

News Release

US Army Corps of Engineers Galveston District

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Release # 040801 April 9, 2008

Corps of Engineers to nourish Rollover Pass beaches

A Galveston District Corps of Engineers maintenance dredging project in the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway near Rollover Pass will provide a double benefit to that area.

The dredging project, which is scheduled to begin this month, is designed to keep the shallow draft waterway open to barge traffic, carrying out one of the Corps' primary missions of maintaining safe waterways for commercial traffic. Additionally, the material dredged will then be placed on the beaches near Rollover Pass, nourishing the beaches and helping to fight the erosion occurring there.

"This is a double win for the residents and businesses in the Rollover Pass area," said Colonel David C. Weston, Galveston District commander. "Not only do we take care of our mission of keeping America's waterways navigable, but we also turn that mission into a benefit for homeowners, tourists, and residents."

This process, called beneficial use, looks for environmentally and economically responsible ways to utilize dredged materials to benefit local communities. Beach nourishment is often one end result, and involves the improvement of eroded coastal beaches through the placement of dredged material.

In this project, approximately 65,000 to 120,000 cubic yards of dredged material will be discharged to nourish the beach. The discharge will begin approximately 1000 feet west of Rollover Pass and will continue in several increments.

To ensure the safety of nesting turtles, the area will be monitored by workers, watching for turtles which may come onto the beach. If necessary, the pipeline depositing the dredge material will be repositioned to avoid turtle nesting areas.

The contract was awarded on Feb. 26 to T.W. Laquay Dredging, Inc., in Port Lavaca, Texas, in the amount of \$ 3,116,150. The dredging and placement of material is expected to begin by the end of this week and should take two to three weeks.

The project is a cooperative effort between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Galveston District and the Texas General Land Office.