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SPI to receive dredging project sand

South Padre Island, TX, May 4, 2018: The City of South Padre Island's beach will receive sand from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) dredging project. The USACE has begun a maintenance dredge of the Brownsville Ship Channel and is placing sand on a nearshore berm near the City's beach.

The area where the sand is being deposited is known as a "nearshore berm." This man-made sandbar will serve as natural nourishment for the Island, as well as storm protection. Over time, the material will move naturally to our beaches. This will lead to shoreline stabilization without the pipes and bulldozers that on-shore placements come with.

"This project is occurring in the middle of Sea Turtle nesting season so the material can't be placed on the beach directly," said Brandon Hill, Shoreline director. "That has not stopped us from getting the most out of this situation."

The Hopper Dredge McFarland has been dispatched to remove the sand from the channel and will be transporting hundreds of thousands of cubic yards from the jetties to the placement area over the next forty-five days. The ship is one of four oceangoing hopper dredges owned and operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and is the only dredge in the world with triple capability for direct pump out, bottom discharge and sidcasting or boom discharge.

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