



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
BALTIMORE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
2 HOPKINS PLAZA
BALTIMORE, MD 21201

August 15, 2022

Operations Division

SUBJECT: Herring Bay and Rockhold Creek Maintenance Dredging, Anne Arundel County, Maryland

Dear Coordinating Agencies:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District (Corps), is planning to perform maintenance dredging for the Herring Bay and Rockhold Creek Federal navigation channel near Deale, Anne Arundel County, Maryland. Please be advised that implementation of this maintenance dredging is dependent on available funds. The Corps' notification and review procedures for dredging in Federal navigation channels is found under Section 313 and 404 of the Clean Water Act of 1977 (33 USC 1323 and 1344) and Corps regulations at 33 CFR Part 336.

The proposed work consists of dredging the Herring Bay and Rockhold Creek channel to its authorized depth of seven feet MLLW, plus two feet of allowable overdepth, and a width of 100 feet (Map 1). There is a possibility of advanced maintenance dredging (plus one additional foot) at the portion of the channel near the jetties. The Corps plans to dredge approximately 50,000 cubic yards of material consisting of combinations of clay, mud, sand, silt, and shell. Dredging operations may be performed by either hydraulic pipeline or mechanical dredging. If dredged by hydraulic pipeline the material will be placed via pipeline to an existing upland placement site (Map 2) If dredged mechanically, the material will be offloaded at nearby location into sealed watertight trucks. The material will be trucked to and placed at the same existing upland placement site (Map 2). Earthwork berm repairs, including possibly raising of the existing berms or replacement of the weir boxes, may be needed at the existing placement site.

If any earthwork is necessary at the existing placement site construction will be conducted in a manner consistent with the approved Maryland Coastal Zone Management Program. The project will comply with the Endangered Species Act, and provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended, and will not have any adverse effect on endangered species or essential fish habitat for federally managed species.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, we request that you submit comments within your agency's area of expertise to assist in the preparation of the environmental documentation for our project. Information concerning the proposed project and comments are requested by September 15, 2022. We are coordinating this work with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; National Marine Fisheries Service; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; U.S. Coast Guard; Maryland

Department of the Environment; Maryland Department of Natural Resources; Maryland Geologic Survey; Maryland Historical Trust; and Anne Arundel County, Maryland.

If there are any questions, please contact Ms. Danielle Szimanski, Navigation Branch, at Danielle.m.szimanski@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Seib', written in a cursive style.

for WILLIAM P. SEIB
Chief, Operations Division

Enclosures