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*Issues affecting our treasured
coastlines*



Beach Briefs - December 20, 2010

Blind Pass Status Concerns CEPD

Crossing over the bridge at Blind Pass one can't help observing the significant shoaling within the Pass since construction to open the Pass was completed by the Lee County Division of Natural Resources in December 2009. Each week it appears the amount of sand shoaled into the restoration template grows (along with the concerns of local residents and the CEPD).

In October, with financial and CEPD Board support from Captiva, Lee County applied for a permit modification from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection

in order to expedite re-dredging and manage shoreline and inlet stability. The modifications stem from situations encountered during the initial construction and were developed to aid in obtaining the original design goals. Specifically, the permit is needed to:

- remedy sediment infilling
- correct the lack of a hydraulic channel sufficient to meet the original design intent
- correct the flow area that was lost through the settlement agreement negotiated by Lee County to avoid a property ownership dispute that narrowed the dredge template by 20%
- authorize a maintenance-dredge prior to the current 5 -year schedule.

With the help of physical monitoring, surveys and hydraulic measurements, engineers can examine the overall volumetric changes within the dredge template. Using this information, the rate of Pass infilling can be calculated. According to Robert Neal of the Lee County Division of Natural Resources, staff just pulled measuring instruments out of the water and a report will be available by late January or early February. It will contain data on volumetric shifts, shoreline movements, current velocities and tidal ranges. This data will be compared to the same data compiled when the Pass first was reopened. The quantitative measurements will be used to evaluate the performance of the Pass and determine the need for adjustments and modification to the project.

CEPD will report the results and any additional action to be taken by Lee County as soon as the monitoring report is available.



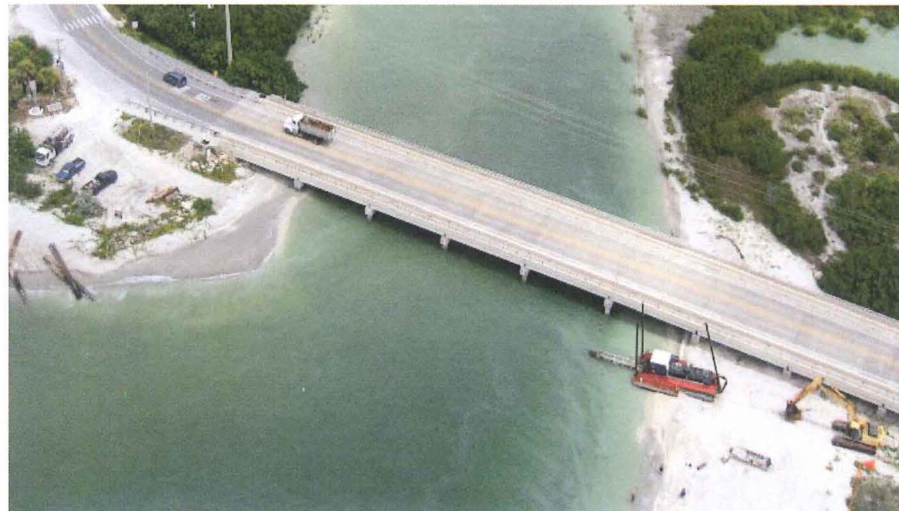
View from Blind Pass looking toward the Bay prior to sand removal and dredging in 2009.
(Credit: Bruce Caspar).

The Blind Pass Project: A Pictorial Chronology:



Construction

View from the Captiva end of the Blind Pass Bridge looking toward the Gulf just as sand removal commenced in 2009. The Pass is completely plugged.
(Credit: Bruce Caspar)



Immediate Post Construction
December 2009. The Pass is open!
(Credit: Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation)



Now - December 16, 2010

Sediment infilling has created new sandbars and deposited more sand along the inlet shoreline. A new beach is growing both across the Pass and easterly towards the bridge.
(Credit: Mike Mullins)



Now - December 16, 2010

Shoaling around groin.
(Credit: Mike Mullins)



Now - December 16, 2010

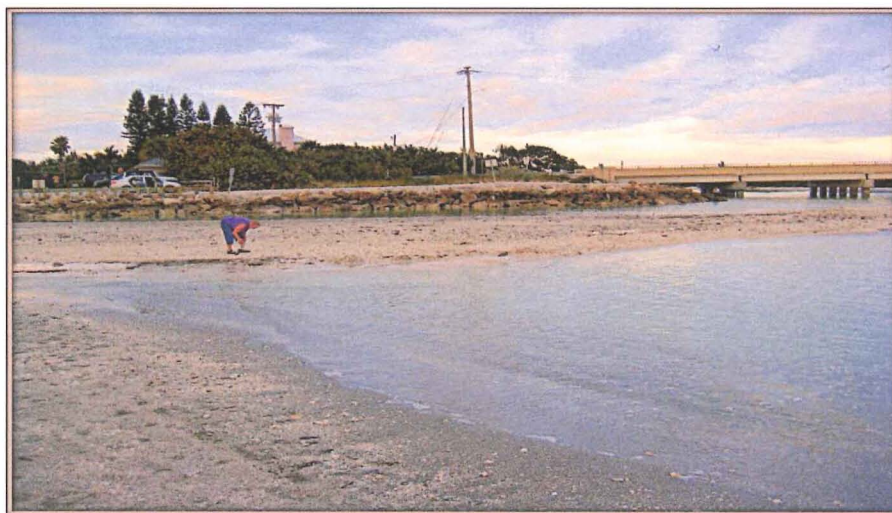
View from groin looking south at Pass.

(Credit: Mike Mullins)



Now - December 16, 2010


Standing in middle of shoal running across and easterly in the Pass.
(Credit: Mike Mullins)



Now - December 16, 2010

View looking at groin from newly formed 2nd sandbar in middle of Pass.
(Credit: Mike Mullins)

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Lee County Board of County Commissioners
Post Office Box 398
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Dist1@leegov.com

Board Meeting Schedule for 2011

- | | | |
|--------------|------------|-------------------|
| ▪ January 12 | 12:00 p.m. | 'Tween Waters Inn |
| ▪ February 9 | 2:00 p.m. | 'Tween Waters Inn |
| ▪ March 9 | 12:00 p.m. | 'Tween Waters Inn |
| ▪ April 13 | 12:00 p.m. | 'Tween Waters Inn |

- May 11 2:00 p.m. 'Tween Waters Inn
- June 15 12:00 p.m. 'Tween Waters Inn
- July 13 12:00 p.m. 'Tween Waters Inn
- August 10 12:00 p.m. 'Tween Waters Inn
- September 8 3:00 p.m. 'Tween Waters Inn
- October 12 12:00 p.m. 'Tween Waters Inn
- November 9 12:00 p.m. 'Tween Waters Inn
- December 14 12:00 p.m. 'Tween Waters Inn

Commissioners

Chair:	Michael Mullins	Secretary	Henry A. Kaiser
Vice Chair:	Doris Holzheimer	Treasurer	Dave Jensen
Rene Miville			

Senior Administrative Consultant

Kathy Rooker

The Captiva Erosion Prevention District is comprised of 5 elected, unpaid Commissioners dedicated to preserving and maintaining Captiva's beaches and shorelines. For more information on CEPD, visit our website at mycepd.com or join our email list at: mycepd@gmail.com

(239) 472-2472

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