



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Baltimore District

Planning Division

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

AUG 26 2008

**Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement
Atlantic Coast of Maryland Shoreline Protection Project
General Reevaluation Study: Borrow Sources for 2010 - 2044**

ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

In accordance with requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District (USACE), Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Minerals Management Service, Town of Ocean City, and Worcester County have prepared a Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the Atlantic Coast of Maryland Shoreline Protection Project, located in Ocean City. The Final SEIS evaluates impacts of proposed dredging of several new offshore shoals to provide sand for the project from 2010 to 2044. USACE is filing the Final SEIS with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). USACE and USEPA will publish Notices of Availability (NOA) in the Federal Register. A Record of Decision may be signed no earlier than 30 days after the USEPA notice.

The Final SEIS contains several determinations and recommendations as follows.

- Between 6,800,000 and 15,000,000 cubic yards of sand would be needed through 2044, depending on future storm frequency and intensity. Borrow sources to obtain up to 15,000,000 cubic yards of sand through 2044 were identified.
- Offshore shoals are the best sources since these contain large quantities of suitable sand that can be cost-effectively obtained.
- Three offshore shoals in Federal waters were recommended: Weaver Shoal, Isle of Wight Shoal, and Shoal "A." Sub-areas were preliminarily delineated based on engineering suitability of the sand for beach nourishment purposes.
- Sand at Shoal "B," also known as Bass Grounds or First Lump, is also suitable, however that shoal is currently an important fishing grounds. Accordingly, Shoal "B" would not be utilized unless future reevaluation finds that its relative value as a fishing ground has declined substantially.
- Dredging would be conducted following guidelines to minimize long-term impacts to the offshore shoals. Guidelines were formulated in coordination with resource agency personnel and academic experts.

Coordination with resource agency personnel, academic experts, and fishermen was undertaken during plan formulation. A Draft SEIS was prepared in May 2007 and made available for public and agency review during the period July 10th through August 28th, 2007. The District received public and agency comments and revised the Draft SEIS to address these comments. Copies of comments received and a summary of revisions made to the document to address these comments are provided in the Final SEIS.

You may view the Final SEIS and related information on the USACE web page at <http://www.nab.usace.army.mil/PN/CivilWorks.htm>. USACE has distributed copies of the Final SEIS to appropriate members of Congress, State, and local government officials, Federal agencies, and other interested parties. Copies are available for viewing at the following public locations:

- (1) Worcester County Library, Ocean City Branch, 200 14th St., Ocean City, MD 21842
- (2) Worcester County Library, Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Rd., Ocean Pines, MD 21811
- (3) Worcester County Library, Snow Hill Branch, 307 North Washington St., Snow Hill, MD 21863

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Christopher Spaur by mail at U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Attn: Mr. Christopher Spaur, CENAB-PL-P, P.O. Box 1715, Baltimore, MD 21203-1715; or electronically at christopher.c.spaur@usace.army.mil, or by telephone at (410) 962-6134 or (800) 295-1610.


Amy M. Gulse
Chief, Civil Project Development Branch