



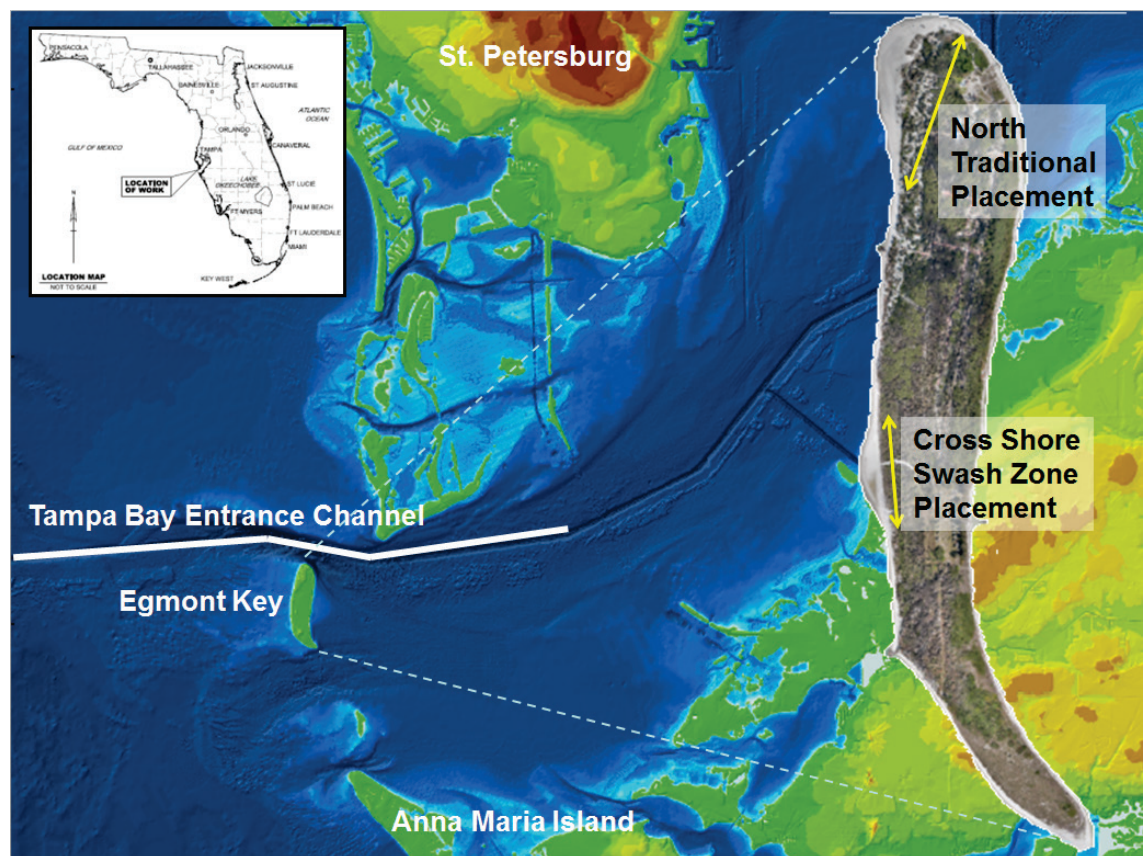
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Beneficial Use of Dredged Material with Increased Fine Sediment Content: A Case Study at Egmont Key, Florida

Katherine E. Brutsché, Coraggio K. Maglio, Zachary J. Tyler,
Jase D. Ousley, and Ping Wang

June 2019



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Beneficial Use of Dredged Material with Increased Fine Sediment Content: A Case Study at Egmont Key, Florida

Katherine E. Brutsché and Zachary J. Tyler

*Coastal and Hydraulics Laboratory
U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center
3909 Halls Ferry Road
Vicksburg, MS 39180-6199*

Coraggio K. Maglio

*Galveston District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
2000 Fort Point Road
Galveston, TX 77550*

Jase D. Ousley

*Portland District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
333 SW 1st Avenue
Portland, OR 97204*

Ping Wang

*University of South Florida
School of Geosciences
4202 E. Fowler Avenue
Tampa, FL 33620*

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Abstract

In November 2014, Tampa Harbor Entrance Channel was dredged, and material was placed onto Egmont Key. Although the material contained quantities of fine sediment that were greater than the State of Florida “Sand Rule” criteria, an exception was made to allow placement of the sediment directly onto the beach due to the critically eroding west shoreline of the island. Material was placed in a traditional beach nourishment template at the northern portion of the island and in a cross-shore swash zone placement approximately 0.8 kilometer south of that. Beach profile surveys were collected to document morphology change of the two types of nourishments and to illustrate cross-shore location of each sediment sample. Core borings and surface sediment samples were collected and analyzed to quantify fines loss from sediment source to placement site. Although the core borings taken in the dredging area indicated an average of 20.7% fines, the surface sediment samples on the dry beach only yielded 1.9% fines on average, which is within the Florida “Sand Rule” regulation. The post-construction surface sediment samples had a similar color to the pre-construction samples.

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Preface

This study was conducted for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), under Project 456009, “Sand Enhancement from the Dredging Process.” Funding was provided by the USACE, Jacksonville District; the Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC), Dredging Operations and Environmental Research Program; and the Regional Sediment Management Program in collaboration with the University of South Florida Coastal Research Laboratory. Appreciation is expressed to the Great Lakes Dredge and Dock Company for its cooperation in field data collection efforts.

At the time of the study, the work was performed by the Coastal Engineering Branch and the Field Data Collection and Analysis Branch (CEERD-HNF) of the Navigation Division (CEERD-HN), U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center, Coastal and Hydraulics Laboratory (ERDC-CHL). At the time of publication, Ms. Lauren Dunkin was Chief, CEERD-HNC; Mr. William Butler was Acting Chief, CEERD-HNF; Dr. Jackie Pettway was Chief, CEERD-HN; and Mr. Eddie Wiggins was the Technical Director for Navigation and Civil Works. The Deputy Director of ERDC-CHL was Mr. Jeffrey R. Eckstein, and the Director was Dr. Ty V. Wamsley.

COL Ivan P. Beckman was the Commander of ERDC, and Dr. David W. Pittman was the Director.

Unit Conversion Factors

Multiply	By	To Obtain
cubic feet	0.02831685	cubic meters
cubic inches	1.6387064 E-05	cubic meters
cubic yards	0.7645549	cubic meters
degrees Fahrenheit	$(F-32)/1.8$	degrees Celsius
feet	0.3048	meters
inches	0.0254	meters
microns	1.0 E-06	meters
miles (U.S. statute)	1,609.347	meters
miles per hour	0.44704	meters per second
square feet	0.09290304	square meters
square inches	6.4516 E-04	square meters
square miles	2.589998 E+06	square meters
square yards	0.8361274	square meters
yards	0.9144	meters

1 Introduction

When considering borrow areas for beach and nearshore placement, coastal project managers are required to ensure that placement sediment is compatible with the native sediment. Often this means that there is a certain maximum allowable percentage of fines for a borrow area to be considered for use in beach nourishment. For example, in the State of Florida, the “Sand Rule” (Florida Administrative Code (FAC) 62B-41.007 (2)(j)(k)) allows a maximum of 10% fines (defined as sediment passing the 0.063 millimeter sieve) for maintenance dredging material from navigation channels to be placed onto a beach. In current practice, the assumption is that from sediment source to placement site, there is a 0% loss of fine sediment from the dredged material. However, it has been qualitatively recognized that hopper dredges that allow overflow, or economic loading of the hopper, during operations coarsen the hopper load due to the preferential loss of fines suspended in the overflow. The study herein attempts to quantify the loss of fine sediment from the Tampa Harbor Federal navigation channel to placement site during the dredging operations at Egmont Key, Florida.

1.1 Background

On 19 November 2014, Great Lakes Dredge and Dock Company (GLDD) began dredging the Tampa Harbor Entrance Channel and continued maintenance dredging until early March 2015, with beach placement occurring onto Egmont Key National Wildlife Refuge. Due to the severe erosion on the westward facing beaches of Egmont Key and the fact that it is a state park, an allowance for material exceeding the Florida Administrative Code (FAC) 62B-41.007 (2)(j)(k) was made. This fines content exceedance has been accepted at Egmont Key for previous maintenance dredging projects in 2000, 2006, and 2011.

The constructed project involved beach placement of material using a traditional trapezoidal placement template methodology and a unique placement methodology referred to as “cross shore swash zone placement” (CSSZ). The traditional trapezoidal placement is characterized by a high (1.2 meter [m] North American Vertical Datum of 1988 [NAVD88]), wide (~60 m), and flat berm slope with tapers on the ends to transition to unfilled portions of the beach. The CSSZ placement methodology involves

discharging material directly into the swash zone of the beach until a salient begins to form and then extending the discharge offshore until a *point* feature has been created in the shoreline. For this Tampa Harbor maintenance dredging event with placement onto Egmont Key, the traditional trapezoidal placement and the CSSZ placement operations occurred with a 0.8 kilometer (km) separation between their respective nearest placement extents (Maglio et al. 2015).

1.2 Objectives

The overall study of the Tampa Harbor Maintenance Dredging and subsequent beneficial use of dredged material on Egmont Key included several research goals including comparing the two types of nourishments and the concerns associated with dredging material with excessive fines. The objectives of this report are to quantify fines loss from the sediment source to the placement site at Egmont Key, Florida. Findings from this study may lead to cost savings in dredging and placement by allowing the use of sediment sources that were previously thought to be incompatible. Color change of sediment is included in the discussion as that is also an important indicator of sediment compatibility and can be impacted by the presence of fines. Morphology change will be discussed only within the context of sediment sample locations along beach profiles.

1.3 Approach

Sediment samples were taken in Tampa Harbor Entrance Channel prior to dredging. Samples were analyzed to determine sediment grain size and quantify fines content. Following placement onto the beach, surface sediment samples were taken and analyzed for sediment grain size and fines content. Locations of surface sediment samples were recorded along beach profile transects to determine cross-shore characteristics of fines content. All samples were also analyzed for Munsell color. Channel sediment samples were compared to beach sediment samples to determine changes in fines content from dredging site to placement area.

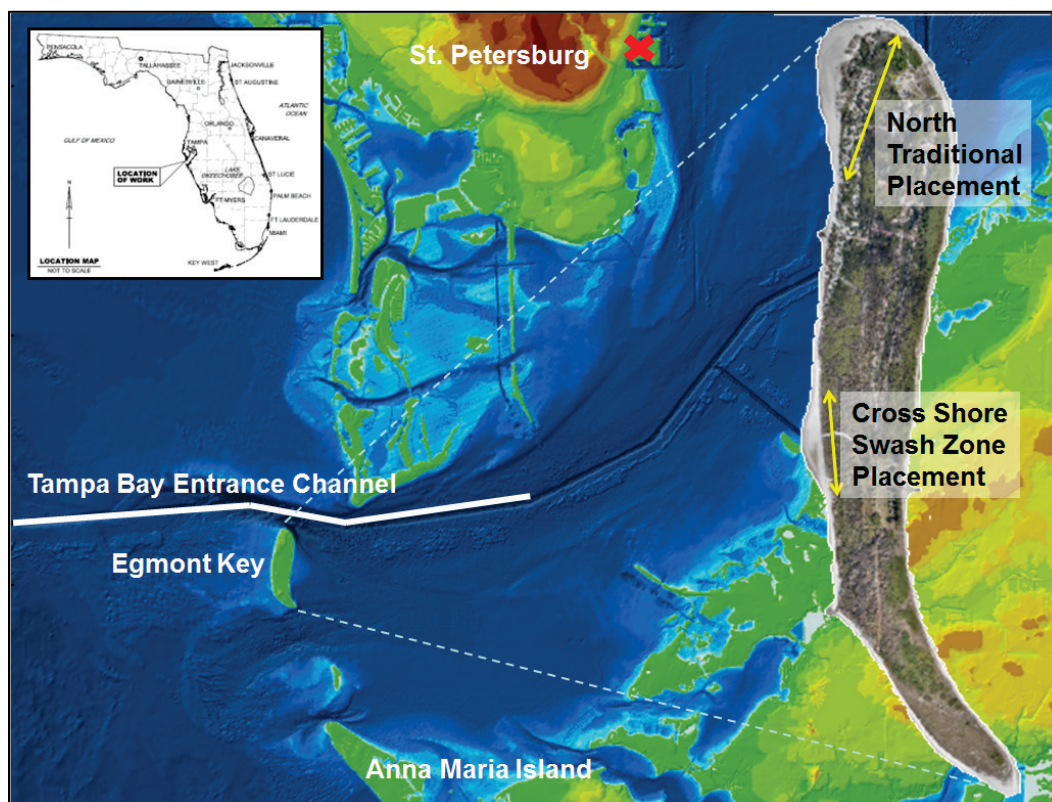
2 Study Area

2.1 General setting

Egmont Key is located in west-central Florida at the entrance to Tampa Bay (Figure 1). The island is approximately 3 km long by 0.5 km wide and is situated in the main tidal entrance to the bay. To the north of the island is Egmont Channel (also called Tampa Bay Entrance Channel), Tampa Bay's federally maintained shipping channel. Immediately across Egmont Channel is Mullet Key, a right-angle barrier island. To the south of Egmont Key is Southwest Passage, an unmodified channel. Farther to the south is Anna Maria Island, a barrier island. Between Egmont Key and Anna Maria Island exists an ephemeral sand body, Passage Key, whose size and subaerial extent change over time scales of months to years but generally develops in the same location. The location of Egmont Key at the mouth of Tampa Bay has rendered it historically useful, economically beneficial, and ecologically important.

Egmont Key is owned by a number of departments and resource agencies of the federal and Florida State governments. The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service owns the southern third of the island and manages the area as a wildlife refuge. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) owns the northern two-thirds of the island and manages the area as a recreational and historical state park. The island's only resident is an FDEP ranger. The U.S. Coast Guard owns and operates a lighthouse on the northern end of the island. The Tampa Bay Pilots Association operates a compound that facilitates pilot operations around Tampa Bay on the east-central portion of the island.

Figure 1. Egmont Key study area located at the mouth of Tampa Bay, along the west coast of Florida (upper left inset). Red "X" indicates approximate location of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Gauge 8726520.



2.2 Geologic setting

The Egmont Key study area is located on an ancient carbonate platform that is one of the broadest and most extensively submerged continental margin systems in the world (Hine 1997). The inner west-central Florida platform is characterized by a veneer of unconsolidated sediments (approximately 3 centimeters [cm] to 3 m thick) overlaying an irregular base of Miocene limestone bedrock of the Arcadia Formation in the Hawthorne Group (Brooks 2003; Hine et al. 2003). The sediment veneer is mostly reworked Plio-Pleistocene quartz sand, skeletal carbonate debris with minimal tertiary limestone (Doyle and Sparks 1980). Subsequently, the region is classified as a mixed siliciclastic/carbonate regime (Ginsburg and James 1974).

Locally, the Egmont Key study area exists within the Egmont Ebb-Tidal Delta, which is a large sediment complex that extends approximately 10 km into the Gulf of Mexico. Located to the east of the ebb delta is Tampa Bay, a y-shaped estuary that is approximately 55 km long and

15 km wide. The Tampa Bay entrance between Mullet Key and Anna Maria Island is approximately 8 km wide and has an average depth of 7 to 8 m mean low water (MLW) but is naturally scoured to approximately 25 m below MLW in several locations within the federal navigation channel. Similar to the regional sedimentary regime, the area is characterized by a veneer of unconsolidated sediments with increased fines content on top of limestone bedrock (Ferguson and Davis 2003).

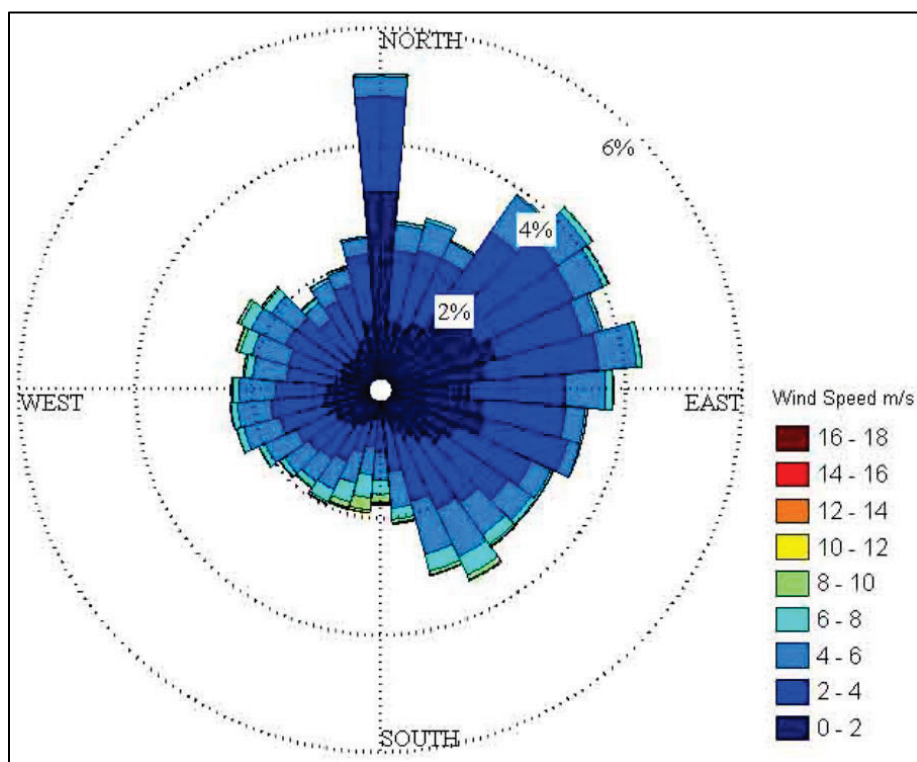
2.3 Meteorological and oceanographic conditions

2.3.1 Winds

The west-central Florida region is dominated by local wind-generated waves. Consequently, wind speed, direction, and duration are significant factors that control coastal morphodynamics. Wind speed and direction as measured from NOAA Station (8726520) at St. Petersburg, FL (Figure 2), which is 20 km northeast of Egmont Key, from 2000 – 2016 are summarized in Figure 2. Since the Egmont Key shoreline is oriented approximately north to south, easterly wind is directed offshore and does not have significant influence on nearshore processes. During the 16-year period, from 2000 to 2016, an offshore wind occurs 61% of the time. While local wind-generated waves are usually the cause of wave-induced coastal changes, swell waves are not uncommon and are generally a result of the distal passage of tropical cyclones.

Winds that are directly out of the north (0°) occur 5.1% of the time. These northerly winds are associated with the passage of winter cold fronts. Winds that approach the study area out of the west are relatively evenly distributed with respect to time and are less frequent as easterly winds.

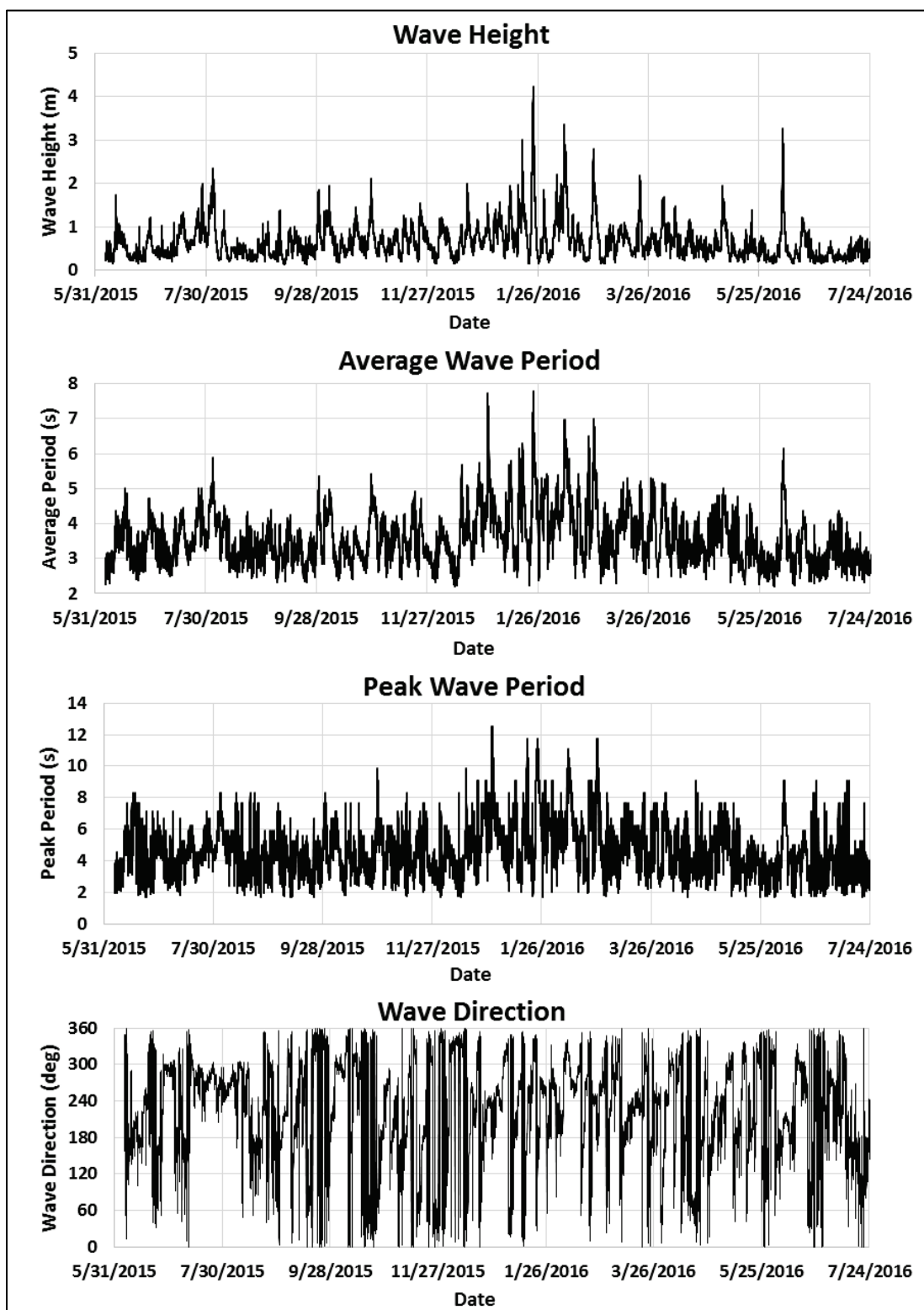
Figure 2. Study area wind rose as observed from NOAA station 8726520, St. Petersburg, FL.



2.3.2 Waves

Wave height, period, and direction are the dominant factors that control nearshore morphodynamics. Wave data for study area were obtained NOAA National Data Buoy Center (NDBC) Station 42098, located 15 km due west of the seaward entrance to Egmont Channel. The wave gauge has been operational since June 2015, and data from June 2015 through July 2016 are presented in Figure 3. A distinct seasonal difference was observed in the wave data. During the summer months, waves are generally less than 2 m in height, with peak periods ≤ 8 seconds (Figure 3). During the winter months, higher energy wave events associated with cold fronts occur approximately every 10 to 14 days. These passing fronts produce wave heights slightly greater than 4 m with average periods slightly less than 8 seconds. The largest waves have recorded peak wave period that exceed 10 seconds.

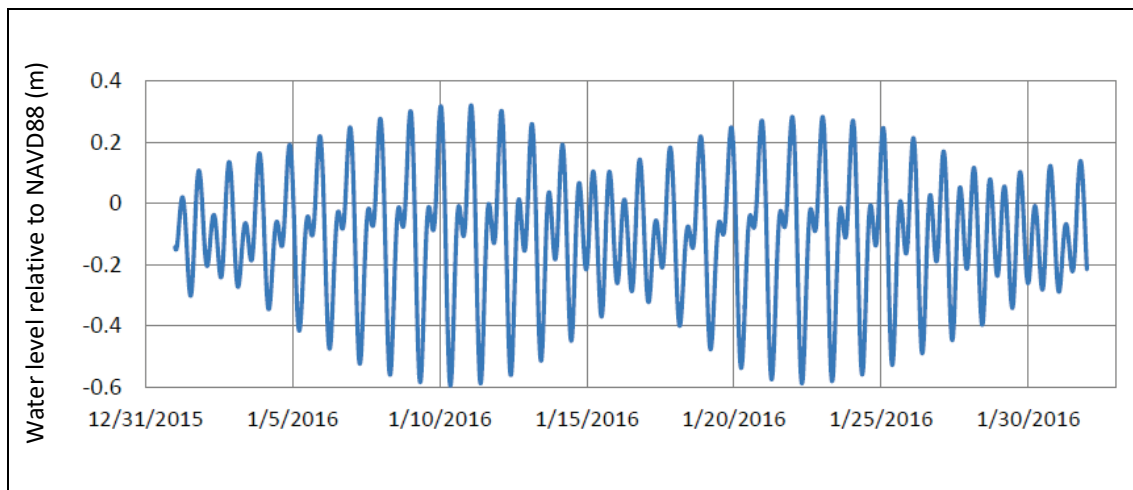
Figure 3. Study area wave height, average period, peak period, and direction as observed from NDBC Station 42098, Egmont Channel.



2.3.3 Tides

The study area experiences a mixed tide regime in that it has diurnal and semidiurnal components of unequal magnitudes. Spring tides are diurnal and have an approximate range of 0.8 to 1.2 m. Neap tides are semidiurnal with an approximate range of 0.4 to 0.5 m (Wang et al. 2011). An example tidal record as observed from St. Petersburg, FL (NOAA Station 8726520) for January 2016 (Figure 4) illustrates this spring/neap tidal cycle. Tidal range in the study area is less than 2 m and classified as micro-tidal. Although the tidal range is relatively small, tides play an important role in the nearshore morphodynamics of the study area. This is mainly due to the large water body area (1,030 km²) and tidal prism (6.466×10^9 m³) of Tampa Bay (Galperin et al. 1991; Goodwin 1984; Lewis and Estevez 1988). The large tidal prism drives strong tidal flows through the two inlets, Egmont Channel and Southwest Passage, at both ends of Egmont Key. These tidal flows can potentially have significant influence on the morphodynamics of Egmont Key.

Figure 4. Study area tidal regime as predicted for NOAA station 8726520 St. Petersburg, FL, for January 2016.



3 2014–2015 Dredging and Placement Operations

The 2014–2015 Tampa Harbor dredging project was conducted by the GLDD hopper dredges the *Dodge Island* (November and December 2014) and the *Padre Island* (January through March 2015). Both dredges used bow pump-out capabilities to send material to the placement areas using a pipeline (see Figure 5). Material was dredged from Tampa Harbor Entrance Channel and placed in two portions of Egmont Key, with two different types of nourishment styles. A traditional beach nourishment was constructed at the north end of the island, while a CSSZ nourishment was constructed just south of the midpoint of the island (Figure 1).

Figure 5. The *Dodge Island*, a GLDD hopper dredge, pumping out material to Egmont Key on 16 December 2014.



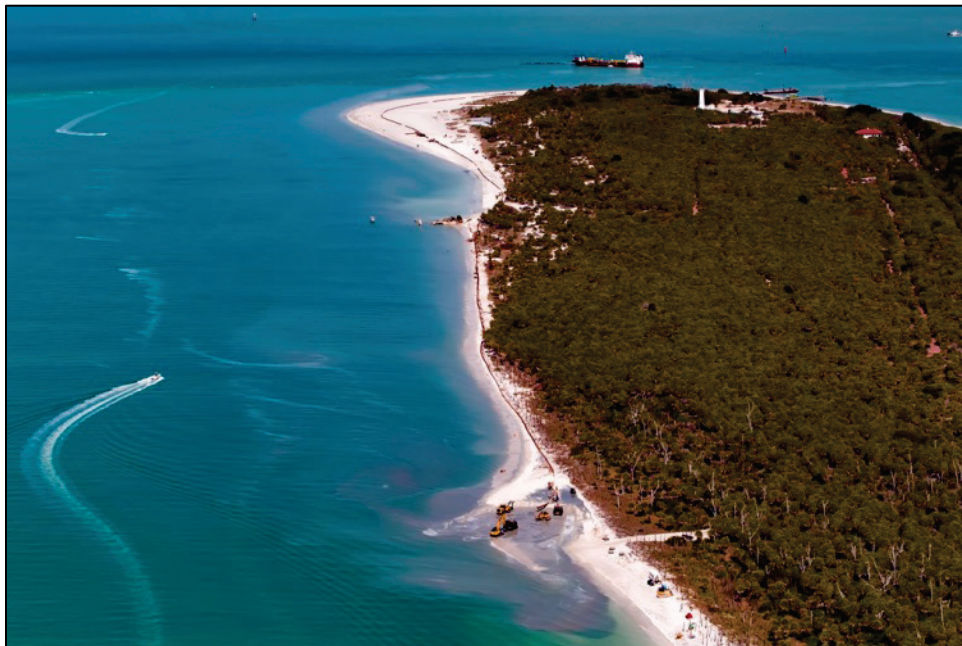
The traditional trapezoidal fill template at the northern end of Egmont Key used a Y-valve and two placement cells with longitudinal dikes with intermediate spurs to increase settlement and minimize material lost to the active swash zone, see Figure 6. The use of this placement design with a Y-valve with two cells allows for one side to be closed down for extending outfall pipes without having to stop discharge. Placement of dredged material occurred at the north end of the island from 19 November to 28 December 2014 and then from 21 January to 5 February 2015. Total volume of this placement was approximately 244,000 m³.

Approximately 0.8 km south of the traditional beach nourishment, the CSSZ placement was constructed. Geomorphic features created by the CSSZ placement method were designed to function as a feeder beach to areas adjacent to the nourishment. The CSSZ placement occurred from 8 February to 6 March 2015, with a total volume of approximately 82,000 m³. Figure 7 shows the completed northern beach placement as well as the CSSZ placement being constructed.

Figure 6. Traditional beach placement at northern end of Egmont Key, Florida, 26 December 2014. (Photo courtesy of GLDD.)



Figure 7. Shore based pipeline and CSSZ placement in center of Egmont Key, Florida, 21 February 2015. (Photo courtesy of GLDD.)



4 Methodology

4.1 Geotechnical core borings

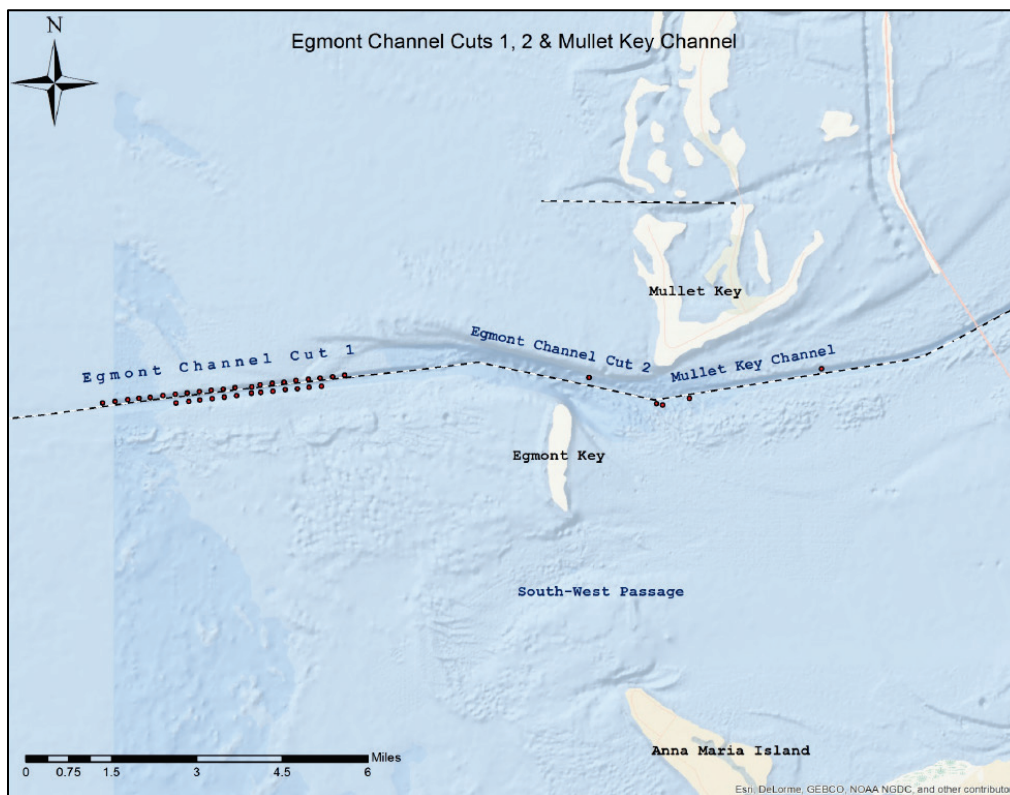
As part of preparation for the 2014–2015 Tampa Harbor Entrance Channel Operation and Maintenance Project, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Jacksonville District, collected vibracores to characterize the shoaled sediments in the dredge prism for the Egmont Key nourishment. The investigation consisted of 39 vibracore borings collected along the margins of the authorized federal navigation channels (Egmont and Mullet Key). The cores were collected to provide samples for the physical analysis of grain size, visual shell percentage, and carbonate content. Analysis of the cores was completed by the University of South Florida Coastal Research Laboratory (USF CRL).

Vibracoring was conducted by the USACE multi-purpose vessel (M/V) *SNELL* (Figure 8). The *SNELL* is approximately 32 m × 10 m with a draft of ~2 m. The vessel carries a 35-ton crane that deploys the vibracoring apparatus. During the period of 2–3 April 2014, the *SNELL* obtained 39 cores: 34 cores from Egmont Channel Cut 1, 1 core from Egmont Channel Cut 2, and 4 cores from Mullet Key Channel (Figure 9).

Figure 8. USACE Wilmington District M/V *SNELL*.

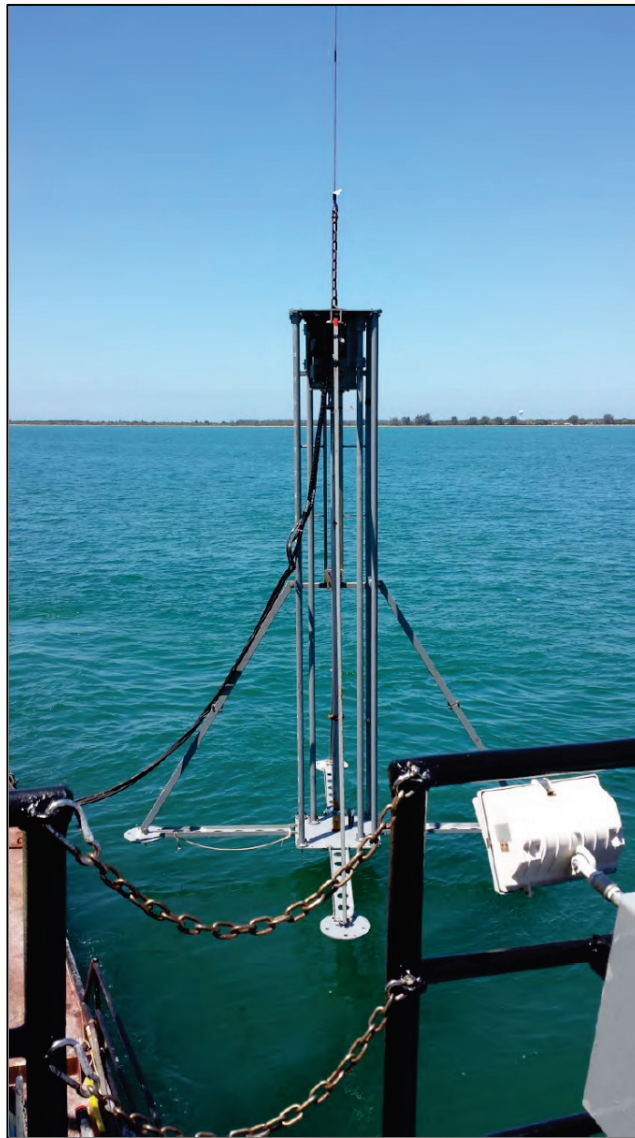


Figure 9. All Egmont Channel and Mullet Key Channel core locations.



All borings were drilled using an International Construction Equipment Model 2 hydraulic vibratory driver fitted with a 4-inch outer diameter drill stem, clear plastic liner, sediment retainer, drilling shoe, and a model 50 power unit (Figure 10). Borings were sited using a Furuno NavNet 3D global positioning system located on the crane and linked to HYPACK® with DREDGEPAK®. Elevations of the borings were determined using the horizontal position of the boring(s) projected onto the Lower Tampa Bay Examination Survey FY13. The vibracore apparatus was modified to limit the maximum depth of penetration to 1.5 m. Sample depth was constrained so that samples captured the shoaled material within the dredging prism along with the upper portion of the channel substrate while reducing sampling below the needed strata. All borings were measured to ensure a minimum of 80% recovery. The average penetration for the borings was 1.4 m.

Figure 10. Vibracoring apparatus deployment, Egmont Channel.



Upon delivery to the USF CRL, all cores were stood vertically. Next, any excess core pipe was cut just above the sediment surface, packed with paper towels, and recapped. The cores were then cut lengthwise in half with a circular saw using a plastic cutting blade. Once cut, each core was carefully split using metal hand scrapers. One half was immediately cleaned by scraping a level surface, photographed, wrapped in plastic, labeled and archived. The other half was set aside for visual classification and sampling and subsequently wrapped in plastic and archived as well.

All cores were visually classified in accordance with the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) Standard Practice Designation D2488-

09a. Visual shell estimates were appended to this procedure. A total of 80 samples were taken from the 39 cores following the methods presented in Table 1. Sampled layers were defined based on visual change in color and/or texture of the sediment.

Table 1. Test methods used in the analysis of core sediment samples.

Test / Procedure	Method
Standard Practice for Description and Identification of Soils (Visual - Manual Procedure)	D2488
Grain Size Sieve Analysis (Using Sieve Sizes No. 3/4", 5/8", 7/16", 5/16", 3.5, 4, 5, 7, 10, 14, 18, 25, 35, 45, 60, 80, 120, 170, 200, 230)	D6913
Munsell Color	Munsell Soil Color Charts
Carbonate Content, Non-ASTM	Twenhofel and Tyler (1941)
Visual Percent Shell	Modified D2488 to include visual shell estimates

4.2 Surface sediment sampling

4.2.1 Collection methods

To document detailed changes in morphology and locations of surface sediment samples, beach profile transects at 28 locations (Figure 11) along the Gulf-, Channel-, and Bay-facing beaches were established by the USF CRL. Horizontal and vertical survey controls (benchmarks) were established using a Real Time Kinematic Global Positioning System in August 2012. Profile spacing was approximately 120 m, and most of the profiles were along the Gulf facing beaches. Beach profile measurement followed standard level-and-transit procedures using a Topcon GTS-240NW electronic total survey station and a 4 m prism pole. Most of the beach profiles extended at least 50 m seaward to the short-term depth of closure (Wang and Davis 1998). Ten beach profile surveys were conducted along the 28 transects from August 2012 to August 2015 to capture the short-term beach changes and beach nourishment evolution. For the purposes of this report, focus will remain on the pre-construction, post-construction, and 5 months post-construction (August 2015) surveys. Although outside the scope of this report, detailed information on the morphology change of the two types of nourishments can be found in Tyler (2016).

Surface sediment samples along 11 of the 28 beach profile transects were collected using a 10 cm polyvinyl chloride pipe capped at one end (Figure 11). Samples were taken from the surface to a depth no more than 10 cm. Similar to the measurement method used for beach profile surveying, the sampling scheme was based on morphology characteristics, with samples collected from the dune to the short-term depth of closure. On average, seven samples were taken from each profile with approximately half being taken on the subaerial beach and the other half from the subaqueous portion of the profile. Surface sediment samples were collected three times: pre-construction of the nourishment (September 2014), immediately post-construction (March 2015), and 5 months following construction (August 2015). Sediment characteristics at these three times were compared to examine the redistribution of different size fractions of the sediment.

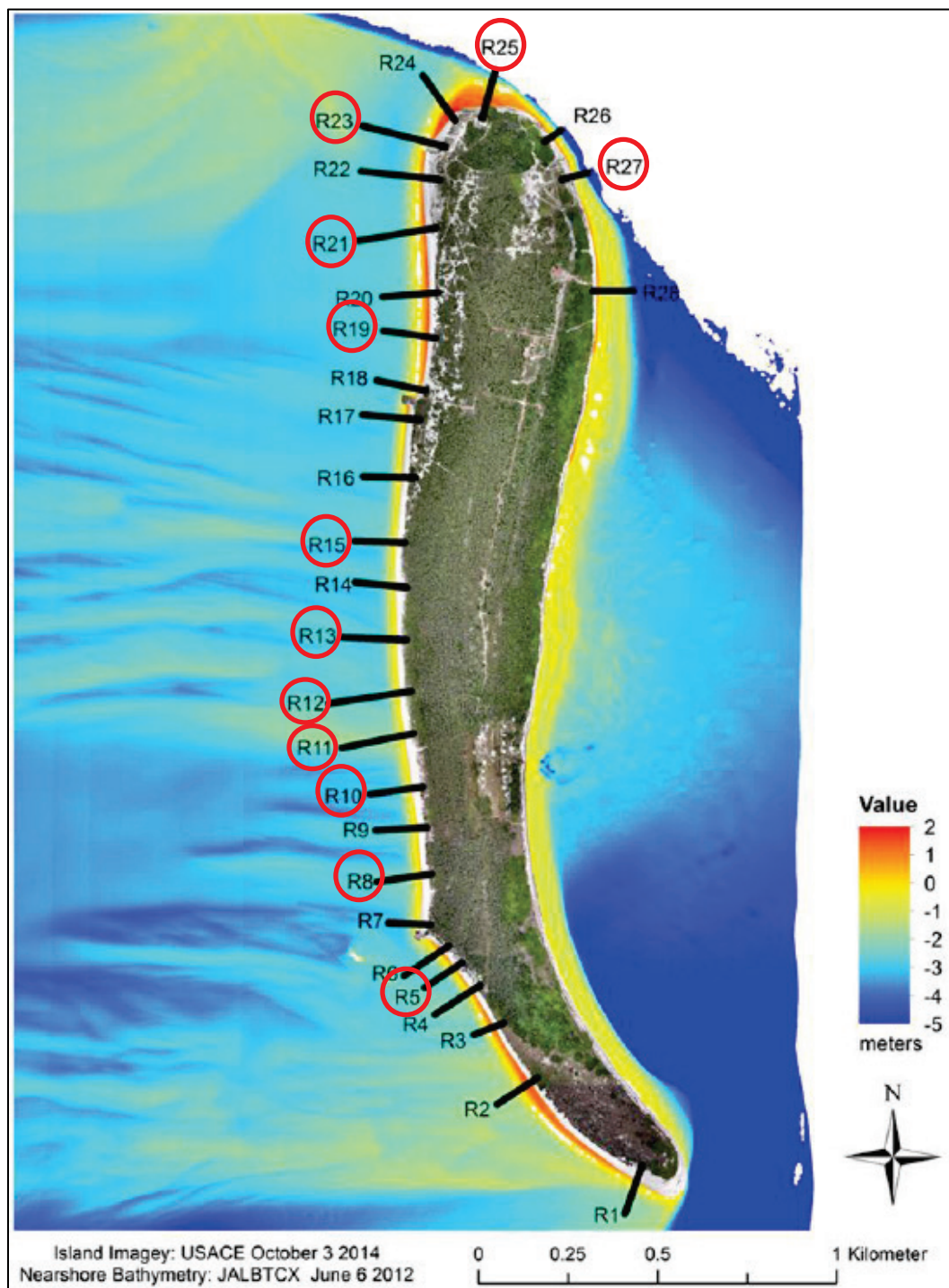
4.2.2 Sieving

Surface sediment samples were processed and analyzed with the same procedure used for the cored channel sediments, following ASTM D6913. Sieves used for analysis ranged from the three-quarter-inch to the No. 230 sieve. Mean grain size and sorting were calculated using the Moment Method (Folk and Ward 1957).

4.2.3 Munsell Color

To evaluate sediment color at the placement sites, dry beach samples were collected both prior to and following construction and analyzed for Munsell Color values (Munsell 2000). Additionally, Munsell Color analysis was conducted on samples collected from the regions of the channel where the dredged material was sourced. Munsell color classifies color by hue, chroma and value. The Munsell color *hue* indicates the relationship of the color to red, yellow, green, blue, and purple. The Munsell color *chroma* relates the color strength or departure from a neutral of the same lightness. The Munsell color *value* ranges from 1 to 8 and relates to the darkness of the sediment; the lower the number, the darker the material. Munsell color was determined by a digital colorimeter.

Figure 11. Beach profile locations, Egmont Key, Florida, established 23 August 2012. Red circles indicate sediment sampling transects.



5 Results and Discussion

5.1 Core borings

USACE Jacksonville District collected 39, 1.5 m vibracore borings in shoaled areas of Cut 1, Cut 2, and the Mullet Key Cut in the Tampa Harbor Entrance Channel in 2014. The percentage of fines in the in situ samples ranged from 0.5% to 80.7%. The average composited fines percentage was 20.7%. Cores were also analyzed for color, and a composite Munsell Color value of 4.36 was obtained. It was assumed that the dredging process would homogenize the dredged sediment and a composite Munsell would accurately represent the in situ sediment color.

5.2 Beach profile surveys and surface sediment samples

The USF CRL collected cross-shore profile surveys along Egmont Key prior to construction in September 2014 and following construction in March and August 2015 (Figure 12–Figure 18). Surface sediment samples were taken along the cross shore profile lines.

Figure 12–Figure 18 indicate the percentage of fines for each of the surface sediment samples taken along the profiles. The pre-construction profiles in the traditional nourishment template contained less than 2% fines on the subaerial beach. Higher percentages of fines were typically found with distance offshore. A maximum fines content of 17.9% was measured at the toe of the foreshore along R21; however, generally the sediment samples contained less than approximately 5% fines. Immediately post-construction in March 2015, samples on the subaerial beach contained 5% or less of fine material. Again, the highest percentage of fines was found at the toe of the foreshore with up to 34.3% at R19 (Figure 15). This is also at the edge of the fill, which may have had an impact on the anomalous concentration of fines seen here.

Figure 12. Profile line R-25 across the northern tip of Egmont Key in the traditional placement area.

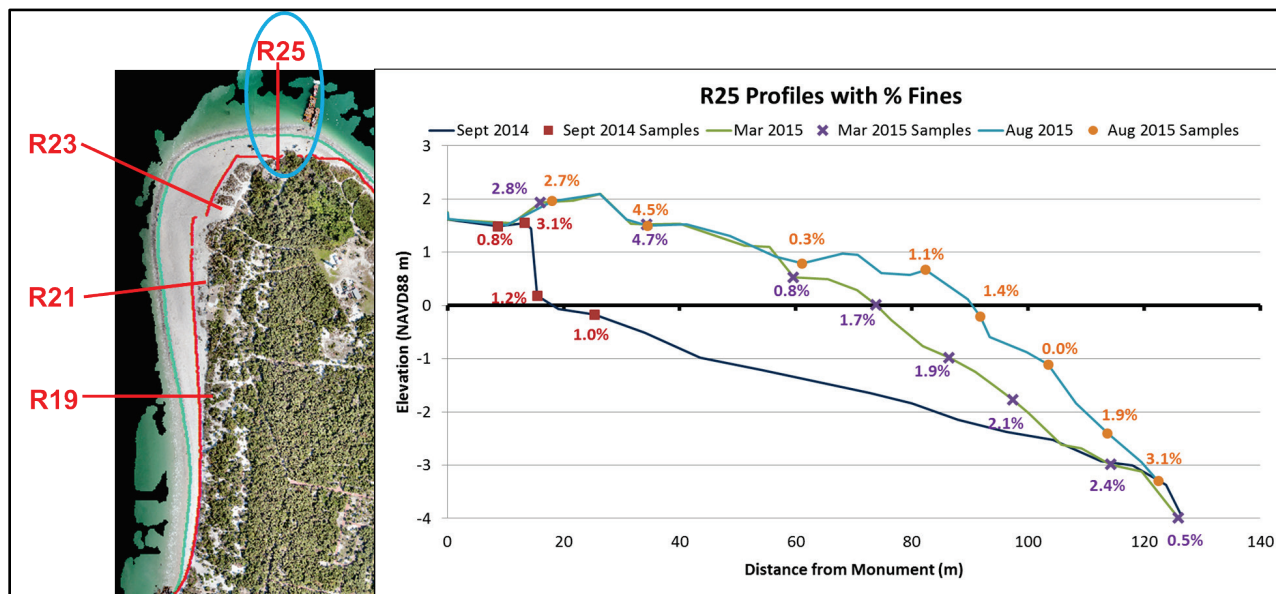


Figure 13. Profile line R-23 across the widest part of the traditional fill area on Egmont Key.

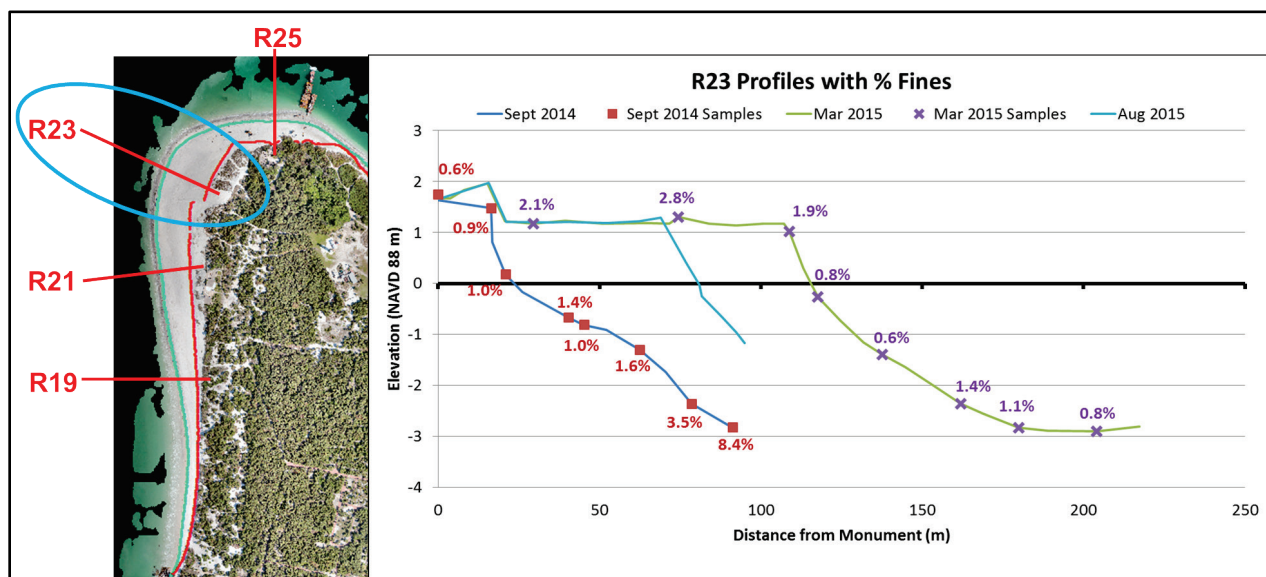


Figure 14. Profile line R-21 across the southern taper of the traditional fill area on Egmont Key.

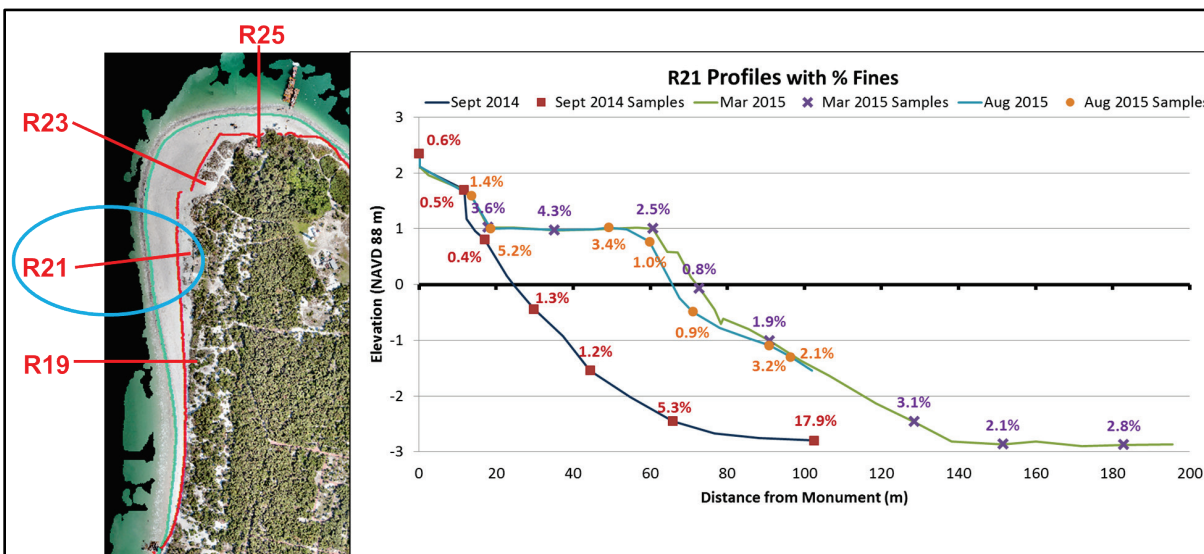
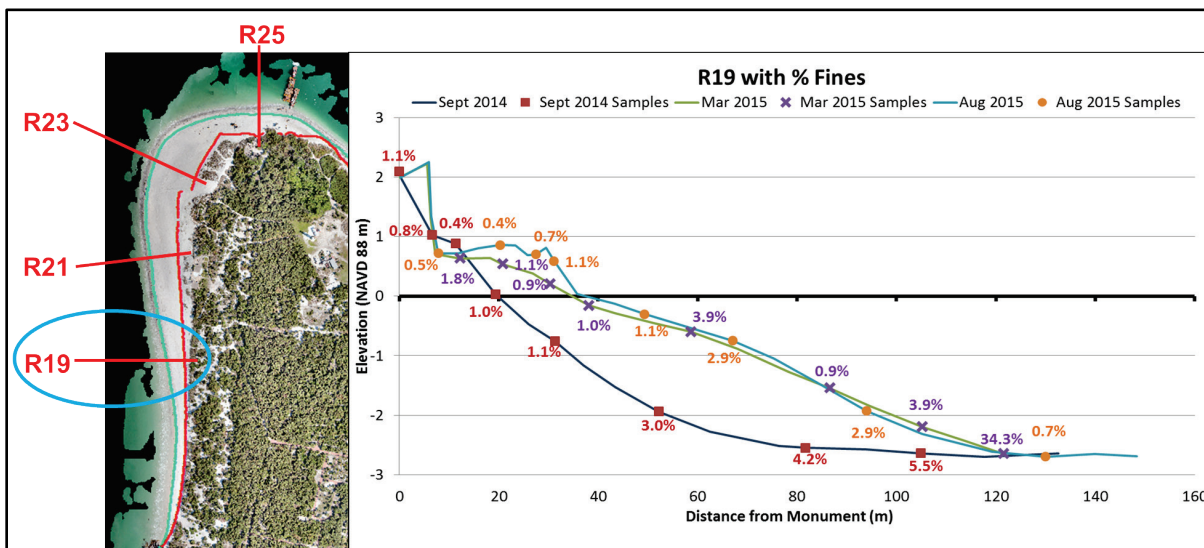


Figure 15. Profile line R-19 across the southern taper area of the traditional fill area on Egmont Key.



Similar to the traditional nourishment site, the highest concentration of fines at the CSSZ placement was found at the farthest offshore extent of the fill (toe of fill). The toe of fill showed higher fines content at the CSSZ transects (24.5%–83.8%) compared to the traditional placement. However, by the next sampling event (5 months later), the fine sediment content had dropped below 5% in these areas. In fact, the August 2015 sampling period showed that all surface samples across the dry beach transect contained less than 5% fine material.

Figure 16. Profile line R-12 across the point of the CSSZ placement on Egmont Key.

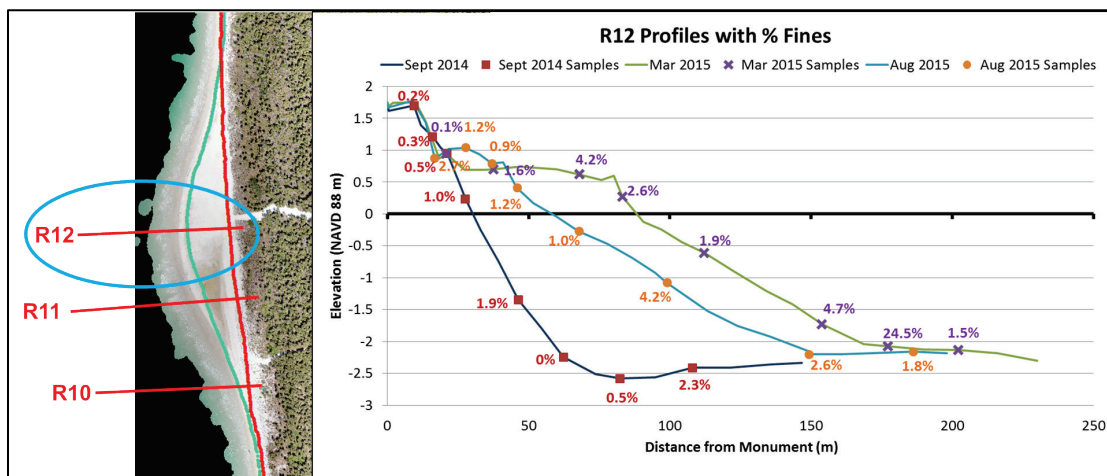


Figure 17. Profile line R-11 moving south along the CSSZ placement area taper on Egmont Key.

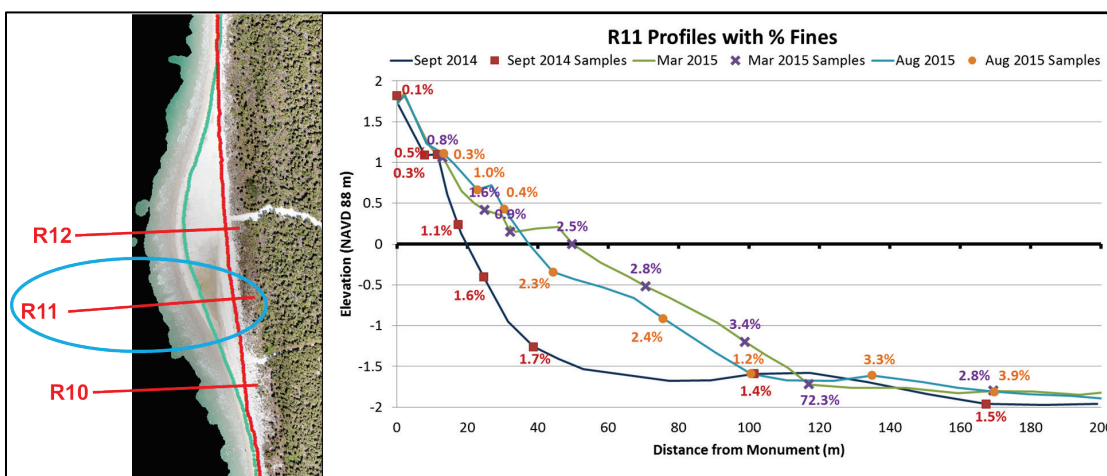
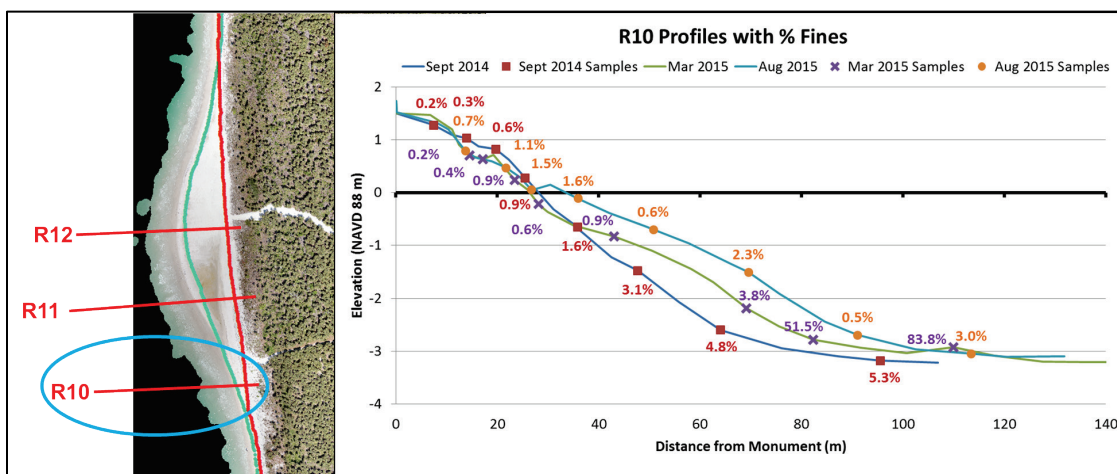


Figure 18. Profile line R10 across the southern most portion of the CSSZ area on Egmont Key.



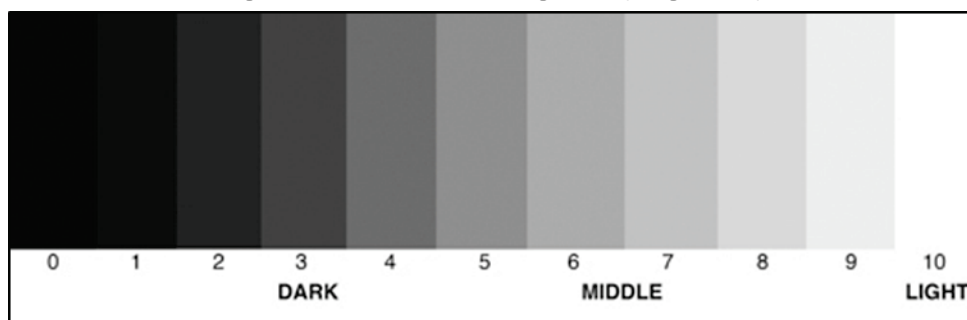
5.3 Core boring and sediment sample summary

Sieve analysis showed that the pre-construction beach had 0.7% fines present and the channel material had over 20.7% fine material by weight. The composite dry beach samples showed that the dredged and placed material had 1.9 % fines, which was well within the 10% fines criteria for the beneficial use of channel material allowed by the “Sand Rule.”

Composite sieve analyses of the surface samples from the post-construction beaches demonstrated that there was an approximate tenfold decrease in fines percentage from the channel to the final beach placement fill. It is of note that the material used for the CSSZ placement contained a higher percentage of fines than that used for the traditional beach nourishment, which may explain the higher percentage of fines found at the CSSZ nourishment toe.

The in situ channel material was darker (Munsell Value [MV]=4.36) than the existing native beach (MV=5.9), likely due to higher content of darker color fines and organic material. Due to fines and organics loss during dredging and placement, composite samples of the post-construction beach was lighter in color value than the parent channel material (MV=5.3). The CSSZ Munsell value was identical to the pre-construction beach while the traditional placement site had a darker value of 5.0. An image referencing the different color values is found in Figure 19.

Figure 19. Example Munsell Color chart for reference (image from <http://blog.stephens.edu/arh101glossary/?glossary=value>).



6 Conclusions

In November 2014, Tampa Harbor Entrance Channel was dredged, and material was beneficially placed onto Egmont Key. Although the material contained an increased amount of fines according to the State of Florida “Sand Rule,” (an average of 20.7%), an exception was made to allow placement of the sediment directly onto the beach due to the highly erosive nature of the island. Material was placed in a traditional beach nourishment template at the northern portion of the island and in a CSSZ placement approximately 0.8 km south of that. Core borings and surface sediment samples were collected to quantify fines loss from sediment source to placement site. Based on core borings, the channel contained an average of 20.7% fines with a maximum of over 80% fines. Surface sediment samples taken from the dry beach pre-construction contained only 0.7% fines. Post construction, the dry beach contained approximately 1.9% fines, indicating that although the sediment source contained an increased amount of fines, limited fines ended up on the surface of the dry beach. The resulting nourishment is within the State of Florida “Sand Rule” regulations (i.e., less than 10% fines are allowable to place onto a beach during a maintenance dredging project). The color of the constructed nourishment sediment was very similar to the pre-construction sediment color in both the traditional beach nourishment and CSSZ placement.

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Coastal and Hydraulics Laboratory
U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center
3909 Halls Ferry Road
Vicksburg, MS 39180-6199

Galveston District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
2000 Fort Point Road
Galveston, TX 77550

Portland District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
333 SW 1st Avenue
Portland, OR 97204

University of South Florida
School of Geosciences
4202 E. Fowler Avenue
Tampa, FL 33620