

# 2015 Florida Municipal Achievement Awards Program

## Nomination Form

**NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY, MAY 1, 2015.**

**Category** (Please check one)

**See Award Criteria for more information. Please print or type.**

**Only submit one nomination per form. A city may submit one nomination in each category; however, each nomination must be for a different project.**

**FLORIDA CITY SPIRIT AWARD**

**Name of Project** \_\_\_\_\_

**Nominated by** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of City/Town/Village)

**FLORIDA CITIZENSHIP AWARD**

**Name of Project** \_\_\_\_\_

**Nominated by** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of City/Town/Village)

**ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AWARD**

**Name of Project** Fort Pierce City Marina Restoration, Waterfront Protection and Enhancement of Natural Habitats

**Nominated by** City of Fort Pierce  
(Name of City/Town/Village)

**Contact Person**

Please print or type. (The contact person below may be listed in any League-developed publication and must be an elected city official or city staff person.)

Name Linda Hudson

Title Mayor

Government City of Fort Pierce

Address 100 N. U.S. Highway 1, Fort Pierce, FL 34950

Telephone Number 772-467-3065 Fax 772-467-3841

Email Address lhudson@city-ftpierce.com

[ OVER ]

## Narratives ▶▶

In the 1,200-word or less narrative, please be clear and concise, using the Award Criteria to support the selection of your nominated program. Please type up to 1,200 words, double-spaced on white 8-1/2" x 11" paper.

Please include a word count:

1101

Number of words

In the 150-word or less narrative, summarize your program.

Please include a word count:

148

Number of words

Entries exceeding the required word count will not be accepted.

## Supportive Information ▶▶

- ▶▶ Please include additional supportive materials, such as newspaper clippings, photographs, letters from constituents, or other items that help document the nominated program.
- ▶▶ No more than 10 pages (on 8 ½ x 11 paper, one-sided ONLY) of supportive material can be accepted.
- ▶▶ Please DO NOT staple nomination packets. DO NOT include videotapes, DVDs, CDs, or PowerPoint presentations.

Contact Sharon Berrian at (850) 701-3660 or [sberrian@flcities.com](mailto:sberrian@flcities.com) for more information.

# CITY OF FORT PIERCE

*Florida*



## Office of the Mayor and City Commission

City Hall, 100 North US 1  
P.O. Box 1480 Fort Pierce, FL 34954-1480  
(772) 467-3065 • [www.CityOfFortPierce.com](http://www.CityOfFortPierce.com)

April 11, 2016

Florida League of Cities  
Ms. Sharon G. Berrian  
P.O. Box 1757  
Tallahassee, FL 32302-1757

Attention: Florida Municipal Achievement Awards, Environmental Stewardship Award

Dear Judges:

The City of Fort Pierce is pleased and proud to submit this application for the Florida League of Cities Environmental Stewardship Award for 2016 and wholly supports and recommends this project for consideration.

Fort Pierce is located on Florida's Atlantic Coast; the city marina is located on the Indian River Lagoon, the most biodiverse estuary in the United States. When the 2004 Hurricanes of Frances and Jeanne destroyed our city marina, the city embarked on restoring the marina. In addition to restoration, the city wanted to protect the marina and the waterfront from future storm damage. In the process of planning this project with its federal and state partners, the city saw an opportunity to enhance the natural habitats of the diverse ecosystems in the Indian River Lagoon. In 2013, the marina and waterfront protection systems, and the natural habitat enhancements were complete. By 2015, the marina replaced the destroyed docks and added additional docks. Additional amenities have been or are in the process of being added: a web cam to view real time conditions, WI-FI access for boaters and dinghy docks for transient boaters to visit the historic Downtown Fort Pierce shops, entertainment and festivals.

The island ecosystem has proven to be exactly what was anticipated and more. The islands are now fish and oyster hatcheries and the island vegetation attracts birds. Sea grass and other vegetation are creating a lush habitat for all types of marine life. As intended, the islands, because of their specific construction, are cleaning the waters of the Indian River Lagoon. Recently, the city, along with partner agencies, built the

Florida League of Cities

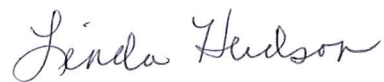
April 11, 2016

Page 2

Melody Lane Fishing Pier south of the island protection system for anglers to take advantage of the increased fish stock.

The Indian River Lagoon is a precious resource that, of late, has been compromised by the influx of fresh water, water runoff from canals and septic seepage. Our city marina restoration and protection project is not only protecting our waterfront but also the critical natural balance in the Indian River Lagoon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda Hudson".

Linda Hudson  
Mayor

## Environmental Stewardship Award Summary

### **The Fort Pierce City Marina**

When the City of Fort Pierce Marina was destroyed by back-to-back twin hurricanes of Frances and Jeanne in 2004, the city embarked on a ten-year project to build a protection system of islands that would safeguard the waterfront and marina against future storms, create habitats for sea life and birds and provide water-cleaning ecosystems. The islands are situated close to the downtown waterfront in the biologically diverse and fragile Indian River Lagoon. Mangrove and coastal dune vegetation was planted to stabilize the islands and provide habitat; oyster shells and lime rock at the lower elevations promote oyster beds and other essential fish habitats. A pilot project of the State of Florida requiring two years of monitoring after completion, the project was engineered and permitted under a variety of federal and state agencies. The project is successful, innovative and can be adapted to other waterfront locations.

# **Environmental Stewardship Award Narrative**

## **The Fort Pierce City Marina**

The 2004 back-to-back Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne destroyed 140 slips at the City Marina in Fort Pierce, causing millions in damages to the Marina alone. The twin hurricanes destroyed 150 public slips, 69 vessels and damaged 27 boats for a total of \$15.5 million in damages. An additional \$15 million was lost in public infrastructure, with an annual revenue loss of \$8.5 million for St. Lucie County and \$1.5 million lost revenue for the City of Fort Pierce.

Situated on the Indian River near the Fort Pierce Inlet on Florida's east coast, the destruction prompted the city to set about planning for marina restoration that could withstand another hurricane. The city wanted to protect the marina and vessels from future hurricane devastation, but also saw a need to protect the waterfront. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) insisted that FEMA funds could be used only if the city developed a system for future hurricane protection. In addition, the city wanted to protect the Indian River Lagoon, Florida's most biologically diverse estuary, and because of freshwater runoff from canals and Lake Okeechobee, a fragile and compromised ecosystem.

The city designed a cutting-edge system of man-made islands to protect the marina. Once a scaled model of the system had been pretested in Canada and approved by FEMA, the city then had to convince the Army Corps of Engineers, the Department of Environmental Protection and several environmental groups that the

islands would be beneficial and not harmful to the environment. By 2010, the city had earned everyone's trust to begin the project. Fully funded by FEMA at a cost of more than \$18 million, the islands were finished in 2013.

### **Protecting the Waterfront**

FEMA's financial support was based on the plan being feasible, viable, and cost-effective. It also required hazard mitigation, environmental planning, historic preservation and statutory and regulatory compliance. A number of regulatory agencies and stakeholders were involved in the planning and implementation, including, but not limited to, the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), FEMA, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, (FDEP), the Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND), the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), St. Lucie County and the City of Fort Pierce. The project's objectives included providing a 100-year storm wave and current protection, reducing basic currents, minimizing changes in sediment transport patterns, improving access channel navigability, protecting seagrass beds, providing for manatee transit, providing ecological enhancements with structural performance and protecting the city waterfront.

The result was a network of breakwater islands comprised of about 15 acres, but covering a water habitat area of almost 22 acres, that included an oyster habitat, artificial reef, mangroves, coastal dunes, seagrass and juvenile fish and shorebird habitats. The islands consist of foundational high-strength polypropylene, sand-filled geotextile tubes. On top of the tubes is a layer of high density, flexible, UV stabilized polypropylene specially constructed rock-filled mattresses; the top layer is armor stone

that allows for plantings of mangroves and other coastal dune vegetation to stabilize the islands and attract birds. The 10.5 acre Tern Island, the largest island with cross groin features for stability and sand fill, is 1,500 feet long and 300 feet wide.

The project took six years to engineer and permit at a final construction cost of \$18 million. Established as a pilot, one-of-a-kind project, the islands include 80,000 plants, 93,518 tons of rock, 100,000 cubic yards of sand and 2,580 tons of oyster cultch. The islands include 1.26 acres of oyster habitat, 6.27 acres of artificial reef, 1.55 acres of mangrove, 4.55 acres of coastal dune habitat and 8.12 acres of seagrass.

The islands sit about 700 feet off shore, provide critical storm surge protection and serve as a sanctuary for juvenile fish. Mangroves and oyster shells attract birds, oyster larvae, fish, and other marine life.

### **Constructing the Islands**

The process of constructing the islands presented many challenges. Strong tidal currents exist, with dynamic flood shoaling. Existing seagrass needed to be protected. In addition to prior and concurrent extensive off-site mitigation, extensive monitoring was required of the islands' performance and maintenance as well as monitoring of habitats. Because of the significance of the surrounding shallow water habitat, the entire construction project followed stringent regulations. To further protect the fragile ecosystem, all construction was executed from shallow-draft barges to provide ample clearance from the bottom without damaging the local substrata. Contractors incorporated numerous eco-friendly measures to further protect the threatened and

endangered species that call the Indian River Lagoon home. In addition, the City deeded 26 acres (adjacent to the Inlet State Park) of pristine seagrass beds, tidal flats and submerged mangrove habitat to the State.

### **The Results**

Two years of monitoring was required from the date of completion in May of 2013. The islands are exceeding expectations in providing a habitat for juvenile fish and other sea life. The island vegetation has done its job in attracting a variety of birds. The islands are cleaning the waters of the Indian River Lagoon, while increasing oysters, mangroves and seagrass.

Following the waterfront protection and environmental enhancements, the City of Fort Pierce added dockage almost doubling the number of boat slips. Amenities were added, including free WI-FI and Web cameras that show real time weather conditions at the waterfront. Fueling is available 20 hours a day, 7 days a week. The Marina is 16 nautical miles to the Gulf Stream, 82 nautical miles to the Bahamas and 2.5 nautical miles to the best all weather inlet on Florida's east coast. Walkable amenities include the award-winning Saturday Farmers Market, the Sunrise Theatre for the Performing Arts, the Manatee Observation and Education Center, and a variety of restaurants in Historic Downtown Fort Pierce.

### **Conclusion**

The City of Fort Pierce has designed an innovative project that protects the marina and the waterfront, and at the same time creates natural habitats to enhance the

integrity and biodiversity of the Indian River Lagoon. The islands positively impact the Indian River Lagoon by cleaning its waters, increasing sea and plant life and providing a natural attraction for bird life. The island configuration is unique in waterfront protection and protecting the Lagoon's ecosystem. With adjustments for local weather and water conditions, the island system concept can be reconfigured to protect other waterfronts throughout the world. This one-of-a-kind project has won several technical awards, and the Marina has won Florida Main Street's Honor award for outstanding public improvement. Will the protection work against the next 100 year storm event? We can wait 90 years for the test.



...TROLLING LURES • REELS • FIGHTING BELTS • SWIMMING PLUGS • MOORING LINES • SWIVELS  
ALUMINUM TOWERS • GAFFS • CHUM • **MODERN MARINA** • ENCLOSURES • BRAIDED FISHING LINE...

MADE IN  
FLORIDA  
SERIES



MISSION OBJECTIVE: INVESTIGATE & REVEAL

TARGET ACQUISITION

# Modern Marina

Anglers and boaters rarely consider the tremendous effort required to design and manufacture the countless components and accessories that enhance our on-the-water experiences. Skilled craftsmen design and assemble many of these essentials right here in Florida. We wanted to learn more about these companies and we are confident that you, too, will be fascinated with what we uncover.

[ STAFF REPORT ]



➔ It is no secret that Florida is a boater's paradise that attracts visitors from all over the world. With thousands of miles of navigable inshore waters leading to expansive open oceans, Florida really is the best place to enjoy the outdoors. While the natural surroundings are impressive, they aren't invincible and are susceptible to habitat degradation and pollution from numerous sources. Thankfully, many enjoy the water with an underlying goal of helping promote the conservation and stewardship of critical inshore habitats.

Nestled along one of Florida's most biologically diverse estuarine systems, the Sunrise City is home to the world famous Indian River Lagoon. Spanning approximately 156 miles from Ponce Inlet to Jupiter Inlet, the IRL system is a shallow body of water that provides ideal habitat for a variety of highly desirable species that drive critical tourism dollars to the state. While offshore waters provide exciting opportunities with sailfish, dolphin, grouper and more, the inshore waters are heralded as some of the best for encountering jumbo seatrout. In fact, the state record seatrout—17 lb. 7 oz.—was pulled from the fertile shallows of the Indian River.

Only a short distance from the Inlet State Park, Fort Pierce City Marina provides a quiet, safe and friendly atmosphere with ample amenities for both transient and resident boaters. Owned by the City of Fort Pierce and established in 1938, this deep-rooted marina sits along the historic downtown riverfront and is an important symbol for the city, and for the state.

Unfortunately, the marina sustained serious damage during the 2004 tropi-

cal storm season when Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne destroyed 140 slips at the marina. Restoring the iconic facility and estimated \$15 million in damage wasn't going to be as easy as simply driving new



After years of planning, construction crews could finally get to work.

pilings, nor was that the plan. The goal of the newly designed Marina was to build a safe harborage that

provides adequate protection from future storms, while simultaneously promoting the well being of the fragile surrounding ecosystem. The renovation would serve as a pilot project for the State of Florida, with two years of monitoring required after completion to deem the project a success.

After the storms passed, damaged boats and docks were removed while plans for construction of a new marina were already in the works. However, it wasn't until 2005



**Because of the significance of the surrounding shallow water habitat, the entire construction project would have to follow stringent regulations.**

when plans were developed to create a series of man-made islands in front of the marina to provide much needed protection from future storms. In addition, the new marina would feature two dock complexes. Once complete, the southern dock will contain 98 slips while the northern dock will contain 39 slips. The

Slowly but surely, the islands began to take shape.



“ To further protect the frail ecosystem, all construction would be executed from shallow-draft barges that provide ample clearance from the bottom...

outer harbor entrance will also be moved from the south to the northern portion of the harbor to improve public access and navigation. Because of the significance of the surrounding shallow water habitat, the entire construction project would have to follow stringent regulations.

Before a single stone could be moved, city officials had to go through a lengthy permit process from the EPA, Marine Corps of Engineers, NMFS and U.S. Fish & Wildlife. Construction crews also needed Clean Water Act permits for the project, which require crews to utilize techniques that

minimize sediment turbidity in an effort to limit adverse impacts on the area's water quality.

▲ Marine construction crews meticulously placed each bucket of sediment.

To further protect the frail ecosystem, all construction would be executed from shallow-draft barges that provide ample clearance from the bottom without damaging the local substrate.

It wasn't until 2009 when the design of a breakwater featuring 12 man-made islands and one peninsular structure was approved by the Department of Environmental Protection, but city officials still needed approval from the Army Corps of Engineers. One of the major setbacks was making sure the area's essential seagrass beds weren't disrupted. Almost 7 years from the storm's damage to the area, the Army Corps of Engineers finally announced approval and since, construction crews have been working full time. While a tremendous amount of progress has been made, this isn't

◀ Near completion, the breakwaters will also provide essential habitat.

like any other marina project in the country. Expert contractors needed to incorporate





numerous eco-friendly measures to further protect the threatened and endangered species that call the Indian River home.

The finalized plans called for a 10.51-acre island, surrounded by 12 freeform breakwater islands. Constructed with sand filled Geotubes, the largest island is also anchored by T-groins and rock-filled marine mattress units. Furthermore, native vegetation was added to increase habitat diversity. While the main island features sand filled Geotubes, the smaller islands were covered with natural limestone to provide even greater storm protection. It's also important to note that construction crews utilized natural sediment with the same characteristics of the local sediment in an effort to promote growth and limit future erosion.

Hoping to enhance seagrass communities, bird stakes were added to the area to encourage roosting of wading birds and waterfowl, which add natural fertilizer for growing grass beds. Seagrass is one of the most important factors among inshore communities and the new islands will provide an estimated 8.12 acres of new seagrass recruitment areas. Additionally, The City of Fort Pierce deeded 26 acres of submerged land to the State. This 26-acre parcel is adjacent to the Inlet State Park

▲ A major change to the area's seascape is clearly in the works.

and contains pristine seagrass beds, tidal flats, and submerged mangrove habitat. An additional 30 acres were given to the State as proprietary public interest.

As of press date the revitalization project is nearing its final stages, with completion of the islands expected in May 2013. While protecting vessels in the marina is a priority, the environmentally friendly project will

result in 1.28 acres of new oyster habitat, 6.26 acres of artificial reef habitat, 2.22 acres of coastal dune habitat, 2.33 acres of shorebird habitat, 8.12 acres of seagrass beds and 1.54 acres of mangroves.

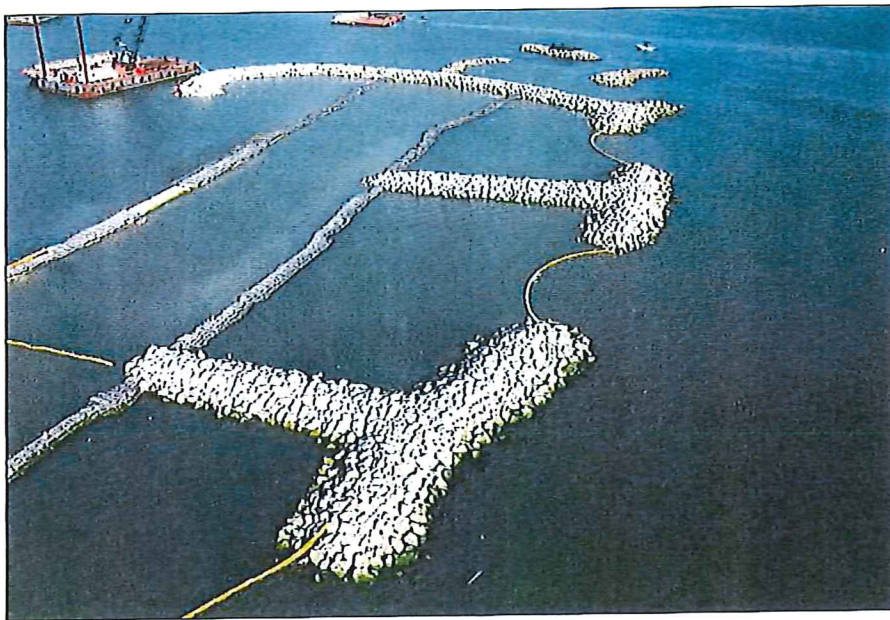
Home to numerous tournaments and within walking distance to the library, museum, shops, parks, art galleries and restaurants, The Fort Pierce City Marina will soon shine again. **131**

▼ Once complete, the Fort Pierce City Marina will be better than ever!



## Storm Protection Islands for Fort Pierce Marina Nearly Completed

by Anna Townshend



In December 2012, the contractor continues building the man-made storm protection islands for the city marina in Fort Pierce, Fla. (Photos by Steve Irwin of Island Marine Electronics)

In 2004, Hurricane Frances made a slow approach as a Category 2 storm, lasting approximately 34 hours. It did catastrophic damage to the city marina in Fort Pierce, Fla. It destroyed many docks with boats still moored on them, totaling \$28 million damage to the marina alone.

Rather than rebuilding in-kind, the reconstruction plan included 13 man-made islands, which would protect the marina. Construction began in February 2012 and will be completed in May of this year.

Maccaferri Inc. provided the materials to form the islands. At the end of March, Jenna Phillips, technical manager and coastal engineer for Maccaferri's Coastal Protection & Dewatering Business Unit, conducted a webinar to outline the development and construction of the islands, using Maccaferri's GeoTubes, large geotextile tubes, and marine mattresses, compartmental structures, composed of a high density, flexible, UV-stabilized, polypropylene grid.

Fort Pierce Marina is located on the western shore of the Indian River Lagoon, just south of the Fort Pierce

Inlet. The islands are built to protect the marina from large open water areas within the lagoon to the south and southeast. The maximum fetch length within the lagoon was about 13.7 miles (22 km) with fairly shallow water depths. The marina is also located within the flood tidal delta, so strong tidal currents

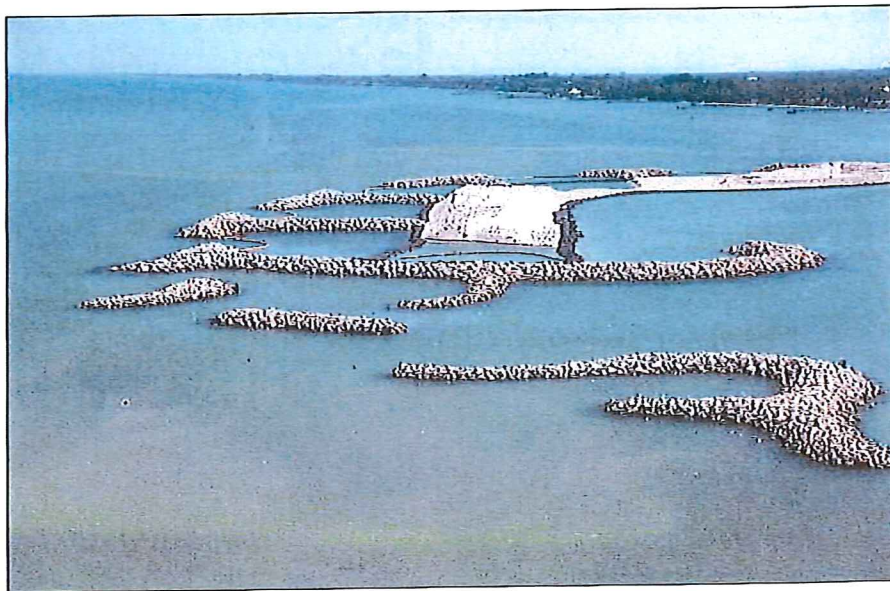
flow in the area upwards of two meters per second.

The City of Fort Pierce applied to Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for assistance, which it got, on the basis that the project would provide a more robust storm protection system. The overall goals of the project included protection from a 100-year storm, along with positive environmental impacts and aesthetically pleasing structures.

A hydrodynamic study analyzed a total of 17 island configurations before making a physical model of the final version, including 12 islands and one peninsula structure. In addition to storm protection, the islands would provide areas for oyster recruitment and mangrove habitat.

The main 10.5-acre island, called Tern Island, is approximately 1,500 feet long and 300 feet wide. It consists of seven groin structures for stability and sand fill in the interior portion. The interior island crest will have a coastal sand dune and living shoreline. A 15-foot wide bench at the waterline was built to enhance oyster recruitment and mangrove habitat. Oyster bags and planted mangroves were placed along the seven groin structures. The island crest will be planted with native vegetation for long-term stability and habitat for birds.

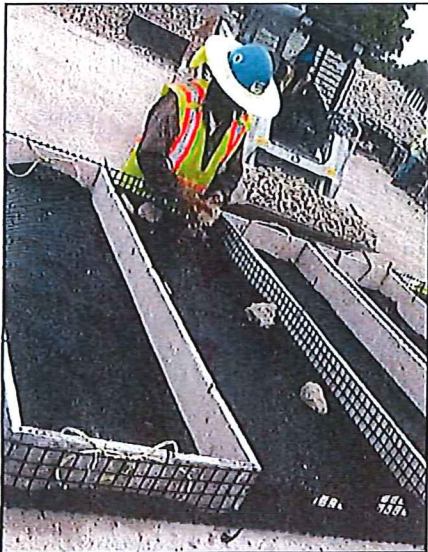
To construct the island and peninsula,



This shows the islands construction progress on March 15. The marina project will soon go out to bid, expecting to begin construction in July. (Photos by Steve Irwin of Island Marine Electronics)



The mattresses used were two different thicknesses, 12-inch and five-inch, and were five feet and six-and-a-half feet wide. The stone fill ranged in diameter from five to 20 inches.



The marine mattresses were filled on-site. The smaller ones were placed on a flat surface and filled by hand to reduce the void space.



PVC stakes were used as guides for the mattress placement. A crane roughly placed the mattresses, and divers made the final adjustments.

Maccaferri provided 10,700 feet of geotextile tubes as a perimeter dike for the island creation, the structural core of the groins, and the beach for the living shoreline. The 250,000 square feet of marine mattresses were used in three ways: as a foundation for the islands to prevent settlement and scouring; a cushion layer and protective barrier between the tubes and the armor stones; and a platform for oysters and mangrove planting.

The sand material to fill the tubes came from an upland source. It was brought to the project site by barge and loaded to a hopper. About 250,000 cubic yards of sand were used to fill the tubes. Material to backfill the island, once the perimeter was established, was dredged from the marina basin.

Contractors prepared the marine mattresses on-site. They were placed in water depths from three to 18 feet. While depths didn't play a significant role in the speed and accuracy of the placement, water quality and current velocity did. Clarity was good at the beginning of the project. However, Hurricane Sandy resulted in about a month and a half of poor visibility. This of course affected the speed and accuracy, and did require some reinstallation. By January, water conditions had improved.

The strong current velocities also played a role in installation. The dredging contractor could pump around 450 cubic yards in approximately four hours, and divers in the water, who ensured the accuracy of the final placement, had to wear 40-pound

weights to combat the current.

For installation of the tubes, the scour protection went first, then the tubes were deployed, rolled out and stacked into place. Using a hopper dredge and submersible pump, contractors filled the tubes from both ends to anchor them during the tidal change. To prevent the tubes from acting like a sail, they had to be deployed during slack tide, so contractors had a short window in order to get them in place and staked down every 10 feet on center. The tubes also had seat belt-like straps sewn in to the side seams of the tubes. Originally, the belts were placed every 25 feet and eventually put every 10 feet on center for more control.

For the mattress installation, PVC stakes guided the placement, and a crane and lifting bar did a rough placement on the mattress. Divers made the final adjustments.

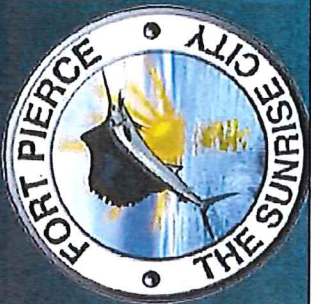
The mean tide range for this area was about 1.5 feet, with the highest tides occurring in the fall and the lowest lows in the spring. The water level elevations had the greatest effect on the armor stone installation. Contractors had to transport the barge half full and wait for high tide to begin installation. For the construction of the shallow groins, which happened during fall at the high water levels, contractors were able to mostly transport full barge loads.

Upon final completion in May, the island structures should allow the marina to increase capacity, as well as provide additional space for eco-tourism and recreation in the area. ⚓

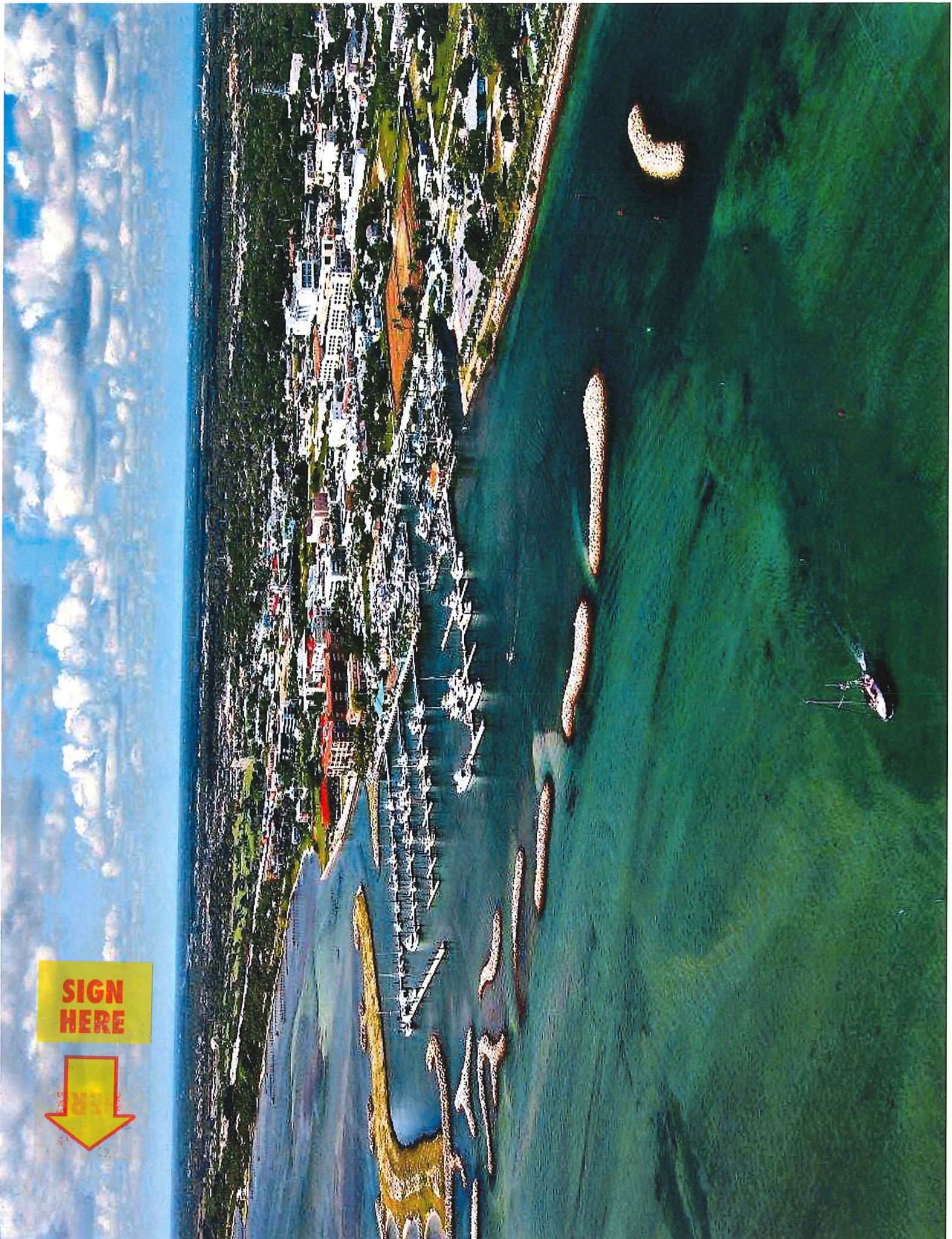


The 12-inch mats required a filling frame, fabricated by the contractor. The panels came pre-assembled with the exception on the side panel, through which a front-end loader placed the stone fill. Then, the side panel was attached and loaded into the stockpile.

# 2004 Hurricane Season



Looking Up the Pierces  
Part of the  
Fort Pierce, Fla. area  
after Hurricane  
Charley in 2004.  
The pierces are  
streets that run  
parallel to the  
pierces.



**SIGN  
HERE**





# Mosaic Habitat Creation

Total Island Project = 14.66 acres of fill

Total Habitat Creation = 21.75 acres

- Oyster Habitat Created = 1.26 acres
- Artificial Reef Created = 6.27 acres
- Mangrove Communities Created = 1.55 acres
- Coastal Dune Habitat Created = 4.55 acres
- Seagrass Recruitment = 8.12 acres





# FLORIDA

MUNICIPAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

## City Spirit Environmental Stewardship Citizenship

The Florida League of Cities is pleased to announce the seventh annual

### **Florida Municipal Achievement Awards Program**

The goal of this program is to recognize innovations and excellence in municipal government.

The Florida Municipal Achievement Awards Program will provide municipalities the opportunity to receive deserved recognition for superior and innovative efforts in three categories:

- City Spirit Award
- Florida Citizenship Award, and
- Environmental Stewardship Award.



## Application Process ▶▶

The Florida Municipal Achievement Awards program is open to city, town or village governments that are members of the Florida League of Cities. The application process is as follows:

- ▶▶ A city may submit one nomination in each of the following categories: City Spirit Award, Florida Citizenship Award and Environmental Stewardship Award. Each nomination must be for a different project.
- ▶▶ The programs nominated must have been in effect and operating for a minimum of one full year.
- ▶▶ For each of the awards, please complete the enclosed nomination form, along with TWO SEPARATE NARRATIVES: 1) For judging purposes, a 1,200-word or less narrative focusing on the award criteria; and also a 150-word or less narrative summarizing your entry.
- ▶▶ A letter of recommendation on behalf of the mayor and council/commission must accompany each nomination.
- ▶▶ Please include additional supportive materials, such as newspaper clippings, photographs, letters from constituents, or other items that help document the nominated program.
- ▶▶ No more than 10 pages (on 8 ½ x 11 paper, one-sided ONLY) of supportive material can be accepted.
- ▶▶ Please DO NOT paper clip nomination packets. You may use folders. DO NOT include videotapes, DVDs, CDs, or PowerPoint presentations.
- ▶▶ Please send seven copies of your nomination packet. Your nomination will not be complete without these seven copies.
- ▶▶ Past winning entries from the Florida Cities of Excellence (no longer held) Florida Municipal Achievement Award and Municipal Youth Council Video competition programs are not eligible to be nominated.

## Judging ▶▶

Judging will be based entirely on the written entry and supportive information. Judging will be conducted by an independent panel of judges with considerable expertise in leadership, governance and public service.

### Program Summary

Each nominated program may be publicized. As such, be sure to include in your city's entry a separate 150-word narrative summarizing your program.

### Announcement of Winners

- ▶▶ Winners will be announced in June 2015. Subsequently, there will be special recognition and media announcements in each recipient's hometown and statewide.
- ▶▶ Winners in each category will also receive a special beautifully designed trophy.
- ▶▶ Winners will be featured in the League's magazine, *Quality Cities*, and be featured in articles in statewide publications (through press announcements and through various websites and social media).

The judges reserve the right to not award a winner in every category.

# Award Criteria»»

## City Spirit Award

This award will be given to a city for a specific, single, citywide effort to successfully address a local need.

In the narrative and supportive materials, describe the project in detail and show how it was:

- »» **Timely** – Why was the project needed?
- »» **Innovative** – Is it a new program or an older program presented in a new and exciting way?
- »» **Effective** – How did the program positively affect your municipal residents, pull citizens together, strengthen government relationships and inspire city employees?
- »» **Successful** – Who benefited? Did it meet your objectives? How will the project impact your city in the future?
- »» **Cost Effective** – How much did it cost/save?
- »» **Adaptable** – Can it be adapted for use in other cities?

## Florida Citizenship Award

This award focuses on city projects or programs that build stronger, more participative residents. The programs increase civic awareness, education and knowledge, and promote active participation among residents. The programs can be for adults and/or youth.

In the narrative and supportive materials, describe the project in detail and show how it was:

- »» **Effective** – How did the program positively affect your municipal residents, increase their understanding of their city government and inspire active participation?
- »» **Partners** – Did the city create any new, or promote existing, partnerships in this program? Explain.

- »» **Successful** – Who benefitted from the program? What were program objectives and were they met? What have been the short-term benefits and how will the project impact your city in the future?
- »» **Innovative** – Why do you feel this was an innovative way to meet your objectives?
- »» **Adaptable** – Can this program be used as a model for other cities?

## Environmental Stewardship Award

This award focuses on city programs that promote conservation, improve and protect environmental conditions, and/or provide environmental education and outreach programs within your city.

In the narrative and supportive materials, describe the program in detail and show how it was:

- »» **Effective** – How does the program positively impact your city's environmental resources and conditions?
- »» **Successful** – What were program objectives and how were they met? How have you measured the program's success?
- »» **Results** – How will the program improve the long-term sustainability of our natural resources or reduce the carbon footprint?
- »» **Innovative** – Why do you feel this program provides an innovative solution to protecting, conserving and/or improving the environment?
- »» **Adaptable** – Can this program be used as a model for other cities?