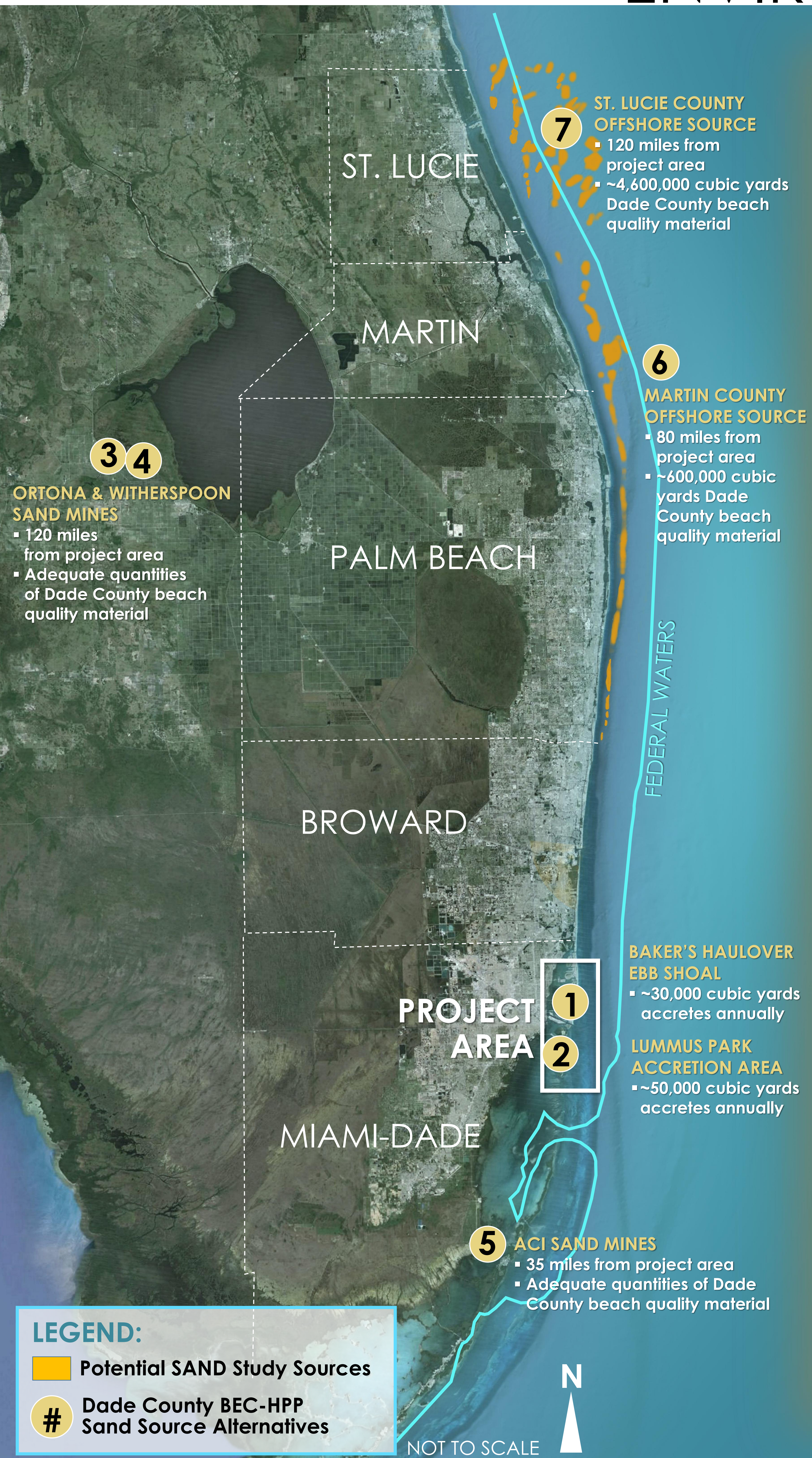


# ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS



## NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA) OF 1969

### NEPA

requires a federal agency to disclose its actions and evaluate the effects of those actions on the environment

- Applies to all federal actions
- Does not manage or protect one or more specific resources (unlike Endangered Species Act, Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, etc.)
- Federal agencies consider and document the environmental impacts of their proposed actions as part of an agency's overall planning and decision making
- Action agencies cooperate with federal, state and local governments, and other concerned public and private organizations and citizens during planning

For shore protection projects using federal sand sources, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) serves as a cooperating agency under NEPA to negotiate and issue leases for the sand

## TIERING FROM PREVIOUS NEPA DOCUMENTS

CEQ regulations: "§1502.20 – Agencies are encouraged to tier their environmental impact statements to eliminate repetitive discussions of the same issues and to focus on the actual issues ripe for decision at each level of environmental review."

Section 1.4 of the current Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project (BEC HPP) Environmental Assessment – Identification of Alternative Sand Sources for the Remaining Period of Federal Participation lists previous environmental studies related to the Dade County BEC-HPP.

## 10 FACTORS OF SIGNIFICANCE

If it is determined that a federal action will significantly affect the quality of the human environment under any one of the ten items below, an environmental impact statement is prepared:

- Beneficial and Adverse Effects \*
  - Public Health and Safety
  - Uniqueness of Area
  - Controversy \*
  - Uncertain, Unique, or Unknown Risks
  - Precedent for Future Actions
  - Cumulative Impact \*
  - Scientific, Cultural, or Historic Resources
  - Endangered or Threatened Species \*
  - Threaten Violation of Federal Environmental Law
- \* Most common issues in USACE projects

## ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

### SAND SOURCE INVESTIGATION RESULTS FOR MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

MAP REFERENCE	EXISTING DADE ACCRETION SOURCES		UPLAND SOURCES			OFFSHORE SOURCES (Federal Waters)	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
SOURCE	BAKER'S HAULOVER EBB SHOAL	LUMMUS PARK (SOUTH BEACH)	ORTONA	WITHERSPOON	ACI	MARTIN COUNTY	ST. LUCIE COUNTY
VOLUME (cubic yards)	30,000 Annually (no less than 10 years between events)	50,000* Annually (no less than 5 years between events)	adequate	adequate	adequate	600,000	4,600,000
DISTANCE FROM PROJECT SITE	4.5 miles south of northern project limit	Southern 1.5 miles of project	120 miles	120 miles	35 miles	80 miles	120 miles
TRANSPORT	Dredge & pipeline	Dredge & pipeline	Truck haul	Truck haul	Truck haul	Dredge & pipeline	Dredge & pipeline

### PROJECT BENEFITS DADE COUNTY BEC-HP PROJECT

- Storm damage reduction
- Protection of vegetation and dunes
- Nesting and foraging habitat for sea turtles and shorebirds
- Protection for culturally and historically significant resources
- Continued income from tourist revenue
- Recreation

### ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS SAND SOURCE ALTERNATIVES

#### OFFSHORE SOURCES



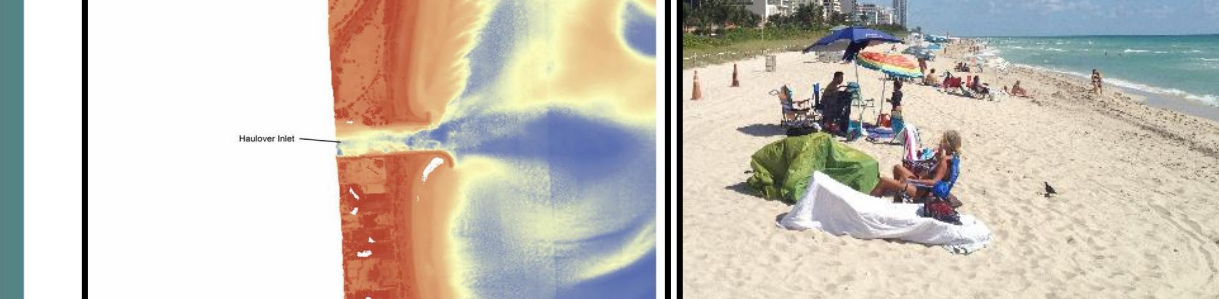
Dredging, Pipeline & Pumping Activity      Corals, Hardbottom & EFH      Benthic Habitat      Sea Turtles

#### UPLAND SOURCES



Transport & Multiple Deliveries of Sand to Project Site

#### EXISTING DADE SOURCES



Temporary Affects on Baker's Haulover Ebb Shoal & Recreation at Lummus Park

Table 11: Summary of Direct and Indirect Impacts, page 52

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE	IMPACTS	MITIGATION
Coastal Environment	...	...
Endangered Species	...	...
Historic Resources	...	...
Public Health and Safety	...	...
Recreation	...	...
Shorebirds and Sea Turtles	...	...
Soil	...	...
Water Quality	...	...
Wetlands	...	...

#### AVOID/MINIMIZE

- Standard Manatee, Sea Turtle, Smalltooth Sawfish Protection Protocols
- Relocation of threatened corals, & large stony corals from pipeline corridor
- Marking of pipeline corridors by divers
- Use of pipeline "lifters" on hardbottom & reef areas
- Shorebirds & Sea Turtles: daily monitoring during nesting seasons (plus buffers, markers & construction corridors, if necessary)

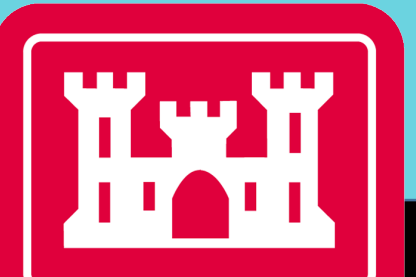
#### MONITORING

- Monitoring of hardbottom edge offshore of the placement area
- Swimming pipeline at least 2x per week to check for leakage
- Turbidity monitoring (waters around the dredging & placement sites)

#### COMPENSATORY MITIGATION

- (for unavoidable impacts related to pipeline corridors/operational boxes)
- Two-fold approach for compensatory mitigation: artificial reefs and/or outplanting of nursery corals

# DADE COUNTY BEACH EROSION CONTROL & HURRICANE PROTECTION PROJECT IDENTIFICATION OF ALTERNATIVE SAND SOURCES FOR THE REMAINING PERIOD OF FEDERAL PARTICIPATION



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COMMENTS ARE DUE OCTOBER 2, 2015