

PALM BEACH COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
RESOURCES MANAGEMENT



ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT &  
RESTORATION DIVISION  
**JANUARY 2008 STATUS REPORT**

**John Prince Park/Chain of Lakes Restoration**

One component of the COL restoration project at John Prince Park included the removal of exotic vegetation. In areas where the infestation was greater than 90% with



very little native vegetation to save, a large machine called a Fecon was used to pulverize the "soft" exotic vegetation, including Brazilian pepper, Java Plum and Melaleuca. The hardwood exotic vegetation (Australian pine) was removed separately, cut into sections and run through a mulcher to provide mulch for the hydric hardwood planting zones.



The east slough included a much larger percentage of native plants, including Pond Apple, Wax myrtle, Royal Palm and Carolina Willow with a wetland fern understory, so the exotic vegetation needed to be hand treated. This labor intensive work was performed by a hardworking group who hacked, sprayed and girdled exotics in approximately 15 acres of wetlands.

**LWL Management Plan Update**

The second Listening Meeting to receive feedback on the draft Plan was held on January 23. Comments received at the meeting and via email are now being incorporated into the final draft before it is presented to the Board of County

Commissioners (BCC) at their March Workshop. View the plan at <http://www.co.palm-beach.fl.us/erm/lakes/estuarine/lake-worth-lagoon/>.

**Jupiter Beach Park**

Sand trap dredging is scheduled to begin by the end of January and should take approximately two weeks to complete. The Jupiter Inlet District expects to provide ~85,000 CY of material for placement on the beach. FIND and the COE expect to add additional sand from the ICWW in April.

A wave & current data collection plan was submitted to FDEP for their review. Data from the two ADCP instruments will be used in modeling beach response to various forms of erosion control structures.

**South Palm Beach**

On January 7<sup>th</sup>, work began on the reconstruction of the South Palm Beach/Lantana dune. Approximately 11,000 CY of sand was hauled to the project site and placed throughout the eroded system with heavy equipment. Unusually high winds and tides delayed the project by two weeks extending its completion time to the end of January.

**Singer Island Erosion Control Project**

The scope of environmental surveys needed for preparation of the Environmental Assessment (EA) and responding to DEP Request for Additional Information (RAI) #2 has been coordinated with DEP staff. A task order modification has been processed to cover the additional scope of work required for the EA. With approval of the task order modification and issuance of a fish collection permit from the Florida Wildlife Conservation Commission complete, the EA environmental field work is now scheduled for February. Work on a draft EA document has commenced.

An outline of the response to DEP RAI #2 has been prepared, and a task order request has been approved by the County for preparing the response to DEP RAI #2.

**Singer Island Dune Restoration**

Placement 52,800 CY of sand into a restore dune was completed on January 24, 2007. Final volumes of sand



placed are: 10,500 CY in Zone 1 (Water Glades to Aquarius), 13,800 CY in Zone 2 (Sea Dunes to Reaches) and 28,500 CY in Zone 3 (Reaches to Condado). Staff is processing an order to vegetate the dune with native plants species.

### **NENA trail head at Lake Okeechobee**

A contract for construction of the Northeast Everglades Natural Area (NENA) trail head to the Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail (LOST) is scheduled to go before the Board of County Commissioners on February 5 for approval. Ocean Gate General Contractors Inc. is the selected bidder.

### **Juno Dunes Natural Area Hydrological**

#### **Restoration**

A SFWMD Environmental Resource permit was approved on October 11. Upland construction of the management roads and access paths for wetland construction is anticipated to begin in the near future

### **Juno Beach Renourishment**

A response to FDEP's second RAI has been submitted. Staff are now working on a reef monitoring plan for the borrow area. The Palm Beach Reef Research Team has scheduled a dive to do a preliminary characterization of the natural reef nearest the borrow area.

### **South Lake Worth Inlet**

A dredging contract with Southwind Construction Corporation goes to the BCC on February 5 for approval. Construction is scheduled to begin on Feb. 15. The DEP permit modification for the project remains under review.

### **Ocean Ridge Natural Area**

With the placement of additional limestone boulders on the jetties and the construction of a wavebreak structure along the adjacent Ocean Cove property, the final

acceptance and payment for the construction contract was approved on January 23.

### **Artificial Reef Site Permit Application**

Staff has received notification from the FDEP that their permit application for developing 18 artificial reef sites countywide is complete and satisfactory. DEP is awaiting input from publication of the Intent to Issue Permit Notice prior to issuing the permit. The ACOE posted two public notices for the application on November 16, one for the inshore reef sites and the other for offshore reef sites. Comments to the ACOE from NMFS PRD concerning the application are being addressed.

### **Juno Dunes Natural Area F.I.N.D. Environmental Enhancement, Mitigation, and Boat Dock Facility**

A SFWMD permit for the work was approved on January 8. The ACOE permit is pending, though a Public Notice was issued on November 6. Staff is presently working on the final design documents.

### **Manatee Protection Plan**

The Manatee Protection Plan (MPP) includes funding for additional on-water law enforcement in the County's waterways. New agreements with the Jupiter Police Department and the Lantana Police Department will enhance enforcement activities until the end of the manatee season (March 31<sup>st</sup>).

