



*City of Venice*

## BEACH RENOURISHMENT 2005

*InfoPage*

**Question: What is the beach renourishment project ?**

*Answer: Beach renourishment is the placement of sand on the beach following the original nourishment.*

**Question: Why is it being done in Venice?**

*Answer: This is the first of five renourishments to take place over the next 50 years as addressed in a contract between the Army Corps of Engineers and the city of Venice following the original nourishment which took place in 1994 and 1996.*

*The renourishments are necessary to protect the original investment in sand added to the beach.*

*However, during the 2004 hurricane season, a substantial amount of erosion occurred due to four storms which affected the beach.*

*The beach protects public and private property from storm damage and further erosion, so it is imperative to restore the sand.*

*The beach is a financial mainstay of tourism, an important part of the community's economy.*

**Question: When will this renourishment begin?**

*Answer: The Weeks Marine Inc. of Covington, La., hopper dredge, the B.E. Lindholm, arrived from Cocoa Beach June 6. A floating booster pump barge is located about 6,500 feet offshore.*

**Question: What will be involved?**

*Answer: Sand will be dredged from borrow sites in the Gulf of Mexico, approximately 6-12 nautical miles offshore, west to*

*northwest of the shoreline. The hopper dredge will transport the sand to the monobuoy where sand is pumped through submerged pipelines to the beach.*

**Question: How much of the beach will be renourished and where will the project start and end?**

*Answer: About 3.3 miles of shoreline will receive approximately 1 million cubic yards of sand, beginning just south of the Venice Municipal Fishing Pier and extending to the South Jetty at the north end of Venice Beach.*

*The result will be an addition of about 130 feet of sand in the south end of the project to about 160 feet of sand at the north end of the project, extending seaward from the existing shoreline.*

**Question: How long will this take?**

*Answer: Approximately three months, barring unforeseen delays.*



**Left, Venice Beach before the original nourishment in 1994.  
Right, the beach shortly after the original nourishment.**

**Question: When will the work be done?**

*Answer: The Army Corps of Engineers' contractor, Weeks Marine Inc., will work 24 hours a day, seven days a week to expedite the project in order to complete the work before the most intense part of the hurricane season for Southwest Florida arrives. That is usually in August and September.*

**Question: Will I be able to hear the work?**

*Answer: There will be times when those living closest to the beach will be able to hear the pumps running or the back-up alarms from heavy equipment operating on the beach. The wind direction and other weather characteristics affect the way in which the sound is carried.*

**Question: Is it possible to watch the progress of the work?**

*Answer: Yes, there will be plenty of areas where people can watch the operation. But remember, the area where sand is being pumped is a construction site with inherent hazards.*

*Please respect all signs, tape and other markings and stay outside of the boundaries of the work zone.*

*There will also be areas in the water along the shoreline where boaters will not be allowed in order to keep the work zone safe for everyone.*

**Question: How will the environment be protected during the project?**

*Answer: The city of Venice is required to monitor sea turtle nests and shore bird nests.*

*Mote Marine will have volunteers walking the beach twice a day. Should they find a nest, it will be relocated to a safer place south*

*of the renourishment area. There is very little sand for the turtles to*



*nest in at this time. The renourishment will improve the chances of these e n d a n g e r e d*

*species nesting along this shoreline.*

*Sea turtle nesting season is from May 1 - Oct. 31. Incubation ranges from 43 - 75 days. When the babies hatch, they crawl out of their nest and into the water.*

*Dr. Jack Taylor, a retired biologist, is responsible for monitoring the nests of shore birds. When a nest is found, it will be cordoned off to allow for a 300-foot radius of buffer. As the project begins there is a Wilson plover nest in the south end and a snowy plover nest in the north end. The eggs take 30 days to hatch and another 15 days for the hatchlings to leave the nest.*



*There is a dive plan and video survey that will be done to protect the area where the sand is dredged for fill.*

*The city will build three 2.5-acre reefs over 7.3 acres in 12 - 14 feet of water after the renourishment is completed.*

**Question: Will stormwater still flow through the outfalls?**

*Answer: Yes, the outfalls will be functional at all times. One of the last chores of the project will be to fill in sand around the sides of the outfalls known as Deertown Gully and Flamingo Ditch.*

*Stormwater pipes*

*will be added to the outfalls as the beach is widened.*

**Question: How much is this project costing?**

*Answer: The federal government is paying \$12.1 million. Of that amount, \$2 million is coming from city and state governments.*

**Question: Who can I contact for more information?**

*Answer: Army Corps of Engineers Team Leader Ronald Rutgers or Project Engineer Andy Cummings at (813) 840-0824; or city of Venice Public Information Officer Pam Johnson at 486-2626, Ext. 2003.*

**Question: What are some other resources on the Internet where I can get information?**

- Answer:*
- City of Venice:*  
[www.venicegov.com](http://www.venicegov.com)
- Army Corps of Engineers:*  
[www.saj.usace.army.mil/](http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/)
- Mote Marine sea turtle program:*  
[www.mote.org](http://www.mote.org); click on education; click on sea turtle research.
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission:*  
[www.myfwc.com/](http://www.myfwc.com/)
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection:*  
[www.dep.state.fl.us/](http://www.dep.state.fl.us/)
- Weeks Marine Inc.:*  
[www.weeksmarine.com](http://www.weeksmarine.com)

(Updated 6-23-05)



August 4, 2005

### Coming up



The project moved to the south end of the work zone where crews expect to be pumping sand in the area of Deertown Gully before the weekend.

Because the original beach nourishment functioned as hoped for in the Golden Beach area, and because that area actually received some sand from other parts of the beach over the last decade, there is no need to place more sand there. That area has 200 feet of sand between the high mean tide and the end of the public property line, also known as the erosion control line.

Work on stormwater outfalls begins next week. Pipes for the work will be temporarily staged on the vacant lot soon to become Graser Park, located across the street from the beach pavilion.

Tilling of the north area may begin as early as next week. Tilling breaks up the newly placed sand so sea turtles can dig nests.

### Progress

Since June 20, about 9,250 linear feet of sand have been piped to Venice beach. That is 199 hopper loads of sand.

The project is expected to be essentially complete around the end of August, weather and other factors permitting.

*Plans and information subject to change.*

### Celebrate the Sand!

Friday, Aug. 26 at 6 p.m. near the Venice Beach Pavilion at the west end of West Venice Avenue. Everyone is invited.

The ceremony will be followed by a drumming circle and sunset.



### TURTLES:



Of the 149 sea turtle nests laid in the project area, 139 have been relocated, according to Mote Marine.

**BIRDS:** Dr. John Taylor reports no shore birds are nesting at this time.



September 1, 2005

### Hurricane Katrina

Winds and surf out of the south, caused by Hurricane Katrina, moved several hundred yards of the new sand around on Venice Beach. Much of this sand washed up along the revetment at the South Jetty, covering a section of the rocks normally visible.



### Progress

About 17,200 linear feet of sand have been piped to Venice beach, for a total of 307 hopper loads during the renourishment project.

Submerged pipe used for pumping sand to the beach will be removed by early next week.

Tilling, stormwater pipe work and cleanup should be finished by mid September.

While work is being done to the stormwater outfalls, it may be necessary to walk around them on the water's edge.

### Celebrate the Sand!

The celebration which was postponed due to Hurricane Katrina, will take place **Sept. 9** at 6 p.m. near the Venice Beach Pavilion at the west end of West Venice Avenue. Everyone is invited.

The ceremony will be followed by a drum circle and sunset.



*Plans and information subject to change.*