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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mobi-Mats, ‘Dodge the Dunes’ signs installation complete mid-week

July 23, 2018 – Installation of Mobi-Mats and “Dodge the Dunes” signs at nine beach access points in unincorporated Flagler County are scheduled for completion by the end of the week.

The mats have two primary functions: protect the recently fortified dunes; and, provide a beach access pathway for people of all abilities – including those in wheelchairs. Permanent signs urging beach visitors to “Dodge the Dunes” are being installed in the same locations as the Mobi-Mats.



“We still have to install mats in two areas,” said General Services Director Heidi Petito. “We should be finished at Jungle Hut Road today, and then the last of the residential streets.”

Charles Ericksen, Jr.
District 1

Greg Hansen
District 2

David Sullivan
District 3

Nate McLaughlin
District 4

Donald O’Brien, Jr.
District 5

Five-foot wide mats have been installed at the end of residential streets to protect the dunes from foot traffic. Wider mats have been installed at the end of MalaCompra Road, 16th Road (Old Salt Park), and Jungle Hut Road to provide Flagler County Fire Rescue-Ocean Rescue access points substantial enough for trailers carrying jet skis used for emergency rescues.

Resident Karen Joyce wrote a brief email note to Flagler County: “Really well done. Elayne (Byrd) and I have used (Old Salt Park) beach access entrance to walk the beach for years.”

The wider mats are very sturdy and can be uncomfortable on bare feet. Wearing shoes is always advised for safety reasons.

As of Monday, 5.75 miles of dunes have been fortified from the northern reach of Washington Oaks Gardens State Park to the halfway mark between Jungle Hut Road and Varn Park, as well as a short section of Painters Hill.

In excess of 300,000 sea oats have been planted where the dunes work is complete, according to Chrissy Hensel, Project Manager for EarthBalance, the company under contract by Flagler County to plant the vegetation on the dunes.

“The completed dunes work looks excellent,” said Commission Chair Greg Hansen. “Staff has done a wonderful job keeping all of the moving parts that make up this project on target.”

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