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**For Immediate Release**

**A First-Of-Its-Kind Beach Erosion Control System To Get Underway**  
*Innovative Program Takes Shape on Florida's Southwest Coast*

LEBANON, Tenn. (March 30, 2004) – From March 31 until April 4, scientists and engineers from Beach Restoration, Inc. (BRI) will be at Stump Pass Beach State Park in Charlotte County, Fla. to begin an innovative beach erosion control program that is a first-of-its-kind-in the U.S.

The BRI team will converge on the beach just north of Stump Pass to measure beach profiles, wind exposure, tide patterns, current directions and other detailed information. Using the data collected over this five-day period, BRI will then design a customized system of submerged, low-profile, sand-filled geotextile tubes that will be installed as early as this September. The eco-friendly system is expected to reduce sand drift into the channel between Manasota Key and Knight Island as well as assist in stabilizing a portion of the Stump Pass State Park Beach.

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Called the Coastal Erosion Mitigation Solution (CEMS), the patent-pending system analyzes the specific wind, wave, sediment and other significant characteristics of a beach. Results of the analysis provide a scientifically based erosion control solution that is tailored to a specific beach and operates upon the measured and predicted probabilities of occurrence of these beach dynamics.

BRI President, Tim Engle, said, "This much studied approach to combating beach erosion has never been done. Even before the geotextile tubes are laid down, our scientific method evaluates the impact of the technology on the beach environment and wildlife."

Charlotte County and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection are paying for the \$1 million pilot program under a state grant initiative for innovative beach erosion solutions. Charlotte County joined the experimental project in an effort to extend dredging of Stump Pass channel currently estimated at once every three to four years.

BRI is an innovative technology company dedicated to providing effective and efficient coastal erosion solutions for communities and States experiencing ongoing deterioration of their shoreline. At the foundation of the BRI solution is the commitment to the scientific understanding of beach system dynamics. BRI is based in Lebanon, Tenn. For more information of BRI, visit [www.beachrestorations.com](http://www.beachrestorations.com).