

SUNNY ISLES BEACH PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE PROJECT

Client Name: *City of Sunny Isles Beach*
Type of Service: *Environmental Site
Assessment & Permitting*



The City of Sunny Isles Beach, Florida is planning to construct a pedestrian bridge over a finger canal of Biscayne Bay. This is a two-part project consists of the construction of an emergency vehicle and pedestrian bridge connecting North Bay Road from 174th Street to 172nd Street; and the second part will be a construction of an observation deck in Town Center Park, located at the east end of the canal, and a boardwalk connecting the deck to the North Bay Road bridge.

Biological Assessments – Milian, Swain & Associates, Inc. (MSA) conducted an environmental assessment of the project area to support permitting and design requirements. The assessment included a costal wetlands delineation and mangrove habitat identification. MSA’s SCUBA divers determined the presence, density and distribution of seagrass, using a combination of Line Intercept and a modified Daubenmire transect method. Six (6) transects lines were run across the canal. Data was used to measure seagrass in percent cover. The report will be included with the Class I DERM and ERP permit applications.

Permitting – Permits include an ERP, a USGS Advance Approach and DERM Class I Permit. A USACE 404 Permit may be required. However, MSA is working closely with the agencies, the city, and the design engineers to avoid dredge and fill impacts to coastal wetlands. Coordination with USFWS and NMFS will be integral to the permitting process.

Navigational aids – During the construction period, notices to mariners will be published in local periodicals and signs will be placed in the area to notify boaters that the canal will be inaccessible during construction. Signs will also be placed on the bridge to indicate the bridge clearance once construction is complete.