
NEW YORK – NEW JERSEY HARBOR
2025 DREDGED MATERIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN (DMMP) UPDATE
PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District
23 April 2025 & 30 April 2025
U.S. ARMY
US Army Corps of Engineers

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING!

Public feedback is an important part of the study process.

The Study Team appreciates your time today.

MEETING PURPOSE

1. Provide information about the 2025 Dredged Material Management Plan (DMMP) Update for the Port of the New York and New Jersey.

2. Hear your questions and feedback about the Preliminary Draft Integrated Report and Supplemental Environmental Assessment

AGENDA

- Welcome/sign-in
- Presentation by study team
  - Background
  - 2025 DMMP Update Approach
  - Dredged Material Placement Demand and Capacity
  - Federal Standard Determination
  - Environmental Assessment
  - Review and Publication Timeline
- Question & Answer Session

ASKING QUESTIONS AND PROVIDING COMMENTS

- Submit your questions and comments through the chat
  - Send to “Everyone” (all participants)
  - The Study Team will provide answers during the presentation and Q&A Session

- There will be an opportunity for you to ask questions and share comments during the Q&A Session if time allows
  - We will use the “Raise Hand” function and you will be able to unmute


BACKGROUND
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BACKGROUND

Q: **Why do we dredge?**

A: Dredging is a central part of the U.S Army Corps of Engineers' (USACE) largest mission – to maintain clear, safe and navigable federally authorized channels.

Q: **What is Dredged Material?**

A: Naturally accumulated sediment (or existing rock) that is excavated from the bottom of channels, berthing area and other navigation facilities to create or maintain sufficient depth for safe and efficient vessel operation

Photo: USACE dredging operations in the Port Jersey Channel, New Jersey.
Source: New York, New Jersey Harbor deepening project provides environmental, economic benefits > U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Headquarters > Story Article View

BACKGROUND

Beneficial uses of dredged material are defined as "productive and positive uses of dredged material, which cover broad use categories ranging from fish and wildlife habitat development, to human recreation, to industrial/commercial uses" (USACE Beneficial Uses of Dredged Material, Engineer Manual 1110-2-5026)."

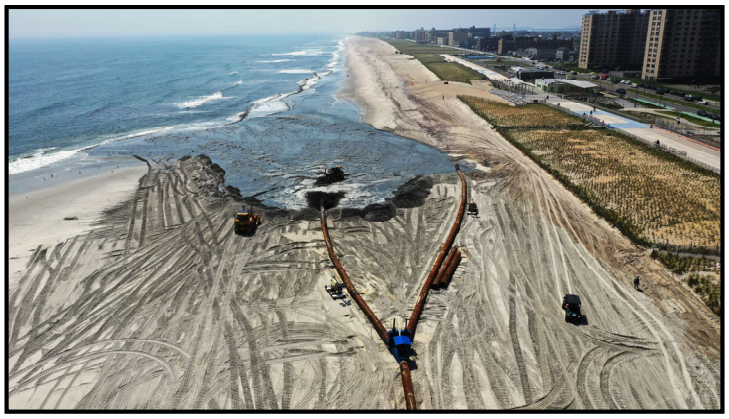

Photo: Beach nourishment in Rockaway, NY. April 2019.

BACKGROUND

Q: What is a Dredged Material Management Plan?

A=Dredged Material Management Plan (DMMP) is a long-term strategic plan for the placement of material to be dredged from Federal, State and local (new and existing) channels. A DMMP ensures that there is adequate placement capacity to properly manage dredged material in an environmentally and economically acceptable manner.

Q: Why is the New York District preparing a DMMP Update?

A: The 2025 DMMP Update has been prepared to develop a regionally supported plan to meet all the dredged material placement capacity requirement expected from dredging within the Port of New York and New Jersey through the end of year 2029.

2025 DMMP Update considerations:

- Anticipated completion of Historic Area Remediation Site (HARS) remediation within the 5-year window.
- Upcoming Pre-Construction and Design Phase of the Harbor Deepening and Channel Improvements (HDCI) Civil Works Project.
- Implementation of updated guidance outlining a revised approach to the Federal Standard calculation (WRDA, 2020) (33 U.S.C. § 2326g)

Speaker Notes:

- The DMMP addresses federal projects and Department of Army (DA) permitted projects in the New York and New Jersey Harbor.
- The DMMP Update is has been prepared due to some uncertainties. The Historic Area Remediation Site (HARS), a dredged material placement utilized by USACE, is expected to reach its full remediation with in the DMMP Update's 5-year window. In addition, the Harbor Deepening and Channel Improvements (HDCI) project is expected to generate a significant amount of dredged material, and therefore, the evaluation was conducted prior to HDCI's initiation. Lastly, new guidance was implemented regarding how USACE evaluates the Federal Standard.
- Note, a new DMMP will be in development following this DMMP Update.

BACKGROUND

The DMMP Implementation Report (IR) for the Port of New York and New Jersey was prepared in 1999 by USACE-NAN. Previous DMMP Update was completed in 2008.

The intent of the 2025 DMMP Update (2025-2029) is to manage all planned maintenance material, Department of the Army Permitted Projects, plus new Federal work occurring during the period of analysis.

Speaker Notes:

- Since the publication of the DMMP IR report in 1999, the New York District has published a number of updates to the DMMP most recently in 2008. Both the 1999 DMMP IR and the 2008 update are publicly available on the DMMP website.
- The intent of the 2025 DMMP Update is to manage all planned maintenance material, Department of Army (DA) permitted projects, and new federal work occurring from 2025 through 2029.


2025 DMMP UPDATE APPROACH
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DMMP UPDATE – APPROACH

Capacity Analysis

Federal Standard Calculation in accordance w/ WRDA 2020

Maximize Beneficial Use of Dredged Material

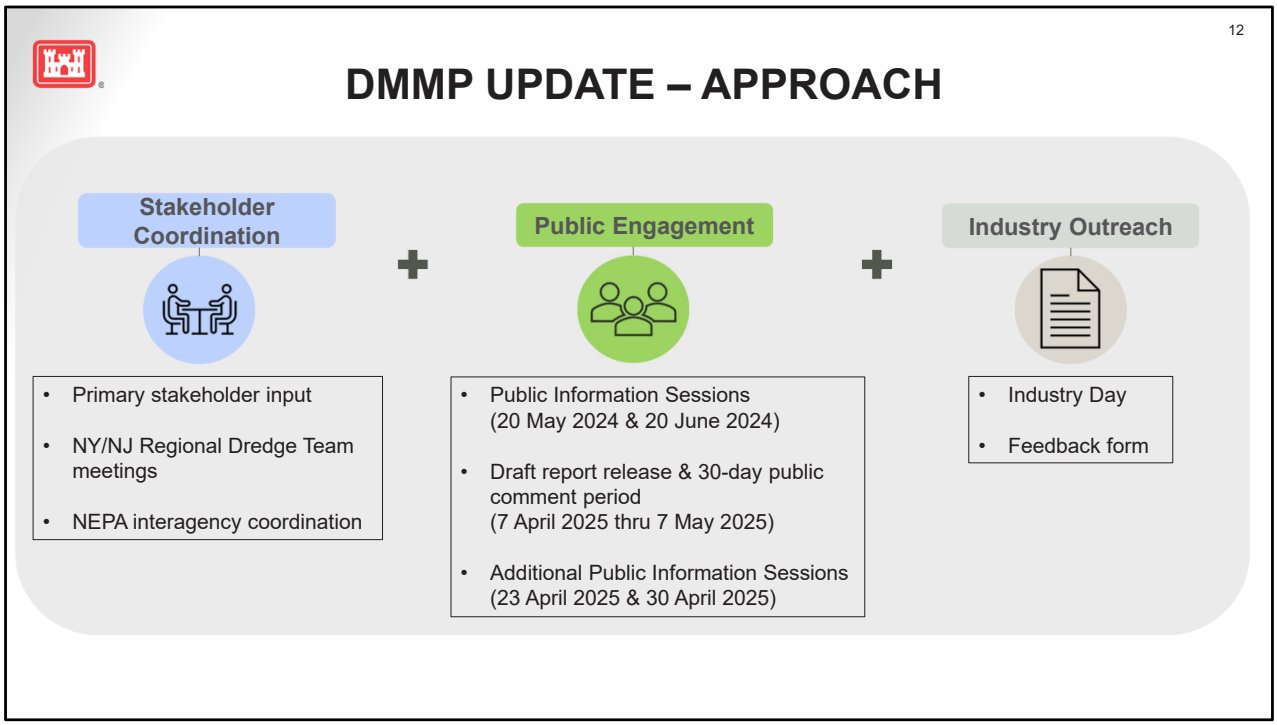
2025 DMMP Update Integrated Report

To address the WRDA 2020 updates to the definition of the Federal Standard, this effort includes a **quantitative (cost) assessment**, and **qualitative (benefits) assessment** of placement sites.
In compliance with NEPA, a draft supplemental EA was prepared.

Federally authorized navigation channels in NY&NJ harbor

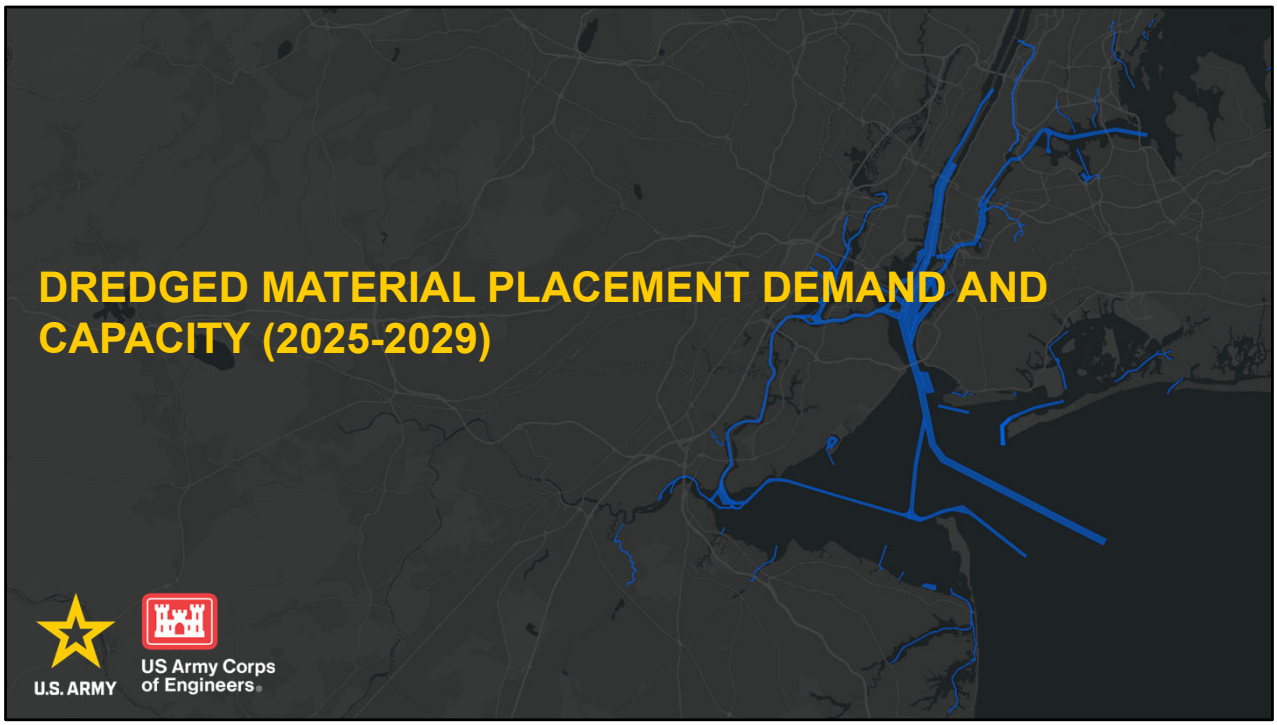
Speaker Notes:

- The needs for the 2025 DMMP Update include:
  - To ensure adequate placement capacity to meet the dredged material placement demand.
  - To identify the Federal Standard for dredged material placement.
  - To identify placement opportunities that maximize beneficial use of dredged material in compliance with 33 US Code 2326 G and the USACE Beneficial Use of Dredged Material Command Philosophy.
- In the two-part approach to address the updated definition of the Federal Standard:
  - The quantitative assessment considered the relative cost of placing dredged material and,
  - The qualitative assessment identified the beneficial use potential of dredged material placement options.



Speaker Notes:

- The 2025 DMMP Update was coordinated with the public; federal, state and city stakeholders; and industry experts.
- The New York District (NYD) team hosted public information sessions in May and June 2024. In addition, an Industry Day was held in June 2024 to connect with and gather valuable input from dredging industry experts.
- In addition to formal interagency coordination to support NEPA, the NYD team utilized information from city and state partners during quarterly Regional Dredging Team meetings. Stakeholders were also requested to complete feedback forms regarding the capacity analysis of the DMMP.


DREDGED MATERIAL PLACEMENT DEMAND AND CAPACITY (2025-2029)
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PLACEMENT DEMAND AND CAPACITY

Project Site Placement Demand (2025 Update) 2025-2029

Types of Material	Approximate Volume
HARS Suitable Material	9.5 MCY
Beach Sand	4.3 MCY
Non-HARS Suitable Material	3.4 MCY
Rock	3.9 MCY
Total of all Material	**21.1 MCY**

Projected Placement Site Capacity (2025 Update) 2025-2029

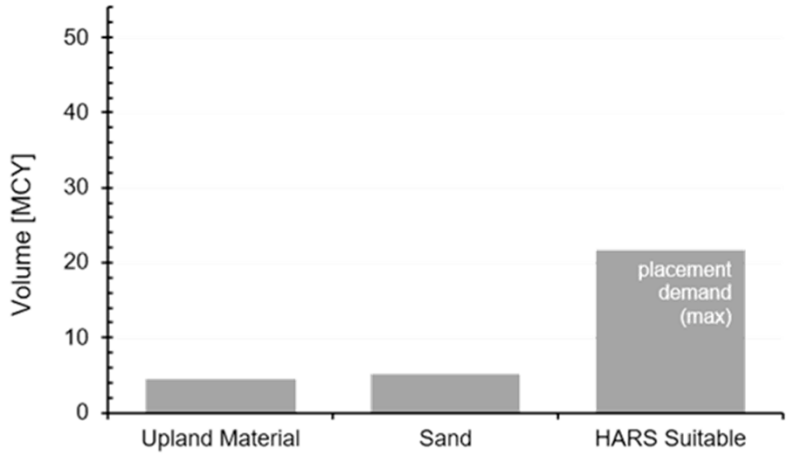
Types of Material	Approximate Volume
HARS Suitable Material	27 MCY*
Beach Sand	25 MCY
Non-HARS Suitable Material	18 MCY
Total	**70 MCY****

* Assumes HARS redesignation to be completed by 2028.
** Does not include uncertain or unpermitted future placement locations.

Speaker Notes:

- One of the primary purposes of the 2025 DMMP Update is to ensure that there is enough placement capacity available for the volume of dredged material generated during the period of analysis, 2025-2029.
- In the top table, the total placement demand of material is broken down by material type and was estimated to be 21.1 million cubic yards. In the bottom table, the total placement site capacity is broken down by material type and was estimated to be 70 million cubic yards. Given these calculations, sufficient placement capacity was observed to meet the projected placement demand.

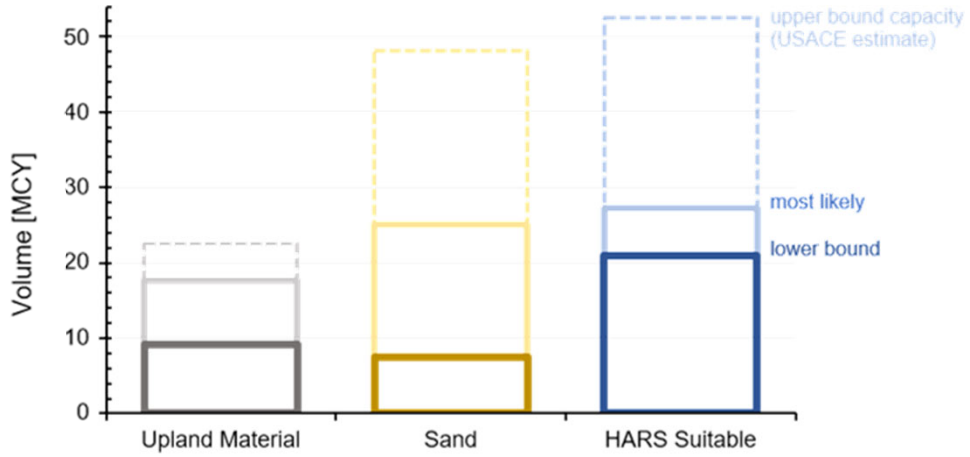
USACE estimates of maximum placement demand for the NY&NJ harbor for the period of analysis (2025-2029).



Speaker Notes:

- The bar graph shows the estimated maximum placement demand across the three material types. The maximum placement demand values are a more conservative estimate and allow the team to assess whether increased demand beyond the demand scenario shown on the previous table will still be within range of our placement site capacity estimates.

USACE estimates of placement capacity for the NY&NJ harbor for the period of analysis (2025-2029).



Speaker Notes:

- This bar graph shows the approximate placement capacity estimates by material type. Shown for each material type is the range of capacity estimates, including the lower bound most likely and upper bound capacity as estimated by the project team.

Comparison of max placement demand, capacity for the NY&NJ harbor for the period of analysis (2025-2029).

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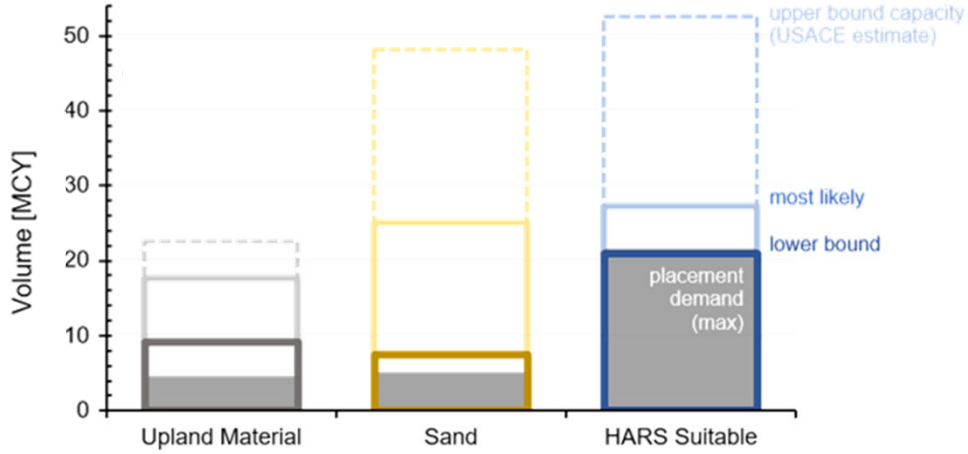

Speaker Notes:

- This bar graph combines and compares both maximum placement demand and range of capacity estimates. When evaluating the maximum placement demand estimates (in gray), the placement demand remains within the lower bound capacity estimates. The results from this graph demonstrate sufficient placement capacity to meet our estimated maximum placement demand over the period of analysis from 2025 through 2029.


FEDERAL STANDARD DETERMINATION
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FEDERAL STANDARD DETERMINATION

- Evaluated dredged material management measures.
  - Insufficient information to evaluate all individual placement locations.
- Determined Federal Standard for three material categories:
  - HARS suitable
  - Beach quality sand
  - Non-HARS suitable (Upland)
- Two-part approach:
  - Quantitative analysis:
    - » Placement cost estimates.
  - Qualitative analysis:
    - » Beneficial Use (BU) potential.
- **Federal Standard = least cost management measure with highest BU potential**

Speaker Notes:

- Historically, the Federal Standard has been defined as the least costly dredge material placement location that is consistent with sound engineering practices and established environmental standards. Per 33 US Code 2326 G, the United States Army Corps of Engineers is now directed to consider the suitability of dredge material for a full range of beneficial uses, inclusive of consideration of economic and environmental benefits, efficiencies, and impacts of dredge material placement. For the purposes of the 2025 DMMP update, the New York District team evaluated the economic and environmental benefits and efficiencies at the management measure level.
- For the purposes of identifying the Federal standard by material type, the management measures were grouped into the three dredge material category types, those being our suitable material, beach quality, sand and non hard suitable or upland material. The federal standard was determined following a two-part approach – a quantitative analysis to assess relative placement cost and a qualitative analysis to assess the beneficial use potential of a given management measure.

QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS

- Estimated placement costs at the management measure level.
- Rely on historic NY&NJ Harbor USACE dredge project costs from 2010-2024.
- CSRM benefits are not used to offset placement costs, avoid double counting benefits.
- Environmental benefits are not monetized (33 USC 2284).
- Monitoring costs at ocean placement sites (i.e., HARS) also included.

Management Measure
HARS suitable
Benthic Remediation
Ocean Placement
Beach Quality Sand
Beach Placement
Borrow Area
Wetland Restoration
Non-HARS suitable (upland)
Landfill top cover
Mine Reclamation
Non-structural fill
Processing Facility Recycling

Speaker Notes:

- For the quantitative analysis, the placement costs were evaluated on a per management measure basis. Shown in the table on the right are the 9 management measures evaluated by the project team. The management measures include benthic remediation and ocean placement opportunities for hard suitable material, beach placement, borough area and wetland restoration opportunities for placement of beach quality sand and placement as landfill top cover, mine reclamation, non-structural fill and processing facility recycling opportunities for non hard suitable material. Additionally, the team used Historic New York and New Jersey Harbor Army Corps dredging project cost between 2010 and 2024.
- Coastal Storm Risk Management (CSRM) benefits are not used to offset placement cost in an effort to avoid double counting benefits. Environmental benefits are not monetized per 33 US Code 2284.
- Monitoring costs from ocean placement sites, including the HARS, were incorporated into the estimated placement costs.

Estimated dredge project unit cost by management measure [2025 Q1 price levels]

Management Measure	Expected Placement Cost [$/CY]
HARS suitable	
Benthic Remediation	$18.16
Ocean Placement	
Beach Quality Sand	
Borrow area	$22.66
Beach Placement	$32.32
Wetland Restoration	$47.79
Non-HARS suitable (upland)	
Non-structural fill	$91.15
Landfill top cover	$132.91
Mine Reclamation	$188.90
Processing Facility Recycling	$204.30

Speaker Notes:

- The results of the quantitative analysis are shown in this table. The dollar amounts are shown as expected placement cost per cubic yard and due to the similar placement characteristics and costs (inclusive of monitoring costs for both benthic remediation and ocean placement), the expected placement costs are considered equal as part of this analysis at approximately $18.16 per cubic yard.
- The lowest expected placement cost by management measure for beach quality sand was found to be borrow area placement at approximately $22.66 and for non hard suitable or upland placement.
- Dredged material placed for use as non-structural fill is shown to have the lowest expected placement cost per cubic yard at $91.15, while the quantitative analysis assess the cost associated with the dredge material placement by management measure.

QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS

- Alignment with requirements specified in 33 USC 2326g, USACE must consider:
  - Suitability of material for full range of beneficial uses.
  - Economic and environmental benefits, efficiencies, and impacts of beneficial uses.
- Considered beneficial use (BU) potential across six attributes via binary scoring approach (0 = negligible BU potential, +1 = BU potential):
  - Flood/Coastal Storm Risk Management (FRM/CSRM)
  - Recreational Opportunities
  - Wetland Habitat
  - Upland Habitat
  - Aquatic Habitat
  - Upland Site Development

Beneficial use potential scoring metric

BU Score	Beneficial Use Potential
2	Significant (2 or more attributes)
1	Moderate (1 attribute)
0	Negligible (0 attributes)

Speaker Notes:

- For the qualitative analysis, the team determined a beneficial use potential scoring metric to assign a relative beneficial use score per management measure. This approach aligns with the requirements specified in 33 US Code 2326g to account for the suitability of dredge material for a full range of beneficial uses in the economic and environmental benefits.
- Efficiencies and impacts of beneficial uses scores were assigned to each management measure while accounting for the potential beneficial use for the following attributes, Flood risk management and coastal storm risk management, recreational opportunities, wetland, upland, aquatic habitats and upland site development on this table.

Assessed beneficial use potential of dredged material management measures

Management Measure	FRM/CSRM	Recreational Opportunities	Wetland Habitat	Upland Habitat	Aquatic Habitat	Upland Site Development	BU Score
HARS Suitable Material (silt, sand, rock)							
Benthic Remediation	0	0	0	0	+1	0	1
Ocean Placement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Quality Sand							
Borrow area	+1	+1	0	0	0	0	2
Beach nourishment	+1	+1	0	+1	0	0	2
Wetland restoration	+1	+1	+1	0	0	0	2
Non-HARS Suitable (upland)							
Non-structural fill	0	0	0	0	0	+1	1
Landfill top cover	0	0	0	0	0	+1	1
Mine Reclamation	0	0	0	0	0	+1	1
Processing Facility Recycling	0	0	0	0	0	+1	1

Speaker Notes:

- Shown in this table are the assessed beneficial use potential by management measure and the overall results of our qualitative assessment.
- If a given management measure was expected to protect, enhance, or improve resources associated with an attribute, as shown in the columns at the table, a score of +1 was assigned. A score of 0 was assigned if the management measure was not expected to benefit any resources associated with an attribute and if the information available was insufficient to make such a determination. For the BU score per management measure, a score of 2 was assigned if the management measure contained more than one attribute scoring plus one.

Harbor-wide ranking of management measures by material type

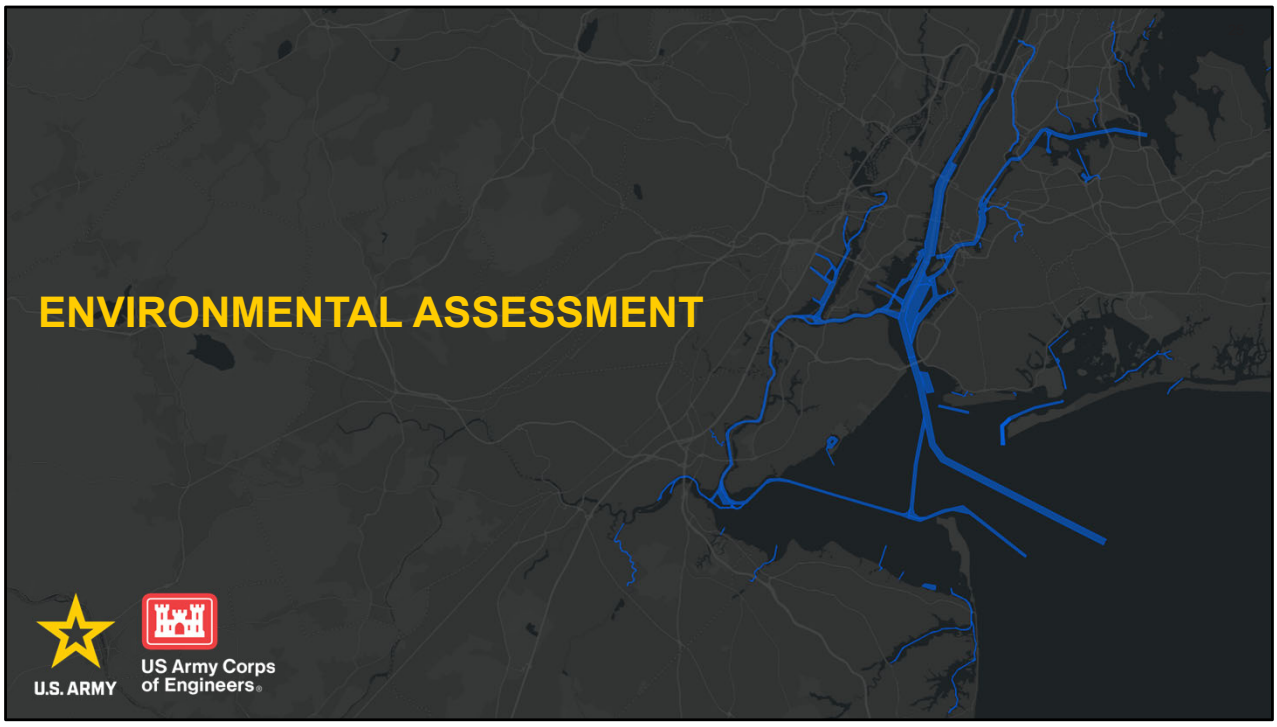
Management Measure	Harbor-wide Ranking	Expected Placement Cost [$/CY]	BU Potential
HARS Suitable			
Benthic Remediation	1	$18.16	1
Ocean Placement	2		0
Beach Quality Sand			
Borrow Area	1	$22.66	2
Beach Placement	2	$32.32	2
Wetland Restoration	3	$47.79	2
Non-HARS Suitable (Upland)			
Nonstructural Fill	1	$91.15	1
Landfill Top Cover	2	$132.91	1
Mine Reclamation	3	$188.90	1
Process Facility Recycling	4	$204.30	1

Notes: - costs are in Q1 2025 USD

- denotes Federal standard

Speaker Notes:

- The results of the quantitative and qualitative analysis are presented in this table, with the harbor-wide ranking of management measures by material type and the federal standard (least cost management measure with highest beneficial use potential by material type) identified in yellow.


ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
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NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

- NEPA is a law that requires Federal agencies to:
  - Assess the environmental effects of their proposed actions
  - Provide opportunities for public review and comment
- Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement was prepared for 1999 DMMP and 2008 DMMP Update
- A Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared for the 2025 DMMP Update
- The Draft Supplemental EA is integrated into the 2025 DMMP Update Report
- Public comment period (30 days) ends on 7 May 2025
- Comments will be incorporated into the Final Supplemental EA

Speaker Notes:

- The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, referred to as NEPA, as a federal law that requires federal agencies to assess the environmental effects of their proposed actions prior to making a decision. Through the NEPA process, agencies evaluate the environmental and related social and economic effects of their proposed actions and provide opportunities for public review and comment on those evaluations. Depending on the action and the scale of its impacts, agencies will generate a written report called an Environmental Assessment or an Environmental Impact Statement, which is made publicly available for review and comment.

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

- 2025 DMMP Update does not recommend construction or dredged material placement
- **The Federal action subject to NEPA is the plan update**
  - No Action Alternative and 5-year Interim Update Alternative were considered
  - 20-year Update Alternative was screened out due to regional uncertainties
    - Future DMMPs and DMMP Updates will be prepared

Resources Considered

- Bathymetry
- Socioeconomics
- Water resources
- Wetlands
- Vegetation
- Benthic Fauna
- Fish and Wildlife
- Special Status Species
- Special Status Habitats
- Floodplains
- Cultural Resources
- Recreation
- Visual Resources
- Coastal Resources
- Air Quality / Clean Air Act
- Noise and Vibration

Speaker Notes:

- The scope of this NEPA analysis is limited to the decision to update the plan and does not include any individual placement activities. Therefore, in accordance with NEPA, an alternative analysis was prepared.
- The No Action Alternative is no planned update, and the second alternative is the five-year interim DMMP update.
- A 20-Year Update Alternative was screened out because it was determined that there was too much uncertainty at this time to have a period of analysis beyond five years.
- The New York District intends on preparing DMMPs and DMMP Updates in the future that have longer period of analysis.
- A wide range of environmental resources was assessed in the NEPA document, as listed on the slide.

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

- USACE determined that the No Action and 5-year Interim Update Alternatives would have **no impact** on the resources considered
- No Action Alternative would not meet the purpose and need and was rejected
- Project proponents are responsible for assessing the impacts of their placement activities during the permitting and environmental compliance process
- Future opportunities for impact analysis and coordination on project-by-project basis
- Recommendations to project proponents are provided in environmental consequences section of the report
- Comments on environmental best practices is encouraged for future projects

Speaker Notes:

- After conducting the environmental analysis, it was determined that the 5-Year Interim Update Alternative would have no impact on the environmental resources studied. This is because the plan update is an administrative action that will not result in construction, dredging, or the placement of dredged material.
- The Supplemental EA provides a high-level overview of environmental resources in the study area and recommendations that could be used by project proponents to avoid and minimize environmental impacts during dredged material placement. These recommendations are included in the environmental consequences section of the report.


REVIEW AND PUBLICATION TIMELINE
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REVIEW AND PUBLICATION TIMELINE

Review Milestone	Date
Draft Report Release to Cooperating & Participating Agencies	27 February 2025
Draft Report Release to Public & Begin 30-Day Comment Review Period	7 April 2025
Public Information Session(s)	23 April 2025 (AM/PM)
Public Information Session(s)	30 April 2025 (AM/PM)
End 30-Day Public Comment Period	7 May 2025
Final Report	May 2025

Speaker Notes:

- On 23 April and 30 April 2025, there are two Public Information Sessions per day – one at 12:30PM and one at 6:00PM.
- Following the completion of the 30-day public comment period, the team will review all comments and incorporate them into the administrative record.
- If there are updates to this timeline, then the updates will be advertised on the DMMP website - https://www.nan.usace.army.mil/Missions/Navigation/Dredged-Material-Management-Plan/
- Note: The public comment period has been extended to May 22, 2025.

THANK YOU!

Send additional questions or comments to: DMMP-Update@usace.army.mil

Arsheen Ehtesham, Project Manager

Eric Pasay, NEPA Lead

Andrew Seaman, Plan Formulation Lead

Project Website: https://www.nan.usace.army.mil/Missions/Navigation/Dredged-Material-Management-Plan/

More Opportunities to Provide Feedback

Project Website

Speaker Notes:

- Questions and comments can be sent to DMMP-Update@usace.army.mil
- Scan the QR code to visit the project website, where the report and its appendices can be downloaded.

Q&A SESSION

The Study Team will answer all open questions from the chat box first, then, if time allows, open the microphone to participants to verbally ask questions and provide feedback.

Ground Rules

- Be respectful of participants and the Study Team
- If there is time for verbal questions & answers following the responses to the questions and comments provided in the chat box, please raise your hand (see raised hand icon button in the bottom center of Webex screen).
- Please provide your name and affiliation prior to asking your question.
- We will then recognize individuals to ask one question (please) to allow time for others to ask their questions