



Figure 9: Nassau County Location Map

Nassau County

Within Nassau County, Amelia Island is the northernmost barrier island on the northeast coast of Florida. The island is 12.7 miles long between the St. Marys River Entrance separating Georgia from Florida on the north to Nassau Sound on the south (Figure 9). The St. Marys River Entrance has a federal navigation channel that likely experienced significant shoaling due to Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne.

Beach and Dune Erosion

Throughout the length of Amelia Island, only minor beach erosion (Condition I) prevailed during Hurricane Frances. The south tip of Amelia Island was approximately 250 miles from the center of both hurricanes' eyes at landfall. The northern 4.4 miles of ocean front beaches on Amelia Island (R9-R33) and the southern 3.1 miles (R61-R80) were designated as critically eroded prior to the impact of the two storms. No damage was observed to any coastal or shore protection structures. Continued beach erosion was observed at both the Fernandina Beach Nourishment Project and the South Amelia Island Beach Restoration Project. Follow-up surveys will be necessary to quantify any material losses from those projects.

Storm Damage

Wind damage was minor to moderate along the coast of Amelia Island during Hurricane Frances. The primary damages included lost roofing and siding, lost aluminum soffits and gutters, damage to signs and vegetation, and sand blown onto roads and upland properties. At least three buildings, all single-family dwellings, sustained major structural damage. These dwellings, two in Fernandina Beach and one in American Beach, each received some form of major roof damage due to the high winds of Frances' rain bands or squalls. No additional major damage occurred during Hurricane Jeanne. In addition, the two ocean fishing piers on Amelia Island, which are located at R9 and R39, had no apparent damage from either storm.