



*news from the Florida Shore and Beach Preservation Association*

**November 2014**

## **2015 National Conference on Beach Preservation Technology** **February 4-6 \* Clearwater Beach Marriott on Sand Key**

Mark your calendar for the 28<sup>th</sup> annual Tech Conference which will be held February 4-6, 2015, at the Clearwater Beach Marriott on Sand Key.

Conference registration, important dates, and hotel information are on the Association's website at [www.fsbpa.com/tech-conference.html](http://www.fsbpa.com/tech-conference.html). Early conference registration ends **January 13, 2015**. Hotel reservations at the Marriott are available at the group rate of \$155 single/double and reservations can be made [online](#). The deadline for hotel reservations is also **January 13, 2015**.

The conference will again be awarding one student a \$500 stipend for travel and other expenses to the 2015 Tech Conference which will also include a registration waiver. In addition, four other students will receive a registration waiver to the conference. A poster presentation is required by the selected students. Please [click here](#) for further details and to view/print the flyer and application. **The deadline for applications is January 7, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. EST.**

The 2015 National Conference on Beach Preservation Technology program is currently in the works, and FSBPA and



**Clearwater Beach Marriott on Sand Key**

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the Planning Committee are very pleased with the presentation abstracts submitted this year. The Planning Committee is currently performing its annual review and scoring exercise, but it is already apparent that there will be some outstanding presentations on a range of topics, as well as a few opportunities to combine select presentations into panel format with opportunity for audience discussion. We are pleased with FDEP's abstract submittals with topics on turbidity monitoring, UMAM, and hardbottom monitoring procedures, and we look forward to their participation at the conference. There will be a few presentations on sea level rise, BOEM's Hurricane Sandy response initiatives, and several inlet and beach nourishment projects. As is tradition, there will be a couple of "home town" presentations focused on projects and topics located near the conference site. FSBPA and the Planning Committee will be excited to reveal the full conference program in December, which will be posted online and detailed in a future Shoreline.



**Pier 60, Clearwater Beach**  
Photo courtesy of Visit St. Petersburg/Clearwater CVB

## **With the assistance of the 2015 Conference Planning Committee & Lisa Armbruster**

### **2015 CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE – EXECUTIVE MEMBERS**

Lauren Floyd, CB&I

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

Cliff Truitt, Ph.D., P.E., Coastal Tech Corp.

### **2015 CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE**

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

Bill Curtis, USACE Research and Development Center

Robert Dean, Ph.D., P.E., University of Florida

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

Erin Hodel, CSA Ocean Sciences Inc.

James Houston, Ph.D., USACE Research and Development Center

Scott Liggett, P.E., Town of Hilton Head Island, South Carolina

John Ramsey, P.E., Applied Coastal Research & Engineering

Spencer Rogers, Jr., North Carolina Sea Grant College Program

Nicole Sharp, P.E., Broward County, Florida

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

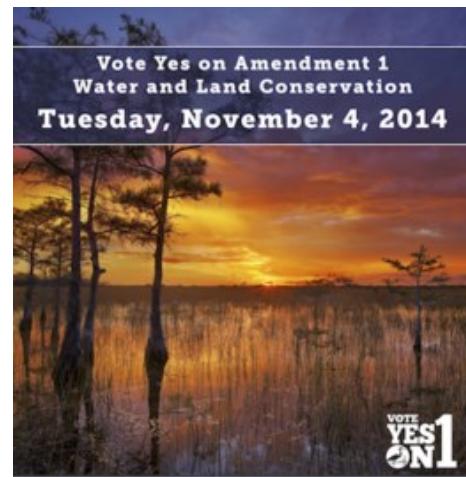
Leanne Welch, Palm Beach County, Florida

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## Setting the Stage for FSBPA's Governmental Agenda for 2015

We had to wait to get yesterday's election behind us to initiate in earnest FSBPA's governmental advocacy strategy for 2015. There are a number of reasons for this delay. Since it is an election year, legislative committees don't begin until January. Both our fate and our agenda were and will continue to be intertwined with passage of Amendment 1 and its subsequent implementation by the Legislature.

To get the details and working framework before us, Amendment 1 did pass by a favorable vote (75%) of the electorate. The Organizational Session for the 2015 Legislature is scheduled for November 18. Substantive committee meetings begin the Week of January 5, with four subsequent weeks of meetings scheduled before the official start of session on Tuesday, March 3, 2015. Environmental resource management, particularly water quality and quantity issues, are expected to take center stage in discussions and negotiations surrounding the specifics of Amendment 1.



The Association has reviewed the amendment in the context of the statewide beach management program. No one has suggested that beach management program funding is not appropriate expenditure pursuant to the amendment, especially since it has been a designated recipient since 1998 of documentary stamp tax revenues, the subject revenue source of the Constitutional Amendment. However, the current focus is on water issues, especially Florida's springs and the Indian River Lagoon, and community water projects. No one truly knows how it will all play out. Coalescing the various vested interests will not be easy. Determining the statutory and budgeting structure for programs funded with trust funds other than the Land Acquisition Trust Fund such as the beach program's Ecosystem Management & Restoration Trust Fund will be complex.

It might be helpful to revisit the ballot text to help focus us on the issue and challenges ahead.

### AMENDMENT 1

**Ballot Title:** Water and Land Conservation – Dedicates funds to acquire and restore Florida conservation and recreation lands.

**Ballot Summary:** Funds the Land Acquisition Trust Fund to acquire, restore, improve, and manage conservation lands including wetlands and forests; fish and wildlife habitat; lands protecting water resources and drinking water sources; including the Everglades, and the water quality of rivers, lakes, and streams; beaches and shores; outdoor recreational lands; working farms and ranches; and historic or geologic sites, by dedicating 33 percent of net revenues from the existing excise tax on documents for 20 years.

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**Article and section being created or amended:** Creates a new Section 28 to Article X

**Full Text of the Proposed Amendment:**

SECTION 28. Land Acquisition Trust Fund. --

a) Effective on July 1 of the year following passage of this amendment by the voters, and for a period of 20 years after that effective date, the Land Acquisition Trust Fund shall receive no less than 33 percent of net revenues derived from the existing excise tax on documents, as defined in the statutes in effect on January 1, 2012, as amended from time to time, or any successor or replacement tax, after the Department of Revenue first deducts a service charge to pay the costs of the collection and enforcement of the excise tax on documents.

b) Funds in the Land Acquisition Trust Fund shall be expended only for the following purposes:

1) As provided by law, to finance or refinance: the acquisition and improvement of land, water areas, and related property interests, including conservation easements, and resources for conservation lands including wetlands, forests, and fish and wildlife habitat; wildlife management areas; lands that protect water resources and drinking water sources, including lands protecting the water quality and quantity of rivers, lakes, streams, springsheds, and lands providing recharge for groundwater and aquifer systems; lands in the Everglades Agricultural Area and the Everglades Protection Area, as defined in Article II, Section 7(b); beaches and shores; outdoor recreation lands, including recreational trails, parks, and urban open space; rural landscapes; working farms and ranches; historic or geologic sites; together with management, restoration of natural systems, and the enhancement of public access or recreational enjoyment of conservation lands.

2) To pay the debt service on bonds issued pursuant to Article VII, Section 11(e).

c) The moneys deposited into the Land Acquisition Trust Fund, as defined by the statutes in effect on January 1, 2012, shall not be or become commingled with the General Revenue Fund of the state.

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How much funding is Amendment 1 estimated to generate? Figures have been bantered about but these are, thus far, the most reliable from EDR (Office of Economic and Demographic Research).

## Estimate of Distribution to LATF (33% of net collections less admin costs)

<b>2015-16</b>	<b>\$648.4</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>\$962.4</b>
<b>2016-17</b>	<b>\$682.9</b>	<b>2026-27</b>	<b>\$992.3</b>
<b>2017-18</b>	<b>\$716.9</b>	<b>2027-28</b>	<b>\$1,023.2</b>
<b>2018-19</b>	<b>\$759.2</b>	<b>2028-29</b>	<b>\$1,055.0</b>
<b>2019-20</b>	<b>\$781.5</b>	<b>2029-30</b>	<b>\$1,087.8</b>
<b>2020-21</b>	<b>\$816.3</b>	<b>2030-31</b>	<b>\$1,121.6</b>
<b>2021-22</b>	<b>\$851.5</b>	<b>2031-32</b>	<b>\$1,156.5</b>
<b>2022-23</b>	<b>\$877.9</b>	<b>2032-33</b>	<b>\$1,192.5</b>
<b>2023-24</b>	<b>\$905.2</b>	<b>2033-34</b>	<b>\$1,229.5</b>
<b>2024-25</b>	<b>\$933.4</b>	<b>2034-35</b>	<b>\$1,267.7</b>

(millions of dollars)

With the starting line and rules of the game yet to be revealed, but no time to delay, FSBPA through its Executive Committee and with the benefit of initial Board discussion is preparing a two-track strategy to at least get started on our 2015 governmental strategy and refining our basic objectives .

For those of you who were at our 2014 Annual Conference in Bonita Springs in late September, you heard that our advocacy goal for the past session was simply to increase “significantly” the level of state beach funding for the current fiscal year (2014/15). The end result was a \$47.3 million appropriation for 25 beach and inlet projects.

Since then we have had to come back down to earth recognizing this \$47.3 M was nothing more than a one-time allocation from a very supportive Legislature. There is no assurance regarding future year appropriations including the upcoming fiscal year, and there is no change in our 1998 doc stamp allocation of \$30 million annually or 2.12 % whichever is less without amending Chapter 201, Excise Tax on Documents.

**So the challenge before us in 2015 is (1) to mirror this year's one-time legislative funding commitment anyway we can, and (2) further justify and secure a commitment for an “updated” \$30 M annual dedicated state funding level for beaches going forward.** At the end

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of the day, we might all love to see an optimal funding level, perhaps double what is dedicated currently, but all beach interests should be pleased for a substantial but smaller increase if it ensures a consistent, dependable and predictable annual state cost-share for a specific period of time.

Passage of Amendment 1 presents an opportunity for discussion when coupled with the legislative responsibility to craft legislation allocating one-third of annual documentary stamp revenues for resource protection over the next two decades. That is all it does. The amount initially available is not more than is currently devoted to the collective group of resource programs receiving doc stamp revenues. It is not a return to the boom years.

All we can do as an association of coastal communities and supporting interests and experts is ensure that increased beach funding and a new dedicated funding level are part of the discussion surrounding Amendment 1, or beaches will be left behind. We can't dictate the timing or bottom line, and we can only be a small part of a much larger debate. **Interest and support must begin immediately at the local level and perk upward. Please embrace this responsibility. Sending lawmakers to Tallahassee well-informed regarding the needs of Florida's beaches and the inarguable economic benefits of beach projects is the first and most important step.** And like it or not, in our area of the budget, beaches have stiff competition, especially from the critical water issues of the day. Together we must offer a vision, and a reasoned and refined argument to secure a higher and more consistent state funding level for beach management. There is not widespread legislative or administrative focus on beaches. FSBPA members, alone, cannot create it.

Today is the start of a challenging discussion and advocacy strategy—with so many moving parts. It is partially dependent on factors beyond our control. We must also await the Legislature's OPPAGA (Office of Program Policy Analysis & Governmental Accountability) programmatic review and its recommendations, and the anticipated economic measures for annual project ranking and selection by the Office of Economic & Demographic Research (EDR).

This is just the beginning.... We have a noble and justified objective: the continuation of Florida's successful beach management program with significantly increased and consistent annual state funding. This will enable us to address core projects on a timely basis, take advantage of all available federal matching funds, add selective new projects, anticipate challenges related to effective and timely storm damage recovery, and accommodate possible changes in federal cost-sharing.

We must immediately begin working together to be better prepared and motivated to help advance

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this agenda for securing additional funding to sustain Florida's beaches into the future. It won't be easy!

With the support and action of each of you in various capacities, FSBPA's team of Lisa Armbruster, Governmental Affairs, Diana Ferguson, Legislative Services (Rutledge & Ecenia), and I are up to the challenge – we will put forth our best on behalf of FSBPA and its member governments. Later this week we will distribute our first briefing packets to legislative committee staff and select members to fine-tune our analysis and message in order to better respond to their needs. We will use Shoreline and our BeachWatch local government program to keep you informed and to seek your input as well as support. No doubt, our mutual role as the “voice of Florida’s beaches” will take on added importance over the next several months.

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## THANK YOU FOR BEING A PART OF FSBPA'S 58TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

We would like to thank all that attended the 2014 Annual Conference, September 24-26, in Bonita Springs — the presenters, sponsors, exhibitors and attendees. Lee County and the Visitor and Convention Bureau were most gracious hosts, and hopefully everyone that joined us at the conference had a valuable and enjoyable experience.

The conference was blessed with exceptional program presentations, a comfortable venue, good attendance, appreciated amenities and an informative field trip. If you were not able to attend and/or want to view available presentations from the meeting, they are now on FSBPA's website at [www.fsbpa.com/publications/2014-annual.html](http://www.fsbpa.com/publications/2014-annual.html).

Please be sure to mark your calendar and make plans to join us for the 2015 Annual Conference which will be held, September 23-25, at Hawks Cay in Duck Key. It is out of the norm for us with a great facility, casual feel, and no shirts or ties for this meeting. The traditional sit-down dinner for the awards banquet will be replaced by a luau with casual attire inspired by FSBPA's Hawks Cay t-shirts. There is also plenty to experience while you are



there including fishing, diving, a dolphin connection and much, much more, so we hope you will join us next September!



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## 2014 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AWARD WINNERS

Presented during the Awards Banquet, Thursday, September 25, 2014

**Congratulations to our 2014 Award Winners!**



### **Stan Tait Award**

"Setting the standard of excellence and commitment to statewide beach management, Lee County beaches and other coastal resources, and this Association throughout an outstanding career in public service"

**Steve Boutelle**



### **Bob Dean Coastal Research Award**

"For outstanding contributions to research and guidance benefiting the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, State of Florida and its coastal communities, and especially for elevating the discussion of the economic value of beaches"

**Dr. James R. Houston**



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## Local Government Award

“For outstanding leadership and active involvement over the years in supporting and preserving Florida’s beaches, especially your vision and commitment to Manatee County’s beach management program”

**Charlie Hunsicker**



## Environmental Award

“For contributions to beach preservation and environmental enhancement, highlighted by your partnership program for beach nesting birds and management plan for beach vegetation”

**Keith Laakkonen**



## Legislative Award

“For an outstanding legislative record in support of the preservation of Florida’s beaches, and commitment to improved project selection and adequate funding for their effective management”

**Representative George R. Moraitis, Jr.  
District 93  
Florida House of Representatives**

## Department of the Army

### Debbie Flack

#### Commanders Award for Public Service

**Presented by Colonel Alan M. Dodd, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**

**"For exceptional civilian service while performing as the President of the Florida Shore and Beach Preservation Association...Ms. Flack's contributions are in keeping with the highest ideals of the selfless service and community involvement"**



Made all the more special by its unexpected presentation by Colonel Dodd  
who has truly been the Jacksonville District's "Beach Leader"

With appreciation, Debbie

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## Candid Shots from the 2014 Annual Conference



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**Our new friends,  
Honey Bear and Hoss,  
join us during an exchange break**



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## FEDERAL PROJECT STATUS UPDATES – November 2014 USACE Jacksonville District

### FEASIBILITY STUDIES:

- **St. Johns County** – St. Johns County feasibility study includes shoreline areas in South Ponte Vedra Beach, Vilano Beach, and Summerhaven. Prior study efforts completed scoping, alternative formulation, and model development before funding issues caused the study to halt. Limited Federal funding in FY-14 provided for re-scoping to modify the study to current Corps feasibility study 3x3x3 standards. Products developed included a decision criteria paper, risk register, updated schedule, and study budget. Vertical team concurrence that St. Johns County feasibility study is in compliance with the new policy was received on October 21, 2014. Discussions also continue on future Federal funding and an accelerated funds agreement with the non-federal sponsor, either of which would allow the study to resume.
- **Flagler County** – The draft report public review period was held from Jan 17 through Mar 15, 2014. The revised report was then submitted to SAD and HQ for final review. A Civil Works Review Board briefing was held on Aug 26, 2014 where the proposed project and recommendations from the review teams were presented to MG Peabody. The Board unanimously agreed with the findings and approved the final report for release for State and Agency Review. The final review was conducted from September 9 to October 8, 2014. No significant comments or concerns have been raised. The final feasibility report and Chief of Engineer's Report will be routed for signatures and transmittal to the Assistant Secretary of the Army scheduled for December 2014.
- **St. Lucie County** – Limited Federal funding in FY-14 provided for re-scoping for the new 3x3x3 standards, including completion of a decision criteria paper, risk register, updated schedule, and study budget. Vertical team concurrence that St. Lucie County is in compliance with the new policy was received on October 21, 2014. Discussions also continue on future Federal funding to allow the study to resume.

### OTHER MAJOR PLANNING REPORTS:

- **Brevard County Mid-Reach General Reevaluation Report (GRR)** - The GRR was approved by the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works (ASA (CW)) in September 2014. The project is now moving into the PED phase.

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- **Indian River County** – Limited Federal funding in FY-14 provided for initial study scoping for the new 3x3x3 standards, including completion of a draft project management plan, draft review plan, schedule, and study budget. Vertical team concurrence that Indian River County is in compliance with the new policy was received on October 21, 2014. Discussions continue on future Federal funding to allow the study team to begin work. This project is authorized but has not had previous Corps participation in construction. A general reevaluation report (GRR) will be completed to verify the economic justification to support a project partnership agreement for future cost-shared work.
- The **Draft Ft. Pierce Shore Protection Project GRR** seeks an additional 50 years of Federal participation in the project. Alternative analysis is ongoing by the sponsor and consultants. Once complete, findings will be incorporated into a draft GRR, which will undergo review by Jacksonville District. The District was asked to evaluate the real estate values in the structure inventory, which was completed and provided to the non-federal sponsor.
- **Jupiter/Carlin Shore Protection Project** - Palm Beach County has submitted a draft Section 934 report and NEPA document for the Jupiter/Carlin Segment to extend Federal participation for the next renourishment and out to 50 years of Federal participation. Following review of the data and report, revisions were recommended to the Beach-fx model. Having received Federal funds for Palm Beach County projects, the model revisions and completion of the 934 report are being conducted at the Jacksonville District.
- **Broward County Shore Protection Project - Segment II 2<sup>nd</sup> Renourishment** – Limited Reevaluation Report (LRR) and Environmental Assessment (EA) – The draft LRR/EA was completed by the County's consultant and submitted for review. Comments were provided by SAD in December 2013. The EA was released for public and agency review, however, significant comments were received by National Marine Fisheries Service. Resolution of the issues and receipt of a biological opinion is required prior to submittal of the final LRR/EA for approval.
- The **Dade County Limited Reevaluation Report (LRR) and Environmental Assessment (EA)** will evaluate the use of a new sand source for the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project. Efforts continue to develop the offshore borrow sources and potential upland borrow sites to be evaluated in the document. On-going work includes completion of the borrow area alternatives, cost estimates, and economic evaluation. Initial scoping for the EA is also underway, and is awaiting the determination of the borrow source to complete a draft document. The draft report is scheduled for completion by December 31, 2014.
- **Lee County, Gasparilla** – A Section 934 report has been initiated to determine the Federal interest in extension of Federal participation in cost-sharing from the current 10 years to a 50-year period of Federal participation, or an additional 40 years (2057). The real estate inventory, armoring inventory, and storm database were completed. On-going efforts focus on the Beach-fx model setup.

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- **Sarasota County, Venice** – A Limited Reevaluation Report (LRR) and Environmental Assessment (EA) are underway to evaluate economic and environmental changes to the approved Hurricane and Storm Damage Reduction Project due to the use of a new offshore borrow area. The draft report was reviewed at SAD and the EA was also released for public and agency review. Following revisions, the final report and EA were reviewed by the agency technical review team and were submitted to SAD on September 15, 2014.

#### **REGIONAL SEDIMENT MANAGEMENT (RSM):**

- The **Nassau and Duval Counties RSM** effort continued with funding from the Corps' national RSM program. A focus of the FY14 effort will be the feasibility of bypassing sand around the St. Johns River entrance to the Duval County Shore Protection Project. A technical report will be published by the Corps' Engineer and Research Development Center (ERDC) in FY15, documenting the findings.
- Jacksonville District's "**Ship to Shore: Fate of Fines in the Dredging and Placement Process**" proposal also received Federal funding from the Corps' national RSM and Dredging Operations and Environmental Research (DOER) programs. This effort will gather data from upcoming navigation O&M and beach nourishment dredging and beach placement events in order to quantify the loss of fine sand as material is dredged and transported from dredge sites to placement areas. Samples were collected from several dredging projects in Florida were collected and processed in FY14. FY15 will see a continuation of these efforts with analysis of the sample findings.

#### **ENGINEERING AND DESIGN:**

- **Nassau County** – The permit application for the next renourishment was submitted to FDEP and a request for additional information received in Aug 2014. The additional information has been provided to FDEP. FY15 efforts will focus on completing the permitting, plans and specifications for a 2016 renourishment event.
- **Duval County** – A borrow area survey was completed in Aug 2014 to support the next renourishment planned for 2017. FY15 efforts will focus on updating NEPA documentation.
- **St. Johns County, St. Augustine Beach** – The engineering team is currently evaluating monitoring data to revise the erosion rates and quantities for the next renourishment event. Coordination of a cultural resources survey at the proposed borrow area is on-going.
- The **Dade County, Section 227 Project** at 63rd Street in Miami. Plans and specifications were completed for the breakwater, however, funding and authority questions halted implementation under the Section 227 program. The project is currently on hold.

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- **Sarasota County, Lido Key** – The Jacksonville District presented modeling results and potential borrow area location at Big Sarasota Pass at a series of public meetings in the project area in winter and spring 2014. A NEPA scoping meeting was also held in Jul 2014. Compiling the permit application and continuation of the NEPA process are on-going.

## CONSTRUCTION:

- **Ft Pierce** – FY-14 funds were received for plans and specification preparation and construction of the 10<sup>th</sup> renourishment. The contract was advertised in Jul 2014, although work will not begin until winter 2014/15.
- **Palm Beach County, Jupiter/Carlin, Delray Beach, Ocean Ridge, and North Boca Raton** –The Jupiter/Carlin project contract was awarded and construction partially completed. The contract was terminated due to the inability to complete the work within the turtle nesting window. Quantities placed were reviewed and a new contract prepared to complete the work. The contract was advertised in Jul 2014 for the work to begin in Nov 2014. Delray Beach, Ocean Ridge, and North Boca Raton projects were awarded in one contract. The contractor completed Ocean Ridge and Delray Beach segments and a portion of the North Boca fill, before needing to stop work at the end of the turtle window on 30 Apr 2014. The contractor will return to North Boca in Nov 2014 to complete the work.

- **Pinellas County, Long Key & Treasure Island – Emergency rehabilitation FCCE funds and cost-shared funds were provided to restore the project to the full construction template.**

The Treasure Island portion of the contract was completed in Aug 2014. The Long Key portion was completed in Sep 2014.



Sunset Beach, at the south end of Treasure Island, following nourishment in August 2014

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# Walton County Storm Damage Reduction Project

## USACE Mobile District

The Walton County Storm Damage Reduction Project was authorized in the 2014 Water Resources Reform & Development Act, or WRRDA, after 12 years of economic and environmental evaluations, demonstrating the project is in the federal government's interest.



Walton County Beach 2006

miles of Walton County beaches with an estimated 3.5 million cubic yards of sand. Included in the project are: Stallworth Lake through Blue Mountain Beach; Gulf Trace through western Grayton Beach; WaterColor through Eastern Lake; and Seacrest through Inlet Beach.

Due to the absence of storm-vulnerable infrastructure being in place, the state park property, along with the WaterSound area, will be excluded from the project. The purpose is to provide hurricane and storm damage reduction to infrastructure in areas adjacent to the Walton County shoreline. The Engineering and Design phase is currently underway with the development of plans and specifications.

The project estimated cost is \$60 million, but due to reaches with a lack of public access and areas where there is a lack of vulnerable infrastructure, the cost share is heavy on the non-federal side – 70 percent nonfederal and 30 percent federal. This is due to unavailable federal funding for locations where public access is not available and there is insufficient infrastructure. Provided funds are made available, construction could commence as early as spring of 2016 and with project completion anticipated in 2018.



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**

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Mobile District website](#)

This authorization provides for construction of the project with periodic nourishments over the next 50 years. The non-federal sponsor for the project is the Walton County Board of County Commissioners. The next steps are to complete design, secure the necessary rights of entry, obtain the necessary environmental clearances and federal funding.

The project consists of beach nourishment and dune restoration of approximately 18

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## FDEP Division of Water Resource Management Agency Updates

### Strategic Beach Management Plan Update

The Department's Project Managers and planning staff have been working with local sponsors and engineering staff to update the 2008 Strategic Beach Management Plan. Three regional webinars will be held soon to seek public comment. Watch for upcoming notices!



[Click here for the FDEP Beaches website](#)

### DEP and the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) Enter into Agreement

The Department and BOEM signed a two year agreement totaling \$200,000 to modernize the Reconnaissance Offshore Sand Search/ Reconnaissance Offshore Sand Search Inventory (ROSS/ROSSI) database. The modernization will include updating the ROSS/ROSSI webpage by installing a secure, direct upload interface for data submittals from the private sector. This will improve data security for federal and regional data sites and simplify connectivity for database users. Other enhancements will incorporate existing offshore data, such as potential areas of sand resources and benthic habitat. The overall goal is to have available geologic and benthic habitat resource data accessible for planners and managers.

In addition, the Florida Geological Survey will complete an analysis of existing data previously collected offshore of selected Florida Atlantic counties, including the federal Outer Continental Shelf. BOEM scientists will assist Florida in identifying areas where additional scientific data is needed to confirm previously identified sand and locate new sand resources. BOEM will also help Florida develop tools to more readily share sand resource data with other agencies involved in coastal resilience planning.

The funding comes from the \$13.6 million allocated to BOEM from the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013, and this agreement is the 13<sup>th</sup> that BOEM has signed with Atlantic Coast states.

### DEP Approves Palm Beach Island Beach Management Agreement (BMA) Projects

The Department issued the first "Individual Project Approval" for the Palm Beach Island BMA on October 28, 2014. The approval included the nourishment of Mid-Town Beach from an offshore borrow area, and Phipps/Reach 7 Beach and Dune Restoration, and the Reach 8 Dune Restoration Project. A hearing for the Erosion Control Line extensions in Mid-Town was held on October 9, and construction for all three projects is anticipated this fall and winter. See <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/beaches/pb-bma/index.htm> for more information.



Mid-Town 2003 Construction

### First Annual Stakeholder Meeting for the Palm Beach Island BMA Scheduled

The first annual Stakeholders Meeting will be held December 4, 2014 at the Town of Palm Beach Town Hall from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. The meeting will provide an overview of the BMA and will present the annual monitoring data (physical, turtle, hardbottom) collected in the first year since issuance of the BMA (September 26, 2013).

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**Shoreline**

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

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# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## FSBPA Conferences

**February 4-6, 2015**  
**2015 Tech Conference**  
**Clearwater Beach Marriott**  
**on Sand Key**

**September 23-25, 2015**  
**2015 FSBPA Annual Conference**  
**Hawks Cay \* Duck Key, Florida**

**28th Annual**  
**National Conference**  
**on Beach**  
**Preservation Technology**

**February 4-6, 2015**  
 Clearwater Beach Marriott on Sand Key

**Conference Registration**

Early Registration ends January 13, 2015

**Hotel Information**

Reservation deadline is January 13, 2015

**Sponsorships, Exhibits and Ad Information**

For more information, please contact  
 Teri Besse via email, [teri@fsbpa.com](mailto:teri@fsbpa.com)

## OTHER DATES OF INTEREST

**November 18-19, 2014**  
**Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway Association Annual Conference**  
 Savannah, GA

**February 24-26, 2015**  
**ASBPA 2015 Coastal Summit**  
 Washington, DC

**May 11-15, 2015**  
**2015 Coastal Sediments Conference**  
 San Diego, CA

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