



### Sand Key

At about 14 miles, Sand Key is the longest barrier island in Pinellas County. Nine coastal municipalities occupy this island. After suffering from decades of erosion, the federal segment of the Pinellas County Beach Erosion Control program began in 1985. The most recent federal renourishment was constructed in 2005-06 and the next project is scheduled for 2010-11.



### John's Pass

John's Pass is a federally maintained inlet that is dredged periodically by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The most recent project was conducted in 2000 when dredge spoil was pumped onto Treasure Island as beach nourishment. The ongoing Florida Department of Transportation John's Pass bridge replacement is scheduled for completion in 2009.



### Treasure Island

Treasure Island has two erosional hot spots, Sunshine and Sunset beaches, on the north and south ends of the island, respectively. The Pinellas County Beach Erosion Control program has maintained these beaches since 1969. In contrast, the wide, central beach on Treasure Island accretes slowly due to sediment bypassing around the large ebb delta of John's Pass. The City of Treasure Island's emergency plan allows for "sand sharing" from the wide beach to the erosional areas after a major storm, if necessary.



### Blind Pass

Blind Pass has more structural modifications than any inlet on the west-coast of Florida. The inlet is dredged periodically to nourish the downdrift beach (Upham Beach), most recently in 2000. The gap in the south breakwater was closed in 2005. The next dredging of Blind Pass is scheduled for 2009.



### Long Key

Long Key is the technical name for the island that contains the City of St. Pete Beach. The major erosional hot spot on Long Key is Upham Beach, on the north end of the island. Pass-a-Grille Beach, on southern Long Key, also requires periodic renourishment. The Pinellas County Beach Erosion Control program has maintained these beaches since 1980. Five geotextile T-head groins were installed on Upham Beach in 2005 as an experimental project intended to slow the rapid erosion.



### Pass-a-Grille Channel

This inlet forms part of the Egmont Channel tidal delta complex. Modifications in the early 1960s to Pass-a-Grille Channel included dredging and the construction of the terminal groin and seawall at the south end of Long Key. Dredged material from Pass-a-Grille Channel was placed on Long Key in 1986 and 2004.



### Shell Key

Shell Key began as two separate sand shoals that have built up and merged since the 1950s. The island is now managed by Pinellas County's Department of Environmental Management. This photo looks north in November 2005.



### Bunces Pass

This beautiful natural tidal inlet between Shell Key and Mullet Key has limited boating access due to two fixed (16-foot) bridges. This tide-dominated inlet forms part of the Egmont Channel tidal delta complex. The ebb tidal delta contains distinct channel-margin linear bars as shown on the right side of the photo.



### Mullet Key

The barrier island containing Pinellas County's Fort De Soto Park has a right-angle formation with one shoreline exposed to the Gulf of Mexico and the other shoreline exposed to Egmont Channel. A restoration project was constructed in 2006 that involved placement of beneficial-use material from the dredging of the Tampa Bay shipping channel. The L-shaped terminal groin, originally built in the 1960s, was also rehabilitated. This photo looks north along the Gulf of Mexico of Mullet Key shoreline in April 2006.



### Egmont Key

Egmont Key, located at the mouth of Tampa Bay, is actually located in Hillsborough County. The beaches of Egmont Key are not managed by Pinellas County. Much of this island, which is managed by the Florida Park Service, is a wildlife refuge.