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News Release

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Carolina Beach Renourishment Project Scheduled to Begin within the next 7-10 Days

CAROLINA BEACH, NC--The question on many residents' minds about beach renourishment is "When will it begin?" According to officials from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington Office, the renourishment project for Carolina Beach is expected to begin within the next 7 to 10 days and sooner for Kure Beach.

Crews from Weeks Marine, Inc., the marine construction company hired for the renourishment job, are currently in the process of delivering pipe and other equipment to the North End in Carolina Beach. The hydraulic dredge, which is the focal piece of equipment used in the process, is expected to arrive here soon as well. A smaller version of it, known as a hopper dredge, is already in Kure Beach and the crews are mobilizing to begin work there, according to Kure Beach Project Coordinator Gary Owen.

The project here in Carolina Beach will extend from the North End beach all the way to Oyster Shell Lane. Some of the sand, an estimated 1 million cubic yards for the total project, will be taken from the Carolina Beach inlet.

The completion schedule for the Carolina Beach renourishment project remains by April 30, 2004. This date coincides with the beginning of turtle season.

Major Bill Still, interim chief of the Carolina Beach Police Department, advises people to use caution and good judgment when visiting the beach. "This construction can be very dangerous and we ask people to cooperate with us and stay clear of the work areas for their own safety," Major Still said.

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The U.S. Army Corp. of Engineers/Wilmington Office awarded the contract for the Carolina Beach/Kure Beach renourishment project to Weeks Marine in January 2004. Weeks Marine provides dredging and marine construction services through facilities located in Hawaii, Louisiana, New Jersey and Texas.

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