



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**

Engineer Research and
Development Center

Jacksonville District: Southwest Florida

ISSUE

RSM needs in Southwest Florida are located in the counties of Pinellas, Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee, and Collier.

RSM DEMONSTRATION PROJECT GOALS

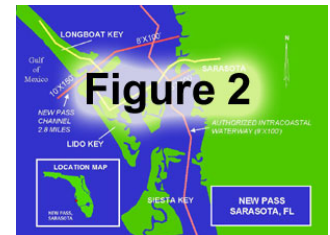
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District, has three RSM regions (northeast, central-east, and southwest Florida). The Jacksonville District and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection conducted workshops involving all of the regional interest organizations to identify and develop RSM demonstration programs in the southwest Florida region. Specific initiatives were identified during these workshops.

SUMMARY

The following potential RSM demonstration projects were identified:

- Conduct a regional sediment budget analysis from Collier County through Pinellas County to be cost shared 50/50 between the Corps and the Florida Office of Beaches and Coastal Systems.

- Investigate creative contracting options for maximizing dredge plant mobilization opportunities (consider both Federal and non-Federal projects).
- Use New Pass as borrow area for shore protection projects (Figure 1).
- Use Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW) dredged material for beach fill and/or ecosystem restoration.
- Recycle marginal material dredged from the GIWW by separating fine fraction from beach quality component.
- Experiment with nearshore placement of marginal material to determine the fate of its constituents.
- Develop ecosystem restoration projects in the vicinity of Naples and Marco Island.
- Promote discussions with Federal, state, and local stakeholders on the allocation of sand resources.
- Investigate coastal processes and develop a plan of action for increasing the beach fill retention time at Upham Beach.
- Consider flood shoal removal at Longboat Pass.
- Create disposal islands for enhancement of sea grass and bird habitat.
- Use side-cast sand bars in Tampa Harbor as a source of beach fill (Figure 2).
- Develop consistent state and Federal authorities.
- Prioritize beneficial use sites for Tampa Harbor over conventional disposal areas.



- Develop an effective outreach program for improving beach restoration public perception and spreading the word about regional sediment management. (Give a presentation of the Continuing Authorities Program to the Tampa Bay Agency on Bay Management).
- Offload Tampa Harbor disposal areas 2D and 3D.

STATUS

Workshops on 5 and 7 June 2001 prioritized the following initiatives:

- Relocate Stump Pass.
- Use New Pass as a borrow source.
- Use dredged material from the GIWW for ecosystem restoration.
- Use side-cast sand bars in Tampa Harbor for beach fill.
- Place marginal material offshore and monitor evolution of its sediment quality.
- Develop an outreach program for improving public perception of beach restoration.

LESSONS LEARNED

Section 22 funds are not always available, and inlet reopening can be highly contentious. Problems encountered include the physical size of the southwest Florida region. Identifying suitable demonstration projects also can be a formidable task. Recommendations include conducting a workshop in FY03,

developing a regional sediment budget, and continuing development of RSM demonstration initiatives.

KEY WORDS

Ecosystem, flood shoal, sand bar

POINTS OF CONTACT

John Zediak, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, South Atlantic Division, Jacksonville, 904-232-2914.

Bradd R. Schwichtenberg, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, South Atlantic Division, Jacksonville District, 904-232-1697.



Figure 1. Tampa Harbor, Florida [back to text](#)

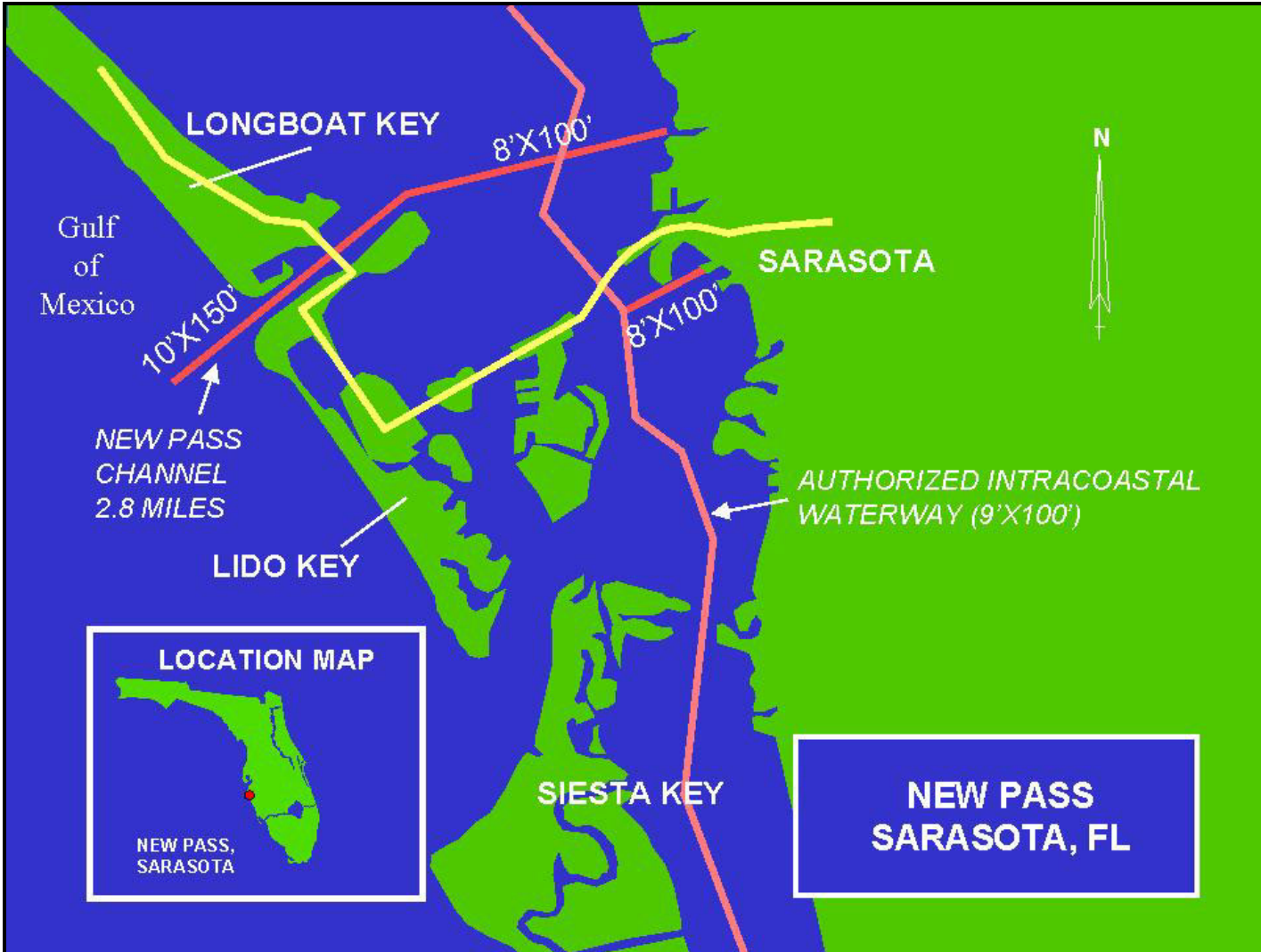


Figure 2. New Pass Sarasota, Florida [back to text](#)