



**US Army Corps of Engineers
JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT**

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA SHORE PROTECTION PROJECT GASPARILLA ISLAND SEGMENT INTEGRATED SECTION 934 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District (Corps), has conducted an environmental assessment in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended. The Corps assessed the effects of the following actions in the Final Integrated Section 934 Report and Environmental Assessment (report), dated TBD for the Gasparilla Island Segment of the Lee County Shore Protection Project, Florida. The final recommendation is contained in the Director's Report, dated TBD. These reports are incorporated herein by reference. The Recommended Plan consists of the following:

- Extending Federal participation in periodic renourishment along approximately 2.8 miles of shoreline between Florida Department of Environmental Protection monuments R-10.5 (R-11 plus a 1,200 foot long north extending taper) and R-24.5 (R-24 plus a 600 foot long south extending taper);
- The beach fill template is defined as a 20 foot extension of the project baseline, roughly the 1995 MHW line, at +5 ft.-MLW (3.75 ft.-NAVD88); a foreshore slope of 1V:15H transitioning to a nearshore slope of 1V:25H from MLW extending out to the intersection with the existing profile; a 60 foot advance/sacrificial berm accounts for an average periodic nourishment interval of 22 years; only two renourishments are expected throughout the remaining 40 year period of analysis (2016 to 2056);
- The Boca Grande ebb shoal, located approximately 1.8 miles SW of the FDEP monument R-25, will be the borrow area for future periodic renourishments. The sand source encompasses approximately 425 acres with approximately 3.5 million cubic yards of beach-quality sand available. This volume of material is sufficient to cover the estimated project need of 1,200,000 cubic yards for the next two renourishment events, which will cover the extended Federal participation up to 2056.

All practicable means to avoid and minimize adverse environmental effects have been incorporated into the recommended plan. Environmental commitments as detailed in the report will be implemented to minimize impacts.

Pursuant to the Clean Water Act of 1972, as amended, any discharge of dredged or fill material associated with the recommended plan have been found to be compliant with section

404(b)(1) Guidelines (40 CFR 230). The Clean Water Act Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines evaluation is found in Attachment G, Attachment 1 of the report.

A water quality certification pursuant to section 401 of the Clean Water Act will be obtained from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection prior to construction. All conditions of the water quality certification will be implemented in order to minimize adverse impacts to water quality.

Pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, coordination with the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service has been completed.

Pursuant to section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, the Corps has determined that the proposed work will have no effect to historic properties.

Public review of the draft Integrated Section 934 Report and Environmental Assessment (report) was from November 22, 2017 to January 6, 2017. The Draft EA for the project has been forwarded to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 4, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Vero Beach Field Office, the National Marine Fisheries Service, Southeast Region, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and the State Historic Preservation Officer, as well as all other known interested parties for review and comment. All comments submitted during the public comment period have been addressed and incorporated into the Final report.

Technical, environmental, economic, and cost-effectiveness criteria used in the formulation of alternative plans were those specified in the Water Resource Council's 1983 Economic and Environmental Principles for Water and Related Land Resources Implementation Studies. All applicable laws, executive orders, regulations, and local government plans were considered in the evaluation of the alternatives. Based on these reports, the reviews by other Federal, State and local agencies, Tribes, input of the public, and the review by my staff, it is my determination that the recommended plan would not significantly affect the human environment; therefore, preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

Date:_____

Jason A. Kirk
Colonel, U.S. Army
District Commander