

THE NEWS ROOM

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## **BOEMRE, Florida Sign Agreement to Replenish Florida Community**

**WASHINGTON, DC** — The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement (BOEMRE) announced today that it has signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the city of Jacksonville, Fla. to provide 1.2 million cubic yards of sand from the U.S. Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) to Duval County to help restore its eroding beaches.

The project will restore sand for up to 10 miles of publicly accessible shoreline in Duval County from the St. Johns River entrance southward to the Duval/St. Johns County line. The shoreline suffered significant erosion as a result of storms in 2008.

“Since 2002, our Marine Minerals Program has provided nearly 7 million cubic yards of sand from the OCS to replenish beaches in Florida and help mitigate the effects of shoreline erosion,” said BOEMRE Director Michael R. Bromwich. “Preserving the integrity and beauty of our nation’s beaches is important both ecologically and economically. We will continue to do what we can to restore these communities.”

Through the MOA, the Corps of Engineers’ Jacksonville District, will dredge the sand from an area in federal waters about 7.7 statute miles southeast of Jacksonville and transport the sand to the project site. From there, it will be pumped from the dredge ship directly onto the beach nourishment area.

The project area has been replenished with sand on five previous occasions, in addition to material dredged from the Jacksonville Harbor federal navigation project periodically placed on the beach. The most recent renourishment project was in 2005, to address erosion caused by severe hurricanes in 2004.

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