welcome Reception (Exhibit Hall)

Thursday, September 28, 2023

7:45 am – 12:10 pm Professional exchange networking/Beach Management Tracks and other concurrent tracks
12:00 pm – 12:10 pm Annual General Membership Meeting
12:15 pm – 1:30 pm Florida Resilience Conference – General Session Luncheon
5:30 pm – 6:30 pm Thursday Cocktail Hour (Cash Bar)
6:30 pm – 9:00 pm FSBPA Awards Banquet

Friday, September 29, 2023

7:45 am – 10:10 am Professional exchange networking/Beach Management Track and other concurrent tracks
10:40 am – 12:35 pm Florida Resilience Conference Closing General Session
12:35 pm Conference Adjourns

* times are subject to change

Key Dates to Remember

August 25 – Early Registration closes
August 25 – Last Day Hotel Group rate guaranteed
September 27 – Conference kick off

Register Today

Save \$50 if you register by August 25, 2023

For complete details about the conference, visit

www.floridaresilienceconference.org

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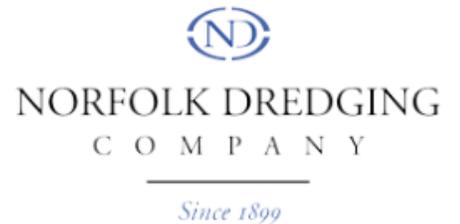


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Palm Beach Harbor - A Beneficial Use of Dredged Material Partnership between the Port of Palm Beach District and the Town of Palm Beach



US Army Corps
of Engineers®

Authors: Chris McNeas, Project Manager, USACE, Jax District; Laurel Reichold, Director, SAD Regional Sediment Management Center of Expertise (RSM RCX); and Robert Weber, Coastal Program Manager, Town of Palm Beach

Introduction

For more than 20 plus years, sediments dredged during periodic maintenance of the Palm Beach Harbor Navigation Project by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) have been placed along the Town of Palm Beach's (Town's) Reach 1 as beneficial use of dredged material. Beneficial use of dredged material is defined as the placement or use of dredged material for some productive purpose (USACE, 1987). The beneficial use of dredged material helps to rebuild the natural system (dunes and beaches) and to protect structures and infrastructure located along the shoreline. Placement of material downdrift of inlets also helps to keep sediment in the system and acts to bypass the material in the alongshore transport process. Most recently, USACE completed two annual maintenance events in 2022 and 2023 and placed over half a million cubic yards of material along the Town's shoreline. Placing the sand on these beaches makes up for the lack of downdrift shoreline influences as a result of the inlet. The results are the widest beaches in the Town which, in turn, provides sand that migrates to the beaches south of the placement area. This material improves storm protection and supplements the other beach nourishment and dune restoration projects performed throughout Palm Beach Island.

The Palm Beach Harbor navigation project is located in Palm Beach County, Florida. The project is associated with the Palm Beach Inlet, also commonly referred to as the Lake Worth Inlet, and its entrance channel lies between the Town of Palm Beach Shores on Singer Island to the north and the Town of Palm Beach on Palm Beach Island to the south. The project's turning basins lie within the Lake Worth Lagoon, east of the Port of Palm Beach District's (Port's) operations in Riviera Beach (Figure 1).



Figure 1: Project is located in Palm Beach County, Florida. Aerial Imagery - Source: Google Earth; Map of Florida inset – Source: Wikipedia



Figure 2: Palm Beach Harbor, Aerial Imagery - Source: Google Earth

Maintenance Dredging

Under the current Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) joint coastal permit, dredge material from the Palm Beach Harbor project may be placed on the dry beach between R-monument 76 (R-76) and R-80.35 or in the nearshore placement area landward of the -17-foot mean low water (MLW) contour. Each time a harbor maintenance event with dry beach placement is planned, the Port, as the non-Federal sponsor, must provide a lands certification to USACE so that USACE and its contractor may access the beach. Based on the estimated volume of dredge material and the Town-provided beach access location, the USACE, the Port, and the Town identify the properties adjoining the beach placement area that will need temporary construction easements. The Town plays a key role in the Port’s lands certification by obtaining the necessary agreements (i.e. temporary construction right-of-entry and temporary construction easements) from the various property owners and assigning those agreements to the Port and USACE for the project’s execution.



Picture 1. Hopper Dredge Atchafalaya in Palm Beach Harbor entrance channel (2022).

In 2022, Cashman Dredging and Marine Contracting Co., LLC (Cashman) began the fiscal year 2022 (FY22) maintenance dredging event in late January 2022 with the hopper dredge Atchafalaya. Areas dredged included the entrance channel, the inner channel, the turning basins, and the settling basins. Following an above average number of storms and high seas events, Cashman completed the maintenance event on May 14, 2022, and placed approximately 293,000 cubic yards (cy) of beach-quality sand between R-76 and R-79 along the Town’s Reach 1.



Picture 1. Cutter Suction Dredge Alaska in Palm Beach Harbor entrance channel (2023).

In order to continue placing material after April 30, 2022, coordination between USACE, the FDEP, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) was conducted, and the regulatory agencies concluded under an FDEP permit modification that the time extension would not increase the probability of adverse impacts to nesting marine turtles or other coastal resources. Cashman completed all beach-related activities and demobilized by May 24th.

During the FY22 maintenance event, a stockpile of dredge material was incorporated into the beach placement activities for the Town's use in other areas of erosion along the Town's shoreline. Approximately 20,000 cy of material was placed in the stockpile. Once the stockpile was in place, the Town hired a contractor to move the sand south of the Corps' project area to an FDEP-approved dry beach placement site along a stretch of shoreline where beach nourishment is not permitted due to the presence of

alongshore hardbottom resources. This sand provided added storm protection and support for the roadway's protective seawall which helped minimize shoreline impacts in this area during the 2022 hurricane season.

In 2023, following Hurricane Nicole's November 2022 impacts on Palm Beach County, including the Palm Beach Inlet, Great Lakes Dredge and Dock, LLC (GLDD) mobilized to Palm Beach Harbor with the cutter/suction dredge *Alaska* earlier than planned to help lift the draft restrictions placed upon the harbor as a result of shoaling in the entrance channel. GLDD began dredging in early February and removed approximately 251,000 cy of sediments from the entrance channel and the settling basins during the FY23 maintenance event. The dredged material was placed along the Town's shoreline between R-77 and R-80. GLDD finished dredging on March 6th, and all beach-related activities, including removal of equipment, was completed by the end of March. The Port's draft restrictions were lifted on March 16th following receipt of after-dredge surveys. As part of this event, an approximate 5,000-cy stockpile of dredge material was created for the Town's use. The Town intends to utilize the stockpiled sand through their state-authorized Sand Forepassing project where sand from the inlet maintenance dredging is transported a few thousand feet south of the USACE placement area to a narrow section of shoreline.

Beach compatible sand is a finite resource as suitable sources to support beach nourishment projects have become harder to locate. The direct use of beach sand from inlet maintenance dredging for both dry beach placement and stockpiling keeps this resource in the beach and dune system. The presence of this material reduces offshore sand needs for beach nourishment as sand placed from inlet maintenance dredging moves down the beach and benefits project areas to the south. The result is an overall healthier beach and dune system using sand that maintains the natural littoral flow of sand along the shoreline. The beneficial use of added sand is a best practice that reduces vulnerability and improves storm protection.

As directed by the Chief of Engineers, LTG Scott A. Spellmon in a policy memorandum published earlier this year, the South Atlantic Division is working to develop a master plan for achieving LTG Spellmon's goal of 70% beneficial use by the year 2030. This initiative entails using up to 70% of all the sediment dredged from navigation channels for some economic and environmental benefiting purpose. While the FY24 maintenance event is currently being planned as a small event (<100,000 cy) with placement of dredged material from the entrance channel and the settling basin in the nearshore placement area, the FY25 maintenance event is anticipated to be another large event (>200,000 cy) in which dredged material will be placed on the Town's shoreline. Without the continued partnership between the Port and the Town of Palm Beach, USACE would have one less project in which to achieve its initiative, and the benefits of this material would not be realized for the environment or the community.

References:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (1987). Engineering and Design: Beneficial Uses of Dredged Material. Engineer Manual 1110-2-5026

Westlund, Richard (2015). Port of Palm Beach A Centennial History. West Palm Beach: Passport Publications & Media Corporation

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The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) August 2023



Statewide Flooding and Sea Level Rise Resilience Plan

The Resilient Florida Program in the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is currently accepting grant applications through Sept. 1, 2023, for potential inclusion in the upcoming Statewide Flooding and Sea Level Rise Resilience Plan. Some of these proposals aim to protect critical assets such as transportation and evacuation routes; critical infrastructure; critical community and emergency facilities; and natural, cultural and historical resources.

To support applicants, Resilient Florida is holding virtual office hours via Microsoft Teams during the application cycle (July 1-Sept. 1). Office hours are recurring on Tuesdays from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. EDT and Thursdays from 2 to 4 p.m. EDT.

On July 13, 2023, Governor Ron DeSantis announced the award of \$300 million in state funding from DEP's Resilient Florida Program for 71 new resilience and adaptation projects and three previously awarded projects to help prepare coastal and inland communities for the adverse impacts of flooding and storm surge.

Earlier this year, Governor DeSantis also announced the award of more than \$275 million for 75 resilience projects using previously appropriated funding through Resilient Florida. Additionally, DEP announced the award of over \$28 million to develop or update comprehensive vulnerability assessments. At the conclusion of these assessments, all 67 counties in Florida will have completed a vulnerability assessment.

More information, important dates and links to helpful webinars can be found at FloridaDEP.gov/ResilientFlorida.

Hurricane Restoration Reimbursement Grant Program

DEP is expanding the Hurricane Restoration Reimbursement Grant Program (HRRGP) to help Floridians continue to offset costs associated with addressing coastal beach erosion from Hurricane Ian or Hurricane Nicole.

To date, 479 applications have been received and 208 have been approved totaling \$9.9 million.

Funding assistance is available for eligible homeowners who apply or reapply and qualify for this program in Brevard, Broward, Charlotte, Collier, Duval, Flagler, Indian River, Lee, Manatee, Martin, Nassau, Palm Beach, St. Johns, St. Lucie, Sarasota and Volusia counties. Projects may include construction projects for sand placement and temporary or permanent coastal armoring.

The HRRGP expansion has three significant updates to the program.

- ◆ The "eligible property" requirement has been expanded to include multifamily, site-built, residential properties, not to exceed four units. The property must still be on the beach in one of the 16 eligible counties and have a homestead exemption under Chapter 196, Florida Statutes.

- ◆ The “eligible costs” reimbursement limit has been increased from \$150,000 to no greater than \$300,000 per parcel and no greater than 50% of the total incurred costs for eligible projects.
- ◆ Applications are being accepted through June 30, 2024.

If a homeowner has previously applied, whether they received a reimbursement or not, they may be eligible to submit additional applications for reimbursement up to the new total eligible costs. Additionally, if you were previously denied funding because your homesteaded property is a multifamily home, you may reapply if you meet new eligible property requirements.

Bob Brantly Retirement



Bob, wife Donna, son Victor and Marty Seeling at retirement celebration.

Robert “Bob” Brantly Jr. worked for DEP’s Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection (and previously, the Florida Department of Natural Resources Bureau of Beaches and Coastal Systems) from 1986 through July 2023. A registered professional engineer, Bob served as a Coastal Construction Control Line coastal engineer, a Joint Coastal Program administrator, and most recently as the program administrator for the Coastal Engineering and Geology Group.

During his 37 years with the department, Bob has been an excellent leader. He studied the Florida Statutes and Administrative Rules and developed the coastal engineering policies that guide our preservation and restoration of our state’s beaches and inlets.

Because of Bob’s leadership, nearly every project evaluation now includes the use of analytical models describing coastal processes and the potential effects of any project. And he has excelled at communicating those effects with local officials, regulators and project managers as well as upper management.

Bob leaves behind a legacy of excellence in coastal engineering.

Shoreline

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS**FSBPA Events**

September 27-29, 2023

**2nd Annual Florida Resilience Conference
Featuring the 66th FSBPA Annual Meeting**

**Marriott Harbor Beach Resort
Fort Lauderdale, FL**

February 7-9, 2024

**37th Annual National Conference
on Beach Preservation Technology**

**Embassy Suites
St. Augustine, FL**

**CALL FOR
ABSTRACTS
coming
soon!**

Other Events

October 10-13, 2023

ASBPA 2023 National Coastal Conference

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Providence, Rhode Island

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