

Frequently Asked Questions

Sand Bypass:

Project information and sand placement

1. Has a contractor been selected for this project?

No, this contract has not yet been awarded. It is estimated that a contractor will be selected in May/ June 2021.

2. When the sand trap is initially dredged, how will the sand be placed on the beach?

Sand placement during the construction of the sand trap could be placed hydraulically with pipes and/or mechanically by the dredges. The sand would then be moved by land-based equipment such as bulldozers, excavators, and off-road dump trucks.

3. Where will sand from the initial dredging of the sand trap be placed?

The County is currently pursuing an easement with Point of Americas to place sand in low elevation points on their beach. Ideally, the sand will fill in low areas on this beach to reduce future storm impacts. Without an easement, the County will likely place sand seaward of the Point of Americas property line.

4. Once the sand trap is excavated, how often will periodic bypass take place?

Sand bypass dredging events are expected to occur every 2 to 4 years.

5. Where will sand from periodic bypass events be placed?

Sand from periodic bypass events will be placed along the State Park shoreline south of Port Everglades Inlet.

6. During periodic bypass events, how will the sand be placed on the beach?

Initially, it is likely that the sand will be loaded onto barges by dredge, the barges moved to an area along the western shoreline of the State Park and then the sand moved to the beach through a pipeline that will be deployed across the barrier island to the Park beach. Once delivered to the Park beach, the sand will be shaped into the design template using bulldozers. A future approach could be to install a pipeline corridor under the Port Everglades Inlet navigation channel which would allow an alternate way to pump sand under the inlet to the State Park beach. This option would need to be fully vetted and will not be considered until after the Port deepening project is completed.

7. Will sand bypass result in a more natural flow of sand from north to south?

Yes, the sand that is placed in the State Park will slowly move southward to the rest of the Segment III beach and reduce the need for additional sand by 40-50%. This will greatly reduce the amount of sand that is needed by truck haul to Segment III in the future.

8. How long will it take to dredge sand from the sand trap and place it on the beach?

It is estimated that this will take between 45 and 60 days, each time. The construction period will depend upon the type of equipment that the contractor elects to use for the project.

9. Is the sand in the sand trap suitable for use on the beach?

Yes. Sand collected in the sand trap originates from the beaches north of the inlet. Prior to each bypass event the quality of the sand within the trap will be evaluated. Sand will only be placed on the beach if it is deemed "beach compatible" per state regulation.

10. Are there any negative unintended consequences of this project to the Fort Lauderdale Beach north of Point of Americas?

No, the north jetty is being tightened and extended. These jetty improvements are intended to avoid negative changes to the beach north of the inlet.

11. The State Park south of Port Everglades is severely eroded. Is this beach receiving sand from any other projects?

Yes, the State Park is receiving sand from the Port Everglades Operations and Maintenance dredging, which is happening over the next couple of months. The Park will also receive sand and a dune from the Segment III project. Lastly, the Park will be the priority recipient of sand from periodic bypass events every 2 to 4 years. These sand placement projects will help with reduce erosion in this area.

12. Are the Point of Americas buildings and surrounding condos aware of the project to extend the jetty?

Yes, the County has provided outreach regarding sand bypass throughout the permitting process. The County recently had a meeting with the Point of Americas building manager and board members to provide an update on the project. Additionally, public notice was provided as part of the permit process. If you know of others that need this information, please email their contact information to resilience@broward.org.

13. There is a small beach south of Point of Americas II. What impacts will the north jetty work and addition of a second groin have on this small beach?

The north jetty will be tightened so as to not allow sand transfer through, but storms can always blow sand into the inlet which may contribute to additional sand on this small beach. The second groin is intended to retain the small beach in its typical configuration following completion of the sand bypass project. The County will request a rendering of what the small beach will look like after the project and will add this information to the next public webinar.

14. Is there the potential to transplant corals near the south jetty as part of mitigation?

There is no plan to transplant corals near the south jetty. Coral transplantation will occur from within the dredge footprint for the sand trap and rubble shoal. These corals will be moved to areas away from the project impact area.

Sand trap

15. How large is the sand trap, and what are the approximate geographical boundaries?

The sand trap is 11 acres. It is located about 200-250 feet east from the edge of the typical shoreline location in front of the Point of Americas buildings. The northern boundary is in line with the northern edge of the Point of Americas building.

16. What does the sand trap look like?

The sand trap is underwater and not visible from the shore. It will be a depression in the seafloor not too different than the existing inlet channel. For most of the time, the sand trap will be filled with varying amounts of sand.

17. How is sand captured in the sand trap?

The sand trap will be a depression (low area) in the seafloor where sand will naturally accumulate as it is transported from the north. The sand will be directed to the sand trap by the jetty extension.

18. How is sand harvested from the sand trap?

Sand will naturally collect in the seafloor depression. When it is time for a sand bypass event, sand will be excavated by a dredge, loaded onto a barge and then transported to the State Park beach south of the inlet.

Environmental/safety concerns

19. Are there any tires left from the former reef attempts in the sand trap area?

During all of the project planning surveys, tires from the Osbourne Tire Reef have never been observed on the seafloor where the sand trap will be constructed.

20. I am concerned about harmful debris like fishhooks being in the sand that will be placed on the beach. Will the sand be cleaned before it is placed on the beach?

During construction of the sand bypass project and initial sand bypass events, it is expected that sand placed on the beach will be screened for debris and rubble. It is expected that over time, the amount of debris and rubble that will be in the sand to be moved across the inlet will be reduced.

21. With a change in the jetty, will enhanced navigational warnings such as lights be installed?

The project does not include plans for new navigational warnings or lights to be installed on the north jetty.

22. Will there be blasting involved with this project?

No, blasting will not occur as part of the sand bypass project.

South jetty rehabilitation

23. What is the status of the south jetty rehabilitation?

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has awarded the contract to rehabilitate the south jetty to J.E. McAmis, Inc. A pre-construction meeting was held on Oct 30, 2020. Work will begin this month to tighten the jetty which will prevent sand loss from the beach south of the inlet to the inlet channel.

Other

24. Who should I contact if I have additional questions about this project?

You can email staff directly at resilience@broward.org or call the Environmental Planning and Community Resilience Division directly at 954-519-1270.

25. How can I get regular updates once the project begins?

Regular updates will be posted on the County's [beach nourishment website](#) will also be shared on our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) social media pages.