



INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA
AGENDA ITEM
Parks, Recreation & Conservation Department
Parks Maintenance Division

Date: February 20, 2024
To: The Honorable Board of County Commissioners
Thru: John A. Titkanich, Jr., County Administrator
Michael C. Zito, Deputy County Administrator
Beth Powell, Parks, Recreation & Conservation Director
From: Joseph Tilton, Recreation Manager
Subject: Consideration for Temporary Beach Access Permit for Dune Restoration
Work – Tracking Station Beach Park

BACKGROUND:

On January 31, 2023, the Board of County Commissioners approved the Emergency Beach Access Agreement that would allow private residents to request and be granted use of County Beach Parks for dune renourishment projects. In February and March of 2023 eleven (11) agreements were executed and the projects were completed.

DESCRIPTION AND CONDITIONS:

Staff currently has one (1) request for an Emergency Beach Access Agreement for use of Tracking Station Beach Park for renourishment of 965 Pebble Lane. This request would temporarily close Tracking Station Beach Park for approximately one (1) week for this work to be completed.

Conditions and suitability for use of the Tracking Station Beach Park as an Emergency Beach Access point for private use poses some unique circumstances for consideration.

- The County's Sector 3 Dune Restoration project is currently using several County Parks as permitted and approved construction accesses. The closure of Tracking Station Beach Park for the requested one (1) week would overlap with previously planned beach parks closures during a time of year with increased beach usage due to seasonal residents in addition to spring break visitors. Currently, Wabasso Beach Park is closed for dune restoration and Golden Sands is expected to open unless there are delays on February 28, 2024.
- Private residence construction is ongoing at 30 Indigo Lane in the immediate proximity to Tracking Station Beach Park. The requested one (1) week closure of Tracking Station Beach Park for a private dune repair will add significant additional heavy construction equipment (dump trucks) activity in the congested area of the CVS and 7-Eleven.
- As of now, Tracking Station Beach Park only has one temporary access for guests to access the beach due to the closure of the dune crossovers that were damaged by Hurricane Ian and

Hurricane Nicole in 2022. If damage is incurred because of construction use, it could cause a prolonged closure of Tracking Station Beach Park.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff respectfully request that the Board of County Commissioners consider the request proposed herein and provide direction to Staff.

ATTACHMENTS:

Emergency Beach Access Agreement

APPROVED AGENDA ITEM FOR MARCH 5, 2024