



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**

New York District
26 Federal Plaza
New York, N.Y. 10278
ATTN: CENAN-OP-ST

Public Notice

In replying refer to:
Public Notice No. GREAT KILLS HARBOR FY13
Published: April 30, 2013, Expires: May 30, 2013

GREAT KILLS HARBOR, STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK FEDERAL NAVIGATION PROJECT MAINTENANCE DREDGING

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The New York District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and Section 404 (33 U.S.C. 1344) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (amended in 1977 and commonly referred to as the Clean Water Act), proposes to perform maintenance dredging of the Great Kills Harbor Federal Navigation Project with placement of the dredged material as beneficial use to restore portions of the eroded shoreline of Staten Island, New York. Sites being coordinated include Crescent Beach and Wolfe's Pond Park (See Figures No. 1 & 2).

ACTIVITY: Maintenance dredging of Great Kills Harbor Federal Navigation Project with subsequent placement of the dredged material as beneficial use to restore portions of the eroded shoreline of Staten Island. Sites being coordinated include Crescent Beach and Wolfe's Pond Park.

WATERWAY: Great Kills Harbor

LOCATION: Lower New York Bay in Richmond County, Staten Island, New York

The Great Kills Harbor Federal Navigation Project was adopted in 1927 and modified in 1938.

The existing Federal Navigation Project provides for a channel, 10 feet deep, 150 feet wide, from deep water in Lower New York Bay to the entrance of the harbor in the vicinity of the present westerly end of Crooks Island, thence of same depth and width along the west side of the harbor. The length of the channel is approximately 1.9 miles. Great Kills Harbor also consists of an 8 foot deep, 138 acre anchorage area.

This activity is being evaluated to determine if the proposed dredging with placement of dredged material on the nearby beach will not unreasonably degrade or endanger human health, welfare,

economic potential, recreation and aesthetics, water quality, marine resources, ecological systems and/or flood protection.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; federal, state and local agencies and officials; Indian tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Comments are used to assess impacts on navigation, water quality, endangered species, historic resources, wetlands, scenic and recreational values, and other public interest factors. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act and to determine the need for a public hearing.

ALL COMMENTS REGARDING THIS ACTIVITY MUST BE PREPARED IN WRITING AND MAILED TO REACH THIS OFFICE AT THE ADDRESS ON THE FRONT PAGE BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE OF THIS NOTICE, otherwise, it will be presumed that there are no objections to the activity.

Any person who has an interest which may be affected by the placement of this dredged material may request a public hearing. The request must be submitted in writing to the District Engineer within the comment period of this notice and must clearly set forth the interest which may be affected and the manner in which the interest may be affected by the activity. It should be noted that information submitted by mail is considered just as carefully in the process and bears the same weight as that furnished at a public hearing.

No known archaeological, scientific, prehistorical or historical data are expected to be lost by work accomplished under the required dredging.

Reviews of the activity pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act will include application of the guidelines announced by the Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act. The Corps will obtain a water quality certificate (WQC) from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) prior to commencement of any work in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act.

Pursuant to Section 307 of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 as amended [16 USC 1456(c)], for activities conducted or supported by a federal agency in a state which has a federally approved Coastal Zone Management (CZM) program, the Corps has submitted a determination that the proposed project is consistent with the State CZM program to the maximum extent practicable. This Corps will request that the State concur with that determination. For activities within the coastal zone of the State of New York, project information is available from the Consistency Coordinator, New York State Department of State, Office of Coastal, Local Government and Community Sustainability, Coastal Zone Management Program, One Commerce Plaza, 99 Washington Avenue, Suite 1010, Albany, New York 12231, Telephone (518) 474-6000.

In compliance with Section 305(b)(2) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (1996 amendments), an Essential Fish Habitat Assessment will be prepared and submitted to the National Marine Fisheries Service for review and comment.

The proposed work is being coordinated with the following Federal, State and local agencies:

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service and National Park Service
- U.S. Department of Commerce, National Marine Fisheries Service
- U.S. Coast Guard, First District
- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
- New York State Department of State
- City of New York Parks and Recreation
- City of New York Department of Planning

If you have any questions concerning this notice, you may contact Mr. Joseph Olha at (917)-790-8404. Comments or questions may be FAXED to (212) 264-4260 ATTN: Mr. Joseph Olha.

DESCRIPTION OF PLANNED ACTION:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (the Corps) proposes to perform maintenance dredging of the Great Kills Harbor Federal Navigation Project. The project was last dredged in 2002/2003 with the removal of approximately 136,428 cubic yards (CY) of sand, which was used in a beneficial manner as beach nourishment, placed along Great Kills Beach, Gateway National Recreation Area. The proposed maintenance dredging is expected to involve the removal of up to approximately 315,000 CY of sand from this project, which would be used in a beneficial manner to restore portions of the eroded shoreline of Staten Island. Sites being coordinated include Crescent Beach and Wolfe's Pond Park. The sand from the channel and anchorage area is proposed to be dredged to their respective authorized project depths -10 feet and -8 feet mean lower low (MLLW) plus 2 feet allowable overdepth. The proposed work is anticipated to occur in the fall to winter of 2013 into 2014.

The purpose of the proposed work is to alleviate the affects of shoaling and maintain the authorized project dimensions, thereby providing safe and economical use of the Great Kills Harbor by commercial and recreational boating interests while providing beneficial use of the dredged material.

Maintenance dredging of the Great Kills Harbor will be accomplished by pipeline dredge or similar plant. The entire channel will generally not require maintenance dredging; only areas where shoaling has reduced the depth of the channel will require dredging.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was prepared by the U.S. Army Engineer District, New York in 1962. Environmental Assessments (EA) updating this EIS was prepared by the New York District in 2002. The EIS and EA indicated that dredging of Great Kills Harbor Federal Navigation Project with placement of the dredged material as nourishment along the nearby shoreline of the designated beach would have no significant adverse environmental impact on water quality, marine resources, fish, wildlife, endangered species, recreation, aesthetics and flood protection of the area.

An update of the EA and a 404 (b) evaluation as required by the Clean Water Act 40 CFR 230 will be prepared prior to the implementation of the proposed work.

PLACEMENT SITE:

The dredged material from this project is proposed to be placed as beneficial use to restore portions of the eroded shoreline of Staten Island. Sites being coordinated include Crescent Beach and Wolfe's Pond Park. The dredged material will be transported by pipeline and deposited at the designated site as shown on the attached map.

MATERIAL DESCRIPTION:

Results of grain size analyses performed in 2002 on samples collected within the project area have indicated that the material to be deposited is predominantly sand (91% sand).

A sampling plan has been coordinated with the NYSDEC which will be used to perform a grain size analysis prior to the commencement of construction. It is anticipated that the grain size analysis will yield that the material is suitable for beach placement.

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

For more information on New York District Corps of Engineers programs, please visit our web site at <http://www.nan.usace.army.mil>.



Randall G. Hintz
Chief, Operations Support Branch



Figure 1: Area to be Dredged and a Proposed Placement Site



Figure 1A: A Proposed Placement Site

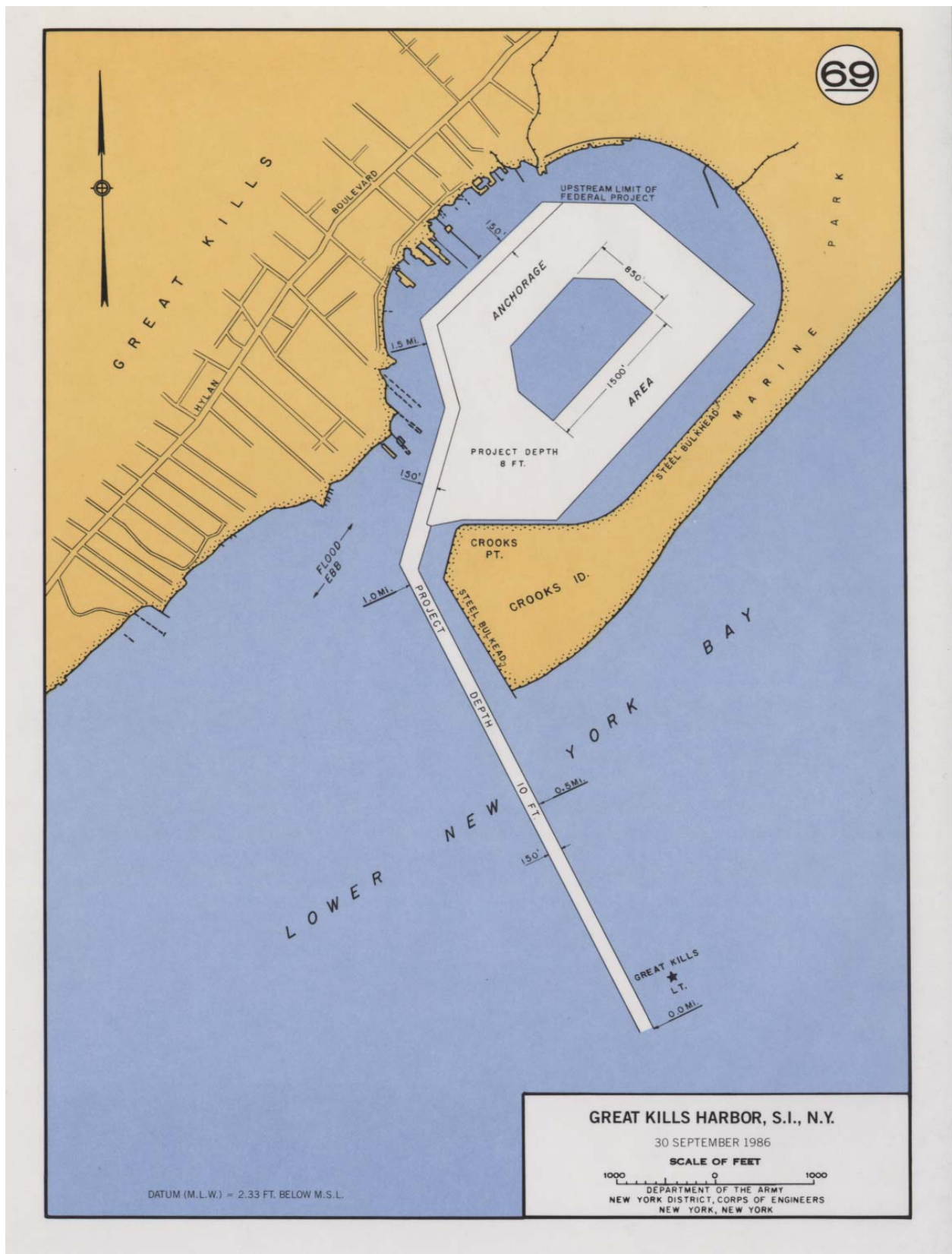


Figure 2: Project Map