



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
Engineer Research and
Development Center

National Erosion Control Development and Demonstration Program (Section 227)

Alligator Point, Florida

Background

Southwest Cape, known locally as Alligator Point, is located on Alligator Spit, a peninsula extending about 7.7 km (4.8 miles) westward from Lighthouse Point at the southeast corner of St. James Island in Franklin County, Florida. Alligator Point is at the western end of Appalachee Bay, bordered on the north by Alligator Head and by the Gulf of Mexico to the south. The site is bordered by several prominent offshore shoal systems including Dog Island Reef to the southeast and Ochlockonee Shoal to the east. County Highway 370 runs along Alligator Point and provides the only hurricane evacuation route for homes on the spit. A large beach in front of Alligator Point has eroded in recent years to the extent that a portion of Highway 370 was endangered by wave action. The county has constructed a concrete rubble revetment along 549 m (1,800 ft) of the highway, and an additional 305 m (1,000 ft) is endangered.



Revetment along highway at Alligator Point, Florida

Problem

Alligator Point is subject to continuous and severe erosion due to storm induced wave attack, and local interests desire emergency assistance to protect the shoreline and adjacent Highway 370. Attempts by the Franklin County Road Department to provide interim protection along the shoreline to protect the highway from past storms have been met with only marginal success. If no action is taken, continued erosion will further threaten the integrity of the road leading to complete road failure or erosion of the abutment approaches. This would result in a complete halt to the flow of traffic onto the Alligator Point Peninsula and the loss of adjacent public facilities. There is an opportunity for Federal and State interests to cooperate and expeditiously solve a water and related land resources problem which threatens the integrity of the access road to Alligator Point.

Status

The project is currently on hold pending congressional approval of an extension to the Section 227 program.

Program Manager

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Program Authorization

Water Resources and Development Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-303, 110 Stat. 3658) dated October 12, 1996.

Additional information can be found at <http://chl.ercd.usace.army.mil/section227>.