

SOUTH SIESTA KEY BEACH RE-NOURISHMENT
SHOREBIRD MONITORING



Project Description

Scheda Ecological Associates (Scheda) was a sub-consultant to Humiston & Moore Engineers (H&M) for the recently completed South Siesta Key Beach Re-Nourishment Project. This project involved conducting a winter shorebird survey along a stretch of beach at south Siesta Key to document the presence of the piping plover and any other focal species such as the American oystercatcher, red knot, snowy plover, and Wilson's plover within the project limits. This area was surveyed in February during the 10-day window in accordance with the methodologies provided in the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Florida Shorebird Alliance's (FSA) Winter Shorebird Survey Protocol prior to permitting as recommended by the USFWS. During the survey, focal species, individual birds that were color-banded, and any large groups (50+) of shorebirds were recorded along with the location of the observations. Non-focal species were also recorded. Upon completion of the survey, the results were submitted to an online database provided by the FSA as described in the USFWS protocol and a brief report of the methodology and results was provided to the client as part of the permit requirements.

Scheda biologists also conducted the daily shorebird monitoring during the construction phase of the project to ensure that nesting shorebirds and/or red knots were not impacted by the construction activities and submitted the information to the FSA website.

