

U.S. Army Corps
Of Engineers
Baltimore District

Public Notice

In Reply to Application Number
CENAB-OP-RMN (BWI Sparrows Point, LLC. /Dredging)
2013-61977-M02

PN 14-4

Comment Period: January 21, 2014 – February 21, 2014

THE PURPOSE OF THIS PUBLIC NOTICE IS TO SOLICIT COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ABOUT THE WORK DESCRIBED BELOW. AT THIS TIME, NO DECISION HAS BEEN MADE AS TO WHETHER OR NOT A PERMIT WILL BE ISSUED.

The Baltimore District has received an application for a Department of the Army Permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 as described below.

APPLICANT: BWI Sparrows Point, LLC.
c/o Mr. Bryan Ellis
SKW Constructors
1500 Seaboard Avenue
Portsmouth, Virginia 23707

LOCATION AND WATERWAY: Patapsco River, near Sparrows Point, Baltimore County, Maryland

WORK: To mechanically dredge an approximately 14.75 acre existing access channel and turning basin to 29 feet below mean low water, and to deposit the approximately 44,000 cubic yards of dredged material at either the Maryland Port Administration's Cox Creek Dredged Material Containment Facility (DMCF), Anne Arundel County, Maryland, or the Masonville DMCF, Baltimore City, Maryland. A permit for this project, if issued, would authorize periodic maintenance dredging subject to the prior approval of the District Engineer.

The purpose of the project is to dredge to provide safe navigation to allow for the transport of tunnel sections from the Sparrows Point Shipyard for the Midtown tunnel project.

All work is to be completed in accordance with the enclosed plans. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Mr. Jon Romeo at (410) 962-6079 or at jon.romeo@usace.army.mil.

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, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation,

water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

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. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers 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 the 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.

Written comments concerning the work described above related to the factors listed above or other pertinent factors must be received by the District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, [ATTN: Mr. Jon Romeo, CENAB-OP-RMN] P.O. Box 1715, Baltimore, Maryland 21203-1715, within the comment period specified above.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT (EFH) ASSESSMENT: The Magnuson-Steven Fishery Conservation Act (MSFCA), as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-267), requires all Federal agencies to consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency that may adversely affect EFH. The EFH designations within the Northeast Region (Maine to Virginia), dated March 1, 1999 include EFH for a number of species in various life stages. This waterway has EFH listed for juvenile and adult windowpane flounder (*Scopthalmus aquosus*), summer flounder (*Paralichthys dentatus*), and bluefish (*Pomatomus saltatrix*); egg, larva, juvenile and adult life stages of king mackerel (*Scomberomorus cavalla*), Spanish mackerel (*Scomberomorus maculatus*), cobia (*Rachycentron canadum*), and red drum (*Sciaenops ocellatus*). These are managed species under the MSFCA. A preliminary assessment indicates that the proposed work would not have a substantial adverse effect on either managed species or prey species. Therefore, no EFH conservation measures have been developed. As the evaluation of this application continues, additional information may become available which could modify this preliminary determination.

COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS: The applicant has certified in this application that the proposed activity complies with and will be conducted in a manner consistent with the Maryland Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Program. By this public notice, we are requesting the State concurrence or objection to the applicant's consistency statement. Public comments relating to consistency must be received by the Maryland Department of the Environment, Wetlands and Waterways Program, Montgomery Park Business Center, 1800 Washington Boulevard, Suite 430, Baltimore, Maryland 21230-1708 within the comment period specified above to receive consideration. MDE has a statutory limit of 6 months to concur or object to the applicant's consistency determination.

The applicant must obtain any State or local government permits which may be required.

A preliminary review of this application indicates that the proposed work will not affect listed species or their critical habitat pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act as amended. As the evaluation of this application continues, additional information may become available which could modify this preliminary determination.

Review of the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places indicates that no registered properties listed as eligible for inclusion therein are located at the site of the proposed work. Currently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistoric, or historical data may be lost or destroyed by the work to be accomplished under the requested permit.

Any person who has an interest which may be adversely affected by the issuance of this permit may request a public hearing. The request, which must be in writing, must be received by the District Engineer, US Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, [ATTN : Mr. Jon Romeo CENAB-OP-RMN], P.O. Box 1715, Baltimore, Maryland 21203-1715, within the comment period specified above to receive consideration. Also, the request must clearly state forth the interest which may be adversely affected by this activity and the manner in which the interest may be adversely affected.

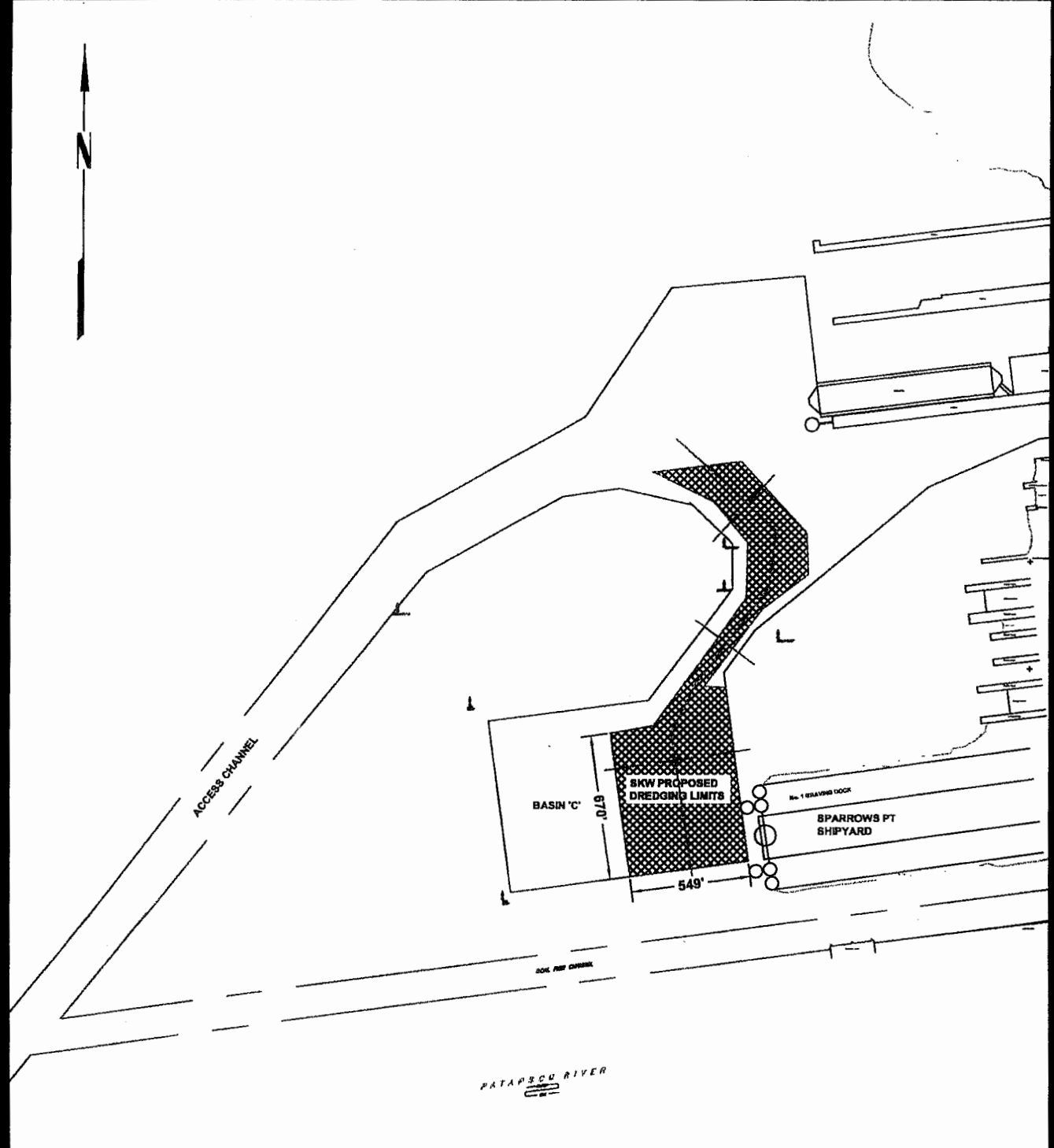
It is requested that you communicate the foregoing information concerning the proposed work to any persons known by you to be interested and not being known to this office, who did not receive a copy of this notice.

FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER:

Joseph P. DaVia
Chief, Maryland Section Northern

SPARROWS POINT SHIPYARD DREDGING

EXHIBIT 2 - PROPOSED SPARROWS PT SHIPYARD DREDGING LIMITS - SKW CONSTRUCTORS



PROPOSED DREDGE AREA = 14.75 ACRES
PROPOSED DREDGE DEPTH = -29' MLLW
PROPOSED DREDGE QTY. = 44,000 CY (MAXIMUM)

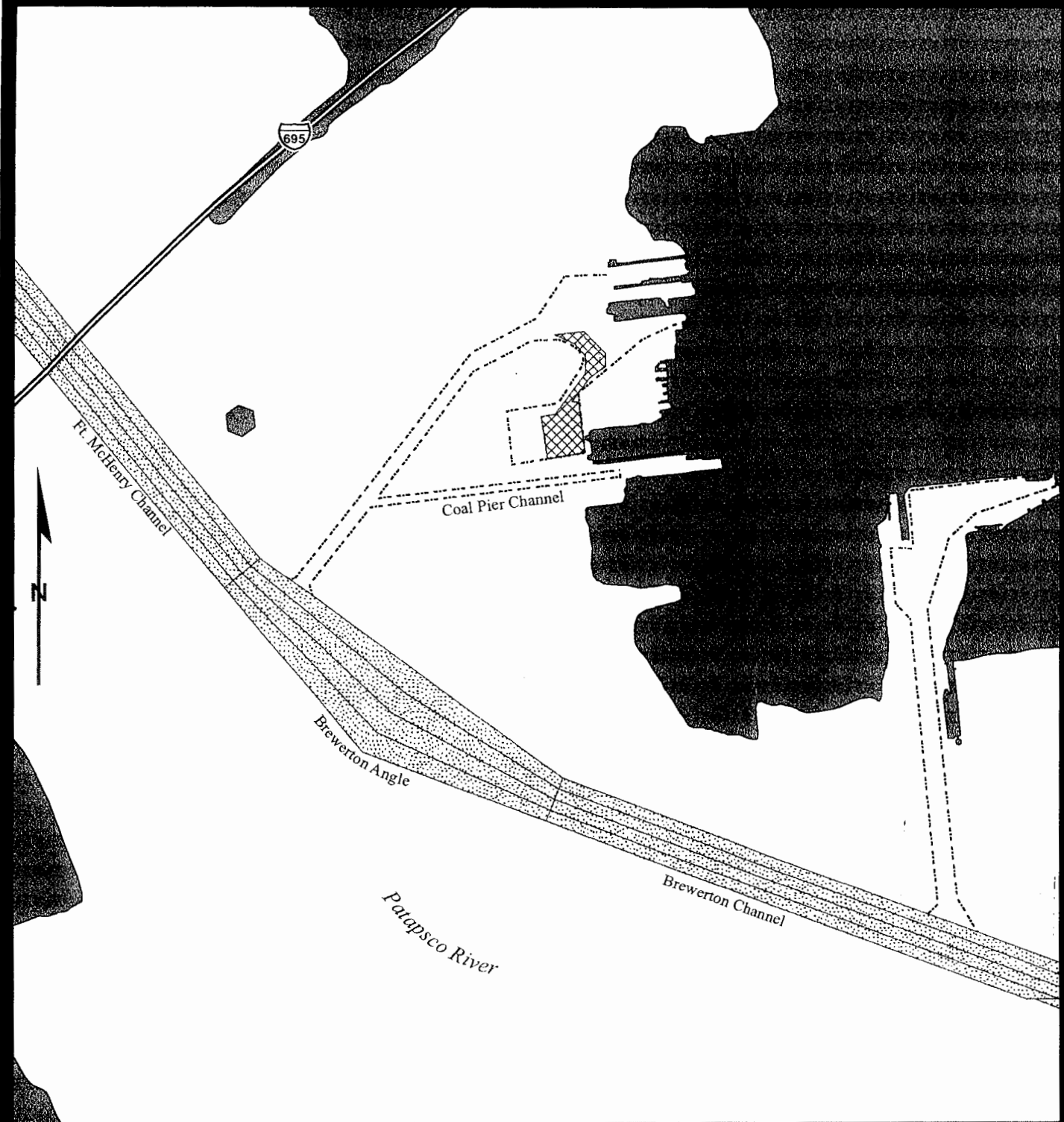
SPARROWS PT SHIPYARD DREDGING

SCALE: 1"=650'
EXHIBIT 2

DATUM: NAD83 / MLLW
DATE: SEPT. 11, 2013

SPARROWS POINT SHIPYARD DREDGING

EXHIBIT 1 - VICINITY MAP: ACCESS CHANNEL AND TURNING BASIN, PATAPSCO RIVER, MARYLAND



Legend

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| --- Existing Access Channels | Federal Navigation Channel |
| == Major Road | Land |
| Proposed Access Channel and Turning Basin Dredging Area | Waterbody |

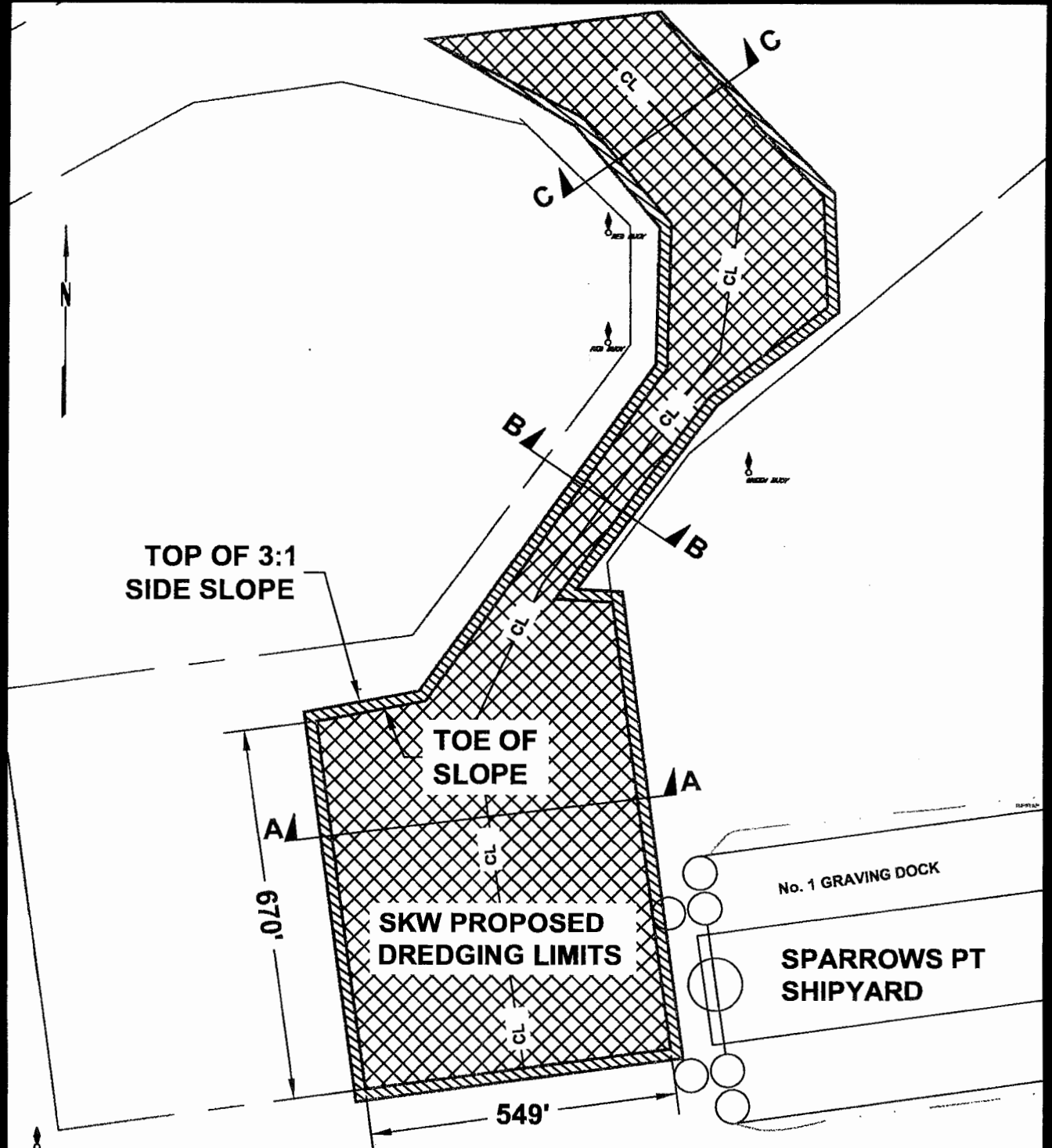
SPARROWS PT SHIPYARD DREDGING - VICINITY MAP



SCALE: 1" = 2,000'
EXHIBIT 1

DATUM: NAD83 / MLLW
DATE: 10/24/2013

SPARROWS POINT SHIPYARD DREDGING

EXHIBIT 3 - OVERALL DREDGING PLAN FOR PROPOSED SPARROWS PT. SHIPYARD DREDGING



-  3:1 SIDE SLOPES
-  DREDGED TO -29' MLLW

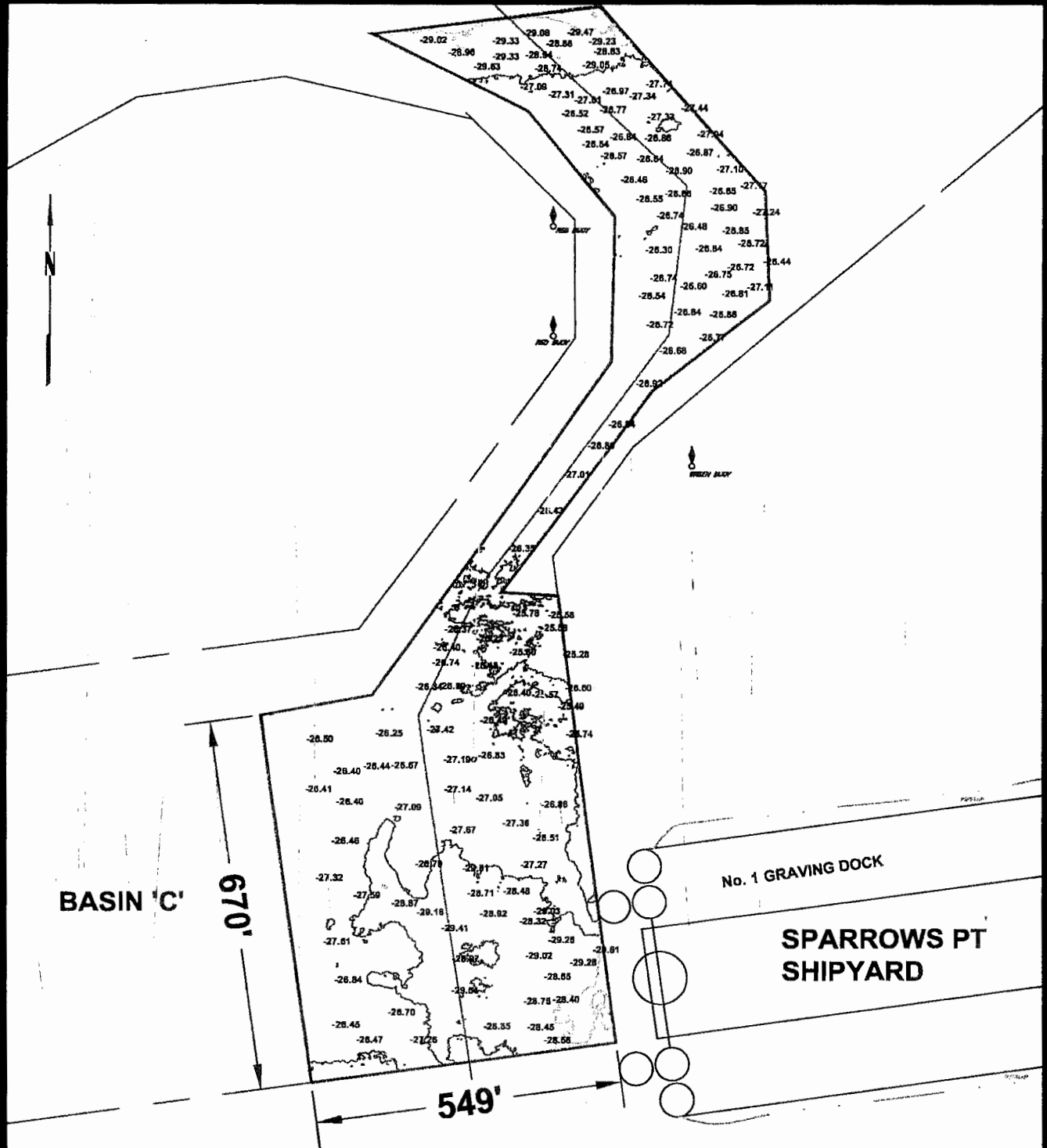
SPARROWS PT SHIPYARD DREDGING

SCALE: 1"=250'
EXHIBIT 3

DATUM: NAD83 / MLLW
DATE: SEPT. 11, 2013

SPARROWS POINT SHIPYARD DREDGING

EXHIBIT 4 - EXISTING (AUG 2013) WATER DEPTHS (ft MLLW) IN PROPOSED SPARROWS PT. SHIPYARD DREDGING AREA



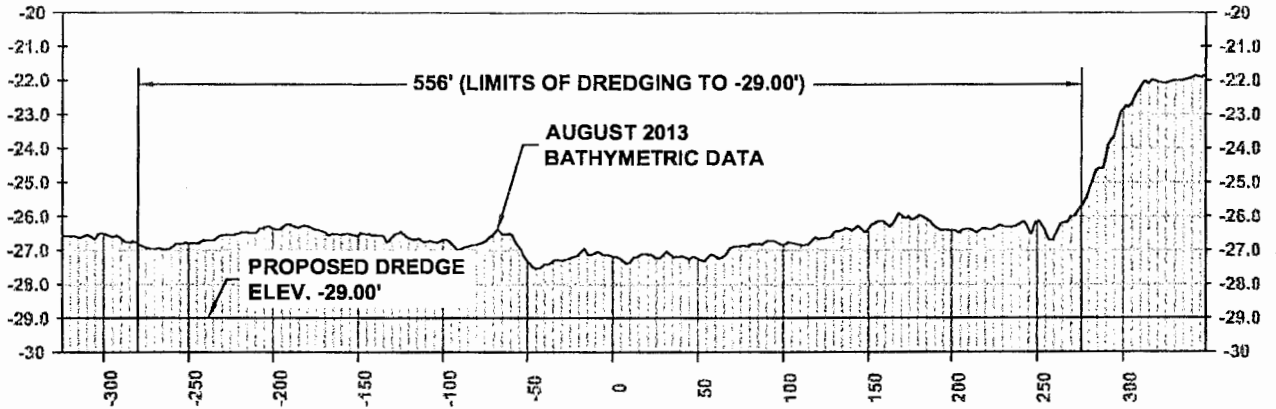
SPARROWS PT SHIPYARD DREDGING

SCALE: 1"=250'
EXHIBIT 4

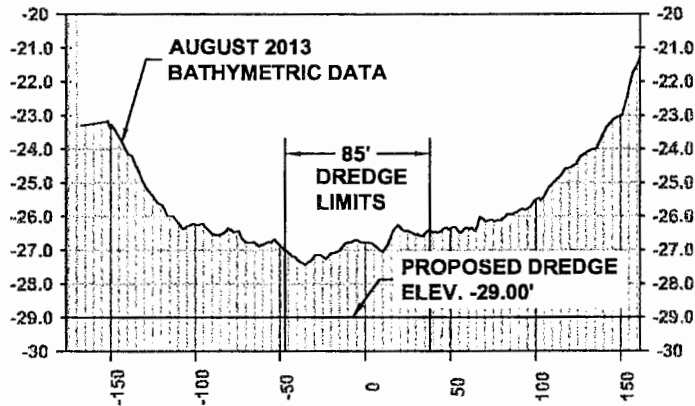
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DATE: SEPT. 11, 2013

SPARROWS POINT SHIPYARD DREDGING

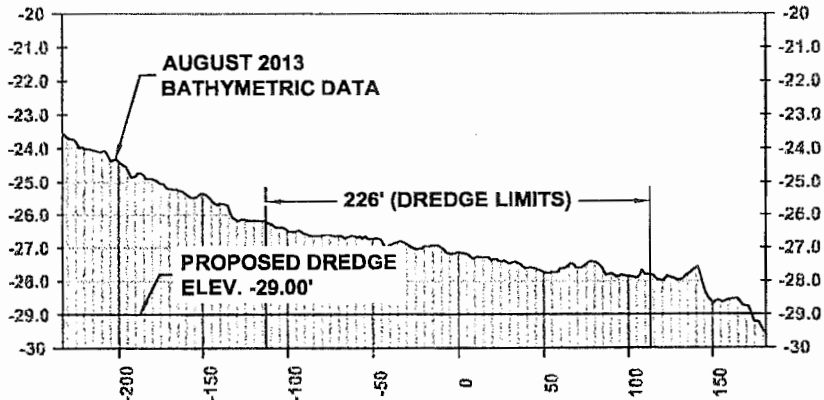
EXHIBIT 5-BATHYMETRIC CROSS SECTIONS IN PROPOSED SPARROWS PT. SHIPYARD DREDGING AREA



A - A



B - B



C - C

NOTES:

- 1) A MULTIBEAM HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY WAS CONDUCTED ON 8-20-2013 OF THE PROPOSED DREDGE AREA.
- 2) ALL VERTICAL ELEVATIONS REFERENCE THE MLLW DATUM.
- 3) '0' OFFSET REPRESENTS THE CENTERLINE THROUGH THE PROPOSED DREDGE AREA.

SPARROWS PT SHIPYARD DREDGING

SCALE: NTS
EXHIBIT 5

DATUM: NAD83 / MLLW
DATE: SEPT. 11, 2013