



Beach Basket Report

Sebastian Inlet District
Q1: January-March 2026

1.0 Program Summary

The Q1 2026 (January, February, and March) report herein includes details for three (3) public Beach Basket stations within Sebastian Inlet State Park (SISP). Two (2) of the basket stations are located along the northern inlet shoreline, and one (1) basket station is located on the southern inlet shoreline.

The data presented in this report were collected and managed by our monitoring partners and CCinc's Beach Basket team through weekly surveys of the Beach Basket stations. These surveys include the following: recording the number of baskets present at a station along with their unique identifying codes, disposing of any debris left in the baskets, cleaning and sanitizing baskets at each station, checking the scale at each station to determine if it is in working order, and returning any misplaced baskets to their originally assigned station.

Throughout the first quarter, each station was monitored periodically, and a total rate of loss (ROL) of 0.0% was recorded with no baskets lost. Furthermore, no baskets required replacement due to damage or old age. When needed, replaced baskets are not figured into the ROL since the ROL is based solely on baskets that are lost or stolen within the monitoring period prior to when they would be aged out of rotation.

2.0 Detailed Quarterly Report

During Q1 2026, the total rate of loss (ROL) for Beach Baskets was 0.0%, with no baskets lost out of nine (9) total baskets in rotation. This quarter's ROL matches the record low for the SID Beach Basket stations, a figure that has not been recorded since Q1 2023 (Appendix A, Figure 1). During the quarter, there was one (1) interaction noted between basket stations found along the inlet and basket stations located along beach accesses within Sebastian Inlet State Park.

2.1 Detailed Observations for Inlet Stations

The three (3) SID Beach Basket stations incredibly retained all of their baskets for the entirety of Q1 2026. Specifically, the following stations: The Cove (COVE), North Shore (NS), and T-Dock (TD) each retained all three (3) of their baskets, not experiencing any loss. When comparing quarterly ROL since the SID Beach Basket project began in 2022, the first quarter of the year has regularly experienced some of

the lowest amounts of basket loss (Appendix A, Figure 2).

Regarding basket movement throughout Q1 2026, there was one instance of a Sebastian Inlet District (SID) basket moving to another station within Sebastian Inlet State Park (SISP). On this occasion, observed on a quarterly CCinc visit, a T-Dock (TD) basket was found at the South Jetty (SJ) station. Outside of this instance, there was no documented record of Beach Baskets disappearing from their home stations throughout the quarter. One (1) "Report Your Impact" survey was submitted during the quarter, which did not include weight data for the debris that was collected.

2.2 Basket Maintenance

No serious station maintenance was required in Q1 2026. Printed labels with unique IDs, along with permanent marker labels under each of the basket handles, which minimizes their exposure to the elements, were confirmed as present on every basket. As necessary, baskets that remained at these stations and transitioned from Q4 2025 to Q1 2026 had any faded or missing labels replaced for easy visibility and tracking. Furthermore, each of the stations had its signage and scale screens cleaned at the beginning of the quarter. In addition, the scale batteries at the T-Dock (TD) station were replaced, and the scale is now fully functional.

2.3 Public Relations and Media Attention

Within Q1 2026, the Sebastian Inlet District was tagged in social media posts created by CCinc regarding Beach Baskets and Coastal Cleanup events. In February, a post was created that featured a video reel of the North Shore (NS) station and a Beach Basket in use along the inlet. The caption stated, "A walk at Sebastian Inlet can do more than clear your mind - it can help clear the shoreline, too. Every bit of debris picked up with a Beach Basket means a safer home for the birds, turtles, and marine life that depend on these waters. The Beach Basket station at North Shore, along with two others in Sebastian Inlet State Park, is proudly supported by the Sebastian Inlet District." That post received 9,791 views, one (1) comment, one (1) save, and 53 likes on Instagram and 5,457 views and 38 reactions on Facebook. In March, an event flyer was created and posted to promote the quarterly Coastal Cleanup at The Cove. That post, captioned "Go green this St. Patrick's Day by helping us sham-rock this cleanup!" received 804 views, 24 likes, and five (5) shares on Instagram and 1,168 views and five (5) reactions on Facebook. Furthermore, a Facebook Event was created for the cleanup, with nine (9) people indicating they were interested in attending and four (4) people stating they would attend. In addition, the Sebastian Inlet District Beach Basket stations were featured in stories on both Instagram and Facebook at different times throughout the quarter as part of our "Beach Basket Tuesdays" series.

2.4 Coastal Cleanup Events

During Q1 2026, the Sebastian Inlet District served as a collaborator for a quarterly

Coastal Cleanup at The Cove. Fifteen participants attended the cleanup, removing 65.1 lb of debris. In all, 1,162 pieces of trash were collected, including 689 pieces of hard plastic, 102 plastic bottle caps, 71 cigarette butts, 53 food wrappers, 40 pieces of paper, 33 pieces of plastic film, and 23 pieces of fishing line or fishing-related equipment.

3.0 Recommendations

The following are recommendations to ensure the program continues to engage inlet-goers and remains helpful in keeping the Sebastian Inlet free of debris:

1. Weekly Beach Basket station survey submissions are recommended for generating comprehensive reports about basket use, basket travel, and the rate of loss.

Thank you for the opportunity to work with the Sebastian Inlet District on such an impactful and useful program to protect the environment.

Kendra Bergman
Executive Director



Jeanna Kent
Sustainability Programs Coordinator

Appendix A

Figure 1.

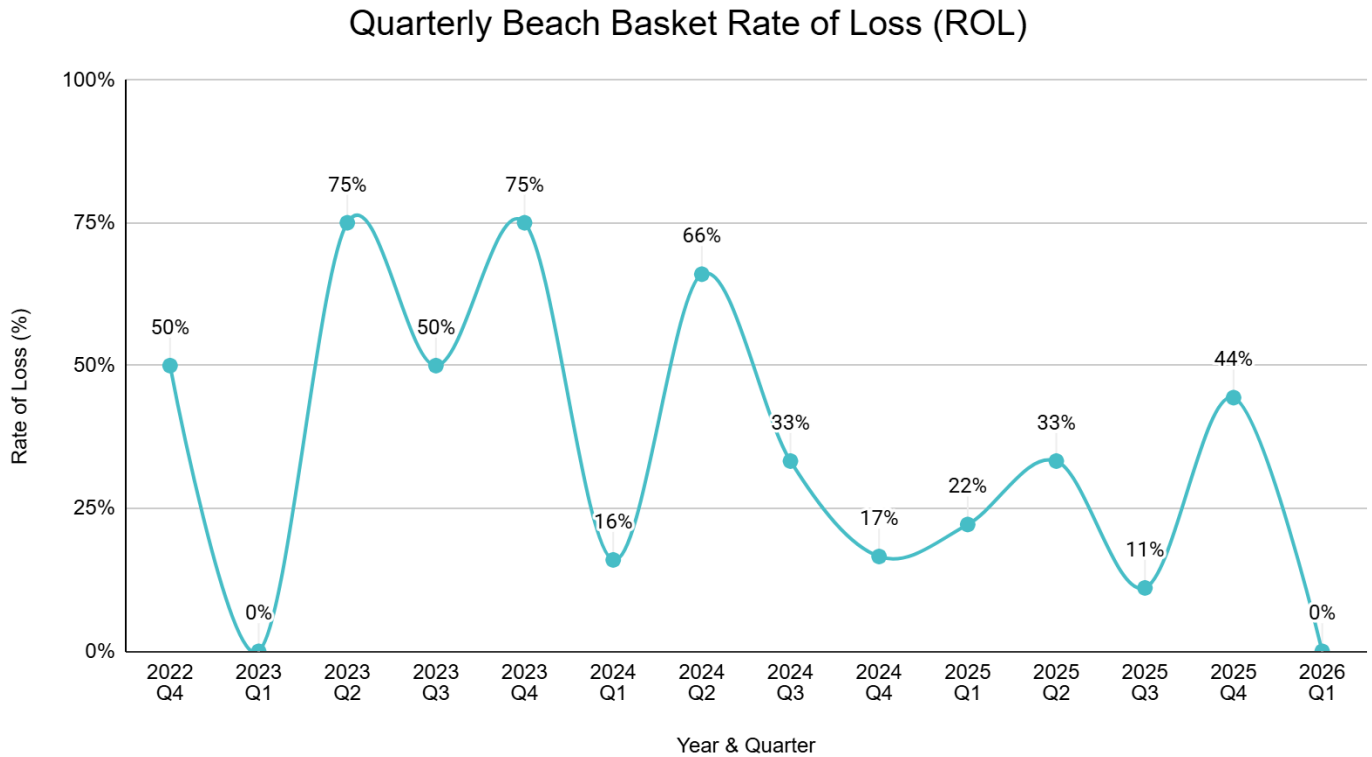


Figure 2.

