

# **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-2023-00596-TREC Issue Date: Expiration Date:

To Whom It May Concern:

The New York District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

APPLICANT: Sagaponack Beach Erosion Control District Town of Southampton 116 Hampton Road Southampton, NY 11968

- ACTIVITY: Dredge approximately 1,190,000 cubic yards of beach compatible sand from an offshore borrow area, transport the material and place as nourishment to restore eroded dunes and beach along 14,125 linear feet of shoreline.
- WATERWAY: Atlantic Ocean
- LOCATION: Hamlet of Sagaponack, Town of Southampton, Suffolk County, New York.

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

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The USACE 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. Any comments received will be considered by the USACE to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

ALL COMMENTS REGARDING THE PERMIT APPLICATION MUST BE SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL TO <u>Brad Sherwood@usace.army.mil</u>, OR PREPARED IN WRITING AND MAILED TO THE ATTENTION OF BRAD SHERWOOD AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS, TO REACH THIS OFFICE BY THE EXPIRATION DATE OF THIS NOTICE, otherwise, it will be presumed that there are no

objections to the activity.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be fully considered during the public interest review for this permit application. Comments provided will become part of the public record for this permit application. All written comments, including contact information, will be made a part of the administrative record, available to the public under the Freedom of Information Act. The Administrative Record, or portions thereof, may also be posted on a USACE internet web site. Due to resource limitations, this office will normally not acknowledge the receipt of comments or respond to individual letters of comment.

Any person may request, in writing, before this public notice expires, that a public hearing be held to collect information necessary to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons why a public hearing should be held. It should be noted that information submitted by mail is considered just as carefully in the permit decision process and bears the same weight as that furnished at a public hearing.

Our preliminary determination is that the activity for which authorization is sought herein is not likely to affect any Federally endangered or threatened species or their critical habitat. However, pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531), the District Engineer is consulting with the appropriate Federal agency to determine the presence of and potential impacts to listed species in the project area or their critical habitat.

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act (Public Law 104-267), requires all Federal agencies to consult with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries Service (NOAA/FS) on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency, that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). The proposed work, fully described in the attached work description, could cause the disruption of habitat for various lifestages of some EFH-designated species as a result of a temporary increase in turbidity during construction. However, the USACE New York District has made the preliminary determination that the site-specific adverse effects are not likely to be substantial because it is expected that fish populations would avoid the small area of disturbance. Further consultation with NOAA/FS regarding EFH impacts and conservation recommendations being conducted and will be concluded prior to the final decision.

Based upon a review of the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places, there are no known sites eligible for, or included in, the Register within the permit area. Presently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistorical, or historical data may be lost by work accomplished under the required permit.

Reviews of activities pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), under authority of Section 404 (b) of the Clean Water Act and the applicant 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 a permit decision. This public notice serves as notification to the Administrator of the EPA pursuant to section 401(a)(2) of the Clean Water Act. If EPA determines that the proposed discharge may affect the quality of the waters of any state other than New York, it will so notify such other state, the district engineer, and the applicant. If such notice or a request for supplemental information is not received within 30 days of issuance of this public notice, the district engineer will assume EPA has made a negative determination with respect to section 401(a)(2).

Pursuant to Section 307 (c) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 as amended [16 U.S.C. 1456 (c)], for activities under consideration that are located within the coastal zone of a state which has a federally approved coastal zone management program, the applicant has certified in the permit application that the activity complies with, and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with, the approved state coastal zone management program. By this public notice, we are requesting the state's concurrence with, objection to, or waiver of the applicant's certification. No permit decision will be made until one of these actions occur. For activities within the coastal zone of New York State, the applicant's certification and accompanying information is available from the Consistency Coordinator, New York State Department of State, Division of Coastal Resources and Waterfront Revitalization, Coastal Zone Management Program, 41 State Street, Albany, New York 12231, Telephone (518) 474-6000. Comments regarding the applicant's certification, and copies of any letters to this office commenting upon this proposal, should be so addressed.

In addition to any required water quality certificate and coastal zone management program concurrence, the applicant has obtained or requested the following governmental authorization for the activity under consideration:

• New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

It is requested that you communicate the foregoing information concerning the activity to any persons known by you to be interested and who did not receive a copy of this notice. If you have any questions concerning this application, you may contact Brad Sherwood at (518) 487-0382, or at Brad.Sherwood@usace.army.mil.

In order for us to better serve you, please complete our Customer Service Survey located at:

http://www.nan.usace.army.mil/business/buslinks/regulat/index.php?survey.

For more information on New York District USACE programs, visit our website at http:// www.nan.usace.army.mil

> Jon T. Coleman FOR AND ON BEHALF OF Stephan A. Ryba Chief, Regulatory Branch

Enclosures

### WORK DESCRIPTION

The applicant, Sagaponack Beach Erosion Control District, Town of Southampton, has requested Department of the Army authorization for the proposed dredging of approximately 1,190,000 cubic yards (CY) of sand from an offshore borrow area and placed along 14,125 linear feet of eroded dunes and beach in the Hamlets of Bridgehampton and Water Mill, Town of Southampton, Suffolk County, New York.

The work would involve the following:

The project consists of dredging approximately 1,190,000 CY of clean compatible sand fill from an offshore sand borrow source and place the material on the shoreline and shape it into a design beach and dune fill along approximately 14,125 linear feet of Atlantic Ocean shoreline.

Once placed, the sand will be shaped with bulldozers into the final design template. Thereafter, the beach will be shaped by natural wind, wave and tidal forces.

Offshore Sand Borrow Sites:

There are three borrow offshore sites, Borrow Areas 1, 2, and 3, totaling approximately 805 acres proposed. The sites are collectively located in the same area identified by the USACE as Borrow Area in the Fire Island to Montauk Point Reformulation Study. Bathymetric surveys of the borrow sites conducted in September 2022 indicate that the borrow area slopes evenly to the south and does not contain any remarkable variation in topography. The sand volume needed for this project would be achieved by dredging 10-feet deep within the borrow sites.

Beach Sand and Borrow Area Compatibility:

An analysis of sand size compatibility determined that the mean grain size of the offshore borrow areas was similar in size and slightly coarser than the beach/dune/offshore areas within the project site. Studies show that sand similar and slightly coarser than native sand will perform well in beach nourishment.

#### Design:

The project has been divided into two reaches (Reach 1 - east and Reach 2 - west). The amount of sand in the fill section increases from west to east. Reach 1 consists of a fill section of 88.29 cubic feet per linear foot of beach, a berm width of 90 feet and a berm height of +6 feet NAVD 88. The total volume of fill to be placed in Reach 1 is 540,000 CY, of which 286,000 CY will be seaward of the Spring High Water (SHW) line.

Reach 2 consists of a fill section of 81.26 cubic feet per linear foot of beach, a berm width of 83 feet and a berm height of +6 feet NAVD 88. The total volume of fill to be placed in Reach 2 is 650,000 CY, of which 388,000 CY will be seaward of the SHW line.

The total amount of fill to be placed is 1,190,000 CY of which 674,000 CY will be below SHW line. The addition of more sand on the east end (Reach 1) of the project is designed to also act as a "feeder" beach and will add to the longevity and performance of the project.

### Construction Methods:

The work will be accomplished by using either a hydraulic cutterhead dredge connected by submerged pipe line to the shoreline or a hopper dredge that collects the sand into a hold and discharges onto the beach via submerged pipeline connected to the shoreline.

In addition to the dredge equipment, construction will require the use of bulldozers, front end loaders, and other heavy construction equipment as well as supply, monitoring and crew vehicles.

Construction is proposed to be from October 1st to March 31st and to respect all established dredging and endangered species windows. Approximately 2-4 months is expected for active project construction with additional time at the beginning and end to allow for mobilization and demobilization.

The applicant has stated that they have avoided, minimized, and mitigated for potential impacts proposed to the maximum extent practicable by limiting the dredged area to the minimum area required to provide the necessary material for flood and erosion protection. Any potential impacts would be temporary and would be offset by implementing best management practices.

The stated purpose of the project is to provide natural flood and erosion protection to existing property and resources by enhancing beach and dune features with compatible sand, and aid in the prevention of additional erosion of the shoreline in the Sagaponack Beach Erosion Control District.

# DRAWING NO. 1 of 8





DRAWING NO. 3 of 8



# DRAWING NO. 4 of 8











Borrow area may be excavated via hydraulic suction-cutterhead dredge or hopper dredge.

Excavation via hopper dredge will leave undisturbed areas within borrow area.

SECTION VERTICAL EXAGGERATION: 20:1 Bathymetry shown collected by CSE (Sep 2022) Datum: NAVD 1988 (Feet)

SECTION TO BE EXCAVATED NOT TO EXCEED 7 FT DEPTH

#### SEE SHEET 07 FOR SECTION LOCATIONS

 SCALE:
 AS SHOWN

 DATE:
 Feb 2023

 DRAWN BY:
 JJH

 PROJECT #:
 2549-S