



DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Hashamomuck Cove, Coastal Storm Risk Management Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Assessment Southold, New York

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (Corps) has conducted an environmental analysis in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended. The final Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Assessment (IFR/EA) dated **TBD**, for the Hashamomuck Cove addresses if there is a technically feasible, economically justified and environmentally compliant recommendation for Federal participation in coastal storm risk management opportunities and feasibility in the Southold, NY. The final recommendation is contained in the report of the Chief of Engineers, dated **DATE OF CHIEF'S REPORT**.

The Final IFR/EA, incorporated herein by reference, evaluated various alternatives that would provide coastal storm risk management in the study area. The recommended plan is the National Economic Development (NED) Plan and includes:

- Beach nourishment, approximately 8,500 feet (ft.) in length consisting of a 25 ft. wide berm placed seaward of the existing structures.

In addition to a “no action” plan, seven alternatives were evaluated. The alternatives included beach nourishment varying beach berm widths, beach nourishment with various dune heights and widths, bulkhead with variations on lengths and location, buyout with various number of properties, as discussed in section 4.8 of the IFR/EA. The non-structural alternative was not selected because it would not reduce coastal storm risk to the Town Beach or County Road 48.

For all alternatives, the potential effects were evaluated, as appropriate. A summary assessment of the potential effects of the recommended plan are listed in Table 1:

Table 1: Summary of Potential Effects of the Recommended Plan

	Insignificant effects	Insignificant effects as a result of mitigation*	Resource unaffected by action
Aesthetics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Air quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aquatic resources/wetlands	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Invasive species	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fish and wildlife habitat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Threatened/Endangered species/critical habitat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Historic properties	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other cultural resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Floodplains	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



	Insignificant effects	Insignificant effects as a result of mitigation*	Resource unaffected by action
Hazardous, toxic & radioactive waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hydrology	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land use	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Navigation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Noise levels	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public infrastructure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Socio-economics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental justice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Soils	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tribal trust resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climate change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

All practicable and appropriate means to avoid or minimize adverse environmental effects were analyzed and incorporated into the recommended plan. To minimize impacts, best management practices (BMPs) relating to site work dust mitigation and placement of sand during nourishment activities as detailed in the IFR/EA will be implemented, where appropriate.

No compensatory mitigation is required as part of the recommended plan.

Public review of the draft IFR/EA and FONSI was completed on 22 July 2019. All comments submitted during the public review period were responded to in the Final IFR/EA and FONSI. A 30-day state and agency review of the Final IFR/EA was completed on TBD. **PICK OPTION BASED ON RESULTS OF STATE AND AGENCY REVIEW.**

Pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers determined that the recommended plan may affect but is not likely to adversely affect the following federally listed species or their designated critical habitat: threatened piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*), threatened red knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*), threatened seabeach amaranth (*Amaranthus pumilus*), endangered roseate tern (*Sterna dougallii dougallii*), and endangered sandplain gerardia (*Agalinis acuta*). The Corps determined that that the proposed action will have no effect on the threatened northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) and the threatened plant species seabeach amaranth (*Amaranthus pumilus*) and the endangered plant, sandplain gerardia (*Agalinis acuta*). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) concurred with the Corps' determination on 20 June 2019

For threatened and endangered species, managed under the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), it was determined that the recommended plan may affect but is not likely to adversely affect the following federally listed marine species or their designated habitat: threatened Atlantic sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus*); sea turtles of the New England region including the threatened Atlantic loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*) and green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) and endangered Atlantic leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*) and Atlantic Kemp's ridley (*Lepidochelys kempfi*); as well as large Atlantic whales including the endangered humpback



(*Megaptera novaeangliae*), right (*Eubalaena glacialis*), and fin (*Balaenoptera physalus*) whales. NMFS concurred with the Corps' determination on 15 June 2016.

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers determined that the recommended plan has no effect on historic properties.

Pursuant to the Clean Water Act of 1972, as amended, the discharge of dredged or fill material associated with the recommended plan has been found to be compliant with section 404(b)(1) Guidelines (40 CFR 230). The Clean Water Act Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines evaluation is found in Appendix A6 of the IFR/EA.

A water quality certification pursuant to section 401 of the Clean Water Act will be obtained from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation prior to construction. In a letter dated 18 March 2019, the state of New York stated that the recommended plan appears to meet the requirements of the water quality certification, pending confirmation based on information to be developed during the pre-construction engineering and design phase. All conditions of the water quality certification will be implemented in order to minimize adverse impacts to water quality.

A determination of consistency with the state of New York Coastal Zone Management program pursuant to the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 was obtained from the New York State Department of State. All conditions of the consistency determination shall be implemented in order to minimize adverse impacts to the coastal zone.

All applicable environmental laws have been considered and coordination with appropriate agencies and officials has been completed. A Record of Non-Applicability was signed on 15 January 2019 and Essential Fish Habitat coordination was completed on 15 November 2018.

Technical, environmental, economic, and cost effectiveness criteria used in the formulation of alternative plans were those specified in the Water Resources Council's 1983 Economic and Environmental Principles and Guidelines for Water and Related Land Resources Implementation Studies. All applicable laws, executive orders, regulations, and local government plans were considered in evaluation of alternatives. Based on this report, the reviews by other Federal, State and local agencies, Tribes, input of the public, and the review by my staff, it is my determination that the recommended plan would not cause significant adverse effects on the quality of the human environment; therefore, preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

Date

Thomas D. Asbery
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
District Commander