



## CCCL Sand Fence Guidelines

The state of Florida requires permits for sand fences and other coastal construction seaward of the coastal construction control line (CCCL) under section 161.053, Florida Statutes, of the Beach and Shore Preservation Act and the CCCL Rule Chapters 62B-33 and 62B-34, Florida Administrative Code.



**Figure 1:** Sand fences installed to state of Florida specifications for the Mexico Beach dune restoration project built after Hurricane Michael. These sand collection fences have enlarged the new dune by trapping sand from the beach. Installation of sand fences in combination with planting vegetation has been a successful dune restoration method.

## General Sand Fence Requirements

- A permit from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is required prior to the installation of any sand fence seaward of a CCCL. Go to [www.FloridaDEP.gov/CCCL](http://www.FloridaDEP.gov/CCCL) for permit assistance and to learn [How to determine if your property is seaward of the CCCL using 'Map Direct'](#).
- Sand fences may only be installed on the open beach and on or seaward of the frontal dune or dune bluff in locations where they are expected to be both effective in trapping sand and to meet CCCL regulatory requirements. Installation in these sites must be as far landward as practicable and follow the Sea Turtle Protection Measures contained within these guidelines.
- Dune plant growth is necessary to stabilize sand accumulated by sand fences according to dune restoration [research](#) conducted on Santa Rosa Island following Hurricane Opal.
- Sand fences must be of low impact, breakaway construction and biodegradable materials when possible, including the use of untreated wood and have a 40% open space (void) to 60% solid ratio or a maximum of 50% open space between slats for most effective sand trapping. Posts are recommended to be 3-inch diameter round, untreated wood poles embedded a minimum of 3-feet deep.
- Construction must follow the General Permit Conditions of CCCL [Rule](#) 62B-33.0155, Fla. Admin. Code. Fences are to be installed in a way that does not alter dune topography, damage beach-dune vegetation, drive vehicles or other equipment across dunes, disturb marked sea turtle nests or known nest locations, obstruct public access or damage adjacent properties. No trespass is authorized.
- Disturbance of the beach or dune ground surface must be smoothed out to pre-project conditions. Native dune plants damaged during construction must be replaced and approved by DEP. Damaged sand fences must be repaired or removed.

*Sand fence questions? email [cccl@dep.state.fl.us](mailto:cccl@dep.state.fl.us), call 850/245-2094 or look up a CCCL field inspector at [www.FloridaDEP.gov/CCCL](http://www.FloridaDEP.gov/CCCL).*

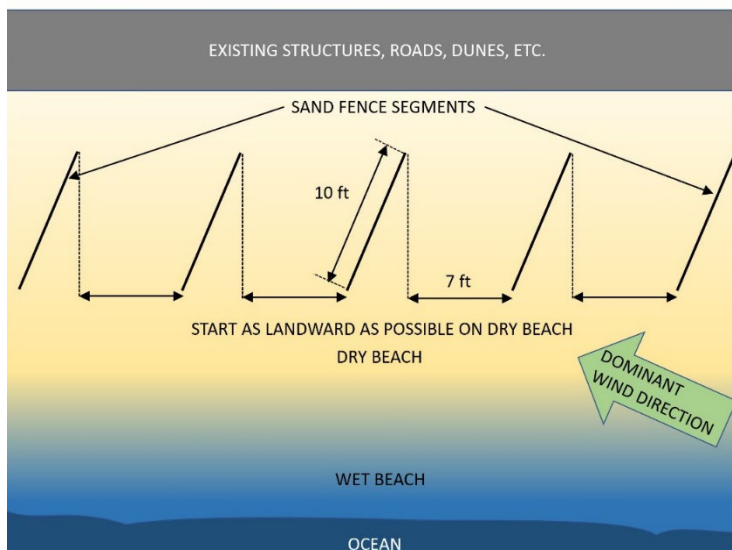
## Sea Turtle Protection Measures

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), Imperiled Species Management Section provides sea turtle protection measures for sand fence permits issued by DEP and has posted helpful sea turtle conservation information at <https://myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/wildlife/sea-turtle/>. FWC provides consultation and specific sea turtle protection measures for DEP coastal construction permits for sand fence projects that:

- Extend more than 500 linear feet along the shoreline.
- Use sand fence designs, materials, or installation methods other than those specified in the conditions listed below.
- Are proposed on sandy beaches in Brevard through Miami-Dade counties along Florida's southeast beaches, Manatee through Collier counties of southwest Florida, or Monroe County.

Sand fence projects less than 500 linear feet, using conventional designs and materials, and not located in the above counties are subject to these sea turtle protection measures added to standard CCCL field permit conditions:

- Sand fences must be located as far landward on the sea turtle nesting beach as is possible. The landwardmost fence post is to be installed no closer than 5 ft. to a seawall, revetment or dune scarp to avoid trapping nesting sea turtles landward of the sand fence.
- Sand fences located seaward of the crest of the frontal dune or a seawall are to be arranged as follows and described in the Figure 2 sand fence diagram:
  - Sand fences must be separated into individual fence segments (spurs) and not installed in a continuous fenceline along the beach.
  - Individual fences (spurs) are not to exceed 10 ft. in length and 4 ft. in height.
  - Spurs need to be aligned diagonally facing the dominant wind direction and spaced at least 7 ft. apart along the project area (see diagram below).



- Only one row of fences is allowed within sea turtle nesting habitat.
- Operating, transporting or storing equipment or materials is not allowed seaward of a frontal dune or rigid coastal structure during sea turtle nesting season. In Brevard, Indian River, St. Lucie, Martin, Palm Beach and Broward counties the sea turtle nesting season is March 1 through October 31. In all other counties, the sea turtle nesting season is May 1 through October 31.
- FWC staff can assist with considerations of other coastal wildlife potentially affected by sand fence projects, such as gopher tortoises, beach nesting shorebirds and beach mice. Contact FWC sea turtle program staff at 850/922-4330 or [marineturtle@myfwc.com](mailto:marineturtle@myfwc.com).

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