



RESTORATION AND CONSERVATION OF COASTAL AREAS: Environmental Compliance Short Course

**St Pete Beach, FL
Tuesday, October 13, 2009
1-5 pm**

Course Description: A 4-hour short course designed for beach managers, government and public officials, engineering consultants, resource agency representatives, developers, and other interested parties. The course is designed to cover the basic federal environmental laws and regulations common to nearly all coastal and beach restoration projects. Various agency representatives will be instructors as well as practicing engineers and managers. Specific project examples will be used to illustrate environmental compliance practices and applications.

Environmental compliance issues are much too broad to focus on just one law such as NEPA. There are numerous Federal environmental protection laws and regulations that must be considered during the planning, construction and long-term operation of any coastal project. NEPA carries no more or less weight than the other laws and is largely dependent on project compliance with the other laws. The goal of this session is to cover the complex interrelationships of the most common environmental protection laws and project planning. The "takes too long" is the cumulative effect of complying with dozens of laws. However, the NEPA document is typically the most visible and because it requires input from the others it is the last one completed so it is "blamed" for delays. If you better understand the process you should be able to improve how your projects move toward approval and more environmentally sustainable.

Who should attend: Beach managers, government and public officials, engineering consultants, resource agency representatives, developers, and other interested parties.

Syllabus: The basic federal environmental laws and regulations common to nearly all coastal and beach restoration projects and thus will provide a national perspective. Individual state regulations will not be covered. Various agency representatives will be instructors and specific project examples will be used to illustrate environmental compliance practices and applications.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

12:30-1:00	Registration
1:00-1:15	Introductions, course overview
1:15-2:00	Overview of NEPA and Federal Compliance Process
2:00-2:30	NMFS perspective
2:30-3:00	USFWS perspective
3:00 -3:15	BREAK
3:15-3:45	Corps practices perspective
3:45-4:15	Engineering firm perspective
4:15-4:45	Project Examples from the perspective of the local beach manager.
4:45-5:00	Summary and Wrap-up