

Shoreline

December 2008

Update on Gustav & Ike Storm Impacts at Pensacola Beach, FL



Within a span of only ten days, the 2008 tropical storm season produced two named storm events that impacted the shoreline at Pensacola Beach, FL. Over Labor Day weekend, Hurricane Gustav passed offshore of the beach restoration project before it made landfall on September 1st in Louisiana. Ten days later, during the 2008 FSBPA annual meeting in Captiva, Hurricane Ike passed offshore between 10 and 12 September 2008 prior to making landfall at Galveston, TX. The severe storm swell generated by the

storms produced significant erosion of the Pensacola Beach shoreline, especially during Gustav. Based on the damages caused in Escambia County, FL, Hurricane Gustav was declared an emergency by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

[Read Full Story](#)

2009 National Conference on Beach Preservation Technology – Program Released!

The 2009 Planning Committee worked very hard this year to put together an excellent conference program for the 2009 National Conference on Beach Preservation Technology.

Wednesday's opening general session will commence with Dr. Robert Dean presenting Hurricane Ike's preliminary damage assessment. Dr. Dean will be followed by presentations on projects and studies from all along the east coast, including South Carolina, Virginia, New York, Florida, and New Jersey.

Thursday's concurrent sessions are packed with presentations on shore protection projects, regional sediment management, wave height ...

[Read Full Story](#)

Avoid Higher Hotel Rates: Make Your Tradewinds Reservations Before the Deadline!

If you plan to attend the 2009 National Conference on Beach Preservation Technology in February, but haven't yet made your reservations at the Tradewinds, please do so by January 16, 2009.

In years past, FSBPA meeting attendees have been able to secure the group hotel rate if they made reservations any time before the start of the Conference. That is not the case this year. Waiting beyond the deadline could cost attendees more than \$100 extra per night.

[Click to Make Hotel Reservations](#)

Governmental Update



I am sure it has not escaped you just how dismal Florida's economy is. The November 21st numbers from the Revenue Estimating Conference certainly confirmed our worst expectations. Apparently, despite \$6 billion in recent state budget cuts, they anticipate an additional \$2.1 billion shortage for the current fiscal year (thru June 30, 2009).

[Read Full Story](#)

USACE Jacksonville District: Implementation of EC 1105-2-410 Regarding Review of USACE Decision Documents



US Army Corps of Engineers

On 22 August 2008, the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) implemented Engineering Circular (EC) 1105-2-410 which provides guidance for the implementation of Section 2034 of WRDA 2007 and defined procedures for

ensuring the quality and credibility of USACE decision documents through an Independent External Peer Review (IEPR) process.

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Update on Gustav & Ike Storm Impacts at Pensacola Beach, FL

By Al Browder, Ph.D., P.E., Will Reilly, E.I., Olsen Associates, Inc., and Matt Mooneyham, Santa Rosa Island Authority

Within a span of only ten days, the 2008 tropical storm season produced two named storm events that impacted the shoreline at Pensacola Beach, FL. Over Labor Day weekend, Hurricane Gustav passed offshore of the beach restoration project before it made landfall on September 1st in Louisiana (**Figure 1**). Ten days later, during the 2008 FSBPA annual meeting in Captiva, Hurricane Ike passed offshore between 10 and 12 September 2008 prior to making landfall at Galveston, TX. The severe storm swell generated by the storms produced significant erosion of the Pensacola Beach shoreline, especially during Gustav. Based on the damages caused in Escambia County, FL, Hurricane Gustav was declared an emergency by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Storm conditions in the Pensacola area were recorded for both hurricanes by the NOAA buoys in the area and by local tide gages. Although both events passed offshore of both Pensacola Beach and the NOAA buoys, measured significant wave heights offshore peaked out at over 28 ft from the storm swell. Wave periods from the swell measured 15 to 16 seconds, very rare for this part of the Gulf of Mexico. In the case of Hurricane Ike, the storm conditions in the Pensacola area persisted for almost three days. The long-period storm swell from both events rolled well up onto the beach berm along Pensacola Beach (**Figure 2**) and the adjacent shorelines. Peak storm surges were estimated to be +4.5 to +5.0 NAVD88. As part of the Santa Rosa Island Authority's commitment to maintaining the beach restoration project, the beach was surveyed after each storm event to document the damage to the engineered beach fill project. This unique collection of field storm data allows for the analysis of storm impacts upon both a relatively "healthy" pre-storm beach and a significantly out-of-equilibrium post-storm beach profile impacted by a second, somewhat similar storm event.

Volume change measurements collected from post-Gustav surveys reveal average losses of almost -14 cy/ft from the project limits (-590,000 cubic yards). A significant portion of the eroded sand was found offshore of the primary bar, in water depths of -15 to -25 ft, where its return to the beach is expected to be quite slow. The crest of the primary bar was pushed Gulfward by 150 to 200 ft (**Figure 3**). Mean High Water Line recession from Gustav averaged only -7 ft, but the upper contours of the beach, approaching the toe of the dunes, retreated by roughly -56 ft as the upper beach was planed off during the storm. In the process, the dunes were breached in several lower areas and the dry recreational berm deflated by two to four feet across much of the beach.

Measured changes from Hurricane Ike, meanwhile, revealed no significant net change in volume over the project limits. The data suggest that the out-of-equilibrium, atypically wide and planar post-Gustav condition of the beach dissipated much of the storm wave energy of Ike. While the MHWL retreated by an average of -19 ft, the upper contours of the dry beach experienced a measured net advance of +7 ft as small volumes of sand were deposited along the toe of the engineered dune feature in many areas.

Following the storms, the SRIA is working with the State of Florida and FEMA to address the storm damages and restore the beach to its pre-Gustav condition. Preliminary estimates are that these repairs could be undertaken in 2009-2010.

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Figure 1 Tracks of Hurricanes Gustav and Ike through the Gulf of Mexico in September 2008.



Figure 2 Runup, overwash and erosion from Hurricane Gustav along the eastern end of Pensacola Beach, FL (Escambia County R-149).



Figure 3 Aerial view of Pensacola Beach following Hurricanes Gustav and Ike. Note the broad accumulation of sand in the nearshore zone and the uniform position of the offshore bar, which was pushed 150 to 200 ft farther offshore during the storms (nearly to the end of the Pensacola Beach Fishing Pier (ES R-120)).

2009 National Conference on Beach Preservation Technology – Program Released!

By Lisa Armbruster
Assistant Director of Governmental Affairs

The 2009 Planning Committee worked very hard this year to put together an excellent conference program for the 2009 National Conference on Beach Preservation Technology. Wednesday's opening general session will commence with Dr. Robert Dean presenting Hurricane Ike's preliminary damage assessment. Dr. Dean will be followed by presentations on projects and studies from all along the east coast, including South Carolina, Virginia, New York, Florida, and New Jersey. Thursday's concurrent sessions are packed with presentations on shore protection projects, regional sediment management, wave height and inlet evolution modeling, sea level rise, and more! Two of Thursday's concurrent sessions will have an environmental focus, with presentations on reef mitigation, marine turtle response to beach nourishment, coral stress observations during dredging, and using LIDAR for benthic mapping. Friday's closing general session will conclude the conference with presentations on the evolution of the use of beach control structures, the predictability of beach nourishment sediment characteristics, and a coastal structures inspection and assessment toolbox. These are only some highlights of the program.

Due to the success of the **Beaches 101** one-hour course delivered by Dr. Kevin Bodge at FSBPA's annual conference last September, FSBPA has decided to bring it back a second time to the technology conference. This time around the course is scheduled prior to the start of the conference. If you missed this enthusiastic, entertaining, and most instructive course at the annual conference, you will want to arrive a little early to the technical conference to experience this course. It's a great introduction to the coastal field, and yet also serves as a fantastic refresher for those that already have some background! **Dr. Bodge's Beaches 101 course will begin at 10:30 am on Wednesday, February 18th**, and is included in the conference registration.

FSBPA owes the planning committee a big thank you for their time and efforts this year, with a special thank you to the Executive Members of the committee – Kevin Bodge, Doug Mann, and Mike Barnett.

[View the Program](#)

2009 National Conference on Beach Preservation Technology
Speaker Program
Wednesday, February 18, 2009

Special Pre-Conference Session

10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Beaches 101 - A Primer or Refresher for Non-Professionals
Kevin Bodge, Ph.D., P.E., Olsen Associates, Inc., Jacksonville, FL

OPENING SESSION

1:00 p.m.

Welcome

Debbie Flack, Director of Governmental Affairs, FSBPA, Tallahassee, FL

1:10 p.m.

Hurricane Ike: Preliminary Results From a Damage Assessment Team

Bob Dean, Department of Civil and Coastal Engineering, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

1:40 p.m.

Fish Haul Creek Shoreline Restoration and Protection Project, Town of Hilton Head Island, S.C.

Christopher G. Creed, P.E., Olsen Associates, Inc. and Scott P. Liggett, P.E., Director of Public Projects and Chief Engineer, Town of Hilton Head Island, SC

2:05 p.m.

Commonalities of Small Scale Beach Nourishment Projects

Douglas W. Mann, P.E., Coastal Planning & Engineering, Inc., Boca Raton, FL

2:30 p.m.

Rehabilitation of Rudee Inlet, Virginia

Kevin Bodge, Ph.D., P.E. and Steven Howard, P.E., Olsen Associates, Inc., Jacksonville, FL; Rebecca Francese, Waterway Surveys & Engineering, Ltd., Virginia Beach, VA and Michael Kay, P.E., City of Virginia Beach

2:55 p.m.

Professional Exchange Break

3:30 p.m.

Investigation of Coastal Sediment Budget Methodology With Reference to Section 111 Studies, and Example Case Study at Mattituck Inlet, New York

Nicholas C. Kraus, U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center, Coastal and Hydraulics Laboratory, Vicksburg, MS and Brian K. Batten, Dewberry, Fairfax, VA

3:55 p.m.

Brevard County Multi-Purpose Artificial Surfing Reef Feasibility Study

Walker Dawson and Michael Walther, M.S., P.E., Coastal Technology Corp., Vero Beach, FL

4:20 p.m.

Innovative Backpassing Concepts for Wildwood, NJ

James E. Clausner, U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center, Vicksburg, MS; Brian Boggle and Jeff Gebert, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Philadelphia District, PA; and Richard Binning, Javeler Construction Company

4:45 p.m.

Long-Term Synthetic Wave Records for Florida's Beaches

William R. Dally and Daniel A. Osiecki, Surfbreak Engineering Sciences, Inc., Winter Park, FL

5:10 p.m.

Adjourn

6:30 p.m.

Welcome Reception

Location: Exhibit Hall, Banyan Breezeway

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2009 National Conference on Beach Preservation Technology
Speaker Program
Thursday, February 19, 2009

SESSION A

8:30 a.m.

Nearshore Reef Mitigation: Success Stories from Both Florida Coasts

Chris Makowski, Andrew Hannes, Stacy Prekel, and Lauren Floyd, Coastal Planning & Engineering, Inc., Boca Raton, FL

8:55 a.m.

The Past, Present, and Future of Mitigation Reefs in Palm Beach County, Florida

Leanne Welch, Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management, West Palm Beach, FL

9:20 a.m.

Analysis of Nearshore Exposed Hardbottom, Case Study in Singer Island, Florida

Marc J. Damon, E.I., Brett Moore, P.E., and Ken Humiston, P.E., Humiston & Moore Engineers, Naples, FL

9:45 a.m.

Port Everglades Inlet Sand Bypass Project, Mitigation for Impacts to Rubble-Dominated Hardbottom Communities

Cheryl L. Miller, Coastal Eco-Group, Inc., Ft. Lauderdale, FL, Christopher G. Creed, P.E., Olsen Associates, Inc., Jacksonville, FL, and Stephen H. Higgins, Broward County Natural Resources Planning and Management Division, FL

10:10 a.m.

Professional Exchange Break

10:45 a.m.

Marine Turtles: Species-Specific Response to Beach Nourishment

Robbin N. Trindell and Meghan Koperski, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Tallahassee, FL

11:10 a.m.

Real Time Coral Stress Observations Before, During, and After Beach Nourishment Dredging Offshore Southeast Florida, USA

Lou Fisher, Ken Banks, and David Stout, Natural Resources Planning and Management Division, Broward County, FL; Dave Gilliam, Richard E. Dodge, and Brian K. Walker, National Coral Reef Institute, Nova Southeastern University, Ft. Lauderdale, FL; and Bernardo Vargas-Angel, Coral Reef Ecology Division, NOAA, Pacific Islands Fisheries Center, Honolulu, HI

11:35 a.m.

Littoral Shoreline Change in the Presence of Hardbottom - Approaches, Constraints, and Integrated Modeling

Dilip K. Barua, Ph.D., Coastal Technology Corp., Melbourne, FL and Adjunct Professor, Ocean Engineering Program, Department of Marine and Environmental Systems, Florida Institute of Technology, Melbourne, FL, Michael Walther, P.E., Coastal Technology Corp., Vero Beach, FL, and Cliff Truit, P.E., Ph.D., Coastal Technology Corp., Sarasota, FL

12:00 noon
Luncheon

SESSION B

8:30 a.m.

Engineering Analysis, Field Measurements and Delft3D Numerical Modeling to Select Inlet Management Alternatives at Wiggins Pass, Collier County, FL

Lindino Benedet, Stephen Keehn, P.E., and Raphael Bonanata, Coastal Planning & Engineering Inc., Boca Raton, FL

8:55 a.m.

Process-Based Models: Tools for Coastal Analysis on Timescales of Tides to Centuries

Dr. Edwin Elias, Deltares, Netherlands and the US Geological Survey, Santa Cruz, CA

9:20 a.m.

Beach Response to Hurricanes in the Florida Panhandle

Emmett R. Foster, P.E., Florida State University, Beaches & Shores Resource Center, Tallahassee, FL

9:45 a.m.

Inlet Evolution Modeling of Multiple Inlet Systems, Application Case Studies in Southwest Florida

Mohamed A. Dabees, Ph.D., P.E., Brett Moore, P.E., and Ken Humiston, P.E., Humiston & Moore Engineers, Naples, FL

10:10 a.m.

Professional Exchange Break

10:45 a.m.

Coastal Analyst: Enhancing the Application of One-Dimensional Wave Height Models for Coastal Flood Hazards Through GIS

Guillermo Simon and John Messer, Taylor Engineering, Inc., Jacksonville, FL

11:10 a.m.

The Application of Response-Based Methods in Coastal Engineering

Claudio Fassardi, Halcrow, Inc., Long Beach, CA

11:35 a.m.

Evaluation of Full-Plane and Half-Plane STWAVE Model Results for Coastal Louisiana

Christopher Bender, Ph.D., P.E., Taylor Engineering, Inc., Jacksonville, FL

12:00 noon
Luncheon

[Go to Thursday Afternoon](#)

2009 National Conference on Beach Preservation Technology
Speaker Program
Thursday, February 19, 2009

SESSION C

1:30 p.m.

Beach Nourishment Within the Purview of Environmental Limitations

Thomas P. Pierro, P.E. and Charles W. Finkl, Ph.D., Coastal Planning & Engineering, Inc., Boca Raton, FL

1:55 p.m.

Technical Aspects for Designing and Permitting a Project Within a National Park on the South Shore of Long Island, New York

Stephen Keehn, P.E. and Quin Robertson, Ph.D., Coastal Planning & Engineering Inc., Boca Raton, FL

2:20 p.m.

Using Airborne LIDAR for Benthic Habitat Mapping

Charles W. Finkl, Ph.D., Quin Robertson, Ph.D., and Jeffrey L. Andrews, Coastal Planning & Engineering, Inc., Boca Raton, FL, and Scott Ramsay, Tenix LADS, Biloxi, MS

2:45 p.m.

A Review of What We Really Know About Sea Level Change

Gary T. Mitchum, Ph.D., College of Marine Science, University of South Florida, St. Petersburg, FL and Nicole A. Elko, Ph.D., Department of Environmental Management, Pinellas County, FL

3:10 p.m.

Professional Exchange Break

3:45 p.m.

Morphology Changes Along the West-central Florida Barrier Islands Predicted by the Coastal Modeling System (CMS)

Ping Wang and Tanya M. Beck, Department of Geology, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL, and Nicholas C. Kraus, Coastal and Hydraulics Laboratory, Engineer Research and Development Center, Vicksburg, MS

4:10 p.m.

Long-Term Simulation of Channel Infilling at Pensacola Pass, FL

Lihwa Lin, Coastal and Hydraulics Laboratory, Vicksburg, MS, Julie D. Rosati, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District, AL, and Nicholas C. Kraus, U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center, Coastal and Hydraulics Laboratory, Vicksburg, MS

4:35 p.m.

The Formation and Evolution of a New Breach at Chatham, MA: Implications for Regional Sediment and Navigation Management in a Multiple Inlet System

Donald K. Stauble, U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center, Vicksburg, MS, Theodore Keon, Department of Coastal Resources, Town of Chatham, Chatham, MA, and William M. Kavanaugh, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District, Concord, MA

5:00 p.m.

Adjourn

SESSION D

1:30 p.m.

Incorporating Overwash Into the Design of Beach Nourishment Projects Along Uninhabited Barrier Islands

Gordon Thomson, P.E., Christopher M. Day, P.E., Lindino Benedet, M.Sc., and Andrew Wycklendt, E.I., Coastal Planning & Engineering, Inc., Boca Raton, FL

1:55 p.m.

Terrebonne Basin Barrier Shoreline Restoration Project

Michael Poff, P.E. and Dr. Michael Stephen, P.G., Coastal Engineering Consultants, Inc., Naples, FL, and Dr. Aaron Bass and Robby Cangelosi, P.E., SJB Group, LLC, Baton Rouge, LA

2:20 p.m.

The Saraya Islands Development - Creating the Florida Coastline in the Middle East

Simon Burchett, Halcrow, Inc., Tampa, FL

2:45 p.m.

Key Findings of the Corps Shore Protection Assessment Initiative

William R. Curtis, U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center, Vicksburg, MS and Susan Durden, U.S. Army Engineer Institute for Water Resources, Alexandria, VA

3:10 p.m.

Professional Exchange Break

3:45 p.m.

Shoreline Management Options With Regional Sediment Management

Lesley Ewing, P.E., California Coastal Commission and University of Southern California, San Francisco, CA

4:10 p.m.

Initiatives on a Systems Approach to Coastal Protection

Donald E. Cresitello, U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center, Coastal and Hydraulics Laboratory, Vicksburg, MS

4:35 p.m.

Regional Analysis for Brunswick County, NC, Beaches and Inlets

Michael J. Wutkowski, Greg L. Williams and William A. Dennis, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District, NC, and Sophie Munger and Nicholas C. Kraus, U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center, Coastal and Hydraulics Laboratory, Vicksburg, MS

5:00 p.m.

Adjourn

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2009 National Conference on Beach Preservation Technology
Speaker Program
Friday, February 20, 2009

CLOSING SESSION

8:30 a.m.

Selecting a Stable Beach Material Size for Beach Replenishment using a Pragmatic, Field-Based Approach

Kevin Black, Ph.D., Partrac Ltd., Glasgow, United Kingdom

8:55 a.m.

Evolution of the Use of Beach Control Structures in Coastal Engineering

Andy Schofield, Halcrow, Inc., Tampa, FL

9:20 a.m.

Analysis of Central Miami Beach Erosion and Review of Mitigation Alternatives

Gary A. Zarillo, Lee E. Harris and Steven Jachec, Department of Marine and Environmental Systems, Florida Institute of Technology, Melbourne, FL, and Juan Curiel, Marina Blanco-Pape, and Brian Flynn, Miami-Dade County Department of Environmental Resources Management, Miami, FL

9:45 a.m.

Miami-Dade County 32nd Street Breakwaters Hotspot Engineering Alternatives Design Study and Recommendations

Jeffrey Tabar, P.E., PBS&J, Coastal & Waterways Division, Tampa, FL; Marina Blanco-Pape, P.E., Brian Flynn and Juan Curiel, P.E., Miami-Dade County Department of Environmental Resources Management, Miami, FL; and Todd DeMunda, Lizbeth Childs, P.E., and William Jones, P.E., PBS&J, Coastal & Waterways Division, Tampa, FL

10:10 a.m.

Professional Exchange Break

10:45 a.m.

The Predictability of Beach Nourishment Sediment Characteristics

Melany Larenas, P.G. and Beth Forrest, Ph.D., Coastal Planning & Engineering, Inc., Boca Raton, FL

11:10 a.m.

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection Bureau of Beaches and Coastal Systems Statewide Reconnaissance Offshore Sand Search (ROSS) Database

Lyle Hatchett, URS Corporation, Tallahassee, FL, Jennifer Koch, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Beaches and Coastal Systems, Tallahassee, FL, and Melany Larenas, Coastal Planning & Engineering, Inc., Boca Raton, FL

11:35 a.m.

Coastal Structures Inspection and Assessment Tool Box

Cheryl E. Pollock and Stan J. Boc, U.S. Army Engineer Research Center, Coastal and Hydraulics Laboratory, Vicksburg, MS

12:00 noon

Conference Adjourns

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Governmental Update

By Debbie Flack, Director of Governmental Affairs

I am sure it has not escaped you just how dismal Florida's economy is. The November 21st numbers from the Revenue Estimating Conference certainly confirmed our worst expectations. Apparently, despite \$6 billion in recent state budget cuts, they anticipate an additional \$2.1 billion shortage for the current fiscal year (thru June 30, 2009). Estimates now suggest the need for an additional \$5.8 billion in further state budget cuts for FY 09-10. It certainly makes it difficult to look forward to the 2009 Legislative Session, and virtually impossible to see how a January Special Session can be avoided.

No state revenue source has been impacted proportionately more than the documentary stamp tax on real estate transactions, the dedicated funding source for Florida's beach management program that we fought so hard to secure a decade ago. Just two years ago, annual doc stamp revenues were \$625 million. Now we will be lucky if this year's doc stamp estimate thru June 30 holds at \$172 million.

Beaches, unlike most state programs, escaped last year's budget ax. It took considerable creativity and admittedly a lot of "smoke and mirrors." It cannot be repeated for FY 09-10. The November estimated doc stamp allocation for beaches for the next fiscal year is only \$5.22 million, down from the August estimate of \$10.69 million, and a far cry from our \$30 million annual statutory commitment. To add salt to the wound, the current year doc stamp allocation to the beach program must also be reduced by almost a third. In just a three-month period, the Revenue Estimating Conference had to revise downward the doc stamp number by \$80.5 million. It is quite scary to anticipate the February 09 numbers which will serve as the base for preparing the FY 09-10 General Appropriations Act.

FSBPA must still prepare an advocacy strategy for the 2009 Legislative Session. Beaches need to be a part of any discussion regarding economic recovery. It is imperative we preserve our dedicated funding source for the future - - there is no going back! Although expectedly limited, there will be funding for beaches. There will also be the likely opportunity to revert/reappropriate existing trust fund dollars for an unknown number of priority local government member projects that have all their matching funds in place and are ready-to-proceed. Further, FSBPA has the responsibility to argue that beach nourishment projects be considered a viable part of any economic recovery/stimulus package. In fact, the federal economic stimulus proposals that focus on expansion and modernization of infrastructure provide a real opportunity for the federal government to renew its commitment to our long-standing intergovernmental "beach" partnership as well as honor its obligations from previous Congressional authorizations.

Let the legislative process here in Tallahassee begin anew, although the start-up is a bit out of sync. We have the first round of committee meetings scheduled in the Senate next week (Dec. 9-10) and the House the week of December 15th. Tentative committee weeks leading up to the beginning of Session on March 3, 2009, include the weeks of the 5th and 12th of January, and the weeks of the 2nd, 9th, and 16th of February.

Senate committee chairs and members were just announced late today (12/3). Beach interests remain extremely well-represented on the Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee, especially with returning members Senator Dennis Jones and Senator Paula Dockery. Coastal areas are not well-represented on the General Government Appropriations Committee that handles all beach funding. This does not mean there isn't or will not be a member appreciation for the beneficial relationship between beaches, tourism, and the state's economy. It just means FSBPA and local government lobbyists will have to make the case, not relying on Senators Jones and Bennett to do so as we have the past two sessions. Interesting to note a newly-created committee, the Select Committee on Florida's Economy, as well as a full Senate briefing on the budget and revenues, scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 10. From 1-4 PM.

Shortly after Congress convenes in January, we should get an indication whether the federal government will function under a CR (Continuing Resolution) for the entire fiscal year, or whether an omnibus bill for FY 09 will be passed in March. Will keep you posted.

Difficult and challenging times indeed, but, clearly we have a worthy cause - - Florida's beaches.

Happy Holidays!

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USACE Jacksonville District: Implementation of EC 1105-2-410 Regarding Review of USACE Decision Documents



On 22 August 2008, the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) implemented Engineering Circular (EC) 1105-2-410 which provides guidance for the implementation of Section 2034 of WRDA 2007 and defined procedures for ensuring the quality and credibility of USACE decision documents through an Independent External Peer Review (IEPR) process.

On Tuesday, 4 November 2008, a video teleconference (VTC) was hosted by USACE Headquarters (HQ) to provide an overview of the recently enacted EC. In the opening remarks HQ emphasized that the USACE goal is always to provide the most scientifically sound, sustainable water resource solutions for the United States. This EC presents a framework for establishing the appropriate level and independence of review and detailed requirements for review documentation and dissemination. HQ clarified that EC 1105-2-410 is a planning specific document which is the first in a series of revisions to USACE guidance to institute a comprehensive life-cycle review strategy for all Corps Civil Works products. It will be followed by additional guidance that will ultimately result in seamless guidance for peer review of all Civil Works projects from initial planning through design, construction, Operation & Maintenance, Repair, Replacement and Rehabilitation.

A copy of the PowerPoint presentation which comprehensively summarizes the new guidance, lists changes from the previous review process, and defines several new terms and review types can be found at the following FTP site.

ftp://ftp.saj.usace.army.mil/pub/Public_Dissemination/FSBPA%2008/

The official document can be viewed at the following url:

<http://www.usace.army.mil/publications/eng-circulars/ec1105-2-410/entire.pdf>

For brevity, a summary of the major changes discussed is provided here:

- This new guidance applies to all planning reports including Feasibility, Reevaluation, Dredged Material Management Plans, etc. Specifically, any report that requires an EIS and/or has a total project cost in excess of \$45M (total project cost for Hurricane and Storm Damage Reduction Projects includes initial nourishment and all renourishments) is now subject to IEPR, not just studies going to Congress.
 - Cost sharing will be 100% Federal for IEPR up to \$500K, with limitations. Section 10 b(4) specifies that for studies conducted by non-Federal interests, IEPR costs will initially be born by the non-Federal sponsor. If the project is implemented at some later date, these costs may be eligible for reimbursement, as long as costs do not exceed \$500,000 although the Chief of Engineers may waive this limitation if deemed appropriate.
 - IEPR is to be conducted by an outside eligible organization (OEO), eligible under IRS code Section 501(c)(3), such as Battelle or LMI.
 - A list of 8 factors was defined which will "trigger" IEPR including:
 - Significant threat to human life
 - Total Project Cost > \$45M
 - Request by State Governor of an affected state
 - Request by head of Federal or state agency
 - Significant public dispute (size, nature, effects)
 - Significant public dispute (economics, or environ costs, benefits)
 - Novel methods, complex challenges, precedent-setting methods
 - Any other circumstances the Chief warrants.
- Existing Federal funding is as follows: FY08 (none); FY09 (\$1 million); FY10 and beyond – budgeted through normal process.

In summary, the purpose of this new technical review guidance is to ensure the USACE provides the most scientifically sound, sustainable water resource solutions for the United States by establishing the appropriate level and independence of review and detailed requirements for review of all USACE decision documents. (This new guidance may affect sponsors who are contracting with private firms to complete studies which are to later be authorized and adopted by USACE. Initial cost sharing on this type of study conducted by non-Federal interests will initially be born by the non-Federal sponsor and may be eligible for 100% reimbursement once the project is implemented by the Federal Government.) Don't know if we want to focus on these last sentences. Sponsor completed reports are a small percentage, and the focus should be placed on how the review is improving our products, not making things more difficult for sponsors. We can leave mention of this in, it's important, but let's not put it in the spotlight.

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CALENDAR

February 16-18, 2009

10th Annual CIRP Workshop
TradeWinds Island Resorts
St. Petersburg Beach, FL
<http://www.fsbpa.com/semregistration.htm>

February 18-20, 2009

National Conference on Beach Preservation Technology
TradeWinds Island Resorts
St. Petersburg Beach, FL
<http://www.fsbpa.com/semregistration.htm>

March 25-27, 2009

ASBPA National Coastal Summit
Washington Court Hotel
Washington, DC.

April 6-10, 2009

National Hurricane Conference
Austin Convention Center
Austin, TX
www.HurricaneMeeting.com

September 16-18, 2009

FSBPA Annual Meeting
Amelia Island Plantation
Amelia Island, FL

October 14-16, 2009

ASBPA National Coastal Conference
Trade Winds Island Resort
St. Petersburg Beach, FL.

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

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