

*Palm Beach County
Department of Environmental Resources Management
Environmental Enhancement &
Restoration Division*

*January 2007
Status Report*



Ocean Ridge Natural Area

Palm Beach Commissioners Mary McCarty, Warren Newell, and Jeff Koons were joined by representatives from the Town of Ocean Ridge, the South Florida Water Management District, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and



others for the December 6 grand opening of the Ocean Ridge Natural Area. Thanks to assistance from Lynn Simmons and Craig Smart,

with his vessel "Starfish," the VIPs and guests were transported to and from the site by boat. A brief opening ceremony at the observation tower was followed by an educational tour along the 1,300 foot mangrove boardwalk. The project, accessible only by boat, bicycle or walking, is located about 1/3 mile south of the Ocean Ave. Bridge along the Intracoastal Waterway and Lake Worth Lagoon in the Town of Ocean Ridge.

An Ocean Ridge Natural Area brochure is now available at the two kiosks on the site.



Singer Island Dune Restoration

Work concluded at the Water Glades staging area on January 12th and sand began arriving at Eastpointe II on January 16th. Sand deliveries bypassing the Reaches seawall began on January 24th, but were

curtailed shortly after because of endangerment to the equipment. As of January 24, approximately 42,000 yd³ of sand have been placed into restored dunes.

Singer Island Erosion Control Project

The Scope of Work (SOW) for the Environmental Impact Statement, required as part of the Army Corps of Engineers permitting process, has been finalized. The task order is scheduled for BCC approval on February 6. A new DEP funding agreement to cost share on the permitting process was approved on January 9. For more information on the schedule and design of the erosion control project, please visit: <http://www.co.palm-beach.fl.us/erm/enhancement/beachreports.asp>

Jupiter/Carlin Shoreline Protection Project

County staff met with residents from the Ocean Trails Condominium on January 18th to discuss the erosion occurring south of the south jetty and the



proposed scope of work to construct erosion control structures. Staff is awaiting comments from the State regarding the proposed scope of work and once received, staff will put together a final scope to go before the Board of County Commissioners for approval.

South Palm Beach Shoreline Protection Project

Coastal Planning & Engineering (CP&E) has completed the Delft3D computer model simulations and developed environmental impact assessments for the final engineering alternatives. January photo monitoring of the dune restoration project area revealed that the majority of the restored dunes remain intact. However, loss of volume was observed at the north end of the project at the Horizon East Condominium and partial loss of the dune occurred along the 3600 and Dune Deck Condominiums.

Lake Worth Inlet

The Army Corps of Engineers has scheduled inlet maintenance dredging to begin in February. B & B Dredging will clear the entrance channel, settling basin, and turning basin areas, and for the first time, place the material above mean high water along the beach to the south.

The Tri-Party Coalition, which includes the Port of Palm Beach, Town of Palm Beach and Palm Beach County, met in January with the Corps to discuss maintenance dredging, sand transfer plant improvements, the expansion of the settling basin and a channel improvement study.



Loggerhead Marinelife Center of Juno Beach. ERM staff will be participating in these meetings. Those who cannot attend can submit comments to

coral@dep.state.fl.us

Several repairs to the Lake Worth Inlet Sand Transfer Plant were completed over the last several months including a new concrete walkway from the jetty to the plant, new stainless steel doors and windows and an updated fuel system. Future repairs include a new suction snorkel, new knife valves to switch discharge lines and a back up generator to run the bilge pumps.

The Reef Team continued monitoring natural reefs, Delray Ledge and Seagate Reef, during January. Delray



Ledge is a spectacular area with 20' ledges and diverse fauna. Filamentous green algae that was observed throughout Seagate Reef was collected for later identification.

C-51 Canal Sediment Management Project



The project has just dredged over 60%, about 73,000 yd³, of the total estimated project volume. Layers of muck up

to 15ft. thick were removed from the sandy bottom, creating habitats for fish and benthic communities. Further information



about the project can be accessed at: www.pbc.gov/erm/enhancement/c51.asp

John Prince Park/Chain of Lakes Restoration

Technical specifications and construction drawings for the project have been completed. The county will solicit bids in February.



M/V Celtic Crusader

PCB sampling and analysis has been completed on the Celtic Crusader

Reef Monitoring and Management

The Southeast Florida Coral Reef Initiative (SEFCRI) will hold public meetings to gather comments and suggestions from the public on projects designed to protect the coral reefs of southeast Florida, from Miami to Martin County. Information on completed and ongoing projects will be provided as well. The local meeting will be held on February 19 at 6-9 PM at the