

Public Notice

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Baltimore District PN-18-31 In Reply to Application Number NAB-2018-60650-P05 (Tilghman Island Marina Dredging)

Comment Period: June 5 to July 5, 2018

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

This 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/or Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33. U.S.C. 1344) as described below:

APPLICANT:	Tilghman Island Marina, LLC
	c/o Ronald Cicero
	PO Box 231,
	6140 Mariners Court
	Tilghman, Maryland 21617

WATERWAY AND LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED WORK: In Knapps Narrows next to Tilghman Island, Talbot County, Maryland

PROPOSED WORK AND PURPOSE: The applicant proposes, in accordance with the attached plans, to mechanically or hydraulically maintenance dredge 38,611 ft² within an existing marina basin to -6.0' mean lower low water (MLLW). The 268-foot-long by 193-foot-wide marina basin was last dredged in 1990 and current basin depth range from -2.5' MLLW to -5.5' MLLW. The resulting 3,533 cubic yards of material will be deposited in the existing Raymond Farm dredged material placement (DMP) site utilizing the existing hydraulic dredging pipeline, if applicable. The applicant has requested a 10-year maintenance dredging clause.

The proposed dredging is within an existing marina basin, and has been previously dredged to the proposed depths. No impacts to wetlands is proposed. Compensatory mitigation is not being proposed by the applicant. The purpose of the project is to maintain access to navigation.

All work is to be completed in accordance with the enclosed plan(s). If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact (Mrs. Marion Gall at <u>marion.gall@usace.army.mil</u>, 814-235-1761, 1631 South Atherton Street, Suite 101 State College, Pennsylvania 16801).

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSFCMA), as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996 (Public Law 04-267), requires all Federal agencies to consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH).

According to the Maryland Department of Natural Resource's Merlin on-line database, no EFH was identified within Tilghman Marina. The Chesapeake Bay main stem has been identified as EFH, as described under Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSFCMA), for

Juvenile and adult Red hake (Urophycis chuss) and Windowpane flounder (Scopthalmus aquosus); Adult Atlantic sea herring (Clupea harengus); Juvenile and adult Bluefish (Pomatomus saltatrix); Eggs, larvae, juvenile and adult Atlantic butterfish (Peprilus triacanthus); Larvae, juvenile and adult Summer flounder (Paralicthys dentatus); Juvenile and adult Scup (Stenotomus chrysops) and Red Drum (Sciaenops occelatus); Eggs, larvae, juveniles and adult King mackerel (Scomberomorus cavalla), Spanish mackerel (Scomberomorus maculates), Cobia (Rachycentron canadum), Black sea bass (Centropristus striata) and all managed species under the MSFCMA.

The project has the potential to adversely affect EFH or the species of concern by the alteration of spawning, nursery, forage and/or shelter habitat. The project may have an adverse effect on an approximate total of 0.89 acre area of EFH as described under the MSFCMA for the species and life stages identified above. This habitat consists of a mostly sand and silt substrate which does not support SAV. According to the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) survey maps, there was no SAV within the area. The Baltimore District has made a preliminary determination that site-specific impacts would not be substantial and an abbreviated consultation will be conducted with NMFS. No mitigative measures are recommended at this time to minimize adverse effects on EFH. This preliminary determination may be modified if additional information indicates otherwise and could change the Corps' preliminary determination.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, 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 reasonable 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, economic, 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, mineral needs, and consideration of property ownership 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 provided will become part of the public record for this action. 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, (Regulatory Field Office, 1631 South Atherton Street, Suite 101, State College, PA 16801) within the comment period specified above. **WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION:** The applicant is required to obtain a water quality certification in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act from the Maryland Department of Environment. 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: Where applicable, the applicant has certified in this application that the proposed activity complies with and will be conducted in a manner consistent with the approved Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Program. By this public notice, we are requesting the state concurrence or objection to the applicant's consistency statement. It should be noted that the CZM Program has a statutory limit of 6 months to make its 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 federally listed threatened or endangered 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 request 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, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, (Regulatory Field Office, 1631 South Atherton Street, Suite 101, State College, PA 16801), within the comment period as specified above to receive consideration. Also it must clearly set 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 this information concerning the proposed work to any persons know by you to be interested and not being known to this office, who did not receive a copy of this notice.

Chief, Pennsylvania Section





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DMP Site Located on Raymond Farm This site was also used for dredgeate from the 1999 Knapps Narrows Channel dredging project

Front Creek

Back Cre

arrows O

Project Location Tilghman Island Marina

Chesapeake Bay

Notes:

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The Raymond Farm DMP site was recently prepared to accept dredgeate that will be hydraulically dredged and piped from the Knapps Narrows Channel dredging project in 2018.

Talbot County Department of Public Works plans to use the same DMP site for placing dredgeate from Tongers Basin and Dogwood Harbor.

Tilghman Island Marina is coordinating with Talbot County's dredging project and proposes to use the same DMP site once authorized by USACE and after the Knapps Narrows Channel and Talbot County dredge projects are complete and sufficient capacity confirmed.

Tilghman Island Marina anticipates hydraulically dredging approximately 3,533 cubic yards via dredge barge piped directly to DMP Site.

If the Raymond Farm DMP site reaches maximum capacity prior to Tilghman Island Marina's ability to dredge, then the marina will wait until the site dewaters enough to accept as much dredgeate as possible.

Hydraulic Dredging company has yet to be determined by Talbot County Department of Public Works. Tilghman Island Marina plans to use the same company which will be identified prior to start of County's dredging project.

If dredging hydraulically is not possible then Tilghman Island Marina proposes to dredge mechanically using an excavator and transporting dredgeate to Raymond Farm DMP site or another approved DMP site via truck-haul that complies with all local, state and highway regulations.

Red line shows location of proposed hydraulic pipeline which uses the Pipeline Right of Way shown on Sheet 6 of USACE's Survey Plan Drawing CO5_Plans.pdf. This is the same pipeline location that was used for the 2018 Knapps Narrows Channel dredging project and that is currently being used for dredging the Knapps Narrows Marina. This pathway through Back Creek is also the same pipeline location that is planned to be used for Talbot County's dredging project.

Proposed Pipeline Location From Marina Basin to DMP Site via Back Creek

Boat Point

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5	mile	Э

1.0 mile

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