

**DOCTORS PASS INLET MANAGEMENT STUDY
IMPLEMENTATION PLAN
CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION**

WHEREAS the Department of Environmental Protection, in partnership with the City of Naples, has sponsored a study of the Doctors Pass, under the provisions of Section 161.161, Florida Statutes, for the purposes of evaluating the erosive impact of the inlet on adjacent beaches, and

WHEREAS the Department has developed an implementation plan which contains corrective measures to mitigate the identified impacts of the inlet, and

WHEREAS the implementation plan is consistent with the Department's program objectives under Chapter 161, Florida Statutes,

The Department does hereby adopt the following implementation actions:

- 1) Bypassing of all beach compatible dredged material including channel maintenance material to downdrift beaches in eroded areas as identified in the monitoring plan. Material shall be placed on beaches or in the surfzone located downdrift of the inlet in areas of greatest need based on a plan approved by the Department. At a minimum, 10,000 cubic yards of material shall be bypassed on an average annual bases.
- 2) The sediment budget contained in the study report is adopted as an interim measure and shall be formally validated or redefined in subsequent revisions of the plan based on a comprehensive monitoring plan by December 31, 2001. In conjunction with the sediment budget revisions, a comprehensive inlet, beach, and offshore monitoring program shall be implemented subject to approval of the Department.
- 3) Improvement of the north jetty has occurred and the jetty should be maintained.
- 4) Implement a comprehensive beach and offshore monitoring program subject to the approval of the Department.

This plan is based on the supporting data contained in the study report, Doctors Pass Management Plan, Suboceanic Consultants, Inc, & Tackney and Associates, Inc. February 1994. studies conducted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and comments provided by public agencies and the citizenry of Collier County. Each implementation action contained in this plan subject to further evaluation, and subsequent authorization. Any action that may affect navigation

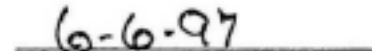
associated with the inlet shall be consistent with all applicable federal requirements and subject to authorization from the US. Army Corps of Engineers.

It is the intent of the Department to assist in the implementation of the plan through the provision of funds granted under the Florida Beach Erosion Control Program. The Department's financial obligations shall be contingent upon sufficient legislative appropriations.

Nothing in this plan precludes the evaluation and potential adoption of other alternatives or strategies for management at Doctors Pass.

APPROVED FOR ADOPTION


Virginia B. Wetherell, Secretary
Department of Environmental Protection


Date

**DOCTORS PASS INLET MANAGEMENT STUDY
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS REPORT
and
RECOMMENDED IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

Introduction

The Department of Environmental Protection, in partnership with the City of Naples, completed an inlet management study of Doctors Pass. The study, Doctors Pass Management Plan, Suboceanic Consultants, Inc, & Tackney and Associates, Inc. February 1994 was conducted under the provisions of Section 161.161, Florida Statutes, for the purposes of evaluating the erosive impact of the inlet on adjacent beaches, and to recommend corrective measures to mitigate identified impacts.

The study has been evaluated by the staff of the Bureau of Beaches and Coastal Systems as it relates to the Bureau's statutory responsibilities and program objectives. As a result of that evaluation, the Bureau has developed a recommended implementation plan. Adoption of the plan will facilitate and streamline the coastal construction permitting process during its implementation by providing a basis for consistency determination, and enable governmental entities to seek financial assistance from the Department to conduct management activities authorized in the plan.

This report contains a brief history of Doctors Pass, a summary of the Inlet study findings, and a consistency determination. The report also contains the recommended implementation plan.

History of Doctors Pass

Doctors Pass (Figure 1) was historically a wave-dominated inlet that provided water exchange between the Gulf of Mexico and Inner and Outer Doctors Bay and was subject to considerable migration up and down the coast. In 1960 Doctors Pass was first widened by dredging and two boulder mound jetties were constructed. In 1966 the pass was again dredged and the jetties were improved with rocks and sand from the dredging.

The dredged channel is eleven feet deep in the outer approach and seven feet deep in the pass, the north jetty is 375 feet long while the jetty to the south is 250 feet long. A sediment basin 14 feet deep by 600 feet long by 515 feet wide was created in 1996. This sediment basin is designed to have a sediment storage capacity of at least 40,000 cubic yards which would limit the need for yearly maintenance dredging.

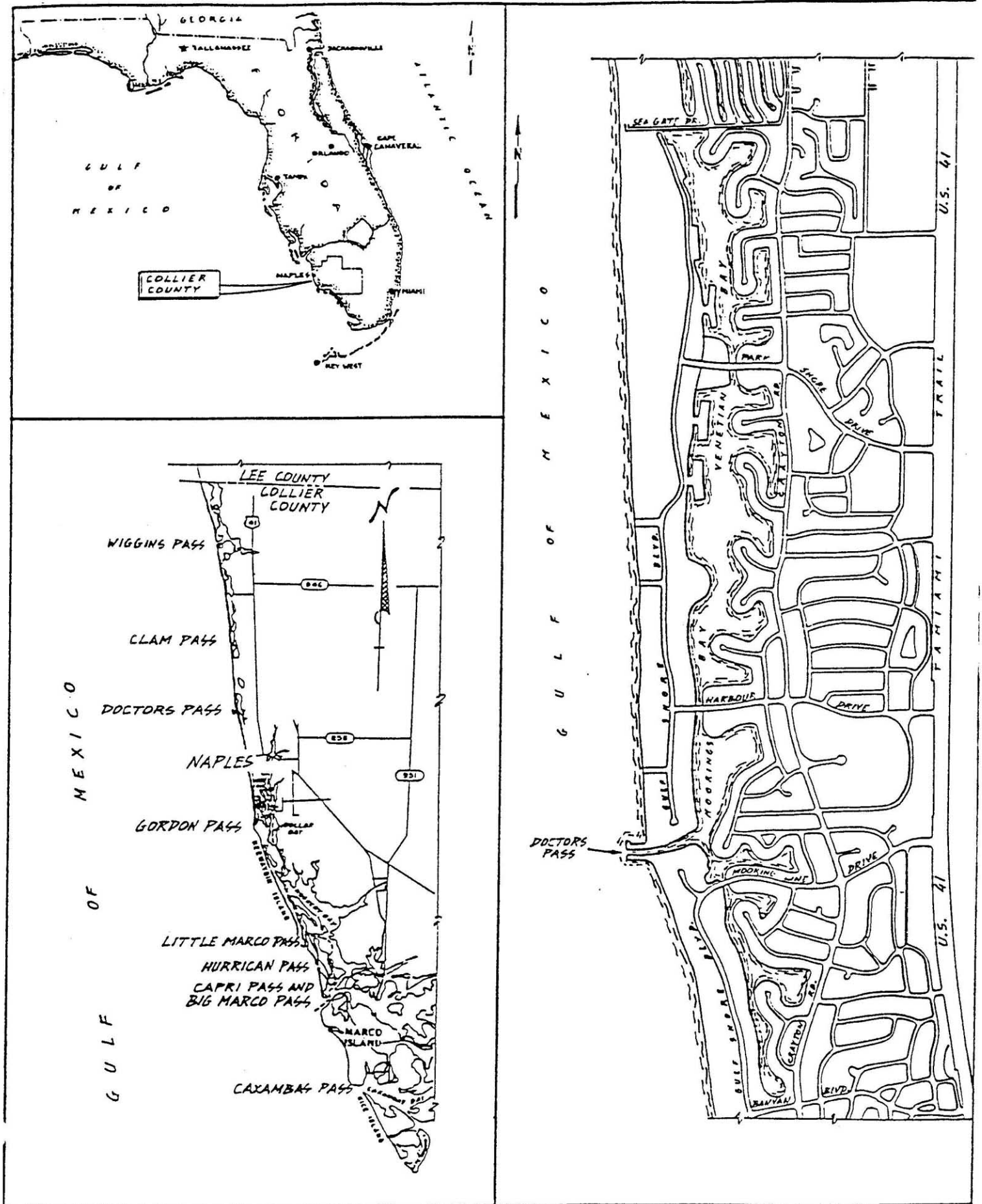


Figure 1

Suboceanic Consultants, Inc. &
Tackney and Associates, Inc.
(1994)

Maintenance dredging occurred in 1984, 1988, 1992, and 1996 with beach compatible sand being placed on the beach or in the nearshore area south of the inlet. A sediment budget developed as part of the study estimates the need to bypass 10,000 cubic yards annually from the ebb tidal shoal, navigation channels and sediment basin to offset the impacts of the inlet (Figure 2).

Study Summary

To accomplish the plan objectives, the study evaluated numerous potential management activities in terms of environmental impacts, fiscal concerns, and potential achievability. The study recommends three principle elements involving sand bypassing and inlet improvements (Figure 3).

- 1) Bypass sand through the periodic dredging of the sediment basin.
- 2) Continue periodic maintenance dredging of the navigation channel and flood shoals with sand bypassing.
- 3) Extension of the north jetty.

Consistency Determination and Comments

Each of the three primary recommendations has been evaluated for consistency with program objectives under Chapter 161, Florida Statutes. The consistency determination is based solely upon the recommendations as presented in the study report. A determination does not preclude further study of other potential management alternatives. Comments regarding each recommendation are as follows.

- 1) Continued periodic dredging of the sediment basin, with placement on the downdrift beach, is consistent.
- 2) Continued maintenance dredging with beach or nearshore disposal is consistent, but should include optimization of dredging cycles. The report identifies disposal sites downdrift of the inlet, but should allow for disposal sites to be located in areas of greatest need based on results from long term monitoring and be subject to Department approval.
- 3) Extending the north jetty is consistent and would limit the amount of material transported directly into the navigation channel between the jetties. However, the north jetty extension could result in a reduction of bypassing of sand to eroding downdrift beaches.

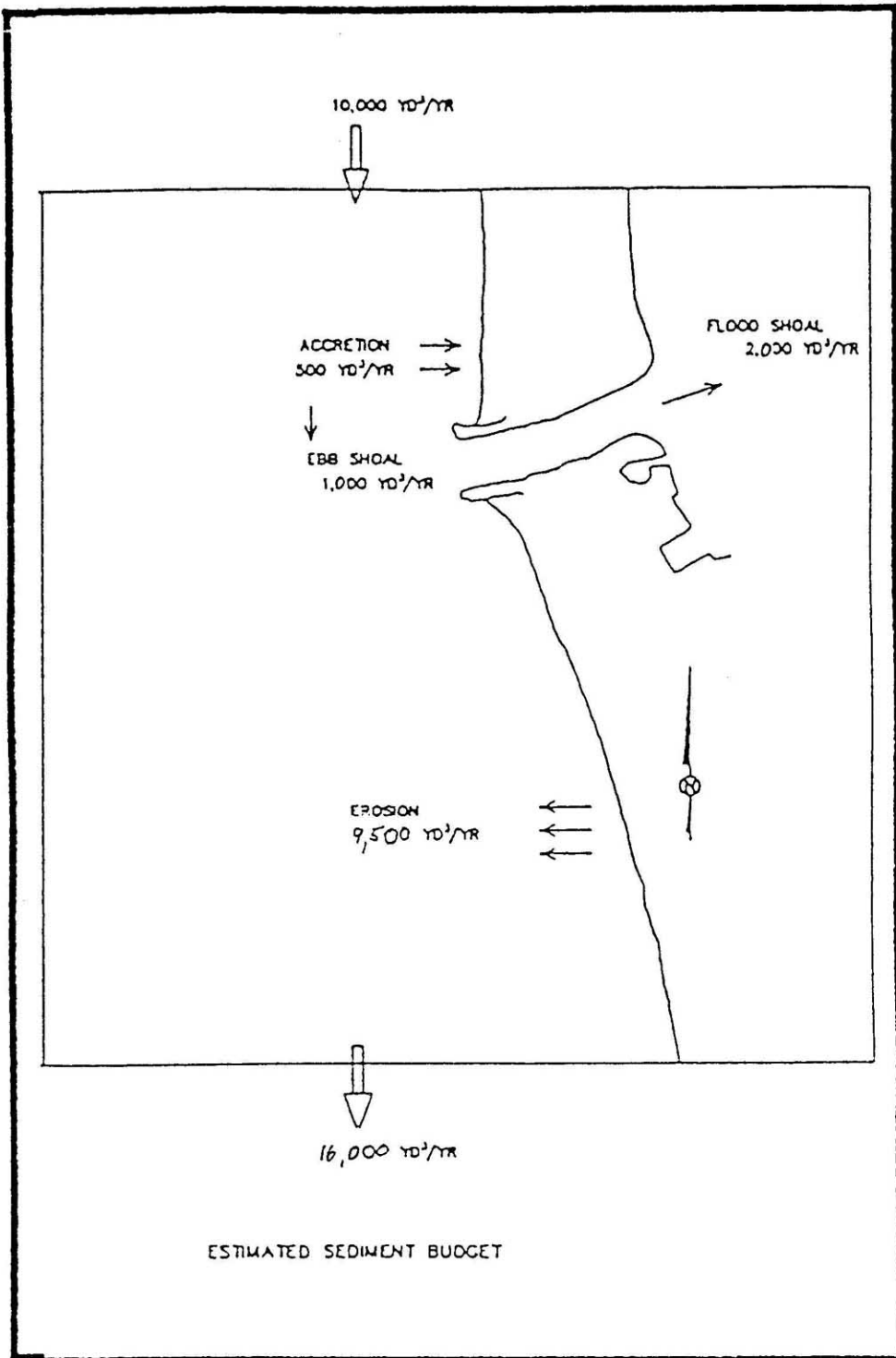


Figure 2

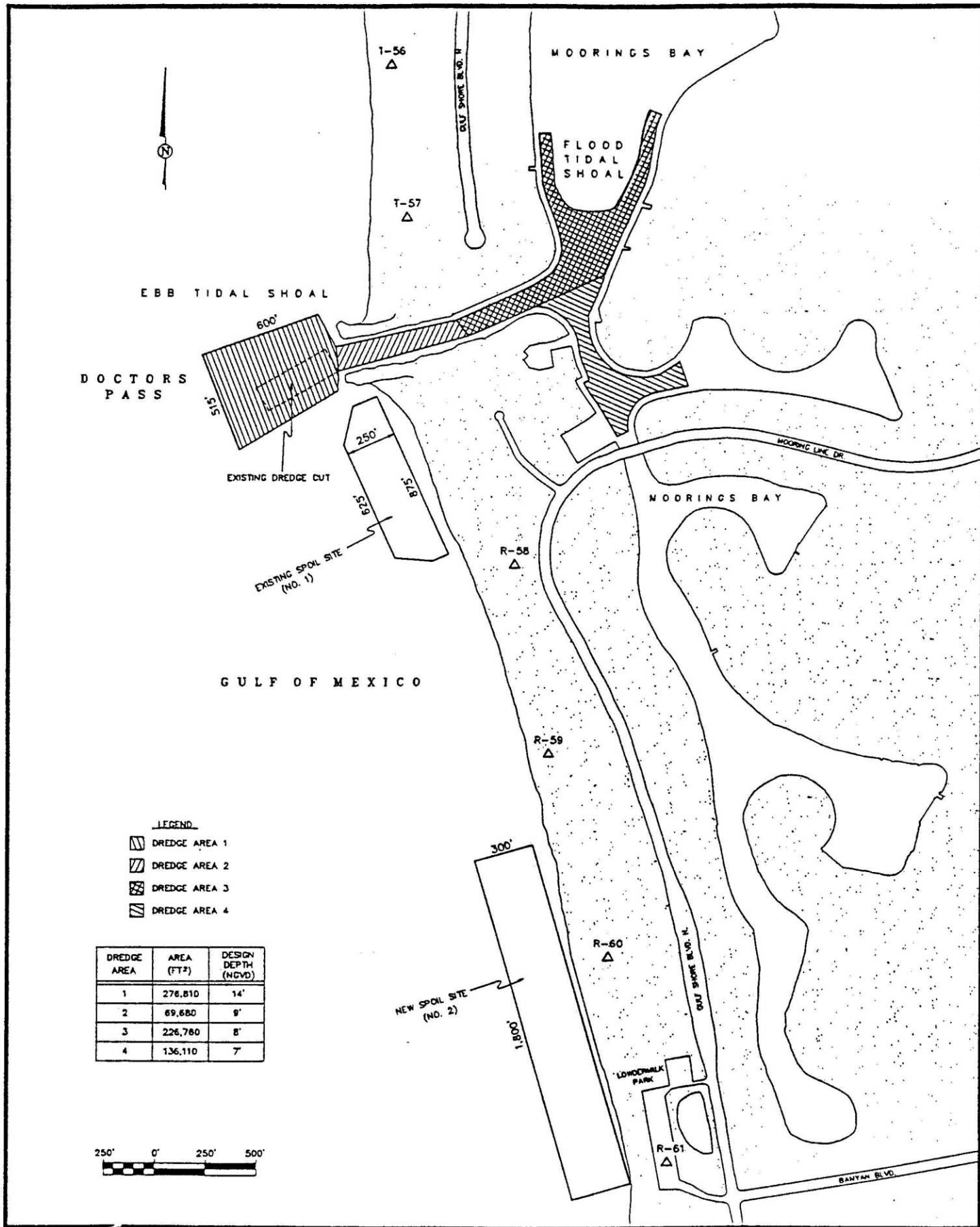


Figure 3

Suboceanic Consultants, Inc. &
Tackney and Associates, Inc.
(1994)

Recommended Implementation Plan

The Bureau recommends the following implementation plan be adopted to meet the requirements of Chapter 161, Florida Statutes:

- 1) Bypassing of all beach compatible dredged material including channel maintenance material to downdrift beaches in eroded areas as identified in the monitoring plan. Material shall be placed on beaches or in the surfzone located downdrift of the inlet in areas of greatest need based on a plan approved by the Department. At a minimum, 10,000 cubic yards of material shall be bypassed on an average annual bases.
- 2) The sediment budget contained in the study report is adopted as an interim measure and shall be formally validated or redefined in subsequent revisions of the plan based on a comprehensive monitoring plan by December 31, 2001. In conjunction with the sediment budget revisions, a comprehensive inlet, beach, and offshore monitoring program shall be implemented subject to approval of the Department.
- 3) Improvement of the north jetty has occurred and the jetty should be maintained.
- 4) Implement a comprehensive inlet, beach, and offshore monitoring program subject to approval of the Department.

This plan is based on the supporting data contained in the study report, Doctors Pass Management Plan, Suboceanic Consultants, Inc, & Tackney and Associates, Inc. February 1994 and comments provided by public agencies and the citizenry of Collier County. Each implementation action contained in this plan is subject to further evaluation, and subsequent authorization or denial, as part of the Department's environmental permitting and authorization process, Any action that may affect navigation associated with the inlet shall be consistent with all applicable federal requirements and subject to authorization from the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The implementation activities identified above shall be eligible for state financial participation subject to Department approval and an appropriation from the Florida Legislature. The level of state funding shall be determined based upon the activity being conducted and Department policy. The Department may choose not to participate financially if the proposed method for implementation is not cost effective or fails to meet the intent of Section 161.142, Florida Statutes.

Nothing in this plan precludes the evaluation and potential adoption of other alternatives or strategies for management at Doctors Pass.