Waterway Access and the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway in Florida
Issues:

Maintenance - Funding (costs), Infrastructure needs, permitting

Management – Consideration of the M-95 “system”, Cooperation among similar and competing interests!

Access – Users groups, (kayaks to cruise ships), non-boating interests, loss of in water and upland opportunities...

Education and Awareness - Public, management groups and “decision” makers, and the “quality” of the waterway experience.
WATERWAY

MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT
“LOCAL SPONSOR” OF THE ATLANTIC INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY IN FLORIDA

DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

- 12 Appointed Commissioners
- Six staff members
- Levy ad valorem tax
- Admin. <3% of budget

DISTRICT PROGRAMS
- Land Acq. & Mgmt.
- Operations
- Assistance Programs
- Public Information
Western extent of sponsorship

Waterway Distances
- Atlantic Intracoastal to St. Lucie Lock: 15.1 miles
- St. Lucie Lock to Port Mayaca Lock: 23.9 miles
- Port Mayaca Lock to Moore Haven Lock via open lake, Route 1: 23.9 miles
- Moore Haven Lock to Ortona Lock via rim canal, Route 2: 39.0 miles
- Ortona Lock to WP Franklin Lock: 50.0 miles
- WP Franklin Lock to Gulf Intracoastal St. Lucie Lock to WP Franklin Lock via Route 1: 15.5 miles
- via Route 2: 15.5 miles
- WP Franklin Lock to Gulf Intracoastal St. Lucie Lock to WP Franklin Lock via Route 1: 33.2 miles
- via Route 2: 33.2 miles
- WP Franklin Lock to Gulf Intracoastal St. Lucie Lock to WP Franklin Lock via Route 1: 106.3 miles
- via Route 2: 106.3 miles
- WP Franklin Lock to Gulf Intracoastal St. Lucie Lock to WP Franklin Lock via Route 1: 117.3 miles
- via Route 2: 117.3 miles

Okeechobee Waterway

Note: Waterway minimum clearance is 45 feet at Port Mayaca railroad lift bridge (with St. Lucie Canal at 14.5 feet).
THE BEGINNING OF THE INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY IN FLORIDA

CONSTRUCTED BY A PRIVATE COMPANY, THE FLORIDA EAST COAST CANAL COMPANY BETWEEN 1881 and 1912

A LADDER OR BUCKET DREDGE WAS USED TO CREATE CANALS CONNECTING THE EAST COAST LAGOONS AND RIVERS

THE RESULTING 5 FT DEEP AND 50 FOOT WIDE WATERWAY WAS OPERATED AS A TOLL CANAL
1927 GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP

Waterway enlarged in the 1930’s to 100 feet wide and 8 feet deep
1942

Time to make improvements

German submarines off of the east coast of the United States torpedoed many cargo ships, causing Congress to authorize the enlargement of the Intracoastal Waterway to provide a safe and protected route for these ships.
TODAY

FLORIDA ICW STATS

406 Miles in Length

Florida/Georgia Border to Crossbank in the FL Keys

Project Design Depth
12’ MLW, FL/GA border to Ft. Pierce
10’ MLW from Ft. Pierce to Miami
7’ MLW from Miami to Crossbank
8’ for the OWW

500,000 cyds. per year of dredging

Est. $12-$14 Million annually to maintain at optimum functionality
LAND ACQUISITION AND MANAGEMENT

22,000 acres of Right of way lands

35,000 acres for Dredged Material Management

3,500 acres for Long Term Dredged Material Management
DREDGED MATERIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN RESULTS

OVER THE NEXT 50 YEARS
ICW MAINTENANCE DREDGING WILL PRODUCE

- 12.5 MCYDS. OF BEACH QUALITY MATERIAL ONTO 8 BEACH SITES
- 12.5 MCYDS. OF NON-BEACH MATERIAL INTO 54 UPLAND CONTAINMENT SITES
Before sand placement

After sand placement

SUMMERHAVEN BEACH
WATERWAY ECONOMICS

(Why bother with Maintenance & Management??)
COMMERCIAL ECONOMICS OF THE ATLANTIC INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY IN FLORIDA

- CARGO TRANSPORTED
  1.7 MILLION TONS
  97% Fuel Oil

- TOTAL CARGO VALUE
  $0.5 Billion

- TOTAL ECONOMIC OUTPUT
  $0.6 Billion

- TOTAL PERSONAL WAGES
  $68 Million

- TOTAL JOBS
  4,869
OVERSIZED CARGOS

- HOUSES
- BRIDGE PILINGS
- ROCKET BOOSTERS
- LARGE GENERATORS
DISTRICT RECREATIONAL WATERWAY STATISTICS

• 278,391 Registered Vessels

• Thousands of Visiting Vessels

• Registered Vessels make 16 Million Vessel Trips per year
RECREATIONAL ECONOMICS OF THE ATLANTIC INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY IN FLORIDA

- TOTAL ECONOMIC OUTPUT: $18+ Billion
- TOTAL PERSONAL WAGES: $5+ Billion
- TOTAL JOBS: 120,000+
- TOTAL PROPERTY VALUES: $21+ Billion
DECREASE IN WATERWAY ECONOMICS

IF MAINTENANCE DREDGING CEASED AND THE WATERWAY RETURNED TO A 3 FOOT CONTROLLING DEPTH

- DECREASE IN ECONOMIC OUTPUT $8.1B (53%)
- DECREASE IN PERSONAL WAGES $2.3B (52%)
- DECREASE IN JOBS 61,733 (52%)
- DECREASE IN PROPERTY VALUES $5.4B (28%)
ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

5. Acquisition & development of Public DMMA or Commercial/Industrial Access.
7. Acquisition & Improvements to Public Boat Ramps & Launching Facilities.
8. Acquisition & Improvements to Public Boat Docking & Mooring Facilities.
10. Waterway-related Environmental Programs & Facilities.
12. Waterfront Parks & Boardwalks.
16. Environmental Restoration, Enhancement, or Mitigation.
17. Other Waterway-related Projects.

SINCE 1986

$200+ MILLION IN DISTRICT ASSISTANCE

1000+ PROJECTS

$750+ MILLION IN WATERWAY IMPROVEMENTS
WATERWAY CLEAN UP PROGRAMS

- Debris/Litter Clean ups
- Derelict Vessel Removal
- Spoil Island Restoration and Enhancements
PLEASE —
ENJOY & PROMOTE
YOUR (FLORIDA) WATERWAYS