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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dunes restoration work shifts to River-to-Sea

October 29, 2018 – Crews on Monday began shifting dunes restoration work from Varn Park to the River-to-Sea Park. The northern portion of the park is closed but the southernmost portion, including the public restroom remains open.

“Staff is finishing the work at Varn Park today, and beginning a 4,300 linear feet FEMA project at River-to-Sea,” said County Engineer Faith Alkhatib. “It will take three weeks, at least, to finish that section of dunes restoration.”

It is day 290 of the dunes restoration project, and nearly 8 miles of dunes have been fortified to date with upwards of 400,000 tons of sand. The total project length is 60,085 linear feet, or 11.38 miles.

Sea oats and four other plant varieties have been planted on more than 5.5 miles of fortified dunes, which will strengthen the dunes as the plants become established.

Varn Park reopened today, and staff is asking park users to please stay off the sand pile that remains for future work. Flagler County ocean side parks are fully open in areas where dunes work has been completed and Mobi-Mats installed, such as MalaCompra Park, Old Salt Park (at the end of 16th Road), and Jungle Hut Park.

Signs have also been installed in these areas reminding users to “Dodge the Dunes.” People, dogs and horses are all prohibited from walking on the protective dunes.

“Our staff is making great headway, and doing everything possible to keep this project on schedule,” County Commission Chair Greg Hansen said. “We appreciate everyone’s patience as we continue this project.”

Dunes have been constructed from the northern end of Washington Oaks Gardens State Park to a half-mile south of Varn Park.

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