

APPENDIX A

STAKEHOLDER LIST, PUBLIC INPUT SUMMARIES, AND PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING REPORT

SUB-APPENDIX A1
STAKEHOLDER LIST

Stakeholder / EIS Recipient List

This list of stakeholders represents everyone identified by USACE as likely stakeholders or self-identified as such. Entries to the list occurred throughout the EIS process. The USACE will continue to include new names as they are identified.

Stakeholders / Recipients of the EIS include (in alphabetic order):

Alexander, The Honorable JD, State Senator
Appelson, Gary, Caribbean Conservation Corporation
Atlantis by the Sea Condominium
Bartels, Bill, individual
Beach Club Colony Condo
Beach Club Colony on the Ocean Condo
Bentrott, Jerry, City Manager
Bernhart, David, NMFS-SERO-PRD
Bird, Charlene, individual (Miramar)
Blanchard, Ted, individual (Island Dunes)
Blanchard, Ted, Island Dunes Oceanside Condominium I
Bolgardov, Deborah, Secretary, Princess of Hutchinson Island
Boston, Mark, Florida Alliance for Retired Americans, Inc.
Bouchard, Richard, St. Lucie County
Bowshier, Robert, individual
Brady, Andy, Surfrider Foundation
Bryan, James, Realtor, Ocean Bay Villas Condominium
Cheng, Jenny, FDEP
Collier, Chantal, Coral Reef Program, FDEP
Costa, Bob and Mary, individuals (Miramar Royal)
Coward, Doug, Vice Chairman, St. Lucie County Commissioner
Cox, Linda W., MBA, SPHR, President/CEO, St. County Chamber of Commerce
Craft, Chris, St. Lucie County Commissioner
Croom, Miles, Nat. Marine Fisheries Serv. Habitat Cons Div.
Cummings, Ken, Manager, Miramar Royale Condominium
D'Avanzo, Ericka, Surfrider Foundation
Daniels, Marvin and Marilyn, individuals (Miramar)
Davy, Kay, NOAA-FS
Degen, Peter, individual (Sandollar Shores)
Delaney, Richard and Anne, individuals
DeMarco, Paul, USACE, Jacksonville District
DeMartini, Jr., Nicholas, individual (Empress)
Diane, Manager, Oceana Oceanfront Condominium II
Dickman, Sandy, Property Manager, Island Crest Condominium
Donhowe, Jim and Karen, Individual (Empress)
Donvan, Cheryl, individual (Claridge by the Sea Condominium)
Doran, Mark and Christy, individuals (Admiral)
Dow, Roxane, FDEP

Dzadovsky, Chris, St. Lucie County Commissioner
Edwards, Lois, Coastal Technology Corporation
Erickson, Tim, individual (Oceana South II Condominium)
Farley, Tom, Property Manager, The Empress Condominium
FDEP, Bureau of Survey and Mapping, Div. of State Lands
FDEP, SE District Branch Office
Fedak, Bob and Sonia, individuals (Empress)
FEMA, Insurance & Mitigation Division
Fetterman, The Honorable Adam M., State Representative
Fink, Don, (point of contact) Island Beach Club Condominium
Finlay, Mr. and Mrs., individuals (Atlantis)
Finnegan, Colleen, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation, and
Enforcement Leasing Division
Fischer, Edward and Jacquelynn, individuals (The Miramar)
Fitzpatrick, Kathy, P.E., Martin County
Flack, Debbie, FSBPA
Fleming, Gwendolyn Keyes
Florida Shore and Beach Preservation Association
Florida Sportsman
Florida Wildlife Federation
Fondren, Danielle, FDEP, Beaches and Coastal Systems
Frolich, Kipp, FWC-Imperiled Species Management
Gelke, John, individual (Miramar)
Gilson, Jr., Thomas, individual (Islandia)
Gilson, Tom, President, Islandia I Condominium
Goldbaum, Lenard, individual
Gorham, Jonathan C., Ph.D., Inwater Research Group, Inc.
Grande, Charles, Chairman, St. Lucie County Commissioner
Gregg, Lisa, FWC
Griffen, Lynn, Florida Coastal Management Program
Gudeman, Stephanie, FDEP
Hageman, Russell, individual (Nettles Island)
Haridopolos, The Honorable Mike, State Senator
Harrell, The Honorable Gayle, State Representative
Hart, Lynne, individual (Empress)
Harvey, Richard, EPA - South Florida Office
Harvey, Ruth Ann, individual (Empress)
Hastings, Congressman Alcee L.
Hauke, Bill and Carole, individuals (Miramar Royal)
Helton, Jim, individual (Empress)
Hoberg, Chris, Environmental Protection Agency Region IV
Howe, Jeffrey, USFWS
Huebner, James, individual (Regency II)
Hutchinson Island Club Condominium
Hutchinson, Frannie, USDA-NRCS
Island Dunes Oceanside Condominium II

Islandia II Condominium
Janes, Rick, individual (Regency)
Johnson, Steed F., individual (Empress)
Kammerer, Neil, individual
Karazsia, Jocelyn, NOAA Fisheries Service
Kiefer, William and Jaimie, individuals
Komhout, Elizabeth, FDEP
Kosmynin, Vladimir, FDEP
Kotch, Ed, Manager, Oceana Oceanfront Condominium I
Kovacich, Jacquelin, individual
Kraus, Mark, Audubon of Florida
Kryzda, Taryn
Lewis, Paula A., St. Lucie County Commissioner
Lips, Garrett, USACE, Palm Beach Gardens
Livergood, Audra, NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service
Logan, Kelly, NOAA-FS
Lynn, Rockwood J., individual (Islandia)
Lyon, Greg, Surfrider Foundation
Mayfield, The Honorable Debbie, State Representative
Miedema, Ron, USEPA
Milligan, Lauren, Florida State Clearinghouse
Miramar Condominium Association
National Marine Fisheries Service, SE Fisheries Center
Negron, The Honorable Joe, State Senator
Noyes, Richard, FDEP
Oan, Commander, Seventh Coast Guard District
Oberlin, Leah, USACE, Palm Beach Gardens
Ocean Dunes Condominium
Ocean Towers Condominium A
Ocean Towers Condominium B
Oceanrise Condominium
Olsen, Kim, CSA International, Inc.
Outlaw, Faye W., St. Lucie County Administrator
Pacitti, Patricia M., President, Regency Island Dunes
Palmer, John, USACE
Pelossi, Peter, President, Island Crest Condominium
Piscitelli, Jim, individual (The Miramar Condo)
Poole, Mary Ann, FFWCC
Poppell, The Honorable Ralph, State Representative
Posey, Congressman Bill
Provancha, Jane, Dynamic-Cape Canaveral
Rader, The Honorable Kevin J. G., State Representative
Rank, Robert, individual (Regency)
Recor, David, City Manager
Reefkeeper International
Regency Island Dunes Two

Rice, Joette Lorion, individual
Rice, Terry, L Colonel (Ret'd), PhD, PE
Roberts, Dawn, US Environmental Protection Agency
Rooney, Congressman Thomas J.
Root, Vern, Property Manager, The Miramar II Condominium
Sailfish Point Prop Owners
Sand Dollar North
Sand Dollar Shores Condominium
Save the Manatee Club
Schuster, Kathy, Manager, Island Dunes Admiral Condominium
Sea Winds Condominium
Seeling, Martin, FDEP
Shelton, Chuck, individual (Empress)
Shelton, Marie, individual
Sierra Club, Florida Regional Office
Silverman, Allen, Florida Shores and Beach Preservation Association
Singer, Charles W., individual (Island Dunes)
Smith, Doug, Chairman, County Commissioner
Smith, Rodney, Publisher of Coastal Angler Magazine
Snyder, The Honorable William D., State Representative
Souza, Paul, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Spring, Keith, CSA International, Inc.
Steele, Willard, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Seminole Tribe of Florida
Storey, George, individual
Strogh, Rick, State Historic Preservation Office
Suarez, Carlos, State Conservationist, NRCS
Sutton, Loretta B., Department of the Interior Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
Talac, Kenneth, individual (Regency II)
Tartamella, Jack and Joyce, individuals (Empress)
Tepper, Craig, Seminole Tribe of Florida
Terry, Steve, Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida
Theriault, Ken, Individual (The Miramar)
Thorson IV, Wayne and Joanne, individuals (Mirrar I)
Trindell, Robbin, FWC
Turtle Reef Club, Turtle Reef Club Condo
Villa Del Sol
Vistana's Beach Club
West, Don, St. Lucie County
Wheatley, Ervin and Joann, individuals (The Miramar Condo)
White, David, The Ocean Conservancy
Wikel, Geoffrey, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement, Environmental Division
Wilbur, Pace, NMFS-HCD
Williams, Bruce and Thelma, individual (Empress)
Zambrano, Richardo, Sierra Club Loxahatchee Group

SUB-APPENDIX A2

**ST. LUCIE COUNTY PLANNING CHARETTE
SUMMARY OF PUBLIC COMMENTS
APRIL 30, 2007**

St. Lucie County - South County Beach Project
Summary of Public Comments
April 30th Planning Charette

Environmental Concerns	
Speaker	Comment
David Kaplan	The COBRA Zones should be omitted from the project. . . . concerned about damage to hardbottom, quality of fill material, turbidity, lack of public beach access
Craig M.	Address the recovery of a borrow area after sand is removed.
Kevin Stinnette	The quality of fill should avoid impacts to the beach, fishing, and water quality and associated tourism.
Terry Gibson	Fisheries, diving, and surfing constitute a multi-billion dollar industry, which should be protected. Capron Shoal should not be dredged.
Pat Pacitti	Project should be environmentally friendly to protect the interests of coastal homeowners.
Dewey Bookhold	The County's dune restoration project (after 2004 hurricanes) has benefited property owners; birds and sea turtles are returning.

Alternatives	
Speaker	Comment
David Kaplan	The County should by-pass sand at Ft. Pierce Inlet.
Terry Gibson	Ft. Pierce Jetty needs to be refurbished to prevent sand from flowing through and into the Inlet. County needs to look into sand by-passing at the inlet.
Ericka Davonzo	County needs to look at sand by-passing for a long-term solution.
Mary Chapman	The PEP Reef has shown positive results at the Ocean Grill in Vero Beach; the County should consider a PEP reef.
Arden Peck	The Project should include dune vegetation.
Ericka Davonzo	The beach should not be restored beyond the 1972 shoreline.
Larry Cali	The County should identify the basis for assuming the 1972 profile is sufficient for a beach restoration.
Peter Degen, Sand Dollar Shores	Sand Dollar Shores should be included in project area. Beaches attract visitors. Project is for the well-being of the County. Two Choices: (1) Abandon beaches (2) Preserve beaches. The County should construct a project to restore beaches.
Terry Gibson	A regional sediment management plan is needed to address the beach from Ft. Pierce Inlet to the County Line.
Kevin Stinnette	The County should identify the level of protection afforded by the proposed beach project, which will not provide protection from a Category 4 or 5 hurricane.
Charles Lippincott	The 2004 hurricanes were a lesson. Need to move future development further landward.
Albert Burdge	The County has tried to stop erosion on south side of inlet by beach nourishment, but the sand has just washed away. Development along the beach should be stopped.
Charles Cressi	Ocean is relentless and we need to be relentless. Agrees with alternatives eliminated and beach fill project is warranted. Jetties need to be maintained.
Ericka Davonzo	Sea-level rise be considered in economics (B/C) of Project. County should consider a combination of alternatives, such as fill only at "hot-spots".

Economics

Speaker	Comment
Charles Singer	A 2001-2002 study assessed ocean front property to be worth \$512 million with a annual tax base of \$11 million. Today property is worth over \$1 billion and a conservative tax estimation is \$25-30 million annually. A project is needed to avoid another storm destroying homes.
Tom Gilson	Islandia Condominium Buildings are the No. 1 & 2 property tax contributors. Ocean-front condos contribute \$16 million annually in tax revenue. Islandia spent \$4 million recovering from hurricanes. A project is vital to their situation. Project needs to be constructed ASAP.
Dewey Bookhold	Islandia east spent \$1.5 million replanting and maintaining dunes after the 2004 hurricanes; a regional project is needed.
John Dadak	Opposes any County-wide tax to pay for project. Look for funding at state and federal-level, or cut costs on other County projects
Mike Monin	Project <u>will</u> cost money. The County should identify a range of costs for the project.
Charles Lippincott	Supports county-wide taxing method to pay for project

SUB-APPENDIX A3

USACE PRE-APPLICATION CONFERENCE REPORT MAY 29, 2007

Conference Report

24360.06

May 29, 2007

**Re: St. Lucie County, Florida – South County Beach Project
Pre-application Conference**

Location: USACE Office – Palm Beach Gardens

Participants:

USACE: Penny Cutt

NMFS: Jocelyn Karazsia, Audra Livergood (by phone)

EPA: Tori Foster

St. Lucie Co.: Richard Bouchard

Coastal Tech: Walker Dawson, Kim Colstad
by phone: Michael Walther, Lois Edwards & Peter Ravella

Purpose: The purpose of the pre-application conference was to:

- present the basis and need for the Project
- identify project issues and means to address those issues
- identify requirements for obtainment of permits including:
 - the form of the NEPA document and
 - alternatives to be addressed under the NEPA document
- confirm or revise the scope of subsequent investigations needed to assess the Project and obtain FDEP and USACE permits.

Report: Coastal Tech presented highlights from the *Conditions Assessment* and a draft *Project Justification* document – that were distributed to the meeting participants prior to the meeting. The following summarizes discussion and comments:

1. **Project Purpose and Need:** Coastal Tech outlined the project purpose to:
 - (a) offset the sediment deficit – attributable to long term effects of Ft. Pierce Inlet,
 - (b) restore and maintain the beach and dune to provide for
 - recreational beach
 - habitat for marine turtle nesting, beach mice, and shore birds
 - (c) provide storm protection for upland property and infrastructure.

To demonstrate the Project need, plots of 1972 and 2006 beach profiles (at FDEP reference monuments) were presented as part of the *Conditions Assessment*. It was noted that (a) 1972 was the year that FDEP established the monuments and the first year that the state surveyed beach profiles, (b) the only substantive nourishment of the south county beaches occurred in 2005/2006 after the 2004 hurricanes when on the order of 6cy/ft of sand was placed to partially restore dunes at the FP&L Plant and from R-99 to the Martin County line.

Jocelyn noted, with concurrence from Penny and Tori, that NMFS would like to see shoreline/volume changes for all available data between 1972 and 2006; specifically different time periods assessed to characterize natural shoreline behavior including natural shoreline recovery.



It was recognized that the Project area is being formulated and will include the most eroded shoreline outside that currently designated by FDEP as critically eroded.

Penny noted that:

- a) she prefers a holistic project approach that does not impact hardbottom, and
- b) justification may be an issue in those undeveloped areas that do not have structures on the uplands.

2. Project Alternatives: As identified in the draft *Project Justification* document, Coastal Tech presented:

- a) alternatives eliminated from detailed evaluation - eliminated because they did not meet the Project goals and/or are not economically feasible, and
- b) alternatives expected to be evaluated in detail including:
 - “no action”
 - beach fill with “no impact” to existing hardbottom
 - beach fill with minimum impact
 - beach fill to restore the 1972 shoreline and dune
 - another alternative, as identified by the county or regulatory agencies

In the course of discussion, Penny, Jocelyn, Audra, and Tori noted their desire for a more detailed evaluation of the following alternatives:

- nearshore berm
- beach fill with periodic nourishment stabilized by offshore breakwater
- construction setback line and building/zoning alternatives
- sand transfer at Ft. Pierce Inlet

It was also noted that if a beach fill project is proposed with no impacts to nearshore hardbottom due to direct burial:

- No NMFS ESA consultation is required.
- NMFS would still require an EFH consultation to cover borrow area impacts and probable secondary impacts to hardbottom, (even if fill is above the MHWL).
- USFWS will be required to issue a Biological Opinion.

With regard to sand transfer alternatives at Ft. Pierce Inlet, Richard noted that St. Lucie County is currently pursuing several alternatives in concert with a feasibility study with assistance from Taylor Engineering under development and review by FDEP and the USACE. One alternative is a notched weir - similar to that at St. Lucie Inlet.

Hardbottom Resources: Jocelyn noted that based upon a meeting during the previous week, the most recent studies indicate that limestone boulders are not sufficient for mitigating impacts to nearshore hardbottom; Hutton modules or similar structures are more effective. Cheryl Miller has compiled a synthesis of monitoring reports that illustrates limestone artificial reefs do not mimic natural hardbottom. Jocelyn indicated she would compile the studies and reports and forward them to Coastal Tech.

Penny suggested that:

- The level of data collection to map and characterize hardbottom should be commensurate with the expected level of impact to the hardbottom. CSA has



compiled a publication with recommended sampling techniques used for characterization of nearshore hardbottom.

- Nearshore hardbottom maps should be digitized and compared based upon historical aerial photography to identify the variability in exposed hardbottom for the most recent years (~last 10 years).

3. Borrow Areas: Penny and Jocelyn noted the following:

- USGS staff are developing environmental monitoring standards for offshore shoals. Offshore shoals provide unique habitat including EFH for migratory pelagic fishes; associated functions should be identified and a methodology employed to minimize impacts to these functions. Dredging methodology should include banding techniques (yielding deep cuts vs. cuts over large surface areas) to provide for environmental recovery of shoals.
- Studies that employ wave transformation models (Ramsey et al 2004) indicate that offshore shoals may shelter the beach. The shoals should be evaluated with regard to shoreline behavior. [Tori noted that shoals are mentioned in the FP&L Plant planning documents as a reason for the siting of the Plant; Tori will forward the planning document to all participants.]
- Extensive geotechnical data is available for Capron Shoal. Geotechnical data for Pierce and St. Lucie Shoal are needed if they are going to be used as borrow areas. [Michael noted the data is being developed]. Geotechnical investigations should include identification of the durability of the fill material in nearshore environment vs. offshore. Suggested review of “Wanless” reports which identifies breakdown of placed fill.
- The shoals should be investigated to determine whether they are relic or actively accreting shoals. An accreting shoal is preferable for use as a borrow area.
- The source of the sediments associated with the marine dredge disposal sites indicated on Coastal Tech drawings (from shp files obtained from FFWCC) should be identified. If this material originated from the dredging of Ft. Pierce Inlet channel, it may contain suitable fill material. Penny suggested investigations of these disposal sites as potential borrow sources.
- Penny also suggested the possibility of using an upland sand source, but Penny generally recognized that (a) there are limited quantities and they are not exclusively for the use of St. Lucie County, (b) use of an upland sand source is generally cost-prohibitive and (c) such use has infrastructure issues (roads not designed to accommodate the quantity/type of traffic generated by trucking material to the beach), especially for large nourishment projects.
- Jocelyn suggested the investigation of “diobathic” sand channels between nearshore hardbottom and offshore reefs, in approximate 22 to 30-foot depths. The sand within these areas is naturally sorted, contains a beach compatible grain size, and contains low silt content and is durable for beach fill projects. In addition, either hopper or cutterhead dredge can be used to excavate this sand.



4. **NEPA Process:** With regard to the NEPA document, Penny said that:
- The Coast of Florida Study should be reviewed to determine whether it includes the Project area; if so, small project areas can be evaluated under a supplemental EIS (SEIS).
 - St. Lucie County must compile and submit qualifications for several consultants to develop the NEPA document and submit the qualifications to USACE, who will review the qualifications, interview consultants, and then execute a 3rd party agreement for the chosen consultant to complete the NEPA document. Lois will follow up with Penny to identify the specific requirements of the USACE.

Jocelyn noted that a NMFS letter to Peter Ravella of Coastal Tech dated May 1, 2007 identifies that a Biological Assessment (BA) is required; the need for a EFH/ESA BA depends on the proposed action. No BA is required if the fill is placed above the MHWL, but if an offshore borrow area is proposed, NMFS will need a EFH BA. The dredge methodology (hopper or hydraulic) will affect the type of BA required. There is a USACE regional Biological Opinion with regard to sea turtles and use of a hopper dredge, but not for smalltooth sawfish. A new USACE regional SEIS for the sawfish may be complete; Penny will check on the progress of the new SEIS and advise Coastal Tech. If the final proposed action results in a “may affect” for species protected by NMFS, a ESA BA will be required.

cc: Meeting Participants



SUB-APPENDIX A4

FDEP PRE-APPLICATION MEETING REPORT FEBRUARY 7, 2008

Conference Report

24360.06

February 7, 2008

Re: St. Lucie County, Florida – South County Beach Project FDEP Pre-Application Meeting

Participants:

FDEP: Mike Barnett, Marty Seeling, Ralph Clark, Jennifer Koch, Caitlin Lustic, Becky Prado, Brian Taylor

St. Lucie County: Richard Bouchard

Presidents' Council of S. Hutchinson Island: Pat Pacitti

Coastal Tech: Michael Walther, Dilip Barua, Leighann Budde, Kim Colstad, Walker Dawson, Lois Edwards

Purpose: As identified in the attached Agenda, the purpose of the pre-application conference was to (a) provide a brief overview of the proposed St. Lucie County *South County Beach Project* to the Department, and (b) obtain FDEP staff input to identify and refine:

- issues and means to address these issues – including:
 - a. avoidance and minimization of hardbottom impacts
 - b. Borrow Area sand quality
- requirements for obtainment of permits including:
 - a. supplemental field investigations to characterize existing nearshore hardbottom and other environmental resources
 - b. mitigation requirements

Report: Coastal Tech provided a brief overview of the Project as reflected in documents previously distributed to the participants including:

- “Conditions Assessment Report” - dated April 20, 2007,
- Profile plots for a “1972 design template, and “no impact - maximum fill” alternative with a tabular summary of fill densities,
- Public comments from a 4/30/07 Public Charette were also provided and briefly discussed.

These documents provide a general overview of the Project and a summary of currently available data and information relative to the Project purpose, need and justification, potential project alternatives, sediment quality and borrow area data, and environmental issues, including characterization of nearshore hardbottom and potential hardbottom impacts.

It was noted that the *Study Area* has been defined as from FDEP monuments R-77 to the Martin County line (R-115+) - the same as the federal USACE *Feasibility Study* area. However, the Project area has not yet been identified.



After presentation of the Project overview, Coastal Tech requested comments from Department staff; the following summarizes the discussion:

1. Critically Eroded Area: A revised Memo relative to the critical erosion designation will be sent via email to the Department.

2. Project Alternatives: Coastal Tech discussed a host of alternatives typically considered during the NEPA process that have already been eliminated, including: no action, artificial reefs, groins, seawalls, etc. Coastal Tech also identified a number of fill alternatives, exhibits of which had been provided to the Department, including:

- “no impact” – prescribed by placement of an equilibrium profile immediately landward of existing hardbottom,
- restoration of the beach and dune to 1972 conditions, largely embraced as the “maximum amount of fill”, and
- a minimization alternative yet to be identified.

Coastal Tech noted that:

- Preliminary analysis results indicate that to restore the 1972 template, the alternative with a Project fill area between R-88.5 and R-103.3 is most likely justified for federal funding. This alternative is currently estimated to entail an average fill density of 22.5cy/ft and would adversely affect about 4.86 acres of hardbottom.
- The “no impact” alternative would have much less fill, but it is doubtful that this alternative would result in sufficient benefits to justify federal funding.
- Mike21 is the primary design tool (model) proposed to be used by Coastal Tech to advance the design.

Department staff noted that they are not prepared to address or approve application of Mike21 at the time of this meeting. Coastal Tech identified that they will separately send a memo to the Department regarding the proposed model application.

3. Hardbottom Mapping & Mitigation: Coastal Tech briefly discussed the hardbottom studies conducted by the County (via CPE) in 2006 that encompassed the area between R-83 and the Martin County line. This study was based on aerial photography interpretation and some transects, and hardbottom was found in close proximity to shore - near the -5’ contour. Near Sand Dollar Shores and other areas, rock is nearly emergent.

Coastal Tech asked the Department to identify whether this 2006 study was sufficient to submit a JCP application. The Department noted that new and recent aerial photography and ground-truthing are needed to verify whether the 2006 data is still representative of hardbottom resources. Coastal Tech identified that a proposed Scope of Work has been prepared to address additional field work pertaining to hardbottom resources; this was previously sent to the Department from Richard Bouchard via email on November 19, 2007. Coastal Tech requested that the Department review and authorize this proposed Scope of Work – to be subsequently expanded to include controlled aerial photography. It is the County’s intent, contingent upon Department approval, that this additional field work commence during optimal field conditions in May through July.



In response to questions by Coastal Tech, the Department identified that:

- There are no written Department criteria to determine what hardbottom impacts are “unavoidable and acceptable for mitigation”.
- In general, such determination is achieved in concert with “negotiations” during the permitting process.
- Limestone boulders are the Department’s “first alternative” for hardbottom mitigation; some applicants have proposed limestone embedded in concrete to reduce costs.
- Mitigation for the type of hardbottom close to shore in south St. Lucie County may be difficult to attain, particularly for low-relief hardbottom that may be ephemeral or scoured. However, if the existing impacted hardbottom is typically buried, the Department will embrace mitigation that results in ephemeral burial. USACE staff are also starting to embrace this strategy, but that it will likely need to be negotiated.

4. EFH Assessment: Coastal Tech identified that:

- During the 4/30/07 Planning Charette, local interests conveyed concerns regarding dredging of offshore shoals (as a borrow area) where the shoals are recognized by local fisherman as important and productive fisheries habitat.
- In concert with the USACE pre-application conference, NMFS has requested assessment of the “life-cycle” of fisheries using these shoals. It remains unclear whether the request by NMFS can be adequately addressed via a desk-top study or if additional field investigations will be required; this may not be determined until a “Scoping Meeting” occurs after submission of the JCP application.
- A Scope of Work to address fisheries resources within the proposed borrow areas has been formulated and submitted to the Department from Richard Bouchard via email on November 19, 2007. The work is proposed to be primarily performed by Dr. Grant Gilmore and CSA; however, there is some concern at the federal level of setting precedence with this type of extensive Essential Fish Habitat investigation.
- The proposed EFH work may become a collaborative effort with Martin County. Planning meetings will occur with USACE within the next few weeks.

The Department noted that:

- The Department has no requirements for fisheries surveys within the borrow areas unless requested by an outside party.
- Studies have previously been conducted on sturgeon habitat and invertebrates.
- NMFS typically asks for more information relative to borrow areas than the Department.
- The Department may cost-share these types of studies if they are required to obtain the federal permit.

5. Sediment Quality: Coastal Tech noted:

- The Conditions Assessment report depicts the potential borrow areas under consideration.
- The previous evaluation of the nearshore portion of Pierce Shoal by the County (via CPE) indicates borrow material is generally consistent with the native beach sand, but slightly darker and with a higher shell content. CPE previously identified that 5 million cubic yards were available, but examination by Coastal Tech reveals that 2.87 million cubic yards is a more realistic available volume after including buffers.



- Sub-area “5” is expected to be recommended as a borrow area for the proposed Project; the sand characteristics are medium-grain (0.44mm) with less than 2% fines, and with Munsell color at 6/2 (10YR), which will likely bleach to be close to the native beach color [Munsell 7/2 (10YR)].

The Department noted that esthetic concerns regarding sand color are not generally considered on the east coast, but that environmental concerns are more important.

6. Surveys: In response to questions by Coastal Tech, the Department identified that the JCP application form specifies that beach profile surveys must be completed within 6 months of application submittal. It was agreed that the updated surveys would be performed in concert with updated hardbottom mapping.

7. Permit Application: Coastal Tech anticipates submitting a JCP application in fall 2008 after completion of the Project design, developed with the updated hardbottom mapping and beach profile surveys as described above.

cc: Meeting Participants



SUB-APPENDIX A5

**ST. LUCIE COUNTY PLANNING CHARETTE
SUMMARY OF PUBLIC COMMENTS
APRIL 29, 2009**

St. Lucie County - South County Beach Project
Summary of Public Comments
April 29, 2009 Planning Charette

Environmental Concerns	
Speaker	Comment
Edward Fischer	Dunes provide habitat to birds and nesting sea turtles. Must protect the dune habitat through restoration
Mark Doran	Dune restoration fill material after 2004 hurricanes was non-compatible material. Borrow area material appears to be dark and may impact nesting sea turtles.
David Kaplan	Concerned about impacts to reefs and fish. Fill material will shift and may impact hardbottom. There is no such thing as "No Impact" project. Turbidity of 29 ntus above background is too high. Proposes monitoring of sediment via sediment traps offshore in 1/4 mile spacing.
Pat Pacitti	Oceanfront property owners want to protect environment.
Bob Wolfe	Proposes a detailed numerical modelling effort to assess wave impacts due to dredging of offshore borrow area. Restored dunes must be vegetated properly with seagrapes and palmettos. Sea Oats are not sufficient to stabilize dunes.
Tom Ramskey	Concerned about quality of sand and potential adverse impacts to nearshore hardbottom
Jack Tartamella	Residents want to protect environment
Mary Jane Finley	Turtle nests have been destroyed by high tides. Beaches need to be restored for nesting sea turtles
Tom Gilson	Residents are environmentalists. Project should minimized impacts to adverse impacts to environment. Vegetation of restored dune should be sea grapes and palmettos, not just sea oats.

Alternatives	
Speaker	Comment
Edward Fischer	Support 35' Berm alternative...concerned about dune washout and damage to buildings from hurricanes if nothing is done to restore the dunes
Unknown	Support 35' Berm alternative...as a part-time resident it has been alarming to continuously watch the beach erode over time
Pat Pacitti	Support 35' Berm alternative
Charles Singer	Support beach project in this area
Tom Ramskey	Support beach project in this area
Jack Tartamella	Use Martin County project data to evaluate impacts
Russell Hageman	Support 35' Berm alternative
Mary Jane Finley	Support beach project in this area
Leonard Goldbaum	Support 35' Berm alternative
Tom Gilson	Support 35' Berm alternative

Economics

Speaker	Comment
Peter Degen	Oceanfront properties heavily damaged from 2004 hurricanes. Oceanfront properties are a very large tax base and are vital to tourism and to economy within the County
Pat Pacitti	In 2008 oceanfront properties in South St. Lucie County contributed \$30.5 million in real estate taxes and have received very little in return.
Bill Bartells	In 2007 U.S. beaches contributed \$327 billion to economy. For every dollar spent on beaches, there is 320 dollar return. Beaches are very important to revenue, taxes, and tourism.
Tom Gilson	Islandia sustained \$2 million of damage from 2004 hurricanes

SUB-APPENDIX A6

**PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING REPORT
AUGUST 2010**



AYLOR ENGINEERING, INC.

St. Lucie South Beach and Dune Restoration Project
Environmental Impact Statement
Scoping Report
St. Lucie County, FL
August 2010



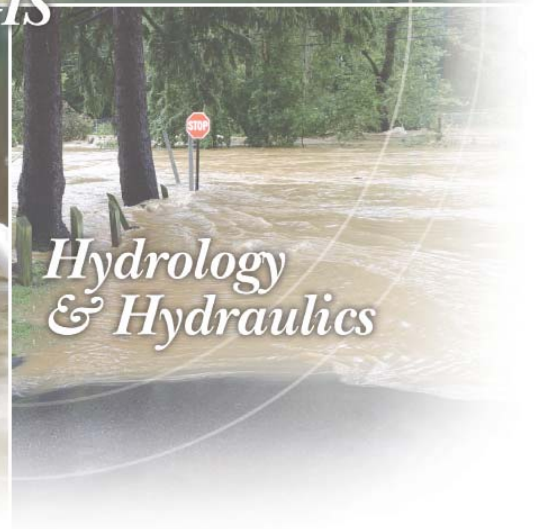
Waterfront



Coastal



Environmental



*Hydrology
& Hydraulics*

GIS

**St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project
Environmental Impact Statement
Scoping Report**

Prepared for

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

by

Taylor Engineering, Inc.
10151 Deerwood Park Blvd., Bldg. 300, Suite 300
Jacksonville, FL 32256
(904) 731-7040

August 2010

C2010-018

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TABLE

Table 2.1	EIS Scoping Timeline	1
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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is developing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) as part of the regulatory review process for the proposed St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project. The scoping task of the EIS process develops public and regulatory agency input to the scope of the EIS investigations. This report provides the scoping process timeline, and the results of the public and agency scoping meetings.

2.0 SCOPING TIMELINE

Table 2.1 provides a timeline of the key dates and events that occurred during the EIS scoping process.

Table 2.1 EIS Scoping Timeline

Date	Milestone	Notes
April 21, 2010	Notice of Intent Scoping Period Begins	Published in Federal Register Volume 75, Number 76, Pages 20826 – 20827 (Appendix A)
April 30, 2010	Stakeholder Notification	Mailed to potential stakeholders announcing proposed project, EIS process, and public scoping meeting date (Appendix B)
May 5, 2010	1 st Announcement Publication	Published in the non-legal section of the Ft. Pierce Tribune (Appendix C)
May 12, 2010	2 nd Announcement Publication	Published in the non-legal section of the Ft. Pierce Tribune (Appendix C)
May 19, 2010	Public Scoping Meeting	Held at St. Lucie County Commission Chambers
June 4, 2010	Federal Agency Scoping Meeting	Held at USACE Palm Beach Gardens Office
June 17, 2010	State Agency Scoping Meeting	Held at FDEP Bureau of Beaches and Coastal Systems Office in Tallahassee
June 20, 2010	Scoping Period Ends	–

3.0 PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING SUMMARY

Garett Lips, USACE project manager, and Tori White, USACE Regulatory Section Chief for the Palm Beach Gardens Office, hosted the public scoping meeting with the support of Taylor Engineering. Participants from Taylor Engineering's EIS project team included Steve Schropp, Chris Ellis, Mike Trudnak, Kim Olsen, and Erin Hodel. Appendix D provides copies of the participant sign-in sheets, the presentation slides, poster exhibits displayed for public viewing, transcript of verbal comments, comments provided in writing at the meeting, and comments received by email.

Public scoping comments ranged from broad statements of support and opposition to specific concerns and questions about the project and specific recommendations for EIS study. The following points summarize the public comments received:

- The EIS should consider using artificial reefs or other structural alternatives for shore protection.
- St. Lucie County should consider using upland sources for beach material.
- St. Lucie County should use local labor for the project.
- Ignoring the erosion problem will not only affect beachfront residents but also have county-wide implications including adverse impacts to tax revenue and employment.
- The EIS should consider the potential impacts on nearshore sea turtle populations.
- Much of the material dredged offshore is not beach compatible as it contains an unnaturally high component of organic fines. Project needs to use beach compatible sand.
- The EIS should consider the mining of shoals as it may affect waves and create erosion hotspots.
- The EIS should consider the project effects on fish and tube worm populations off of Walton Rocks and marine life in the vicinity of the proposed nourishment location. [Note: Walton Rocks is a popular surfing location north of the project area and just south of the Hutchinson Island Nuclear Power Plant.]

- The EIS should consider alternatives other than beach nourishment. Other alternatives are more cost effective and offer more permanent solutions to beach erosion.

4.0 FEDERAL AGENCY SCOPING MEETING SUMMARY

Steve Schropp (Taylor Engineering) and Eric Reusch (USACE) led the meeting with the support of Taylor Engineering team members Chris Ellis, Kim Olsen (via teleconference), and Keith Spring (via teleconference). The team presented the proposed project and received comments from interested federal agency staff. Appendix E contains copies of the meeting invitation email, participant sign-in sheets, presentation hand-outs, and comments received in writing (letter or email).

Federal agency comments focused on the need for the EIS and supporting documents to provide a sufficient understanding of the nearshore ecosystem and protected species, and to clearly identify and quantify resource impacts and any necessary mitigation. Other comments concerned the design and proposed impact minimization features. In addition to its participation at the meeting, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Habitat Conservation and Protected Resource Divisions sent comments via letter and email concerning the proposed project (Appendix E). The following points summarize the comments and questions received by federal agency staff.

- The EIS should include an archeological survey of the proposed borrow site(s).
- For hardbottom mitigation, the NMFS would prefer artificial habitat similar to impacted habitat (i.e., low-relief, close to shore).
- The NMFS has provided comments on dredging shoals in Martin and Dade counties. Many of the comments will also apply to the St. Lucie project.
- Is the proposed shoal a relic shoal or accreting shoal?
- What type of dredging method is proposed?
- Will the shoal dredging design and method minimize impacts to resources and preserve shoal habitat?

- Have any benthic surveys been performed on the St. Lucie shoals?
- Do sea turtles use the shoals for foraging?
- Does hardbottom exist in the proposed borrow site?
- The EIS should break down the hardbottom impacts into functional groups and characterizations.
- The hardbottom impact analysis should address impacts to ephemeral vs. persistent hardbottom.
- The EIS should address climate change and sea level rise as they relate to the proposed project.
- What methods will comprise the cumulative impact analysis?
- NMFS requests that the USACE continue to coordinate closely with the NMFS Habitat Conservation Division to ensure sufficient detail in the Essential Fish Habitat and EIS documents.

5.0 STATE AGENCY SCOPING MEETING SUMMARY

Steve Schropp (Taylor Engineering) led the meeting with the support of the following Taylor Engineering team members via teleconference: David Stites, Chris Ellis, Mike Trudnak, Kim Olsen, and Keith Spring. The team presented the proposed project and received comments from interested state agency staff. Appendix F contains copies of the meeting invitation email, participant sign-in sheets, and presentation hand-outs.

Summarized below, state agency comments focused on the project design, project impacts and mitigation, and sediment and water quality.

- The northernmost segment of the project area will likely not survive long (~ 2 months) due to its small size and isolation from the main project area.
- More recent aerial photography suggests more hardbottom occurring in the project area than included in the permit application.
- The beach design is too steep. The design should minimize the potential for escarpment formation.

- Australian pine removal, trash cleanup, and shorebird nesting improvements will not mitigate for hardbottom impacts.
- The EIS should address turbidity and sedimentation based on the proposed boundaries for the mixing zone. The assessment should extend at least one year beyond project completion.
- The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission will have concerns regarding the loss of nearshore hardbottom habitat and its impact on foraging juvenile green sea turtles.
- Large, adjacent beach restoration projects may reduce benthic repopulation within the project beach.

6.0 DISCUSSION

The comments fall into several general categories

- General approval or disapproval of the proposed project
- Recommendations for consideration of a variety of alternatives, both with respect to the beach design and with respect to the source material
- Requests to consider (specific and general) project effects on the physical system and ecosystem, and to consider effects on specific species and groups of species
- Questions concerning the available data and scope of the project

In general, the EIS can consider and analyze the comments and suggestions made during the scoping process. Work done to date on the data collection task suggests that available data will allow analysis of most of the scoping issues associated with the comments. Completion of Task 5 (Data Collection) and Task 6 (Alternatives Matrix) will provide the information necessary to determine whether available data provide sufficient information to assess all the subjects brought up during scoping process. Decisions concerning the need for additional data collection will depend on the findings of those two tasks.

APPENDIX A

Publication of Notice of Intent
St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project EIS
St. Lucie County, Florida

SUMMARY: In compliance with section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35), DoD announces the proposed extension of a public information collection requirement and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. DoD invites comments on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of DoD, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has approved this information collection for use through July 31, 2010. DoD proposes that OMB extend its approval for three additional years.

DATES: DoD will consider all comments received by June 21, 2010.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by OMB Control Number 0704-0332, using any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

- *E-mail:* dfars@acq.osd.mil. Include OMB Control Number 0704-0332 in the subject line of the message.

- *Fax:* (703) 602-0350.

- *Mail:* Defense Acquisition Regulations System, Attn: Ms. Cassandra R. Freeman, OUSD(AT&L)DPAP(DARS), 3060 Defense Pentagon, Room 3B855, Washington, DC 20301-3060.

- Comments received generally will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Cassandra R. Freeman at 703-602-8383. The information collection requirement addressed in this notice is available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.acq.osd.mil/dpap/dars/dfars/index.htm>. Paper copies are available from Ms. Cassandra R. Freeman, OUSD(AT&L)DPAP(DARS), 3060 Defense Pentagon, Room 3B855, Washington, DC 20301-3060.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title and OMB Number: Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) Appendix I, DoD Pilot Mentor-Protege Program; OMB Control Number 0704-0332.

Needs and Uses: DoD needs this information to evaluate whether the purposes of the DoD Pilot Mentor-Protege Program have been met. The purposes of the Program are to (1) provide incentives to major DoD contractors to assist protege firms in enhancing their capabilities to satisfy contract and subcontract requirements; (2) increase the overall participation of protege firms as subcontractors and suppliers; and (3) foster the establishment of long-term business relationships between protege firms and major DoD contractors. This Program implements section 831 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1991 (Public Law 101-510) and section 811 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2000 (Public Law 106-65) (10 U.S.C. 2302 note). Participation in the Program is voluntary.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profit organizations.

Annual Burden Hours: 961.

Number of Respondents: 190.

Responses Per Respondent: Approximately 2.

Annual Responses: 372.

Average Burden Per Response: 1 hour.

Total Recordkeeping Hours: 589

Frequency: Semiannually (mentor); Annually (protege).

Summary of Information Collection

DFARS Appendix I-112.2(a)-(d) requires mentor firms to report on the progress made under active mentor-protege agreements semiannually for the periods ending March 31 and September 30. The September 30 report must address the entire fiscal year. *Reports must include—*

(1) Data on performance under the mentor-protege agreement, including dollars obligated, expenditures, credit taken under the Program, applicable subcontract awards under DoD contracts, developmental assistance provided, impact of the agreement, and progress of the agreement; and

(2) For each contract where developmental assistance was credited toward an SDB subcontracting goal, a copy of SF 294, Subcontracting Report for Individual Contracts (ISR), and/or SF 295, Summary Subcontracting Report (SSR) with a statement identifying—

(i) The amount of dollars credited to the applicable subcontracting goal as a result of developmental assistance provided to protege firms under the Program; and

(ii) The number and dollar value of Subcontracts awarded to the protege firm(s), broken out per protege.

DFARS Appendix I-112.2(e) requires the protege firm to annually provide

data by October 31 on the progress made by the protege firm in employment, revenues, and participation in DoD contracts during each fiscal year of the Program participation term and each of the two fiscal years following the expiration of the Program participation term. During the Program participation term, the firms may provide this data as part of the mentor report required by I-112.2(a) for the period ending September 30.

Ynette R. Shelkin,

Editor, Defense Acquisition Regulations System.

[FR Doc. 2010-9140 Filed 4-20-10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

Notice of Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement on Beach and Dune Restoration in St. Lucie County, FL

AGENCY: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of Intent (NOI).

SUMMARY: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Jacksonville District, has received a permit application for a Department of the Army permit under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act from the St. Lucie County Erosion Control District (County) to construct a beach nourishment and dune restoration project along St. Lucie County. As part of the permit process, the Corps is evaluating the environmental effects associated with beach nourishment and dune restoration.

The primary Federal involvement associated with the Proposed Action is the dredging and discharge of fill within navigable waters of the United States. Because of the extensive hardbottom resources immediately adjacent to the beach, the high recreational uses of the project area, and the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project, the Corps will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to render a final decision on the County's permit application. The Corps' decision will be to either issue or deny a Department of the Army permit for the Proposed Action. The Draft EIS (DEIS) is intended to be sufficient in scope to address Federal, State, and local requirements and environmental issues

concerning the Proposed Action and permit reviews.

The ongoing St. Lucie County, FL, Shore Protection Feasibility Study was authorized by Section 418 of the Water Resources and Development Act of 2000 (Pub. L. 106–541). It is anticipated that this study will culminate in a congressionally authorized Federal project and the Corps will cost share future renourishment events subsequent to the construction of the initial project by the permittee. In addition, as a Federal agency with jurisdiction to manage resources available on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS), the U.S. Minerals Management Service would be invited to become a cooperating agency on the study should potential borrow areas be identified within Federal waters (outside the 3-mile State statutory limit).

DATES: A public scoping workshop will be held on, or about, May 19, 2010 at 6 p.m. EST.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the following location. St. Lucie County Commission Chambers, Roger Poitras Administration Annex, 2300 Virginia Ave., Fort Pierce, FL 34982. The workshop will give agencies and the public an opportunity to receive more information on the Proposed Action, alternatives, and to provide comments and suggestions on the scope of the EIS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions about the Proposed Action and Draft EIS should be directed to Mr. Garrett Lips, Corps Regulatory Project Manager, by telephone at (561) 472–3519 or by e-mail at Garrett.G.Lips@usace.army.mil. Written comments should be addressed to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Attn: Mr. Garrett Lips, 4400 PGA Boulevard, Suite 500, Palm Beach Gardens, Florida 34410 or by facsimile at (561) 626–6971.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: a. *Project Background and Authorization.* The Corps will study the southern 3.8 miles of County shoreline which approximately coincides with Florida Department of Environmental Protection Shoreline Monuments R–88.5 to R–90.3, and R–98 to the St. Lucie/Martin County line. The study area is comprised of the shoreline and nearshore environment. The shoreline in this area has experienced long-term erosion due to waves and intense tropical storms.

b. *Background:* No previous beach nourishment activities have occurred along this segment of beach. However, upland dune restoration was performed after Hurricane Jeanne in 2004, which was not regulated by the Corps. Native dune vegetation is limited to those few locations where the dry beach extends

far enough to allow dune vegetation to grow. Based on aerial photography, hardbottom colonized by *Phragmatopoma lapidosa* is commonly found within 600 feet of the inter-tidal beach, depending on the time of evaluation and the specific location within the project area.

c. *Purpose and Need:* The project purpose is to stabilize and restore the beach and dune between FDEP Monuments R–88.5 to R–90.3, and R–98 to the St. Lucie/Martin County line.

d. *Proposed Action.* St. Lucie County intends to restore the beach and dune by placing approximately 610,000 cubic yards of beach compatible sand along the proposed project's beach. The sand will be hopper-dredged from a relict shoal approximately three to six miles offshore of FDEP monuments R–88 to R–115.

e. *Alternatives.* An evaluation of alternatives to the Proposed Action initially being considered includes a “No Action” alternative, beach nourishment and dune restoration through filling activities, as well as analyzing other reasonable alternatives developed through the project scoping process to stabilizing the beach to meet the identified purpose and need.

f. *Draft EIS Scoping Process:* The Corps is furnishing this notice to advise other Federal and State agencies, affected federally recognized Tribes, and the public of our intentions. This notice announces the initiation of a 30-day scoping period which requests the public's involvement in the scoping and evaluation process of the DEIS. Stakeholders will be notified through advertisements, public notices and other means. All parties who express interest will be given an opportunity to participate in this process. The process allows the Corps to obtain suggestions and information on the scope of issues and an opportunity to provide reasonable alternatives to be included in the Draft EIS. The Corps invites comments from all interested parties to ensure that all significant issues are identified and the full range of issues related to the permit request are addressed. We will accept written comments until 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. (See **DATES** and **ADDRESSES**)

g. *Significant issues:* The DEIS will analyze the following: aesthetics/visual quality, agricultural resources, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, cumulative impacts, environmental justice, flood protection, geology/soils, growth inducement, land use/planning, noise/vibration, public health and safety, public services/utilities, recreation, socioeconomics,

threatened and endangered species, traffic/circulation, water resources including wetlands, and other issues identified through scoping, public involvement, and interagency coordination. The Corps will conduct an environmental review of the Proposed Action in accordance with the requirements of NEPA, 1969, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1500 *et seq.*), Corps Procedures for Implementing NEPA (33 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 230 *et seq.*), NEPA Implementation Procedures for the Regulatory Program (33 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 325, Appendix B), and with other appropriate Federal laws and regulations, policies, and procedures of the Corps for compliance with those regulations. The Proposed Action, through the Corps permit review process, will require consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Additionally, the proposed action would involve evaluation for compliance with the Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines of the Clean Water Act; Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; Water Quality Certification pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act; certification of State lands, easements and right of ways; and determination of Coastal Zone Management Act consistency.

h. *Availability of the Draft EIS.* The Corps currently expects the DEIS to be made available to the public in late October 2010. A public meeting will be held during the public comment period for the DEIS. Written comments will be accepted at the meeting.

Donnie W. Kinard,
Chief, Regulatory Division, Jacksonville District.

[FR Doc. 2010–9204 Filed 4–20–10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710–58–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Board of Visitors, United States Military Academy (USMA)

AGENCY: Department of the Army, DoD.

ACTION: Meeting notice.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (5 U.S.C., Appendix, as amended), the Government in the Sunshine Act of 1976 (5 U.S.C. 552b, as amended), and 41 CFR 102–3.150, the Department of

APPENDIX B

Mailer to Potential Stakeholders
St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project EIS
St. Lucie County, Florida

**Public Invited to Attend Scoping Meeting on the
St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will hold one public meeting to receive comments on the scope of the St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The Notice of Intent for this EIS is available at the following web address:

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/2010-9204.htm>

The EIS will evaluate the potential impacts of sand placement on an area of beach and dune along the Atlantic shoreline in St. Lucie County, Florida. The St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project, St Lucie County, Florida entails placement of approximately 610,000 cubic yards of sand over about 3.8 miles of shoreline to stabilize the beach and restore the dune along the South St. Lucie County beaches. The project extends from Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) reference monuments R-88.5 (about 6,000 ft south of the Hutchinson Island Nuclear Power Plant) to R-90.3 and R-98 to R-115 at the St. Lucie County/Martin County line. The project as currently proposed is requesting to dredge 610,000 cubic yards of sand from a shoal approximately 3.0 miles offshore of the project area. The public is invited to participate in an open exchange of information and submission of comments on the scope of the EIS, the alternatives to be considered and the environmental and socioeconomic issues to be addressed.

The meeting will be held **May 19, 2010, 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm at the St. Lucie County Commission Chambers, Roger Poitras Administration Annex, 2300 Virginia Ave., Fort Pierce, FL 34982.**

Meeting Schedule

5:30 pm	Registration, sign up to present oral comments, opportunity to review exhibits/information.
6:00 pm	Meeting begins with a presentation of information on the EIS
6:30 pm	Public is invited to ask questions on the EIS process
7:00 pm	Public may provide oral comments on scope of the EIS
8:00 pm	Meeting ends

Oral comments will be recorded.

Written comments may also be submitted to Mr. Garrett Lips, USACE Regulatory Project Manager

Mailing Address:

Corps of Engineers, Attn: Mr. Garrett Lips
4400 PGA Boulevard, Suite 500
Palm Beach Gardens, Florida 34410

E-mail at Garrett.G.Lips@usace.army.mil.

Telephone at (561) 472-3519

Facsimile (Fax) at (561) 626-6971

The comment period ends on 20 May 2010.

APPENDIX C

Newspaper Announcements
St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project EIS
St. Lucie County, Florida



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Public Invited to Attend Scoping Meeting on the St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

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Oral comments will be recorded.

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Mr. Garrett Lips, USACE Regulatory Project Manager
Mailing Address:

Corps of Engineers, Attn: Mr. Garrett Lips
4400 PGA Boulevard, Suite 500
Palm Beach Gardens, Florida 34410
E-mail at Garrett.G.Lips@usace.army.mil.
Telephone at (561) 472-3519
Facsimile (Fax) at (561) 626-6971

The comment period ends on 20 May, 2010.

Ad Number: 2408977

Insertion Number:

Size: 3 x 8

Color Type: B&W

Client Name:

Advertiser:

Section/Page/Zone: Local/B14/St Lucie News Tribune

Description: 47 scoping meeting

TAYLOR ENGINEERING INC

This E-Sheet(R) is provided as conclusive evidence that the ad appeared in Treasure Coast News/Press-Tribune on the date and page indicated. You may not create derivative works, or in any way exploit or repurpose any content.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

ANIMALS
All-Pet Rescue: Foster homes sought for animals. Apply: allpetrescue.com.
Dogs and Cats Forever Thrift Store: 1762 S.W. Bayshore Blvd., Port St. Lucie, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Saturday. (772) 879-6002.
Domino's Cat Rescue League: Feeding, socialization, foster homes. Palm City. (772) 781-5592; dominoshouse.org.
Humane Society of St. Lucie County: Shelter help, off-site adoption events. (772) 461-0687 ext. 224.
Smithsonian Marine Ecosystems Exhibit: Aquarium Interpreter volunteers needed to interact with the public and assist visitors at the touch tank. Weekday shifts currently available. Ages 18+. 420 Seaway Dr. Fort Pierce. ryanc@si.edu or (772) 465-3271.
Smithsonian Marine Ecosystems Exhibit: Animal husbandry volunteers needed to assist with maintenance, feeding and monitoring of saltwater aquaria. Weekday and weekend shifts currently available. Ages 18+. 420 Seaway Dr. Fort Pierce. ryanc@si.edu or (772) 465-3271.
SPCA of the Treasure Coast and Thrift Store: 1008 N.E. Jensen Beach Blvd. (772) 334-0636. Monday-Friday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; spcatc@yahoo.com.

ATTRACTIONS
Burt Reynolds Museum and Institute For Film and Theatre: Volunteers needed for Fridays-Sundays. Apply: volunteer@brift.org; **U.S. 1 at Indiantown Road, Jupiter.** (561) 743-9955.
Florida Oceanographic Coastal Center: Public education. Florida Oceanographic Society, 890 N.E. Ocean Blvd., Stuart. (772) 225-0505 ext. 106; floridaoceanographic.org.
Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse and Museum: Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse and Museum. Ages 15+. Apply: jupiterlighthouse.org; (561) 747-8380 ext. 101.
Road to Victory Military Museum: 319 Stypmann Ave., Stuart. (772) 692-0302; colonel@specialforceus.com.

CHILDREN/TEENS
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Martin County: Make a difference in the life of a child for as little as an hour a week, become a mentor. 5033 S.E. Federal Highway, Stuart. (772) 283-8373; mentorbig.org.
Big Brothers Big Sisters: Of St. Lucie, Indian River, Okeechobee counties. One hour a week to make impact on child. (772) 466-8535; bbsbig.org.
Care Net Pregnancy Services: 8432 S. Federal Highway, Port St. Lucie; 5569 N.E. Federal Highway, Port Salerno. (772) 871-2211.
Caring Children/Clothing Children: 171 S.W. Monterey Road, Stuart. Unpack, sort, hang clothing, help children Wednesdays, Fridays. (772) 221-8777.
Exchange Club CASTLE: Clerical, IT support, data entry, scrap booking, event planning/

support volunteers are needed. 1275 Old Dixie, Vero Beach; 3525 Midway Road, Fort Pierce; 3814 S.E. Dixie Highway, Stuart. (772) 567-5700; ghargraves@exchangecastle.org.
Guardian ad Litem/Guardians For New Futures: Children/teens abused, neglected and abandoned on the Treasure Coast need volunteer guardians to give them a voice in the courts. Professional training provided. Indian River, St. Lucie, Martin and Okeechobee. (772) 785-5804; gfnf4kids.org.
Hibiscus Children's Center: Foster parents. Classes at Hibiscus Children's Center's The Village in Vero. (800) 403-9311 ext. 415.
Hope's Closet 4 Children: Provides gently used clothing to children newborn to 17. We need someone to sort and hang clothing, assist clients. Wednesdays. A ministry of Grace Way Village, 1780 Hartman Road, Fort Pierce. (772) 925.3074 ext 2; Hopescloset@gracewayvillage.org
Indian River Jaguars: Head coaches, assist coaches for football, cheer, dance; team parents. (772) 581-5898; indianriverjaguars@yahoo.com.
Prevention of Child Abuse: Help local child abuse prevention charities on the Treasure Coast. (772) 532-6132; nationalalexchangeclub.org.
Tykes and Teens: Volunteers needed Mon.-Fri. 3-7 p.m. to assist in waiting room of children's counseling center in Palm City. 2 hours per week commitment. Play with children, help distribute client paperwork. (772) 631-7653; Laurene@tykesandteens.org
VNA Summer Teen Volunteer Program: Teens grades 9-12 can help at the VNA Hidden Treasures resale boutique, VNA offices. (772) 978-5553; tsoethe@vnatc.com.

COMPUTERS
Computers: Teach classes in word processing, e-mailing in Spanish at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Stuart. (772) 337-5139; nelsonmerchancelyl@juno.com.
FAITH/OUTREACHES
Calvary Chapel Stuart: Community outreach ministries, organizations. (772) 546-0750.
Love And Hope In Action: Prepare, serve food; clothes pantry; music service. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Friday, Salerno Southern Methodist Church, Ebbtide Road, Port Salerno. (772) 631-2774.

GARDENING
Growing Healthy Kids: Help needed with building garden frames, installing gardens, mentoring, speaking about a variety of topics from composting to butterflies, event planning, fundraising. (772) 453-3413.
Heathcote Botanical Gardens: 210 Savannah Road, Fort Pierce, 9 a.m.-noon, Wednesdays. (772) 464-4672; heathcotebotanicalgardens.org.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
Indian River Habitat for Humanity: Financial counselors needed to help prospective

homeowners. Vero Beach. (772) 562-9860 ext. 211.
St. Lucie County Habitat for Humanity: Women sought for Women Build project in Fort Pierce. (772) 464-1117; estanley@stluciehabitat.org.

HEALTH
Alzheimer's Community Care: Office assistants, day care assistants for specialized Alzheimer's adult day care center programs. Locations in Stuart, North Stuart, Port St. Lucie. Flexible hours, days. (561) 683-2700.
American Cancer Society: Indian River Unit. Drive patients to, from cancer treatments; program assistance. (772) 562-2272.
Also: driving in Treasure Coast, Okeechobee. (772) 287-7467 ext. 118; elizabeth.hennessey@cancer.org.
Christian Community Care Center Dental Clinic: Dentists, hygienists for free emergency dental care. Christian Community Care Center, 3337 S.E. Salerno Road, Stuart, Fridays, 9 a.m.-noon. (772) 283-4400; ccccenter@bellsout.net.
Crisis Line: Volunteers needed to help with telephone counselling, referral line. (772) 463-1475.
Indian River County Council of Community Services: Share information on available services. Regency Park, 910 Regency Square, Vero Beach, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., second Thursday. (772) 532-7219; vbubbs@comcast.net.

Indian River County Volunteer Ambulance Squad: Drive county residents to medical appointments. (772) 231-1230.
Martin Memorial Hospital: Needs volunteers at various locations for various times. (772) 288-5886; mmhs.com.
Medical Clinic: Primary-care practitioners, nurses. 417 S.E. Balboa Ave., Stuart, Monday-Friday. (772) 463-4128 ext. 208.
Mended Hearts Chapter 235: Patient-support organization for people affected by heart disease. (772) 794-3930; suzy.stoeckel@gmail.com.

Palms of St. Lucie West: Activities help for assisted-living seniors, Alzheimer's residents. 501 N.W. Cashmere Blvd., St. Lucie West. (772) 344-7441.
Pink Tie Friends: Volunteer meetings for breast cancer survivors, caregivers, supporters. Cancer Center, second floor, 500 E. Osceola St., Stuart, 5:30-7 p.m., second, fourth Wednesday. (772) 785-8730.

Reach to Recovery: Breast cancer survivors needed to volunteer to offer support and information to patients. American Cancer Society - Treasure Coast Area, 865 S.E. Monterey Commons Blvd., Stuart. Ages 18+. (772) 287-7467; cancer.org.
Reach to Recovery: Volunteer drivers wanted to drive cancer patients to treatment. 865 S.E. Monterey Commons Blvd., Stuart. Ages 18+. (772) 287-7467; elizabeth.hennessey@cancer.org.
Sunshine Physical Therapy Clinic: Creative, outgoing person desired to host morning program 10 a.m.-noon, Tuesday, Thursday, at Vero Beach facility. (772) 562-6877.

NOTICE OF SALE	NOTICE OF SALE	NOTICE OF SALE	NOTICE OF SALE	NOTICE OF MEETING
M A R A V I L L A , ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 7, PAGES 31, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY, FLORIDA.	NOTICE OF SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order of Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure dated April 16, 2010 entered in Civil Case No. 56-2009-CA-005208 of the Circuit Court of the 19th Judicial Circuit in and for St. Lucie County, Florida wherein the Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest bidder for cash on 2nd day of June, 2010, at 11:00 AM, to highest bidder for cash, except as pre- scribed in Paragraph 6, in the Jury Assem- bly Room , St Lucie County Courthouse, 218 South 2nd Street, Fort Pierce Florida 34950 relative to the following described property as set forth in the Final Judgment, to wit: LOT 7, BLOCK 1250, PORT ST. LUCIE SECTION TWENTY, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 13, PAGE 21, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY, FLORIDA.	COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR ST. LUCIE COUNTY CASE NO.: 56-2008-CA-007978 DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE, IN TRUST FOR THE REGISTERED HOLDERS OF A M E R I Q U E S T MORTGAGE SECURITIES INC., ASSET- BACKED PASS- THROUGH CERTIFI- CATES, SERIES 2005-R8, Plaintiff, v. DENEEN WILKINSON; GEORGE WILKIN- SON; ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED IN- DIVIDUAL DEFEN- DANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UN- KNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN IN- TEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANT- EES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS Defendant(s).	CANS WITH DISA- BILITIES ACT (ADA) ANY PERSON WITH A DISABILITY RE- QUIRING REASONA- BLE ACCOMMODA- TION SHOULD CALL 1-772-462-6900 (VOICE); 1-800-955- 8770 (TDD); OR FAX A WRITTEN RE- QUEST TO 1-772- 462-6975 NOT LAT- ER THAN SEVEN DAYS PRIOR TO THE PROCEEDINGS. DATED AT FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA, THIS 23RD DAY OF APRIL, 2010. Joseph E. Smith Clerk of the Circuit Court Saint Lucie County, Florida By: Rohinie Persaud Deputy Clerk Morris Hardwick Schneider Managing Attorneys Susan Sparks/Owen Sokolof 5110 Eisenhower Blvd., Suite 210 Tampa, FL 33634 Publish: May 12, 19, 2010 2146535 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR ST. LUCIE COUNTY CASE NO.: 56-2009-CA-005208 FIFTH THIRD BANK, A MICHIGAN CORPORA- TION, SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO R-G CROWN BANK Plaintiff, v. CHRISTINE A. JOHN- SON; ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED IN- DIVIDUAL DEFEN- DANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UN- KNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN IN- TEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANT- EES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS; SAINT LUCIE COUNTY, A POLITICAL SUBDIVI- SION OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA Defendant(s).	NOTICE OF MEETING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING In accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, Chapter 120, Florida Statutes, notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the School Board of St. Lucie County on Tuesday, June 8, 2010, at 6:00 p.m. in the School Board Room located at 4204 Okeechobee Road, Fort Pierce, Florida, for the pur- pose of receiving comments on pro- posed amendments to the Code of Stu- dent Conduct and to School Board Poli- cies #3.43 Bullying and Harassment, #5.71 Equity Griev- ance Procedure for Students, # 6.542 Family & Medical Leave, # 9.9 School Community Relations and Interlo- cal Agreements. The amendments to the policies are available for inspection at the St. Lucie County Public Schools Dis- trict Offices located at 4204 Okeechobee Road, Fort Pierce, Florida 34947. Regular office hours are Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Please contact the Board's Assistant at 772-429-3914 for further information. Publish: May 12, 2010 2145725 NOTICE Public Hearings will be conducted before the City Council of the City of Port St. Lucie a meeting be- ginning at 7:00 p.m. or as closely thereaf- ter as business per- mits on May 24, 2010, at Port St. Lu- cie City Hall, 121 SW Port St. Lucie Boulevard, Port St. Lucie, Florida. ORDINANCE 10-19 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SEC- TION 111.16, PORT ST. LUCIE CITY CODE, BUSINESS TAX RECEIPT AP- P L I C A T I O N ; AMENDING SEC- TION 111.45, BUSI- NESS TAX SCHED- ULE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DA- TE ORDINANCE 10-20 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING VARIOUS SECTIONS OF PORT ST. LUCIE CITY CODE 150, "BUILDING REGU- LATIONS," PRO- VIDING FOR A NEW SCHEDULE OF FEES RELATING TO BUILD- ING CODE ADMINIS- TRATION AND EN- FORCEMENT IN- C L U D I N G CHANGES IN LAN- GUAGE; PROVID- ING AN EFFECTIVE DATE ORDINANCE 10-25 AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE AMENDMENT OF CHAPTER 37, ARTICLE I, PORT ST. LUCIE CITY CODE, PERTAIN- ING TO GENERAL PROVISIONS, PRO- VIDING FOR THE AMENDMENT OF CHAPTER 37, AR- TICLE II; PERTAIN- ING TO ORGANIZA- TION AND PROCEDURE, PROVIDING FOR THE AMENDMENT OF

NOTICE OF MEETING

NOTICE OF MEETING

NOTICE OF MEETING

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ST. LUCIE COUNTY, FLORIDA

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
TO IMPOSE AND PROVIDE FOR COLLECTION OF
NON AD VALOREM ASSESSMENTS IN THE
HARMONY HEIGHTS 2 STREET LIGHTING DISTRICT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY, FLORIDA (THE
"BOARD"), will hold a PUBLIC HEARING to consider the levy of
special assessments on properties within the Harmony Heights 2
Street Lighting District (the "District") to fund the cost of providing
street lighting services therein. The matter will be considered at
the Board's regular meeting on Tuesday, the 1st day of June
2010, at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be
heard in the St. Lucie County Commission Chambers at the St.
Lucie County Administration Building Annex, Third Floor, 2300
Virginia Avenue, Fort Pierce, Florida 34982. The properties with-
in the District are indicated on the map below:

The District was established by County Ordinance No. 75-120.



Each year the Board levies special assessments within the district
to fund the street lighting services. The purpose of the June 1st
public hearing is to consider matters related to the assessment
levy for fiscal year 2010-2011, including the matter of allocating
the cost of the street lighting services among specially benefitted
property. If levied, the special assessment will be collected on the
November, 2010 tax bill by the St. Lucie County Tax Collector and
will continue to be so collected on an annual basis until discontin-
ued by the Board.

All affected persons have the right to appear and be heard at the
above public hearing and have the right to file with the County En-
gineer, within twenty (20) days of the date hereof, written objec-
tions as to the propriety and advisability of the project, as to the
cost thereof, as to the manner of payment thereof, and as to the
amount thereof to be specially assessed against each parcel of
property benefitted thereby. Written comments received in ad-
vance of the public hearing will be heard.

THIS NOTICE EXECUTED AND DATED THIS 12TH DAY OF
MAY, 2010.

Publish: May 12, 2010
2146401

Public Invited to Attend Scoping Meeting on the
St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will hold one public meeting to receive comments on the scope of the St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The Notice of Intent for this EIS is available at the following web address:
<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/2010-9204.htm>
The EIS will evaluate the potential impacts of sand placement on an area of beach and dune along the Atlantic shoreline in St. Lucie County, Florida. The St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project, St. Lucie County, Florida entails placement of approximately 610,000 cubic yards of sand over about 3.8 miles of shoreline to stabilize the beach and restore the dune along the South St. Lucie County beaches. The project extends from Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) reference monuments R-88.5 (about 6,000 ft south of the Hutchinson Island Nuclear Power Plant) to R-90.3 and R-98 to R-115 at the St. Lucie County/Martin County line. The project as currently proposed is requesting to dredge 610,000 cubic yards of sand from a shoal approximately 3.0 miles offshore of the project area. The public is invited to participate in an open exchange of information and submission of comments on the scope of the EIS, the alternatives to be considered and the environmental and socioeconomic issues to be addressed.

The meeting will be held **May 19, 2010, 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm at the St. Lucie County Commission Chambers, Roger Poitras Administration Annex, 2300 Virginia Ave., Fort Pierce, FL 34982.**

Meeting Schedule

5:30 pm

Registration, sign up to present oral comments, opportunity to review exhibits/information.

6:00 pm

Meeting begins with a presentation of information on the EIS

6:30 pm

Public is invited to ask questions on the EIS process

7:00 pm

Public may provide oral comments on scope of the EIS

8:00 pm

Meeting ends

Oral comments will be recorded.

Written comments may also be submitted to
Mr. Garrett Lips, USACE Regulatory Project Manager
Mailing Address:
Corps of Engineers, Attn: Mr. Garrett Lips
4400 PGA Boulevard, Suite 500
Palm Beach Gardens, Florida 34410
E-mail at Garrett.G.Lips@usace.army.mil.
Telephone at (561) 472–3519
Facsimile (Fax) at (561) 626–6971

The comment period ends on 20 May, 2010.

C-2

FIND IT FAST.

JOBS
STUFF
RENTALS
REAL ESTATE
RECREATION
MARINE
AUTOS
LEGALS
JOBS
STUFF
RENTALS
REAL ESTATE
RECREATION
MARINE
AUTOS
LEGALS
JOBS
STUFF
RENTALS

Need a certain someone
to fill a certain job?
Finding the right person
to fit the bill is time
consuming.
But it doesn't have to be
when you turn to the
Employment Section of
Treasure Coast Classified.

1-877-247-2407

TCPALM.COM

Karen A. Phillips, City Clerk

Publish: May 12, 2010
2146389

APPENDIX D

Public Scoping Meeting Documents
St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project EIS
St. Lucie County, Florida

Participant Sign-In Sheets

Presentation Slides

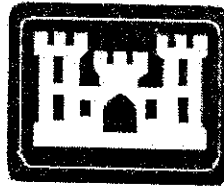
Poster Exhibits

Transcript of Verbal Comments

Written Comments from Meeting

Comments Received via Email

Participant Sign-In Sheets



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Scoping Meeting on the St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

Public Meeting Sign in Sheet

USACE Representative:	Garett Lips, USACE Regulatory Project Manager		
Meeting Location, date, time:	St. Lucie County Commission Chambers Roger Poitras Administration Annex 2300 Virginia Ave. Fort Pierce, FL 34982	May 19, 2010 @ 5:30 pm	
Name	Organization/ Affiliation	E-Mail Address	Public Comment Yes or No
Bob Schafer	Ranger Construction	Bob.Schafer @ rangerconstruction.com	y
KEN THURKILL	MIRAMAR PENAL	KTTLOCKE@GOL.COM	no
Connie Fall	Miramar	conniefall1372@aol.com	no
PETER DEGEN	SANDOLIA SHOPS ASSIN	peter.degen2@hotmail.com	Yes
Marska Benedict	Nettles Inc	marska.benedict@yahoo.com	yes
Bill Cates	Nettles Island Inc	wcates14@hotmail.com	yes
James David	St. Lucie Co. MCRS	davidj@stlucieco.org	No
JONATHAN GORHAM	INWATER RESEARCH GROUP INC	JGORHAM@INWATER.ORG	yes

COPY OF
EIS?
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HARDCOPY

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NO

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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Scoping Meeting on the St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

Public Meeting Sign in Sheet

USACE Representative:	Garett Lips, USACE Regulatory Project Manager		
Meeting Location, date, time:	St. Lucie County Commission Chambers Roger Poitras Administration Annex 2300 Virginia Ave. Fort Pierce, FL 34982		May 19, 2010 @ 5:30 pm
Name	Organization/ Affiliation	E-Mail Address	Public Comment Yes or No
Wayne Thorson	Miami I	waynejor@usa.net	7
Joanne Thorson	"	"	
Steve Smith	Ranch Road Lake	Steve.Smith@bellsouth.net	yes
Laurie Blandford	Scipps		
Paul DeMarco	Corps of Engineers	Paul.M.DeMarco@usace.army.mil	
Niki Desjardin	Ecological Associates, Inc.	niki-desjardin@ecological-associates.com	No
Ted Blanchard	Hutchison Island President Council	barb_blanchard@bellsouth.net	No
Barb Blanchard	owner	Islanddunes7@netcom.com	No

Copy of
EIS?
Yes/No

CD COPY

CD COPY



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Scoping Meeting on the St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

Public Meeting Sign in Sheet

USACE Representative:	Garett Lips, USACE Regulatory Project Manager		
Meeting Location, date, time:	St. Lucie County Commission Chambers Roger Poitras Administration Annex 2300 Virginia Ave. Fort Pierce, FL 34982		May 19, 2010 @ 5:30 pm
Name	Organization/ Affiliation	E-Mail Address	Public Comment Yes or No
CHRIS ELLIS	TAYLOR ENG.	cellis@taylorengeeneering.com	-
CHUCK & MARIE SHELTON	CONDOSHIP-SS	DABEACHBUMS@ATT.NET	NO
STEED JOHNSON	Express Condo	steed.f.j@comcast.net	
Stan Filawicki	REGENCY I		
Charlyn Filawicki	''		
JAMES HUEBNER	REGENCY II		
ROTH HUEBNER	''		
Barbara Jacobs	Express Condo		

COPY OF
EIS?
CD OR
HARDCOPY

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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

PLEASE SIGN
IN

Scoping Meeting on the St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

COPY of
EIS?

CD or
hardcopy

Public Meeting Sign in Sheet

USACE Representative:	Garett Lips, USACE Regulatory Project Manager		
Meeting Location, date, time:	St. Lucie County Commission Chambers Roger Poitras Administration Annex 2300 Virginia Ave. Fort Pierce, FL 34982		May 19, 2010 @ 5:30 pm
Name	Organization/ Affiliation	E-Mail Address	Public Comment Yes or No
Al Silverman	Florida Shores	adler1425@gmail.com	☒
XXXXXXXXXX			
Tori White	USACE	Tori.white@usace.army.mil	
Donna Meier	citizen of PSL	sunnygirl2@bellsouth.net	
JEFF MEIER	"	Jeffrey143@bellsouth.net	Yes
PAT PACITTI	PRES COUNCIL	741 SE Academy La. PSL 34984 PATTP814@aol.com	yes
Russell Hageman	Nettles Island	rhageman@alumni.caltech.edu	?
ANDY BRADY	T.C. CHAPTER SURFRIDER FOUNDATION	ANDY@ELLISASSOCIATES.NET	?

hardcopy

Yes

CD

Yes
hardcopy

HARD
COPY



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Scoping Meeting on the St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

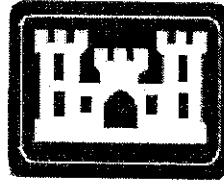
Public Meeting Sign in Sheet

USACE Representative:	Garett Lips, USACE Regulatory Project Manager		
Meeting Location, date, time:	St. Lucie County Commission Chambers Roger Poitras Administration Annex 2300 Virginia Ave. Fort Pierce, FL 34982		May 19, 2010 @ 5:30 pm
Name	Organization/ Affiliation	E-Mail Address	Public Comment Yes or No
Laura Jones	Nettles Is. Inc	lauradjones@bellsouth.net	?
Mark A. Boyl		mark.a.boy@flgov.com	yes
Rich Meeker	Hesperides Group	richard@hesperidesgroup.com	No
Walker Dawson	Coastal Tech	wdawson@coastaltechcorp.com	No
Bog BOWSHIXX	NETTLES ISLAND	BOBBY CAR GUY. TRAINER@COMCAST.NET	YES
Kathy Fitzpatrick	Martin County	KFitzpat@martin.fl.us	
Chelsea Vosburgh		Fally_b@yahoo.com	No
Mary Vosburgh		Jdvosburgh@yahoo.com	No

Copy of
EIS?
Yes/No

ad
yes

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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Scoping Meeting on the St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

Public Meeting Sign in Sheet

USACE Representative:	Garett Lips, USACE Regulatory Project Manager		
Meeting Location, date, time:	St. Lucie County Commission Chambers Roger Poitras Administration Annex 2300 Virginia Ave. Fort Pierce, FL 34982		May 19, 2010 @ 5:30 pm
Name	Organization/ Affiliation	E-Mail Address	Public Comment Yes or No
CHARLES GRANGE	BOCC	CHASGRANGE@BELLSTATE.NET	NO
Bill FROMMONT	CITIZEN	—	YES
Robert Wolfe	Citizen	surfinwolfe@yahoo.com	yes

Copy of
EIS?
Yes/No



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Scoping Meeting on the St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

Public Meeting Sign in Sheet

USACE Representative:	Garett Lips, USACE Regulatory Project Manager		
Meeting Location, date, time:	St. Lucie County Commission Chambers Roger Poitras Administration Annex 2300 Virginia Ave. Fort Pierce, FL 34982		May 19, 2010 @ 5:30 pm
Name	Organization/ Affiliation	E-Mail Address	Public Comment Yes or No
Mr & Mrs Edward Finlay	Condo Association Atlantis A	maryjanefinlay@yahoo.com	No
Frank Legacki	Admiral Club	flegacki@umich.edu	No.

Copy of
EIS?
Yes/No

yes cd.



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Scoping Meeting on the St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

Public Meeting Sign in Sheet

USACE Representative:	Garett Lips, USACE Regulatory Project Manager		
Meeting Location, date, time:	St. Lucie County Commission Chambers Roger Poitras Administration Annex 2300 Virginia Ave. Fort Pierce, FL 34982		May 19, 2010 @ 5:30 pm
Name	Organization/ Affiliation	E-Mail Address	Public Comment Yes or No
Ann Bolduc	Senator Joe Negroni		NO
Chris Dzadovsky	SLC BOCC		NO
Bob Boushnick	NETTLES ISLAND		NO
Peter J. Clark	Nettles Island	nettles490@gmail.com	No Provide CD please
Garett Lips	USACE	Garett.G.Lips@usace.army.mil	

Copy of
EIS?
Yes/No

Presentation Slides



Introduction

- Meeting Organization
 - ▶ Introductions
 - ▶ EIS Purpose and Organization
 - ▶ Explanation of the EIS Process
 - ▶ Introduction to the Proposed Project
 - ▶ Public Comments - Public Input on the EIS Content
 - ▶ Questions and Answers Concerning the Project



What is an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)?

- An objective and independent analysis of the applicant's (SLC) proposal.
- A requirement of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for federal government actions with the potential for significant environmental impacts
- A detailed and public evaluation of project impacts and benefits
- One component of the USACE permit application review for the proposed St. Lucie County Beach and Dune Restoration Project.



Who prepares this EIS?

- The United States Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Division
 - ▶ USACE – Lead Agency, Garrett Lips, Project Manager
 - ▶ Taylor Engineering, Inc. – the USACE EIS contractor
 - ▶ St Lucie County – the permit applicant for the project
 - ▶ St. Lucie County funds contracted EIS services



How is this EIS prepared?

- Taylor Engineering acts at the direction of the USACE
- A communication agreement defines relationships between the USACE, Taylor Engineering, and St. Lucie County
- All communications are “transparent” – communicated with or through the USACE project manager



EIS Process

- Tonight: Public Scoping Meeting
 - ▶ Solicit and record public input on the focus and content of the Environmental Impact Statement

What Questions Should The EIS Address?



EIS Public Scoping Meeting

Individual Permit Review with EIS

- USACE receives an application for a US Army Permit
 - ▶ After application review, USACE decides to conduct EIS
- USACE consultants assist in EIS development*
 - ▶ Evaluate impacts*
 - ▶ Draft EIS/Public Notice*
 - ▶ Response to comments on Draft EIS*Additional studies (by USACE, Consultants, or Applicant)*
 - ▶ Final EIS/Draft 404(B)(1) Analysis*
- USACE Completes Final Decision Process
 - ▶ Record of Decision and Final 404(B)(1) Analysis

* *Corps Oversight*

St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project EIS

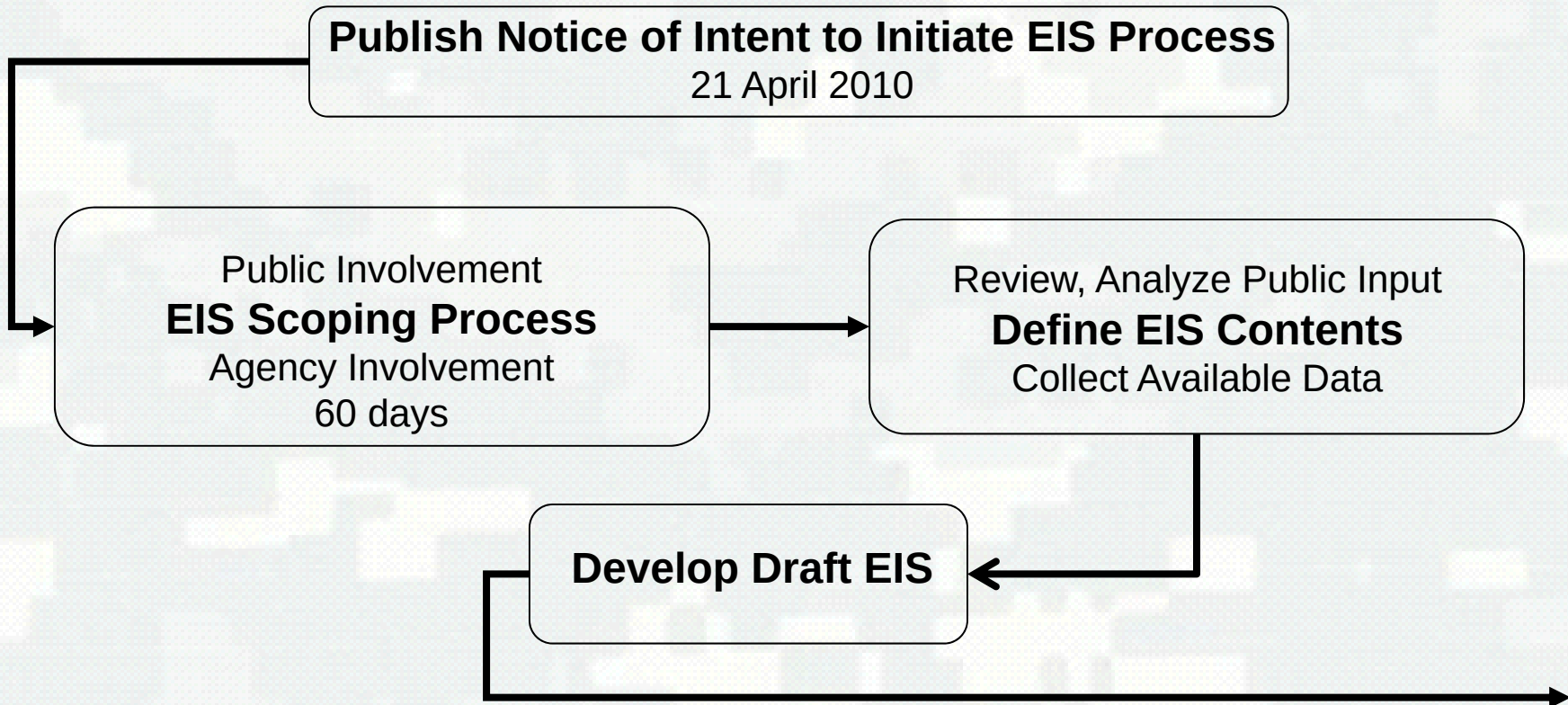


BUILDING STRONG®

EIS Public Scoping Meeting

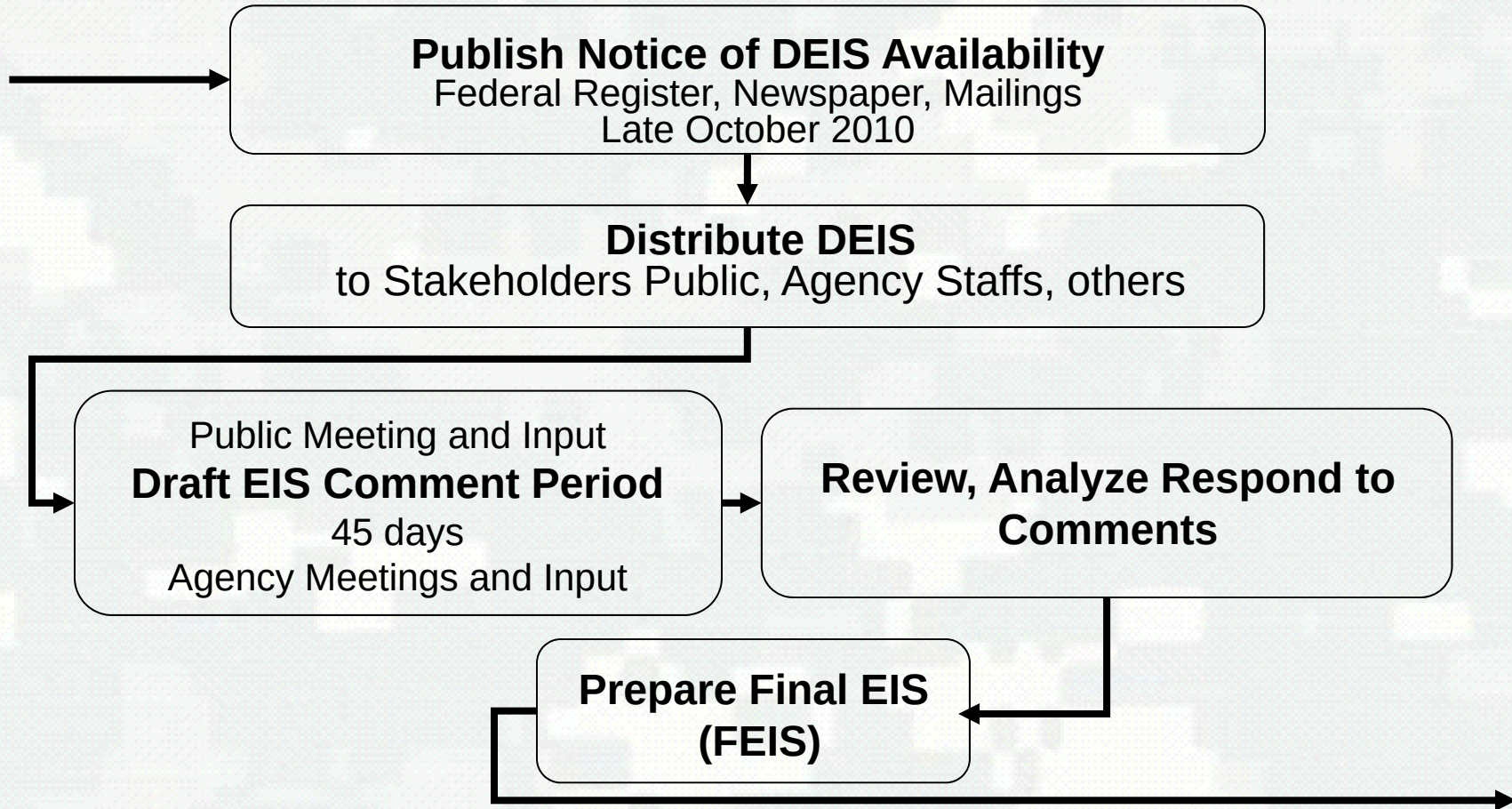
EIS Process

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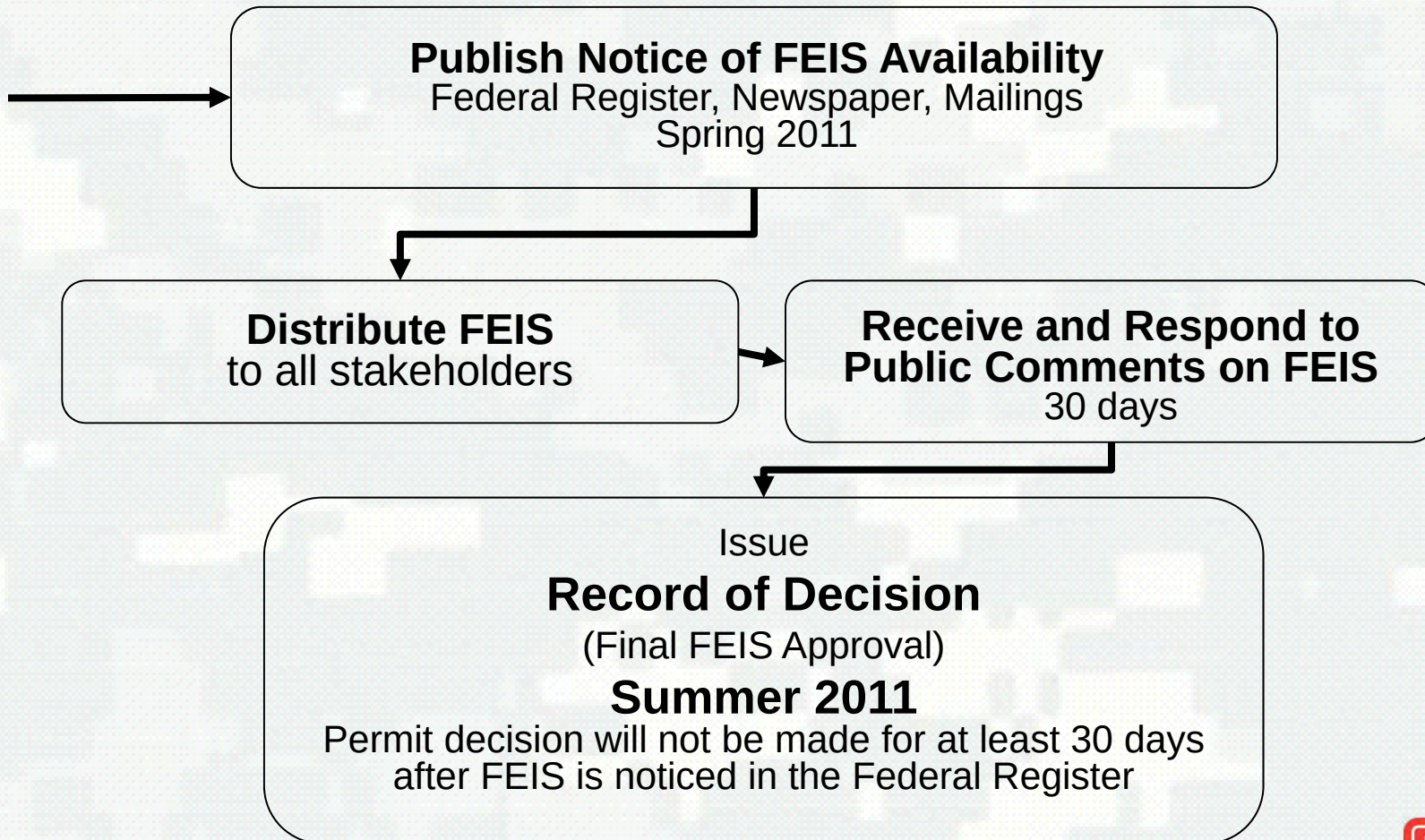
EIS Public Scoping Meeting

EIS Process



EIS Public Scoping Meeting

EIS Process



St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project EIS

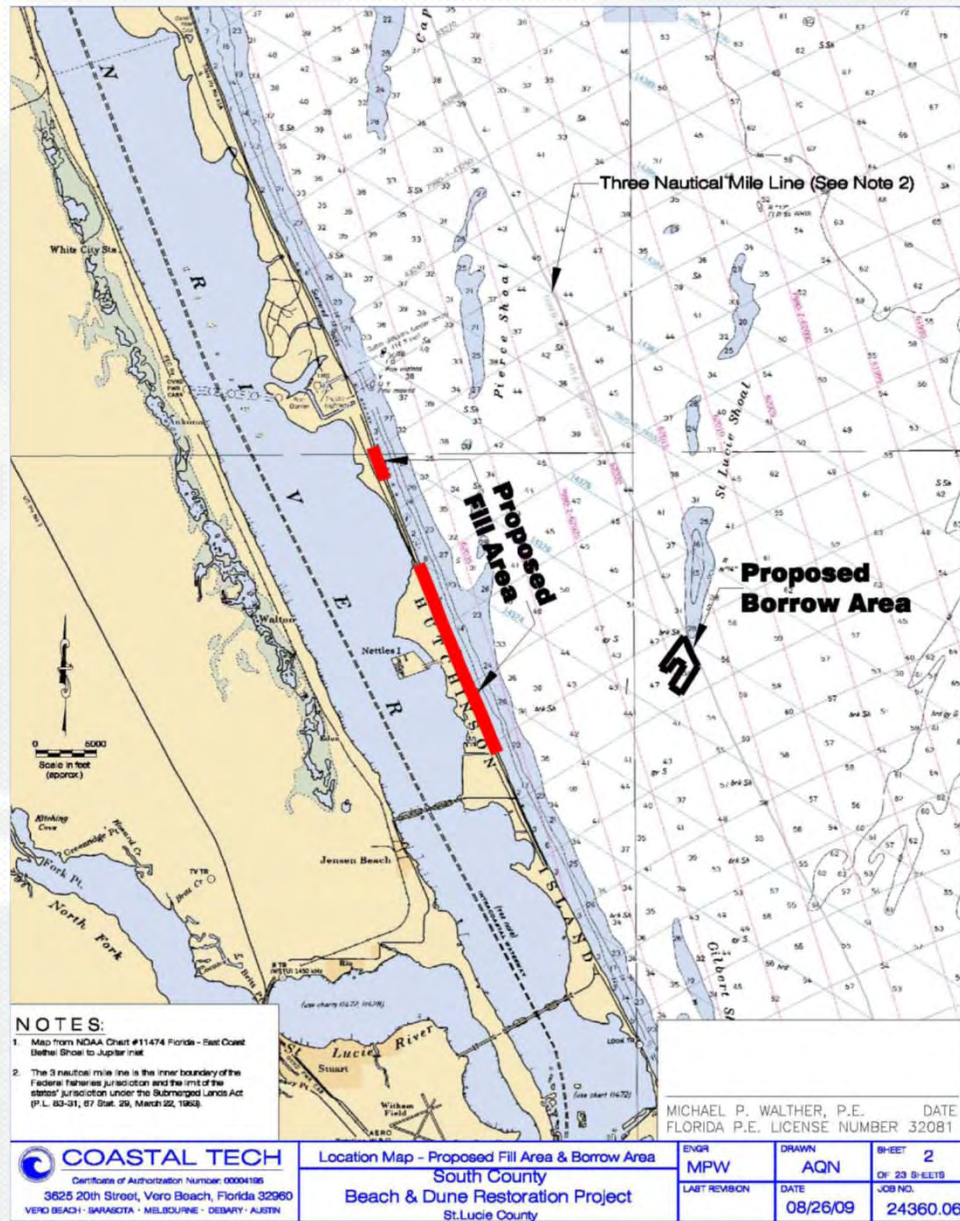


BUILDING STRONG®

Proposed Project

- New project
 - ▶ Dredge sand from site approximately 3 miles offshore of project beach
 - ▶ Place dredged sand to restore beach and dune along 3.8 miles of Hutchinson Island beach in South St. Lucie County
 - ▶ Applicant estimates 1.08 acres of impact to nearshore hardbottom from placed sand





St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project EIS



BUILDING STRONG®

Proposed Project

- Hopper dredge will transport sand from borrow area to a point outside the nearshore hardbottom.
- Sand will be pumped from the hopper to the beach via a pipeline located to avoid any hardbottom impacts from pipe.

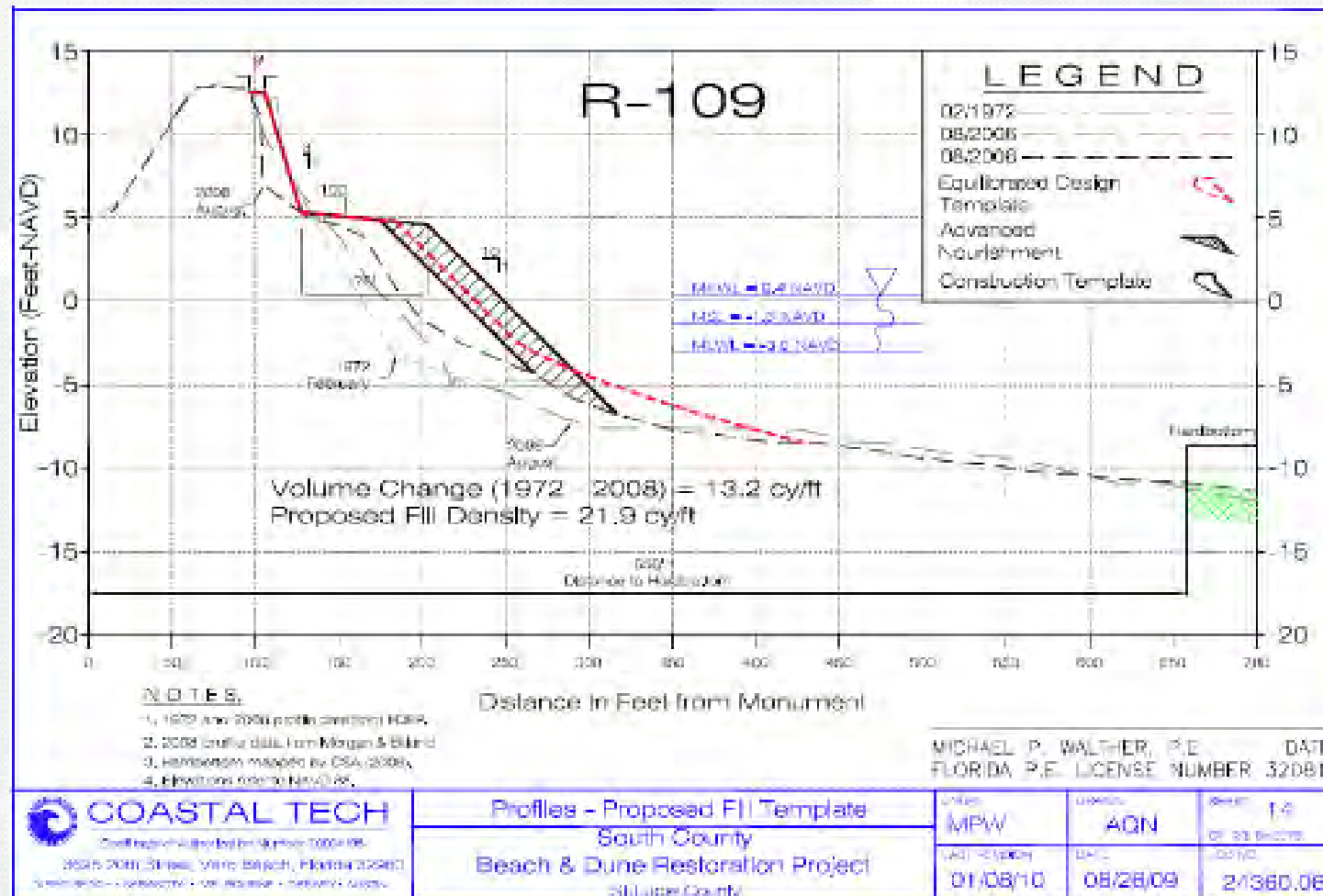




BUILDING STRONG®

EIS Public Scoping Meeting

Proposed Project



St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project EIS



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EIS Public Scoping Meeting

Proposed Project

- Project alternatives that may be considered
 - ▶ Beach fill (nourishment)
 - ▶ Revetment, seawalls, berms, PEP reef (submerged concrete barrier), groins
 - ▶ Beach fill with periodic nourishment stabilized by an offshore breakwater
 - ▶ Beach area rezoning, construction setback line, construction moratorium, or no growth program
 - ▶ Building codes modification, evacuation planning, land and structures condemnation, structures relocation or retrofit
 - ▶ No action



EIS Public Scoping Meeting

Project Impact and Mitigation

- Impact and Mitigation
 - ▶ Estimated project impacts – 1.08 acres of hardbottom habitat
 - ▶ Other potential impacts – threatened and endangered species, cultural resources,
 - ▶ No specific mitigation plan proposed at this time. Some mitigation concepts being considered include:
 - Mitigation reef (new or expansion of existing)
 - Shoreline improvements along Coon Island or Ft. Pierce Inlet State
 - Recreation area
 - Sea turtle lighting improvements
 - Bear Point (or other County sites) flushing improvements
 - Offshore trash cleanup
 - Australian pine removal
 - Creation of shorebird nesting habitat
 - ▶ Mitigation plan development is part of the EIS, and a required part of state and federal permit applications

St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project EIS



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EIS Public Scoping Meeting

Project Impact and Mitigation



Hardbottom impacts include all hardbottom inside the Equilibrium Toe of Fill Line

Equilibrium Toe of Fill

St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project EIS



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EIS Public Scoping Meeting

Long-term Shoreline Stabilization

- USACE Planning Division is studying the feasibility of a federal project for future nourishment activities
- The EIS may provide the NEPA documentation and decision basis for future shoreline stabilization projects along this segment of beach



Long-term Shoreline Stabilization

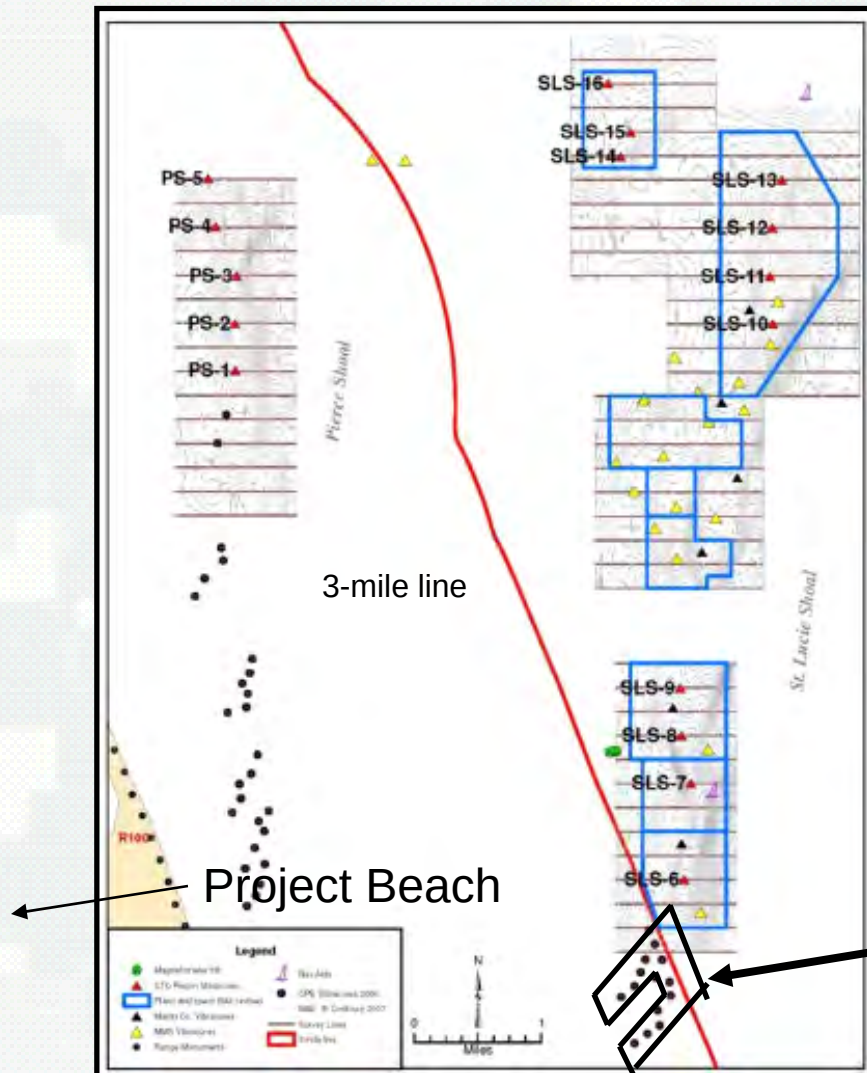
■ Long-Term Feasibility Study

▶ Performed by USACE Planning Division

- Part of the federal decision process to decide whether a project meets USACE criteria for federal authorization (and possibly funding)
- Specific evaluations focus on engineering economics cost / benefit analyses, and environmental effects
- Environmental Impact Statement provides another element of the Feasibility Study planning process and becomes part of the final federal authorization decision.



EIS Public Scoping Meeting



Long-term Borrow
Areas Under
Investigation

Proposed Project
Borrow Site

(Coastal Tech 2010)

St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project EIS



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Proposed Project

- Permit application available at:
 - ▶ http://bcs.dep.state.fl.us/env-prmt/st_lucie/pending/
- Corps documents will be available at the following location for making comments, reviewing the DEIS or FEIS
 - ▶ <http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/Divisions/Regulatory/news.htm>
- Send comments to Garrett Lips, USACE
 - ▶ 561-472-3519
 - ▶ garett.g.lips@usace.army.mil



Public Comment

What questions should the EIS consider?

Please review the project exhibits and fill out a comment card or you may provide a verbal comment.

You may also make comments via phone, mail or email anytime until June 20, 2010.



EIS Public Scoping Meeting

Discussion

About the EIS Process

About the Project

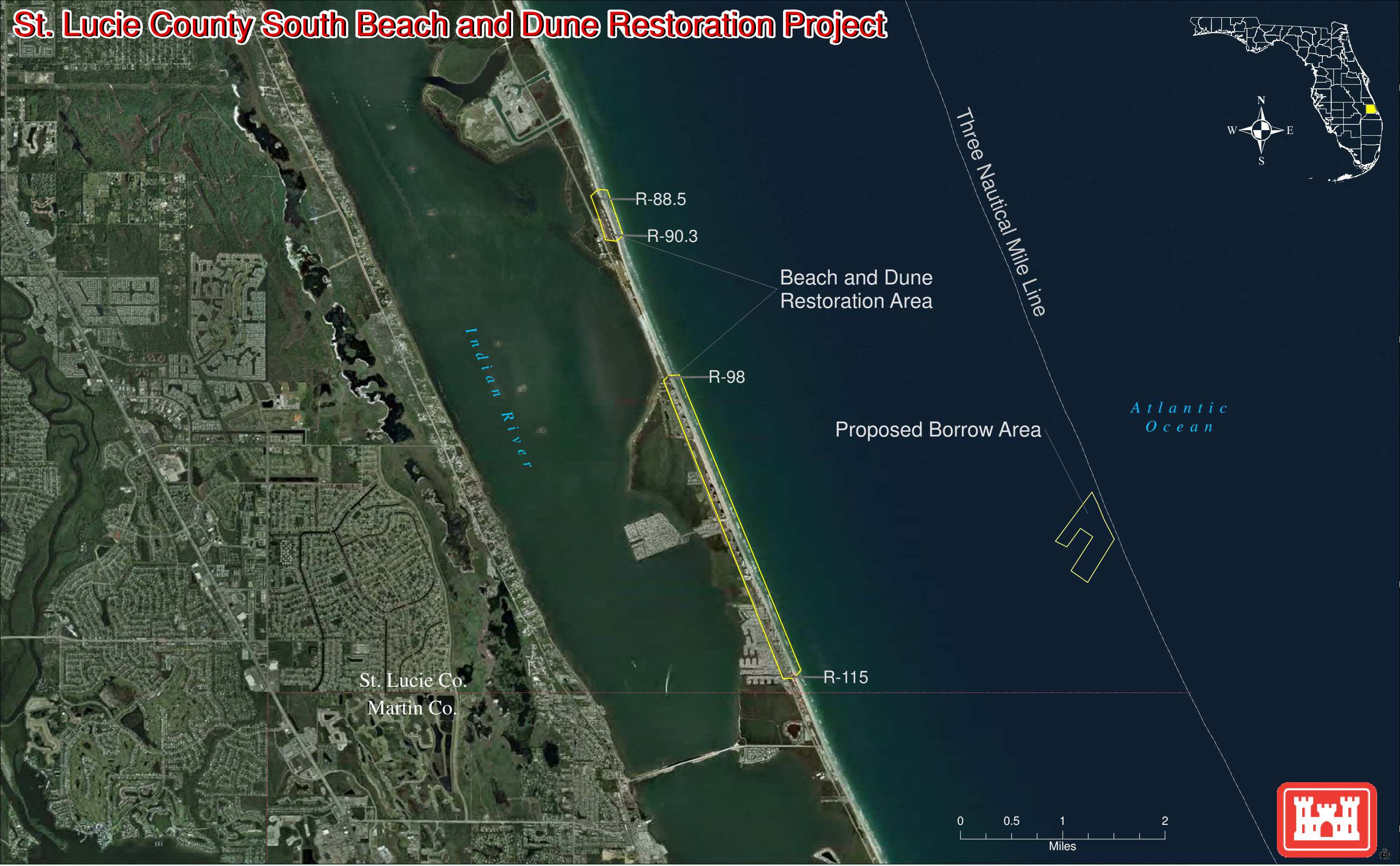
St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project EIS

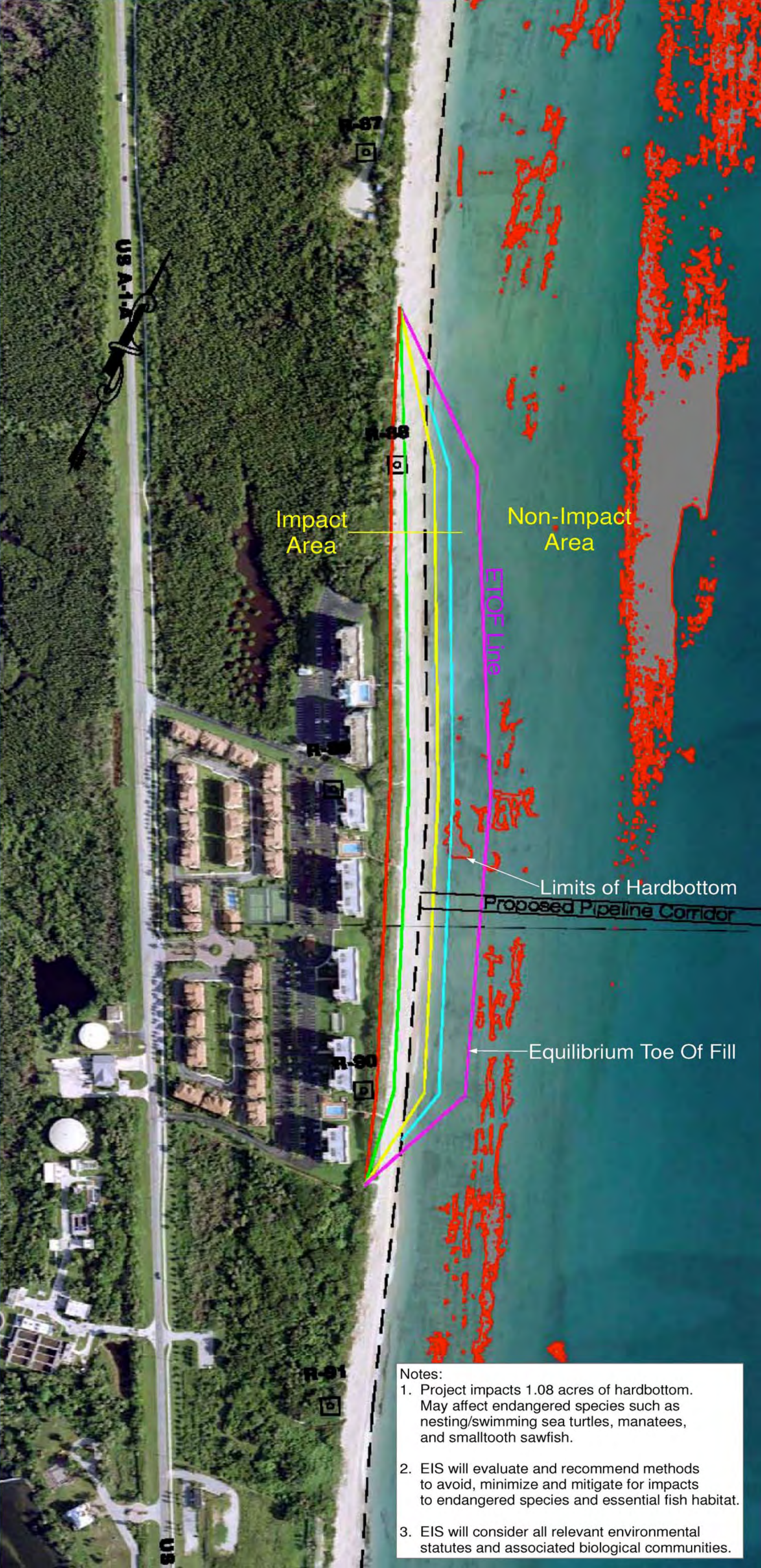


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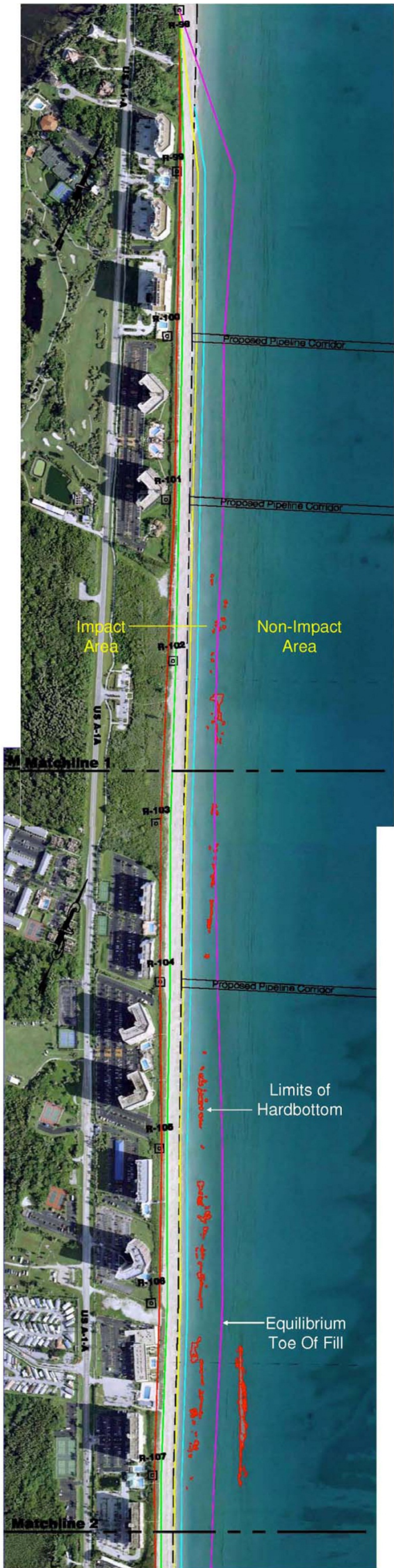
Poster Exhibits

St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project





- Notes:
1. Project impacts 1.08 acres of hardbottom. May affect endangered species such as nesting/swimming sea turtles, manatees, and smalltooth sawfish.
 2. EIS will evaluate and recommend methods to avoid, minimize and mitigate for impacts to endangered species and essential fish habitat.
 3. EIS will consider all relevant environmental statutes and associated biological communities.



Notes:

1. Project impacts 1.08 acres of hardbottom. May affect endangered species such as nesting/swimming sea turtles, manatees, and smalltooth sawfish.
2. EIS will evaluate and recommend methods to avoid, minimize and mitigate for impacts to endangered species and essential fish habitat.
3. EIS will consider all relevant environmental statues and associated biological communities.

Transcript of Verbal Comments

Public Scoping Meeting Transcript
St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project EIS
St. Lucie County, Florida

Date: Wednesday, May 19, 2010
Time: 5:30 pm
Location: St. Lucie County Commission Chambers
Roger Poitras Administration Building
2300 Virginia Avenue
Fort Pierce, Florida 34982

*** Comments transcribed by Taylor Engineering, Inc. from an audio recording.**

Comments

Jeff Meier: How are you doing tonight? I had previously e-mailed your information and given some information to someone that we knew that was a son of a good friend of ours many years ago. He had done a thesis. He is right now currently an associate professor at FIT up in Brevard County right now. He is currently met all your staff and does publications with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. You are probably familiar with his name anyway. He specializes in coastal structures, beach erosion, control artificial reefs, recycled plastic, geosynthetic containers, ports and harbors. He has done studies and researches including from the Sebastian Inlet south for beach restoration and beach restore and erosion control which is in part of what we are doing here. Ah you talked about this may be a replenishment situation that's continuing to borrow and spend, renourish whereas what he has done and a lot of his documentation that you can find on the web. He has actually created artificial reefs in various places including the Dominican Republic that has not only saved that beach. It has extended that beach within a two year time frame and produced enough excess sand to renourish other parts of the beaches without having to actually go offshore and dredge. So these are just some of the things that I had talked about and Garrett asked about and I have come to bring that information here.

See attached information provided by Jeff Meier at the meeting.

Garrett: Okay

Bob Schafer: St. Lucie County is um, has a local preference ordinance to utilize local contractors, local vendors, within a three county area. There are no offshore dredge companies located in those counties. My question or the question to throw out is: Will upland sources be considered for this project similar to what is going on in Indian River County? Similar size project manufactured sand and so far the first phase of the project has gone well. Turtles are laying eggs. Um, ah, don't appear to be any issues and it saved the county approximately 12 million dollars and used all local forces in building the project.

Garrett: Thank you

Peter Degen: Good Evening, um. I am on the board of directors of San Dollar Shores which would be one of the condominiums that are affected by the project on the northern end. I just wanted to make a comment based on the fact that a lot of people and a lot of commentary for people that don't live on the island has been of a negative nature almost a draconian nature. You know where they say let the condos

fall and who cares and you shouldn't be on a barrier island then all that other commentary and what I really wanted to say in respect to that is that number one this project is going through such a permit process which is taking years and years through so many agencies that if the government spent 1% of their time on British Petroleum or something of the magnitude of that nature maybe we wouldn't have had that catastrophe but getting back to this subject there is such an overlook on this and an oversight that to do nothing in this regard doesn't just effect the people in those condos. It has got to be understood that it would affect the entire county. In fact it would be devastating for all the people on the main land as well as those people in those condos because realistically they are the largest tax base per capita in the whole county. They supply a tremendous amount of the school taxes with no return meaning that they don't have children going to those schools. So any destruction or any cutting and a lot of them aren't homesteaded so environmentally speaking as far as the wellbeing of the county it would affect everybody. It also effects the employment of the entire county. By not fixing those beaches and making sure they are safe for everybody it effects the car mechanic in Fort Pierce, the hair dresser in St. Lucie County, the waiter or waitress in Jensen Beach restaurants, it effects employment which now it is shaky everywhere. So this is an impact on the entire wellbeing of the county. It is not just on the people who live on the island, the people in those condos. So I think it should be understood that we are really all in this together as well as the tax base providing free access to the beaches for everybody who doesn't live in those condos where they don't have to pay for parking like in a lot of different beach areas in the state. So the point I am trying to make is this is impact for the survival of the whole county not just for the condos themselves.

Garrett: Thank you

Jonathan Gorham: Thank you. I'm a principal of Inwater Research Group is a not for profit research corporation that specializes in studies of sea turtles in the nearshore environment and we wanted to request that the EIS consider potential impacts to nearshore sea turtle populations in addition to an impact on nesting of sea turtles. Back in 2005 Inwater Research Group conducted a study for FWCC where we surveyed the nearshore areas and throughout St. Lucie and Martin Counties and the area immediately adjacent to the northern section of this project was in fact had the highest density of juvenile turtles mostly green turtles that we found anywhere in that two county area so we believe it would be appropriate for the EIS to have a component looking at the potential impacts on those nearshore turtle populations.

Garrett: Alright, thank you. Pat Pacitti, you're the last one.

Pat Pacitti: Okay, anyway. My name is Pat Pacitti and I'm president of the President's Council. I manage Regency Island Dunes and I am a long term member of Florida Shore and Beach Preservation Association. There's nobody that really cares about the—I shouldn't say nobody—but the people that live on the island really do care about the environment more so then they actually live it. Back when we had the hurricanes in 04 and the beach was washed out to the middle of A1A when the island was reopened the beach sand was pushed back onto the dune leaving absolutely no vegetation. There was no beach and when the island did reopen and people came back you know the turtles nested and the babies got disoriented and people were getting up at 4 o'clock in the morning 4:30 in the morning to collect the baby turtles that were wandering around in the garage and the driveways, etcetera to actually you know so that nothing would happen when the staff started coming in or when vehicles started moving. People were getting up at that hour to take care of the baby turtles. I would like to say as well as what Peter Degen

mentioned is the cost that the real estate taxes that go to the county based on 2005 figures was 5.2 million dollars a year going into the county which is considerably it went up and it probably came back down now because of property values but there is a sizable tax base. The majority of people do not live there year round. So the wear and tear on the infrastructure is much less than you know year round residents etcetera. And anything that needs to be done as far as the environment making sure the sand is the right sand and the turtles are all happy and you know the buildings are protected you know I think we are going through all of that now in short of stopping construction on barrier islands I think we are going to be going through even more in the future so I think that you know let's do the system the way we know it works best and that's by putting sand on the beach. It's a win win situation. So I would like to thank you for time and all of your efforts on this project. It's been a ten year haul.

Garrett: Yes, what's your name?

Garrett: Okay, did you sign in?

Inaudible

Garrett: We should have you sign in.

Bill Frondork: Yes, thank you. I would just like to comment that a we've got two concerns. One is the quality of the material that is being applied to the beaches. I've got a degree in physical oceanography. I graduated four decades ago. I did my undergraduate thesis on beach erosion at FIT. To date the material that has been dredged offshore is not beach compatible material. We all know that all our beach material is caught behind every jetty from here up to Georgia somewhere. Beach material is a unique material. Further north of here is it very ground very consistent in size. You may get all the beach material in three sieves when you screen it. The material that has been dredged offshore, the only way it resembles beach material is that you can dig it with a shovel and put it in a bucket but it contains organic fines. It includes dead animals. It's got. It is coarser than it should be that is why we end up with an unnaturally steep beach which is great for you guys because it protects the beach, the environment. But the beach is unnaturally steep. All those fines all those organic fines that you dredge up offshore leach into the longshore water. It clouds the waters. It clouds the. The fish aren't there. I am sure it affects all the wildlife it is going to effect. As our southerly longshore current here carries these fines south they are going to plow the reefs south of us until they get down to St. Lucie Inlet and it mixes with the current it cuts out. While renourishment is a novel endeavor the quality of the material is being used is totally unacceptable. I've been on these beaches for sixty years. I was just up on St. Lucie's beach. St. Lucie has an excellent beach access program. The beaches are nasty. That material that has been dumped on those beaches no more resembles beach material then what you dig out beside a road somewhere and that's my main concern. You know...yes we have to address a problem. The problem is caused by the stabilization of inlets for the last seventy five years. But if you are going to do it, use a material that is true beach material and quite frankly maybe it is time to investigate other options other methods of retaining the existing beach which is done by reducing the wave action on the beach which is what erodes it. And maybe it is time to think outside the box and instead of just capitulating and digging up garbage off the bottom of the ocean. Let's try to be forward looking and forward thinking and set an example rather than creating a problem. Thank you.

Garrett: Anybody with any other comments? Did you sign in?

Steven Smith: I didn't know I had to sign in.

Garrett: What is your name?

Inaudible

Steven Smith: I just wanted to follow along with the gentleman just spoke about and what Bob spoke about earlier. The use of offshore material you have a significantly higher impact on the environment than you do using upland sand. We just completely the first half of an over 600,000 yards project in Indian River County and the sand was significantly better than the offshore material and Indian River County has significantly better offshore material than the St. Lucie Proposed borrow site. So, we are probably five levels above what would be dredged up on this project. I think part of the EIS needs to evaluate the use of upland sand because we don't have any pipeline corridors. We have no hard bottom impacts what so ever. The sand can be tested at my sand mine or another sand mine before it is even shipped, transported, and placed on the beach. So you're not going to have a potential oil spill from a dredge that has an issue and I think the other looming issue for this offshore borrow site is even if you don't want to even consider using upland sand which again we did it for less than half the price of what the offshore bids were coming in at in Indian River County. So I know in a time of tight tax revenues for county you've got a lot of negative potential feedback because people are perceiving that you are spending ten of millions of dollars for a handful of condo owners. Well if you go back and say look we are going to cut the price by a significant amount of money and use local people to do the job you may get some more people onboard. So with that said I think the issue that I brought up the looming big issue is you have an environmental disaster heading around the corner in the Keys right now and by the time you guys are even getting ready to think about dredging that up you may have a significant amount of oil that has drifted an made its way to the shoal there so you may want to consider for all of these other environmental reasons there's a laundry list a mile long of reasons to consider using upland sand, so.

Garrett: Thank you, any other comments? Did you sign in?

Mark Boston: Yes, Mark Boston. Nettles Island I'm with the Florida Alliance for Retired Americans Area Vice President. One question is, when you renourish the beach at what year are you going to go back to? I've heard a couple times that it is going to go back to 74 or 72 the way the beach was then or is there a change or what?

Garrett: The County had proposed the design and we are not to the point where we can say exactly what that it is. We are evaluating all these different alternatives but they did propose three different alternatives in their design and I think they had a preferred one.

Mark Boston: And when will this proposal be ready for the public to look at?

Tori White: You can look at it on the boards tonight.

Mark Boston: I mean the official one that you are going to go to.

Steven Schropp: If you would excuse me, the official design as currently submitted for permitting to both DEP and the Army Corp of Engineers is available at either of these two websites that are up on these slides right now.

Mark Boston: Okay

Steven Schropp: That has all of the design drawings from that permit application package. So you can get the entire design drawing set from these sources and we will be glad to meet you over there at the board and talk a little bit more in detail about the typical beach cross-section.

Mark Boston: So there is no cost figure in this yet?

Steven Schropp: No we are not looking at cost right now with this EIS.

Mark Boston: Okay, thank you.

Garrett: Did you sign up? Go ahead.

Robert Wolfe: Yes, my name is Robert Wolfe and I am a home owner out there at 10851 South Ocean. And I know that Martin County is getting ready to do a beach project also south of the county line and they are looking at the shoals as a borrow site. And I am concerned about St. Lucie County and Martin County both using these shoals as borrow sites without doing any kind of wave study analysis to see what kind of impact that would have on deep ocean swells you know in the order of 13 to 15 seconds when we do get northeast swells and I know that the MMS has actually ran a study on those shoals in the past. I don't remember the title of that study but it's out there and it does show fluctuations on the order of you know one to one and a half foot difference depending on periods and the direction obviously of the swells but it will create hot spots on the beaches where there will be increased erosion due to that energy getting through the shoals and you know taking sand from different spots so I would like that to be included if possible.

Garrett: Okay, thank you. Any other comments? Okay, now it's the open forum. You can review the boards or ask us questions about what the county has proposed so far. I have the permit application here. It has the drawings. I know someone was asking about the design. You can do through the design plans if you would like.

Jeff Meier

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Dr. Lee E. Harris

Associate Professor, Ocean Engineering and Oceanography

Dr. Harris specializes in ocean engineering, coastal engineering and physical oceanography. Prior to joining Florida Tech in 1980, Dr. Harris performed numerous engineering studies and designs while with the Corps of Engineers and in private industry. At Florida Tech, he teaches courses and performs research and consulting on coastal structures, ocean engineering design and physical oceanography.

Institution(s) / Organization(s):

[Department of Marine and Environmental Systems \(DMES\), Florida Institute of Technology \(Florida Tech\)](#)

Education:

P.E. States of Florida, New York and South Carolina
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Ph.D. Florida Atlantic University, FL, USA

Area of Expertise / Interest:

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(22 April 2004)

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Keywords: Coastal, Engineering, Physical, Oceanography, Coastal structure, Beach erosion control, Artificial reef, Inlet and harbor hydrodynamics



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Keywords

Coastal Structures
Beach Erosion Control
Artificial Reefs
Recycled Plastics
Geosynthetic Containers
Ports and Harbors

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Last Updated: Jan 14, 2007

Lee E. Harris

Associate Professor

Marine and Environmental Systems
College of Engineering

Educational Background

Ph.D. Ocean Engineering, Florida Atlantic University, 1996
M.E. Coastal Engineering, University of Florida, 1975
B.S. Ocean Engineering, Florida Atlantic University, 1974
Registered Professional Engineer

Professional Experience

P.E., States of Florida, New York and South Carolina

Dr. Harris has an educational background in ocean, coastal and civil engineering specializing in coastal and ocean structures, and oceanographic data collection. He was named in Who's Who in Frontier Science and Technology and has served as a United Nations' consultant to the Trinidad and Tobago Institute of Marine Affairs. He is an active member of several professional societies, including ASCE, COPRI, ACE, ASBPA and FSBPA. Dr. Harris has taught a wide variety of classes in the fields of oceanography and ocean engineering, specializing in coastal structures, port and harbor engineering, coastal processes, and hydrographic surveying. Dr. Harris works closely with students both in the classroom and in the field, including design and testing of engineering student and research projects. His engineering design classes have led to student design and construction of human-powered boats and submarines, which have competed and won awards in international races and competitions.

Research Interests

Dr. Harris specializes in ocean engineering, coastal engineering and physical oceanography.

Prior to joining Florida Tech in 1980, Dr. Harris performed numerous engineering studies and designs while with the Corps of Engineers and in private industry. At Florida Tech, he teaches courses and performs research and consulting on coastal structures, ocean engineering design and physical oceanography.

Research projects include:

- Design, installation and monitoring of artificial reefs, specifically structural integrity and stability of artificial reef units.
- Multi-function reefs for environmental enhancement and mitigation, coastal stabilization, snorkeling and diving, and surfing enhancement.

Selected Publications

Harris, 2006. Artificial reefs for ecosystem restoration and coastal erosion protection with aquaculture and recreational amenities. 5th International Surfing Reef Conference.

Harris, Sample, and Mead, 2005. Design evolution and performance of coastal structures using geosynthetic materials for coastal protection and surfing enhancement. Beach Preservation Technology 2005, FSBPA.

Harris and Sample, 2005. The evolution of multi-celled sand-filled geosynthetic systems for coastal protection and surfing enhancement. 4th International Surfing Reef Conference.

Harris, Turk, and Mead, 2004. Combined recreational amenities and coastal erosion protection using submerged breakwaters for shoreline stabilization. Beach Preservation Technology 2004, FSBPA.

Harris, 2003. Submerged reef structures for beach erosion control. Coastal Structures '03, ASCE.

Harris, 2003. Correlation between the physical structure of the nearshore reefs and the historical beach erosion/accretion in Indian River County, FL. Coastal Sediments '03, USGS.

Harris, 2003. Sand-filled container systems for coastal erosion control. 3rd International Surfing Reef Symposium.

Harris, 2003. Artificial reef structures for shoreline stabilization and habitat enhancement. 3rd International Surfing Reef Symposium.

Harris, 2002. Submerged reef structures for habitat enhancement and shoreline erosion abatement. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Coastal & Hydraulic Engineering Technical Note (CHETN), Vicksburg, MS.

Harris and Woodring, 2001. Artificial reefs for submerged and subaerial habitat protection, mitigation and restoration. 54th Institute of the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute

- Recycled plastic "lumber" for constructing marine structures such as docks, bulkheads and breakwaters.
- Design and performance of new technologies for beach erosion control, including sand-filled geotextile containers and submerged breakwaters.
- Field measurements of waves, tides and currents, and applications to ship and submarine operations and harbor design.

Current Research

Sebastian Inlet District - design and operation of wave and weather data collection systems, and engineering improvements for inlet structures and navigation.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - experimental offshore breakwater projects, and technical review of Coastal Engineering Manual.

Beach erosion control systems, including designs of artificial reef submerged breakwaters and geosynthetic container systems.

Design and development of port, harbor and marinas.

Advising, Expert Witness, and Consulting

ASCE/COPRI Coastal Engineering Certification
Martin County Artificial Reef Program
Reef Ball Foundation
Sebastian Inlet District
St. Lucie County Artificial Reef Program
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Department of Justice

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Harris and Zadikoff, 1999. Concrete tetrahedrons and sand-filled geotextile containers: shoreline stabilization and other uses in developing countries. Fifth International Conference on Coastal and Port Engineering in Developing Countries (COPEDEC V), pp. 2245-2253.

Zadikoff, Covello, Harris, and Skornick, 1998. Concrete tetrahedrons and sand-filled geotextile containers: new technologies for shoreline stabilization. International Coastal Symposium (ICS98), Journal of Coastal Research, Special Issue No. 26, pp. 261-268.

Harris, 1998. Engineering design aspects of artificial reefs. Florida Artificial Reef Summit 98, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee, FL, pp. 104-110.

Smith, Harris, and Tabar, 1998. Preliminary evaluation of the Vero Beach, FL prefabricated submerged breakwater. Beach Preservation Technology '98, FSBPA.

Harris, 1998. Hydrographic surveying and water level variations in the vicinity of Sebastian Inlet. 4th International Symposium on Marine Positioning (INSMAP).

Harris, Childress, Winder, and Perry, 1998. Real-time wave data collection system at Sebastian Inlet, Florida. 5th International Workshop on Wave Hindcasting and Forecasting, Environment Canada, Downsview, Ontario, pp. 146-153.

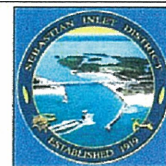
Dally, Grosskopf, and Harris, 1998. Wave climate studies for Sebastian Inlet. 5th International Workshop on Wave Hindcasting and Forecasting, Environment Canada, Downsview, Ontario, pp. 56-70.

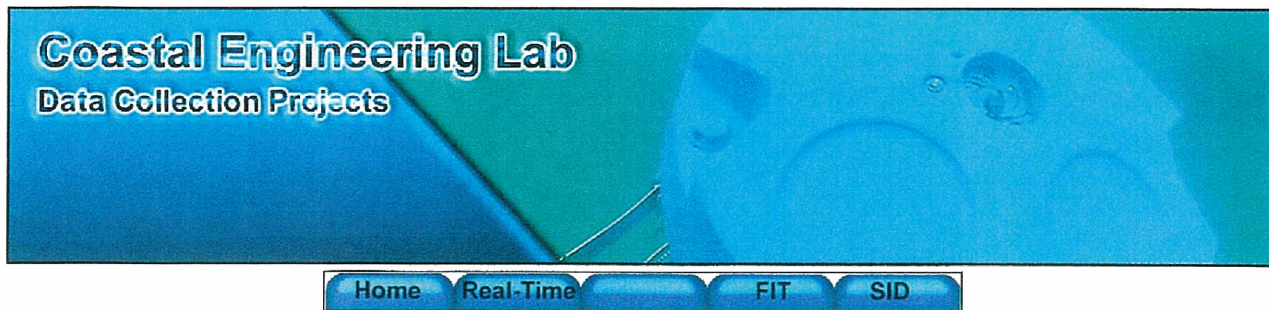


Welcome to the Coastal Engineering Lab at Florida Institute of Technology. Our lab is located in the Link Building, room 226. The purpose for this website and associated environmental monitoring program is to help the commissioners of the Sebastian Inlet District make informed decisions regarding Sebastian Inlet's management.

Requests for data can be made via e-mail:
To: cflannery@fit.edu

Subject: Sebastian Inlet Data Request





Sebastian Inlet, Florida



Image courtesy of Sebastian Inlet District

The Sebastian Inlet, Florida data collection program was initiated in 1996 by the Coastal Engineering Lab at Florida Institute of Technology. The program first began with the installation of oceanographic instrumentation and was followed by an installation of sensors for weather monitoring at the end of the north jetty in 1997. The data collected aids management decisions for Sebastian Inlet and is used to perform calculations for longshore transport of sand, to develop hydrodynamic and sediment transport numerical models, and to design structural repairs for the jetties.

The oceanographic instrumentation utilized for the data collection are located to the north of the Sebastian Inlet approximately 1,500 feet and approximately 1,000 feet offshore, in a water depth of 28 feet. The installation of the gages involved jetting stainless steel pipes into the ocean bottom and mounting the gages using stainless steel hose clamps to the embedded pipes.

The original oceanographic data collection system, developed by the Woods Hole Group, was comprised of two SeaPac directional wave gages. In October 2001, these gages were replaced with a SonTek ADCP (Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler), capable of measuring current speeds and directions at different water depths in addition to determining directional wave parameters. Shortly after, the Nortek AquaDopp current meter and AquaPro ADCP wave gages were added to the system. Finally, near the end of 2005, the Coastal Engineering Lab purchased an ADCP produced by RD Instruments (RDI).

The RDI, SonTek, Nortek AquaPro, and Nortek AquaDopp each measure similar oceanographic parameters by using the Doppler Effect and pressure data. These parameters include current velocity and direction, peak wave period, significant wave height, peak wave direction, water level above the gage, and water temperature at the gage. These parameters are collected at a user defined sampling rate set prior to each deployment. The instruments deployed at Sebastian Inlet have durations of 3-6 months, depending on the battery life and the sampling frequency. An ADCP waves gage transmits a signal which is reflected by particulate matter in the water column and the time delay of the returned signal helps the internal software determine the flow characteristics.

The weather monitoring array is located 33 feet above the water (which is the standard reference height for wind data collection) at the seaward end of the Sebastian Inlet north jetty. This system includes an R.M. Young anemometer, barometric pressure sensor, air temperature sensor, and a Campbell Scientific data logger. The data can be accessed through direct communication via cellular modem.

Martin County, Florida



Image courtesy of Google Earth

The Coastal Engineering Lab maintains a wave gage offshore of Jensen Beach in Martin Co., Florida. The wave gage is an AWAC from NortekUSA. The gage is mounted in a trawl resistant mooring from MSI, and recently installed was an underwater acoustic modem package from Benthos.

The collected data from the AWAC can now be easily recorded from the surface with a similar UW modem hooked into a computer. The historical data from the AWAC and previous gages at the Martin Co. site will soon be available. When the autonomous buoy system is completed, the data from the gage will be available real time.

St. Lucie and Martin County Artificial Reef Programs



Image courtesy of Lee Harris Ph.D., P.E.

[St. Lucie County Program Website](#)

[Martin County Program Website](#)

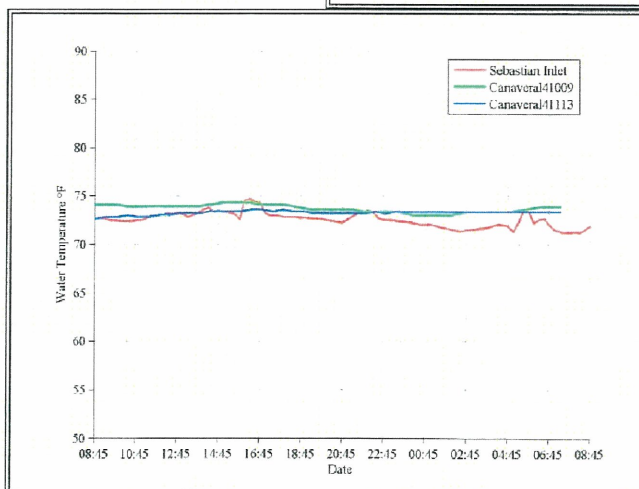
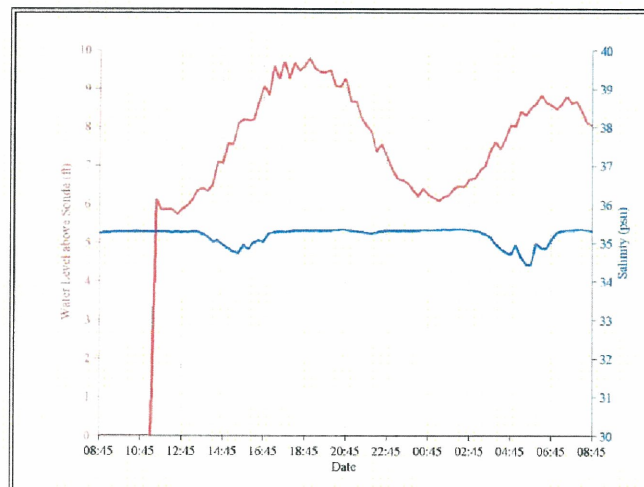
Artificial reefs are increasingly used for beach erosion control because of their added benefits of provision of marine wildlife habitat and recreational amenity when compared with traditional emergent breakwaters. Recreational amenity, in the form of enhanced surfing conditions or snorkeling opportunity, contributes to the economies of tourism-dependent coastal communities.

The Coastal Engineering Lab researchers are involved in the Martin and St. Lucie Co. artificial reef programs. We perform assistance with buoy placement for reef material deployments and pre and post-deployment dives on the artificial reef sites. Our diving procedures include identifying overall orientation and footprint of the reef, depths over the reef area, photo and video documentation and fish and coral identification.

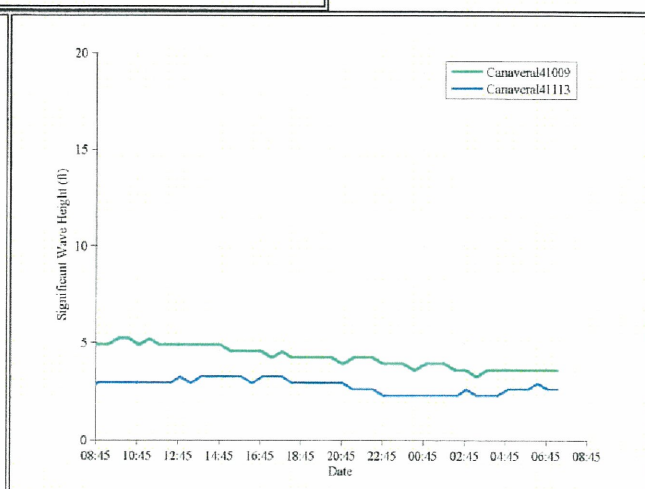


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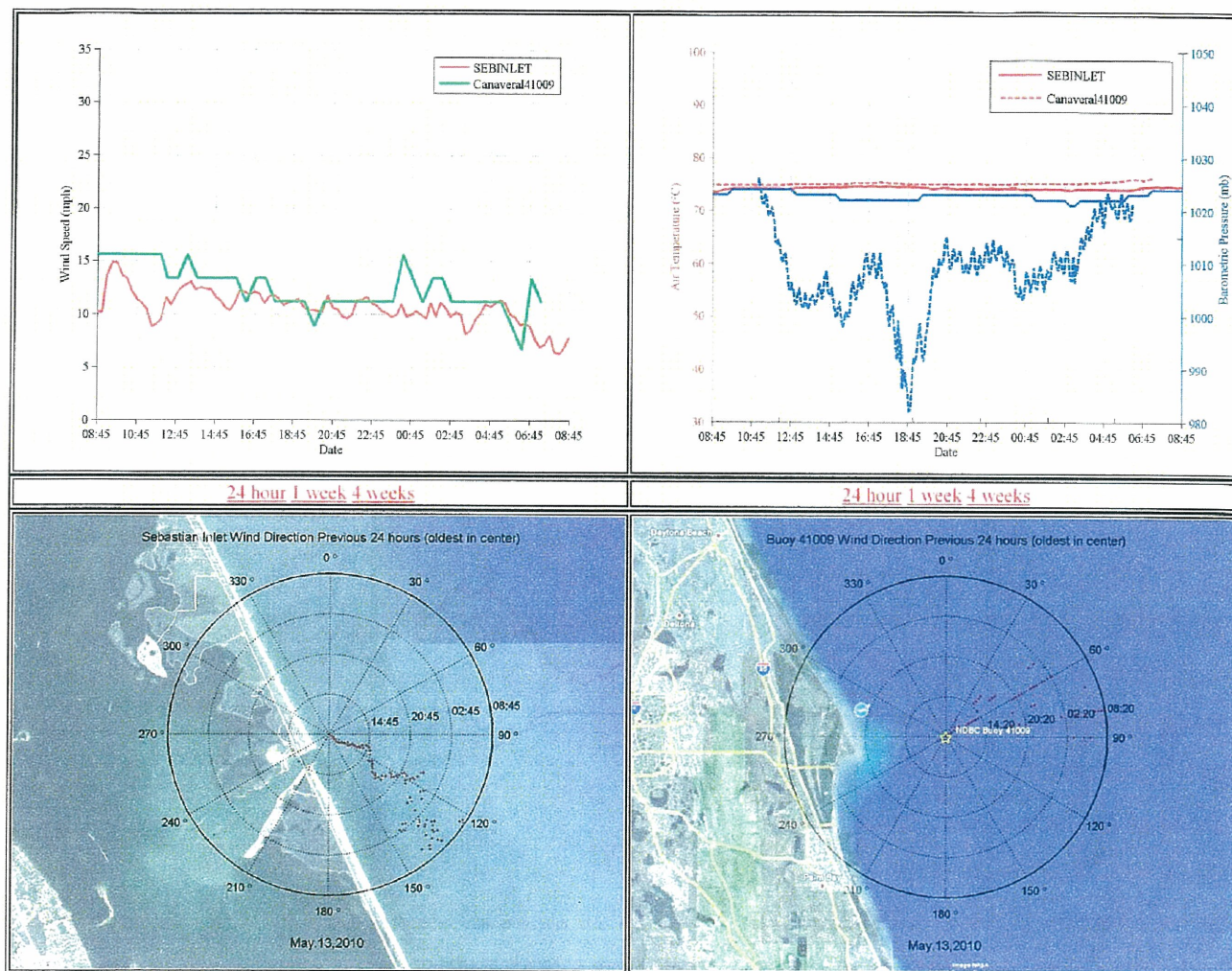
[Click here for Metric unit graphics](#)



24 hour 1 week 4 weeks



24 hour 1 week 4 weeks



APPENDIX: SURVEY DATA AND BEACH PROFILE GRAPHS FOR THE REEF BALL™ ARTIFICIAL REEF SUBMERGED BREAKWATER AT GRAN DOMINICUS BEACH RESORT, NEAR BAYAHIBE, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

May 2001

Performed by: Dr. Lee E. Harris, Ph.D., P.E.
Associate Professor of Ocean Engineering & Oceanography
Division of Marine & Environmental Systems
Florida Institute of Technology
Melbourne, FL USA

Performed for: Ing. Miguel Angel Cabral Espinal
EMPACA Ecotourism & Environmental Projects
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

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Beach Profile Survey Data

This Appendix presents the survey data and graphs documenting the existing conditions and recommendations for the Reef Ball™ submerged breakwater constructed offshore of the Gran Dominicus Resort, located on the south Caribbean coast of the Dominican Republic near Bayahibe (east of Santo Domingo and LaRomano). Post storm surveys of the Reef Ball artificial reef submerged breakwater were performed during February 1999 (6 months after project construction and 4 months following the direct hit by Hurricane Georges in September and the large swell waves from Hurricane Mitch in October). The latest survey was performed in April 2001 (26 months after the February 1999 survey and 32 months after project construction).

The aerial photograph in Figure 1 shows the submerged Reef Ball™ breakwater and the locations of the survey profile lines. Figures 2 and 3 show graphs of the survey data comparing the beach profiles in February 1999 and April 2001. The two graphs in Figure 2 clearly show sand accretion, with a 10m shoreline advance at the west end of the project and 13m shoreline advance at the east end of the project. Figure 3 shows the area immediately east of the project, at the site of the proposed Phase 2 of the Gran Dominicus Beach Resort, where very little change in the amount of sand can be seen. Comparisons between these three graphs in Figures 2 and 3 clearly show that the beach has gained a considerable amount of sand, and the shoreline has advanced significantly in the project area, but has remained stable to slightly accretionary on the adjacent beaches.

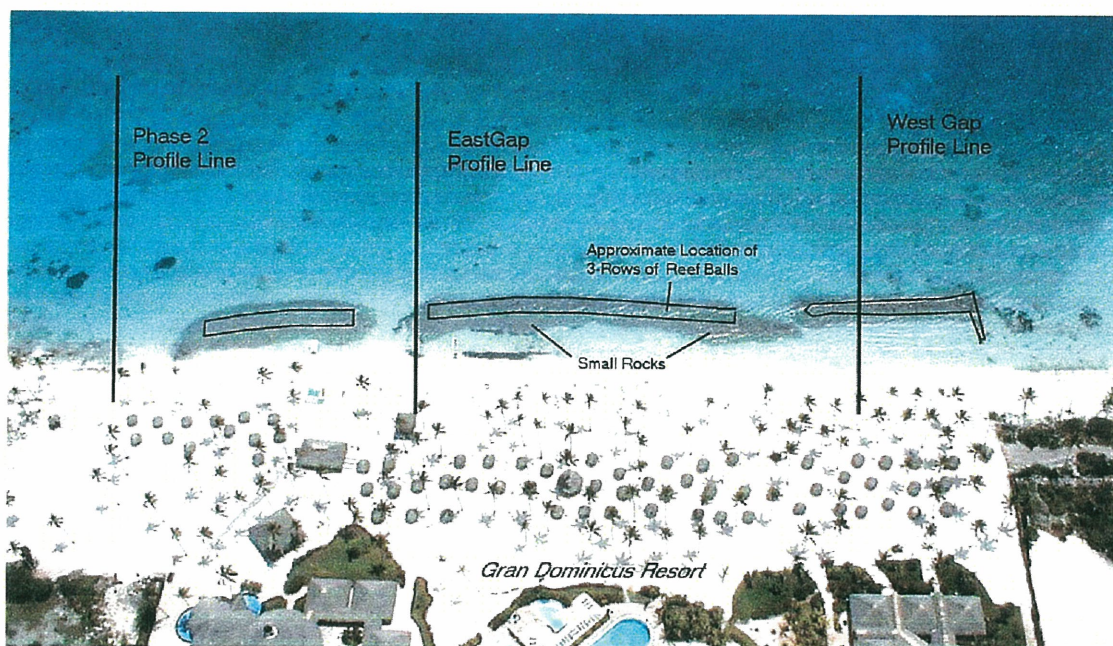


Figure 1. Location of survey profile lines

April 2001 Aerial Photograph of Gran Dominicus - The locations of the survey profile lines are shown, and the submerged breakwater segments using three rows of Reef Ball artificial reef units are clearly visible..

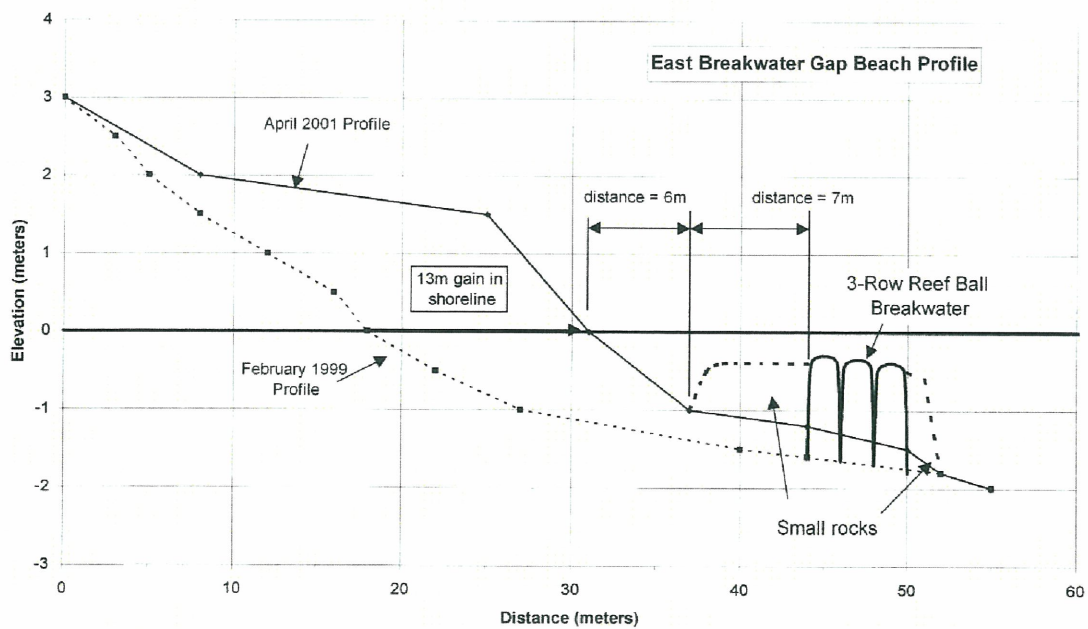
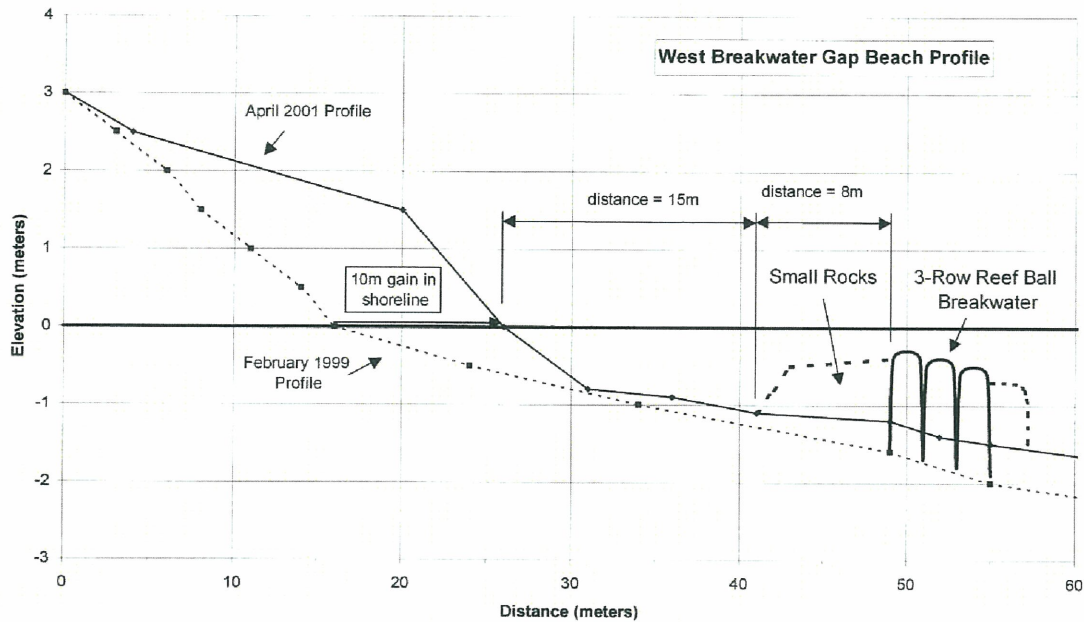


Figure 2. Survey profiles across breakwaters at gaps.

Comparison of surveys performed in April 2001 and February 1999.

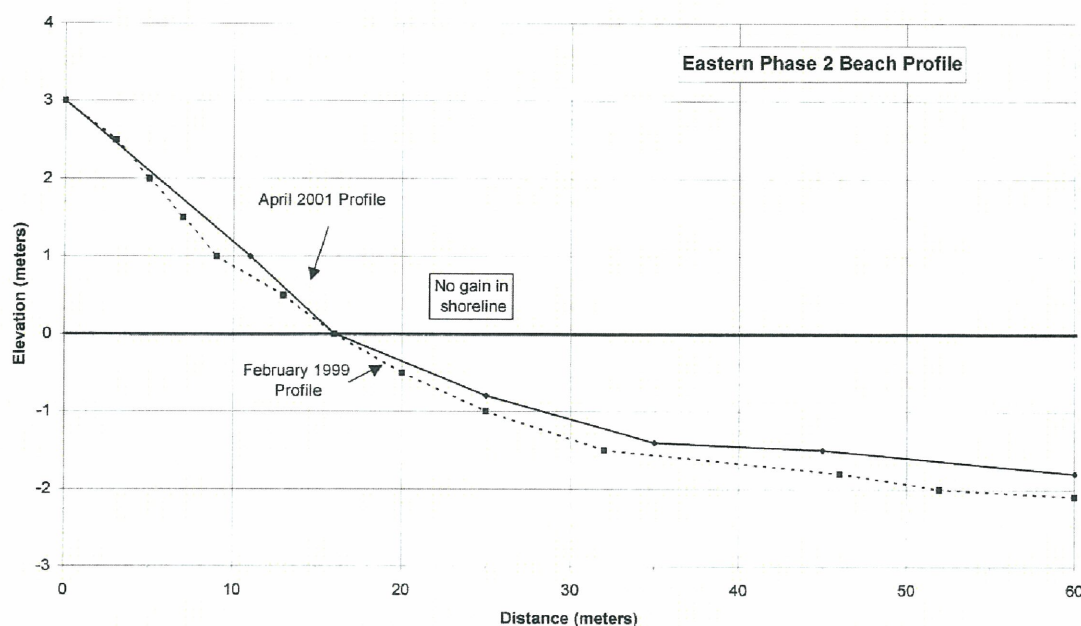


Figure 3. Survey profile east of breakwater for Gran Dominicus Phase 2.
Comparison of surveys performed in April 2001 and February 1999.

Shoreline and Sand Volume Changes

The survey data from February 1999 and April 2001 were used to compute the shoreline changes and sand volume changes in the project area. The results are shown in Table 1, with the sand volume change per shoreline length computed from the dune seaward to the breakwater (shore parallel distance = 49 meters for west breakwater gap and 44 meters for the east breakwater gap). Figure 4 shows photographs taken at the same times as the surveys, to visually document the beach changes.

Table 1. Sand Volume Calculations

Profile Line Designation	Shoreline Change (meters)	Sand Volume Change (cubic meters per linear meter of shoreline)
West Gap Profile Line	+10 m	+25.65 m ³ /m
East Gap Profile Line	+13 m	+44.25 m ³ /m
Phase 2 Profile Line	0 m	+2.0 m ³ /m

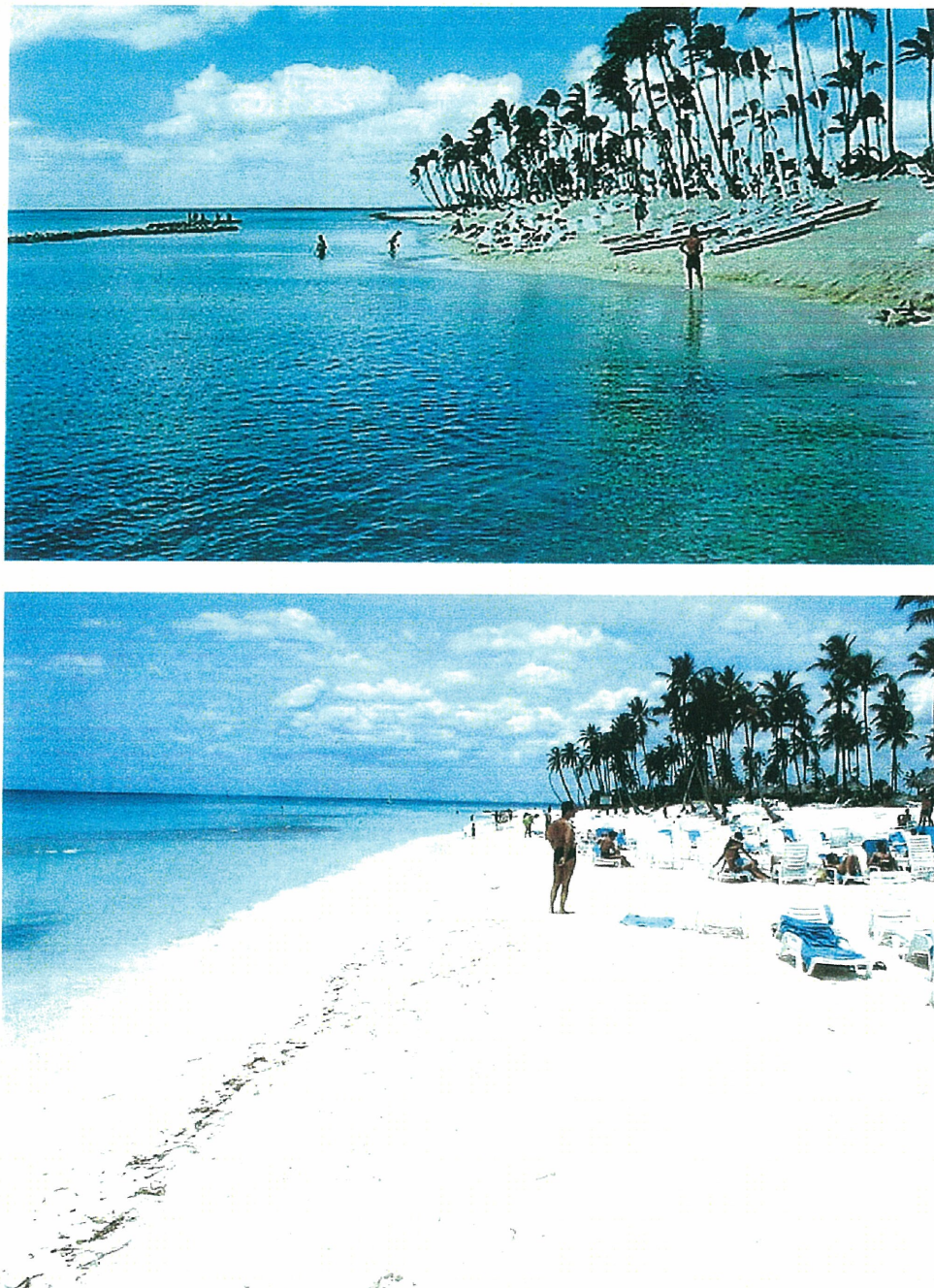


Figure 4. Increased beach with at Gran Dominicus.

February 1999 photograph after the small rocks were added on top of breakwater and sand fill added to the beach (top photo), compared with April 2001 photograph showing large natural accretion (lower photo). The offshore breakwater is clearly visible in each photograph, with the upper photograph showing the small rocks originally placed on top of the breakwater, and the lower photograph shows the small rocks scattered land ward of the Reef Ball

breakwater.

The average sand gain in the project area from February 1999 to April 2001 for the two surveyed profile lines in the breakwater area is $34.95 \text{ m}^3/\text{m}$. Using that average gain over a shoreline length of 250 meters results in an overall volume gain of 8,740 cubic meters of sand. That is the equivalent of an average gain in beach elevation of 75 centimeters over the 250 meter long by an average of 46.5 meter wide beach area. Using the Phase 2 area as comparison, the gain of $2.0 \text{ m}^3/\text{m}$ over 250 meters of shoreline length results in a gain of 500 cubic meters of sand, which is the equivalent of an average gain in beach elevation of 4.3 centimeters over the 250 meter long by an average of 46.5 meter wide beach area. These data show that the gain in sand volume was almost 20 times greater in the project area than on the adjacent beaches.

Recommended Modifications and Beach Maintenance

The data show that the Reef Ball submerged breakwater is greatly assisting with the stabilization and build-up of the beach at the Gran Dominicus Resort. However there are two problems:

1. insufficient swimming area between the shoreline and the breakwater, and
2. small rocks and sea urchins hazardous in the swimming area between the shoreline and the breakwater.

There are a number of solutions to these problems, including:

1. moving the Reef Ball submerged breakwater further seaward,
2. removing the smaller rocks landward of the existing Reef Ball submerged breakwater,
3. performing beach maintenance, including the removal of sand from the beach area.

The first solution would be quite expensive, and is not recommended due to the satisfactory performance of the existing breakwater. In addition to the costs in moving the Reef Ball units further seaward, they would be in deeper water so that they would be less effective for wave attenuation. Therefore the installation of the Reef Balls would have to be done on bases to raise their height, and additional breakwater width would also be required due to the larger waves occurring further offshore.

Both solutions 2 and 3 are highly recommended in order to maintain sufficient swimming area between the shoreline and the breakwater. Solution 1, the removal of the smaller rocks, will immediately increase the swimming area, with the width increased from 15 meters to 23 meters at the west end of the project area (a 53% increase) and the width at the east end of the project area would be increased from 6 meters to 13 meters (a 217% increase). The removal of the smaller rocks also will result in the removal of the sea urchins that are living on and in the rocks.

Solution 3, beach maintenance would require Gran Dominicus to monitor the beach area and remove sand when the shoreline advances too far seaward. This sand can be stockpiled for later use (as has been done already), or used for beach fill for Phase 2. Figure 5 shows both Solutions 2 and 3 for the Profile Line at the East Breakwater Gap. At this location, there now are only 6m of width available for the swimming area between the shoreline and the breakwater. The removal of rocks increases this width to 13m, and beach maintenance would increase the width of the swimming area to 20 meters. This provides adequate swimming area without the need to move the breakwater further seaward. For the Profile Line at the West Breakwater Gap, the rock removal results in a swimming area width of 23 meters, so that no beach maintenance is required at the west end of the project at this time.

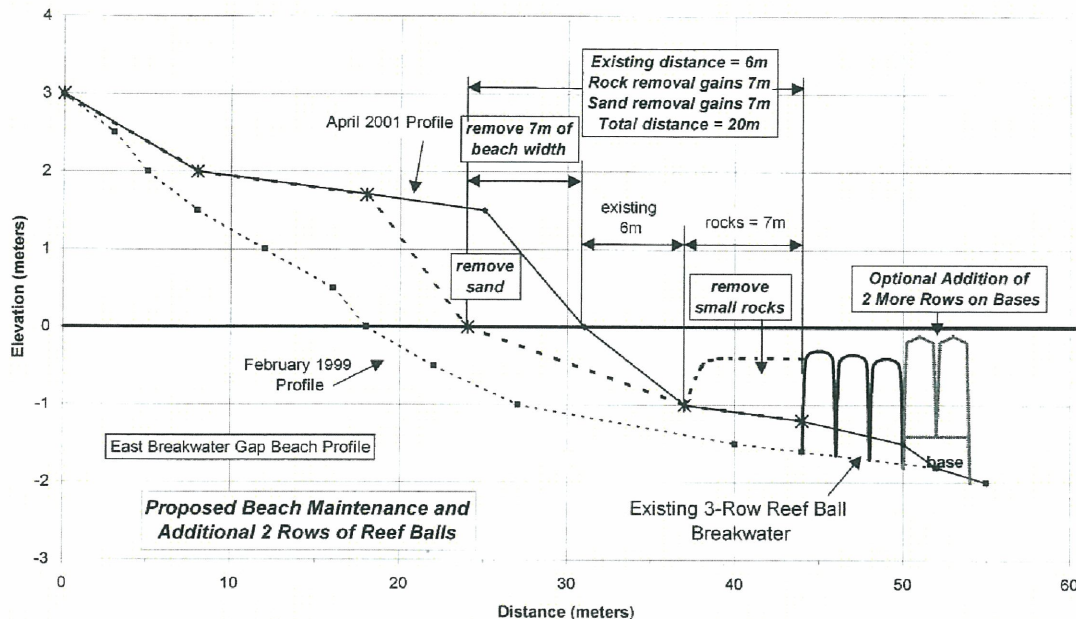


Figure 5. Project Recommendations.

Discussion of the Recommended Modifications and Beach Maintenance

The removal of the smaller rocks landward of the breakwater will not substantially reduce the effectiveness of the breakwater. In fact, a slight reduction in breakwater effectiveness may assist with natural beach maintenance in reducing the sand gain. If increased wave attenuation is required, the preferred option is to add two more rows of Reef Balls immediately seaward of the existing breakwater, as shown in Figure 5. Due to the increase in depth with distance offshore, and also to increase the wave attenuation, the additional two rows of Reef Balls can be elevated using bases into which the Reef Ball units are fastened using underwater concrete. This option can be postponed until it may be needed, with adequate project monitoring performed to allow for proper beach maintenance and any future structural modifications that may be necessary.

The removal of sand from the project beach will not cause any adverse impacts, and the sand can be used to nourish the adjacent beaches, such as the planned Phase 2 development of the Gran Dominicus Resort. Monitoring of the beach should be performed regularly, and when less than 20 meters exists between the Reef Balls and the shoreline, sand can be removed from the beach by mechanical or hydraulic methods. Mechanical methods include equipment such as a front end loader or tractor, or even manual labor with shovels. Hydraulic methods include the use of a hydraulic lift using a pump system, and is recommended as a less intrusive method that can be employed as needed to pump sand onto neighboring beaches.

Written Comments from Meeting



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Jacksonville District

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Comment Card

St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project Scoping Meeting, 19 May 2010

Name C. H. SHELTON

Address (Street) 9600 So Ocean Dr #205

Address (City, State, Zipcode) Jensen Beach FL 34957

Email _____

Comments We support this project.



US Army Corps of Engineers

Jacksonville District

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Comment Card

St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project Scoping Meeting, 19 May 2010

Name Mary Vosburg

Address (Street) 1158 SW London Lane

Address (City, State, Zipcode) PSL FL 34953

Email JD VOSBURGH@YAHOO.COM

Comments Please do not rape our environment
just to save a chosen few!



US Army Corps of Engineers
Jacksonville District

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Comment Card

St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project Scoping Meeting, 19 May 2010

Name JONATHAN GORHAM, INWATER RESEARCH GROUP INC
Address (Street) 4160 NE HYLINE DRIVE
Address (City, State, Zipcode) JENSEN BEACH FL 34957
Email JGORHAM@INWATER.ORG
Comments WE RECOMMEND THAT THE EIS INCLUDE AN ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS
ON NEARSHORE SEA TURTLE POPULATIONS. NEARSHORE REEF IN THE PROJECT AREA
REPRESENTS IMPORTANT SEA TURTLE DEVELOPMENTAL HABITAT. IRG CONDUCTED NEARSHORE
SURVEYS FOR FWCC IN 2005, AND WE HAVE QUANTITATIVE DATA AVAILABLE
ON NEARSHORE SEA TURTLE ABUNDANCE IN THE PROJECT AREA.



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Comment Card

St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project Scoping Meeting, 19 May 2010

Name Dr. Russell Hageman

Address (Street) 2111 Nettles Blvd (South Hutchinson Island)

Address (City, State, Zipcode) Jensen Beach, FL 34957

Email rhageman@alumni.caltech.edu

Comments Although I live west of AIA, I am a proponent of
this project. I visit the beach most days. I think the
project will improve the environment of the beach for
both island residents and for visitors from everywhere else.



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Jacksonville District

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Comment Card

St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project Scoping Meeting, 19 May 2010

Name Mary Vosburgh

Address (Street) 1158 SW Landon Lane

Address (City, State, Zipcode) P. S. C. , FL 34953

Email sdvosburgh@yahoo.com

Comments A few years back St. Lucie County residents were protecting their shore from Dade county. Then, they knew it was wrong to remove this protective shore. It is still wrong to take from such an environmentally important place. There is no benefit to anyone other than the builders, developers and condo owners. Everyone knows coastal development is bad for the environment. Let nature take its course, take NO ACTION



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Comment Card

St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project Scoping Meeting, 19 May 2010

Name Peter DEGEN
Address (Street) ~~101~~ 5420 S-OLEAN DR 616C
Address (City, State, Zipcode) JENSEN BEACH FL 34957
Email peter.degen@hotmail.com
Comments

Condo SURVIVAL essential to well being of entire County.
Highest School tax PER CAR/yr with no Return. TOURISM OF beaches
essential to employment within entire County. Resort and Rental tax
support Met Stadium. Suppliers FREE Parking AND Beach entry to all
County Residents through TAXES PAID BY condo Residents



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Name ANDY BRADY SURFRIDOR FOUNDATION TREASURE COAST
Address (Street) 2703 A NAIA
Address (City, State, Zipcode) FT. PIERCE FL. 34949
Email ANDY@ELLISASSOCIATES.NET
Comments WE will send you our CONCERNS VIA EMAIL



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Comment Card

St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project Scoping Meeting, 19 May 2010

Name JAMES V. HUBNER
Address (Street) 8600 S. OCEAN DR # 1204
Address (City, State, Zipcode) JENSEN BEACH FL
Email JHUBER7@GMAIL.COM
Comments THIS IS A VALUABLE AND WORTHWHILE PROJECT
THAT SHOULD GO FORWARD.



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Comment Card

St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project Scoping Meeting, 19 May 2010

Name	Bob Schafer
Address (Street)	4510 Glades Ct. Off Rd
Address (City, State, Zipcode)	Ft Pierce FL 34981
Email	Bob.Schafer@rangerconstruction.com
Comments	1) Have upland source been considered for the restoration?



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Comment Card

St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project Scoping Meeting, 19 May 2010

Name Mark Boston

Address (Street) 579 N. 11th St. #165

Address (City, State, Zipcode) Jackson Beach

Email NCCAA @ Fastmail.FM

Comments Cost to

state

county

Regulation



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Comment Card

St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project Scoping Meeting, 19 May 2010

Name Chelsea Vosburgh

Address (Street) 1158 SW London Lane

Address (City, State, Zipcode) P.O.L., FL 34953

Email frally-b@yahoo.com

Comments

Please don't mess with our shoals + beaches! The shoals are what protects the beaches from erosion, this will just keep happening if you dredge! By doing this the turbidity of the water will likely kill wildlife, in particular the tube worms off of Walton Rocks beach. Our tax money should not be used to save developers + people that choose to live there. Please leave the beaches alone. This will harm the environment and will just keep occurring! The sea levels are rising + it will also harm turtles b/c it is unnatural!



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Comment Card

St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project Scoping Meeting, 19 May 2010

Name Chelsea Vosburgh

Address (Street) 1158 SW Landon Lane

Address (City, State, Zipcode) P.S.C. FL 34953

Email Frally-b@yahoo.com

Comments It seems like to save money in the long run & protect the environment & to make everyone happy a good compromise would be to use other places to get sand like Indian county did to fix the problem at hand & then conduct an alternative to prevent the replenishment from having to happen again.

Also the impact of fish & tube worms off Walton Reefs which will likely be effected should be looked into. —————→

Also the effect it will have on ~~the~~ ocean life
around the proposed nourishment location
should be assessed



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Comment Card

St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project Scoping Meeting, 19 May 2010

Name Mary Jane Finlay

Address (Street) 5703 Myrtle Dr.

Address (City, State, Zipcode) Fort Pierce FL 34982

Email maryjanefinlay@yahoo.com

Comments Why has it taken so long to bring this project forward, I have attended 3 mtgs. so far going over the same information with nothing being accomplished. The jetty at Fort Pierce inlet seems to be one of the major causes for beach erosion south of it, I don't think putting sand on the beach at a great cost to the county & State should be the only solution looked at. This will have to be an ongoing solution, after all this time could we have

not come up with a more permanent solution. Other countries have used other methods to build up their beaches such as off shore reefs etc. We need to think out of the box and look at methods that have worked. The cost to the rest of the County & State must be considered if this must be done over and over with out lasting results. As a homeowner on both the beach to be affected and in Fort Pierce I can appreciate both side in the cost argament, no one would oppose the expense if it really were going to solve the beach loss, the present plan seems to throw good money after bad.

Comments Received via Email

Chris Ellis

From: VISSCHERC@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 12, 2010 9:16 PM
To: Lips, Garrett G SAJ
Subject: RE: BEACH/DUNE RESTORATION

PLEASE SUPPORT THE RESTORATION OF OUR BEACHES AND DUNES. THEY HELP PROTECT FLORIDA ASSETS.

THANK YOU.

CARL & BARBARA VISSCHER
9600 S. OCEAN DR., APT. #808
JENSEN BEACH, FL. 34957

Chris Ellis

From: Flwz41@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 12, 2010 6:20 PM
To: Lips, Garrett G SAJ
Subject: Hutchinson Island beach restoration

I would like to voice my strong support for the restoration of the beaches on S. Hutchinson Island, in St. Lucie County. I am a resident there and know the condition of these beaches.

There are also many, many tourists who pack these beaches on weekends, to the point of not being able to find parking spaces. These are beautiful beaches which are enjoyed by anyone who comes to visit them.

Charlyn K. Filewicz
Regency Island Dunes #1
8650 S. Ocean Dr. #506
Jensen Beach, FL. 34957
772 229-0327

Chris Ellis

From: FEDAK BOB [engineerbob1998@att.net]
Sent: Wednesday, May 12, 2010 11:07 PM
To: Lips, Garrett G SAJ
Subject: SUPPORT OF THE BEACH PROJECT

Dear Mr Lip

My family have been living on Hutchinson Island since the 1980s. We have seen many changes to the Island some good and some frightening... We lost over 20 feet of beach in the last two storms. The beach is our home's only protection and the erosion we experienced is of deep concern ! Please insure our home's protection is restored.. Thank you for your support on this important issue.

Bob & Sonia Fedak

Chris Ellis

From: Bill Casey [BillCasey@live.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 12, 2010 5:59 PM
To: Lips, Garrett G SAJ
Cc: dabeachbums@att.net
Subject: South County Beach Project

William and Carol Casey, resident owners of 9600 S Ocean Dr., #908, strongly express their support for this project.

While we will be unable to attend next Tuesday's meeting, we fully expect this statement of support to be given consideration at the meeting.

W and C Casey

Chris Ellis

From: MFAlvarez6@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 19, 2010 5:34 PM
To: Lips, Garrett G SAJ
Subject: (no subject)

We are owners of a property on the beach and we support beach restoration that is badly needed. this beach is enjoy by everyone .

Richard Bouchard

From: Julia Thompson [JThompson@coastaltechcorp.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 19, 2010 3:57 PM
To: Richard Bouchard; Michael Walther; Walker Dawson
Cc: Northswell
Subject: FW: Terry's comments

Importance: High

Please see the comments below from Terry Gibson regarding the SLC South Beach project.

Please ensure Terry's comments are incorporated into the record of tonight's Public Meeting.

Thank you.

*Julia Thompson,
Marketing & Executive Coordinator
COASTAL TECH
3625 20th Street
Vero Beach FL 32960
772-562-8580
772-562-8432 Fax
888-562-8580 Toll Free
www.coastaltechcorp.com*

From: Terry Gibson [mailto:terry.gibson561@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 19, 2010 3:38 PM
To: Julia Thompson
Subject: Terry's comments

Julia,

I fainted a week ago, and cracked my head open. 33 staples, and vertigo thanks to a slipped otolith. I am on bedrest until tomorrow, so I can't attend tonight's meeting. I lost Richard's email address. Please enter this into the record or forward it to him.

I, Terry Gibson, President of North Swell Media, wish I could have attended tonight's meeting. You all are probably relieved that I could not. But rest assured that everyone associated with the proposed project will remain under intense scrutiny until this wrong-headed "initiative" dies.

Please immediately abandon any further efforts to dredge and fill the South St. Lucie County beaches. This stretch of beach is the only one on the entire barrier island that has remained relatively unsullied by coastal engineers and their snake oil. It is the only stretch of beach where people and wildlife can experience tawny beaches that consist of native beach sand and relatively healthy nearshore reefs. I will personally leverage every angle to put a stop to it, even if that means filing legal challenges.

The people who made the fool-hardy decision to invest in property on the beachfront of a barrier island do not deserve a bailout. Many, if not most of these condos are second or third homes. These are luxury items. Even if the project were to be funded in part by assessments, the remaining balance of the project's cost would amount to a trickle-up subsidy by hard-working taxpayers that are receiving fewer and fewer government services thanks to an economy that is failing largely because of unsustainable development.

D-84 Public trust resources, including the health of offshore shoals, nearshore reefs and the ecology of the beach itself, would also contribute irreplaceable natural and social capital to those who made stupid investment decisions. The beaches, reefs, shoals and water column are all public trust resources federally designated as Essential Fish Habitat, and in some cases as Habitat Areas of Particular Concern. The people in this community and our economy rely heavily on these resources due to entwined relationships between outdoor recreation, the seafood industry, and the economy. All of these resources are already threatened or degraded by other stressors. For instance, we chronically endure massive canal discharges pouring out Taylor Creek and the St. Lucie River, on top of our local runoff/nutrient issues. Now, we have an unprecedented oil spill gushing into the loop current, which might carry significant quantities of oil to our coast. And previous dredging projects, including the "big dig" in the Fort Pierce Inlet, and numerous so-called "nourishment" projects, have added heavy sedimentation to a suite of issues affecting our reefs, including nutrient loading, exotic/invasive species, and over-fishing. The last thing we need is another massive dredge-and-fill project to further insult offshore, nearshore and beach habitats. For some reason, Pat Pacetti has asserted herself as the expert who deserves the last word on coastal management decisions in this county. She should immediately quite trying to sell this boondoggle as "environmental restoration." She either doesn't know what the hell she's talking about, or has been corrupted by the BS factory that masquerades as the Florida Shore & Beach Preservation Association, or both. Pat, go away, and tell your constituents to learn to live with the consequences of their own investment decisions. The rest of us must do just that every day.

There is simply no way to justify spending tens of millions and priceless public trust resources for a temporary stopgap against intensifying storms and rapidly rising sea levels. The county needs to take another look at its comp plan, and think about the strategic location of this tax base, which, after all, is truly the only thing this government cares about. A good way to fix this problem is to 1), restore the greatest extent practical the littoral flow around the Fort Pierce Inlet Jetties, and 2), create a system of matching funds from beachfront stakeholders that works with state and national carbon cap-and-trade programs. These funds could be used to re-locate the tax base. Unless these buildings are removed, we will lose our beaches and the revenues they generate, and we will lose the tax base that previous elected officials so foolishly allowed to be created in the most vulnerable of all places. It's a matter of time and an inevitability that no engineering response can stop. Again, I will challenge this project at every turn, and the surfing, fishing and diving communities stand behind me.

Terry Gibson
President
North Swell Media

Chris Ellis

From: Mary Jane Finlay [maryjanefinlay@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 20, 2010 4:15 PM
To: Lips, Garrett G SAJ
Subject: Dune Restoration/St. Lucie County South Beach

Dear Mr.Lips:

I attended last nights meeting in St. Lucie County and was very surprised that after four years, of supposed study, that nothing has as yet been done to the beaches of St. Lucie. At the same time, Martin County, as I understand it, is undergoing its second beach replenishment in as many years. Why has it taken so long and years of proposed impact study to only find that we must again wait another year before the "plan" will be ready to send off to the Federal Government for approval. After four years and four meetings, which I have attended, concerning the beach restoration it seems to me that no progress has been made. What are your people doing, obviously, not very much.

At last night's meeting the question of using local businesses as mandated by Florida Law was brought up. Since there are no local dredging companies it was noted that this would not be possible. However, another local businessman, claiming to own a sand mine, stated that his sand would be a better quality than that planned to be taken from the shoal, while saving the County, 12 million dollars. He further pointed out that because there would be no need for dredging and the pipes needed to bring in the sand, there would be no harm to the hard bottom, not to mention much less of an environmental impact.

Why not then use local sand and local businesses to restore our beaches at a much lower cost and impact? Why not look for other proven methods like this one that the speaker said he had just completed in Indian River County?

Yes, we need beach restoration and we need it as soon as possible, but what we don't need are years of study that seem only to come back with the same old plans. That will not solve the problem and will only keep costing the Taxpayers year after year.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my concerns.

Sincerely,

Edward Thomas Finlay

5703 Myrtle Drive

Fort Pierce FL. 34982

and

Atlantis A Unit 210

10102 S.Ocean Drive

Jensen Beach FL. 34957

Chris Ellis

From: Barbara Jacobs [barbjacobs91@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, May 21, 2010 4:12 PM
To: Lips, Garrett G SAJ

I'm Barbara Jacobs ,I live in the Empress Condo. on HUTCHINSON ISLAND, I vote for the Dune Restoration to protect our beaches. The beaches protect the dunes and the dunes protect our homes and all the condos.I ALSO know it worked beautifully in Martin Co. I attended the meeting Wed . May 19th . I vote yes.

THANK YOU BARBARA JACOBS

Chris Ellis

From: Flwz41@aol.com
Sent: Friday, May 21, 2010 8:36 AM
To: Lips, Garrett G SAJ
Subject: Hutchinson Island

I was at the meeting on Tues. night regarding the beach nourishment.

All of us on the Island pay high taxes. Most people use the roads, and that's about it for services those taxes provide.

We are full time residents. This is not our 3rd home. This is our home.

We also help keep the businesses alive, when the part time people leave. It is hard to survive here in the summer, and out on the Island is even harder.

We also contribute to the Salvation Army, the Pet Rescue, Treasurer Coast Foodbank.

We are not "visitors" to these beaches. This is where we live.

They are open to any and all residents and visitors. I lived in CT. for 35 yrs. where don't think about going to a beach unless you pay to park and pay to use the beach, and don't think about going in front of somebody's house. They will run you off.

Charlyn Filewicz
8650 S. Ocean Dr. #506
Jensen Beach, FL. 34957

Chris Ellis

From: POLICYPETE@aol.com
Sent: Monday, May 24, 2010 3:24 PM
To: Lips, Garrett G SAJ
Subject: (no subject)

We need this project to protect our homes.

Chris Ellis

From: clewis6559@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2010 9:05 AM
To: Lips, Garrett G SAJ
Subject: Hutchinson Island

Dear Mr. Lips,

Some people have the wish to return to the times when this Island was uninhabited. Florida has experienced great population growth and this trend will probably continue. We are not going back to a golden pristine time which probably didn't exist anyway. The public beaches on Hutchinson island are many and wonderful and very well used. They are a great asset to the state. They and all the taxpaying people living and working there need to have the extraordinary storm damage to these beaches repaired.

Sincerely,

Carole J Lewis
8600 S Ocean Drive
Unit 901
Jensen Beach, Florida

Chris Ellis

From: SUEDONVITTI@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 12:42 AM
To: Lips, Garrett G SAJ
Subject: ST LUCIE BEACH RENOURISHMENT

Dear Mr. Lips:

We own a home on the beach in the area of the proposed sand project. Due to the inlet and jetty in Fort Pierce, we have noticed the beach, in front of our home, eroding. What use to be a WIDE beach is now NO beach after the 2004 storm surge from Hurricane Jeanne. The sand was out to the middle of A1A.

My family uses our beach home only a few weeks out of the year, yet we pay extremely high taxes.

We have no children in school, and our wear and tear on the roads are minimal at best.

The only thing we ask is the right to be able to protect our home from another storm surge since, at this time, we have virtually no protection.

Sincerely,
Donald and Susan Vitti
8650 So. Ocean Dr. Unit 304
Jensen Beach, Florida 34957
772 229-9760

Chris Ellis

From: Tom Gilson [tennistomgilson@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2010 10:39 PM
To: Lips, Garrett G SAJ
Subject: Beach Renorishment Project - Southern St. Lucie County

This e-mail is in support fo the subject project. I am the President of Islandia I which has 194 units on Hutchinson Island. This project is needed for numerous reasons as follows:

- The beach erosion has been occurring as a result of the many inlets that cutoff the southerly flow of sand.
- The project in Martin County is negatively affected if the beach to the north is not maintained properly.
- The beach is a primary economic attraction in Florida and needs to be maintained in order to compete with other vacation destinations.
- The condos represent a major tax source and if they are not protected from hurricanes they could loose their value and then the tax revenue.
- The condo owners pay considerably more taxes than the services demanded since very few school children live in them and many other services are not needed in the off season.
- Mnay of the owners are focused on the environment and without quality beaches their participation would be reduced.

We appreciate the difficulties in the current economic times but feel many of the anti condo comments do not represent the preponderance of public opinion on this subject.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this vital project.

Thomas Gilson, President Islandia I

Chris Ellis

From: VISSCHERC@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2010 5:14 PM
To: Lips, Garrett G SAJ
Subject: RE: BEACH PROTECTION

WE ALL NEED BEACH RESTORATION TO HELP PROTECT THE TAX PAYING ASSETS ON HUTCHINSON ISLAND. PLEASE HELP US TO DO IT.

THANK YOU.

CARL & BARBARA VISSCHER

Chris Ellis

From: Donna Regenstreif [donna@geroconcepts.com]
Sent: Friday, May 28, 2010 11:54 AM
To: Lips, Garrett G SAJ
Subject: SUPPORT FOR ST. LUCIE COUNTY BEACH PROJECT

Please accept this as an indication of my strong support for the project.

sincerely,
DRegenstreif

Donna I. Regenstreif, Ph.D.
10410 S. Ocean Drive
1106
Jensen Beach, FL 34957
772-229-7929
donna@geroconcepts.com

Chris Ellis

From: BobEH13@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, June 13, 2010 10:42 AM
To: Lips, Garrett G SAJ
Subject: Jensen Beach, Beach Renourishment Project

Dear Sir

We have lived on the beach in Jensen Beach for the past 8 years and have heard about this project. The closest we came to having the beach renourished was in 2004, just before Frances & Jean destroyed our condo building and our lives. If the project would have been completed before the storms, we may have make it OK. Don't let nature destroy our lives again.

Please try to help us this time before we are in the same situation as 2004.

Thanks.

Robert & Josephine Hammond

APPENDIX E

Federal Agency Scoping Meeting Documents
St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project EIS
St. Lucie County, Florida

Meeting Invitation

Participant Sign-In Sheets

Presentation Hand-Outs

Written Comments

Meeting Invitation

Chris Ellis

Subject: Agency Scoping Meetings for SLC South Beach and Dune Restoration Project EIS & Central PBC Comprehensive Erosion Control Project EIS
Location: USACE Palm Beach Gardens Office
Start: Fri 6/4/2010 10:30 AM
End: Fri 6/4/2010 12:30 PM
Show Time As: Tentative
Recurrence: (none)
Meeting Status: Not yet responded
Organizer: Chris Ellis
Required Attendees: jeffrey_howe@fws.gov; Audra Livergood (Audra.Livergood@noaa.gov); jocelyn.karazsia@noaa.gov; kel.logan@noaa.gov; kay.davy@noaa.gov; miedema.Ron@epamail.epa.gov; Steven J. Schropp (sschropp@taylorengineering.com); 'David Stites' (dstites@taylorengineering.com); Chris Ellis; Eric.G.Reusch@usace.army.mil; 'Lips, Garrett G SAJ' (Garrett.G.Lips@usace.army.mil)

Hello-

You have been identified by the USACE as a potential stakeholder in the following projects:

- St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project
- Central Palm Beach County Comprehensive Erosion Control Project

The USACE has determined that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is necessary for each of these projects to meet NEPA requirements for the U.S. Department of the Army permit application process. You may access the published Notice of Intent to Prepare an EIS for each project using the following links:

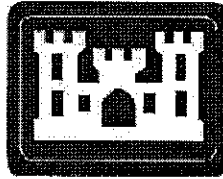
St. Lucie County Project: <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/2010-9204.htm>
Palm Beach County Project: <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/2010-10236.htm>

You are cordially invited to attend agency scoping meetings for each of these projects. The purpose of the scoping meetings is to help the USACE identify agency-recommended issues of EIS focus, available information pertinent to the project, and contacts to support development of the EIS. If you are unable to attend the meetings in person, you may participate via teleconference. We will provide the call-in information via e-mail at least one day prior to the meeting.

Meeting Information

Date: Friday, June 4, 2010
Time: 10:30 – 11:30: St Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project
11:30 – 12:30: Central Palm Beach County Comprehensive Erosion Control Project
Location: USACE Palm Beach Gardens Office
4400 PGA Boulevard
Suite 500
Palm Beach Gardens, Florida 33410
Call-in No: To be provided

Participant Sign-In Sheets



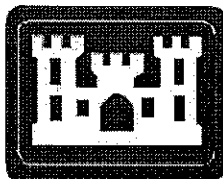
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Scoping Meeting on the St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

Federal Agency Meeting Sign in Sheet

USACE Representative:	Garett Lips, USACE Regulatory Project Manager		
Meeting Location, Date, & Time:	USACE Palm Beach Gardens Office 4400 PGA Boulevard, Suite 500 Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410		June 4, 2010 @ 10:30 am
Name	Organization/ Affiliation	E-Mail Address	Phone No.
Jocelyn Karaszia	NOAA Fisheries	Jocelyn.Karaszia@noaa.gov	561-616-8880 x207
Ron Miedema	USEPA	miedema.ron@epa.gov	561-616-8741
Steve Schropp	Taylor Engineering	sschropp@taylorengeering.com	904-256-1305
ERIC REUSCH	AOE	eric.g.reusch@usace.army.mil	561-472-3529
CHRIS ELLIS	TAYLOR ENG.	Cellis@taylorengeering.com	904-731-7040
* KIM OLSEN	CSA	Kolsen@conshelf.com	(772) 219-3024
* KEITH SPRING	CSA	Kspring@conshelf.com	(772) 219-3000

* PHONE PARTICIPANTS



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Scoping Meeting on the St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

Federal Agency Meeting Sign in Sheet

USACE Representative:	Garett Lips, USACE Regulatory Project Manager		
Meeting Location, Date, & Time:	USACE Palm Beach Gardens Office 4400 PGA Boulevard, Suite 500 Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410		June 4, 2010 @ 10:30 am
Name	Organization/ Affiliation	E-Mail Address	Phone No.
* AUDRA LIVERGOOD	NOAA	audra.liversgood@noaa.gov	

* PHONE PARTICIPANTS

E-5

Presentation Hand-Outs

4 June 2010



What is an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)?

- An objective and independent analysis of the applicant's (SLC) proposal.
- A requirement of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for federal government actions with the potential for significant environmental impacts
- A detailed and public evaluation of project impacts and benefits
- One component of the USACE permit application review for the proposed St. Lucie County Beach and Dune Restoration Project.



Who prepares this EIS?

- The United States Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Division
 - ▶ USACE – Lead Agency, Garrett Lips, Project Manager
 - ▶ Taylor Engineering, Inc. – the USACE EIS contractor
 - ▶ St Lucie County – the permit applicant for the project
 - ▶ St. Lucie County funds contracted EIS services



How is this EIS prepared?

- Taylor Engineering acts at the direction of the USACE
- A communication agreement defines relationships between the USACE, Taylor Engineering, and St. Lucie County
- All communications are “transparent” – communicated with or through the USACE project manager



EIS Process

- Scoping Meeting
 - ▶ Solicit and record agency input on the focus and content of the Environmental Impact Statement

What Questions Should The EIS Address?



EIS Federal Agency Scoping Meeting

Individual Permit Review with EIS

- USACE receives an application for a US Army Permit
 - ▶ After application review, USACE decides to conduct EIS
- USACE consultants assist in EIS development*
 - ▶ Evaluate impacts*
 - ▶ Draft EIS/Public Notice*
 - ▶ Response to comments on Draft EIS*Additional studies (by USACE, Consultants, or Applicant)*
 - ▶ Final EIS/Draft 404(B)(1) Analysis*
- USACE Completes Final Decision Process
 - ▶ Record of Decision and Final 404(B)(1) Analysis

* *Corps Oversight*

St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project EIS

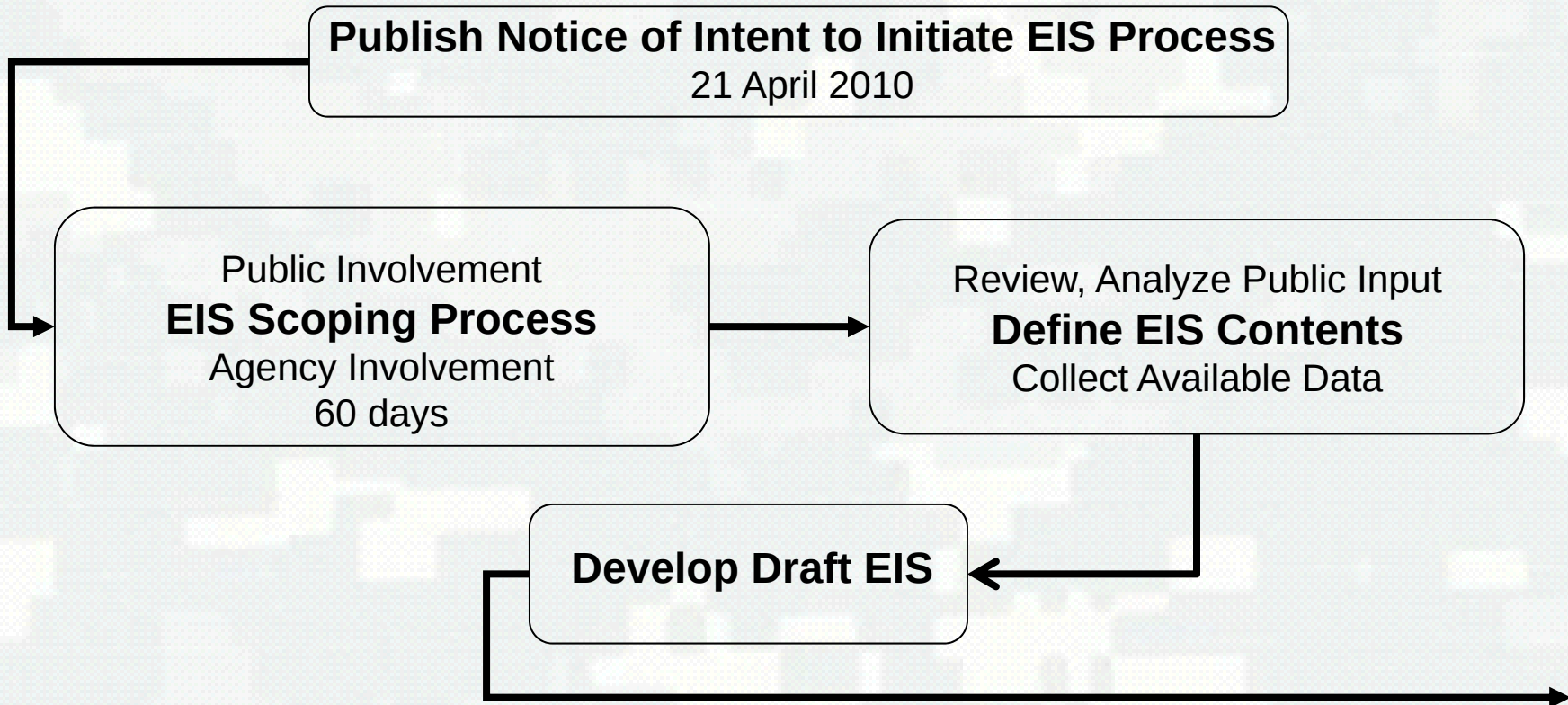


BUILDING STRONG®

EIS Federal Agency Scoping Meeting

EIS Process

E-13



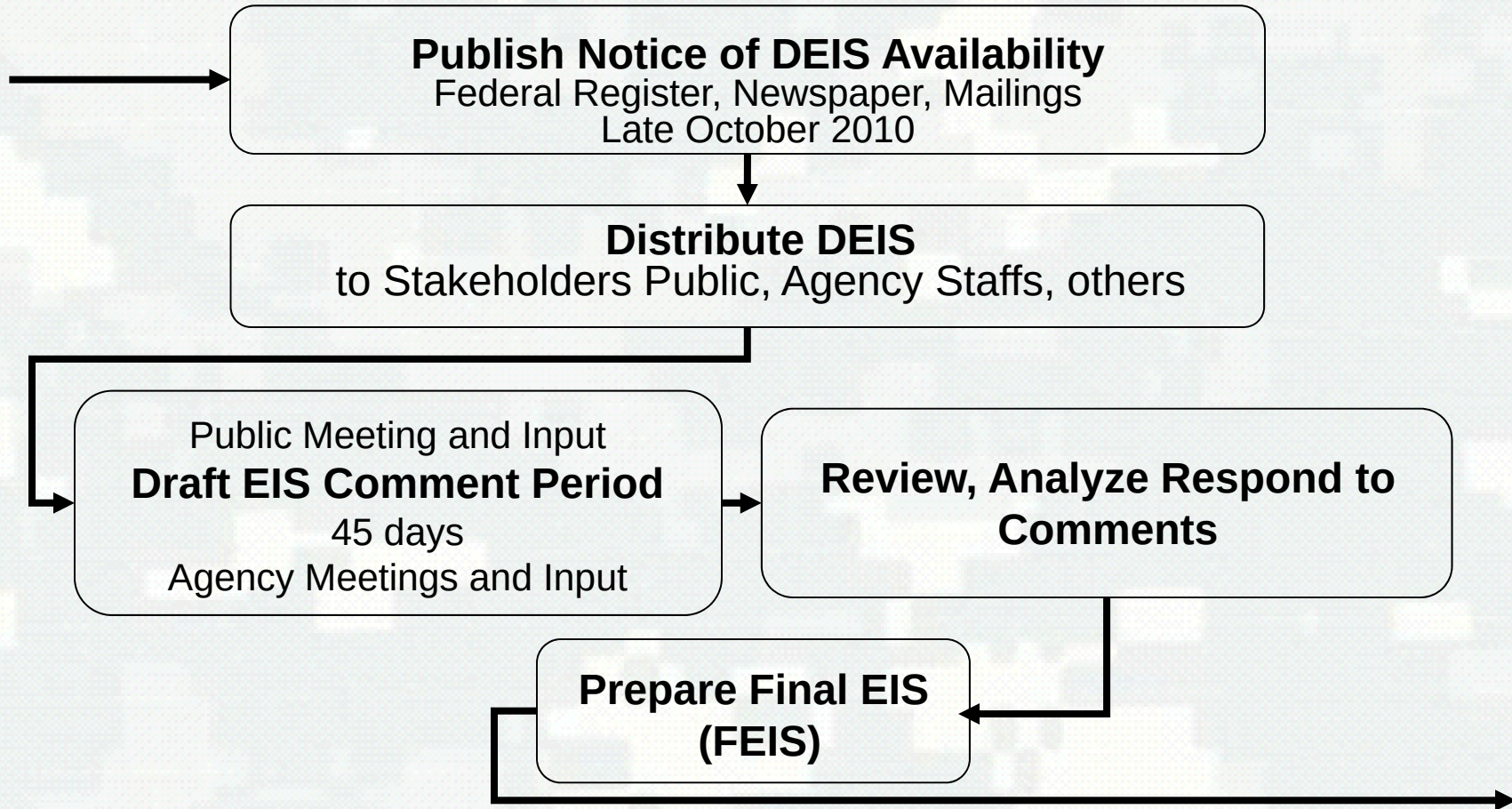
St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project EIS



BUILDING STRONG®

EIS Federal Agency Scoping Meeting

EIS Process



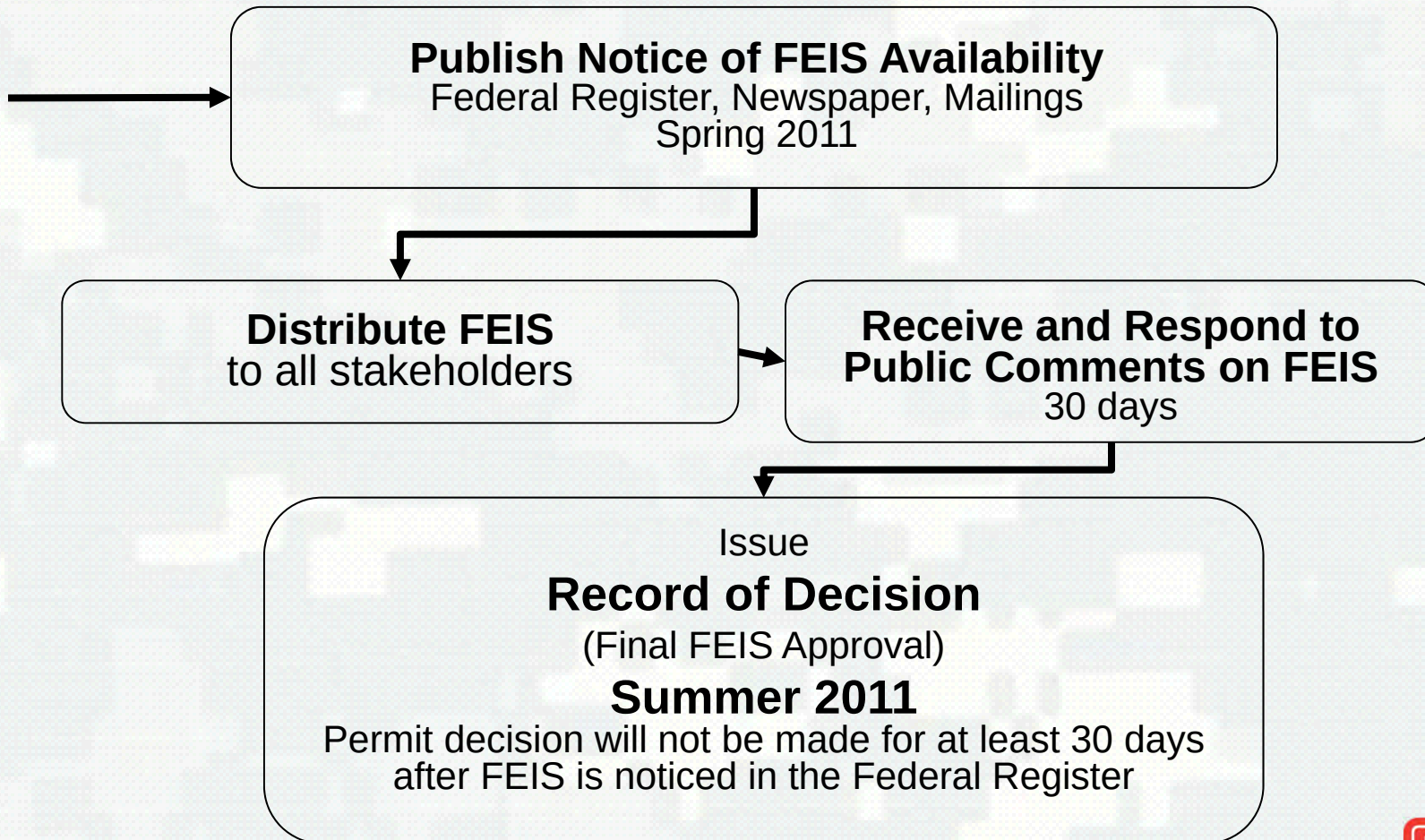
St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project EIS



BUILDING STRONG®

EIS Federal Agency Scoping Meeting

EIS Process



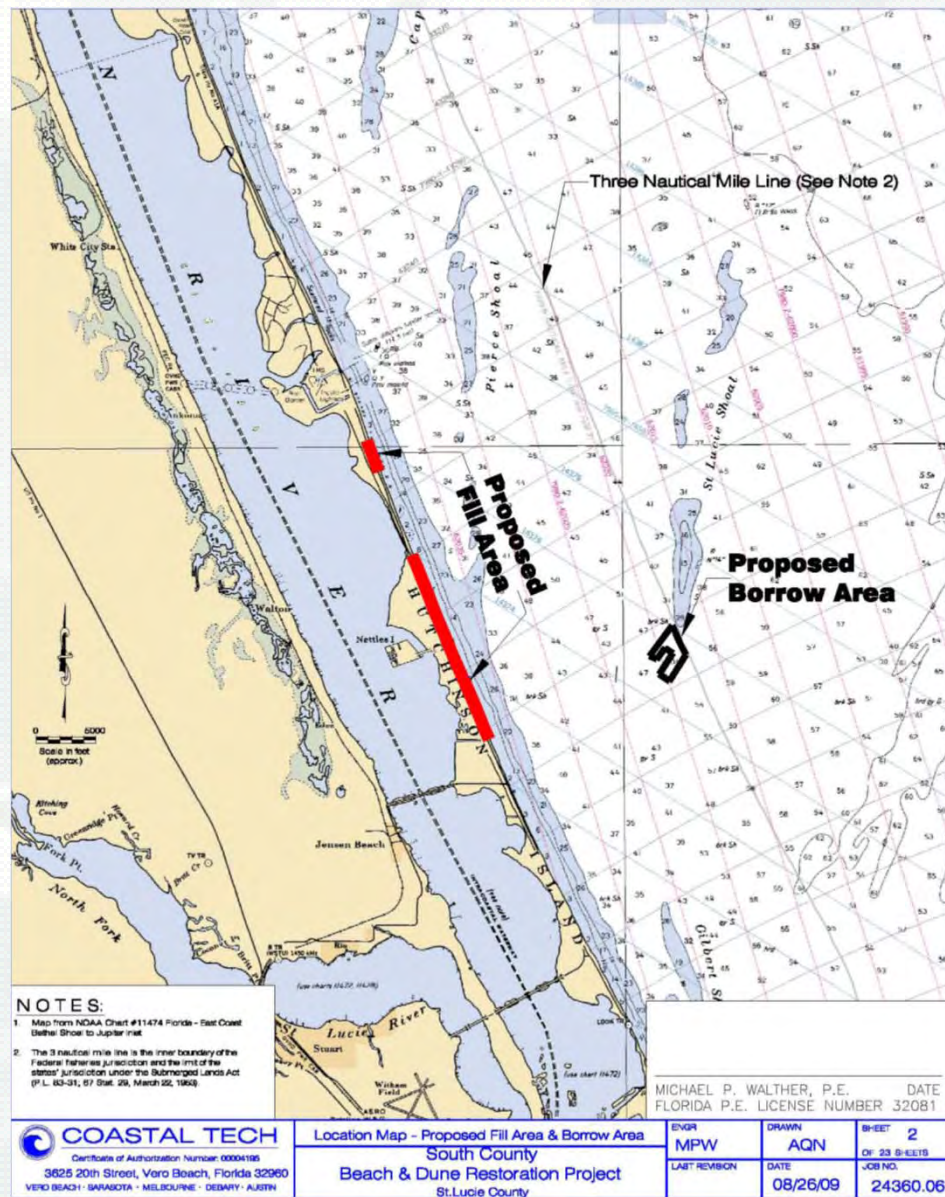
St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project EIS



BUILDING STRONG®

Proposed Project

- New project
 - ▶ Dredge sand from site approximately 3 miles offshore of project beach
 - ▶ Place dredged sand to restore beach and dune along 3.8 miles of Hutchinson Island beach in South St. Lucie County
 - ▶ Applicant estimates 1.08 acres of impact to nearshore hardbottom from placed sand



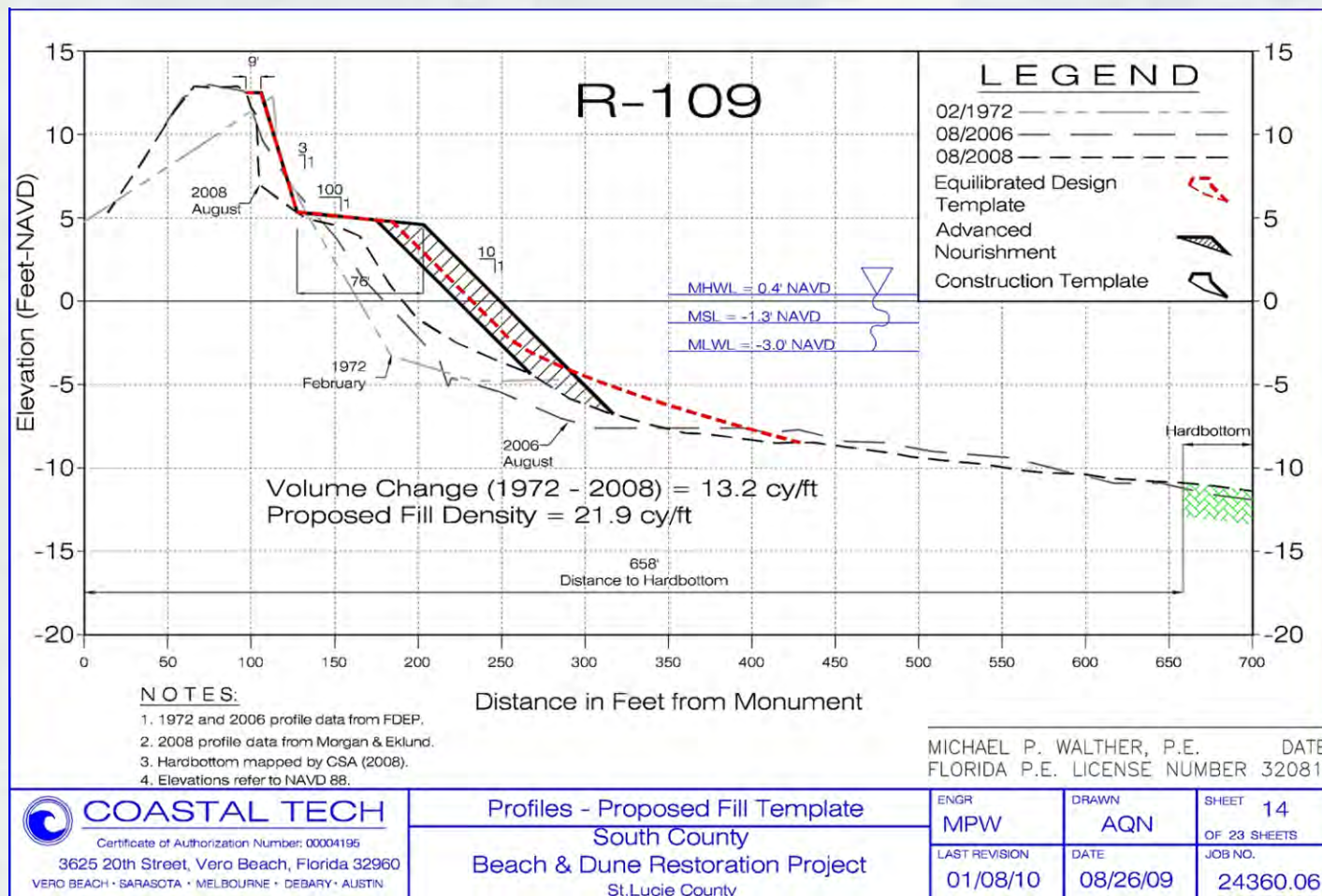
St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project EIS

Proposed Project

- Hopper dredge will transport sand from borrow area to a point outside the nearshore hardbottom.
- Sand will be pumped from the hopper to the beach via a pipeline located to avoid any hardbottom impacts from pipe.

EIS Federal Agency Scoping Meeting

Proposed Project



St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project EIS

Proposed Project

- Project alternatives that may be considered
 - ▶ Beach fill (nourishment)
 - ▶ Revetment, seawalls, berms, PEP reef (submerged concrete barrier), groins
 - ▶ Beach fill with periodic nourishment stabilized by an offshore breakwater
 - ▶ Beach area rezoning, construction setback line, construction moratorium, or no growth program
 - ▶ Building codes modification, evacuation planning, land and structures condemnation, structures relocation or retrofit
 - ▶ No action

EIS Federal Agency Scoping Meeting

Project Impact and Mitigation

- Impact and Mitigation
 - ▶ Estimated project impacts – 1.08 acres of hardbottom habitat
 - ▶ Other potential impacts – threatened and endangered species, cultural resources,
 - ▶ No specific mitigation plan proposed at this time. Some mitigation concepts being considered include:
 - Mitigation reef (new or expansion of existing)
 - Shoreline improvements along Coon Island or Ft. Pierce Inlet State
 - Recreation area
 - Sea turtle lighting improvements
 - Bear Point (or other County sites) flushing improvements
 - Offshore trash cleanup
 - Australian pine removal
 - Creation of shorebird nesting habitat
 - ▶ Mitigation plan development is part of the EIS, and a required part of state and federal permit applications

EIS Federal Agency Scoping Meeting

Project Impact and Mitigation



Hardbottom impacts include all hardbottom inside the Equilibrium Toe of Fill Line

Equilibrium Toe of Fill

St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project EIS

Long-term Shoreline Stabilization

- USACE Planning Division is studying the feasibility of a federal project for future nourishment activities
- The EIS may provide the NEPA documentation and decision basis for future shoreline stabilization projects along this segment of beach

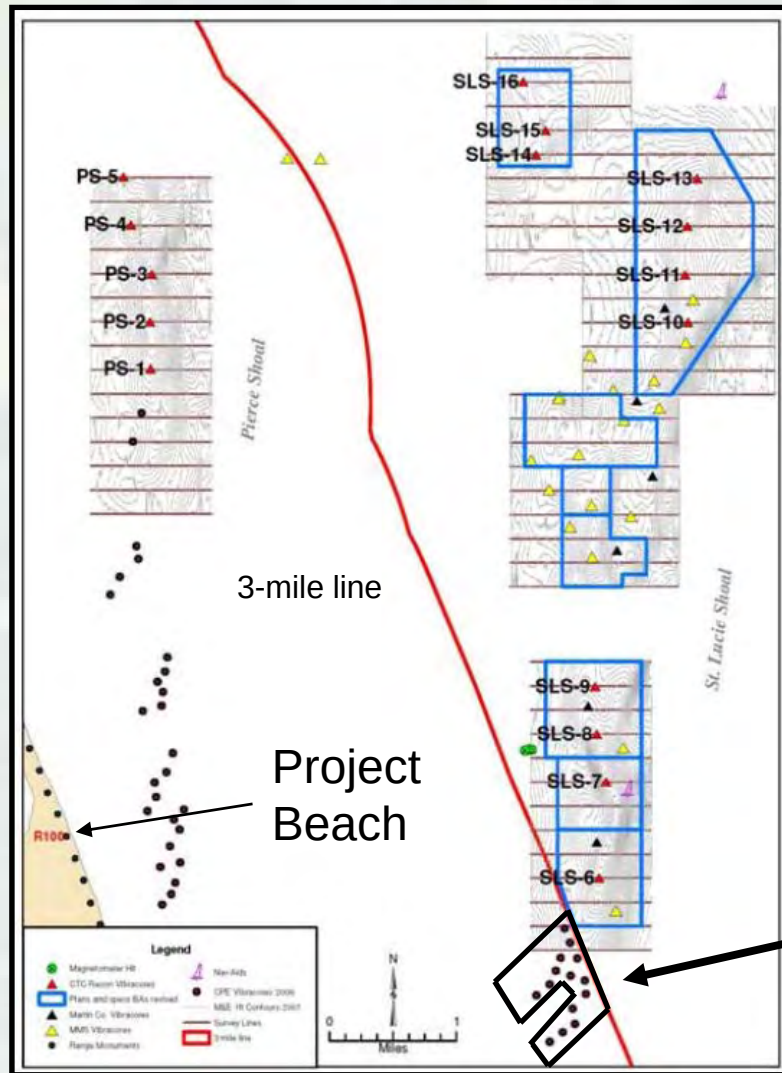
Long-term Shoreline Stabilization

■ Long-Term Feasibility Study

▶ Performed by USACE Planning Division

- Part of the federal decision process to decide whether a project meets USACE criteria for federal authorization (and possibly funding)
- Specific evaluations focus on engineering economics cost / benefit analyses, and environmental effects
- Environmental Impact Statement provides another element of the Feasibility Study planning process and becomes part of the final federal authorization decision.

EIS Federal Agency Scoping Meeting



Long-term Borrow
Areas Under
Investigation

Proposed Project
Borrow Site

(Coastal Tech 2010)

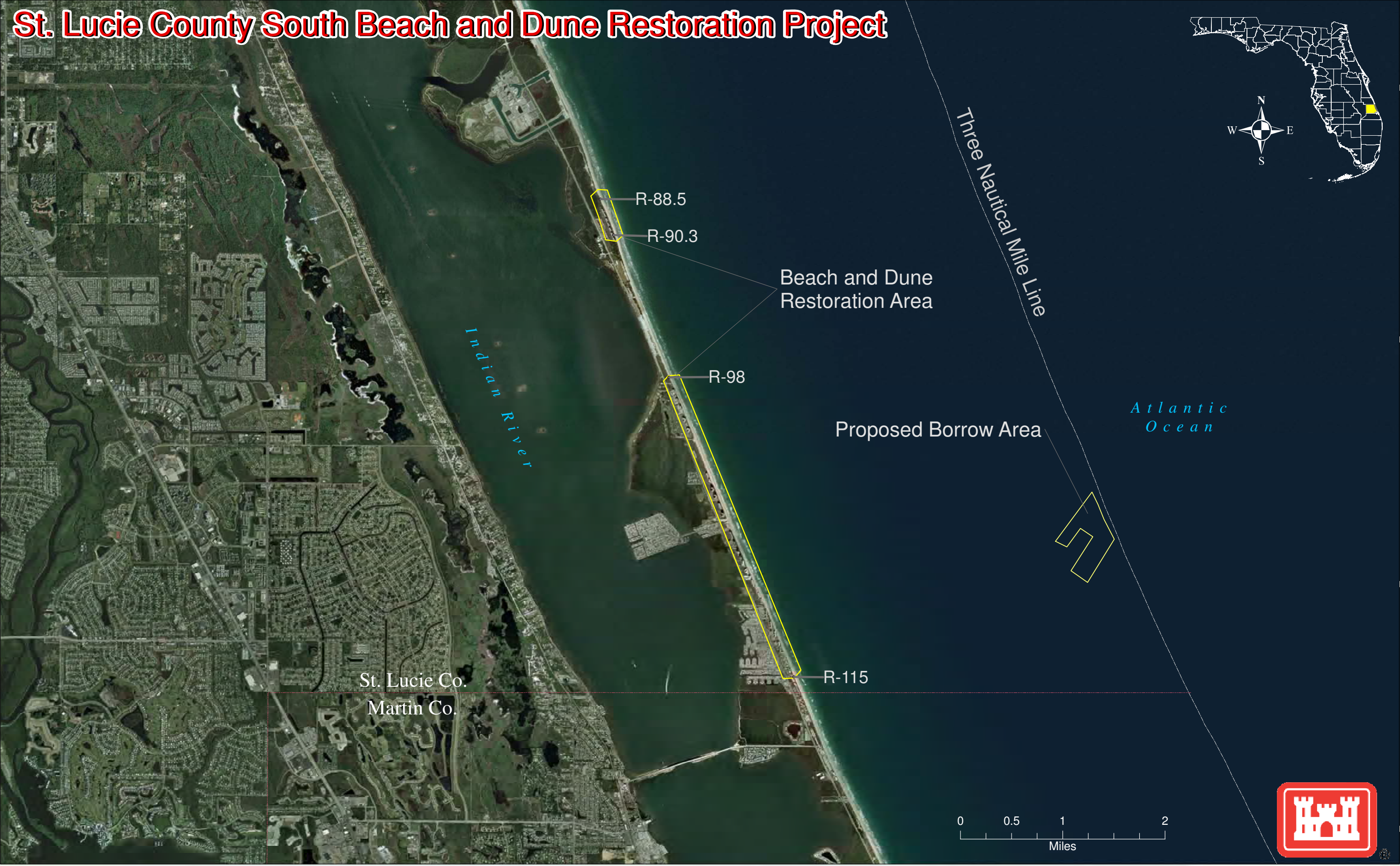
St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project EIS

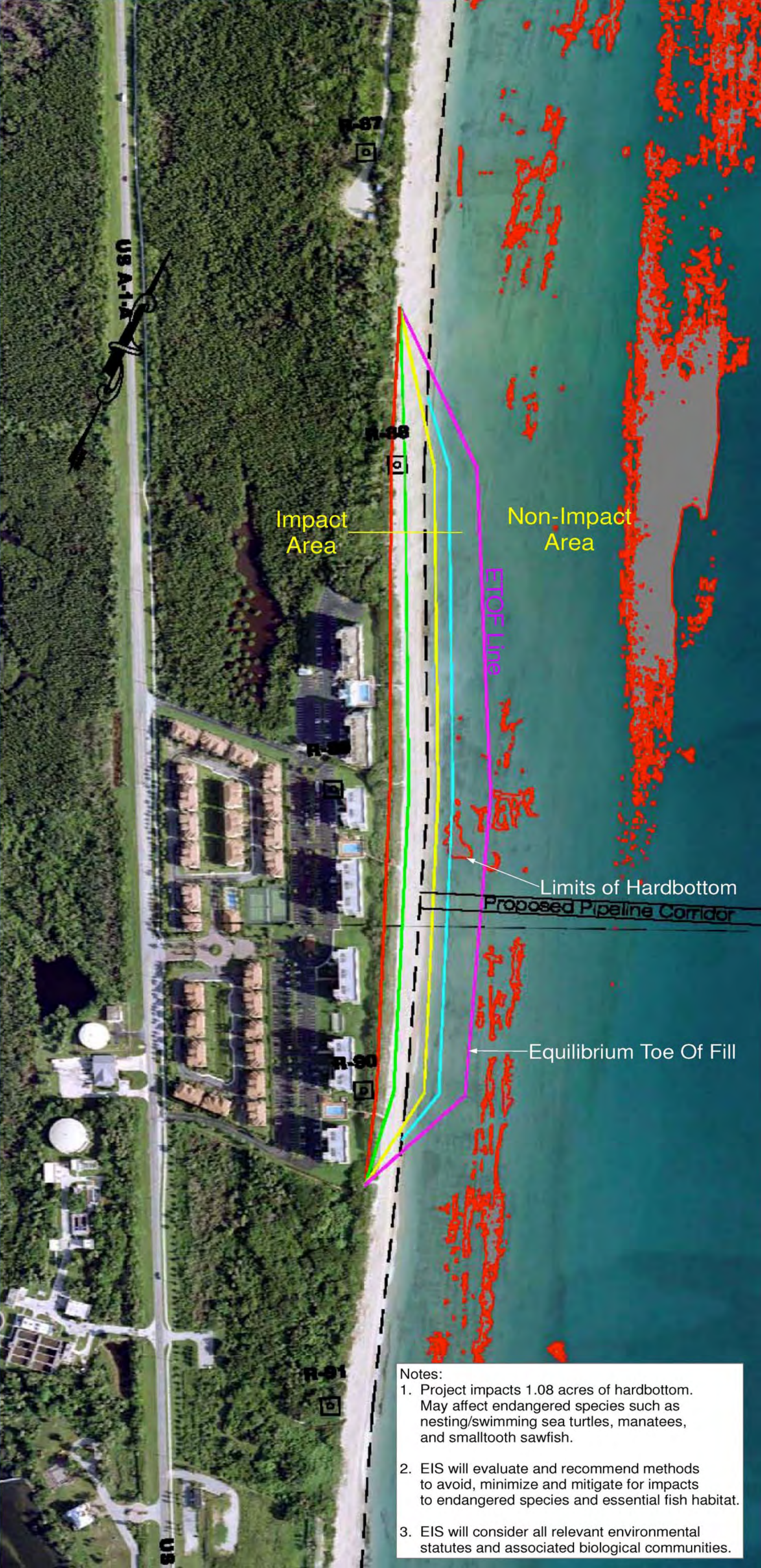
Proposed Project

- Permit application available at:
 - ▶ http://bcs.dep.state.fl.us/env-prmt/st_lucie/pending/
- Corps documents will be available at the following location for making comments, reviewing the DEIS or FEIS
 - ▶ <http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/Divisions/Regulatory/news.htm>
- Send comments to Garrett Lips, USACE
 - ▶ 561-472-3519
 - ▶ garrett.g.lips@usace.army.mil

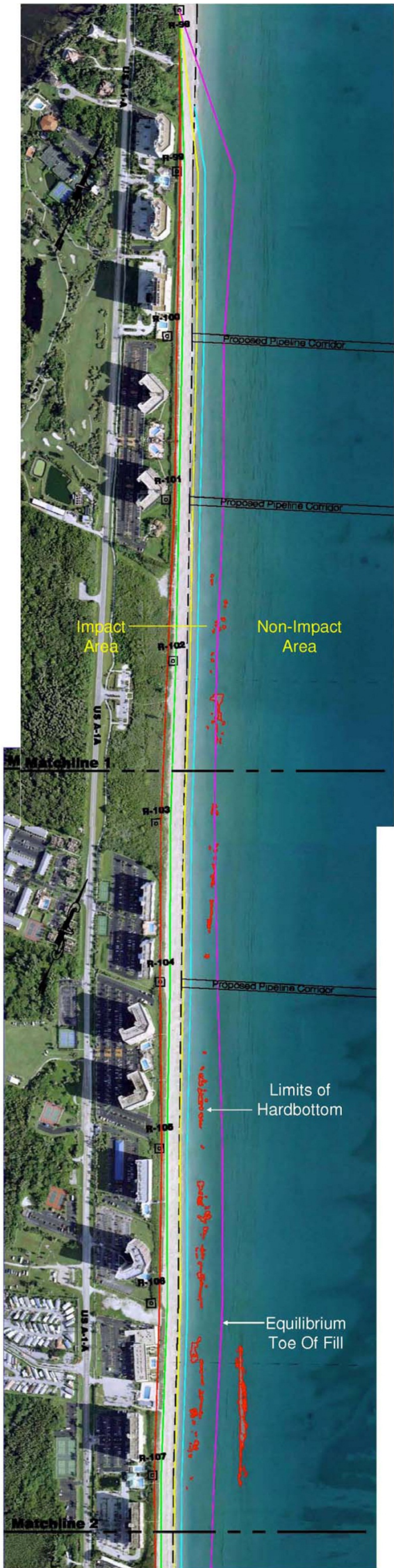


St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project



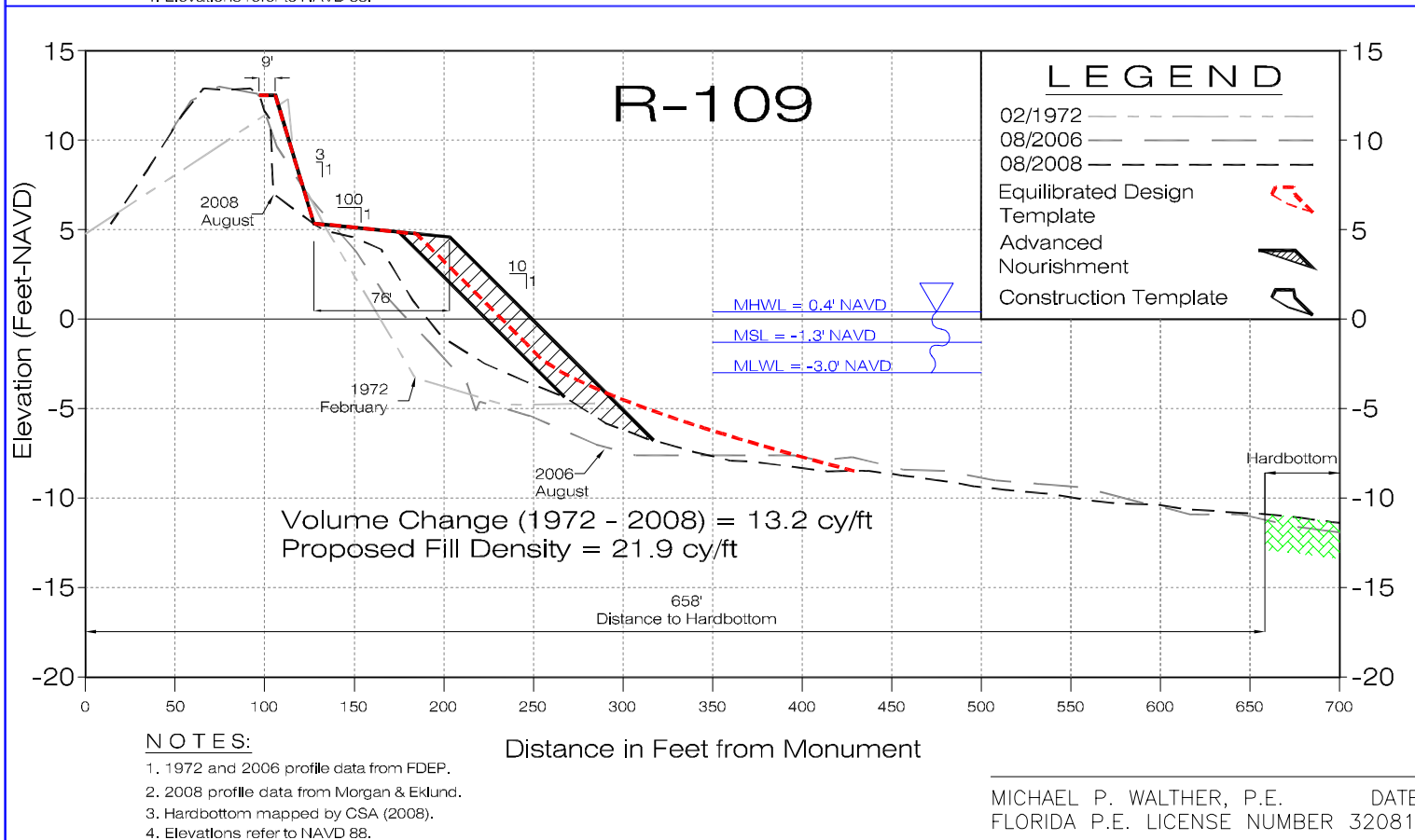
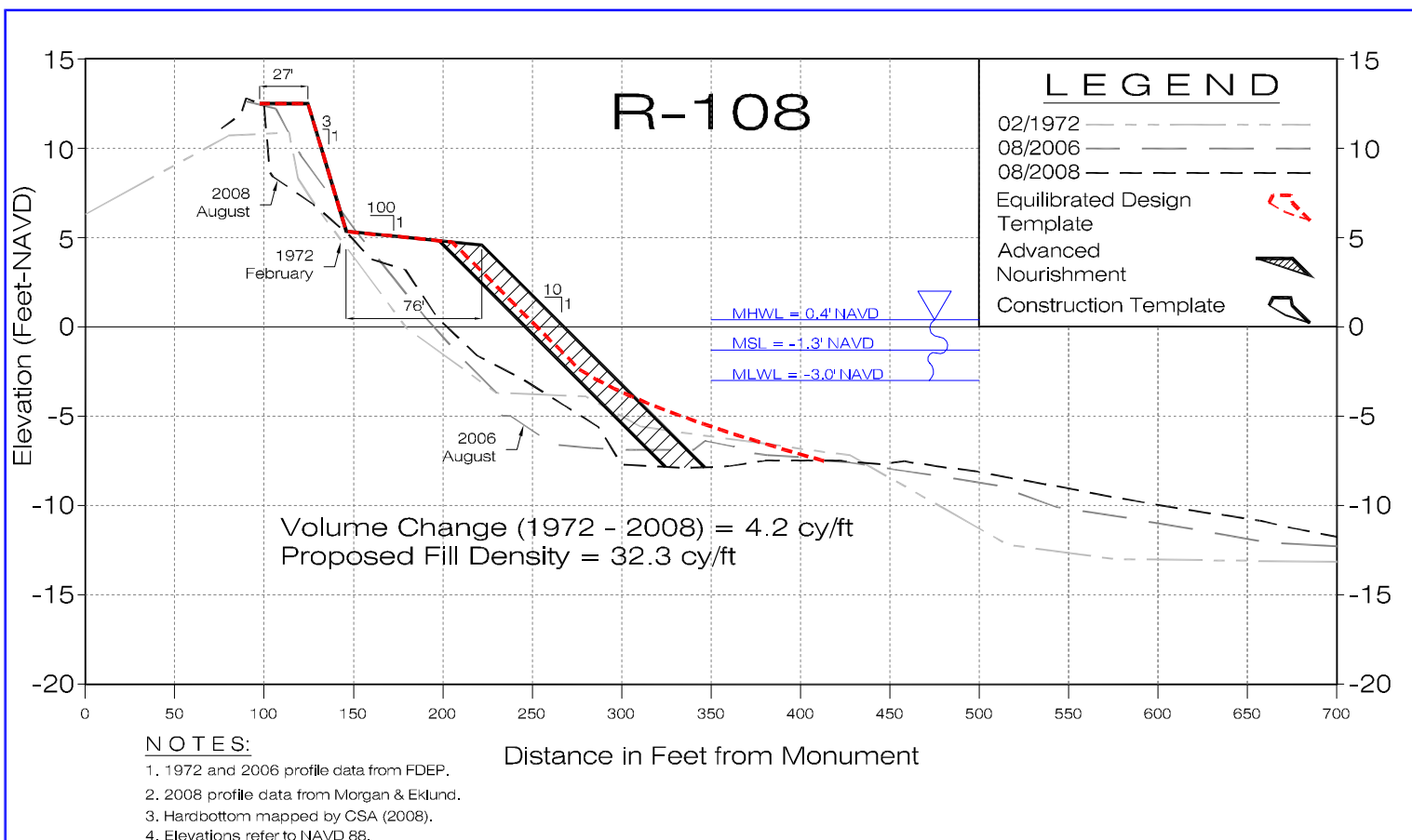


- Notes:
1. Project impacts 1.08 acres of hardbottom. May affect endangered species such as nesting/swimming sea turtles, manatees, and smalltooth sawfish.
 2. EIS will evaluate and recommend methods to avoid, minimize and mitigate for impacts to endangered species and essential fish habitat.
 3. EIS will consider all relevant environmental statutes and associated biological communities.



Notes:

1. Project impacts 1.08 acres of hardbottom. May affect endangered species such as nesting/swimming sea turtles, manatees, and smalltooth sawfish.
2. EIS will evaluate and recommend methods to avoid, minimize and mitigate for impacts to endangered species and essential fish habitat.
3. EIS will consider all relevant environmental statues and associated biological communities.



Written Comments

Chris Ellis

From: Lips, Garrett G SAJ [Garrett.G.Lips@usace.army.mil]
Sent: Monday, June 07, 2010 9:03 AM
To: David Stites; Chris Ellis; Steven J. Schropp
Subject: FW: Scoping comments for the St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project
Attachments: BA GUIDE-INITGUIDE COMBO_April 23, 2007.doc

All,
Here are the comments from NMFS PRD regarding ESA

Thank you,

Garett Lips
Biologist
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
4400 PGA Boulevard, Suite 500
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410
Office 561-472-3519

Please use the following link to view this year's schedule and locations for the Regulatory Open House sessions.

<http://www.usacejacksonvilleregulatory.com/>

Please assist us in better serving you! Please complete the stakeholder survey by clicking on the following link:
<http://per2.nwp.usace.army.mil/survey.html>

-----Original Message-----

From: Audra Livergood [mailto:Audra.Livergood@noaa.gov]
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 12:00 PM
To: Lips, Garrett G SAJ
Cc: Jocelyn Karazsia; Kay Davy
Subject: Scoping comments for the St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project

Dear Garrett,

The National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) Protected Resources Division (PRD) would like to submit scoping comments to the Army Corps of Engineers (COE) concerning the subject project. These comments specifically pertain to federally-listed threatened and endangered species under NMFS' purview.

Because this project is still in the early planning stages, it is likely that we will have subsequent comments and recommendations. The recommendations provided herein pertain to information that we believe should be included in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and the Biological Assessment (BA) for the subject project:

- 1) We recommend that a draft BA be submitted to NMFS PRD for review and comment. It is also recommended that the draft BA be submitted along with the COE's request for Endangered Species Act (ESA) section 7 consultation.
- 2) We recommend that the draft and final BA follow NMFS' Recommendations for the Contents of Biological Assessments and Biological Evaluations (attached).
- 3) The BA may be submitted as a stand-alone document or it may be submitted as part of the EIS (recommended). If the BA is included within the EIS, NMFS recommends that the BA be a stand-alone component of the EIS.
- 4) A hopper dredge has been proposed for this project. An upland borrow area is also under consideration in lieu of offshore dredging. Because hopper dredges are known to adversely affect sea turtles, NMFS recommends consideration of other dredge types (e.g., cutterhead or clamshell dredge) in lieu of a hopper dredge. Cutterhead and clamshell dredges are not likely to adversely affect sea turtles. We believe an upland borrow area is also a viable alternative to hopper dredging so long as the sand source is compatible with the natural beach sand.
- 5) Pre- and post-construction nearshore hardbottom edge mapping is recommended to quantify the actual amount of nearshore hardbottom effected by the project. Reinitiation of ESA section 7 consultation with NMFS PRD is required if the actual amount of nearshore hardbottom effected by the project exceeds the estimated amount in the proposed action.

Thank you,
Audra Livergood

National Marine Fisheries Service
Recommendations for the Contents of
Biological Assessments and Biological Evaluations
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When preparing a Biological Assessment (BA) or Biological Evaluation (BE), keep in mind that the people who read or review this document may not be familiar with the project area or what is proposed by the project. Therefore your BA or BE should present a clear line of reasoning that explains the proposed project and how you determined the effects of the project on each threatened or endangered species, or critical habitat, in the project area. Try to avoid technical jargon not readily understandable to people outside your agency or area of expertise. Remember, this is a **public document**. Some things to consider and, if appropriate, to include in your BA or BE, follow.

1. What is the difference between a Biological Evaluation and a Biological Assessment?

By regulation, a Biological Assessment is prepared for “major construction activities” — defined as “a construction project (or other undertaking having similar physical effects) which is a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment (as referred to in the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) [(42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C))].” A BA is required if listed species or critical habitat may be present in the action area. A BA also may be recommended for other activities to ensure the agency’s early involvement and increase the chances for resolution during informal consultation. Recommended contents for a BA are described in 50 CFR 402.12(f).

Biological Evaluation is a generic term for all other types of analyses in support of consultations. Although agencies are not required to prepare a Biological Assessment for non-major construction activities, **if a listed species or critical habitat is likely to be affected, the agency must provide the Service with an evaluation on the likely effects of the action.** Often this information is referred to as a BE. The Service uses this documentation along with any other available information to decide if concurrence with the agency’s determination is warranted. Recommended contents are the same as for a BA, as referenced above.

The BAs and BEs should not be confused with Environmental Assessments (EA) or Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) which may be required for NEPA projects. These EAs and EISs are designed to provide an analysis of multiple possible alternative actions on a variety of environmental, cultural, and social resources, and often use different definitions or standards. However, if an EA or EIS contains the information otherwise found in a BE or BA regarding the project and the potential impacts to listed species, it may be submitted in lieu of a BE or BA.

2. What are you proposing to do?

Describe the project. A project description will vary, depending on the complexity of the project. For example, describing the construction or removal of a fixed aid-to-navigation in the Intracoastal Waterway, or the abandonment/dismantling of an oil-producing-platform may be relatively simple, but describing the extent and amplitude of potential impacts of military training exercises involving different military assets, combinations of weaponry, locations, and seasons would necessarily be more detailed and complex. Include figures and tables if they will help others understand your proposed action and its relationship with the species’ habitat.

How are you (or the project proponent) planning on carrying out the project? What tools or methods may

be used? How will the site be accessed? When will the project begin, and how long will it last?

Describe the “action area” (all areas to be affected directly or indirectly by the Federal action and not merely the immediate areas involved in the action [50 CFR 402.02]). Always include a map (topographic maps are particularly helpful). Provide photographs including aerials, if available. Describe the project area (i.e., topography, vegetation, condition/trend).

Describe current management or activities relevant to the project area. How will your project change the area?

Supporting documents are very helpful. If you have a blasting plan, best management practices document, sawfish/sea turtle/sturgeon conservation construction guidelines, research proposal, NEPA or other planning document or any other documents regarding the project, attach them to the BA or BE.

3. What threatened or endangered species, or critical habitat, may occur in the project area?

A request for a species list may be submitted to the Service, or the Federal action agency or its designated representative may develop the list. If you have information to develop your own lists, the Service should be contacted periodically to ensure that changes in species’ status or additions/deletions to the list are included. Sources of biological information on federally-protected sea turtles, sturgeon, Gulf sturgeon (and Gulf sturgeon critical habitat), and other listed species and candidate species can be found at the following website addresses: NMFS Southeast Regional Office, Protected Resources Division (<http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/protres.htm>); NMFS Office of Protected Resources (<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/species>); U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (<http://noflorida.fws.gov/SeaTurtles/seaturtle-info.htm>); <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/>; <http://www.sad.usace.army.mil/protected%20resources/turtles.htm>; <http://endangered.fws.gov/wildlife.html#Species>; the Ocean Conservancy (<http://www.cmc-ocean.org/main.php3>); the Caribbean Conservation Corporation (<http://www.cccturtle.org/>); Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (<http://floridacconservation.org/psm/turtles/turtle.htm>); <http://www.turtles.org>; <http://www.seaturtle.org>; <http://alabama.fws.gov/gs/>; http://obis.env.duke.edu/data/sp_profiles.php; www.mote.org/~colins/Sawfish/SawfishHomePage.html; www.floridasawfish.com; <http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/fish/Sharks/sawfish/srt/srt.htm>; www.flmnh.ufl.edu/fish/sharks/InNews/sawprop.htm; also, from members of the public or academic community, and from books and various informational booklets. Due to budget constraints and staff shortages, we are only able to provide general, state-wide, or country-wide (territory-wide) species lists.

Use your familiarity with the project area when you develop your species lists. Sometimes a species may occur in the larger regional area near your project, but the habitat necessary to support the species is not in the project area (including areas that may be beyond the immediate project boundaries, but within the area of influence of the project. If, for example, you know that the specific habitat type used by a species does not occur in the project area, it does not need to appear on the species list for the project. However, documentation of your reasoning is helpful for Service biologists or anyone else that may review the document.

4. Have you surveyed for species that are known to occur or have potential habitat in the proposed project area?

The “not known to occur here” approach is a common flaw in many BA/BEs. The operative word here is “known.” Unless adequate surveys have been conducted or adequate information sources have been

referenced, this statement is difficult to interpret. It begs the questions “Have you looked?” and “How have you looked?” Always reference your information sources.

Include a clear description of your survey methods so the reader can have confidence in your results. Answer such questions as:

How intensive was the survey? Did you look for suitable habitat or did you look for individuals? Did the survey cover the entire project area or only part of it? Include maps of areas surveyed if appropriate.

Who did the surveys and when? Was the survey done during the time of year/day when the plant is growing or when the animal can be found (its active period)? Did the survey follow accepted protocols?

If you are not sure how to do a good survey for the species, the Service recommends contacting species experts. Specialized training is required before you can obtain a permit to survey for some species.

Remember that your evaluation of potential impacts from a project does not end if the species is/are not found in the project area. You must still evaluate what effects would be expected to the habitat, even if it is not known to be occupied, because impacts to habitat that may result indirectly in death or injury to individuals of listed species would constitute “take”.

5. Provide background information on the threatened or endangered species in the project area.

Describe the species in terms of overall range and population status. How many populations are known? How many occur in the project area? What part of the population will be affected by this project? Will the population’s viability be affected? What is the current habitat condition and population size and status? Describe related items of past management for the species, such as stocking programs, habitat improvements, or loss of habitat or individuals caused by previous projects.

6. How will the project affect the threatened or endangered species or critical habitat that occur in the project area?

If you believe the project will not affect the species, explain why. Effects analyses must include evaluating whether adverse impacts to species’ habitats, whether designated or not, could indirectly harm or kill listed species.

If you think the project may affect the species, explain what the effects might be. The Endangered Species Act requires you consider all effects when determining if an action funded, permitted, or carried out by a Federal agency may affect listed species. Effects you must consider include direct, indirect, and cumulative effects. Effects include those caused by interrelated and interdependent actions, not just the proposed action. Direct effects are those caused by the action and occur at the same time and place as the action. Indirect effects are caused by the action and are later in time but are reasonably certain to occur. Interrelated actions are those that are part of a larger action and depend on the larger action for their justification. Interdependent actions are those that have no significant independent utility apart from the action under consideration. Interrelated or interdependent actions can include actions under the jurisdiction of other federal agencies, state agencies, or private parties. Cumulative effects are those effects of future State or private activities, not involving Federal activities, that are reasonably certain to occur within the action area of the Federal actions subject to consultation.

Describe measures that have or will be taken to avoid or eliminate adverse effects or enhance beneficial

effects to the species. Refer to conversations you had with species experts to achieve these results.

Consider recovery potential if the project area contains historic range for a species.

Evaluate impacts to designated critical habitat areas by reviewing any project effects to the physical or biological features essential to the conservation of the species.

7. What is your decision? The Federal action agency must make a determination of effect.

Quite frequently, effect determinations are not necessarily *wrong*; they simply are not justified in the assessment. The assessment should lead the reviewer through a discussion of effects to a logical, well-supported conclusion. Do not assume that the Service biologist is familiar with the project and/or its location and that there is no need to fully explain the impact the project may have on listed species. If there is little or no connection or rationale provided to lead the reader from the project description to the effect determination, we cannot assume conditions that are not presented in the assessment. Decisions must be justified biologically. The responsibility for making and supporting the determination of effect falls on the Federal action agency; however, the Service cannot merely “rubber stamp” the action agency’s determination and may ask the agency to revisit its decision or provide more data if the conclusion is not adequately supported by biological information.

You have three choices for each listed species or area of critical habitat:

1. “No effect” is the appropriate conclusion when a listed species will not be affected, either because the species will not be present or because the project does not have any elements with the potential to affect the species. “No effect” does not include a *small* effect or an effect that is *unlikely* to occur: if effects are insignificant (in size) or discountable (extremely unlikely), a “may affect, but not likely to adversely affect” determination is appropriate. A “no effect” determination does **not** require written concurrence from the Service and ends ESA consultation requirements unless the project is subsequently modified in such manner that effects may ensue.

2. “May affect - is not likely to adversely affect” (NLAA) means that all effects are either beneficial, insignificant, or discountable. Beneficial effects have concurrent positive effects without any adverse effects to the species or habitat (i.e., there cannot be “balancing,” wherein the benefits of the project would be expected to outweigh the adverse effects - see #3 below). Insignificant effects relate to the magnitude or extent of the impact (i.e., they must be small and would not rise to the level of a take of a species). Discountable effects are those extremely unlikely to occur. Based on best judgment, a person would not: (1) be able to meaningfully measure, detect, or evaluate insignificant effects; or (2) expect discountable effects to occur. A “NLAA” determination by the action agency requires **written** concurrence from the Service.

3. “May affect - is likely to adversely affect” means that all adverse effects cannot be avoided. A combination of beneficial and adverse effects is still “likely to adversely affect,” even if the net effect is neutral or positive. Adverse effects do not qualify as discountable simply because we are not certain they will occur. The probability of occurrence must be extremely small to achieve discountability. Likewise, adverse effects do not meet the definition of insignificant because they are less than major. If the adverse effect can be detected in any way or if it can be meaningfully articulated in a discussion of the results, then it is not insignificant, it is likely to adversely affect. This requires formal consultation with the Service.

A fourth finding is possible for proposed species or proposed critical habitat:

4. “Is likely to jeopardize/destroy or adversely modify proposed species/critical habitat” is the

appropriate conclusion when the action agency identifies situations in which the proposed action is likely to jeopardize a species proposed for listing, or destroy or adversely modify critical habitat proposed for designation. If this conclusion is reached, conference is required.

List the species experts you contacted when preparing the BE or BA but avoid statements that place the responsibility for the decision of “may affect” or “no effect” on the shoulders of the species experts. Remember, this decision is made by the Federal action agency.

Provide supporting documentation, especially any agency reports or data that may not be available to the Service. Include a list of literature cited.

Originally prepared: January 1997
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Arizona Ecological Services Field Office

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National Marine Fisheries Service
Protected Resources Division
263 13th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
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OUTLINE EXAMPLE FOR A BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OR BIOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Cover Letter - **VERY IMPORTANT** - Include purpose of consultation, project title, and consultation number (if available). A determination needs to be made for each species and for each area of critical habitat. You have three options: 1) a “no effect” determination; 2) request concurrence with an “is not likely to adversely affect” determination; 3) make a “may affect, is likely to adversely affect” determination, and request “formal” consultation. If proposed species or critical habitat are included, state whether the project is likely to result in jeopardy to proposed species, or the destruction or adverse modification of proposed critical habitat. If the critical habitat is divided into units, specify which critical habitat unit(s) will be affected.

Attached to Cover Letter: Biological Assessment or Biological Evaluation document, broken down as follows:

Title: e.g., BA (or BE) for “Project X”; date prepared, and by whom.

A. Project Description - Describe the proposed action and the action area. Be specific and quantify whenever possible.

For Each Species:

1. Description of affected environment (quantify whenever possible)
2. Description of species biology
3. Describe current conditions for each species
 - a. Range-wide
 - b. In the project area
 - c. Cumulative effects of State and private actions in the project area
 - d. Other consultations of the Federal action agency in the area to date
4. Describe critical habitat (if applicable)
5. Fully describe effects of proposed action on each species and/or critical habitat, and species’ response to the proposed action.
 - a. Direct effects
 - b. Indirect effects
 - c. Interrelated and interdependent actions
 - d. Potential incidental take resulting from project activities

Factors to be considered/included/discussed when analyzing the effects of the proposed action on each species and/or critical habitat include: 1) Proximity of the action to the species, management units, or designated critical habitat units; 2) geographic area(s) where the disturbance/action occurs; timing (relationship to sensitive periods of a species’ lifecycle; 3) duration (the effects of a proposed action on listed species or critical habitat depend largely on the duration of its effects); 4) disturbance frequency (the mean number of events per unit of time affects a species differently depending on its recovery rate); 5) disturbance intensity (the effect of the disturbance on a population or species as a function of the population or species’ state after the disturbance); 6) disturbance severity (the effect of a disturbance on a population or species or habitat as a function of recovery rate – i.e., how long will it take to recover)

6. Conservation Measures (protective measures to avoid or minimize effects for each species)
7. Conclusions (effects determination for each species and critical habitat)
8. Literature Cited
9. Lists of Contacts Made/Preparers
10. Maps/Photographs

Guidance on Preparing an Initiation Package for Endangered Species Consultation

This document is intended to provide general guidance on the type and detail of information that should be provided to initiate consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and/or National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). This is not intended to be an exhaustive document as specific projects may require more or less information in order to initiate consultation. Also, note that this contains guidance on the information required to initiate formal consultation procedures with USFWS and/or NMFS. Additional information needs may be identified during consultation. Texts in italics below are examples. Normal text is guidance. A glossary of terms is appended.

INTRODUCTION

Here is an example of introductory language:

The purpose of this initiation package is to review the proposed [project name] in sufficient detail to determine to what extent the proposed action may affect any of the threatened, endangered, proposed species and designated or proposed critical habitats listed below. In addition, the following information is provided to comply with statutory requirements to use the best scientific and commercial information available when assessing the risks posed to listed and/or proposed species and designated and/or proposed critical habitat by proposed federal actions. This initiation package is prepared in accordance with legal requirements set forth under regulations implementing Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (50 CFR 402; 16 U.S.C. 1536 (c)).

Threatened, Endangered, Proposed Threatened or Proposed Endangered Species

Example language:

The following listed and proposed species may be affected by the proposed action:

*common name (Scientific name) **T***

*common name (Scientific name) **E***

*common name (Scientific name) **PT***

*common name (Scientific name) **PE***

This list should include all of the species from the species lists you obtained from USFWS and NMFS. If it doesn't, include a brief explanation here and a more detailed explanation in your record to help USFWS, NMFS and future staff understand your thought process for excluding a species from consideration.

Critical Habitat

Example language:

The action addressed within this document falls within Critical Habitat for [identify species].

CONSULTATION TO DATE

“Consultation” under the ESA consists of discussions between the action agency, the applicant (if any), and USFWS and/or NMFS. It is the sharing of information about the proposed action and related actions, the species and environments affected, and means of achieving project purposes while conserving the species and their habitats. Under the ESA, consultation can be either informal or formal. Both processes are similar, but informal consultation may result in formal consultation if there is a likelihood of unavoidable take. Formal consultation has statutory timeframes and other requirements (such as the submission of the information in this package and a written biological opinion by USFWS or NMFS).

Summarize any consultation that has occurred thus far. Identify when consultation was requested (if not concurrent with this document). Be sure to summarize meetings, site visits and correspondence that were important to the decision-making process.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION

The purpose of this section is to provide a clear and concise description of the proposed activity and any interrelated or interdependent actions.

The following information is necessary for the consultation process on an action:

1. The action agency proposing the action.
2. The authority(ies) the action agency will use to undertake, approve, or fund the action.
3. The applicant, if any.
4. The action to be authorized, funded, or carried out.
5. The location of the action.
5. When the action will occur, and how long it will last.
6. How the action will be carried out
7. The purpose of the action.
8. Any interrelated or interdependent actions, or that none exist to the best of your knowledge.

Describe and specify: **WHO** is going to do the action and under what authority, include the name and office of the action agency and the name and address of the applicant; **WHAT** the project or action is; **WHERE** the project is (refer to attached maps); **WHEN** the action is going to take place, including time line and implementation schedules; **HOW** the action will be accomplished, including the various activities that comprise the whole action, the methods, and the types of equipment used; **WHY** the action is proposed, including its purpose and need; and **WHAT OTHER** interrelated and interdependent actions are known. This combination of actions are what is being consulted on for the 7(a)(2) analysis.

Include a clear description of all conservation measures and project mitigation such as avoidance measures, seasonal restrictions, compensation, restoration/creation (on-site and in-kind, off-site and in-kind, on-site and out-of-kind, off-site and out-of-kind), and use of mitigation or conservation banks.

Here are some examples of commonly overlooked items to include in your project description:

Type of project

Project location

Project footprint

Avoidance areas

Start and end times

Construction access

Staging/laydown areas

Construction equipment and techniques

Habitat status on site

Habitat between work areas and endangered species locations

Permanent vs. temporary impacts

Surrounding land-use
Hydrology and drainage patterns
Duration of “temporary” impacts
Prevailing winds and expected seasonal shifts
Restoration areas
Conservation measures
Compensation and set-asides
Bank ratios and amounts
Mitigation: what kind and who is responsible?
Dust, erosion, and sedimentation controls
Whether the project is growth-inducing or facilitates growth
Whether the project is part of a larger project or plan
What permits will need to be obtained

Action Area

Describe all areas to be affected directly or indirectly by the Federal action and not merely the immediate area involved in the action. This includes any interrelated and interdependent actions. Remember that the action area is not based simply on the Federal action and should not be limited to the location of the Federal action. The same applies to the applicant’s action. The action area is defined by measurable or detectable changes in land, air and water, or to other measurable factors that may elicit a response in the species or critical habitat.

To determine the action area, we recommend that you first break the action down into its components (*e.g.*, vegetation clearing, construction of cofferdams, storage areas, borrow areas, operations, maintenance, etc.) to assess the potential impacts resulting from each component.

Determine the impacts that are expected to result from each component. For example, instream actions may mobilize sediments that travel downstream as increased turbidity and then settle out as sediments on the stream substrate. Sound levels from machinery may be detectable hundreds of feet, thousands of feet, or even miles away. Use these distances when delineating the extent of your action area. Note: don’t forget to subsequently reconstruct the action to assess the combined stressors of the components. You may find that some stressors are synergistically minimized or avoided, whereas other stressors may increase.

Finally, describe the action area, including features and habitat types. Include photographs and an area map as well as a vicinity map. The vicinity map for terrestrial projects should be at a 1:24,000 scale with the USGS quad name included.

SPECIES ACCOUNTS AND STATUS OF THE SPECIES IN THE ACTION AREA

Provide local information on affected individuals and populations, such as presence, numbers, life history, etc. Identify which threats to the species’ persistence identified at the time of listing are likely to be present in the action area. Identify any additional threats that are likely to be present in the action area.

If the species has a distribution that is constrained by limiting factors, identify where in the action area factors are present that could support the species and where they are absent or limiting. For example, if a species is limited to a narrow thermal range and a narrow humidity range, show where in the action area

the temperatures are sufficient to support the species, where the humidity is sufficient to support the species, and where those areas overlap.

Include aspects of the species' biology that relate to the impact of the action, such as sensitivity to or tolerance of: noise, light, heat, cold, inundation, smoke, sediments, dust, etc. For example, if the species is sensitive to loud sounds or vibration, and your project involves loud tools or equipment, reference that aspect of their biology. Include citations for all sources of information

Describe habitat use in terms of breeding, feeding, and sheltering. Describe habitat condition and habitat designations such as: critical habitat (provide unit name or number, if applicable), essential habitat, important habitat, recovery area, recovery unit (provide unit name or number, if applicable). Also discuss habitat use patterns, including seasonal use and migration (if relevant), and identify habitat needs.

Identify and quantify the listed-species habitat remaining in the action area. GIS layers are useful here, as are land ownership patterns--especially local land trusts and open space designations.

Identify any recovery plan implementation that is occurring in the action area, especially priority one action items from recovery plans.

Include survey information. For all monitoring and survey reports, please clearly identify how it was done, when, where, and by whom. If survey protocols were followed, reference the name and date of the protocol. If survey protocols were modified, provide an explanation of how the surveying occurred and the reasoning for modifying the protocol.

Keep it relevant. It is unnecessary to discuss biology that is totally unrelated to project impacts--*e.g.*, discussion of pelage color, teat number, and number of digits fore and aft when the project is a seasonal wetland establishment.

Utilize the best scientific and commercial information available. Use and cite recent publications/journal articles/agency data and technical reports. Include local information, relative to the action area, views of recognized experts, results from recent studies, and information on life history, population dynamics, trends and distribution. Reference field notes, unpublished data, research in progress, etc.

Things to consider:

- Existing threats to species

- Fragmentation

- Urban growth area

- Drainage patterns

- Information on local sightings and populations

- Population trends

- Home range and dispersal

- Sensitivity of endangered species to: dust, noise, heat, desiccation, etc.

- Trap stress/mortality

- Predators

ENVIRONMENTAL BASELINE AND CUMULATIVE EFFECTS

Provide information on past, present and future state, local, private, or tribal activities in the action area: specifically, the positive or negative impacts those activities have had on the species or habitat in the area in terms of abundance, reproduction, distribution, diversity, and habitat quality or function. Include the impacts of past and present federal actions as well. Don't forget to describe the impacts of past existence and operation of the action under consultation (for continuing actions).

Cumulative effects include the effects of future State, Tribal, local or private actions that are reasonably certain to occur in the action area. Future Federal actions that are unrelated (*i.e.*, not interrelated or interdependent) to the proposed action are not considered in this analysis because they will be subject to separate consultation pursuant to section 7 of the Act. (Note: Cumulative effects under ESA are **not** the same as the definition under NEPA. Be careful not to mix them up.) Describe the impacts of these cumulative effects in terms of abundance, reproduction, distribution, diversity, and habitat quality or function.

Present all known and relative effects to population, *e.g.*, fish stocking, fishing, hunting, other recreation, illegal collecting, private wells, development, grazing, local trust programs, etc. Include impacts to the listed and proposed species in the area that you know are occurring and that are unrelated to your action--*e.g.*, road kills from off-road vehicle use, poaching, trespass, etc.

EFFECTS OF THE ACTION

The purpose of this section is to document your analysis of the potential impacts the proposed action will have on species and/or critical habitats. This analysis has two possible conclusions for listed species and designated critical habitat:

(1) May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect – the appropriate conclusion when effects on a listed species are expected to be *discountable*, *insignificant*, or completely *beneficial*.

Beneficial effects – contemporaneous positive effects without any adverse effects

Insignificant effects – relate to the size of the impact and should never reach the scale where take would occur.

Discountable effects – those that are extremely unlikely to occur. Based on best judgment, a person would not: (1) be able to meaningfully measure, detect, or evaluate insignificant effects; or (2) expect discountable effects to occur.

(2) May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect – the appropriate finding if *any* adverse effect may occur to listed species or critical habitat as a direct or indirect result of the proposed action or its interrelated or interdependent actions, and the effect is not discountable, insignificant, or beneficial.

A finding of “may affect” is the primary trigger for initiating section 7 consultation. Further analysis leads to one of the two conclusions above. In the case of a determination that an action is “not likely to adversely affect” a species or critical habitat, you can request USFWS and/or NMFS concurrence with this determination and consultation can be concluded upon receipt of our concurrence. Determinations of “likely to adversely affect” require further consultation between the action agency and USFWS and NMFS. These consultations typically lead to the preparation of a biological opinion, although they can also lead to incorporation of additional protective measures that render the project “not likely to adversely affect” listed species or designated critical habitat. Any actions that are likely to result in the incidental take of a listed species are automatically considered “likely to adversely affect.”

In the case of proposed species or proposed critical habitat, the possible conclusions are:

Species

Likely to Jeopardize the Continued Existence

Not Likely to Jeopardize the Continued Existence

Critical Habitat

Likely to Destroy or Adversely Modify

Not Likely to Destroy or Adversely Modify

The effects analysis includes assessment of:

Direct and indirect effects (stressors) of Federal action

Direct and indirect effects (stressors) of applicant’s action

Direct and indirect effects (stressors) of interrelated or interdependent actions

Direct and indirect effects (stressors) of conservation and minimization measures

Remember: Direct and indirect effects under ESA are **not** the same as direct and indirect effects under NEPA. Be careful not to mix them up. Under ESA, direct effects are those that are caused by the action(s) and occur at the time of the action(s), and indirect effects are those that are caused by the action(s) and are later in time, but are still reasonably certain to occur.

Based on the various components of your action that you used to determine the extent of the action area, this analysis assesses the potential stressors resulting from each component and predicts the likely responses species and critical habitat will have. Note: don't forget to subsequently reconstruct the action to assess the combined stressors of the components. You may find that some stressors are synergistically minimized or avoided, whereas other stressors may increase.

Describe the stressors that are expected to result from each component. For example, instream actions may mobilize sediments that travel downstream as increased turbidity and then settle out as sediments on the stream substrate. Sound levels from machinery may be detectable hundreds of feet, thousands of feet, or even miles away. Describe these stressors in terms of their intensity, frequency, and duration.

Once you have determined the expected stressors resulting from an activity, the next step is to assess the overlap between those stressors and individuals of the species or components of critical habitat. The purpose of determining this overlap is to accurately and completely assess the potential exposure of species and habitat to the stressors resulting from the action. This exposure is the necessary precursor to any possible response those species and habitat may have. Your conclusions of "not likely to adversely affect" or "likely to adversely affect" are based in large part on this response.

To determine exposure, here is a basic set of questions you might answer:

- What are the specific stressors causing the exposure
- Where the exposure to the stressors would occur
- When the exposure to stressors would occur
- How long the exposure to stressors would occur
- What is the frequency of exposure to stressor
- What is the intensity of exposure to stressor
- How many individuals would be exposed
- Which populations those individuals represent
- What life stage would be exposed

For critical habitat, the questions would be similar but would focus on constituent elements of critical habitat.

Remember that exposure to a stressor is not always direct. For example, in some cases individuals of a species may be directly exposed to the sediment mobilized during construction. However, in other cases, individuals of the species would be exposed indirectly when sediment mobilized during construction settles out in downstream areas, rendering those areas unusable for later spawning or foraging.

Here are some examples of stressors you should address:

Exposure to abiotic factors affecting land, air, or water

Exposure to biotic factors affecting species behavior

Spatial or temporal changes in primary constituent elements of critical habitat

Loss or gain of habitat--direct and indirect

Fragmentation of habitat

Loss or gain of forage and/or foraging potential

Loss or gain of shelter/cover

Loss or gain of access through adjacent habitat/loss of corridors determine the potential response or range of responses the exposed individuals or components of critical habitat will have to those levels and types of exposure.

This is where the use of the best scientific and commercial information available becomes crucial. Your analysis must take this information into consideration and the resulting document must reflect the use of this information and your reasoning and inference based on that information. Bear in mind that this analysis may not be the final word on the expected responses as further consultation with USFWS or NMFS may refine this analysis.

Be sure to describe the expected responses clearly and focus your analysis towards determining if any of the possible responses will result in the death or injury of individuals, reduced reproductive success or capacity, or the temporary or permanent blockage or destruction of biologically significant habitats (*e.g.*, foraging, spawning, or lekking grounds; migratory corridors, etc.,). Any of these above responses are likely to qualify as adverse effects. If the available information indicates that no observable response is expected from the levels and types of exposure, the action may be unlikely to adversely affect a species or critical habitat. However, remember that no observable response may actually mask an invisible internal response such as increased stress hormone levels, elevated heart rate, etc. Depending on the fitness of the exposed individual and the surrounding environment (including other threats), these “invisible” responses may lead to more serious consequences. We recommend working with your NMFS or USFWS contact to determine the appropriate conclusion.

Don’t forget to consider:

Individual responses based on the species biology and sensitivity to exposure

The combined effects of existing threats and new exposure

The combined effects of limiting factors and new exposure

Disrupted reproduction and/or loss of reproduction

Exposure and response of species and critical habitat to interrelated and interdependent actions

Understanding and avoiding the common flaws in developing an effect determination will save you considerable time. These common flaws are: the “Displacement” Approach (*i.e.*, the species will move out of the way; there are plenty of places for them to go); the “Not Known to Occur Here” Approach (*i.e.*, looking at survey results, or lack of results, instead of the Recovery Plan for the species); the “We’ll Tell You Later” Approach (*i.e.*, if we find any, then we’ll let you know and that is when we will consult); or the “Leap of Faith” Approach (*i.e.*, the agency wants the USFWS or NMFS to accept a determination based on trust, rather than the best scientific and commercially available information.). Sticking to flawed determinations will cost everyone time, money, and aggravation.

Analysis of alternate actions

This analysis is required for actions that involve preparation of an EIS. For all other actions, a summary of alternatives discussed in other environmental documents is useful.

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION

Provide any other relevant available information the action, the affected listed species, or critical habitat. This could include local research, studies on the species that have preliminary results, and scientific and commercial information on aspects of the project.

CONCLUSION

This is where you put your overall effect determination after you have analyzed the exposure and response of species and habitat to the stressors resulting from the proposed action and interrelated or interdependent actions. Effect determinations must be based on a sound reasoning from exposure to response and must be consistent with types of actions in the project description, the biology in the species accounts, the habitat status and condition, changes to the existing environment, and the best scientific and commercial information available.

Again, the two potential conclusions for **listed species** are:

Not likely to adversely affect species

Likely to adversely affect species

The two potential conclusions for **designated critical habitat** are:

Not likely to adversely affect critical habitat

Likely to adversely affect critical habitat

The two potential conclusions for **proposed species** are:

Not likely to jeopardize species

Likely to adversely jeopardize species

The potential conclusions for **proposed critical habitat** are, under informal and formal consultation respectively:

Not likely to adversely affect species

Likely to adversely affect species

Not likely to destroy or adversely modify critical habitat

Likely to destroy or adversely modify critical habitat

Include the basis for the conclusion, such as discussion of any specific measures or features of the project that support the conclusion and discussion of species expected response, status, biology, or baseline conditions that also support conclusion.

If you make a "no effect" determination, it doesn't need to be in the assessment, but you might have to defend it. Keep the documentation for your administrative record.

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Provide a list of the documents that have bearing on the project or the consultation, this includes relevant reports, including any environmental impact statements, environmental assessment, or biological assessment prepared for the project. Include all planning documents as well as the documents prepared in conformance with state environmental laws

IMPORTANT NOTE: Each of these documents must be provided with the initiation package consultation for the Services to be able to proceed with formal consultation.

LITERATURE CITED

We are all charged with using the best scientific and commercial information available. To demonstrate you did this, it is a good idea to keep copies of search requests in your record. If you used a personal communication as a reference, include the contact information (name, address, phone number, affiliation) in your record.

LIST OF CONTACTS/CONTRIBUTORS/PREPARERS

Please include contact information for contributors and preparers as well as local experts contacted for species or habitat information.

GLOSSARY

Action Area - all areas to be affected directly or indirectly by the Federal action and not merely the immediate area involved in the action.

Beneficial Effects – contemporaneous positive effects without any adverse effects.

Cumulative Effects – are those effects of future State or private activities, not involving Federal activities, that are reasonably certain to occur in the action area of the Federal action subject to consultation.

Discountable Effects – those that are extremely unlikely to occur. Based on best judgment, a person would not: (1) be able to meaningfully measure, detect, or evaluate insignificant effects; or (2) expect discountable effects to occur.

Effects of the Action – refers to the direct and *indirect effects* of an action on the species or critical habitat, together with the effects of other activities that are *interrelated* or *interdependent* with that action, that will be added to the environmental baseline.

Environmental Baseline – includes the past and present impacts of all Federal, State, or private actions and other human activities in the action area, the anticipated impacts of all proposed Federal projects in the action area that have already undergone formal or early section 7 consultation, and the impact of State or private actions that are contemporaneous with the consultation in process.

Indirect Effects - Indirect effects are those that are caused by the action(s) and are later in time, but are still reasonably certain to occur.

Insignificant Effects – relate to the size of the impact and should never reach the scale where take would occur.

Interdependent Actions - Interdependent actions are those that have no significant independent utility apart from the action that is under consideration, *i.e.* other actions would not occur “but for” this action.

Interrelated Actions - Interrelated actions are those that are part of a larger action and depend on the larger action for their justification, *i.e.* this action would not occur “but for” a larger action.

Likely to Jeopardize the Continued Existence of – to engage in an action that reasonably would be expected, directly or indirectly, to reduce appreciably the likelihood of both the survival and recovery of a listed species in the wild by reducing the reproduction, numbers, or distribution of that species.

May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect – the appropriate finding if any adverse effect may occur to listed species or critical habitat as a direct or indirect result of the proposed action or its interrelated or interdependent actions, and the effect is not discountable, insignificant, or beneficial. Requires that a biological opinion be prepared by the Service.

May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect – the appropriate conclusion when effects on a listed species are expected to be *discountable*, *insignificant*, or completely *beneficial*. Requires written concurrence from the Service.

No Effect – the appropriate conclusion when a listed species will not be affected, either because the species will not be present or because the project does not have any elements with the potential to affect the species. A “no effect” determination does **not** require written concurrence from the Service and ends

ESA consultation requirements. Action agency should document their reasoning for this conclusion in their file.

Chris Ellis

From: Lips, Garrett G SAJ [Garrett.G.Lips@usace.army.mil]
Sent: Monday, June 07, 2010 9:49 AM
To: Steven J. Schropp; David Stites; Chris Ellis
Subject: FW: previous NMFS NEPA scoping letters on dredging St. Lucie shoals
Attachments: Martin.Co.BEC.scopingFINAL.pdf; Dade.BEC.scopingFINAL-1.pdf; St.Lucie.Co.scopingFINAL-1.pdf; Jocelyn_Karazsia.vcf

Forwarding info and comments from NMFS HCD for EFH for the record

Thank you,

Garett Lips
Biologist
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
4400 PGA Boulevard, Suite 500
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410
Office 561-472-3519

Please use the following link to view this year's schedule and locations for the Regulatory Open House sessions.

<http://www.usacejacksonvilleregulatory.com/>

Please assist us in better serving you! Please complete the stakeholder survey by clicking on the following link:

<http://per2.nwp.usace.army.mil/survey.html>

-----Original Message-----

From: Jocelyn Karazsia [mailto:Jocelyn.Karazsia@noaa.gov]
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 1:18 PM
To: Audra Livergood; Lips, Garrett G SAJ
Subject: previous NMFS NEPA scoping letters on dredging St. Lucie shoals

Hi Audra and Garrett,

FYI, see the previous comments NMFS HCD provided on dredging offshore shoals.
The Martin County letter is the most recent, so if you were only going to read one I'd recommend this one.

Jocelyn

Audra Livergood wrote:

> Hi Joc,
>
> On the call today, you mentioned that HCD has provided comments to

> Dade and Martin Counties on dredging the St. Lucie shoals. Can you
> copy me on those comments?
>
> thanks,
> Audra



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

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St. Petersburg, Florida 33701-5511
(727) 824-5317; FAX (727) 824-5300
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June 28, 2007

F/SER4:JK/pw

Colonel Paul L. Grosskruger
District Engineer, Jacksonville District
Department of the Army Corps of Engineers
Jacksonville Regulatory Office, South Permits Branch
PO Box 4970
Jacksonville, Florida 32232

Dear Colonel Grosskruger:

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) reviewed the June 1, 2007, letter requesting our views, comments, and information regarding efforts to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement in connection with evaluating the feasibility of shoreline protection within Martin County, Florida. A map of potential nearshore and offshore sand borrow areas was provided with your letter.

Excavation of the offshore shoals could have significant adverse consequences to the shoreline and living marine resources. Although these particular offshore shoals have not been thoroughly studied with respect to fish utilization, NMFS believes the shoals serve as a benthic nursery area, refuge, or feeding ground for a variety of fishery resources. The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (SAFMC) identifies sandy shoals as essential fish habitat (EFH) for migratory pelagic fish, including king mackerel, Spanish mackerel, cobia, and dolphin. Further, anecdotal evidence suggests that this shoal area is biologically unique and diverse, supporting fisheries that are economically and recreationally important, such as the migratory species listed above, sailfish, and prey species consumed by these fishery species. Clarke *et al.* (1988) and Michel *et al.* (2001) note the geomorphology of offshore shoals provide a unique assembly of micro-habitats that facilitate high biological productivity.

NMFS also notes that mining the shoal for sand may alter the local wave climate bringing about erosion that could affect EFH. Through an evaluation of the potential impacts from dredging linear shoals in the U.S. Gulf and Atlantic continental shelves, Hayes and Nairn (2004) concluded that the deflation of a shoal feature could change wave patterns between the shoal and the shoreline. In turn, such dredging could change sand-transport patterns, both along the shore and across the shore, and change erosion and accretion rates along the shore. Kelley *et al.* (2004) verified this conclusion in their examination of a borrow site offshore of Martin County (depths were approximately 8 to 10 m) and recommend application of wave transformation numerical modeling tools that recognize the random nature of incident waves as they propagate onshore when examining incremental and cumulative changes from sand dredging on the continental shelf.

Lastly, NMFS is concerned that excavation of nearshore borrow areas in addition to the placement of fill in nearshore areas could adversely affect hardbottom habitat, which includes corals and worm reefs

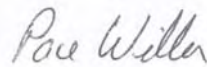


colonized by *Phragmatopoma lapidosa*. Nearshore hardbottom and worm reefs are also identified by the SAFMC as EFH and as habitat areas of particular concern (HAPC). These reefs reduce wave energy and stabilize shorelines (Kirtley 1967; Kirtley and Tanner 1968) and provide structural habitat for fishery organisms (Gore *et al.* 1977; Nelson 1989; Lindeman and Snyder 1999). Design choices that avoid and minimize impacts to hardbottom resources will be important as the project moves through planning, design, and construction.

NMFS recommends that the Jacksonville District continue to coordinate closely with the Habitat Conservation Division to ensure the EFH assessment and NEPA documents contain sufficient detail. The consultation requirements in the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act direct federal agencies to consult with NMFS when the agency's activities may have an adverse affect on EFH. Please see 50 CFR 600.10 to 600.920 for details on EFH definitions and EFH assessments. In addition, NMFS recommends that the EFH assessment include the results of an on-site inspection, the views of recognized experts on the habitat or species affects, a literature review, an analysis of alternatives to the proposed action, and analyses of the borrow site analyses using methods similar to those recommended in Kelley *et al.* (2004).

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments. Related correspondence should be directed to the attention of Ms. Jocelyn Karazsia at our West Palm Beach office, which is co-located with the US Environmental Protection Agency at USEPA, 400 North Congress Avenue, Suite 120, West Palm Beach, Florida, 33401. She may be reached by telephone at (561) 616-8880 x207 or by e-mail at Jocelyn.Karazsia@noaa.gov.

Sincerely,



/ for

Miles M. Croom
Assistant Regional Administrator
Habitat Conservation Division

cc: (via electronic mail)

EPA, West Palm Beach
FWS, Vero Beach
FWC, Tallahassee
FDEP, OBSC Tallahassee
SAFMC
NMFS, PRD
MMS
F/SER, Keys
F/SER4
F/SER47, Karazsia

Literature Cited:

Clarke, D.; Fredette, T.J.; Imsand, D. 1988. Creation of Offshore Topographic Features with Dredged Material. Environmental Effects of Dredging, Information Exchange Bulletin, Vol. D 88 5. Prepared by US Army Corps of Engineers Waterways Experiment Station, Vicksburg, MS.

Gore, R.H., Scotto, L.E., Becker, L.J., 1977. Community composition, stability, and trophic partitioning in decapod crustaceans inhabiting some subtropical sabellariid worm reefs. *Bulletin of Marine Science* 28: 221-248

Hayes, M.O., and R.N. Nairn. 2004. Natural Maintenance of Sand Ridges and Linear Shoals on the U.S. Gulf and Atlantic Continental Shelves and the Potential Impacts of Dredging. *Journal of Coastal Research* 20(1): 138-148.

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Lindeman, K., and D. Snyder. 1999. Nearshore hardbottom fishes of southeast Florida and effects of habitat burial caused by dredging. *Fisheries Bulletin* 97: 508-525.

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Nelson, W. 1989. Beach renourishment and hardbottom habitats: the case for caution. In S. Tait (ed.), *Proceedings of the 1989 National Conference on Beach Preservation Technology*, p. 109-116. Florida Shore and Beach Preservation Association, Tallahassee, Florida.



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May 26, 2006

F/SER4:JK/pw

Colonel Robert M. Carpenter
District Engineer, Jacksonville District
Department of the Army Corps of Engineers
Jacksonville Regulatory Office, South Permits Branch
PO Box 4970
Jacksonville, Florida 32232

Dear Colonel Carpenter:

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) attended the May 9, 2006, public scoping meeting for the Dade County Beach Erosion Control Project. Based on the information provided, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) is evaluating the excavation of sediments from shoals offshore of St. Lucie and Martin Counties for use as beach fill in North Miami Beach, Miami-Dade County, Florida. Approximately one million cubic yards of material would be dredged from one or more shoals located in federal waters at depths of 25 to 40 feet. The sand would be transported south via barge to North Miami Beach (85th to 63rd Streets). The following comments are provided in response to COE's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) scoping actions.

NOAA Fisheries is concerned that excavation of these shoals could have significant adverse consequences to the shoreline and living marine resources. Although these particular shoals have not been thoroughly studied, NOAA Fisheries believes the shoals serve as a benthic nursery area, refuge, and feeding ground for a variety of fishery resources. The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council identifies sandy shoals as essential fish habitat (EFH) for migratory pelagic fish, including king mackerel, Spanish mackerel, cobia, and dolphin. Further, anecdotal evidence suggests that this shoal area is biologically unique and diverse, supporting fisheries that are economically and recreationally important, such as the migratory species listed above, sailfish, and prey species consumed by these fishery species. Clarke *et al.* (1988) and Michel *et al.* (2001) note the geomorphology of offshore shoals provide a unique assembly of micro-habitats that facilitate high biological productivity.

NOAA Fisheries also is concerned that mining the shoal for sand may alter the local wave climate bringing about erosion that could affect EFH. Through an evaluation of the potential impacts from dredging linear shoals in the U.S. Gulf and Atlantic continental shelves, Hayes and Nairn (2004) concluded that the deflation of a shoal feature could change wave patterns between the shoal and the shoreline. In turn, such dredging could change longshore and cross-shore sand-transport patterns and erosion and accretion rates along the shore. Kelley *et al.* (2004) verified this conclusion in their examination of a borrow site offshore Martin County (depths were approximately 8 to 10 m), and recommend application of wave transformation numerical modeling tools that recognize the random nature of incident waves as they propagate onshore when examining incremental and cumulative changes from sand dredging on the continental shelf.

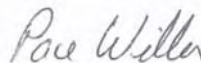


In this regard, we also are concerned about the efficiency of moving the sand to Miami-Dade County when beaches in St. Lucie and Martin Counties require nourishment. For example, 1.3 miles of Fort Pierce beach (St. Lucie County) are under review for receipt of Congressional Coastal Emergencies Supplemental Appropriation Hurricane funds.

Due to the importance of these concerns, NOAA Fisheries recommends that the COE continue to coordinate closely with the Habitat Conservation Division to ensure the EFH assessment and NEPA documents contain sufficient detail. The consultation requirements in the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act direct federal agencies to consult with NOAA Fisheries when the agency's activities may have an adverse affect on EFH. Please see 50 CFR 600.10 to 600.920 for details on EFH definitions and EFH assessments. In addition, NOAA Fisheries recommends that the EFH assessment include the results of an on-site inspection, the views of recognized experts on the habitat or species affects, a literature review, an analysis of alternatives to the proposed action, and any other relevant information including a borrow site analyses conducted with methods similar to those recommended in Kelley *et al.* (2004). Finally, due to the precedent setting nature of this project and the high potential for significant individual and cumulative effects, NOAA Fisheries recommends that the COE prepare an Environmental Impact Statement as opposed to an Environmental Assessment for the proposed work.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments. Related questions or comments should be directed to the attention of Ms. Jocelyn Karazsia at 11420 North Kendall Drive, Suite 103, Miami, Florida, 33176. She may be reached by telephone at (786) 263-0028 or by e-mail at Jocelyn.Karazsia@noaa.gov.

Sincerely,



/ for

Miles M. Croom
Assistant Regional Administrator
Habitat Conservation Division

cc: (via electronic mail)

EPA, West Palm Beach
FWS, Vero Beach
FWC, Tallahassee
FDEP, WPB
SAFMC
NMFS, PRD
F/SER47, Karazsia

Literature Cited:

Clarke, D.; Fredette, T.J.; Imsand, D. 1988. Creation of Offshore Topographic Features with Dredged Material. Environmental Effects of Dredging, Information Exchange Bulletin, Vol. D 88 5. Prepared by US Army Corps of Engineers Waterways Experiment Station, Vicksburg, MS.

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June 29, 2006

F/SER4:JK/pw

Colonel Robert M. Carpenter
District Engineer, Jacksonville District
Department of the Army Corps of Engineers
Jacksonville Regulatory Office, South Permits Branch
PO Box 4970
Jacksonville, Florida 32232

Dear Colonel Carpenter:

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) reviewed the May 31, 2006, letter requesting our views, comments and information regarding your efforts to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement in connection with evaluating the feasibility of providing shoreline erosion protection, hurricane and storm damage reduction, and related purposes to the shores of St. Lucie County, Florida. Specifically, the Jacksonville District Corps of Engineers (COE) is gathering comments and information pertinent to the renourishment of Sand Dollar Shores development (R-88) south to the county line (R-115). A map of potential nearshore and offshore sand borrow areas was provided in your letter. The following comments are provided in response to COE's National Environmental Policy Act scoping actions.

NOAA Fisheries is concerned that excavation of the offshore shoals could have significant adverse consequences to the shoreline and living marine resources. Although these particular offshore shoals have not been thoroughly studied with respect to fish utilization, NOAA Fisheries believes the shoals serve as a benthic nursery area, refuge, and feeding ground for a variety of fishery resources. The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (SAFMC) identifies sandy shoals as essential fish habitat (EFH) for migratory pelagic fish, including king mackerel, Spanish mackerel, cobia, and dolphin. Further, anecdotal evidence suggests that this shoal area is biologically unique and diverse, supporting fisheries that are economically and recreationally important, such as the migratory species listed above, sailfish, and prey species consumed by these fishery species. Clarke *et al.* (1988) and Michel *et al.* (2001) note the geomorphology of offshore shoals provide a unique assembly of micro-habitats that facilitate high biological productivity.

NOAA Fisheries also is concerned that mining the shoal for sand may alter the local wave climate bringing about erosion that could affect EFH. Through an evaluation of the potential impacts from dredging linear shoals in the U.S. Gulf and Atlantic continental shelves, Hayes and Nairn (2004) concluded that the deflation of a shoal feature could change wave patterns between the shoal and the shoreline. In turn, such dredging could change longshore and cross-shore sand-transport patterns and erosion and accretion rates along the shore. Kelley *et al.* (2004) verified this conclusion in their examination of a borrow site offshore Martin County (depths were approximately 8 to 10 m), and recommend application of wave transformation numerical modeling tools that recognize the random nature of incident waves as they propagate onshore when examining incremental and cumulative changes



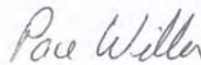
from sand dredging on the continental shelf.

Lastly, NOAA Fisheries is concerned that excavation of nearshore borrow areas in addition to the placement of fill in nearshore areas could adversely affect hardbottom habitat, which includes corals and worm reefs colonized by *Phragmatopoma lapidosa*. Nearshore hardbottom and worm reefs are also identified by the SAFMC as EFH and as habitat areas of particular concern (HAPC). These reefs reduce wave energy and stabilize shorelines (Kirtley 1967; Kirtley and Tanner 1968) and provide structural habitat for fishery organisms (Gore *et al.* 1977; Nelson 1989; Lindeman and Snyder 1999). Based on a recent conversation with the COE Project Manager, Paul DeMarco, we were advised efforts are underway to map and characterize the nearshore hardbottom within the project impact area. Avoidance and minimization of impacts to hardbottom resources will be important as the project moves forward through planning, design, and construction.

NOAA Fisheries recommends that the COE continue to coordinate closely with the Habitat Conservation Division to ensure the EFH assessment and NEPA documents contain sufficient detail. The consultation requirements in the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act direct federal agencies to consult with NOAA Fisheries when the agency's activities may have an adverse affect on EFH. Please see 50 CFR 600.10 to 600.920 for details on EFH definitions and EFH assessments. In addition, NOAA Fisheries recommends that the EFH assessment include the results of an on-site inspection, the views of recognized experts on the habitat or species affects, a literature review, an analysis of alternatives to the proposed action, and analyses of the borrow site analyses using methods similar to those recommended in Kelley *et al.* (2004).

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments. Related questions or comments should be directed to the attention of Ms. Jocelyn Karazsia at 11420 North Kendall Drive, Suite 103, Miami, Florida, 33176. She may be reached by telephone at (786) 263-0028 or by e-mail at Jocelyn.Karazsia@noaa.gov.

Sincerely,



/ for

Miles M. Croom
Assistant Regional Administrator
Habitat Conservation Division

cc: (via electronic mail)

EPA, West Palm Beach
FWS, Vero Beach
FWC, Tallahassee
FDEP, WPB
SAFMC
NMFS, PRD
MMS
F/SER47, Karazsia

Literature Cited:

- Clarke, D.; Fredette, T.J.; Imsand, D. 1988. Creation of Offshore Topographic Features with Dredged Material. Environmental Effects of Dredging, Information Exchange Bulletin, Vol. D 88 5. Prepared by US Army Corps of Engineers Waterways Experiment Station, Vicksburg, MS.
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- Michel, J., J.R. Nairn, J. Johnson, and D. Hardin. 2001. Development and Design of Biological and Physical Monitoring Protocols to Evaluate the Long-term Impacts of Offshore Dredging Operations on the Marine Environment. Herndon, Virginia: Minerals Management Service OCS Report MMS 2001-089, 116 pp. 1 appendix.
- Nelson, W. 1989. Beach renourishment and hardbottom habitats: the case for caution. In S. Tait (ed.), *Proceedings of the 1989 National Conference on Beach Preservation Technology*, p. 109-116. Florida Shore and Beach Preservation Association, Tallahassee, Florida.



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June 21 2010

F/SER4:JK/pw

(Sent via electronic mail)

Colonel Alfred Pantano, District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Jacksonville Regulatory Office, South Permits Branch
PO Box 4970
Jacksonville, Florida 32232

Attention: Garrett Lips

Dear Colonel Pantano:

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) reviewed your announcement in the Federal Register from April 21, 2010, requesting views, comments, and information regarding efforts to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a potential beach nourishment project in St Lucie County, Florida. In addition to the reviewing the announcement, NMFS participated in a pre-application and interagency scoping meeting on June 4, 2010, with the Jacksonville District, NMFS Protected Resources Division, and Environmental Protection Agency. As part of the permit process, the District is evaluating the environmental effects associated with beach nourishment and dune restoration along 3.8 miles of Hutchinson Island shoreline. The following comments are provided in response to Jacksonville District's scoping actions under the National Environmental Policy Act.

Essential Fish Habitat within the Project Area

Excavation of the offshore shoals could have significant adverse consequences to the shoreline and living marine resources. Although these particular offshore shoals have not been thoroughly studied with respect to fish utilization, shoals generally serve as a nursery area, refuge, and feeding ground for a variety of fishery species. The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (SAFMC) identifies sandy shoals as essential fish habitat (EFH) for migratory pelagic fish, including king mackerel, Spanish mackerel, cobia, and dolphin, and anecdotal evidence suggests that this particular shoal area is biologically unique and diverse, supporting fisheries that are economically and recreationally important, such as the migratory species listed above, sailfish, and prey species consumed by these fishery species. Clarke *et al.* (1988) and Michel *et al.* (2001) note the geomorphology of offshore shoals provide a unique assembly of micro-habitats that facilitate high biological productivity. These findings are consistent with the literature synthesis and fishermen interviews provided by Gilmore (2009).



In addition, placement of fill in nearshore areas could adversely affect hardbottom habitat, which may include octocorals or scleractinian corals and worm reefs colonized by *Phragmatopoma lapidosa*. During the scoping meeting, the District indicated that approximately 1.1 acres of nearshore hardbottom habitat would be impacted by the nourishment alternatives. Nearshore hardbottom and worm reefs are also identified by SAFMC as EFH and as habitat areas of particular concern (HAPC). Hardbottoms are EFH for coral, red grouper, gag grouper, gray snapper, mutton snapper, white grunt, and spiny lobster. These reefs reduce wave energy and stabilize shorelines (Kirtley 1967; Kirtley and Tanner 1968) and provide structural habitat for fishery organisms (Gore *et al.* 1977; Nelson 1989; Lindeman and Snyder 1999). Avoidance and minimization of impacts to hardbottom resources will be important as the project moves forward through planning, design, and construction.

Other Habitat Issues

Excavation of the offshore shoals could also have significant adverse consequences to the shoreline. Mining the shoal for sand may alter the local wave climate bringing about erosion that could affect EFH. Through an evaluation of the potential impacts from dredging linear shoals in the U.S. Gulf and Atlantic continental shelves, Hayes and Nairn (2004) concluded that the deflation of a shoal feature could change wave patterns between the shoal and the shoreline. In turn, such dredging could change longshore and cross-shore sand-transport patterns and erosion and accretion rates along the shore. Kelley *et al.* (2004) verified this conclusion in their examination of a borrow site offshore Martin County (depths were approximately 8 to 10 meters), and recommend application of wave transformation numerical modeling tools that recognize the random nature of incident waves as they propagate onshore when examining incremental and cumulative changes from sand dredging on the continental shelf.

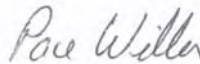
Essential Fish Habitat Consultation Requirements

NMFS recommends that the Jacksonville District continue to coordinate closely with the Habitat Conservation Division to ensure the EFH assessment and NEPA documents contain sufficient detail. The consultation requirements in the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act direct federal agencies to consult with NMFS when the agency's activities may have an adverse effect on EFH. Please see 50 CFR 600.10 to 600.920 for details on EFH definitions and EFH assessments. In accordance with the regulations, NMFS recommends the EFH assessment include the results of an on-site inspection and analyses of the borrow site using methods similar to those recommended in Kelley *et al.* (2004). Unavoidable direct or indirect impacts to EFH will require compensatory mitigation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments. Related correspondence should be directed to the attention of Ms. Jocelyn Karazsia at our West Palm Beach office, which is co-located with the US Environmental Protection Agency at USEPA, 400 North Congress Avenue, Suite 120,

West Palm Beach, Florida, 33401. She may be reached by telephone at (561) 616-8880, extension 207, or by e-mail at Jocelyn.Karazsia@noaa.gov.

Sincerely,



/ for

Miles M. Croom
Assistant Regional Administrator
Habitat Conservation Division

cc:

FWS, Jeffrey_Howe@fws.gov
EPA, Miedema.Ron@epa.gov
FWC, Lisa.Gregg@MyFWC.com
FWC, Jeff.Beal@MyFWC.com
FDEP BCS, Steven.MacLeod@dep.state.fl.us
FDEP CRCP, Vladimir.Kosmynin@dep.state.fl.us
SAFMC, Roger.Pugliese@safmc.net
F/SER47, Jocelyn.Karazsia@noaa.gov

Literature Cited

Clarke, D., Fredette, T.J., and Imsand, D. 1988. Creation of Offshore Topographic Features with Dredged Material. Environmental Effects of Dredging, Information Exchange Bulletin, Vol. D 88 5. Prepared by US Army Corps of Engineers Waterways Experiment Station, Vicksburg, MS.

Gilmore, G. 2009. St Lucie County South Beach Project Initial Essential Fish Habitat Assessment of Potential Borrow Areas. Estuarine, Coastal and Ocean Sciences, Inc., 37 pp., plus appendices.

Gore, R.H., Scotto, L.E., and Becker, L.J. 1977. Community composition, stability, and trophic partitioning in decapod crustaceans inhabiting some subtropical sabellariid worm reefs. Bulletin of Marine Science 28: 221-248

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Nelson, W. 1989. Beach renourishment and hardbottom habitats: the case for caution. In S. Tait (ed.), *Proceedings of the 1989 National Conference on Beach Preservation Technology*, p. 109-116. Florida Shore and Beach Preservation Association, Tallahassee, Florida.

APPENDIX F

State Agency Scoping Meeting Documents

St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project EIS

St. Lucie County, Florida

Meeting Invitation

Participant Sign-In Sheets

Presentation Hand-Outs

Meeting Invitation

Chris Ellis

Subject: Agency Scoping Meetings for SLC South Beach and Dune Restoration Project EIS & Central PBC Comprehensive Erosion Control Project EIS
Location: FDEP BBCS Office - Training Room #307
Start: Thu 6/17/2010 1:00 PM
End: Thu 6/17/2010 2:30 PM
Show Time As: Tentative
Recurrence: (none)
Meeting Status: Not yet responded
Organizer: Chris Ellis
Required Attendees: 'elizabeth.kromhout@dep.state.fl.us'; 'richard.noyes@dep.state.fl.us'; 'vladimir.kosmynin@dep.state.fl.us'; 'lisa.gregg@myfwc.com'; 'roxane.dow@dep.state.fl.us'; 'steven.macleod@dep.state.fl.us'; 'jenny.cheng@dep.state.fl.us'; Robbin.Trindell@myfwc.com; 'erin.mcdevitt@myfwc.com'; 'stephanie.gudeman@dep.state.fl.us'; 'martin.seeling@dep.state.fl.us'; 'Lips, Garrett G SAJ' (Garrett.G.Lips@usace.army.mil); Eric.G.Reusch@usace.army.mil; Steven J. Schropp (sschropp@taylorengeering.com); 'David Stites' (dstites@taylorengeering.com); dls128@ix.netcom.com; kolsen@conshelf.com; Spring, Keith (kspring@conshelf.com)

Hello-

You have been identified as a potential stakeholder in the following projects:

- St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project
- Central Palm Beach County Comprehensive Erosion Control Project

The USACE has determined that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is necessary for each of these projects to meet NEPA requirements for the U.S. Department of the Army permit application process. You may access the published Notice of Intent to Prepare an EIS for each project using the following links:

St. Lucie County Project: <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/2010-9204.htm>
Palm Beach County Project: <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/2010-10236.htm>

You may also access the FDEP Joint Coastal Permit application documents for the St. Lucie County Project using the following link:

http://bcs.dep.state.fl.us/env-prmt/st_lucie/pending/

At this time, Palm Beach County has not submitted a permit application for its project.

You are cordially invited to attend state agency scoping meetings for each of these projects. The purpose of the scoping meetings is to help the USACE identify agency-recommended issues of EIS focus, available information pertinent to the project, and contacts to support development of the EIS. If you are unable to attend the meetings in person, you may participate via teleconference. We will provide the call-in information via e-mail at least one day prior to the meeting.

Meeting Information

Date: Thursday, June 17, 2010

Time: 1:00 – 1:45: St Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project
1:45 – 2:30: Central Palm Beach County Comprehensive Erosion Control Project

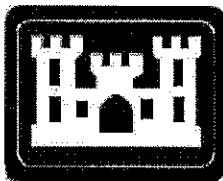
Location: FDEP – BBCS Office
5050 West Tennessee Street, Building B
Tallahassee, Florida 32304
Training Room #307

Call-in No: To be provided

Your prompt response is appreciated.

Thanks!! We look forward to your participation.

Participant Sign-In Sheets

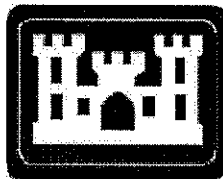


U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

**Scoping Meeting on the St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)**

State Agency Meeting Sign in Sheet

USACE Representative:	Garett Lips, USACE Regulatory Project Manager		
Meeting Location, Date, & Time:	FDEP – BBCS Office 5050 West Tennessee St., Building B Tallahassee, Florida 32304 Training Room #307		June 17, 2010 @ 1:45 pm
Name	Organization/ Affiliation	E-Mail Address	Phone No.
Richard Noyes	DEP Beh Mgmt.	richard.noyes@dep.state.fl.us	(850) 922-7865
Robbin Trindell	FWC	robbin.trindell@myfwc.com	(850) 922-4330
Jenny Cheng	DEP	jenny.cheng@dep.state.fl.us	(850) 413-7845
El Kromhout	DEP-BBCS	elizabeth.kromhout@dep.state.fl.us	(850) 413-7814
STEVEN MACLEOD	" "	STEVEN.MACLEOD@DEP.STATE.FL.US	850-414-7806
Marty Seeling	" "	martin.seeling " " " "	" " -7728
VLADIMIR KOSMYNIN	— " —	VLADIMIR.KOSMYNIN — " —	— " — 7817



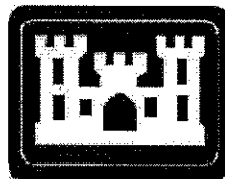
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

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Name	Organization/ Affiliation	E-Mail Address	Phone No.
* Erin McDevitt	FWC	erin erin.mcdevitt@myfwc.com	
* Eric Reusch	USACE	eric.g.reusch@usace.army.mil	561.472.3529
* Garrett Lips	USACE	garett.g.lips@usace.army.mil	561.472.3519
* Kim Olsen	CSA	Kolsen@conshelf.com	772.219.3024
* Keith Spring	CSA	Kspring@conshelf.com	772.219.3000
Steve Schropp	Taylor Eng.	sschropp@taylorengineering.com	904-731-7040
* Chris Ellis	Taylor Eng.	cellis@taylorengineering.com	904.731.7040

* Phone participant



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

**Scoping Meeting on the St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)**

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Name	Organization/ Affiliation	E-Mail Address	Phone No.
* Mike Trudnak	Taylor Eng.	mtrudnak@taylorengeering.com	904.731.7040
* David Stites	"	dstites@taylorengeering.com	"

* Phone participant

Presentation Hand-Outs

17 June 2010



What is an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)?

- An objective and independent analysis of the applicant's (SLC) proposal.
- A requirement of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for federal government actions with the potential for significant environmental impacts
- A detailed and public evaluation of project impacts and benefits
- One component of the USACE permit application review for the proposed St. Lucie County Beach and Dune Restoration Project.



EIS State Agency Scoping Meeting

Individual Permit Review with EIS

- USACE receives an application for a US Army Permit
 - ▶ After application review, USACE decides to conduct EIS
- USACE consultants assist in EIS development*
 - ▶ Evaluate impacts*
 - ▶ Draft EIS/Public Notice*
 - ▶ Response to comments on Draft EIS*Additional studies (by USACE, Consultants, or Applicant)*
 - ▶ Final EIS/Draft 404(B)(1) Analysis*
- USACE Completes Final Decision Process
 - ▶ Record of Decision and Final 404(B)(1) Analysis

* *Corps Oversight*

St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project EIS



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Who prepares this EIS?

- The United States Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Division
 - ▶ USACE – Lead Agency, Garrett Lips, Project Manager
 - ▶ Taylor Engineering, Inc. – the USACE EIS contractor
 - ▶ St Lucie County – the permit applicant for the project
 - ▶ St. Lucie County funds contracted EIS services



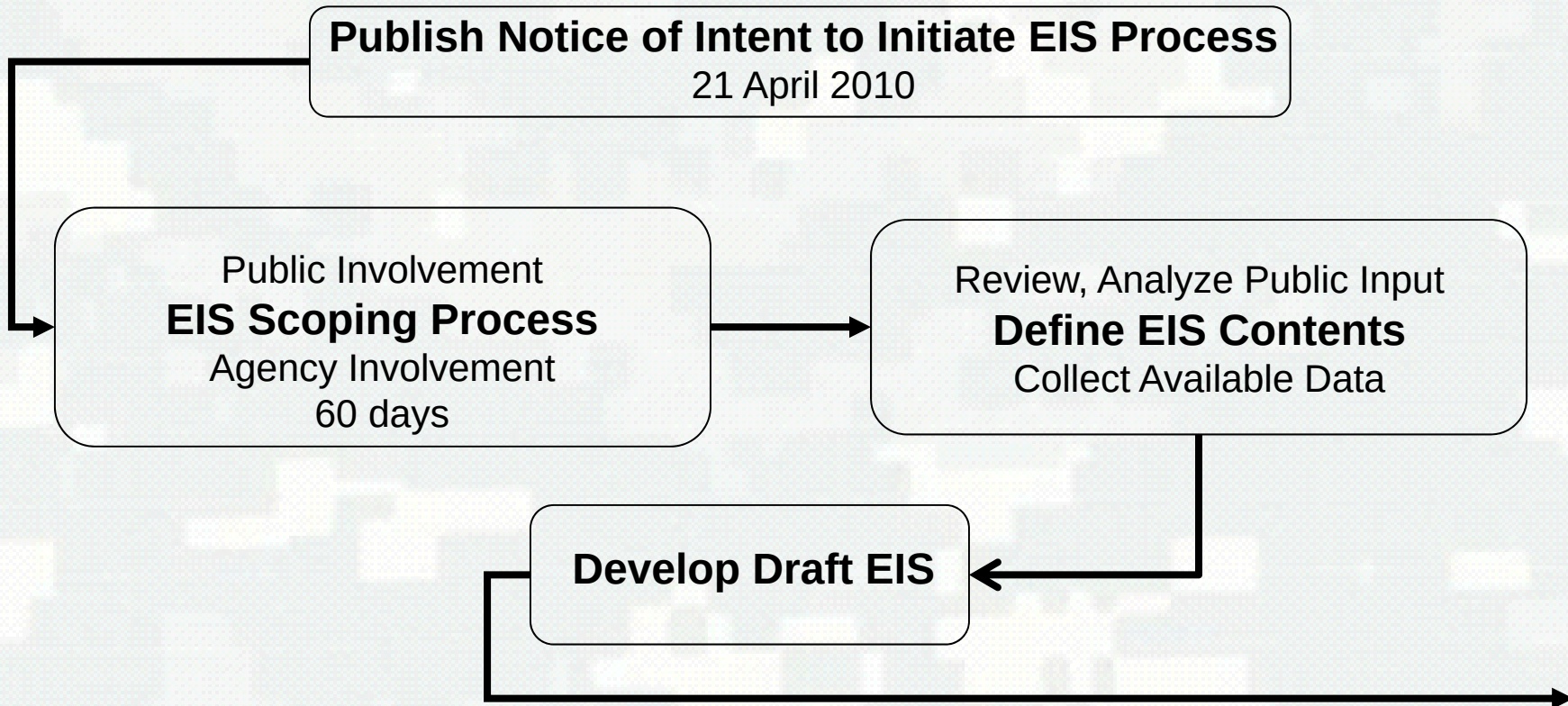
How is this EIS prepared?

- Taylor Engineering acts at the direction of the USACE
- A communication agreement defines relationships between the USACE, Taylor Engineering, and St. Lucie County
- All communications are “transparent” – communicated with or through the USACE project manager



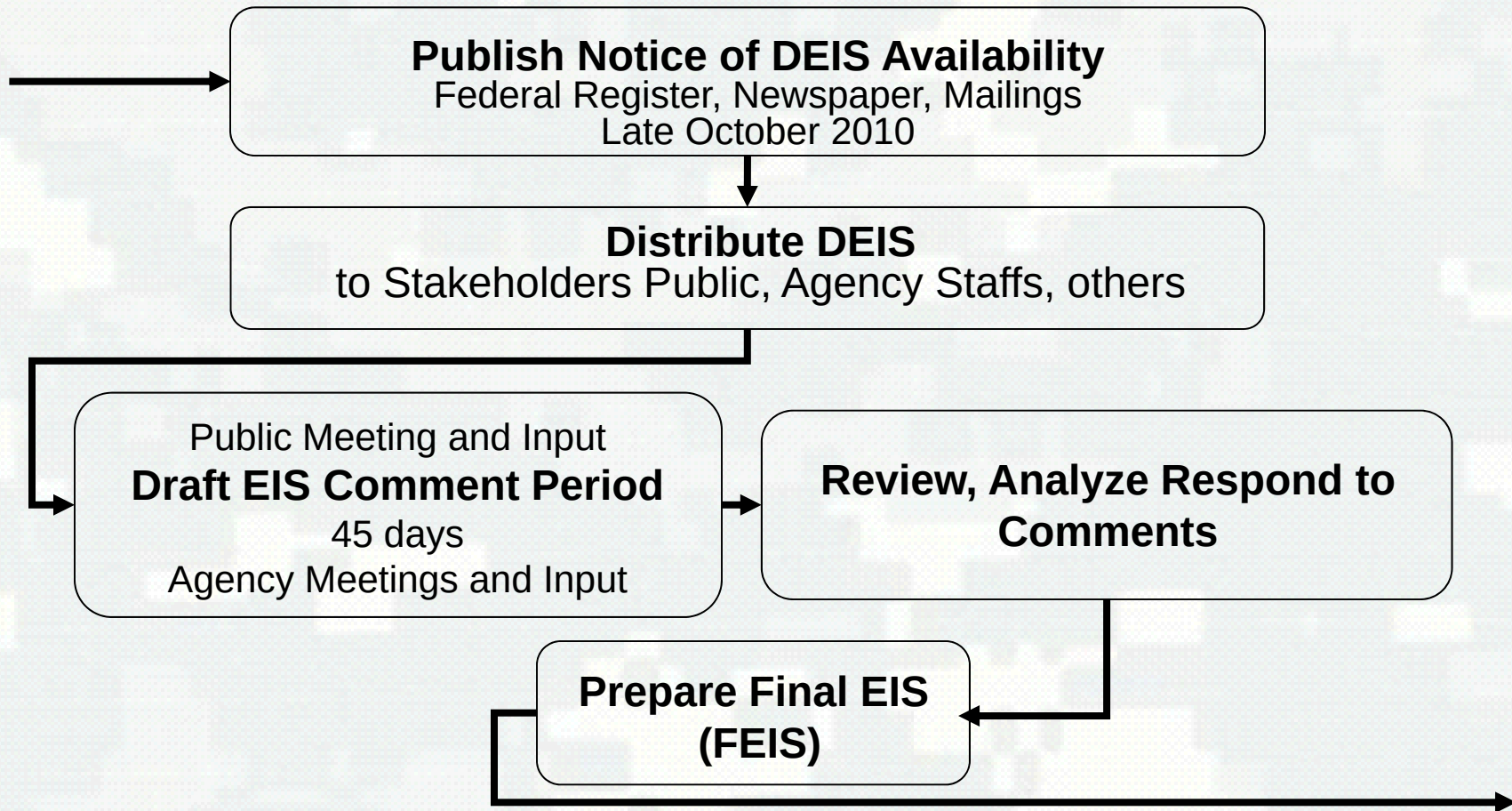
EIS State Agency Scoping Meeting

EIS Process



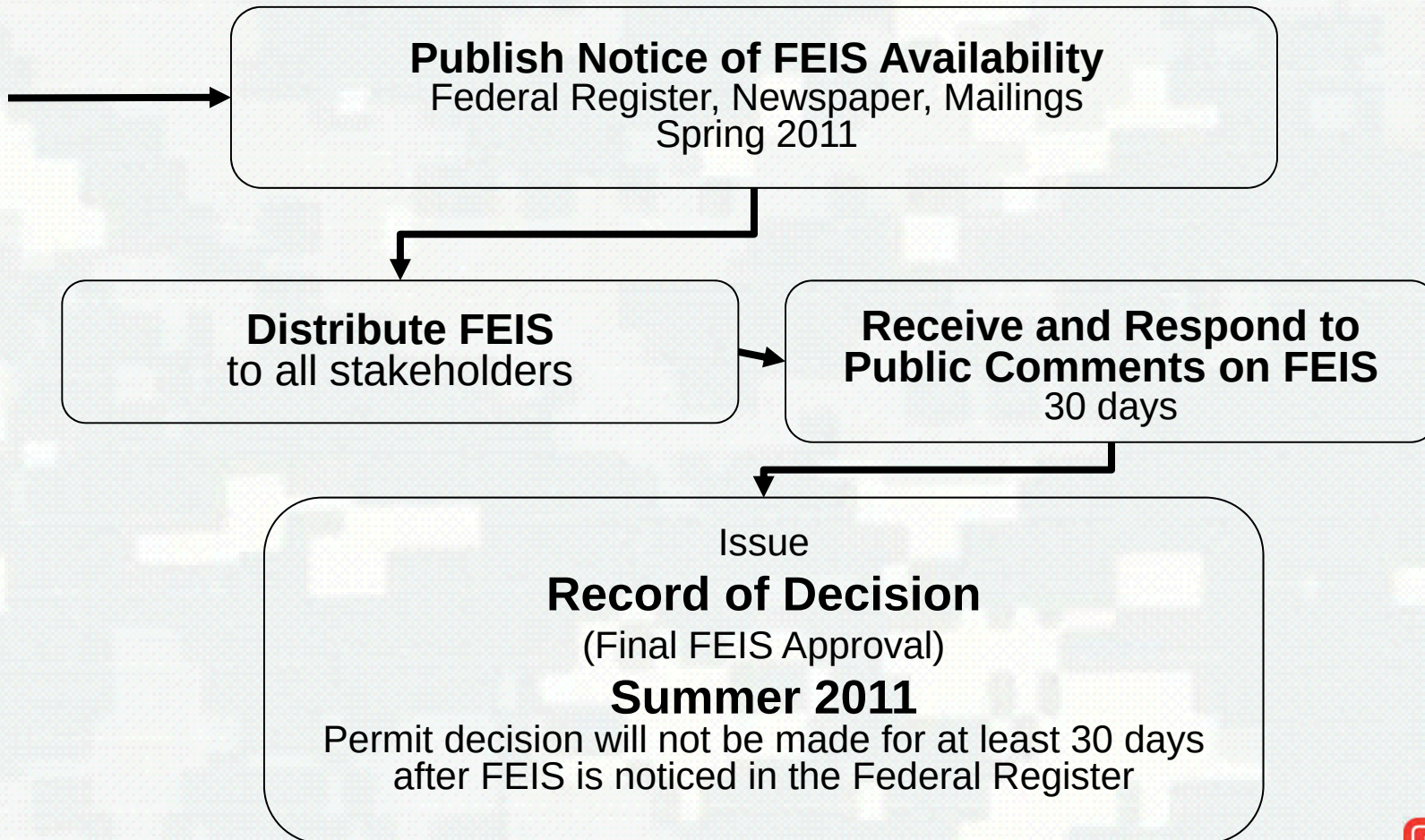
EIS State Agency Scoping Meeting

EIS Process



EIS State Agency Scoping Meeting

EIS Process



St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project EIS



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EIS Process

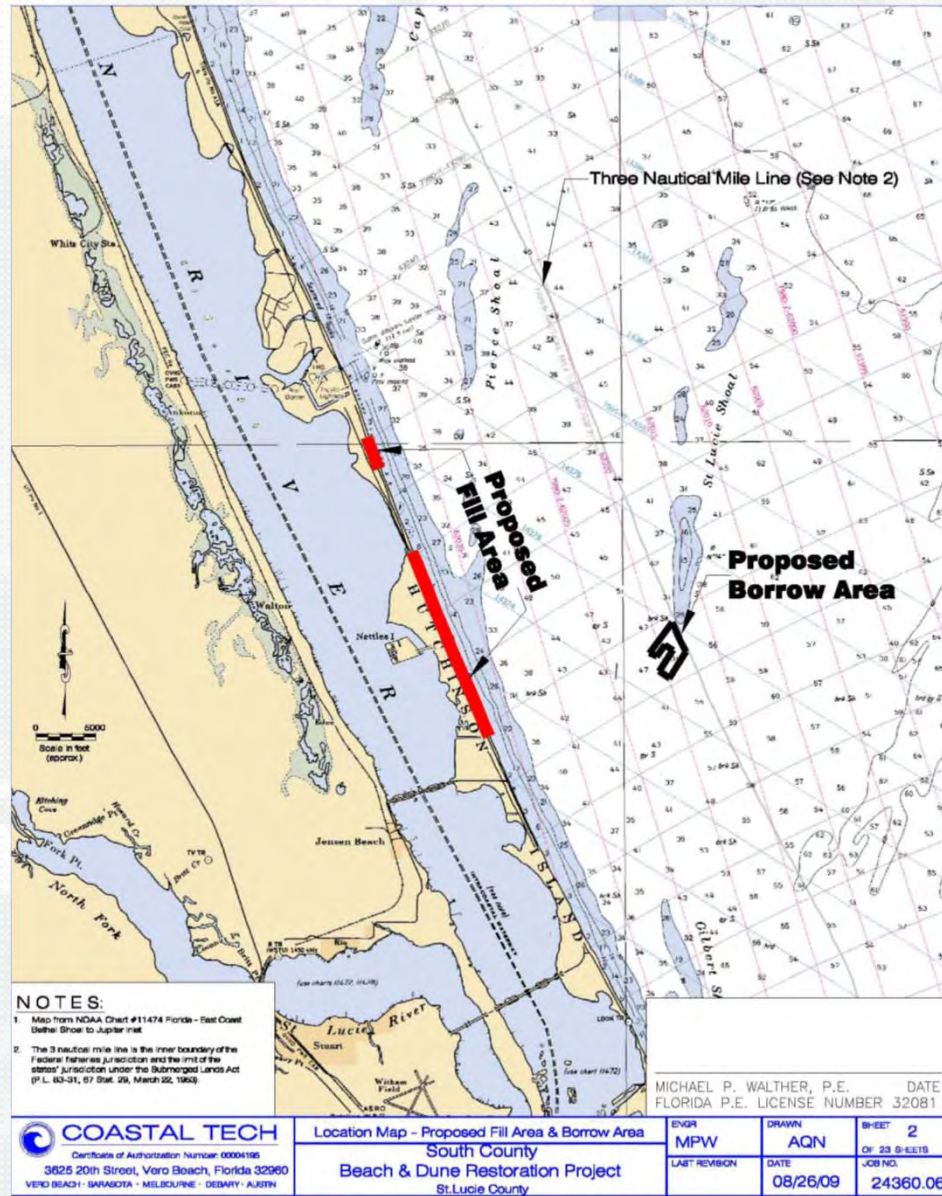
- Scoping Meeting
 - ▶ Solicit and record agency input on the focus and content of the Environmental Impact Statement

What Questions Should The EIS Address?



Proposed Project

- New project
 - ▶ Dredge sand from site approximately 3 miles offshore of project beach
 - ▶ Place dredged sand to restore beach and dune along 3.8 miles of Hutchinson Island beach in South St. Lucie County
 - ▶ Applicant estimates 1.08 acres of impact to nearshore hardbottom from placed sand



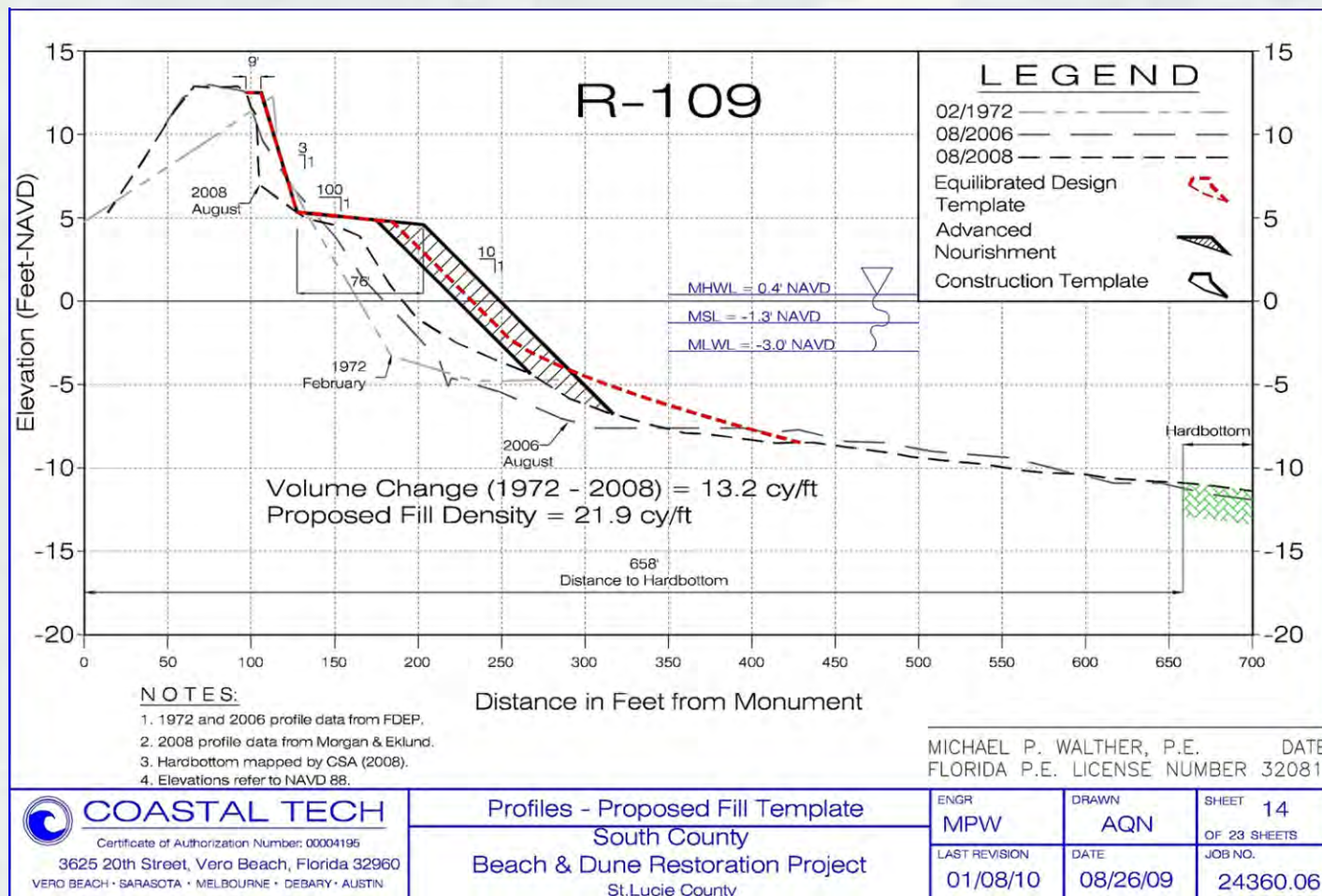
St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project EIS

Proposed Project

- Hopper dredge will transport sand from borrow area to a point outside the nearshore hardbottom.
- Sand will be pumped from the hopper to the beach via a pipeline located to avoid any hardbottom impacts from pipe.

EIS State Agency Scoping Meeting

Proposed Project



St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project EIS

Proposed Project

- Project alternatives that may be considered
 - ▶ Beach fill (nourishment)
 - ▶ Revetment, seawalls, berms, PEP reef (submerged concrete barrier), groins
 - ▶ Beach fill with periodic nourishment stabilized by an offshore breakwater
 - ▶ Beach area rezoning, construction setback line, construction moratorium, or no growth program
 - ▶ Building codes modification, evacuation planning, land and structures condemnation, structures relocation or retrofit
 - ▶ No action

EIS State Agency Scoping Meeting

Project Impact and Mitigation

- Impact and Mitigation
 - ▶ Estimated project impacts – 1.08 acres of hardbottom habitat
 - ▶ Other potential impacts – threatened and endangered species, cultural resources,
 - ▶ No specific mitigation plan proposed at this time. Some mitigation concepts being considered include:
 - Mitigation reef (new or expansion of existing)
 - Shoreline improvements along Coon Island or Ft. Pierce Inlet State
 - Recreation area
 - Sea turtle lighting improvements
 - Bear Point (or other County sites) flushing improvements
 - Offshore trash cleanup
 - Australian pine removal
 - Creation of shorebird nesting habitat
 - ▶ Mitigation plan development is part of the EIS, and a required part of state and federal permit applications

EIS State Agency Scoping Meeting

Project Impact and Mitigation



Hardbottom impacts include all hardbottom inside the Equilibrium Toe of Fill Line

Equilibrium Toe of Fill

St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project EIS

Long-term Shoreline Stabilization

- USACE Planning Division is studying the feasibility of a federal project for future nourishment activities
- The EIS may provide the NEPA documentation and decision basis for future shoreline stabilization projects along this segment of beach

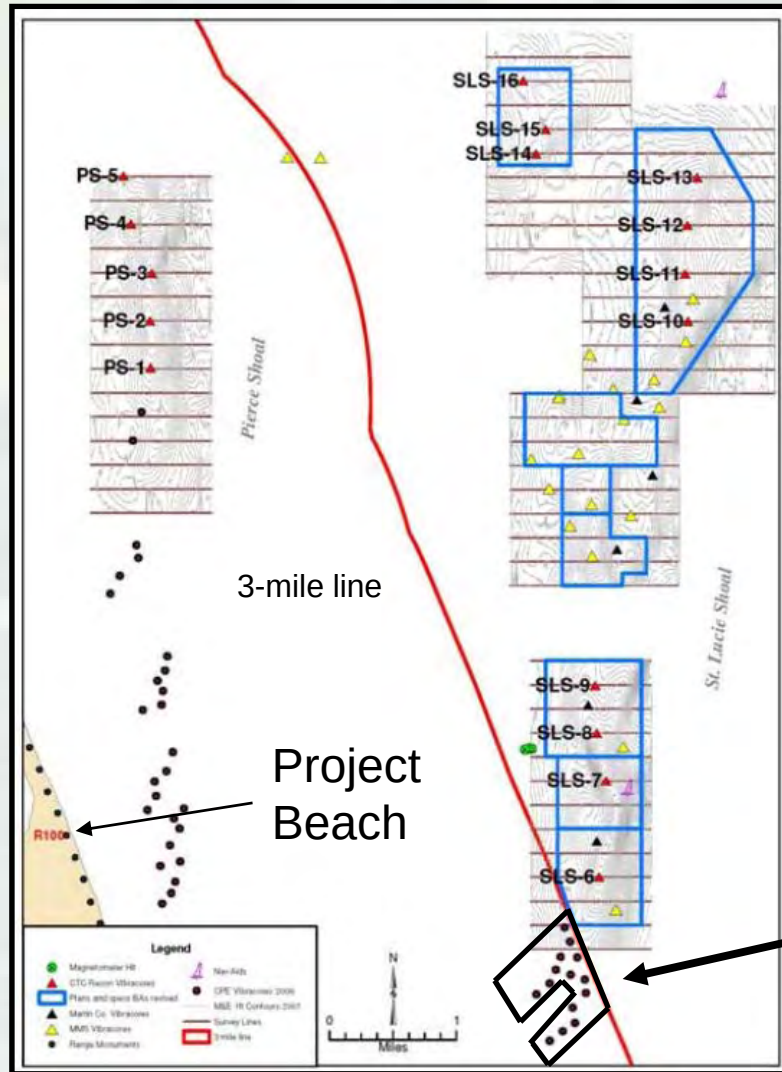
Long-term Shoreline Stabilization

■ Long-Term Feasibility Study

▶ Performed by USACE Planning Division

- Part of the federal decision process to decide whether a project meets USACE criteria for federal authorization (and possibly funding)
- Specific evaluations focus on engineering economics cost / benefit analyses, and environmental effects
- Environmental Impact Statement provides another element of the Feasibility Study planning process and becomes part of the final federal authorization decision.

EIS State Agency Scoping Meeting



Long-term Borrow
Areas Under
Investigation

Proposed Project
Borrow Site

(Coastal Tech 2010)

St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project EIS

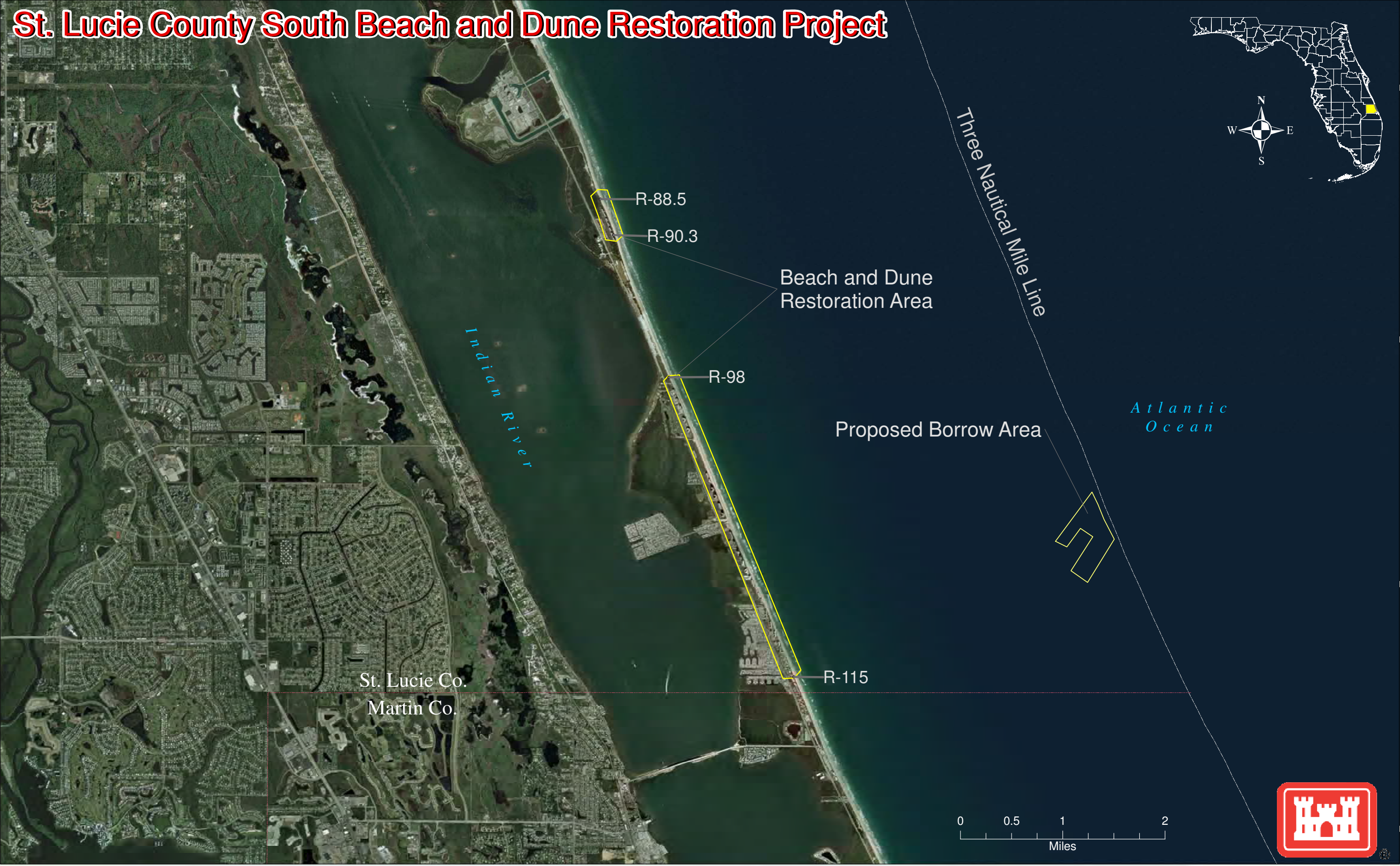
EIS State Agency Scoping Meeting

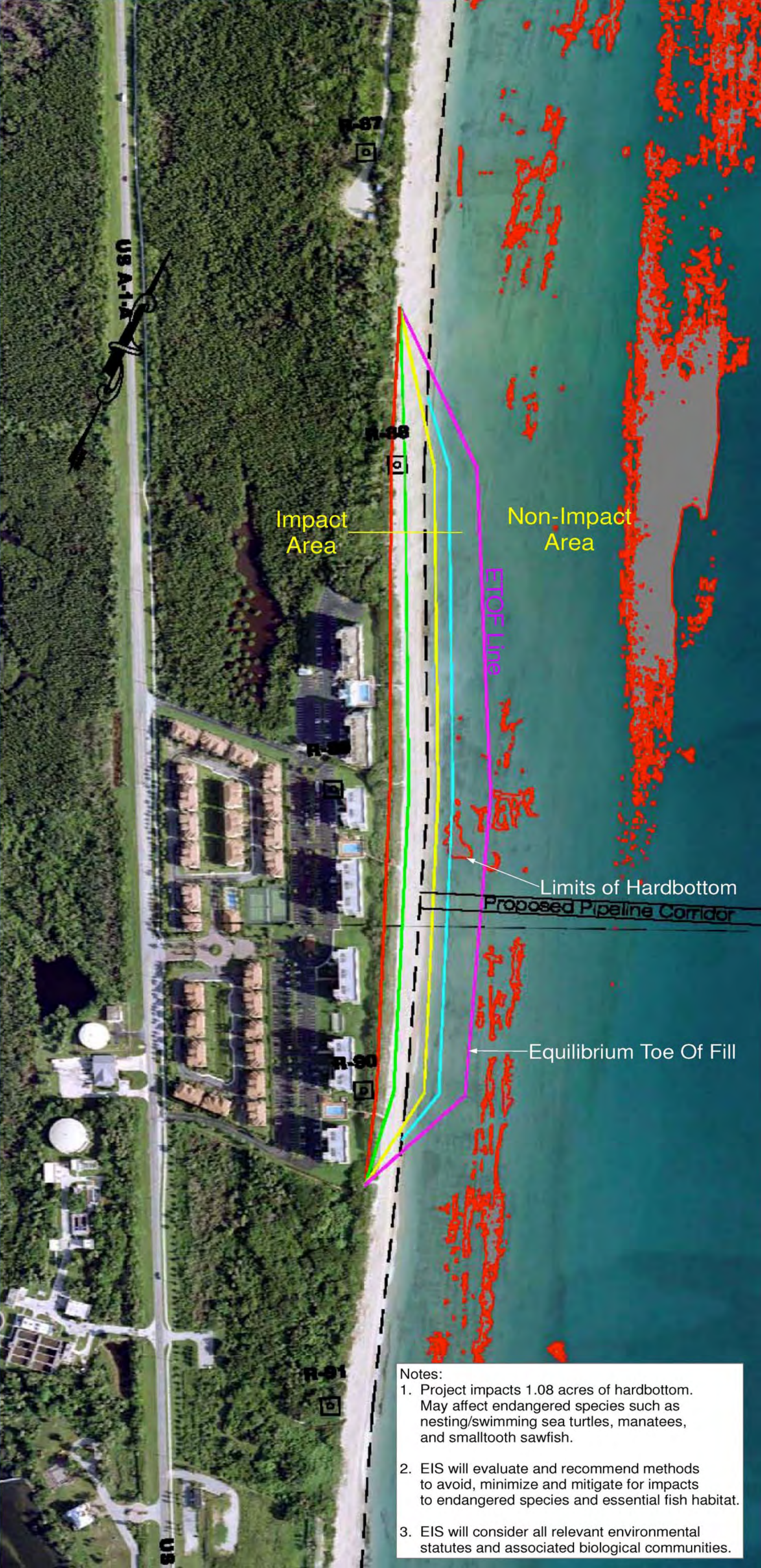
Proposed Project

- Permit application available at:
 - ▶ http://bcs.dep.state.fl.us/env-prmt/st_lucie/pending/
- Corps documents will be available at the following location for making comments, reviewing the DEIS or FEIS
 - ▶ <http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/Divisions/Regulatory/news.htm>
- Send comments to Garrett Lips, USACE
 - ▶ 561-472-3519
 - ▶ garrett.g.lips@usace.army.mil

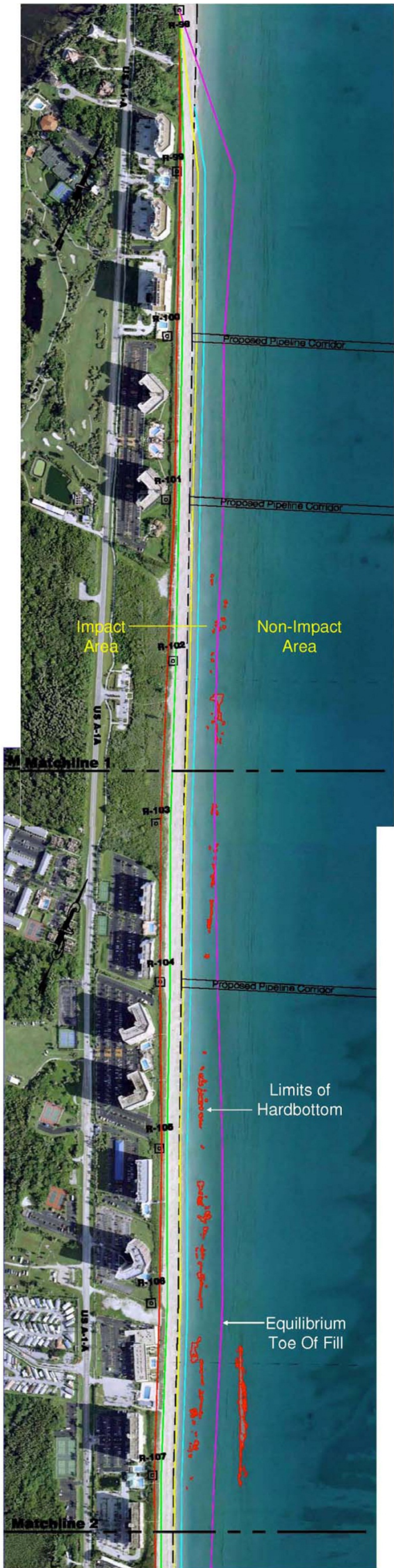


St. Lucie County South Beach and Dune Restoration Project





- Notes:
1. Project impacts 1.08 acres of hardbottom. May affect endangered species such as nesting/swimming sea turtles, manatees, and smalltooth sawfish.
 2. EIS will evaluate and recommend methods to avoid, minimize and mitigate for impacts to endangered species and essential fish habitat.
 3. EIS will consider all relevant environmental statutes and associated biological communities.



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