



HOLIDAY ISLE & MID-DESTIN FUTURE BEACH RESTORATION PLANS

It has been the intent of the City of Destin to work towards restoring all six miles of its Gulf coastline. However, due to the high costs of restoration, the original engineering plan calls for restoration to be performed in three phases:

- (I) Crystal Beach (the current project)
- (II) Holiday Isle
- (III) Mid-Destin

Due to the critical erosion in the last year, the City of Destin is accelerating its planning efforts and is working towards “collapsing” Phases II and III into a single project, restoring all the beaches west of Henderson Beach State Park to the jetties at the same time.

Currently, the City is awaiting the approval of grant funds to perform a sand source investigation and conduct the necessary engineering and permitting to construct such a project. Realistically, under the best of conditions, the restoration of western Destin beaches is still two years away.

In the meantime, the City of Destin has initiated an emergency_re nourishment project on Destin’s western beaches. Beginning April 20, 2006 the City began to construct protective berms along the beach, plant sea oats, and install sand fencing to promote the capturing of sand and the eventual building-up of dunes. The purpose of these berms will be to buffer destructive wave action and serve as sacrificial barriers. It is the only measure available that can be achieved on Destin’s western beaches, prior to the 2006 Hurricane Season.

In summary, the City realizes that the only true solution to the critical erosion of the beaches of west Destin is to **restore** those beaches, not just renourish them, but a restoration project is still several years away. Okaloosa County Tourist Development Council is also actively seeking solutions to fund the construction of future beach restoration projects county-wide.