



2022 LEGISLATIVE SESSION WRAP-UP

Excerpts from BeachWatch Updates with Bill Summaries by Pepper Uchino

The 2022 Session concluded on Monday, March 14, after a slight delay in wrapping up the budget. In the end, it was another stellar year for Florida's beaches. The budget was expected to be in the best shape in over a decade coming into this session, and revenue estimate after revenue estimate backed up these assumptions with increasing collections. With a rosy budgetary outlook, some might have believed this would be an easy session, but as confirmed by Senate Budget Chair Stargel, having a surplus is more difficult than a deficit. Not only that, but there were many contentious policy issues on the table, during an election and redistricting year no less, that sucked up hours upon hours of committee and floor time.

The Conference Report on HB 5001 (the budget bill) was the largest in the state's history and the second straight budget to surpass \$100 billion. At \$112.1 billion, it smashed last year's record budget of \$101.5 billion. Considering the historic funding for beaches in FY 2021/22, I was concerned there might be some funding fatigue for the statewide beach program. Despite my specific concerns for beaches funding, I and other advocates assumed other environmental spending would be significant, and we were right. The Legislature also appropriated almost \$500 million more for resilience programs.

At \$50 million, the Legislature did not provide enough programmatic funding for the entire list this year (\$58.65M); however, I am working with FDEP to use unallocated FY 2021/22 funds to make up the balance. So, I anticipate that no projects should be left out of this year's funding. In addition, state park beaches got \$55 million to take care some of our most iconic coastal parks. The Ponte Vedra nourishment and dune restoration phase II member project also received \$1.7 million. The bottom-line is, total funding for beaches this year is \$106.7 million.

[Continued on next page](#)

Inside this Edition

**Exploring the Relationship
Between Sedimentology and
Beach Substrate Temperature on
Sea Turtle Nesting, Hatching, and
Emergence Success**

By Jyothirmayi Palaparathi

... page 6



US Army Corps
of Engineers

**Important Project on the Horizon
at Egmont Key**

...page 9



**FDEP Office of Resilience and
Coastal Protection Updates -
April 2022**

...page 11

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Appropriations

At the outset of Session, our governmental strategy was to request the \$50 million in recurring LATF dollars. Once the tremendous revenue numbers became clear, our strategy shifted to ask the Legislature to fund the entire 2022/23 list, which would have been \$8.65M in additional nonrecurring monies from either LATF or General Revenue. This strategy received an early boost in the Senate’s preliminary budget, but ultimately the House stayed firm at \$50M, and the Senate did not press the issue in the waning days of Session during conference.

The Traditional Statewide Beach Budget for FY2022/23 - \$50 million recurring

1778 GRANTS AND AIDS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND NONSTATE ENTITIES - FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY BEACH PROJECTS – STATEWIDE

From the Land Acquisition Trust Fund \$50,000,000

PROVISO

Funds in Specific Appropriation 1778 are provided to the Department of Environmental Protection for distribution to beach and inlet management projects consistent with any component of the comprehensive long-term management plan developed in accordance with section 161.161, Florida Statutes. Funds may be used in accordance with section 161.101, Florida Statutes, for projects on annual ranked lists, storm repair projects, or projects on lands managed by the state.

From the funds provided in Specific Appropriation 1778, the department shall submit to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a report by December 31, 2022, that details the achievements, available public access, and recreational opportunities resulting from prior year appropriations of beach and inlet management projects.

State Park Beach Budget for FY2022/23 - \$55 million nonrecurring

1736A FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY STATE PARK BEACH PROJECTS

From the Land Acquisition Trust Fund \$55,000,000

PROVISO

Funds in Specific Appropriation 1736A are provided for sand placement and the installation of groins for the following state park beach projects:

Big Talbot Island State Park.....	3,000,000
Dr. Von D. Mizell-Eula Johnson State Park.....	6,000,000
Deer Lake State Park.....	3,000,000
Grayton Beach State Park.....	3,000,000
Honeymoon Island State Park.....	4,000,000
Hurricane Pass (Honeymoon Island and Caladesi Island State Parks).....	4,000,000
Little Talbot Island State Park.....	25,000,000
North Peninsula State Park.....	3,000,000
St. George Island State Park.....	4,000,000

Aside from beaches funding, environmental spending dramatically increased this year due to the huge amount of nonrecurring revenue collected by the state. Some of that spending is detailed below. If you have specific questions about any line item or general budget questions, please let me know.

- Total Everglades restoration - \$885.9M
- Total resilience spending for flooding and sea level rise - \$478.3M

- Water projects list - \$368.4M
- Rural and Family Lands Protection Program/wildlife corridors - \$300M
- State parks maintenance and repairs - \$239.5M
- Florida Forever Program and land acquisition - \$168.7M
- Springs restoration - \$75M
- C-51 reservoir - \$65M
- Local parks - \$58.2M
- Visit Florida - \$50M
- Total maximum daily loads program - \$50M
- Alternative water supply projects - \$50M
- Indian River Lagoon water quality improvements - \$38M
- Biscayne Bay water quality improvements - \$20M
- Florida Keys Area of Critical State Concern - \$20M
- Manatee management and care - \$20M
- Derelict vessel removal - \$19.9M
- Innovative technology grants for harmful algal blooms - \$15M
- Blue Green Algae Task Force - \$10.8M
- Coral reef restoration and protection - \$10M

Other Budget and Policy-related Bills of Interest (Passed)

Budget

SB 96 (Burgess) and SB 98 (Burgess)/HB 7023 (Trabulsy) and HB 7025 (Trabulsy) – Emergency Preparedness and Response Fund

The bills amend the financing provisions related to state expenditures made in response to a disaster. Specifically, disaster response expenditures must first come from those funds appropriated to state and local agencies for disaster relief or response. If insufficient, the bill authorizes the governor to expend up to \$500 million in the Emergency Preparedness and Response Fund. It also authorizes the governor to request additional funds from Legislative Budget Commission to be transferred into the Emergency Preparedness and Response Fund. These bills have been signed by the governor and are Chapter Nos. 2022-001 and 2022-002.

Policy

SB 224 (Gruters)/HB 105 (Fine/Altman) – Regulation of Smoking by Counties and Municipalities

In relevant part, it allows counties and municipalities to restrict smoking, except for unfiltered cigars, within the boundaries of any of the public beaches and public parks they own.

SB 434 (Hooper)/HB 489 (Chaney) – Florida Tourism Marketing

The bill extends the scheduled repeal date for the Florida Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation, doing business as VISIT FLORIDA, and the Division of Tourism Marketing within Enterprise Florida, Inc., from October 1, 2023, to October 1, 2028.

SB 442 (Rodriguez, A.)/HB 571 (Mooney Jr.) – Powers of Land Authorities

The bill authorizes land authorities to assist the counties within which they are located, in the administration of state and federal grants awarded to those counties for residential flood and sea-level rise mitigation projects. Such grants include those for the elevation of structures above minimum flood elevations, the demolition and reconstruction of structures above minimum flood elevations, and the acquisition of land with structures at risk of flooding.

SB 578 (Hooper)/HB 837 (Willhite) – Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program

In relevant part, the bill extends the Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program (HLMP) within Florida's Division of Emergency Management until June 30, 2032. It would have expired this year if no legislative action was taken.

SB 1194 (Boyd)/HB 777 (Robinson) – Local Tax Referenda Requirements

In relevant part, the bill requires approval of TDT and area of critical state concern tourist impact taxes at a general election rather than any election called by the local governing body.

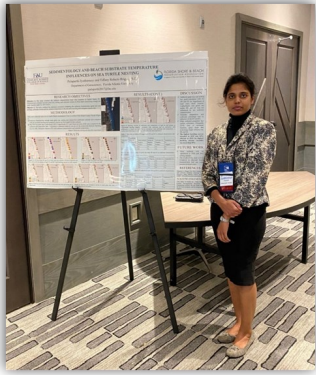
SB 1940 (Brodeur)/HB 7053 (Bussata Cabrera) – Statewide Flooding and Sea Level Rise Resilience

The bill is by far the most important policy bill regarding resilience this Session. It:

- Requires FDOT to develop a resilience action plan for the State Highway System. The bill identifies goals of the action plan and requires it to include certain components. It requires FDOT to submit the action plan to the governor and the Legislature by June 20, 2023, and update it every year.
- Makes various revisions to s. 380.093, F.S., relating to statewide resiliency funding and planning, including:
 - Clarifying that the DEP may use the Resilient Florida Grant Program to fund “inland or coastal” flooding and sea-level rise vulnerability assessments.
 - Providing that the DEP may use the grant program to fund preconstruction activities for Statewide Flooding and Sea-level Rise Resilience Plan projects for smaller municipalities and counties but may not use such funds for projects to adapt critical assets to flooding and sea-level rise.
 - Specifying when noncoastal communities must and should use certain rainfall data for vulnerability assessments funded by the grant program.
 - Pushing back by one year (to 2023 and 2024, respectively) the dates by which the Comprehensive Statewide Flood Vulnerability and Sea-Level Rise Data Set and the Assessment must be completed.
 - Providing that all eligible projects submitted to the DEP for inclusion in the plan must be included in the plan and identifying what each plan must include.
 - Providing that the preliminary plan must include projects submitted by the water management districts that mitigate the risks of flooding or sea-level rise on water supplies or resources.
 - Providing that the plans submitted in 2022 and 2023 will be updates to the preliminary plan, and that the plan submitted in 2024 and thereafter must address risks of flooding and sea-level rise identified in the assessment.

- Providing that, in addition to counties and municipalities, certain special districts may also submit a list of proposed projects to the DEP that address risks of flooding or sea-level rise identified in the vulnerability assessments funded by the grant program.
- Adding drainage districts, erosion control districts, and regional water supply authorities to the entities that may submit a list of proposed projects to the DEP that mitigate the risks of flooding or sea-level rise on water supplies or water resources.
- Revising the \$100 million cap on funding proposed for each year of the plan to a minimum amount of \$100 million.
- Requires the Florida Flood Hub for Applied Research and Innovation to provide certain data to counties and municipalities for vulnerability assessments.
- Directs surveyors and mappers, beginning January 1, 2023, to submit digital copies of the elevation certificates they complete to the Division of Emergency Management as outlined on DEM's website.
- Adds specificity and job responsibilities for the Chief Resilience Officer and requires a study by the DEP, in consultation with the CRO, regarding flood resilience and mitigation efforts in the state by December 15, 2022.
- Allows funds to be spent on data collection and comprehensive plan amendments; revises the definition of "regionally significant assets" to include water resource facilities; and expands the list of entities that can submit projects for the statewide resilience plan to include districts responsible for inlets or the Intracoastal Waterway, drinking water facilities, and wastewater facilities.

[Back to Main Page](#)



Jyothirmayi Palaparathi

In last month's *Shoreline*, our members met Jyothirmayi Palaparathi, one of the bright, enthusiastic scholarship winners from the 35th Tech Conference. Ms. Palaparathi is studying the potential influence of sediment variability on sea turtle nesting in Palm Beach County under Dr. Tiffany Briggs at Florida Atlantic University. In this month's *shoreline*, Jyothirmayi discusses the objectives and methods of her research, and she plans to publish the results later this year. Jyothirmayi anticipates the results of the three-year study will be used to support efforts that establish standards for healthy beach habitat for nesting sea turtles. We look forward to monitoring the progress of her work and sharing the results with our members soon.

EXPLORING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SEDIMENTOLOGY AND BEACH SUBSTRATE TEMPERATURE ON SEA TURTLE NESTING, HATCHING, AND EMERGENCE SUCCESS

Jyothirmayi Palaparathi¹, Tiffany Roberts Briggs, Ph.D.¹, and Teal Kawana²

¹ Florida Atlantic University, Department of Geosciences

² Palm Beach County, Environmental Resources Management

Introduction

Florida beaches are important economic resources, offer storm protection, and provide nesting habitat for thousands of sea turtles every year. Beach-dune restoration (also called beach or dune nourishment) is a common strategy to mitigate erosion, preserve coastal habitat, attract tourism, and protect buildings and infrastructure. Some studies have suggested that different borrow sources with slight variability in their physical or mineralogical characteristics could affect substrate temperatures within placement areas, thereby potentially impacting sea turtle hatching and emergence success (Davis et al., 1999, Cisneros et al., 2017).

This study evaluates the potential influence of sediment variability on sea turtle nesting in Northern Palm Beach County, Florida over a three-year period (2019-2021). Various borrow sources (i.e., inlet, offshore, and upland mine) have been used for beach and/or dune restoration projects throughout this study site. Nearly annual placement of inlet dredged sediment occurs at the inlet-adjacent beach (R13A to R13.5A) while beaches further to the south have been nourished with sediment from an offshore borrow source (R13A to R18 and R26-R37) or with upland mine for dune restoration only (i.e., R19 to R25; Fig. 1). The overall project objectives and methodology are presented herein.

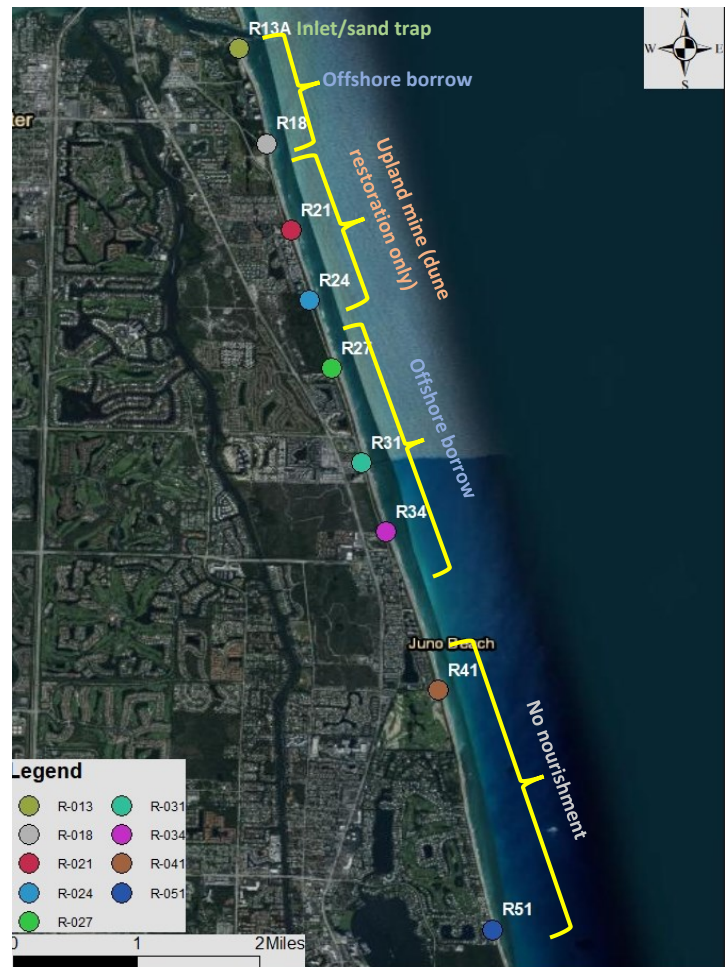


Figure 1: Study area in Jupiter, FL relative to R-monuments showing different sediment sources used for nourishment.

Next Page

Objectives of the study

Objective 1: Quantify sedimentology and beach substrate temperatures during sea turtle nesting season to explore statistically significant relationships between the sediment characteristics (grain size and sorting, carbonate content) and the substrate temperatures.

Objective 2: Compare sediment characteristics to sea turtle nesting success to assess whether sediment variability could be a factor in sea turtle nesting success.

Objective 3: Compare sediment characteristics and sediment and substrate temperature to sea turtle hatching and emergence success rates to identify thresholds (if any) of environmental variability of healthy beach habitat for sea turtle nests.

Methods

The study area in northern Palm Beach County included nine sites (relative to R-monument nomenclature) from the Jupiter Inlet to 4 km south (Fig. 1). Sediment was collected in the early, mid, and late sea turtle nesting seasons. At each of the 9 locations, samples were obtained at 0 cm depth (i.e., surface), 45 cm depth, and 75 cm (to mimic sea turtle egg chamber depths) from the backbeach (“high”), mid-beach (“mid”), and mean high water (“low”) along cross-shore transects. Sediment samples were processed following standard granulometric methodology for textural statistical properties (i.e., mean grain size and sorting) and analyzed for carbonate content. Substrate temperatures throughout the season were recorded using HOBO dataloggers set at 6-minute intervals and buried at 45cm and 75cm depths at the high, mid, and low beach locations along each transect.

The sedimentological and temperature data will be compared to sea turtle nesting, hatching, and emergence success (NS, HS, and ES, respectively) of the three local nesting species of leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*, “DC”), loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*, “CC”) and green (*Chelonia mydas*, “CM”) sea turtles. A nest success rate is the portion of nesting attempts (emergences on to the beach) made by a sea turtle that result in eggs being deposited. A hatch success rate is a proportion of eggs in a nest that produce live hatchlings. An emergence success rate is the proportion of hatchlings that were able to emerge from the nest successfully on their own. Raw data were obtained through a consent permit from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) to calculate NS, HS, and ES across the study area. Nesting patterns will be categorized by each species at each transect and at each of the three cross-shore locations. Statistical correlation analyses will then be conducted to evaluate potential influences of sediment grain size, sorting, and/or carbonate content on NS and sediment grain size, sorting, carbonate content, and/or substrate temperature on HS and ES throughout the nesting season.

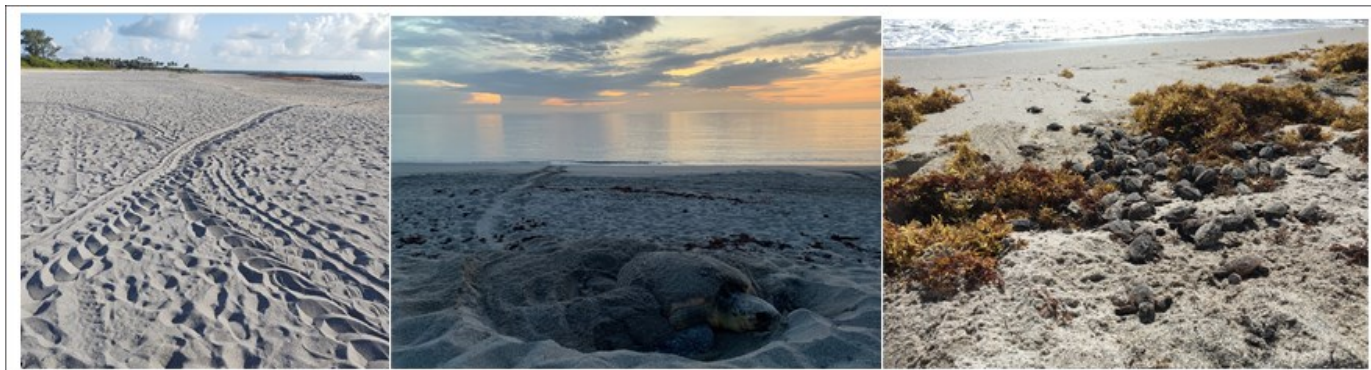


Figure 2: Sea turtle tracks on the beach in the northern portion of the study area (left), Nesting Sea turtle discovered during an early morning permitted survey (middle, photo credit: Heather Seaman), and freshly emerged hatchlings making their way to the ocean (right, photo credit: Heather Seaman).

We hope the results of this three-year study will be used to support ongoing efforts that establish standards for healthy beach habitat for nesting sea turtles in the southeast Florida region.

Acknowledgements

Field travel, materials, and supplies for this study were funded and/or provided by the Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management. The authors would like to thank the County employees for collecting the beach substrate temperatures as well as the numerous graduate students in the Coastal Studies Laboratory at Florida Atlantic University for their assistance in the field for this study.

References

Davis, Richard. A., Megan V. FitzGerald, & Terry, Jim. (1999). Turtle Nesting on Adjacent Nourished Beaches with Different Construction Styles: Pinellas County, Florida. *Journal of Coastal Research*, 15(1), 111–120. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/4298919>

Cisneros, Julie & Briggs, Tiffany & Martin, Kelly. (2017). Placed Sediment Characteristics Compared to Sea Turtle Nesting and Hatching Patterns, Case Study from Palm Beach County, FL. *Shore and Beach*. 85. 35-40.

[Back to Main Page](#)

Important Project on the Horizon at Egmont Key

by Bryan Merrill, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Jacksonville District



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of Engineers®

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Jacksonville District (Corps) recently issued a pre-solicitation notice for an upcoming contract to perform maintenance dredging of the navigation channels that make up the entrance to Tampa Harbor.

The federal navigation channels planned to be dredged in the project include Egmont Cut-1, Egmont Cut-2, Mullet Key Cut and Tampa Bay Cut-A. Later this year, between a half million and one million cubic yards of sandy shoal material are anticipated to be dredged from nearly 20 miles of channel and pumped onto the beach at Egmont Key. The purpose of the project is to ensure deep-draft vessel traffic calling on Port Tampa Bay and SeaPort Manatee can move safely, reliably, and efficiently.

Beneficial use of the dredged material also provides much needed protection to the environmental and cultural resources at Egmont Key. The beach provides important nesting habitat for marine turtles and shorebirds, while the uplands of the island provide additional habitat for native plants and animals, including a large population of gopher tortoises, which is a state-designated threatened species.

Cultural resources at Egmont Key include remnants of Fort Dade, a U.S. Army coastal defense fort dating back to the 1890s. The remaining historic structures can be found both on the island as well as on the beach and in the Gulf due to nearly a century of erosion since the fort was deactivated. There is also infrastructure on the island critical to supporting safe navigation including the Egmont Key Lighthouse constructed in 1858 and the Tampa Bay Pilots station which was established on its current site about a hundred years ago.

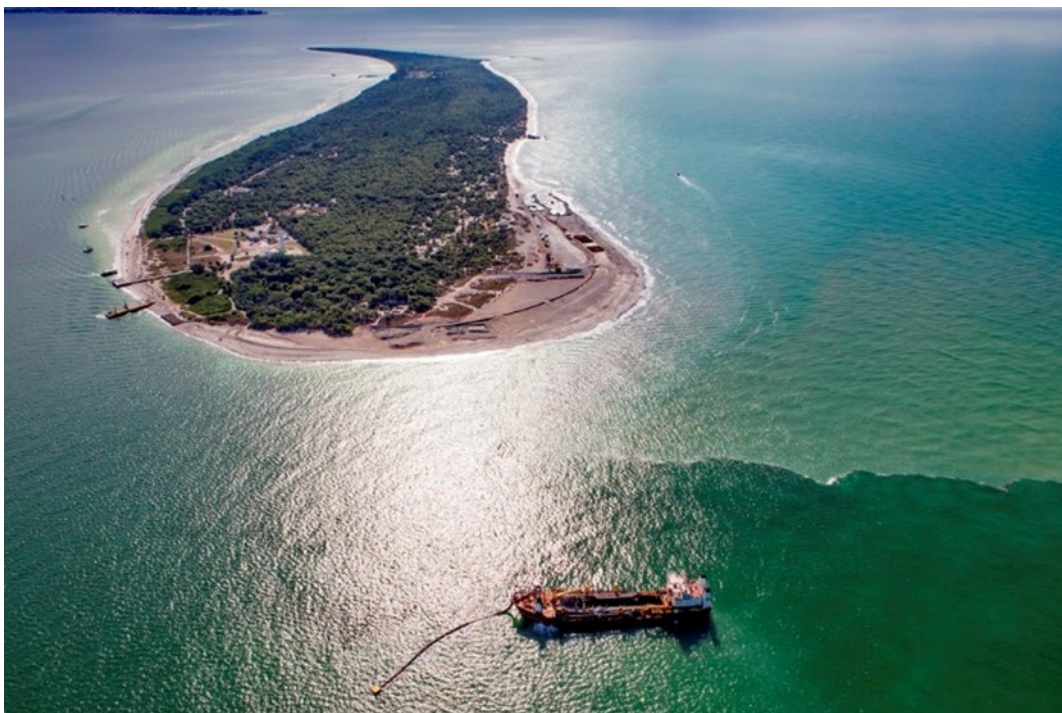


Photo of Egmont Key and Great Lakes Dredge and Dock hopper dredge in December 2014.

Next Page

There have been several projects over the past 20 years completed by the Corps which have beneficially placed a total of more than two million cubic yards of dredged material on the beach at Egmont Key during periodic maintenance dredging of the nearby federal channels. The most recent project was completed in 2019 and resulted in nearly half a million cubic yards of sand being pumped onto the beach.

Prior to using Egmont Key as the primary placement area when dredging the entrance cuts, dredged material was typically taken to the Tampa Ocean Dredged Material Disposal Site (ODMDS). This method of disposal did not provide any of the benefits that are seen at Egmont Key and was more inefficient due to the long hauling distance to the ODMDS, which is located approximately 18 miles west of the key.

In addition to the beneficial use opportunities provided by the periodic maintenance dredging of Tampa Harbor, the Corps and Port Tampa Bay recently initiated a study to evaluate potential navigation improvements to the project. This study will evaluate beneficially using large quantities of dredged material from potential future navigation improvement projects for purposes such as the restoration of Egmont Key.



*Photo looking north along west shoreline of Egmont Key in January 2022.
Note Battery McIntosh exposed on beach.*

While efforts to slow erosion and protect the unique natural and cultural resources of Egmont Key have proven to be beneficial on a relatively modest scale and intermittent basis, future project scale and timing are dependent on factors such as the extent of shoaling in navigation channels and are not driven by the severity of the erosion or the need for the protection of its resources.

Moving forward it will be important to explore and utilize all opportunities to help preserve and restore the island as the issues it faces will likely increase along with rising seas and the increased frequency and intensity of coastal storms.

FDEP Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection Updates - April 2022



Resilient Florida Program

Rule Development Workshop

The Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection (ORCP), Resilient Florida Program, held a hybrid in-person and virtual Rule Development Workshop on March 17, 2022, to discuss Chapter 62S-8, Florida Administrative Code, for the Statewide Flooding and Sea Level Rise Resilience Plan. The department welcomed Florida Chief Resilience Officer Dr. Wesley Brooks, who provided opening remarks to the nearly 140 public participants of the workshop. Also in attendance were Alex Reed, ORCP Director; Diane Quigley, Resilient Florida's Program Management Director; and Jackie Larson of the Florida Shore and Beach Preservation Association. To date, the department has received and is considering 75 public comments. An extended public comment period for the rule recently closed on April 1. Depending on whether there are substantive changes proposed for the draft rule, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection may host a second workshop. Please visit the program's [rulemaking webpage](#) for current information, links to rule development documents, a recording of the workshop, and the draft rule.

Fiscal Year 2023-24 Grant Cycle

The program will begin accepting planning proposals May 1 and project proposals July 1. Proposals are due Sept. 1, pursuant to Florida Statute. Visit the [grants website](#) to stay current on deadlines. Proposed projects will be evaluated and prioritized as consistent with statute and submitted to the Legislature by Dec. 1 for funding consideration and appropriation from the FY 2023-24 Statewide Flooding and Sea Level Rise Resilience Plan.

The program is actively tracking House Bill 7053. If signed into law, HB 7053 could impact the program by revising terminologies and deadlines and adding additional responsibilities. Senate Bill 1434 was also being tracked regarding Sea Level Impact Projection (SLIP) studies, but it did not make it out of committee.

Staffing and Program Updates

The Resilient Florida Program has expanded and now includes 20 team members. The Technical Support Section is actively hiring for an engineer and multiple engineering specialist positions. The program hopes to expand the Resilient Florida team with additional positions proposed in the next fiscal year budget.

The Grant Management Section has been working with awardees from the FY 2021-22 program grant awards to develop grant work plans and execute grant agreements. The Geographic Information Systems Section has been developing maps and dashboards to showcase and track project progress, and the Planning and Policy Section is assisting with the development of a new enterprise grant system for future project proposals.

On Dec. 8, 2021, Governor Ron DeSantis announced the first ever [Statewide Flooding Resilience Plan](#). And on Feb. 1, 2022, the [Governor's office announced \\$404 million for the FY 2021-22 Statewide Flooding and Sea Level Rise Resilience Plan projects](#). A total of 113 grants have been awarded to cities, counties and eligible entities from federal Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds that were appropriated to the Resilient Florida Program.

The projects were evaluated and prioritized in a process similar to the projects proposed in the FY 2022-23 Statewide Flooding and Sea Level Rise Resilience Plan, which includes a total of 76 implementation projects designed to address the impacts of flooding and sea level rise. The 76 grants for FY 2022-23 total over \$270 million in state share and will be funded over the next three years.

The Resilient Florida Team is excited to be up and running and is looking forward to advancing the state's needs to effectively address the impacts of flooding and sea level rise during year two of the program. Contact us at Resilience@FloridaDEP.gov or 850-245-7600. We look forward to working with you!

Coastal Construction Control Line Program

The Coastal Construction Control Line Program (CCCL) has two new players rounding out its lineup. Tiffany Hilton and Vladislav Dukhovskoi add environmental and engineering power to the CCCL bench. With a lineup now fielding nine permit managers, team CCCL protects Florida's beach and dune system and handles hundreds of coastal construction permit applications each year.

Tiffany Hilton, Environmental Specialist II

Tiffany received a Bachelor of Science in Wildlife Ecology and Conservation from the University of Florida in 2014. She has prior experience working in a South Florida environmental consulting firm and with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. With a background in wildlife management, Tiffany brings well-honed environmental skills to the CCCL Program. She is battle-hardened from a stint as a first-grade teacher and counts tractor driving and operating a backhoe in her skillset.

Vladislav Dukhovskoi, Engineering Specialist II

Vlad is looking forward to applying his expertise in engineering and construction in the CCCL program. He left a position as a crime intelligence analyst at the Florida Department of Law Enforcement to work in Beaches and is working on a master's degree in civil engineering at Florida State University. He received a Bachelor of Civil Engineering from Saint-Petersburg State University of Architecture and Civil Engineering, with an emphasis in water resources engineering. In addition to his training in engineering, Vlad brings a skillset heavy in math, geodetic elevation, land surveying, soils testing/mapping and AutoCAD.

Beach Management Funding Assistance Program

The Beach Management Funding Assistance Program has added two new Project Managers and a Grant Administrator to the team. Welcome aboard!

Tony Figueroa-Vivenez, Environmental Specialist III

Tony, who previously worked as a Project Manager in DEP's Petroleum Restoration Program, has a degree in Environmental Science from the University of South Florida. He loves Tallahassee for all its hiking opportunities. He will be responsible for the management of Indian River, St. Lucie and Martin counties on the east coast, and Dixie through Pinellas counties on the west coast.

Andrea Sheffield, Governmental Operations Consultant I

Andrea previously worked in DEP's Division of Finance and Administration as an accountant. She has a Bachelor of Arts from the University of West Florida and a master's degree from Capella University in Business Administration. She is from Quincy and loves family activities.

Alyssa Lamb, Environmental Specialist III

Alyssa recently worked for the Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission as a Resource Specialist. She has a Bachelor of Science from the University of Georgia in Biology. She will be responsible for the counties from Escambia to Taylor in Northwest Florida and Nassau to Brevard on the east coast. Alyssa is relocating from Athens, Georgia.

Karen Milicic is leaving the department after more than 17 years of service. She has been with the Beach Management Funding Assistance program for nearly two years. Karen's hard work, diligence and expertise will be missed.

[Back to Main Page](#)

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 PO Box 13146, Tallahassee FL 32317
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