

Beach Protection District Report, March 2010

At the Beach Protection District Commission meeting on March 9, Beach Engineer Clay Bryant's PowerPoint presentation on the status of the Town's beaches noted that the passage of several cold fronts had caused some severe erosion along the middle of the Island from 85 to 275 South Beach Road and along the concrete revetment from 133 to 141 North Beach Road. The beachfront for a mile north and south of the Public Beach has remained relatively stable during recent months, as have the beaches from 300 South Beach Road southward to the County line. Clay mentioned the presence of some hazardous derelict groins in the vicinity of 259 South Beach Road, with some exposed rebar. The exposed rebar will be cut off when the weather and the sea state have subsided.

Following up on the search for better sand for future renourishment projects, Clay indicated that they hope to receive the sediment analysis reports from the recent vibrocore samples the week of March 15. Regarding the Town's next beach restoration project, Clay reported that due to budgetary cutbacks the Town's project is not at the top of DEP's approved project list. However, the larger federal contribution to our project is assured. In the interim, we will continue to pursue the Florida funding support.

Sea Turtle Monitoring – We caution all residents that sea turtle monitoring activities for the new season began March 1st. While the Town ordinance covering sea turtle nesting season doesn't go into effect until May 1st, we highly encourage residents whose properties border the beach to turn off or appropriately shield all beachfront lighting no later than 9:30 p.m. each night so as not to distract the sea turtles from their nesting activities.