

The Sebastian Inlet District Commission

A multi-county independent special taxing district
114 Sixth Avenue, Indian River, Florida 32903 (321)724-5175 / (321)951-8182 FAX



Statement of Function

It is the duty of the Board of Commissioners to maintain the inlet between the waters of the Atlantic Ocean and the waters of the Indian River Lagoon, situated between Brevard and Indian River Counties.

The opening and maintenance of such inlet or waterway is declared to be for public purposes necessary for the use of shipping, transportation and commerce, for the health, convenience, comfort and welfare of the inhabitants of the Inlet District.

The Commission of the Sebastian Inlet District, in coordination with the State of Florida, authorizes programs and projects for beach re-nourishment, erosion control, environmental protection, navigation, boating, recreation and public safety.

2022/2023 Accomplishments

Inlet Management Plan Implementation

- Completed the 2023 Update to the Sebastian Inlet Management Plan
 - Reducing the District's Bypassing Requirement to 75,000 cy/yr from 90,000 cy/yr
- Conducted semiannual beach profile and inlet surveys
- Conducted permit required post-construction physical and biological monitoring
- Completed the 2022 update to the State of the Inlet Report
- Collected and analyzed data from the Sebastian Inlet wave and weather station

Inlet Maintenance Related Activities

- Completed the North and South Inlet Shoreline Stabilization Project—total project costs were \$906,146.30
- Completed emergency repairs to the North Jetty splash apron washouts within 2 months following Hurricane Nicole— total project costs were \$240,000
- Completed the 2022/2023 Upland Sand Truck Haul/Beach Placement Project (30,000 cubic yards)— total project costs were \$1,374,631.83
- Developed an Interlocal Agreement with the Brevard Mosquito Control for use of non-beach compatible materials stored within the DMMA, estimated savings to both the District and Mosquito District is approximately \$200,000

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- Extended the Memorandum of Understanding for Coordination of Supplemental Beach Nourishment and Related Coastal Activities with Indian River County
- Implemented the recently developed DMMA Operations and Maintenance Plan
- Initiated the 2021 structural assessments of the north and south jetties
- Repaired and replaced damaged inlet channel markers
- Continued coordination with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) regarding the upcoming Sebastian Inlet Bridge Replacement Project
- Completed Selection of Consultants for Continuing Professional Hydrographic Surveying and Mapping Services (2023-2028)
- Completed 2023 Update to the Regional Economic Benefits of Sebastian Inlet study

Grant Related Activities

- Received \$919,972.90 in reimbursement from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (Grants 22IR2, 23IR1 and 23IR3) for Sebastian Inlet IMP Implementation
- Applied for and was awarded grants, committing \$1,472,500 in reimbursable cost share from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for emergency dune construction (project completed 2023)
- Applied to Florida Department of Environmental Protection for funding for continued post construction monitoring and FY 24/25 maintenance dredging of the sand trap and beach placement project

Public Outreach Activities

- Maintained SID website for consistency with ADA and Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) compliance
- Continued the popular weekly Sebastian Inlet fishing report
- Continued to develop, disseminate and post relevant and newsworthy content for SID website (48k visits in one month), social media channels and targeted regional media outlets (setting District record on Facebook with a post that reached 343k people)
- Completed three speaking engagements to various community and civic groups — reaching 200 people — to discuss District projects and programmatic success
- Continued the District online community with a focus on engagement across all District social media channels (Facebook, Instagram, YouTube)
- Continuing to work with partnering agencies - including Sebastian Inlet State Park, FWCC and IRL National Estuary Program – by participating in public events and cross-promoting news and information on social media and the District’s website

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2023/2024 Goals and Objectives

Inlet Management Plan Implementation

- Continue semiannual beach profile and inlet surveys
- Continue permit required post-construction monitoring
- Continue annual updates to the State of the Inlet Report
- Continue Sebastian Inlet wave and weather station data collection and analysis
- Complete the 2023 update to the Inlet Management Plan
- Initiate design and permitting for the upcoming 2024/25 Sand Trap and Channel

Inlet Maintenance Related Activities

- Continue DMMA maintenance
- Continue maintenance of channel markers as required by the U.S. Coast Guard
- Design, Permit and Construct maintenance project to the north jetty

Grant Related Activities

- Continue to explore potential grant opportunities to assist in inlet maintenance and public outreach

Public Outreach Activities

- Ongoing, regular updates to SID website re: SID programs and projects, environmental monitoring, Commission/Commissioners and to include Important Notices related to navigation and SISP
- Maintain and continue promoting popular SID webcam
- Consistently develop relevant and newsworthy content stream for press, web and social media
- Continue to build “online community” and SID presence on social media
- Continue building SID photo and video archive assets
- Continue to identify opportunities for public education through presentations to community groups and organizations
- Continue the weekly fishing reports
- Explore the development of a Sebastian Inlet District Mobile App