

PUBLIC NOTICE

US Army Corps of Engineers **New York District** Jacob K. Javits Federal Building New York, N.Y. 10278-0090 ATTN: Regulatory Branch

In replying refer to:

Public Notice Number: NAN-2012-00090-WSC

Issue Date: January 27, 2012

ANNOUNCEMENT OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

To Whom It May Concern:

The New York District, of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972, as amended (33 USC 1413).

PROJECT APPLICANT New York State Thruway Authority

200 Southern Boulevard

P.O. Box 189

Albany, New York 12201-0189

ACTIVITY: Transportation of approximately 1.5 million cubic yards of dredged material, associated with

> the construction of the replacement of the existing Tappan Zee Bridge, for the purpose of placement of this dredged material at the Historic Area Remediation Site (HARS) in the

Atlantic Ocean for the purpose of remediation.

WATERWAY: Hudson River and Atlantic Ocean

LOCATION: Nyack and Tarrytown, Rockland and Westchester Counties, New York

Historic Area Remediation Site (HARS) in the Atlantic Ocean

A description and plans of the applicant's activity are enclosed to assist in your review.

The Federal Highway Administration will hold public hearings on the January 2012 Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Tappan Zee Hudson River Crossing Project that was prepared by the Federal Highway Administration as the Federal Lead Agency, and the New York State Department of Transportation and the New York State Thruway Authority as joint lead agencies. The New York District Corps of Engineers will participate in the public hearings to gather information on this proposal to assist in the review of the permit application for the proposed activity.

The details of the hearing sessions are as follows:

Rockland County Session:

DATE:

Tuesday, February 28, 2012

TIME:

4 pm to 9 pm

LOCATION:

Palisades Center

4th Floor Community Room 100 Palisades Center Drive West Nyack, New York 10994

JAN 2 7 2012

Westchester County Session:

DATE: Thursday, March 1, 2012

TIME: 4 pm to 9 pm

LOCATION: Westchester Marriott

Grand Ballroom 670 White Plains Road Tarrytown, New York 10591

The Tappan Zee Hudson River Crossing Project website includes additional information about the public hearings.

The DEIS is available for review at the Tappan Zee Hudson River Crossing Project website at: http://tzbsite.com/tzbsite_2/deis_2.html

The United States Army Corps of Engineers neither favors nor opposes the proposed construction work. The purpose of this public notice is to announce that the Corps of Engineers will participate in the public hearings to receive and consider public comments on the material matters at issue with respect to activities regulated by the Corps. The Corps of Engineers will also consider information in the Environmental Impact Statement prepared by FHWA.

The proposed work is being coordinated with the following federal, state, and local agencies:

US Environmental Protection Agency;

US Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service;

US Department of Commerce, National Marine Fisheries Service;

US Coast Guard;

Federal Highway Administration;

New York State Department of Transportation

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation;

New York State Office of General Services; and

New York State Department of State.

It is requested that you communicate the foregoing information concerning this activity to any persons known by you to be interested and who did not receive a copy of this notice.

NOTE: The Corps of Engineers will issue another future ocean placement public notice upon receipt of all the required dredged material test results and analysis. That future public notice will include Historic Area Remediation Site (HARS) test data and a determination as to whether the dredged material is suitable for placement as remediation material at the Historic Area Remediation Site.

If you have any questions concerning this application, you may contact this office at (917) 790-8417 and ask for Mr. Steven Schumach. Comments or questions may be FAXED to (212) 264-4260, ATTN: Mr. Schumach. Questions about the Historic Area Remediation Site can be addressed to Mr. Douglas Pabst, Team Leader, Dredged Material Management Team, US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2 at (212) 637-3797. For more information on the New York District Corps of Engineers programs, visit our website at http://www.nan.usace.army.mil

Richard L. Tomer

Chief, Regulatory Branch

Toll Jones

Enclosures

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED WORK

The applicant, the New York State Thruway Authority, has proposed to dredge a construction access channel to facilitate the replacement of the existing Tappan Zee Bridge, as indicated in the Tappan Zee Hudson River Crossing Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) [available at http://tzbsite.com/tzbsite_2/deis_2.html]. The location of the bridge construction and dredging site is in the Hudson River at Nyack and Tarrytown, Rockland and Westchester Counties, New York. The majority of the dredged material (approximately 1.5 million cubic yards) is currently proposed to be placed in the Historic Area Remediation Site (HARS) which is located in the Atlantic Ocean off of Sandy Hook, New Jersey. The balance (0.2 million cubic yards) of the dredged material is related to the future demolition of the existing bridge and will be the subject of a future permit application and public notice.

Approximately 1.5 million cubic yards of dredged material would be removed from the construction access channel area of approximately 166 acres to a maximum depth of 17 feet below the plane of mean low water to provide the access channel located north of, and parallel to, the current bridge in order to safely bring in and maneuver marine equipment for construction of the new bridge.

To minimize potential adverse impacts to aquatic species, the permit applicant states the dredging would be conducted in three Stages during three-month periods from August 1st to November 1st. The proposed dredged access channel is discussed in Chapter 18-3-3 of the DEIS, and the transport and disposal of the dredged material is discussed in Chapter 18-3-4 of the DEIS. The dredging is to provide an access channel located north of, and parallel to the current bridge in order to safely bring in and maneuver marine equipment for construction of the new bridge. The third stage (0.2 million cubic yards) will be the subject of a future permit application and public notice.

The resulting dredged material would be used for remediation purposes at the Historic Area Remediation Site by placing it over degraded sediments within the site, which is located in the Atlantic Ocean off of Sandy Hook, New Jersey, as shown on the attached drawings. The proposed dredged material would be transported by bottom-opening barges to the placement site.

Activities related to the construction of the replacement bridge are regulated by and require authorization from the United States Coast Guard, pursuant to Section 9 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (Title 33 of the United States Code, Section 401). Based on a review of the information submitted with regard to the proposal, and contingent on project authorization by the U.S. Coast Guard, the Corps of Engineers has made a preliminary determination that potential discharges of dredged and fill material into Waters of the United States associated with the construction of the replacement bridge (that is channel armoring, fill needed to extend an access bulkhead, and return flow from dredged material dewatering operations) would be eligible for authorization under applicable Corps of Engineers Nationwide General Permits.

NOTE: The Corps of Engineers will issue another future ocean placement public notice upon receipt of all the required dredged material test results and analysis. That future public notice will include Historic Area Remediation Site (HARS) test data and a determination as to whether the dredged material is suitable for placement as remediation material at the Historic Area Remediation Site.

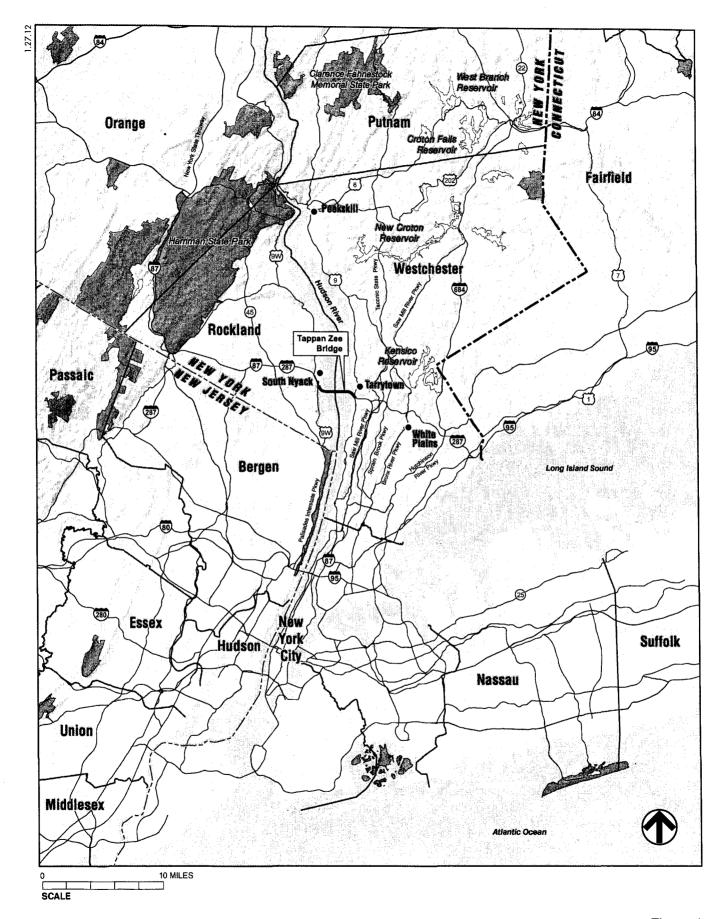
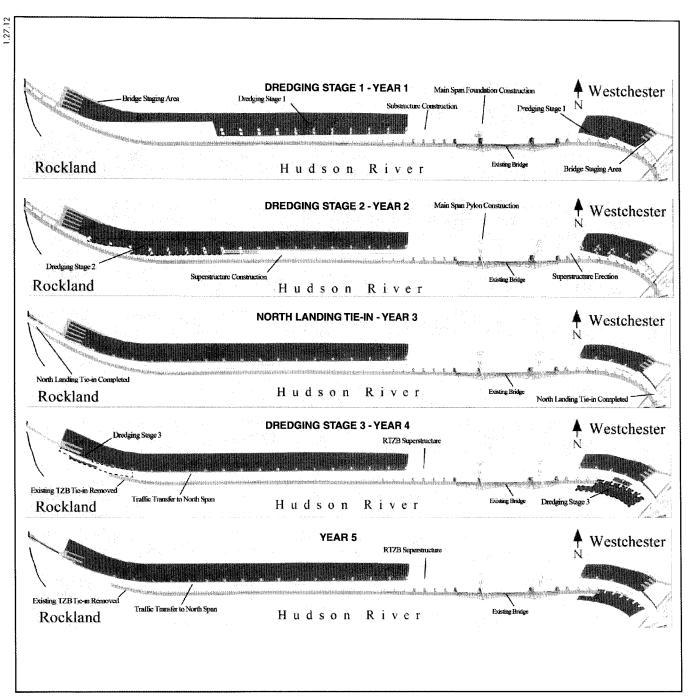


Figure 1 **Project Location**



Note: Long Span Option is depicted, Short Span Option will be similar

Figure 3

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