



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
**P.O. BOX 4970**  
**JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32232-0019**

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

**LEE COUNTY BEACH EROSION CONTROL PROJECT**  
**CAPTIVA AND SANIBEL ISLANDS**  
**LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

This Finding incorporates by reference three Environmental Assessments conducted for the proposed beach renourishment of the federally authorized Lee County Beach Erosion Control Project on Captiva and Sanibel Islands, Lee County, FL. The initial Environmental Assessment (EA) was completed in 1996 by the Planning Division (PD) under the Civil Works Project authority and evaluates the placement of dredged sand from offshore borrow areas onto the beaches of Captiva and Sanibel Islands. A subsequent 2004 EA completed by Regulatory Division (RD) for Department of the Army Permit SAJ-1994-3952(IP-MN) under the authority of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, evaluates a new borrow area (VI) for the same beach renourishment project evaluated in the 1996 document. More recently, the RD EA was updated in 2012 to evaluate the expansion of borrow area VI. Therefore, this Finding provides notice of intent of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) Civil Works Program to include and amend its existing National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) coverage by adopting and incorporating by reference all discussions and conclusions contained in these three EAs. Based on information analyzed in the EAs, reflecting pertinent information obtained from agencies having jurisdiction by law and/or special expertise, I conclude that the proposed action will not significantly impact the quality of the human environment and does not require an Environmental Impact Statement. Reasons for this conclusion are in summary:

- a. The proposed action would be conducted in accordance with the Endangered Species Act, and specifically in compliance with the Gulf Regional Biological Opinion issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the Statewide Programmatic Biological Opinion (SPBO) issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). The work would not jeopardize the continued existence of any threatened or endangered species or adversely modify critical habitat.
- b. This project was coordinated with the State of Florida, and all applicable water quality standards will be met per Joint Coastal Permit (JCP) 0200269-001-JC issued 9 November 2004 and modification 0200269-007-JN dated 18 May 2012.
- c. The State concurred with the Corps Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) consistency determination that the proposed action is consistent with the enforceable policies of the Florida Coastal Management Program through issuance of JCP modification 0200269-007-JN.
- d. In accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 consultation been completed. The project will have no effects to properties listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

e. Public benefits will be provided with hurricane and storm damage reduction and beach recreation.


f. Measures will be in place during construction to eliminate, reduce, or avoid adverse impacts below the threshold of significance to fish and wildlife resources including the following:

1. Dredging would occur within the expanded and authorized footprint of borrow area VI and beach placement would occur within the template of previously permitted and authorized placement areas;

2. All water based activities would follow standard manatee, sea turtle and smalltooth sawfish protection measures and dredged material placement would comply with the conditions of the USFWS SPBO;

3. The Jacksonville District's Migratory Bird Protection Plan would be followed during the nesting season.

In consideration of the information summarized, I find that the proposed Federal beach renourishment project, Captiva and Sanibel Islands, Lee County, FL, will not significantly affect the human environment and does not require an Environmental Impact Statement. A copy of these documents will be made available to the public at the following website:  
<http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/About/DivisionsOffices/Planning/EnvironmentalBranch/EnvironmentalDocuments.aspx>.

  
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Alan M. Dodd  
Colonel, U.S. Army  
District Commander

27 MARH 2013  
Date