



**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: LONG ISLAND INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY
Published: 24 May 2018
Expires: 08 June 2018

15 DAY PUBLIC NOTICE

MAINTENANCE DREDGING OF THE LONG ISLAND INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, NEW YORK FEDERAL NAVIGATION PROJECT

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, 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 critical shoals blocking navigation within Long Island Intracoastal Waterway Federal Navigation Project with subsequent placement of the dredged material along the nearby shoreline.

ACTIVITY: Maintenance dredging of the Long Island Intracoastal Waterway Federal Navigation Project, with placement of approximately 110,000 cubic yards of dredged material along the along the shoreline at Smith Point County Park

WATERWAY: Long Island Intracoastal Waterway at Moriches Bay

LOCATION: Moriches Bay, Suffolk County, New York.

The Long Island Intracoastal Waterway, New York Federal navigation project was authorized by the Rivers and Harbors Act of 26 August 1937, House Document No. 181, 1st session.

The existing navigation project provides for a navigation channel with a depth of 6 feet below Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW) and 100 feet wide, from the federally improved channel in the Great South Bay, opposite Patchogue, to the south end of the Shinnecock Canal. The total length of the project is approximately 33.6 miles (Figure 1). The

proposed work will involve dredging of the Long Island Intracoastal Waterway, in the Moriches Bay section of the channel to remove critical shoals blocking navigation (Figure 1).

A detailed description of the proposed activities is enclosed to assist in your review. This activity is being evaluated to determine that the proposed placement of dredged material will not unreasonably degrade or endanger human health, welfare or amenities, or the marine environment, ecological systems or economic potentialities.

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 (EA) 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 that 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.

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 or Federal Consistency Determination (FCD) program, the Corps must submit a determination that the proposed project is consistent with the State CZM and State FCD program to the maximum extent practicable. This activity is subject to review by the New York State Department of State for its consistency with the enforceable policies of the New York State Coastal Management Program. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District, has determined that the proposed activities are consistent to the maximum extent practicable and within the applicable policies of the New York State Coastal Management Program. A copy of this determination has been provided to the New York State Department of State, Office of Coastal, Local Government and Community Sustainability. Additional information regarding the Corps of Engineers' consistency determination may be obtained by contacting the New York State Department of State, Office of Coastal, Local Government and Community Sustainability, One Commerce Plaza, 99 Washington Avenue, Suite 1010, Albany, NY 12231.

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 or waiver from the appropriate state agency in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act prior to commencement of any work.

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
- U.S. Department of Commerce, NOAA Fisheries
- U.S. Coast Guard, First District
- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
- New York State Department of State

If you have any questions concerning this notice, you may contact Mr. Edward Wrocenski at (917) 790-8636, via email at edward.wrocenski@usace.army.mil.

DESCRIPTION OF PLANNED ACTION:

The New York District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers proposes to perform maintenance dredging of critical shoals blocking navigation within the Long Island Intracoastal Waterway Federal Navigation Project at Moriches Bay, with placement of dredged material along the shoreline of Smith Point County Park.

This section of the project was last dredged in 2014, by pipeline dredge (cutterhead), with the removal of approximately 32,800 cubic yards (CY) of sediment and placement along the shoreline at Cupsogue Beach County Park.

The proposed maintenance dredging effort will remove approximately 110,000 CY of sand from the Long Island Intracoastal Waterway to a depth of -6 feet MLLW plus 2 feet allowable overdepth. Maintenance dredging of the channel is usually accomplished by a pipeline dredge (cutterhead) or similar plant. The entire Long Island Intracoastal Waterway Federal Navigation Project will not require maintenance dredging; only areas where shoaling has reduced the depth of the Federal Navigation Project will require dredging.

The purpose of the proposed dredging is to remove critical shoals blocking navigation within the Long Island Intracoastal Waterway at Moriches Bay and to maintain the authorized Project dimensions, thereby assuring safe and economical use of the Long Island Intracoastal Waterway by users. Failure to conduct the maintenance dredging and placement activities could lead to a life threatening emergency situation in which the U.S. Coast Guard search and rescue boats would be unable to respond to lifesaving missions using Long Island Intracoastal Waterway.

This public notice serves to announce the government's intent and identifies the proposed location for placement of approximately 110,000 CY of material. The dredging and placement for this project is anticipated to occur in the fall/winter of 2018/2019.

PLACEMENT SITE:

The dredged sandy material from the Project is proposed to be placed along the shoreline of Smith Point County Park. The dredged sandy material will be transported by pipeline or similar dredge and deposited at the designated site, as shown on the attached map (Figure 2).

MATERIAL DESCRIPTION

Results of previous grain size analyses performed on samples collected within the project area have indicated that the material to be deposited is predominantly sand (greater than 95% sand). Therefore, this proposed dredged material would be suitable for beach placement.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

The New York District prepared an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in June 1987 in support of a Reformulation Study. It was determined that maintenance dredging of the Long Island Intracoastal Waterway Federal navigation Project, with placement of the dredge material at nearby shoreline, would have no significant adverse environmental impacts on water quality, marine resources, 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.

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

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.



Randall G. Hintz
Chief, Operations Support Branch

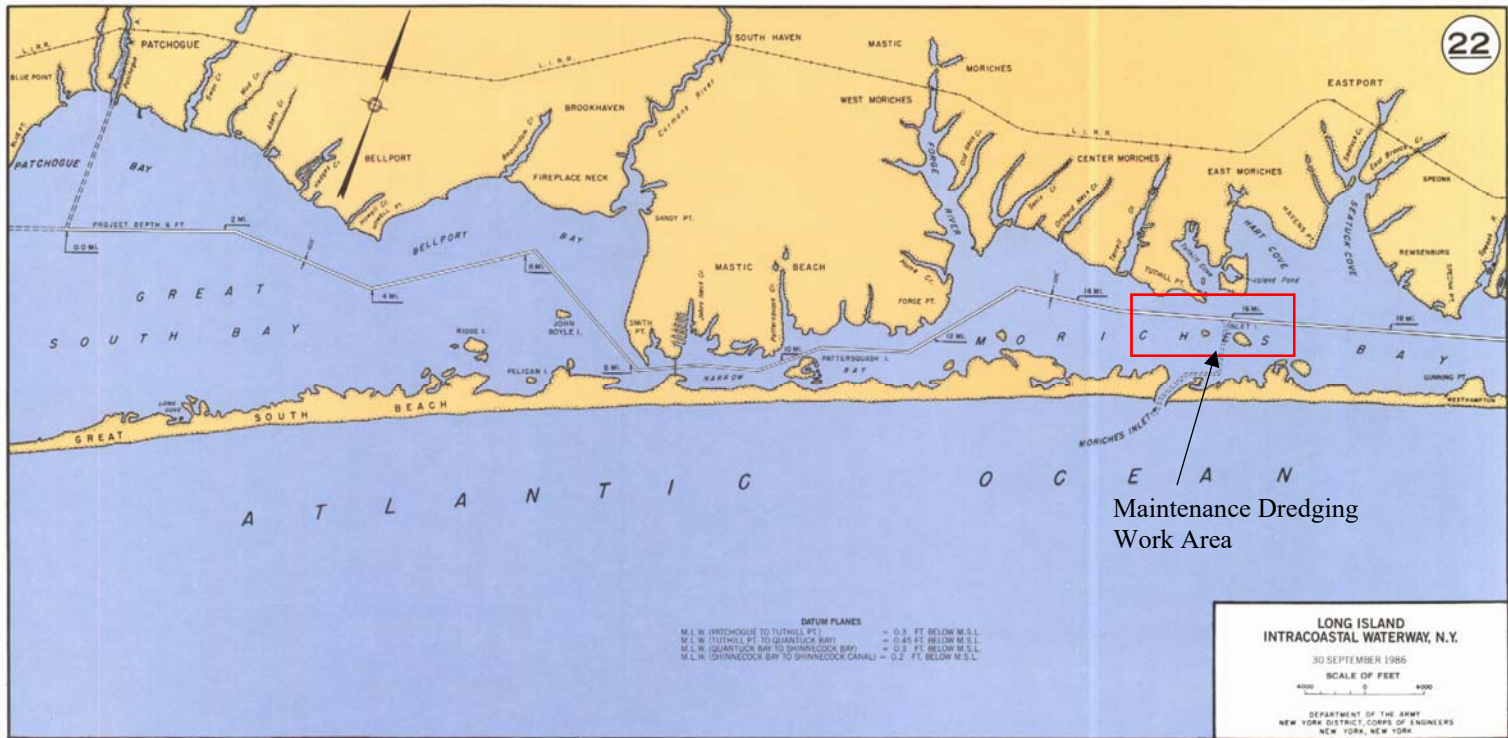
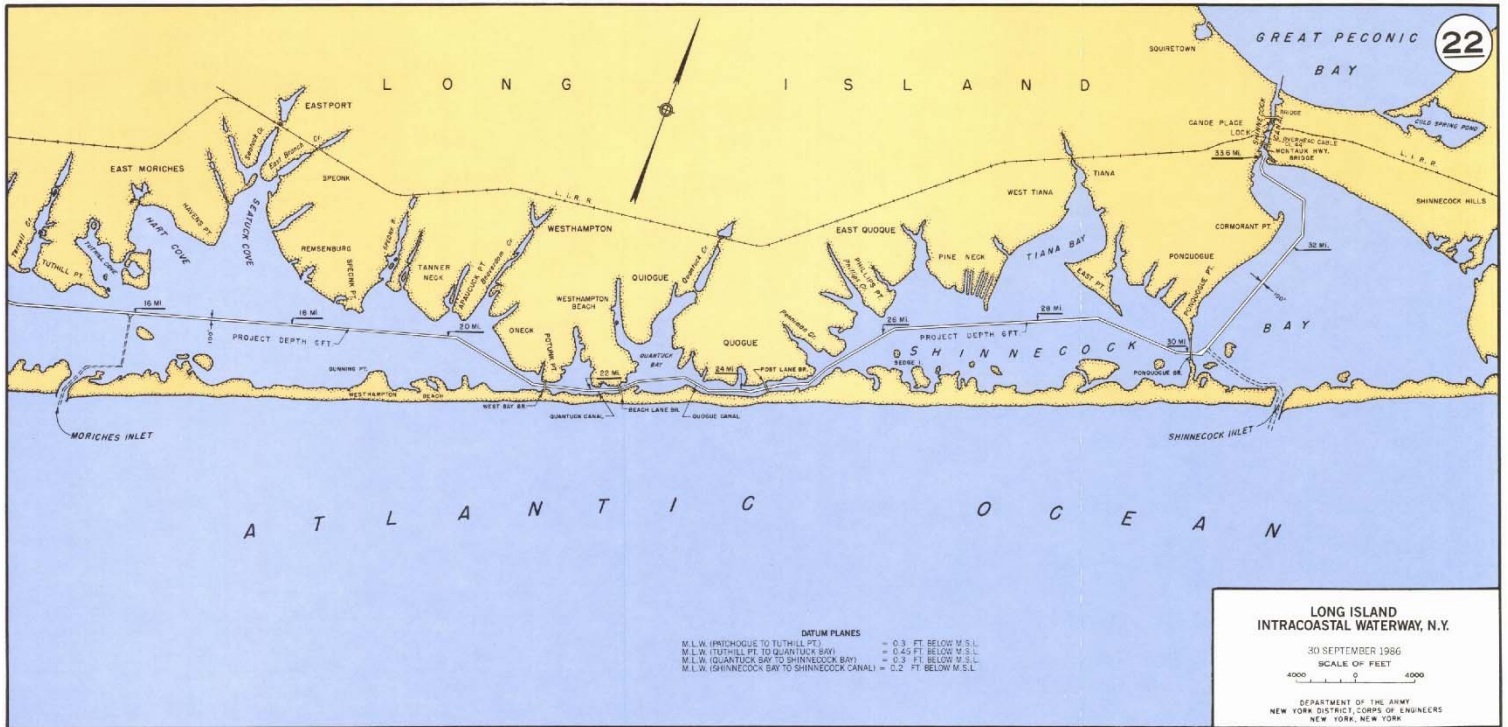


Figure 1: Project Map



**Figure 2: Long Island Intracoastal Waterway Federal Navigation Project
Vicinity Map – Proposed Dredging Area and Smith Point County Park Placement Area**