



MARINAS

*Navigating the Good Life****For Immediate Release*****WESTREC MARINAS—Press Release****Contacts**

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**\$6.5 Million Authorization for Fernandina Harbor Marina  
Damage Remediation from October 2016's Hurricane Matthew**

**24 October 2018, Fernandina Beach, Florida:** As the world's oldest operator of marinas and marine-related businesses, Westrec Marinas has a proven track record of providing professional management services, particularly under trying conditions. Such is the case with Fernandina Harbor Marina, located in the heart of Fernandina Beach on historic Amelia Island in northeastern Florida. In October 2016, Hurricane Matthew provided a direct blow to the island, her residents and the thriving marina. Despite vigorous attention to hurricane preparedness in all its marinas—Fernandina Harbor Marina being no exception—the modern storm can lay asunder even the most robust infrastructure.

"In a snapshot kind of culture, it's all too easy to move on to the next event," says Bill Anderson, Westrec Marinas president. "We witness and experience a hurricane often from the vantage point of watching the news but for those in the path, a hurricane's devastation often lasts for months and months if not years and years. Such is the case with the October 2016 storm, Hurricane Matthew. We are just now getting fully underway with restoration following successful analysis by Westrec, many agencies and groups, and equally successful budget negotiations to make repairs possible," he continues.

Fernandina Harbor Marina experienced near catastrophic damage during the storm. A staff of seven was reduced to two; transient boaters were no longer accepted; the 1,120' wave attenuator that protected 41 boats failed to maintain its integrity; four of nine docks were left inaccessible; the café's walkway broke away from the building taking with it electrical, water, fire, sewage and fuel lines; and, the dock store lifted off its foundation resting at a 25-degree angle. Early estimates for repairs ranged from \$10 to \$15 million.

Repairs have been made, restoring basic services for 41 long-term and commercial vessels, and the replacement of some damaged docks and gangways; however, additional work and budget is still

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necessary. For Westrec and the City, getting underway is critical: to employees and to begin to recoup some \$4.1 million cash flow lost in the two years since the storm.

Dale L. Martin, City Manager, Fernandina Beach, comments, “The City of Fernandina Beach Marina—professionally and successfully managed by Westrec in partnership with the City—was significantly damaged during Hurricane Matthew in 2016. Thankfully, no further damage resulted from Hurricanes Irma or Michael. Since Matthew, the necessary US Army Corps of Engineer permits for reconstruction were issued earlier this year. The contract for repairs—estimated at \$6.5 million—has been authorized and are expected begin in the next six-eight weeks, with completion tentatively expected in late May 2019. City officials look forward to the return of boaters to Fernandina Beach next summer.”

Agencies and groups involved in jointly providing expertise:

The City of Fernandina Beach	Westrec Marinas
The Port of Fernandina	Nassau County Florida
Applied Technology & Management	Army Corp of Engineers
Florida Inland Navigational District	Federal Aviation Authority
St. Johns River Water Management District	Maffett Loftis Engineering
Department of Environmental Protection	United States Coast Guard
Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission	United States Fisheries
City of Jacksonville, Neighborhoods Department	Dept. of Homeland Security
Southeast Archaeological Research, Inc.	FSFM Cultural Resources
National Registry of Historical Places	St of Florida Archaeological
National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration	FEMA
Florida Division of Historical Resources	Congressman Rutherford
Florida Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund	Senator Marco Rubio’s Representative

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**About Westrec:** As one of the world’s oldest owners and operator of marinas and marine-related businesses, WESTREC Marinas provides professional management services to its owned properties, affiliates and consulting clients throughout the world. Founded in 1987, WESTREC manages facilities in both fresh and salt water environments, handling customers’ vessels ranging in size from personal watercraft to megayachts. Headquartered in Encino, California the WESTREC portfolio is spread across the United States, including several marinas in Florida. (818)907-0400, [www.westrec.com](http://www.westrec.com)

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