



*News from the . . .*  
Broward County Commission  
Environmental Protection Department

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## **Broward County Commission Awards Contract For Beach Restoration Project**

The Broward County Commission awarded a \$23.8 million contract on February 8 to the Great Lakes Dock and Dredge Company to restore six miles of the County's 25-mile coastline.

"We expect to start beach construction in Hallandale Beach, Hollywood and Dania Beach in April and work all summer on that," said Steve Higgins, the County's beach erosion administrator. He said the John U. Lloyd Beach State Park section of the project can not begin until November 1 because of the sea turtle nesting season. The entire first phase of the project, know as Segment III, should be completed by February 2006. It is the first beach restoration effort in Broward County in more than a decade. Broward County has received \$17 million in state and federal grants and is in the process of asking the federal government for an additional \$6 million.

Sand will be dredged off the north Broward coast and hauled by hopper dredge to the County's southern coast. It will be piped to the beach, adding 30 to 250 feet of beach to the coastal communities. After completion of Segment III, the impact of the restored beach on marine resources will be studied over an 18-month period. A report will be prepared for the Florida Department of Environment Protection, which will forward its recommendations to the governor and the cabinet. If approved, Segment II of the beach restoration plan can proceed, which involves the restoration of beaches in Fort Lauderdale and surrounding communities. It is projected that this phase of beach restoration will begin in late 2008.

Great Lakes Dock and Dredging Company, based in Oak Brook, Illinois, is the largest dredging contractor in the United States. They submitted the lowest of three bids for the project. The company has restored more eroded recreational and commercial waterfronts than any other dredging company, making it a leader in its field.