Ocean Ridge Renourishment

A Palm Beach County Shore Protection Project

Project Location

- Just south of the South Lake Worth Inlet on the Atlantic Ocean.

The Problem

- Chronic beach erosion threatens beach habitat and upland resources.

The Solution

- Renourish the beach with sand dredged from offshore.
- Maintain healthy dunes stabilized with native vegetation.
- Dredge the sand trap inside the inlet, and return the sand to the beach south of the inlet.
- Construct new sand transfer plant to mitigate for the erosive effects of the inlet.
- Use T-groins to help further stabilize the sand on the beach.

Benefits

- Storm protection.
- Restoration of beach habitat.
- Provides sand to adjacent beaches.
- Maintenance of public recreation.

2005 Project Overview

- State and federally funded project
- Approximately 558,000 cubic yards of sand was dredged from a borrow area 1,800 feet offshore
- Sand was pumped through a submerged pipeline and onto the beach
- Sand pumped onto the beach was then shaped by bulldozers
- Renourishment project ran from Nov 22 to Dec. 5, 2005
- Widened 1.1 miles of beach
- Part of the management of the South Lake Worth Inlet
- Total Cost = $3,400.000
  - •$1.3 million USACE
  - •$1 million Federal Hurricane fund
  - •Remainder split equally between Palm Beach County and The State of Florida Beach Program

Illinois Dredging Sand 1800 feet offshore of Ocean Ridge

Beach Renourishment Facts

- Considered a “soft stabilization” method
- Protects upland habitat and both public and private property by adding beach compatible sand to eroded shorelines
- Effectively dissipates wave energy
- Retains the flexibility of the beach/dune system
- Provides vital nesting habitat for threatened and endangered sea turtles

North end of project area prior to 2005 fill

Newly Pumped Sand Being Shaped Into A Beach

Project Partners

The Ocean Ridge Shore Protection Project is a cooperative project between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, and Palm Beach County.

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