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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Plantings, beach access ramp up as dunes work continues

May 3, 2018 – With 15 weeks of work now complete on the dunes project, Flagler County efforts to restore beach access and revegetating the finished areas of the dunes will begin on May 21.

More than 3.25 miles of dunes have been fortified with additional sand – generally progressing in sections for north to south. The walkovers at Varn Park have been repaired and are now open.

Sea Turtle nesting season began May 1. Flagler County hired Atlantic Ecological Services to survey the beach throughout the season, and is working with the Volusia Flagler Turtle Patrol to relocate any nests that will be impacted by the project.

“The first nest of about 100 eggs, a loggerhead turtle nest, was relocated today,” said Alex Spiller, Project Administrator and Road and Bridge Manager. “The nest was not located in today’s work area, but within an area we will be working in the next 90 days.”

Mats – and signs urging beach visitors to “Dodge the Dunes” – will be installed in eight locations of unincorporated Flagler County beach access areas.

Five-foot wide “Mobi-mats” will be placed at the end of residential streets to protect the dunes from foot traffic. Wider mats will be used 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.

“Those wider mats will be a little uncomfortable on bare feet,” said General Services Director Heidi Petito, whose staff will install them. “Wearing shoes to protect your feet is always a good idea, but it will be especially important in these three areas.”

Flagler County’s sand staging area will move south from Old Salt Park to Jungle Hut Road by Friday, May 11.

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