



PALM BEACH COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES
MANAGEMENT ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT &
RESTORATION DIVISION
NOVEMBER 2007 STATUS REPORT
HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Singer Island Dune Restoration: The first phase of construction is well under way. Over 12,500 tons of sand has already placed on the shoreline between the Reaches condo and the Condado. A conveyor system is being used to transfer the sand from the trucks to the beach. The conveyor is able to move a large volume of sand with very little impact to the surrounding area. If everything stays on schedule work should be completed before December 21st with work on the northern portion of the project area to begin in early January.

Ocean Ridge Natural Area

Construction of a breakwater along 725' of mangrove shoreline is underway with a completion date planned in December. The estimated 1,450 tons of rock for this project will protect an eroded area of mangroves that has been receding as a result of boat wake.

Jupiter



Delivery of sand to the Jupiter Beach Dune Restoration Project site began on November 27th. Throughout the next month, approximately 25,000

CY of sand will be truck hauled to the project site and placed throughout the highly eroded dune system.

The Jupiter Inlet District selected a contractor to dredge approximately 80,000 CY of sand from the inlet trap and place it throughout Jupiter Beach Park south to the Jupiter Beach Resort. Mobilization is anticipated to begin in January.

During November, staff received and responded to an RAI (request for additional information) from FDEP for the bulkhead construction around the public restroom facility at Jupiter Beach Park.

Oyster Reefs

Staff continues to work with the Water Management District on the environmental permit for constructing 3 acres of oyster reefs within a 34 acre area near John's Island. Plans and specifications are being developed for an estimated construction date of early summer 2008.

NENA trail head at Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail

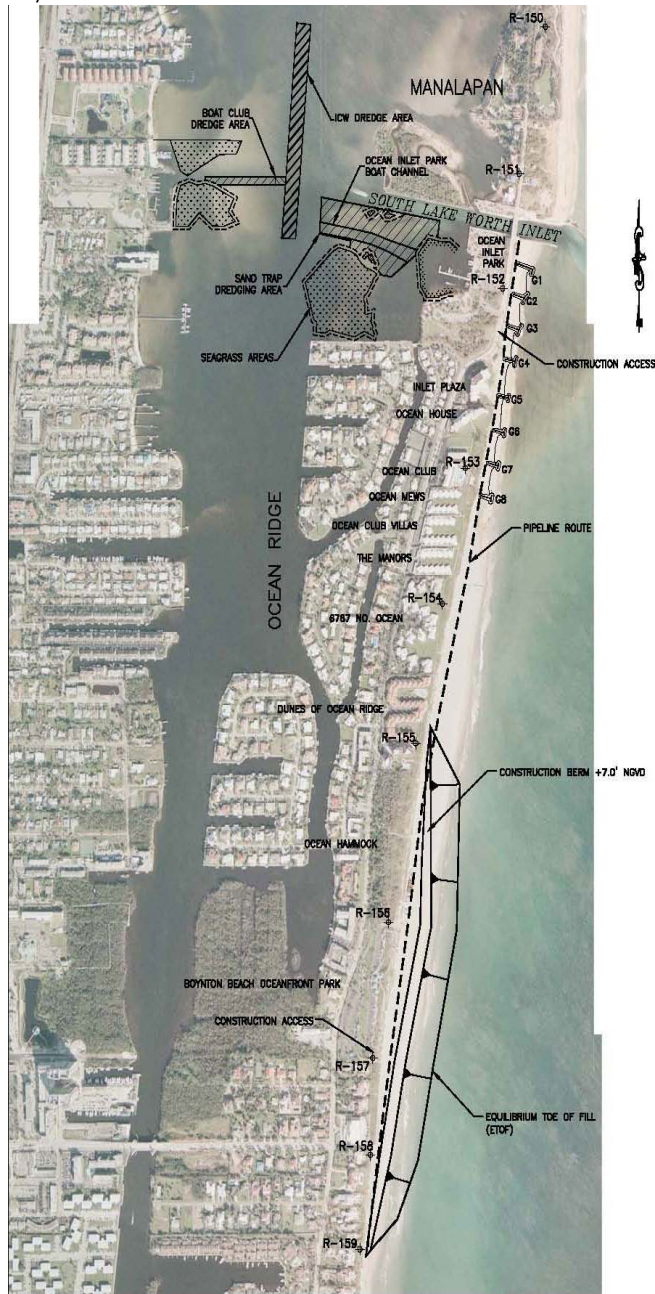
Bids were received November 29th for construction of the Northeast Everglades Natural Area (NENA) trail head to the Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail (LOST). The trailhead will provide a paved parking area for busses and passenger vehicles. In addition, there will be a separately fenced, unpaved parking area with a small paddock for loading and unloading horses. Construction is anticipated to begin in the spring of 2008.

John Prince Park/Chain of Lakes Restoration

Construction of the 7.5 acre wetland in the East Slough along the north end of Lantana airport will be completed by the end of December. Approximately 51,000 cubic yards of material was scraped back to wetland elevations. A few islands of existing cabbage palms were left in place as habitat features and a 15' wide service road was constructed to extend east to west along the wetland, from the campground to the west slough. Wetland plantings will be installed next week and soon visitors will be able to walk behind the wetland to view the abundant wildlife in the remnant slough.

South Lake Worth Inlet

Maintenance dredging - The seagrass survey was completed this month. The application process continues for a permit modification from DEP to conduct maintenance dredging. A response to RAI#2 was sent 11/6. ERM held a pre-bid meeting on 11/27.



Juno Dunes Natural Area Hydrologic Restoration

The SFWMD permit was authorized on October 11. The application for the ACOE nationwide permit is still under review. A scoping meeting was held to prioritize the various construction components of the hydrological restoration and to determine what portions of the project can be done by staff, annual contractors, or bid out to a general contractor. Some of the upland work on management roads and fill areas can be started shortly. An extension for the

USFWS grant for the freshwater restoration is in place.

Juno Dune Natural Area FIND site

The SFWMD permit application is still under review. A meeting to discuss questions regarding permit application issues was held with ERM, FIND and SFWMD, and a response to the request for additional information was sent to the SFWMD. The ACOE public notice is scheduled to be issued in December.

South Cove Natural Area: The proposed South Cove restoration project is located in West Palm Beach just north of the Royal Park (Okeechobee Blvd) bridge. A project presentation and Snook Islands tour provided stakeholders an opportunity to view a similar restoration effort in Lake Worth Lagoon and to learn about the South Cove project. A short video on the project is being produced and is expected to be ready for viewing in mid-January.

Sea Turtle Nesting Update: The 2007 sea turtle nesting season ended on October 31. Preliminary totals (excluding one beach that has yet to report) of 10,288 loggerhead nests, 3,345 green nests, and 472 leatherback nests have been reported countywide. Both leatherback and green nesting set new records this season, and were each 43% higher than the previous records (set in 2001 and 2002, respectively). However, loggerhead nesting continued to decline and was 8% lower than 2006. Sea turtle nesting season begins on March 1, 2008.

South Palm Beach

A permit for dune restoration throughout the project area is now in place and work is scheduled to begin in early January.

An Environmental Assessment and final engineering design for the proposed breakwater project is scheduled to begin in February.

Juno Beach Shore Protection: The response to FDEP's 2nd RAI is in review. Renourishment of the project area is scheduled for November, 2008.

Nearshore Mitigation Reefs

Drafting specifications for the reef pods is nearing completion while awaiting subbottom work on the potential sites in north and south-central county. The subbottom work should commence next month and will define sand depth profiles to maximize exposure for the future pods.

Artificial Reef Site Permit Application

Staff received notification from the FDEP that their permit application for developing 18 artificial reef sites countywide is complete. The issuance of a

permit is anticipated by early January. ACOE posted 2 public notices for the application on November 16, one for the inshore reef sites and the other for offshore reef sites.

experience Palm Beach County by bicycle. For more information on Bike Month, contact the Metropolitan Planning Organization E-mail: mpopbc@pbcgov.com

Reef Monitoring and Management

The Reef Research Team visited Breaker's Reef and Flower Garden, two natural reef sites. The Breaker's dive was on the east side in the area of the fingers. Unusual sighting was the numbers of maze corals that were bleached; approximately 40% of that species was bleached while only a couple of individuals of other species were bleached. This phenomenon has been reported before: maze coral bleach in November but recover.

NENA Connector between Riverbend Park and Sandhill Crane Park

Plans are underway for a guided Bike Month ride featuring the connector trail route. The 10.5 mile long ride will provide citizens an opportunity to check out the connector trail route before an enhancement project is built. Bike month is March 2008. There will be a suite of activities designed to encourage citizens to get out of their cars and

