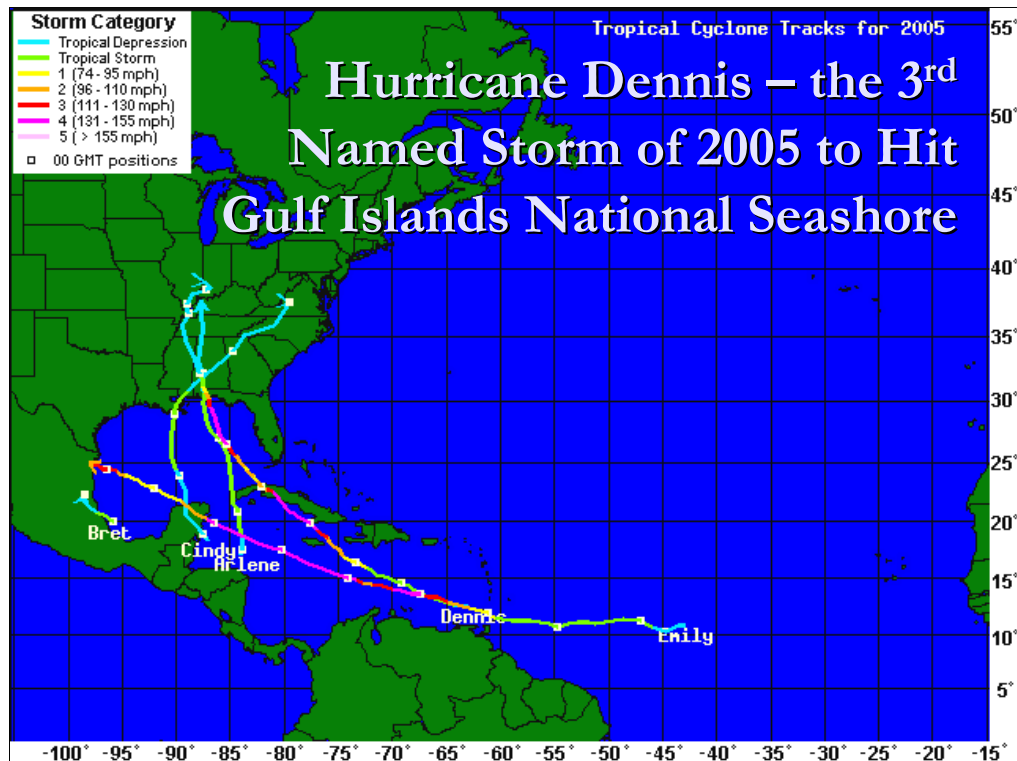
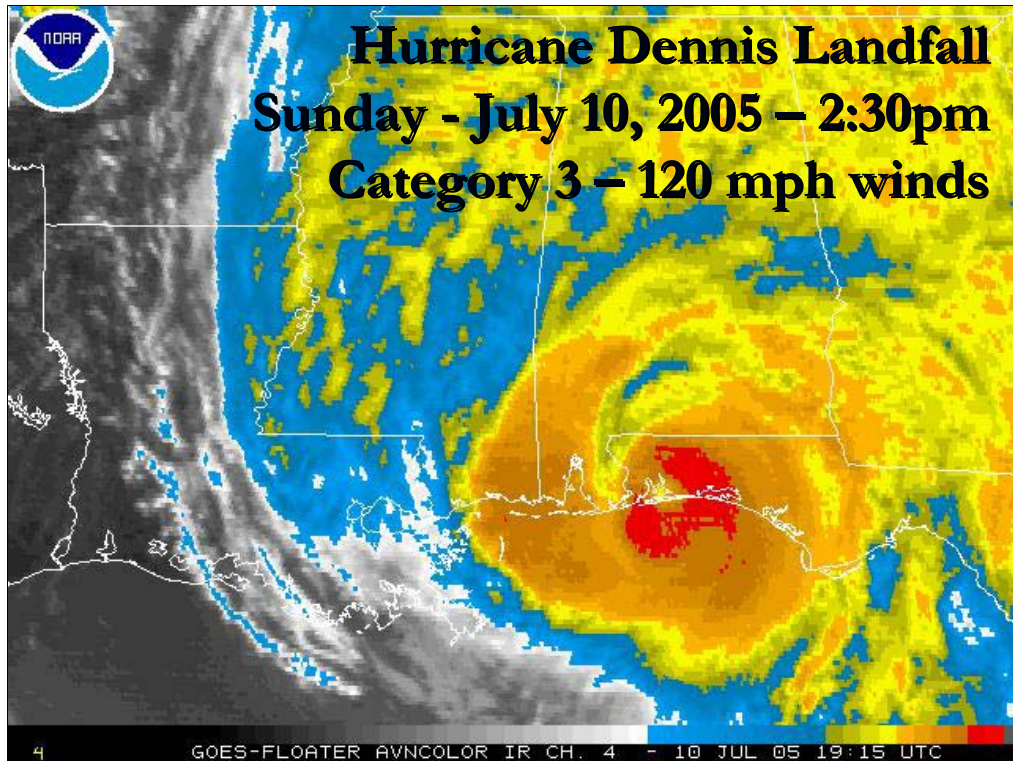




NASA photo



Hurricane Dennis was the third named storm of the 2005 hurricane season to strike Gulf Islands National Seashore



Hurricane Dennis came ashore as a category three hurricane on July 10 at approximately 2:30 pm, with 120 mph winds.



Source: PalmBeachCoast.com retrieved from
[http://www.palmbeachpost.com/storm/content/shared/weather/interactives/dennis/dennis_iv
 an_path.html](http://www.palmbeachpost.com/storm/content/shared/weather/interactives/dennis/dennis_iv_an_path.html) on July 26, 2005.

Gulf Islands National Seashore Mississippi District

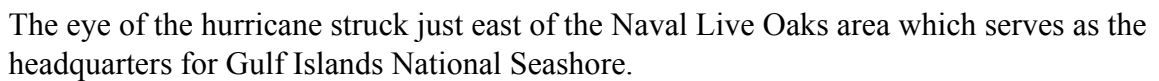


Except for a few branches down in the Davis Bayou area and loose boards on the West Ship Island pier, there was no substantial damage from Hurricane Dennis in the Mississippi District.

West Ship Island - Mississippi



All of offshore barrier islands in Mississippi District, including Petit Bois, Horn, Cat, East and West Ship, reopened to the public on July 12.

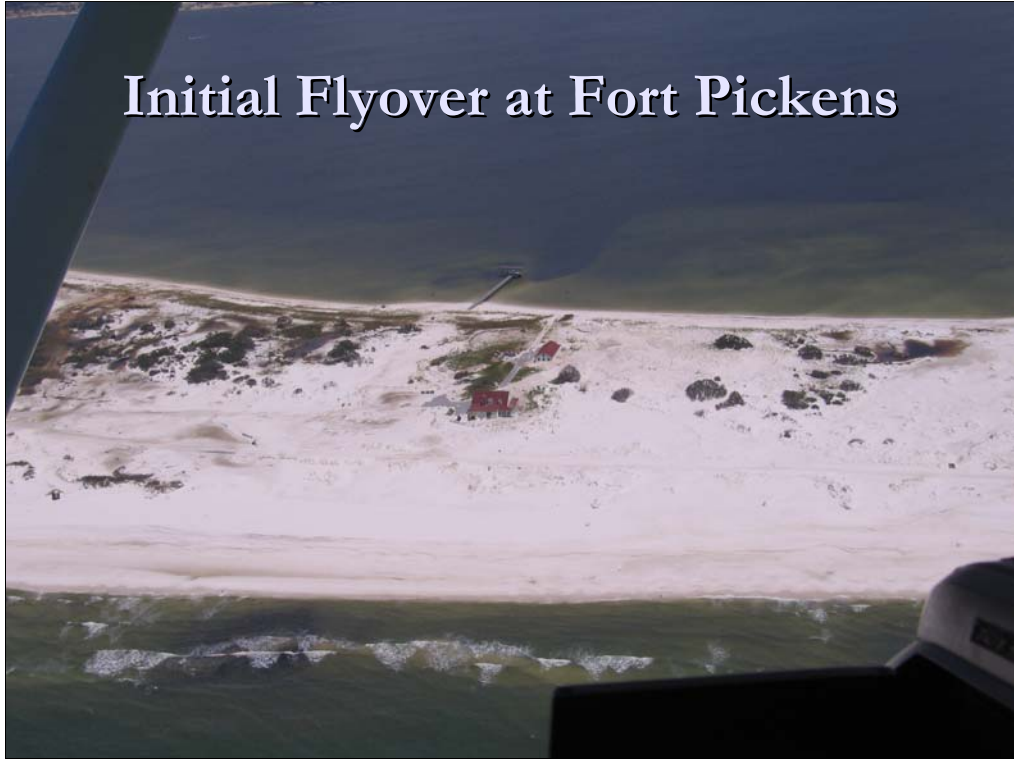


The eye of the hurricane struck just east of the Naval Live Oaks area which serves as the headquarters for Gulf Islands National Seashore.



July 11 – initial assessments of Naval Live Oaks revealed extensive tree damage and fallen vegetative debris

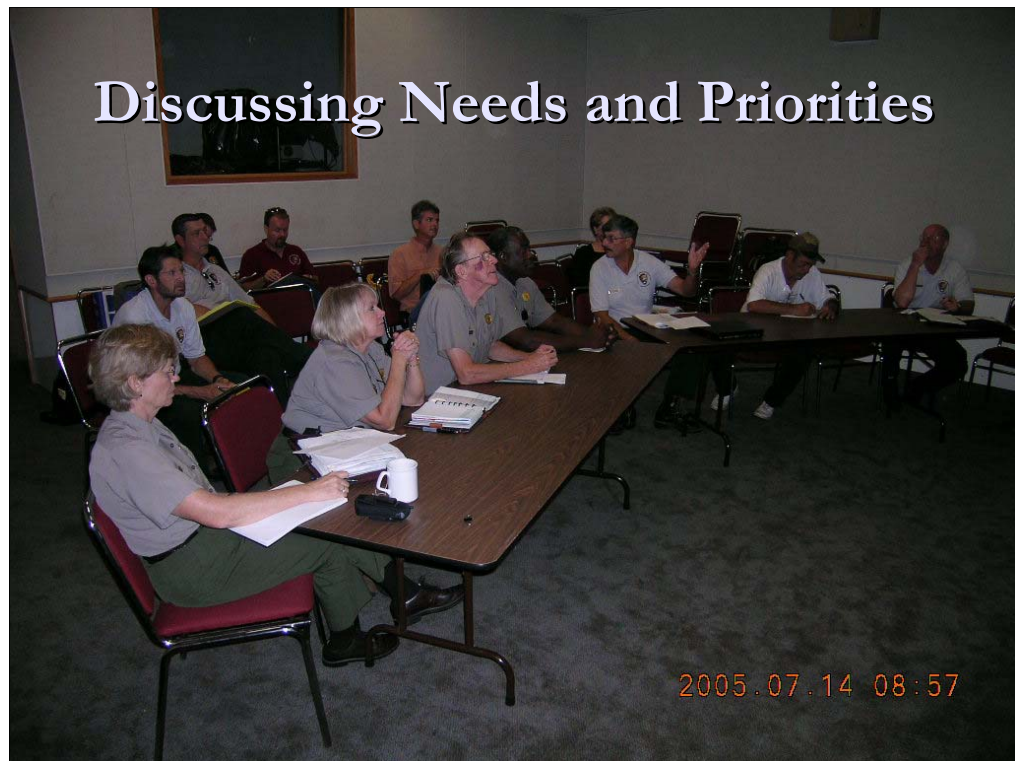
Initial Flyover at Fort Pickens



July 13 – A park flyover revealed additional impacts to Seashore roads including additional damages from Dennis to the road to Fort Pickens.



July 13 – The NPS Eastern Area All-Risk Incident Management Team (IMT) arrived to assist Gulf Islands National Seashore in Hurricane Dennis recovery operations



July 14 – The Incident Management Team met with park managers to discuss and prioritize critical needs.



Resource advisors from the park worked closely with the incident management team and contractors throughout the incident.



July 17 – Interagency response for the incident included two 20-person North Carolina Forest Service fire crews who traveled from western North Carolina on school buses to assist with Hurricane Dennis recovery operations.



July 17 – When crews first arrived they were oriented to the park and provided a briefing on safety and operational plans.



July 20 – Crews attended morning briefings daily with the Incident Management Team before heading out to the field.

Task Leader Briefing



July 19 – The Incident Commander, Operations Section Chief, and Park Superintendent briefed task force leaders who were responsible for supervising crews in the field.



July 21 - Crews picked up water, trash bags, chainsaws, and other supplies at the park's fire cache.

Naval Live Oaks - Fire Cache



July 20 – Safety was a primary objective of the incident. Crews work long days in hot, humid conditions. They stocked up on water and ice before heading out to the field and are restocked throughout the day to ensure they stayed hydrated.

Naval Live Oaks Area



Naval Live Oaks Area map



July 15 – Damage to park headquarters included roof damage where a tree fell on it, shingle damage and associated roof leaks, and a bent LAN antennae which impacted park communications.



July 15 – There were temporary closures in the Naval Live Oaks area while actions were taken to mitigate hazard trees.



July 11 – Park Headquarters at Naval Live Oaks sustained damage where a tree snapped and landed on the corner of the building.

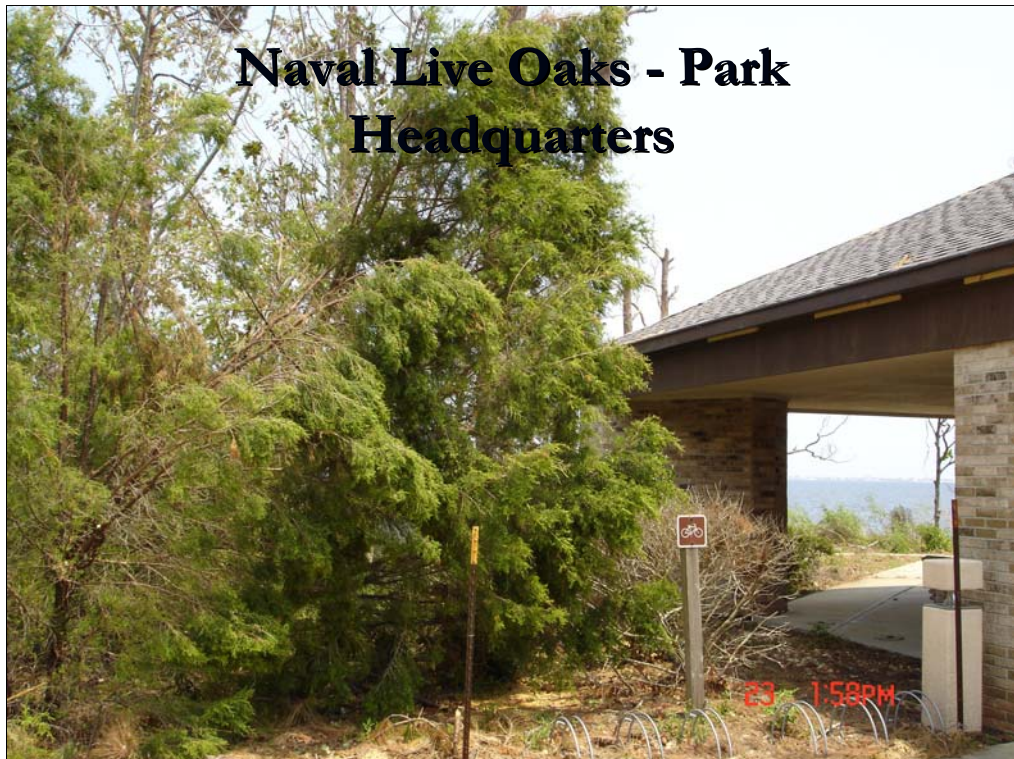


July 15 – Close-up photo of tree that fell on the corner of the park headquarters building

Naval Live Oaks – Visitor Center



July 15 - Tree contractors help remove hazard trees and limbs in the Naval Live Oaks area.



July 23 – Park Headquarters at Naval Live Oaks after hazard trees have been cleared by a tree contractor.



July 15 – The Park's Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) crew helped clear debris around Naval Live Oaks.



July 23 – Park headquarters parking lot after YCC crews cleared downed vegetation and the area had reopened to the public.



July 17 – Crews discussed safety hazards before beginning hazard mitigation work in the Naval Live Oaks area.



July 11 – The storm left numerous snag (standing dead tree) hazards like tree that was snapped in half near the Observation Deck behind the Naval Live Oaks visitor center.



July 23 - Observation Deck behind the Naval Live Oaks visitor center after crews removed hazard snags and the area had reopened to the public.



July 16 – Downed trees impacted several of the trails in the Naval Live Oaks area.



July 20 – Crews chipped hazard trees along the Naval Live Oaks Nature Trail.



July 11 – An initial assessment of Naval Live Oaks Picnic Area revealed extensive tree damage.



July 23 – Naval Live Oaks Picnic Area after crews have cleared downed vegetation.

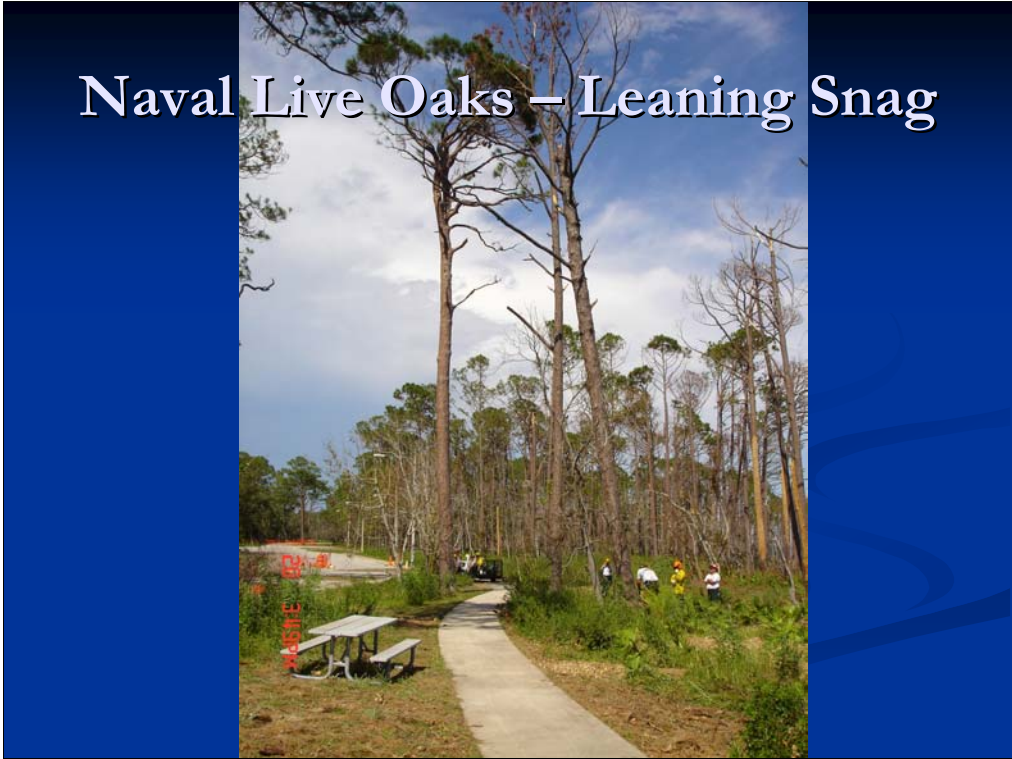


July 18 – Crews piled and chipped downed vegetation around Naval Live Oaks.



July 20 – Crews swept debris from Naval Live Oaks pathways.

Naval Live Oaks – Leaning Snag



July 20 – Crews prepare to cut down a leaning snag (standing dead tree) in the Naval Live Oaks area

Naval Live Oaks – Falling Snag



July 20 – Crews watch from afar as the snag falls



July 20 – Once the snag had fallen, crews went back and use chainsaws to cut up and scatter the remains of the tree.



July 18 – Naval Live Oaks area after crews removed hazard snags, and chipped and cleared vegetative debris.



July 16 – Naval Live Oaks Southern Shore Beach Debris included this TV that had washed ashore during the storm.

Naval Live Oaks – Beach Cleanup



July 20 – Crews Cleared Beach Debris at Naval Live Oaks Including This Upright Piano.

Naval Live Oaks – Sign on US-98



July 21 – Crews cleared trees obstructing the Seashore's main entrance sign on US-98.



July 18 – Extensive tree damage impacted the Naval Live Oaks Picnic Area.



July 23 – Naval Live Oaks Picnic Area after crews had cleared hazard debris and area had reopened to the public.



July 21 – Naval Live Oaks Bath House sustained roof and gutter damage.



July 21 – Naval Live Oaks Pavilion sustained roof and gutter damage.



July 21 – Crews clear downed vegetation from the Naval Live Oaks Picnic Area.



July 18 – Extensive tree damage impacted the Naval Live Oaks Picnic Area.



July 23 – Naval Live Oaks Picnic Area after crews cleared hazard vegetation and area had reopened to the public.



July 19 – Temporary power lines strung between park headquarters and park offices in trailers nearby.



July 23 – An engineering squad helped install this electric box to replace temporary power lines strung between park headquarters and park offices in trailers nearby.



July 19 – The engineering squad also helped reinstall an antennae that was blown completely off the roof of park headquarters.

Air Quality Testing



July 20 – Moisture and mold at park headquarters resulted from a leaky roof damaged by the storm, necessitating air quality testing at park headquarters.

Naval Live Oaks – Pole Barn



July 15 – The storm ripped the side and roof off the pole barn used for storage of maintenance equipment at Naval Live Oaks.



July 15 – The storm ripped the side and roof off the pole barn used for storage of maintenance equipment at Naval Live Oaks

Naval Live Oaks

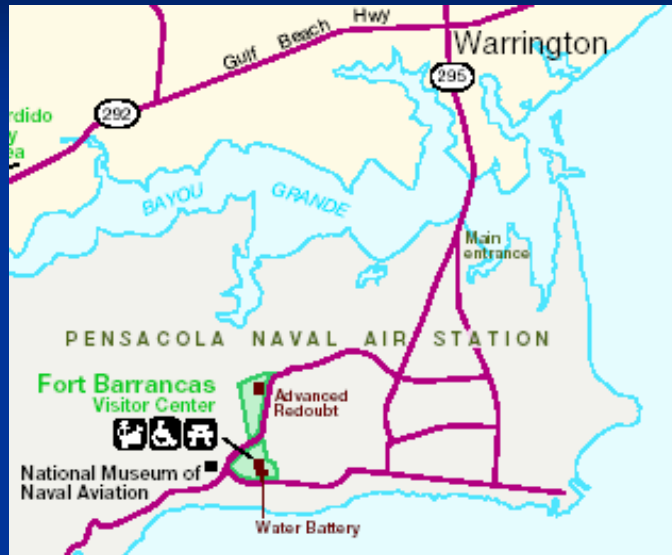


July 26 – During the course of the incident, hand crews filled approximately seven dumpsters with debris cleared from visitor use areas in the Naval Live Oaks area.



The Naval Live Oaks Visitor Center reopened on July 15. Beach access, trails, and other visitor facilities opened over the next few days. The entire Naval Live Oaks area has reopened to the public as of July 26.

Fort Barrancas & Advanced Redoubt



Fort Barrancas & Advanced Redoubt map

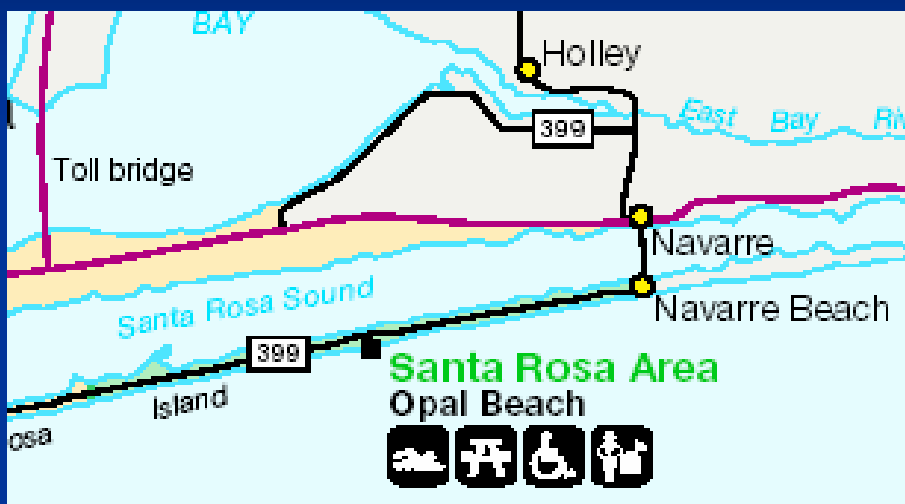


July 15 – Several trees fell across the trails in the Fort Barrancas area.



July 15 – Downed limbs littered the grounds of Fort Barrancas after the storm. They have since been cleared. Fort Barrancas and Visitor Center reopened to the public on July 15.

Santa Rosa Area – Opal Beach



Santa Rosa Area map

Santa Rosa Area – Opal Beach



July 13 - J. Earle Bowden Way, the road between Pensacola Beach and Navarre which had just reopened July 1, was heavily damaged and the structures at Opal Beach in the Santa Rosa Area were further damaged by Hurricane Dennis.



July 18 – Initial assessment of J. Earle Bowden Way.



July 18 – Initial assessment of J. Earle Bowden Way.

Santa Rosa – J. Earle Bowden Way



July 18 – Initial assessment of J. Earle Bowden Way.

Perdido Key Area – Johnson Beach



Perdido Key Area map



July 13 - Sand covered portions of the parking lot and roadways of Johnson Beach at the Perdido Key Area.

Perdido Key



July 13 – Initial flyover assessment of Perdido Key area.



July 17 – The Perdido Key Area Johnson beach reopened to the public on July 15. As one of the first beaches to reopen after the storm, visitation has been substantial.



July 17 – The road to the Nature Trail is open. The Nature Trail was closed before Dennis and remains closed until a planned boardwalk is completed.

Perdido Key Road - Beyond Parking Lot



July 17 – The Perdido Key Road beyond parking lot was more severely impacted, still mostly covered in sand and washed out in places. Contracting work which will enable this road to reopen is underway.

Fort Pickens Area



Fort Pickens area map



July 13 – Aside from road damage, there were only minor impacts from Hurricane Dennis at Fort Pickens. Maintenance staff make sure on-site generators stay fueled to ensure air-conditioning and other critical systems are functional. If these systems fail, it would make the facilities susceptible to mold. This would be especially discouraging as staff have worked diligently to remediate mold problems as a result of Hurricane Ivan to ensure these buildings are safe and operational.

Fort Pickens Ranger Station



July 13 - The Ranger Station at Fort Pickens received extensive renovations after Hurricane Ivan and was scheduled to open on June 14. Storm surge from tropical Storm Arlene damaged the Fort Pickens Road four days before it was scheduled to reopen. This road received additional damage from Hurricane Dennis.

Okaloosa Area



Okaloosa Area map

Okaloosa Area



July 18 – Toppled traffic sign at Okaloosa Area.



July 18 – Cover missing from water shut-off valves at Okaloosa Area.



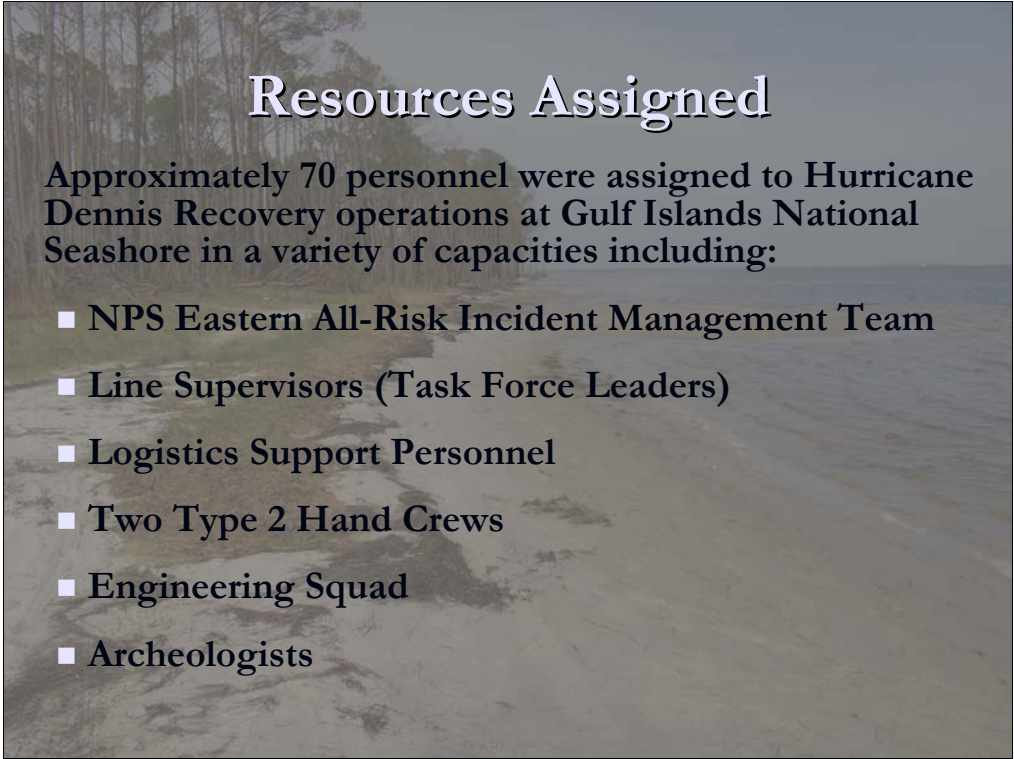
July 18 – Sand in the parking area at Okaloosa. The Okaloosa Area reopened on July 15.



Incident Personnel for Hurricane Dennis Recovery at Gulf Islands National Seashore.



Incident Personnel for Hurricane Dennis Recovery at Gulf Islands National Seashore.



Resources Assigned

Approximately 70 personnel were assigned to Hurricane Dennis Recovery operations at Gulf Islands National Seashore in a variety of capacities including:

- NPS Eastern All-Risk Incident Management Team
- Line Supervisors (Task Force Leaders)
- Logistics Support Personnel
- Two Type 2 Hand Crews
- Engineering Squad
- Archeologists

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Incident personnel came from 13 states and represented 13 NPS units, the U.S. Forest Service, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, and the Georgia Forestry Commission. On behalf of Gulf Islands National Seashore... Thank you for your support!



Gulf Islands

National Seashore
Florida, Mississippi



Park Status as of July 26, 2005 - As a result of extensive damage from Hurricane Dennis, the Fort Pickens Road and J. Earle Bowden Way (Route 399) on the Santa Rosa Island in Florida are currently closed and there is no set date to reopen them. The Fort Pickens historic district and campground are closed. In the Fort Pickens Area the beaches are open from the ranger station east to the park boundary. At the Santa Rosa Area the beaches are also open to foot and boat transportation.

Current Park Status for Gulf Islands National Seashore as of July 26, 2005.