



**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. JONES INLET FY22
Published: 06-Jan-2022
Expires: 05-Feb-2022

MAINTENANCE DREDGING OF JONES INLET, 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 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 Jones Inlet Federal Navigation Channel and deposition basins with subsequent placement of the dredged material on the beach adjacent to Point Lookout.

ACTIVITY: Maintenance Dredging of Jones Inlet Federal Navigation Project, with placement of approximately 750,000 cubic yards of dredged sand along the shoreline of Point Lookout Beach.

WATERWAY: Jones Inlet, Nassau County, New York

LOCATION: South Shore of Long Island, between Jones Beach Island and Point Lookout, Town of Hempstead, Long Island, Nassau County, New York

The Jones Inlet Federal Navigation Channel was authorized by the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1945, House Document No. 409, 77th Congress, 1st session.

The existing navigation project provides for a channel, 12 feet deep at Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW), 250 feet wide from a point in the Atlantic Ocean through the inlet to the Loop Causeway Bridge over Long Creek. An entrance jetty, 4,250 feet in length, runs along the eastern side of the inlet from Jones Beach State Park southerly into the Atlantic Ocean. The length of the channel is about 2.3 miles long (Attachment 1).

It should be noted that due to rapid shoaling nature of the Jones Inlet, advance maintenance measures are being considered, including: 1) maintaining a previously

constructed deposition basin (deposition basin 1) with a variable width of 750 – 438 feet, which begins from the entrance of the channel and continues along the southern boundaries until just landward of the bend in the channel; and 2) maintaining a second deposition basin (deposition basin 2) with a width of 200 feet, which begins from the second bend in the channel, along the southern boundaries, and extends just seaward of the fourth bend in the channel; and 3) maintaining a third deposition basin (deposition basin 3) with a width of 100 feet, which begins from the second bend in the channel, along the northern boundaries, and extends just seaward of the fourth bend in the channel.

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.

DUE TO CURRENT LOCAL CONDITIONS, AND TO ENSURE ALL COMMENTS REGARDING THIS ACTIVITY ARE RECEIVED, ALL COMMENTS SHOULD BE EMAILED TO ALEXANDER.F.GREGORY@USACE.ARMY.MIL 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 prior to the implementation of the proposed 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 will submit a determination that the proposed project is consistent with the Department of State CZM consistency policies. This activity is subject to review by the New York State Department of State for its consistency with enforceable policies of the New York State CZM program. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers New York District has determined that the proposed activities are consistent to the maximum extent practicable within the application policies of the New York State CZM. 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 New York State Department of State, Office of Coastal, Local Government, and Community Sustainability, One Commerce Plaza, 99 Washington Avenue, Suite 1010, Albany, NY 11231.

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, National Marine Fisheries Service
- U.S. Coast Guard, First District
- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
- New York State Department of State
- Town of Hempstead

If you have any questions concerning this notice, please contact Mr. Alexander Gregory, Project Manager at (917) 790-8427, or alexander.f.gregory@usace.army.mil.

DESCRIPTION OF PLANNED ACTION:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (the Corps) proposes to perform maintenance dredging of the Federal Navigation Channel and deposition basins in Jones Inlet. The channel was last dredged under the Operations and Maintenance Dredging Program in 2013, with the removal of approximately 665,470 cubic yards (CY) of sand, which was used in a beneficial manner as beach nourishment, placed along the shoreline of Point Lookout Beach. The proposed maintenance dredging is expected to involve the removal of approximately 750,000 CY of sand, which would be used in a beneficial manner as beach nourishment along the downdrift shoreline at Point Lookout Beach.

The channel and deposition basins will be dredged to a depth of 14 feet MLLW plus 2 feet allowable over depth (see Image 1). Maintenance dredging of the channel and deposition basins at Jones Inlet will be accomplished by hydraulic dredge. The entire channel will generally not require maintenance dredging; only areas where shoaling has reduced the depth of the channel will require dredging.

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 Jones Inlet by commercial and recreational boating interests while providing beneficial use of the dredged material. Between maintenance operations, the bypassed sand placed at the feeder beach would be carried by littoral drift to feed down drift beaches. The maintenance operation would thus serve to place sand trapped in the channel back into the normal littoral movement that naturally replenishes the western beaches, while maintaining a safe channel for navigation.

The proposed dredging for this cycle is anticipated to occur in the fall/winter of 2022, subject to the availability of funds.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was prepared by the U.S. Army Engineer District, New York in June 1974. An Environmental Assessment (EA) updating this EIS were prepared by the New York District in September 2013. The EIS and EA indicated that dredging of Jones Inlet 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 along the shoreline west (downdrift) of the inlet, at Point Lookout Beach, which is located in the Town of Hempstead, Nassau County, New York (see Image 2). The dredged material will be transported by pipeline and deposited at the designated site.

MATERIAL DESCRIPTION:

Results of the grain size analysis performed on samples collected within the project area have indicated that the material to be deposited is predominantly sand (greater than 97% sand). Therefore, this proposed dredged material would be 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>.

If you have any questions concerning this notice, please contact Mr. Alexander Gregory, Project Manager, at (917) 790-8427 or email at Alexander.F.Gregory@usace.army.mil



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Randall G. Hintz
Chief, Operations Support Branch



Image 1: Jones Inlet, approximate locations of dredging areas shown (Google Earth Image Date: 18 June 2018)



Image 2: Jones Inlet placement location along Point Lookout Beach, NY (Google EarthImage Date: 14 September 2020)