ST. LUCIE COUNTY FLORIDA

ST. LUCIE WORKS

January 24, 2022

Dear St. Lucie County, Florida Coastal Storm Risk Management Project Stakeholder,

In late 2018, St. Lucie County received Congressional authorization for the St. Lucie County, Florida Coastal Storm Risk Management Project (a federal beach nourishment project). This proposed project (a.k.a. South County Beach) includes 50-years of federal support and funding to help maintain beaches from Normandy Beach to the Martin County line (Approx. 3.4 miles). The initial beach nourishment project (the proposed project) will be similar to the 2013 locally funded beach project. The beach construction contract will be administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). The USACE, County staff, and our Engineering Consultant (G.E.C/Coastal Tech) will observe construction to confirm the Contractor fulfills their obligations, per the approved permits, plans, and specifications.

This letter is to (a) provide an update to the project status, (b) identify an approximate, anticipated construction schedule provided by the Contractor, and (c) invite you to a public informational meeting where we will be discussing the anticipated project and schedule.

PROJECT STATUS UPDATE

June 12, 2021 – The Florida Department of Environmental Projection (FDEP) issued a permit modification (Permit No. 0154626-001-JC) for the proposed beach project. The permit modification (a) added the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) as a co-permittee with St. Lucie County and (b) provided approval for the proposed USACE beach fill design (which is similar to the 2013 nourishment design).

June 28, 2021 – St. Lucie County provided the USACE with the required Certification of Lands which included the Perpetual Construction Easements recently executed by the beachfront property owners within the proposed construction limits.

July 6, 2021 – The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)/Department of the Interior executed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with St. Lucie County/USACE for the use of offshore sands (up to 800,000 cubic yards) within a permitted offshore borrow area identified for the project (St. Lucie Shoal, sited within federal waters).

August 5, 2021 – The USACE advertised the bidding of the Initial federal beach project. Construction bids were due on September 10, 2021.

September 30, 2021 – The USACE awarded a contract for the proposed beach project to Great Lakes Dredge and Dock, LLC. (the Contractor). Great Lakes Dredge and Dock, LLC. was the contractor who constructed the 2013 project.

December 15, 2021 – Federal/State permit agency's pre-construction meeting completed.

Joshua Revord| Sr. Coastal Engineer

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CURRENT CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

As of January 24, 2022, the Contractor has identified an anticipated construction start date of March 19, 2022. This estimated date constitutes the initial pumping of sand onto the beach. We expect the mobilization of equipment and materials to begin in advance of this date. Please be aware that land surveying and vibratory monitoring (small seismic recording units temporarily placed in/or around condominiums) will begin soon. We currently anticipate construction to be complete before April 30, 2022. Construction is tentatively proposed from the north to the south.

Please note that sea turtle monitoring will take place daily within the proposed construction template. All sea turtle nests laid within the proposed project area will be relocated outside of the project by a qualified environmental consultant (Ecological Associates, Inc.) approved by the State.

PUBLIC MEETING INFORMATION

A public informational meeting is currently scheduled for FEBRUARY 14th, 2022 at 2:00 PM. Interested property owners are encouraged to attend for more information regarding the proposed project. To accommodate participant preference, the meeting will be held in-person and online. Specific information regarding this meeting is itemized below:

In-Person Attendance* (Physical Address)

Nettles Island - West Rec Hall
9801 S. Ocean Dr. Jensen Beach, Fl. 34957
(After the guardhouse, proceed west over the bridges)
****Masks and Social Distancing are Encouraged.***
In-person seating is limited, so all association managers are encouraged to organize in-person representatives. Mangers are asked to RSVP all attendees by emailing revordjo@stlucieco.org in advance of the meeting.

Virtual Attendance (Go-To-Webinar)

Register for the Online Meeting using the link below, you will receive an email with a new link to join the meeting:
https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5330743953801433102

The link you receive after registering for the meeting will include an option to join the audio via your computer or you can dial in using your phone United States: +1 (213) 929-4212 Access Code: 946-013-991

If you have any questions, please contact me, St. Lucie County's Senior Coastal Engineer, at 772-462-1269 (Revordjo@stlucieco.org). To learn more about the Erosion District and details of the South Hutchinson Island Federal Beach Project, please visit the County's Erosion District website: www.stlucieco.gov/2022FederalBeachProject. Project status updates will be provided weekly during construction. Please see the attached Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) for more information regarding the proposed project.

Thank you,
St. Lucie County

Joshua Revord, P.E.
Senior Coastal Engineer

St. Lucie County, Florida Coastal Storm Risk Management Project
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

Beach Project Area

Will this project be similar to the 2013 nourishment project?

Yes, the 2022 nourishment project will be very similar to the 2013 nourishment project. You will likely not notice a difference between the 2013 and 2022 projects. The similarities include a similar sand source from the same offshore shoal feature, the same Contractor is constructing the project, the same dredge ships may be used to construct the project, and the construction templates are similar. The primary differences between the two projects are (a) the USACE is managing the construction contract for the 2022 project, (b) the seaward face (sloping portion) of the dune will be planted in addition to the crest (top) of the dune, and (c) the construction template of the two projects are slightly different.

When will the project occur?

The Contractor is expected to commence pumping of sand near the end of March and is expected to complete pumping of sand by the end of April. The project is expected to take about 30 days of active pumping of sand. The Contractor is expected to mobilize to the project site up to about 30 days prior to commencement of pumping of sand and demobilize up to about 30 days after pumping of sand. While the dredges are mobilized to the site, construction is expected to be performed 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

Who is the Contractor?

The USACE is administering the construction contract. Great Lakes Dredge and Dock Company, LLC. is the Contractor who constructed the 2013 project and will construct the 2022 project.

How much sand will be placed on the beach?

The Contractor is expected to place about 480,000 cubic yards of sand. The Contractor's daily production rate will vary depending on the number and size dredge ships used but is expected to be on the order of 20,000 cubic yards per day. Each dredge ship can hold about 3,500 cubic yards of sand.

How will the project be constructed?

The 2022 project is expected to be constructed in a similar manner as the 2013 project. The Contractor is expected to use the Padre Island and/or Dodge Island Hopper Dredge ships or other similar dredge ships to dredge sand from the offshore borrow area, transport this sand aboard the ship to just offshore of the project area, connect the ship to temporary floating

pipeline, pump the sand from the ship to the beach using temporary submerged pipes placed within up to four pipeline corridors along the beach, pump sand through temporary pipeline along the beach, and grade the pumped sand using heavy earthmoving equipment to conform to the construction template. The Contractor will continue to move the pipe along the beach until the entire project is constructed. The Contractor will then use small hand tools to install native beach and dune plants along the face and top of the dune. More information for the dredge ships can be found on the Contractor's website: https://www.gldd.com/gldd-equipment-trailing-suction-hopper-dredges/

How will the sea turtles be protected?

Sea turtles typically lay nests from March to October each year. Using staff permitted by the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), the Contractor is required to perform daily sea turtle nesting surveys starting February 15, 2022. If a nest is deposited within the project area, the nest will be relocated to outside of the project area by staff permitted by the FWC.

What is the sand source?

The sand source or borrow area is located within the St. Lucie Shoal located about 4 miles offshore of the project area – the 2013 project also utilized the St. Lucie Shoal for its sand source. The USACE analyzed the offshore borrow area to confirm the sand is beach quality. The sand is expected to appear darker than the native beach sand as it is initially pumped onto the beach. The sand color will lighten as it dries on the beach.

What should we expect after construction?

Waves and currents will reshape the constructed beach fill over time to a more natural "equilibrated" shape by transporting sand from the dry beach and depositing it nearshore within the active beach profile to help dissipate wave energy and provide the intended coastal storm risk management benefits. This process begins immediately after construction, with full adjustment of the beach shape typically requiring many months or multiple significant wave events. The initial equilibration process may appear to dramatically decrease the width of the dry beach, but the beach is operating as designed. Once the beach has reached an equilibrium condition, the beach is expected to recede at a slower rate.

Can I access the public beach while the renourishment project is in progress?

Yes, the majority of the beach will remain open to the public during the beach renourishment project. Signage at the beach will identify the portion of the beach inaccessible to the public to accommodate construction and ensure public safety. In some instances, the contactor will provide a small access corridor along the seaward edge of the dune to access both north and south of active construction.

How will our existing buildings or pools be protected during the project?

The Contractor is required to perform a pre-construction structural survey for existing structures within 200 ft of the beach fill area. The Contractor will conduct vibratory monitoring for structures susceptible to vibration damage. Mobile monitoring units will be positioned intermitted along the project area to record any seismic disturbances.

How will our dune overwalks be accommodated?

The Contractor is expected to diligently work around all existing structures while constructing the project. Structures of specific concern will be identified in advance to determine the best course of action.

What type of vegetation will be planted on the dune?

The top of the dune and landward face of the dune will be planted with a mixture of low-profile, native dune vegetation primarily consisting of sea oats but also including a portion of bitter panicgrass, railroad vine, and dune sunflower.

Where can I receive more information?

Project updates will be posted on the County's website www.stlucieco.gov/2022FederalBeachProject. If you have any questions, please contact the County's Sr. Coastal Engineer Joshua Revord at 772-462-1269 or Revordjo@stlucieco.org or the USACE Project Manager Tiphanie Mattis at 904-232-1548 or Tiphanie.J.Mattis@usace.army.mil.