



Intracoastal Waterway (ICW) Deepening / Dredging FT. LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA

As both sail and motor yachts are built larger, water depths become vital to safe navigation. In order to remain a leading marine destination, Ft. Lauderdale sought to achieve an overall depth of 17 feet from 10 feet, over a 2-mile stretch of the ICW from the 17th Street Causeway to just north of Las Olas Blvd. The project involved dredging ~180,000 cubic yards of material. Having completed the Dania Cutoff Canal project in 2013, Cashman Dredging was familiar with the area and marine traffic.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- Material containing metals such as arsenic was dredged and deposited into self-contained hopper barges, which were then transported by tugs to an offloading location where the material was dewatered, offloaded and stockpiled at a ±6-acre dredged material management area (DMMA) located on Port Everglades. The dredge material was then transported off-site to a permanent, approved upland reuse location.
- The DMMA has a dewatering pond that acts as a 'lazy river' that was built out of berms at the DMMA that allow for water pumped from the self-contained hopper barges to be discharged into the dewatering pond. Water enters the pond and travels through a system of S-turns and weirs allowing sediment to fall out of suspension before being discharged back into the adjacent water body.
- Turbidity monitoring was conducted at both the dredging and discharge sites. There was only a single exceedance over the course of the entire project, at which point Cashman employed even more rigorous best management practices to ensure no further exceedances; this goal was achieved.
- The Project area had numerous utility crossings over which Cashman had to perform channel dredging. Extensive research and a utility location investigation were conducted to identify the exact locations of the utilities. Based on investigation results, a plan to dredge over the utilities was developed. The resulting dredging operations were a complete success with no damage to any utilities nor to any of the local bridge cables.
- There were numerous aspects to manage: the dredge, the offload operations, boats and trucks, and the surrounding maritime industry. All operations had to be in sync in order for the project to be a success, and the Cashman team managed this well.

Location:	Broward County, FL
Contractor:	Cashman Dredging & Marine Contracting Company, LLC
Contract Dates:	January 2016 - May 2017
Dollar Value:	\$19.8 million
Awarding Authority / Owner:	Florida Inland Navigational District (FIND)

The contract allowed two years for completion of the entire dredging work. Cashman completed dredging in less than 8 months, inclusive of severe weather delays and a two-week moratorium on dredging during the Ft. Lauderdale Boat Show.

