news from the Florida Shore and Beach Preservation Association

March 2017

2017 Beaches and Beyond – We have lift off

Senator Jack Latvala and Representative Kathleen Peters unveiled comprehensive beaches legislation on Friday at Naples Lowdermilk Park, and with the 2017 Legislative Session beginning on Tuesday, March 7th, the timing was perfect. The legislation, initially proposed during the 2016 Annual Conference in Naples, revisits beach and inlet project ranking; ensures funding is used for projects in greatest need to



Sen. Latvala and Rep. Peters

address the state's most severe erosion problems; and requires FDEP to establish a three-year work plan allowing local governments more time to prepare to fund and construct projects. One difference between the two bills, Senator Latvala proposes \$50 million from the Land and Acquisition Trust Fund for beach and inlet projects. Senator Latvala told the Naples Daily News, "I don't have a higher priority in terms of the 15 bills that I sponsored this year."

Roll out of Senate Bill 1590 and House Bill 1213, was attended by FSBPA Board members, Gary McAlpin (Collier), Steve Boutelle (Lee), Andy Squires (Pinellas) Tamara Pigott (Executive Director of the Lee County Visitor and Convention Bureau), and President Debbie Flack. Tamara and Debbie were joined by the Bill Sponsors, Collier County Commissioner Burt Saunders, and General Manager of the Naples Hilton, Clark Hill to speak on the importance of the legislation. Also in attendance were several FSBPA members including Thomas Pierro with CB&I, Michael Poff, Michael Stephen, and others from Coastal Engineering Consultants, and Brett Moore with Humiston & Moore Engineering. The event received terrific news and video media coverage, which are posted on the FSBPA Facebook and Twitter pages.

Read the press release in its entirety on the next page.

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SAVE THE DATES

60th Annual Conference September 27-29, 2017 Westin Fort Lauderdale Beach Resort

2018 Tech Conference

February 7-9
Edgewater Beach & Golf Resort
Panama City Beach, FL

In Memoriam

Brian Flynn

Miami-Dade County
"committed over many years to
Florida's beaches
and this Association"

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For Immediate Release

Friday, March 3, 2017

Sen. Latvala and Rep. Peters Introduce Landmark Legislation to Save Florida's Beaches

Naples, FL – Noting the importance of Florida's beaches to the state's economy, environment and public safety, state Senator Jack Latvala (R-Clearwater) and state Representative Kathleen Peters (R-South Pasadena) introduced landmark legislation today to save these natural treasures from continued erosion.

The legislation dedicates a minimum of \$50 million annually to beach nourishment and inlet management restoration projects in Florida. It also revisits an outdated ranking system to ensure funding is used for projects in greatest need to address the state's most severe erosion problems.

"Florida's beaches define our state's unique brand and drive our tourism economy. Unfortunately, over half of Florida's sandy beaches are eroding, and only half of these miles of eroded beaches are part of a beach project. We can point fingers or offer excuses, but the simple answer is not enough funding and this bill addresses that." Latvala said.

In 2016, the amount of state funding totaled just a third of the requested funds by local governments, leaving a growing backlog of eroded beaches needing repair.

In recent years, Florida has spent about \$30 million annually on beach repair.

"For years, I have expressed the importance of taking care of our beaches. This bill will make sure we prioritize coastal projects that need our attention and ensure our state appropriately manages one of our greatest economic drivers," Peters added.

Additionally, the legislation adds transparency and accountability to the use of state funds, refocuses attention on effective sand management at our inlets, and directs the Department of Environmental Protection to develop a new three-year work plan for beach repair as part of their existing comprehensive planning responsibilities.

The legislation has quickly drawn praise from a range of Florida organizations and individuals. Below is a small sample of comments.



"Our coastal communities and local governments are most appreciative of Senator Latvala's budgetary and program commitment to sustaining and repairing Florida's beaches. The importance of this legislation in replacing the historical documentary stamp tax allocation with a minimum of \$50 million annually from a dedicated funding source, and revisiting the annual project selection process to ensure that beach and inlet management projects of greatest need and cost effectiveness rise to the top, make Senator Latvala and Representative Peters true champions on behalf of Florida's beaches." – Deborah Flack, President of the Florida Shore & Beach Preservation Association



"Florida's beaches define our state, support coastal economies, and provide habitat for wildlife. Over 90% of all sea turtle nesting in the United States occurs on our beaches. Severe erosion threatens beaches around the state and without a healthy beach and dune system sea turtles can't nest. The Sea Turtle Conservancy supports Senator Latvala's efforts to ensure that adequate funds are directed where it's needed most to recover eroded beaches and coastal habitat. We look forward to working with the senator and legislature to achieve this important goal." – Gary Appelson, Sea Turtle Conservancy

"Our beaches generate millions of dollars in state revenue every year, and are a driving force behind Florida tourism. As a critical part of the Sunshine State's environment, these beaches must be replenished and revitalized to reverse the effects of storm erosion. We support Senator Latvala's commitment to preserve our state's most valuable asset through his beach funding bill." - Gil Langley, Chairman of the Florida Association of Destination Marketing Organizations

"With more than 1,300 miles of coastline, Florida's beaches are vital to our economy and environment. Maintaining those beaches keep homes and citizens safe from deadly storms and in the calm provide a beautiful destination to Florida's more than 100 million annual visitors. Increased and sustained funding for beach re-nourishment is critical for any number of reasons including: protection for 20 million Floridians, a destination for 100 million visitors and environmental stability for our 825 sandy miles. The Florida Association of Counties would like to thank Senator Latvala for recognizing these millions of reasons and making beach re-nourishment a priority as he works to shape Florida's budget." - Kathy Bryant, President of the Florida Association of Counties

"The state's beach management program is critically important to Panama City Beach, and the funding and partnership provided by this program have been instrumental in the maintenance and management of our beaches. I support Senator Latvala's and Representative Peters' efforts to improve how this program is administered to better recognize the economic benefits of tourism at our beaches and to quantify the storm damage reduction benefits of beach management projects." - Dan Rowe, Executive Director of the Bay County Tourist Development Council

"St. Lucie County is most appreciative of the significant commitment of this legislation to sustaining and repairing Florida's beaches. The replacement of the program's historical funding source with a minimum dedicated annual funding source is critically important to sustaining this successful intergovernmental partnership. The County is especially encouraged with the Bill's added emphasis on revisiting inlet sand bypassing especially needed at a time of dwindling sand resources and miles of additional critically-eroded beaches as a result of Hurricane Matthew." – St. Lucie County Commissioner Frannie Hutchinson

"I am extremely encouraged by the thoughtful legislation sponsored by Senator Latvala and Representative Peters that would address the critical funding for beach nourishment projects statewide. I have been part of a group of County Commissioners that has been advocating for smart investment in our beach infrastructure, because our beaches protect hundreds of billions of dollars of upland infrastructure, while creating tens of billions of dollars in economic impact through tourism." - Broward County Commissioner Chip LaMarca



BeachWatch Bill Tracking List

As with every Legislative Session, FSBPA's BeachWatch service monitors and reports on beach–related bills to its members. The initial list of bills being monitored include those summarized below.

Coastal Management

SB 1590 by Senator Latvala and HB 1213 by Representative Peters revise the criteria for prioritizing beach projects, prioritize inlet funding, and provide greater transparency in the funding process. SB 1590 dedicates \$50M in funding annually for beach and inlet projects statewide from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund (LATF).

Hurricane Matthew Funding

HB 3603 by Representative Renner is a House Appropriations Project Bill that provides \$10M in nonrecurring general revenue to the Flagler County

Sen. Latvala, Comm. Saunders, Rep. Peters, Debbie Flack, Tamara Pigott, Clark Hill Beach Restoration and Protection Project.

HB 4127 by Representative Stevenson is a House Appropriations Project Bill that provides \$47M in nonrecurring general revenue to the St. Johns County Hurricane Recovery.

Land Acquisition Trust Fund

Everglades - SB 10 by Senator Bradley and HB 761 by Representative Altman establish options for additional water storage south of Lake Okeechobee to reduce the damaging discharges to the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee Estuaries. These options would be funded within the existing LATF allocation for Everglades Restoration. SB 10 passed its first committee on February 7.

St. Johns River - SB 234 by Senator Bradley and HB 847 by Representative Payne set aside \$35M in Land Acquisition Trust Funds (LATF) annually for restoration of the St. Johns River and its tributaries or the Keystone Heights Lake Region. SB 234 passed its first committee February 21.

Septic Tanks - HB 551 by Representative Stone and SB 874 by Senator Young set aside \$20M in LATF dollars annually to retrofit septic tanks or connect homes to central sewer in the Indian River Lagoon and St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee Estuaries. The Governor's Budget proposed a \$40M matching grant program for local governments funded with general revenue.



Water Infrastructure - HB 663 by Representative Peters and SB 1082 by Senator Brandes set aside \$100M in LATF dollars annually for water infrastructure spending for certain projects that are part of an approved recovery and prevention strategy, regional water supply plan, basin management action plan, or provide an environmental benefit based on criteria in the bills.

Indian River Lagoon - SB 982 by Senator Mayfield and HB <u>1033</u> by Representative Altman set aside \$30M in LATF dollars annually for restoration of the Indian River Lagoon.

Economic Development

The House Careers and Competition Subcommittee approved a proposed committee bill on February 8, <u>PCB-CCS-17-01</u>, that eliminated Visit Florida and Enterprise Florida. The bill was filed as HB <u>7005</u>, with Representative Renner as the primary co-sponsor. It passed the House Appropriations Committee on February 21 with an <u>amendment</u> that preserves Visit Florida but cuts its budget to \$25M.

Marine Turtle Protection

<u>SB 1228</u> by Senator Gainer and <u>HB 1031</u> by Representative Altman add the existing crime of possession of any marine turtle species or hatchling, or parts thereof, or nests to the statutory list of third degree felonies for the purpose of increasing sentencing points for a conviction of this offense.

Coral Reefs

<u>HB 1143</u> by Representative Jacobs and <u>SB 1624</u> by Senator Farmer establish the Southeast Florida Coral Reef Ecosystem Protection Area. They require the Coral Reef Conservation Program to work with the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission in developing a comprehensive management plan for the area, and require the Department of Environmental Protection to submit the proposed plan to the Board of Trustees.

Sea Level Rise and Flooding

<u>SB 112</u> by Senator Brandes and <u>HB 613</u> by Representative Ahern authorize the Division of Emergency Management to administer a matching grant program for local governments to implement flood hazard risk reduction policies and projects.

<u>HB 181</u> by Representative Jacobs and <u>SB 464</u> by Senator Clemens create an interagency workgroup to share information, coordinate efforts, and collaborate on initiatives relating to natural hazards.

SB 420 by Senator Brandes and HB 813 by Representative Lee revise the intervals at which specified standards and guidelines for projecting certain rate filings must be revised by the Florida Commission on Hurricane Loss Projection Methodology. Additionally, they authorize an insurer to issue flood insurance policies on a flexible basis. They also specify conditions for an eligible surplus lines insurer before an agent may be excepted from the diligent-effort requirement when exporting flood insurance contracts or endorsements to the insurer. SB 420 passed its first committee on February 21.

<u>HB 639</u> by Representative Shaw and <u>SB 728</u> by Senator Rouson revise limitations on emergency assessments for coastal and other property insurance accounts.



2017 Tech Conference - It's a Wrap

Jackie Larson, Executive Director

The 2017 Tech Conference is one for the record books. The location and weather at the Hutchinson Island Marriott in Martin County were picture perfect for the conference and extra-curricular activities. The Planning Committee did a remarkable job at recruiting seasoned speakers and organizing a wide array of sessions that included hurricane impacts, innovative technologies, living shorelines (our newest session), beach restoration—of course, and so much more. The Committee's hard work on the program resulted in an incredible turn-out, just shy of 250 registered attendees, densely filled exhibit halls, and remarkable sponsors. I want to thank everyone who contributed to making the 30th such a success!

While we are on the subject of successes – the student scholarship opportunity sponsored by Coastal Engineering Consultants was again an exciting addition to conference. Students presenting research included: Corey Aitken, Madeline Rubio, Thomas Shahan, and William Warren, all under the tutelage of Dr. Tiffany Roberts Briggs of Florida Atlantic University. "It is with great pride that Coastal Engineering Consultants sponsored the 4th annual student scholarship for the FSBPA Technical Conference," said CEC President, Michael Poff. "It was an honor meeting the four students and having them describe the fantastic research they are working



Katherine Brutsche, Coastal Hydraulics Laboratory, ERDC, with students Corey Aitken, William Warren, Madeline Rubio, and Thomas Shahan

on. I also had the privilege of eating lunch with them and getting to know them personally. The future of the coastal profession looks bright knowing we have such excellent students in a high quality program here in Florida."

Michael along with James Gray, Indian River County and FSBPA Board Member, and Lisa Armbruster, Conference Program Coordinator, comprised the panel that met with each student about their research. The winning scholarship was presented to Mr. William Warren. William shared with me a few comments about his research and the National Tech Conference that I would like to share with you.

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I am currently in my last semester as a graduate student seeking a Master's degree in geology at Florida Atlantic University. I was raised on Pensacola Beach, Florida, a barrier island in the northern Gulf of Mexico, where my interest in coastal processes and storms was sparked. I began my work in coastal science as an undergraduate student studying geology at FAU and am conducting my graduate research in the coastal studies lab under the direction of Dr. Briggs. I am also a coastal geology intern at Taylor Engineering and hope to continue with coastal work after graduation in the spring.

My thesis research is focused on cold front-induced nearshore dynamics in Sisal, Mexico and Delray Beach, Florida. Using streamer traps, the vertical distribution of nearshore sediment transport during two different cold fronts on two low-wave energy beaches (i.e., along the northern Yucatan and southeast Florida) were compared with the resulting morphologic change. The objectives of this study are to: 1) analyze the grain size distribution (statistics) of sediment transported during a cold front, 2) compare the vertical sediment distribution throughout the water column, and 3) compare characteristics of bed sediment to the sediment within the water column. Understanding the changing grain size distribution of bottom sediments in comparison to directional transport (throughout the water column) should help determine the sediment fraction(s) being eroded or deposited, which could greatly improve predictions of storm-induced morphology change.

I was fortunate enough to present a poster on my initial research at last year's FSBPA Tech Conference in Jacksonville. I enjoyed the opportunity to present my continued work at this year's conference in Stuart. Attending presentations by some of the best in the field has helped me to better understand the real world applications of my studies. Through my research I hope to gain a better understanding of coastal storms and processes and use my knowledge to protect and restore coastal regions. I look forward to completing my degree and plan to continue my involvement with FSBPA as a graduate.

-William Warren



Michael Poff and William Warren - scholarship presentation

While there could be only one top scholarship award, CEC presented each student with a generous gift card in appreciation of their time to prepare posters and present their work.

"What a great experience getting to know the four students during the 2017 FSBPA Tech conference," said James Gray after meeting with the students. "I applaud FSBPA and Coastal Engineering Consultants for providing upcoming coastal professionals opportunities to discuss their research outside the classroom setting and among other coastal professionals."

Thank you, James, Lisa and Michael. I can speak for all of us when I say that we look forward to keeping up with these young professionals and meeting more students in 2018. Until next year...



2017 Planning Committee

Executive Committee

Chris Creed, P.E., Olsen Associates, Inc.

> Lauren Floyd CB&I

Michael Poff, P.E., Coastal Engineering Consultants, Inc.

> Cliff Truitt, Ph.D., P.E. Taylor Engineering, Inc.

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Jason Engle, P.E., SACE, Jacksonville District

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Nicole Sharp, P.E. Broward County, Florida

Todd Walton, Ph.D., P.E.

Lee Weisher, Ph.D., PWS Woods Hole Group

and

Lisa Armbruster FSBPA

2017 Tech Conference

Thank you Attendees, Speakers, Sponsors, Exhibitors and Volunteers

Thank you to all who attended the 30th annual conference. Your attendance and support are very much appreciated. A special thank you to the speakers who contributed to the program's success. The <u>conference presentations</u> are now available on the website for those speakers who gave permission to post their presentation in a pdf format.

FSBPA is appreciative for the involvement of the Sponsors and Exhibitors who support the conference each year. Attendees enjoy the professional breaks, the welcome reception, the luncheon buffet, and this year were treated by CSA and Martin County's Office of Tourism & Marketing to a special Game Night in celebration of our 30th conference. Networking is an essential part of the tech conference, and the professional exchange breaks offer a venue for attendees to interact with colleagues while also providing an opportunity to learn about available services and products exhibitors have to offer.

Once again, to our planning committee, speakers, attendees, sponsors, exhibitors, and volunteers who assist us, thank you for making the annual National Conference on Beach Preservation Technology a great success! FSBPA's Board of Directors and staff greatly appreciate your continued support.

Mark your calendar

2018 Annual Tech Conference February 7-9, 2018

Edgewater Beach & Golf ResortPanama City Beach, Florida



Some candid shots!













Thank you to our Sponsors

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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Continuing Authorities Program



By Gabriel Todaro Intern, EN-WC U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Jacksonville District

The Continuing Authorities Program (CAP) authorizes the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to plan, design, and construct small-scale projects under existing program authorities from Congress. Local governments and agencies seeking assistance may request USACE to investigate potential water resource issues that qualify for a particular CAP authority.

A CAP project is conducted in two-phases: a feasibility phase and a design and implementation phase. Both phases of a CAP project are cost-shared between the federal government and the non-federal sponsor. There is an upper limit to federal participation that varies by CAP authority (detailed below) since the program is intended for small-scale projects.

First is the Federal interest determination in which up to \$100,000 of federal funding is available to determine whether there is a federal interest for the proposed project. If a federal interest is established, the remaining portion of the feasibility study is cost shared 50/50 federal and non-federal funding. The feasibility phase culminates in a report documenting the issues, objectives, recommended alternatives, and environmental compliance required for the project.

After the feasibility phase, and USACE Major Command (ex. South Atlantic Division) approval of the project, the design and implementation phase begins. The non-federal sponsor must agree to the following conditions before a project will enter the design and implementation phase:

- 1. Provide all Lands, Easements, Rights-of-Way, Relocations and Disposal¹ areas (LERRD) necessary for construction and maintenance. The cost of LERRD is applied toward the non-federal sponsor's cost share.
- 2. Maintain and operate the project after completion without cost to the federal government (most projects).
- 3. Prevent future encroachment, which might interfere with proper functioning of the project.
- 4. Assume responsibility for any cash requirements including costs in excess of applicable federal limitations, which vary by CAP authority.

The design and implementation phase includes completion of design plans and specifications, and construction. This phase is cost-shared, typically at 65% federal funding and 35% non-federal funding.



CAP Authorities

Nine legislative authorities under CAP authorize the Corps to plan, design, and construct certain water resources projects.

Section 14 – Emergency Streambank and Shoreline Protection

USACE is authorized to construct bank stabilization and protection projects to protect endangered public and non-profit infrastructure from flood and storm damages due to erosion. Examples of protected infrastructure include highways, bridges, approaches, cultural sites, and essential public services such as hospitals and water supply systems. Privately owned property and facilities are not eligible for protection under this authority. The

maximum federal limit is \$5 million per project.



Figure 1: Example of Section 107 Project in Aquadilla Harbor, Puerto Rico

<u>Section 103 Beach Erosion and Hurricane and Storm Damage</u> <u>Reduction</u>

This authority allows USACE to assist in the protection of public infrastructure on small beaches against erosion and damages caused by natural storm driven waves and currents. Typical projects include protecting utilities, roadways, and other public infrastructure systems. The maximum federal limit if \$10 million per project.

Section 107 – Navigation Improvements

This authority allows USACE to plan, design, and construct small projects for commercial navigation purposes such as channels, breakwaters, and jetties to ensure safe and efficient use of the nation's navigable waterways. The maximum federal limit is \$10 million per project.

<u>Section111 – Shore Damage Prevention or Mitigation of Damages</u> Caused by Federal Navigation Projects

USACE is authorized to investigate and construct projects for prevention or mitigation of shore damages to public and privately owned shores along coastlines that are attributable to federal navigation. The maximum federal limit is \$10 million per project.

Section 204 – Beneficial Use of Dredged Material

USACE can restore, protect or create aquatic and wetland habitats in connection with construction maintenance dredging of an authorized federal navigation project. The cost share under this program is 65 percent federal and 35 percent non-federal for all costs above the base

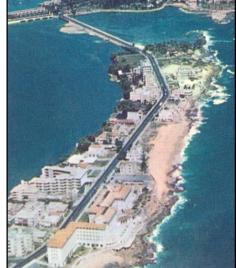


Figure 2: Example of Section 204 Project in Condado Lagoon, Puerto Rico

disposal plan, where the base disposal plan is the least costly for typical disposal of dredged material. The federal government pays 100 percent up to the cost of the base disposal plan. The maximum federal limit is \$10 million per project.



Section 205 – Flood Control

USACE is authorized under this authority to investigate and construct local flood control projects by construction or improvement of flood control works. Typical flood control projects include levees, floodwalls, channel modifications, pumping stations, or non-structural measures. The maximum federal limit is \$10 million per project.

<u>Section 206 – Aquatic Habitat Ecosystem Restoration</u>

USACE is authorized to restore and protect aquatic ecosystems and wetland habitats to improve the quality of the environment. Examples of projects include channel modifications and wetland restoration. The maximum federal limit is \$10 million per project.

Section 208 - Snagging & Clearing for Flood Control

Authorized by section 208 of the 1954 Flood Control Act, as amended - work under this authority provides for local protection from flooding by channel clearing and excavation, with limited embankment construction by use of materials from the clearing operation only. The non-Federal sponsor is responsible for a minimum of 35% to a maximum of 50% of total project costs and the Federal Government is responsible for the remainder of total project costs. The Federal share of planning, design, and construction cannot exceed \$500,000 for each project.

Section 1135 – Project Modifications

USACE is authorized to assist in the restoration of degraded ecosystems through the modification of USACE structures, operations, or implementation of measures in affected areas. The maximum federal limit is \$10 million per project.

CAP Process

The first step in determining whether a project is eligible for the Continuing Authorities Program is to have a conversation with a CAP program manager. The program manager will help the sponsor complete the following steps:

- 1. Identify whether a project is eligible for one of the above authorities.
- 2. Send a formal letter to the appropriate USACE District requesting assistance under one of the CAP authorities.
- 3. Conduct initial site visit and discussions.
- 4. Prepare a Study Initiation Report (SIR).
- 5. SIR approval will place the potential project in the National CAP database as a new start and qualify the project for \$50K (federally funded) to make a Federal Interest Determination (FID). The FID process will not begin until Congress releases a new start list. Lists are released every 6 months.



- 6. A positive FID qualifies the project for the remaining \$50K (federally funded) to conduct further analysis, prepare and execute a Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreement (FCSA) with sponsor.
- 7. Prepare feasibility report for approval (approval is at the Division office).
- 8. Feasibility report approval.
- 9. Prepare and execute Project Partnership Agreement (PPA).
- 10. Initiate Design & Implementation (DI) phase.
- 11. Construct project.
- 12. Project turnover to sponsor.
- 13. Sponsor assumes Operation & Maintenance (O&M) responsibilities.

CAP Project Timeline

While individual projects will vary in scope and schedule, CAP projects are meant to be accomplished much quicker than a regular USACE project. In general, preparing the Study Initiation Report will take approximately 1 month, the Federal Interest Determination will be completed within 4 months of being granted a new start by Congress, and the Feasibility Cost Share Agreement will be completed within 6 months of the FID approval. The Feasibility Study should be finished within 18 months of the execution of the Cost Share Agreement. The length of the Design and Construction phases will vary based on the complexity of the projects.

Contact

For more information about the Continuing Authorities Program in Florida, contact the USACE Jacksonville District CAP Program Manager, Jim Suggs, at Jim.I.suggs@usace.army.mil.

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DEP Organizational Changes



Mr. Rob Buda has been chosen as the Administrator for the Beaches and Mines Funding Assistance Program, as of February 17, 2017. Rob received his Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Florida State University. He began his DEP career with the Bureau of Laboratories, where he worked for eleven years. He has been a Project Manager in the beach funding program since 2007 and is a Florida Certified Contract Manager. He has also served as a DEP Diving Safety Officer. Rob's program has a staff of nine working in the Beach Management Funding Assistance Program and the Nonmandatory Land Reclamation Program.

Karina Kronsis has joined the Beaches, Inlets and Ports Program as a Permit Manager. She has a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Science from Florida State University and previously worked with the Division of Water Restoration Assistance in the Deepwater Horizon Program.

Gene Chalecki, Program Administrator for Beach Field Services will be retiring next month. Gene has been in the engineering / environmental field since 1977, and has been a major player in DEP Beaches programs since 1989, administering and supervising coastal regulation, primarily in the Coastal Construction Control Line Program.

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Guess the Grain Size

Jackie Larson

It has become a tradition for attendees to participate in the "Guess the Grain Size Contest" offered by AVS at our conferences. It is a fun challenge that tests even the keenest of eyes. At the 2017 Tech Conference, AVS exhibited a sample originating from a proposed borrow area off Myrtle Beach, North Carolina as part of the "Coastal Storm Damage Reduction Project, Little River Borrow Site Investigation."

As Fred Kaub admitted, the sample was an agonizing mix of small sand grains and larger shell. I guess (...'er, I didn't really guess anywhere close to the correct answer) the percent of larger shell won out and the tested mean grain size was determined to be **0.425 MM**.

Here were the best guesses of the contest:

1st Place: .425mm - Henry Schorr Jr- Manson Construction (The Saint of Sand Award)

2nd Place .428mm - Grant A. Baysinger – Ecological Associates, Inc.

3rd Place: .421mm - Nancy Lehr and Jamie Mount - Johnson Mirmiran & Thompson (Tie)

4th Place: .420 mm - Mike Trudnak – Taylor Engineering, Melany Larenas – Raba Kistner (Tie)

Congratulations Henry!



Lucy Thein-Wiening, American Vibracore Services



Shoreline

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

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FSBPA Staff

President: Debbie Flack

Executive Director: Jackie Larson

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Office/Conference Manager: Teri Besse

Florida Shore & Beach Preservation Association

PO Box 13146, Tallahassee FL 32317

Phone: (850) 906-9227 • Fax: (850) 462-3575

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FSBPA Conferences

September 27-29, 2017

60th Annual Conference

Westin Fort Lauderdale Beach Resort Fort Lauderdale, Florida

February 7-9, 2018

2018 Tech Conference

Edgewater Beach & Golf Resort Panama City Beach, Florida

OTHER DATES OF INTEREST

March 7-May 5, 2017

2017 Legislative Session

October 24-27, 2017

ASBPA 2017 National Coastal Conference

Fort Lauderdale, Florida

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