

## **Public Notice**

U.S. Army Corps Of Engineers Baltimore District In Reply to Application Number CENAB-OP-RMN (MPA/Masonville/Fairfield Marine Terminals) 2014-61518-M02

PN 14-64

Comment Period: December 1, 2014 – December 31, 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 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), as described below.

APPLICANT: Maryland Port Administration Attn: Ms. Holly Miller 401 East Pratt Street, Suite 1900 Baltimore, Maryland 21202

**LOCATION AND WATERWAY**: Patapsco River, at the Fairfield Marine Terminal, 2900 Childs Street, Baltimore City, Maryland

**WORK**: To construct a confined aquatic disposal (CAD) cell for dredged material disposal, by mechanically dredging a 5.5-acre area to 80 feet below mean low water. The approximately 240,000 cubic yards of predominantly granular material dredged from this area is to be used to fill the adjoining Masonville "wet basin", the filling of which was previously authorized by Department of the Army permit CENAB-OP-RMN (Masonville DMCF) 2006-63743. Any unsuitable or excess material dredged from this project is to be deposited at the Masonville DMCF. The CAD cell constructed by dredging is to be used for the containment of material dredged from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Fort McHenry, Brewton Angle, and/or Brewerton Channel Maintenance dredging projects. The applicant also proposes to perform up to 20 subsurface soil borings in the proposed CAD cell area for testing purposes.

This is a pilot project for an alternative method of dredged material disposal. 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.

An evaluation of the work described above on the public interest will include application of the Clean Water Act Section 404 (b)(1) Guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

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 (Paralicthys 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 (Scianeops occelatus). 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.

**SECTION 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION**: The applicant is required to obtain a water quality certification from the Maryland Department of the Environment in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. Any written comments concerning the work described above which relate to water quality certification must be received by the Wetlands and Waterways Program, Maryland Department of the Environment, Montgomery Park Business Center, 1800 Washington Boulevard, Suite 430, Baltimore, Maryland 21230-1708 within the comment period as specified above to receive consideration. The Section

401 certifying agency has a statutory limit of one year from the date of this public notice to make its decision.

**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 Wetlands and Waterways Program, Maryland Department of the Environment, 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.

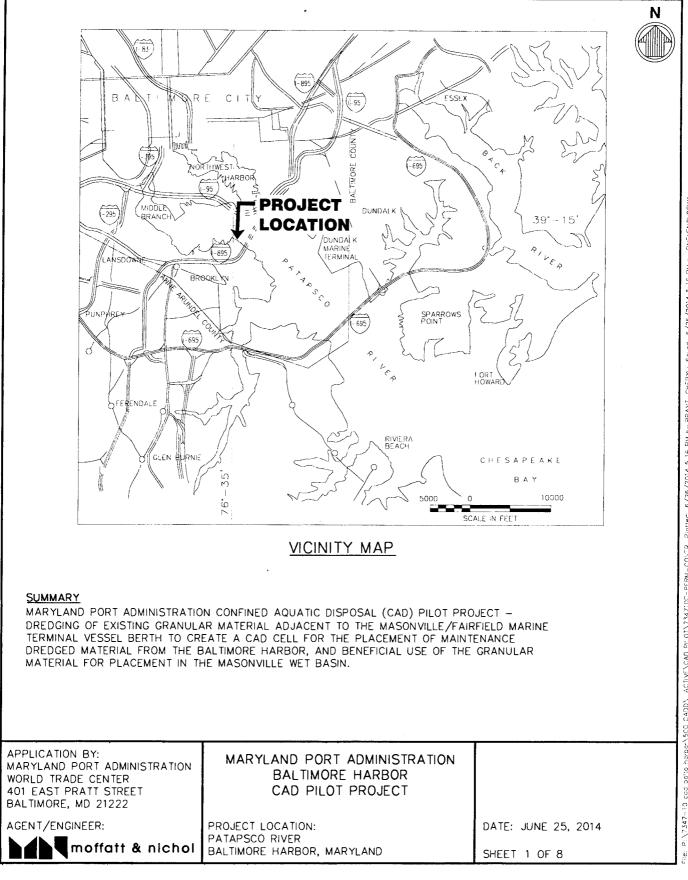
Review of the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places indicates that no registered properties listed as eligible for inclusion therein are located at the site of the proposed work. Currently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistoric, or historical data may be lost or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

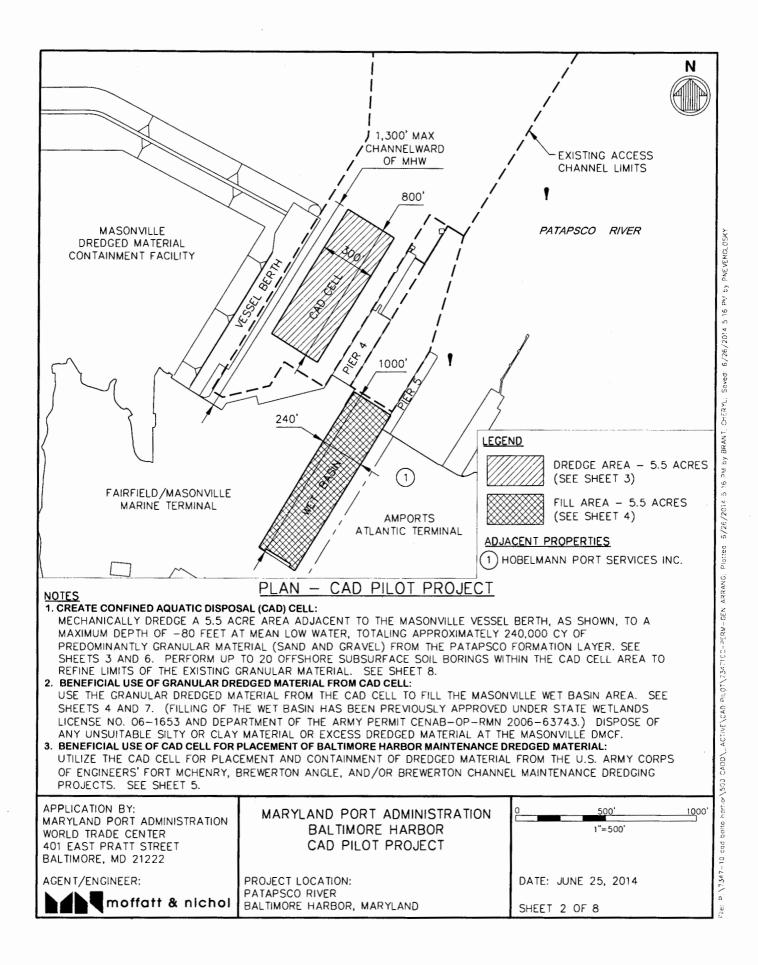
Any person who has an interest which may be adversely affected by the issuance of this permit may request a public hearing. The request, which must be in writing, must be received by the District Engineer, US Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, [ATTN : Mr. Jon Romeo CENAB-OP-RMN], P.O. Box 1715, 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.

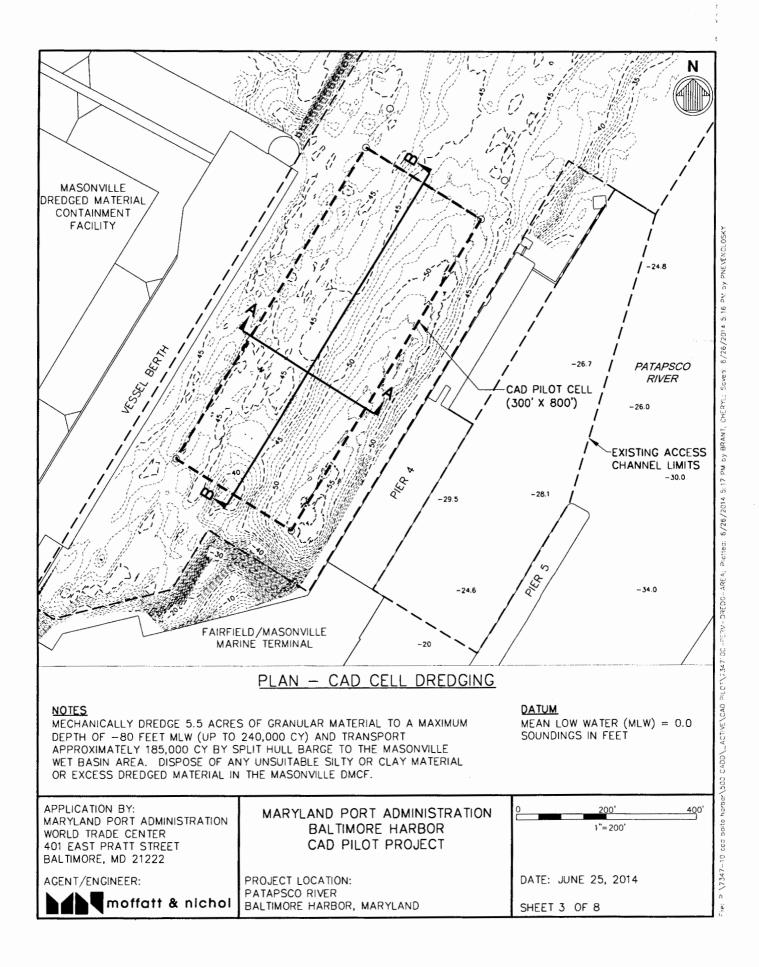
It is requested that you communicate the foregoing information concerning the proposed work to any persons known by you to be interested and not being known to this office, who did not receive a copy of this notice.

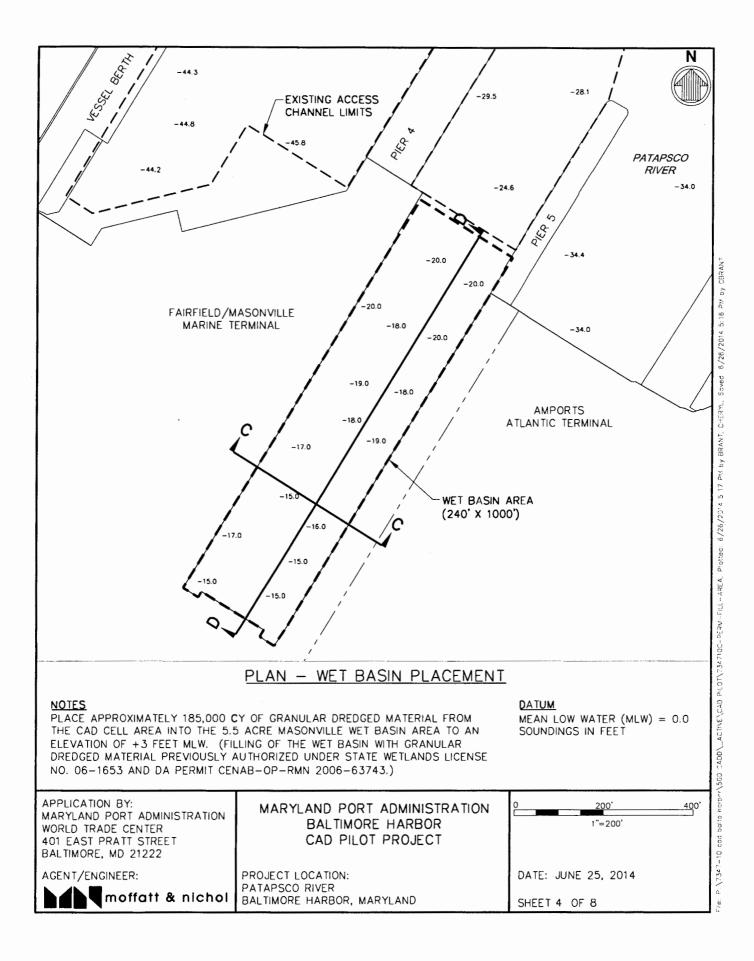
FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER:

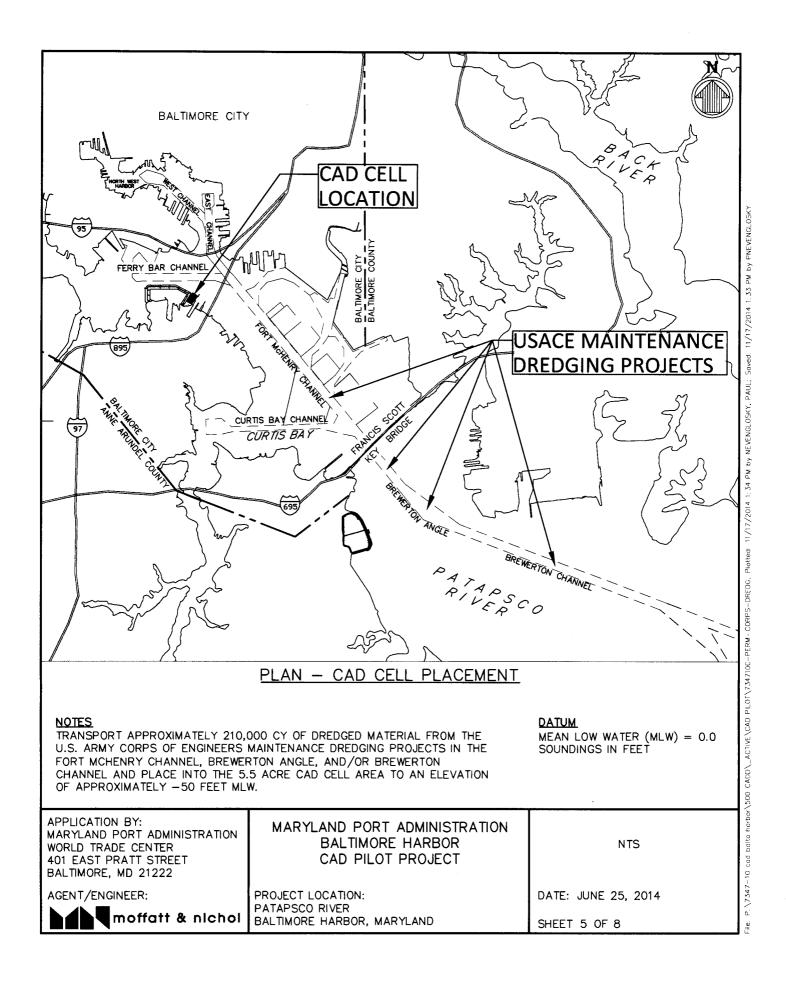
Joseph P. DaVia Chief, Maryland Section Northern

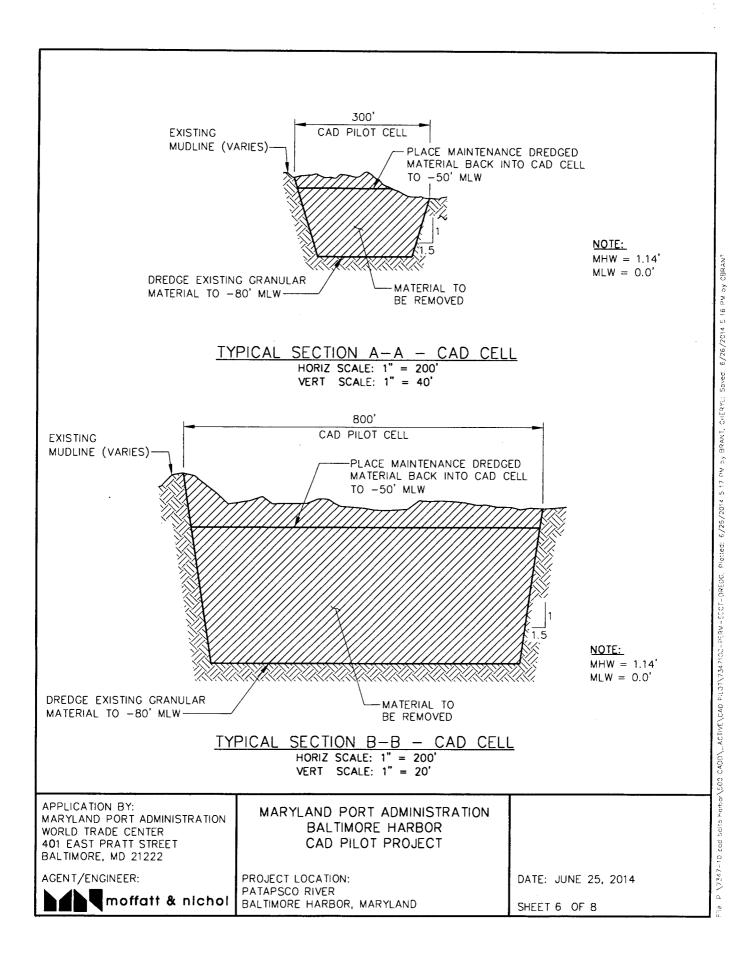


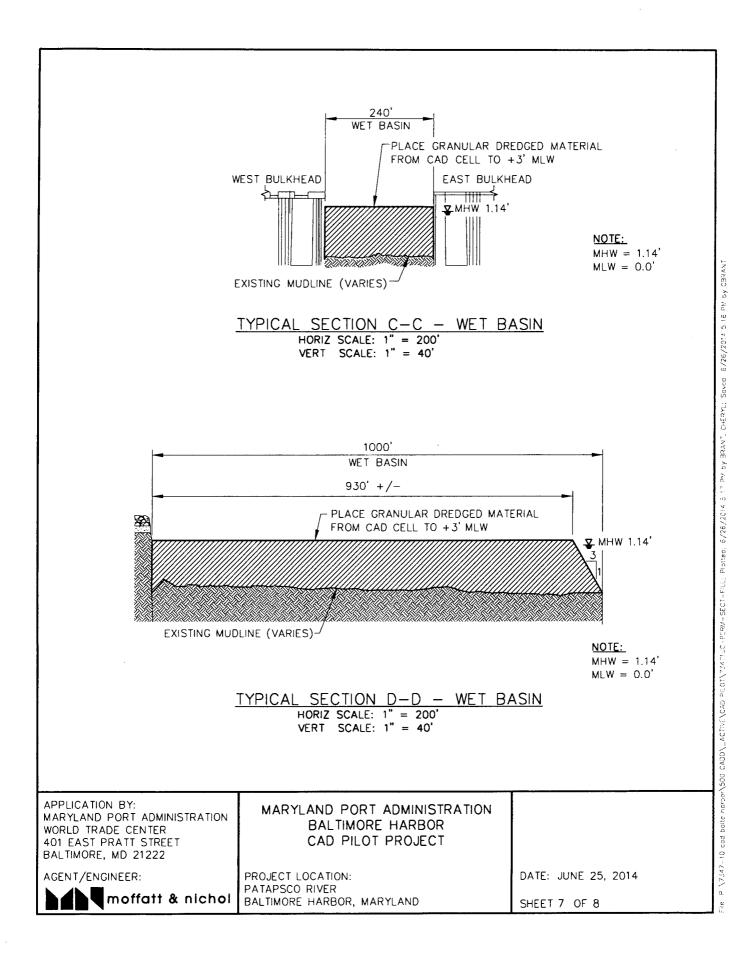












## TYPICAL BORING PROCEDURES

1. CONSTRUCTION ACCESS TO BORING SITES WILL BE BY WATER.

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- 2. DRILLING SHALL BE ACCOMPLISHED USING HOLLOW STEM AUGERS.
- 3. DRILLING DEPTH SHALL BE APPROXIMATELY 80 FEET BELOW THE MUD LINE.
- 4. STANDARD PENETRATION TESTS SHALL BE PERFORMED AT 2.5 FOOT INTERVALS.
- 5. UNDISTURBED SAMPLES SHALL BE OBTAINED USING 3-INCH DIAMETER 24-INCH LONG SHELBY TUBES.
- 6. IN-SITU VANE SHEAR TESTS SHALL BE CONDUCTED IN OFFSET BORINGS TO EACH UNDISTURBED SAMPLE AT CORRESPONDING DEPTHS.
- 7. SOIL SAMPLES COLLECTED FOR LABORATORY ANALYSIS SHALL BE DISPOSED OF PROPERLY PER STANDARD LABORATORY PROCEDURES.

| APPLICATION BY:<br>MARYLAND PORT ADMINISTRATION<br>WORLD TRADE CENTER<br>401 EAST PRATT STREET<br>BALTIMORE, MD 21222 | MARYLAND PORT ADMINISTRATION<br>BALTIMORE HARBOR<br>CAD PILOT PROJECT |                                     |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| AGENT/ENGINEER:   | PROJECT LOCATION:<br>PATAPSCO RIVER<br>BALTIMORE HARBOR, MARYLAND     | DATE: JUNE 25, 2014<br>SHEET 8 OF 8 |