

A third series of delays occurred around the first of the year as a result of mechanical problems. Loss of one of the main pump engines forced the *Manhattan Island* to go to Norfolk (Virginia) for a replacement. Then, the booster barge was down for nearly a week for a generator repair.

Unexpected delays, combined with a fixed budget and a nonnegotiable permit that requires all work to be complete by April 30th, means some modifications have to be made in the project. On January 18th, representatives from the Town of Pine Knoll Shores, GLD&D, CSE, the Army Corps of Engineers, and state regulatory agencies reviewed the progress to date and discussed ways the project could be completed. GLD&D presented a schedule for how much work could be accomplished by April 30th in light of the above-cited delays and permit restrictions. A consensus was reached that the overall project (including the Indian Beach portion) may have to be reduced by about 15 percent.

Cutting back the overall quantity of sand rather than eliminating the Indian Beach reach was deemed in Pine Knoll Shores' best interest. The Indian Beach portion of the project will serve to "anchor" Pine Knoll Shores' sand and reduce the rate of loss. Further, the extra sand placed along the eastern end of Pine Knoll Shores will tend to feed the areas to the west for a longer time. Because we are still in the early stages of the project, additional modifications are possible. In the past two weeks, production rates have improved to an average of ten hopper loads per day (23,000 cy per day). The town is monitoring production closely so that all reaches receive a fair share of sand.

We will update you again next month. Meanwhile, we all look forward to cold temperatures and calm seas.

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