APPENDIX E: PUBLIC AND AGENCY COORDIN	ATION

- Agency Kick-Off Meeting January 22, 2020
- Agency Coordination Meeting June 22, 2020
- Agency Coordination Meeting September 24, 2020
- Agency Coordination Meeting February 23, 2021
- Joint Evaluation Committee Meeting March 31, 2021
- MDOT MPA Spotlight Series Presentation
- Water Quality Certificate and Tidal Wetlands License Public Notice - October 22, 2021



Mid-Bay Island Ecosystem Restoration Project Design Phase Agency Coordination Kick-off Meeting

22 January 2020; 10:00 - 12:00 p.m.

- 1. Project background
- 2. Purpose of Design Phase and approach for two islands
- 3. Initial schedule
- 4. Current activities
 - a. Scope development
 - b. NEPA/Agency coordination
- 5. Review of Feasibility Phase biological surveys
- 6. Discussion of agency perspectives
 - a. Identify Design Phase surveys and data needs
- 7. Path Forward and Action Items

MID-CHESAPEAKE BAY ISLANDS ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECT

DESIGN PHASE AGENCY COORDINATION KICK-OFF

Angie Sowers
USACE - Planning
22 January 2020

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AGENDA

- Project background
- Purpose of Design Phase and approach for two islands
- Initial schedule
- Current activities
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 - Identify Design Phase surveys and data needs
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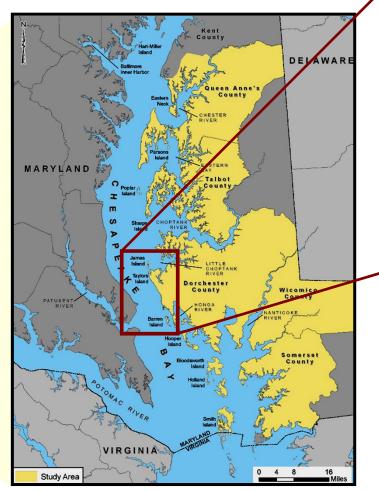


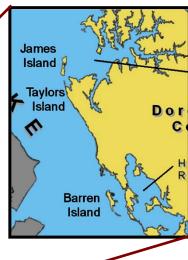


Mid-Chesapeake Bay Island Ecosystem Restoration Project
Location













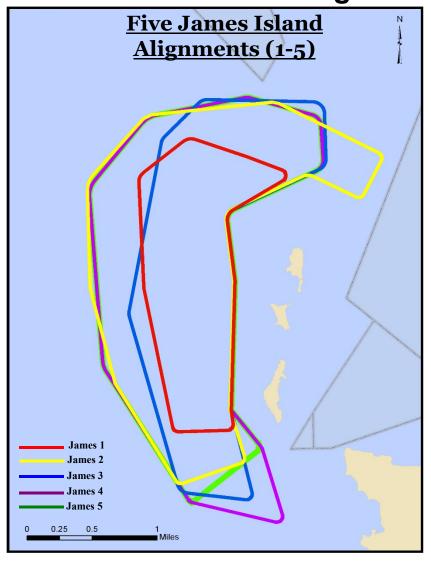
PROJECT BACKGROUND

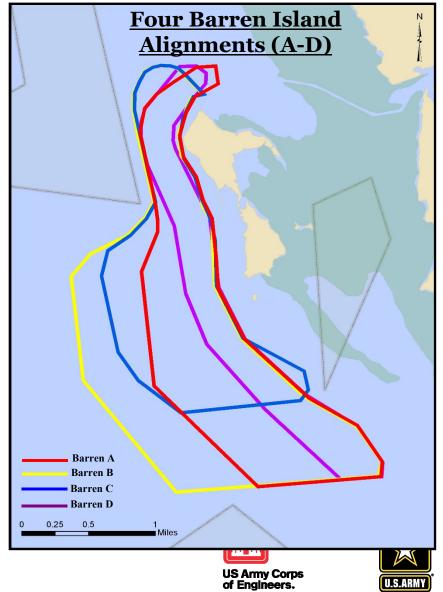
- Feasibility study conducted from 2002 to 2009
- ROD signed 2019 concluding the Feasibility Phase
- Planning, Engineering, and Design Phase started late 2019





Alignments Evaluated



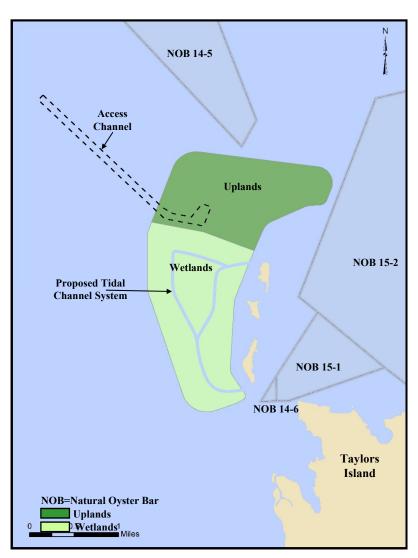


U.S.ARMY

Recommended Plan

James Island

- 2,072 acres
- 55% wetland, 45% upland
- Upland dike height: 20 ft
- Access Channel Dredging
- Capacity: 90-95 mcy
- Placement Duration: 28-30
- Design Features
 - Tidal channels through wetlands
 - Freshwater ponds
 - Intertidal/unvegetated mudflats
 - Bird nesting structures



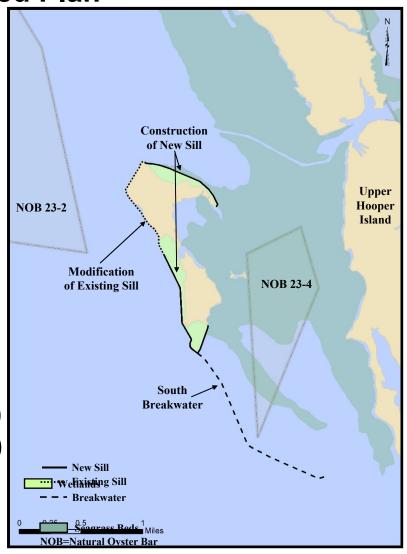




Recommended Plan

Barren Island

- 72 acres of wetland restoration, plus protection of existing island remnants and seagrass beds
- Sill height: 4 ft
- Southern Breakwater height: 6 ft
- Capacity: 0.38 mcy
- Placement Duration: ~7 years
- Design Features:
 - Existing sill modifications (4,900 ft)
 - Northern sill construction (9,760-ft)
 - Southern breakwater construction (8,200-ft)







Environmental Compliance



- Draft Feasibility Study/EIS was released in August 2006; ROD signed 2019
- Received highest rating (lack of objections) from US Environmental Protection Agency
- No major objections or comments were received
- During process of updating NEPA in 2017 to enable ROD to be signed, it was decided with relevant agencies to complete update during design phase
 - Essential Fish Habitat
 - Endangered Species Act
 - Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act
 - Clean Water Act Section 401 and 404
 - Critical Area Commission
 - Cultural





PURPOSE OF DESIGN PHASE AND APPROACH

Primary goal - provide full design, reporting, plans and specifications for procurement of construction services for James and Barren Island.

Barren Island

- Design as a complete standalone project
- Bid all work out under one complete construction contract
- Initiate NEPA as a supplemental EIS, but anticipate a FONSI will be final product (per 40 CFR 1502.9)

James Island

- Similar approach to Poplar Island
- Design for phased construction
 - Initial design efforts perimeter dikes, access channel, and permanent facilities for construction management
 - Future design work wetland cell, tidal gut, and upland design features
- Initiate NEPA as a sEIS minus public scoping
 - may become EA if no significant impacts are
 determined





SCHEDULE

Barren

- Development of survey and sampling scopes: winter 2019 2020
- Award AE contract: spring 2020
- ERDC modeling: spring/summer 2020
- NEPA update completed by March 2021
- Design Document Report (DDR): spring 2021
- Request CG appropriations for FY22
- Construction begins: summer 2022

James

- Development of survey and sampling scopes: winter 2019 2020
- ERDC modeling and in-house design: spring 2020 thru winter 2024
- NEPA: spring 2021 to summer 2022
- Draft Design Document Report (DDR) winter 2022
- Request CG appropriations for FY24
- Construction begins summer 2024





CURRENT RELEVANT ACTIVITIES

- Scope development
 - Hydrographic surveys
 - Soil sampling
 - Aerial photography and mapping

NEPA

- Initiate agency coordination
- Identify existing data
 - Waterfowl area survey (1991 2019)
 - Colonial waterbird survey (1985 2017)
 - VIMS SAV surveys (1978 2018)
- Determine survey needs





FEASIBILITY PHASE BIOLOGICAL SURVEYS

- Previous surveys for James and Barren undertaken in summer 2002, fall 2002, winter 2003, and spring 2003
 - Water quality
 - Sediment characterization
 - Plankton phytoplankton and zooplankton
 - Benthic species clams, oysters, blue crab, horseshoe crab, macroinvertebrates/benthic community
 - Fish
 - Seasonal sampling
 - Bottom trawling, beach seine, gillnetting, pop net
 - Commercial harvests
 - Avian Shorebirds and Wading Birds, Waterfowl, Song birds, raptors
 - Terrestrial Vegetative communities, Invertebrates, Insects (butterflies), Amphibians, Reptiles, Mammals
 - Wetland surveys
 - SAV spring and summer surveys





AGENCY PERSPECTIVES AND INPUT

- 1. Fish and Wildlife Service
- 2. NOAA/National Marine Fisheries Service
- 3. Maryland Department of Natural Resources
- 4. Maryland Department of the Environment



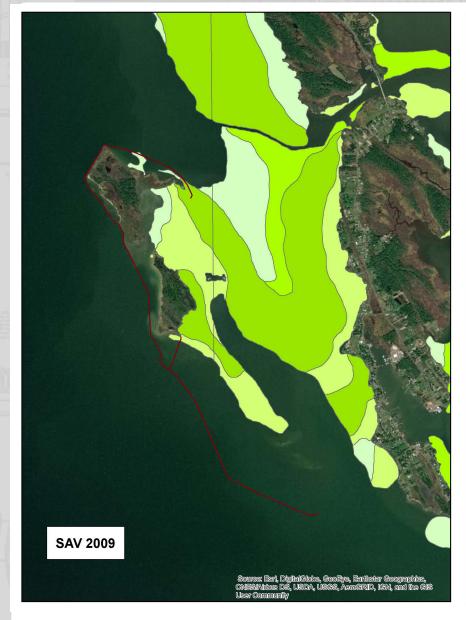


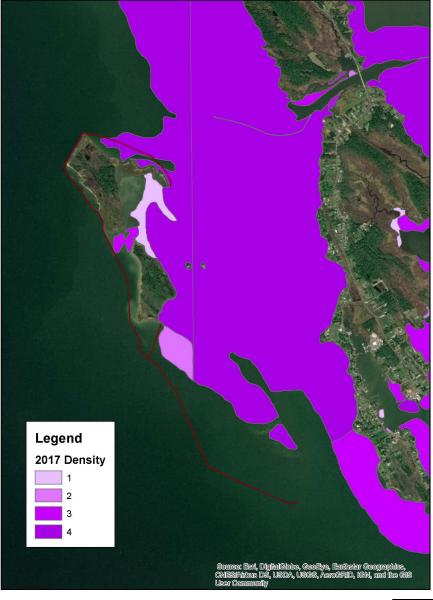
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DESIGN PHASE BIOLOGICAL SURVEYS AND DATA NEEDS







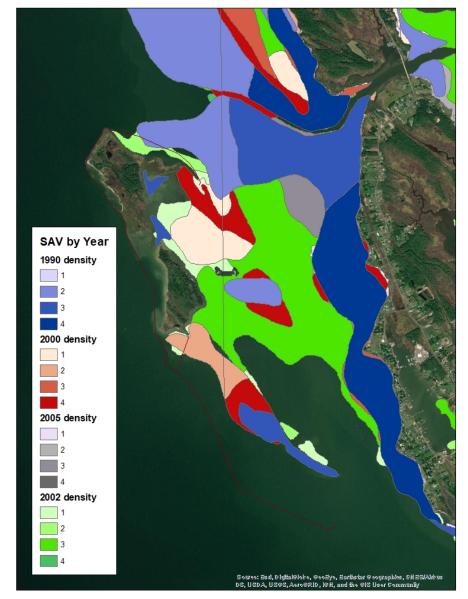


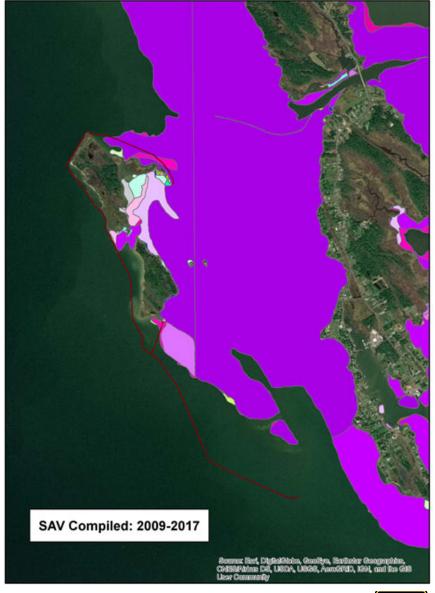
















PATH FORWARD AND ACTION ITEMS

- Develop scopes for surveys
- Provide input to Barren Island H&H modeling
- Develop habitat map for Barren Island





MONITORING (primarily for future discussion)

- Monitoring activities occurring at Poplar
 - Exterior Sediment Monitoring MGS
 - Wetland Vegetation FWS
 - Wetland Soil & Vegetation (in newly constructed wetland cells) UMCES
 - Exterior Water Quality (separate from discharge monitoring) –
 MES
 - Turbidity monitoring only during construction phases
 - Benthics, tissue, and community EA Eng.
 - Fisheries Use of Proximal Waters NOAA
 - Wetlands Use by Fish NOAA
 - Wetlands Use by Wildlife USGS, FWS
 - Bird Utilization Counts (26 per year) MES
 - SAV FWS
 - Shellfish Bed Sedimentation MGS
 - Interior algae monitoring MES
 - Terrapins Ohio University







Mid-Bay Island Ecosystem Restoration Project Design Phase Agency Coordination Kick-off Meeting

Meeting Minutes

22 January 2020; 10:00 - 12:00 p.m.

Participants:

USACE - Charles Leasure, Angie Sowers, Ray Tracy

MPA – Dave Bibo, Amanda Penefiel

MES – Cassandra Carr, Maura Morris

MDE – Heather Nelson, Mary Phipps-Dickerson

DNR – Dave Brinker, Roland Limpert

FWS – Robbie Callahan, Chris Guy, Matt Whitbeck

NMFS staff on phone - Kristy Beard, Karen Greene, Brian Hopper, Dave O'Brien

USACE (Sowers) provided a summary of the project, purpose of the design phase, two island approach, initial schedule, and status of current activities.

Current activities are focused on developing scope of works for various aspects of the project, and initiating NEPA and agency coordination.

Objectives of this meeting were to re-introduce the project to resource agencies, initiate agency coordination, receive initial input and direction from resource agencies as to tasks on which to focus NEPA update, and discuss survey and data needs. USACE (Sowers) provided a summary of Feasibility Phase biological surveys. Ensuing discussion is summarized below:

NMFS

- 1. Conditions have changed have seen water temperature increases, possible change in species
- 2. Can check in with NCBO about current data that could characterize current conditions contact Bruce Vogt
- 3. With respect to seasonality of future surveys all four seasons are normally documented
- 4. SAV is more important to NMFS than island habitat
- 5. Focus SAV surveys where design will overlap SAV presence. Density will determine if it can be impacted (K. Beard).

FWS

- 1. Benthic invertebrates are a prime concern very dynamic will change seasonally do all 4 seasons
- 2. It will be important to develop a success metric to lead data collection and future monitoring efforts
 - a. For all data to be collected, think through how the data will be used and how the data will affect design.
 - b. Metrics could be established to either 1) provide the conditions for habitat use or 2) to document use of a habitat by certain species

- i. For species present, the goal would be to sustain or improve populations. In these cases, need to know baseline conditions. e.g., stabilize or Improve heron habitat (shoreline restoration should do this). Perform a spring quantitative survey.
- ii. For species that do not currently inhabit the islands, the objective would be to set stage for use by providing sustainable habitat. In these cases, there is no baseline to document. e.g., provide nesting habitat for terns, etc. Habitat not used MAY NOT be a failure.
- 3. Survey for predatory mammals, but not others
- 4. Insects not necessary don't expect to be a metric
- 5. Look at possibility of including intertidal/mudflat habitat within wetland design at breakwater consider including as a success metric
 - a. Design considerations
 - i. Size: >1 ac, but the larger the better
 - ii. Shape: better volume to edge ratio than long, narrow (Brinker)
 - b. FWS (Callahan): At Poplar, don't design for mudflat, but do track presence because no one has the responsibility to maintain it as a mudflat
 - c. USACE (Leasure): design idea double breakwater with material confined between would need to be maintained with SLR, and receive periodic replenishment of confined material; would need to be in lower dynamic environment
 - d. FWS(Whitbeck): we should be cautious to develop design based on needing periodic material because Fishing Creek channel is not regularly maintained
- 6. Shorebirds monitor only summer
- 7. Eastern narrow mouth toad State listed as Endangered. Not observed at Barren recently

DNR

- 1. Don't see a need to do anything additional for waterfowl
- 2. Will be TOY and restrictions for working around colonial nesting waterbird rookery on southern end of island
- 3. Desire to see southern breakwater with backfilling on east side to provide benefits to nesting birds
 - a. Common tern and royal tern nesting (state endangered species due to habitat loss) occurred on sandspit of southern end of Barren in 1980s
 - b. Suggest creating a few (3) small islands (2-3 acres) amongst segmented breakwaters. Could add visibility and safety to breakwaters
 - c. Mudflats/intertidal zone on east side of breakwaters could be valuable habitat for shorebird migrations
- 4. Opossum Island is gone, but could restore it fairly easily it is in a low energy environment

MDE

- 1. Borings has generated public interest
- 2. Important to document existing water quality and track this overtime this will promote/be needed for SAV
- 3. CWA through State authorization process and public hearing (needs to be advertised for at least 45 days) for construction plans; plan for timeline for WQC

- 4. MPA will be leading public outreach first meeting planned for spring
- 5. Wetland delineation demarcate high vs low wetlands and identify impact to any existing habitat by type
- Will want to see that design USACE presents has the least impacts and the work has been done
 to avoid and minimize impacts; provide input on modeling done and why certain decisions for
 design were made

SAV

- 1. FWS avoid, minimize, and mitigate will apply; must demonstrate the impact we have is unavoidable
 - a. There will be a regulatory mitigation process for loss of SAV changed to wetlands
 - b. Priority would be island over SAV
 - c. Need island to maintain SAV habitat
 - d. SAV came in between island remnants after breakwater was built in 2009/2010
 - e. Clammers have had negative impact on SAV in Poplar Harbor
- 2. NFMS EFH perspective SAV is priority/HAPC, but not saying it is against reclaiming some of Barren Island
 - a. LOOK AT AVOIDANCE
 - b. Can we adjust the design to avoid filling gap? Is the gap sustainable over the long-term?
- 3. Survey discussion
 - a. FWS- qualitative surveys in spring and summer a limited number of points to document species
 - b. NMFS may want to focus surveys in area where design overlaps with where SAV has moved in enable quantification of potential impacts. For most projects they are fine with using a 5 year composite density of VIMS data.
 - c. MDE recognize that we really only have one year of survey and how that could be factored in considering we have 5 year composite; also think about wanting to know the extent in non-impact area to document increase
 - d. USACE consider focusing on quiescent areas which could be identified by ERDC modeling
 - e. Always realize that conditions are going to change from what we have considered during plans

High vs Low marsh

- 1. NMFS wetlands valuable to resources of concern need to be within potential fish habitat range
- 2. FWS target an elevation range at the highest of the local tide range to maximize sustainability with SLR of tidal marsh
- 3. High/Low Marsh ratios will be revisited but unclear of extent they can be changed

SUMMARY OF SURVEYS IDENTIFIED TO BE UNDERTAKEN:

- 1. Water quality T, salinity, pH, etc. (as before)
- 2. Benthic species clams, oysters, blue crab, horseshoe crab, macroinvertebrates/benthic community
- 3. Sediment characterization (covered by soils surveyed being scoped)

- 4. Plankton phytoplankton and zooplankton
- 5. Fish sample all four seasons bottom trawling, beach seine, gillnetting, pop net
- 6. Avian
 - a. Shorebirds (only summer); wading birds spring quantitative survey
 - b. Not needed Waterfowl as current survey data available; song birds or raptors)
- 7. Terrestrial predatory mammals
 - a. Vegetative communities (will develop habitat map from aerial data and FWS transects),
 - b. Not needed invertebrates, insects (butterflies), amphibians, reptiles, non-predatory mammals
- 8. Wetlands wetland delineations
- 9. SAV
 - a. spring and summer to ID species; use 5 years of VIMS survey data to characterize extent
 - b. Areas to consider for focus of surveys
 - i. areas of potential habitat conversion (shallow water to wetland) along/between island remnants
 - ii. areas bordering existing SAV beds to demonstrate positive impact/expansion of beds, and/or
 - iii. areas identify as quiescent by ERDC modeling

ACTION ITEMS:

- 1. USACE reach out to NCBO to identify whether there is current fish and benthics data available
- 2. Coordination letters to agencies from USACE
- 3. USFWS needs a letter addressed to the refuge
- 4. USACE draft a scope for FWS for Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act activities
- 5. USACE coordinate with NMFS to identify relevant EFH species
- 6. USACE PL/Env discuss designs for modeling with ERDC
- 7. Define NEPA schedule
- 8. Define agency coordination check-points
- 9. Input for modelers
- 10. MES review feasibility phase records for scopes of aquatic surveys

FUTURE DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- 1. Low/marsh ratio
- 2. Identify reference marshes



Mid-Bay Island Ecosystem Restoration Project Design Phase Agency Coordination Update

22 June 2020; 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

- 1. Introductions
- 2. Schedule Update
- 3. Activities Completed since Kick-off Meeting
 - a. Surveys
 - b. NEPA and Agency coordination
 - c. Biological Surveys
- 4. Next Steps
- 5. Wrap-up and Action Items

MID-CHESAPEAKE BAY ISLANDS ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECT

DESIGN PHASE AGENCY COORDINATION UPDATE

Angie Sowers
USACE - Planning
22 June 2020

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AGENDA

- Schedule
- Activities Completed Since Kick-off Meeting
 - Surveys
 - NEPA and Agency Coordination
 - Biological Surveys
- Next Steps
- Action Items

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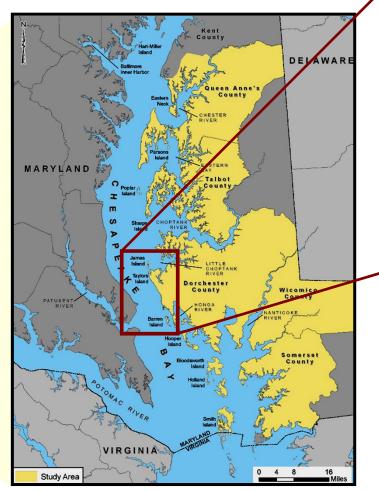


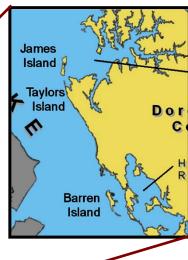


Mid-Chesapeake Bay Island Ecosystem Restoration Project
Location













SCHEDULE

Barren

- Development of survey and sampling scopes winter 2019/2020
- Award AE contract summer 2020
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James

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- NEPA spring 2021 to summer 2022
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- Request CG appropriations for FY24
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EFFORTS SINCE KICK-OFF MEETING

- Survey work
 - Barren and James Hydrographic survey complete
 - · Bathymetry acquired
 - Establish monuments
 - Barren Geotech surveys results due July
 - sediment geotechnical characterization and sediment quality analyses
 - Aerial photography and mapping complete
 - terrain type and habitat characterization
 - Lidar and aerial photogrammetry acquired

NEPA

- Development of scope and award of contract to Anchor QEA for biological surveys
- Development of Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act scope of work with FWS for Planning Aid Report and surveys
- Public Notice and Agency Coordination Letters



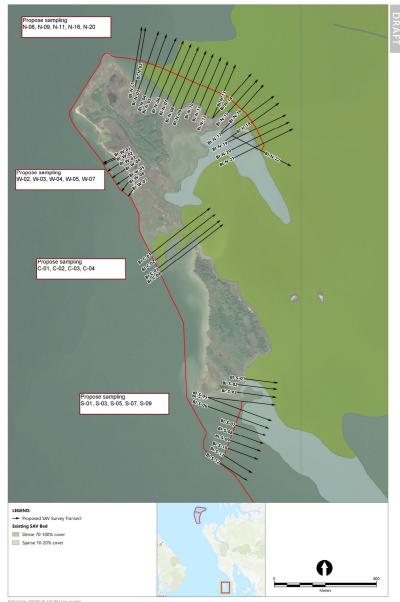


BIOLOGICAL SURVEYS

	James Island					Barren Island				
	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter 2020		Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter 2020	
Survey Type	2020	2020	2020	- 2021		2020	2020	2020	- 2021	
Water Quality/Nutrient	><					><				
Benthic Invertebrate	><					><				
Plankton	removed upon further consultation with NFMS									
SAV	2021					2021				
Fisheries										
Bottom Trawl	><					> <				
Beach Seine*										
Gillnet	><					><				
Pop Net	><		Sept			><		Sept		
Soft-shell and Razor Clam										
Pound Net Telephone Survey***										
Commercial Harvest Data Collection										
Crab Pot Survey^	><	delayed				><	delayed			
Avian										
Shorebirds	transitioned to SHARP surveys and point					transitioned to SHARP surveys and point				
Wading Birds	counts				counts					
Avian surveys - point counts										
Avian surveys - wetlands - SHARP	2021	2021				2021	2021			
Mammals										
Predatory mammals										







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ANCHOR QEA Figure # Barren Island Proposed Transects Mid Bay SAV Survey

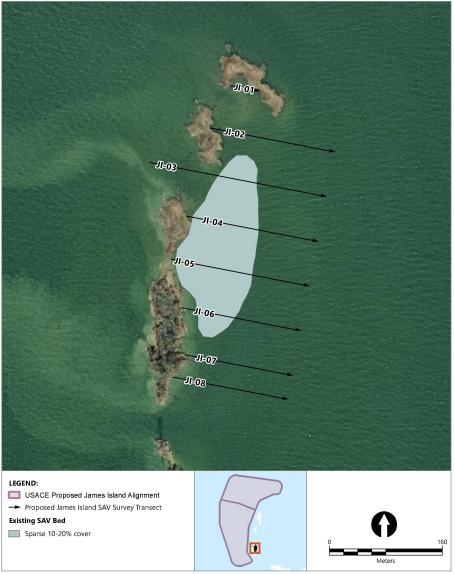




Figure # James Island Proposed Transects

Mid Bay SAV Survey

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NEXT STEPS

- Initiate biological surveys
- Publish/distribute Public Notice and Agency Coordination Letters
- Identify Agency check-points
- Identify reference marshes
- Develop success metrics for project
- Develop Table of Contents and background information for EA
- ERDC modeling of proposed plan and considerations for southern breakwater





AGENCY CHECK-POINTS – BARREN ISLAND COMPONENT

- Summer 2020 Initial ERDC modeling for Barren Design Meeting
- 2. November 2020 Barren 35% Design Review Meeting
- 3. December 2020 Draft PAR provided by FWS
- 4. March 2021 Barren 65% Design Review Meeting
- 5. Spring 2021 Complete draft EFH assessment, ESA assessment, 404(b)(1) Analysis, and Critical Areas Commission response; provide to appropriate agencies
- 6. July 2021 Public Review of EA







Mid-Chesapeake Bay Island Ecosystem Restoration Project Design Phase Agency Coordination Update Meeting Minutes

22 June 2020; 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Participants:

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MPA – Dave Bibo, Amanda Peñafiel, Holly Miller

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MDE – Heather Hepburn

DNR - Becky Golden, Roland Limpert, John Moulis

FWS – Chris Guy, Matt Whitbeck

NMFS – Brian Hopper, Jonathon Watson

Anchor - Karin Olsen

Agenda:

- 1. Introductions
- 2. Schedule Update
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 - a. Surveys
 - b. NEPA and Agency coordination
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USACE (Sowers) provided a project update including schedule, activities completed since January 22 meeting, and next steps. See slides for content.

MES (Morris) provided an update on the access channel for James Island and the overlap with a historic oyster bar. A meeting was held last week with DNR-Shellfish to discuss a possible path forward that would not result in relocating the access channel. The next step is for DNR to speak to the watermen that have harvested oysters on that bar. Depending on the watermen's input, the team will discuss next steps and if any surveys are needed. If there is an impact to the oyster bar, shell could be captured and relocated to another oyster bar.

FWS (Whitbeck) asked if winter hunting that occurs in December and January on set days at Barren Island would interfere with any of the biological surveys. He will provide the dates to MES to coordinate efforts. It is expected that the surveys can be conducted without interfering with hunting days.

Action Items:

- 1. Resource agencies Provide feedback about Barren Spring 2021 surveys Are all desired given that the information will likely not be available for inclusion in the EA? The information can be used to understand baseline conditions. Provide any additional agency check-points to track.
- 2. Sowers will be in touch to set a meeting date once initial H&H modeling is completed by ERDC.



Mid-Bay Island Ecosystem Restoration Project Design Phase Agency Coordination Update

24 September 2020; 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Call-in information: https://usace.webex.com/meet/angela.sowers

Meeting number: 960 786 356 Call-in number: 1-877-336-1828

Access code: 4495502

Security code (if asked): 4321

- 1. Introductions
- 2. Project status/schedule update USACE
- Summer field surveys update and Fall sampling preview -MES/Anchor
- 4. Discussion of Barren Island design formulation USACE
 - a. preview H&H modeling results and discuss how to evaluate for SAV habitat
- 5. Barren Island wetland design framework USACE
- Reference marsh identification USACE
 - a. Please be prepared to discuss suggestions for sites to use as reference marshes
- 7. Next Steps
- 8. Wrap-up and Action Items

MID-CHESAPEAKE BAY ISLANDS ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECT

DESIGN PHASE AGENCY COORDINATION UPDATE

Angie Sowers
USACE - Planning
24 September 2020

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SCHEDULE

Barren

- Development of survey and sampling scopes winter 2019/2020 COMPLETE
- Award AE contract summer 2020 MOVED in-house
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- 35% Design provided by AE October 2020 April 2021
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James

- Development of survey and sampling scopes winter 2019/2020 COMPLETE
- ERDC modeling and in-house design 2020 through winter 2023
- NEPA spring 2021 to summer 2022
- Draft Design Document Report (DDR) winter 2022
- Request CG appropriations for FY24
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PROGRESS SINCE JUNE MEETING

Engineering

- ERDC H&H modeling of 5 potential southern breakwater alignments
- Updating/aligning schedule
- Soil sampling and analysis

> NEPA

- Development of updated sampling plan
- Summer biological surveys
- Issued Public Notice for EA and agency coordination letters
- Wetland delineation at Barren





BIOLOGICAL SURVEYS – MES/ANCHOR UPDATE

	James Island					Barren Island				
	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter 2020		Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter 2020	
Survey Type	2020	2020	2020	- 2021		2020	2020	2020	- 2021	
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Plankton	removed upon further consultation with NFMS									
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Shorebirds	transitioned to SHARP surveys and point					transitioned to SHARP surveys and point				
Wading Birds	counts					counts				
Avian surveys - point counts										
Avian surveys - wetlands - SHARP	2021	2021				2021	2021			
Mammals										
Predatory mammals										



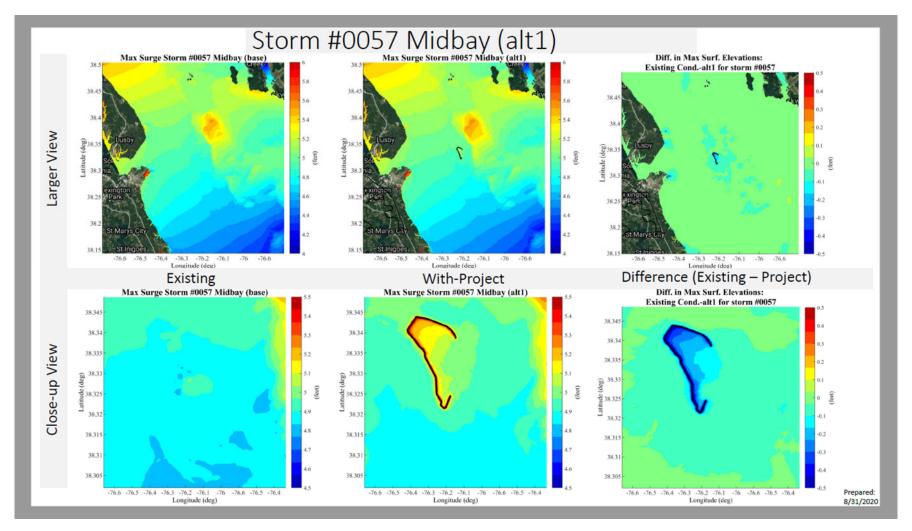


ERDC H&H MODELING FOR BARREN ISLAND DESIGN

- CSTORM Preliminary Results Water Levels and Wave Heights
 - ADCIRC and STWAVE
 - Incorporate current bathymetry
 - Finer resolution –15 to 20 meter around structures (ADCIRC), and 70 m throughout Bay and 17.5 m around islands (STWAVE)
- Summary of Modeling Performed To-Date
 - Storms Selected 100 Synthetic Tropical Cyclones from the 1060 NACCS storm suite
 - Subsample those 100 down to 25 storms for Barren Island Screening of Alternatives
 - Modeling completed without tides; forced by winds and river flow
- Created 5 with project configurations using the newly updated mesh/grids
 - Ran 100 storms on the updated "Base" configuration
 - Ran 25 storms on each of the 5 "with-project" configurations

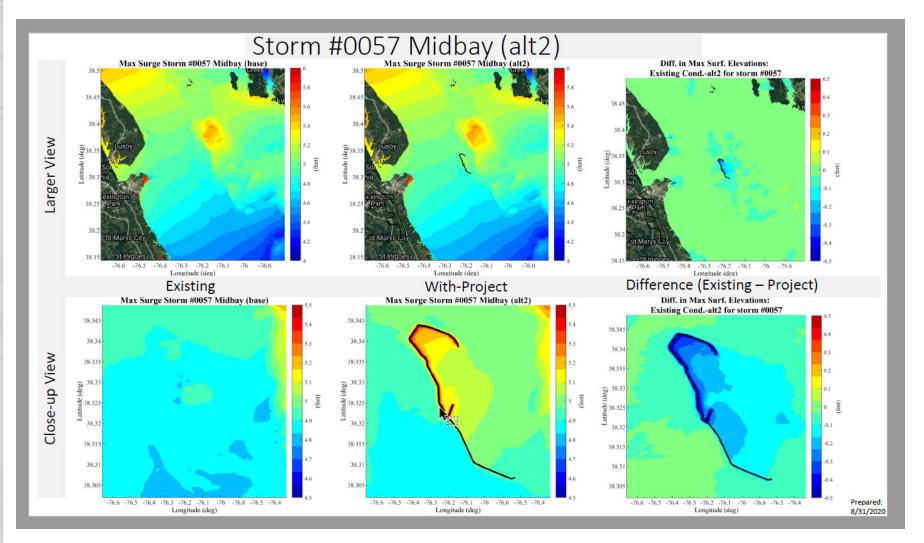
US Army Corps of Engineers.





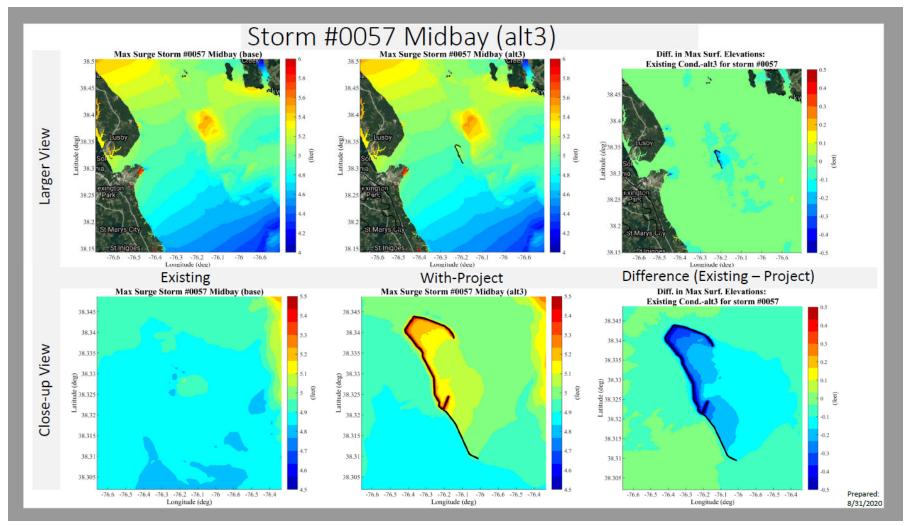






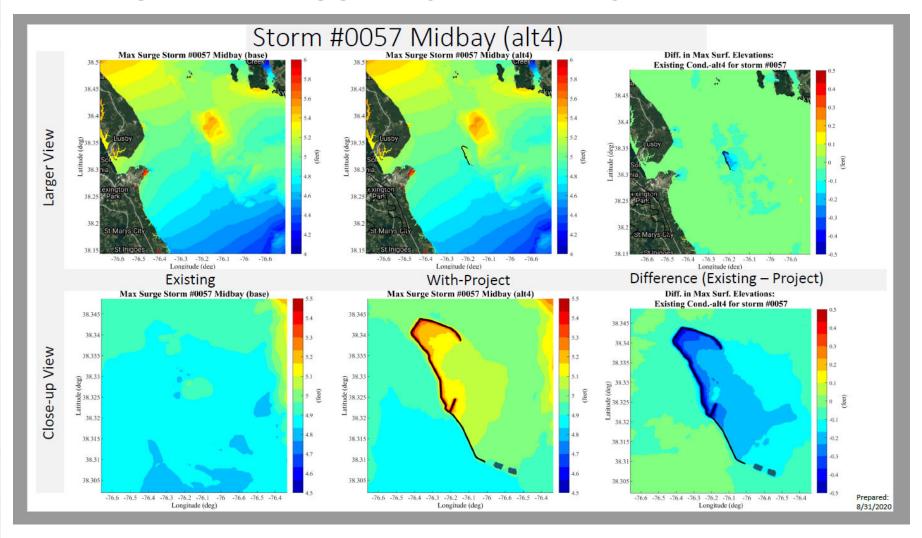






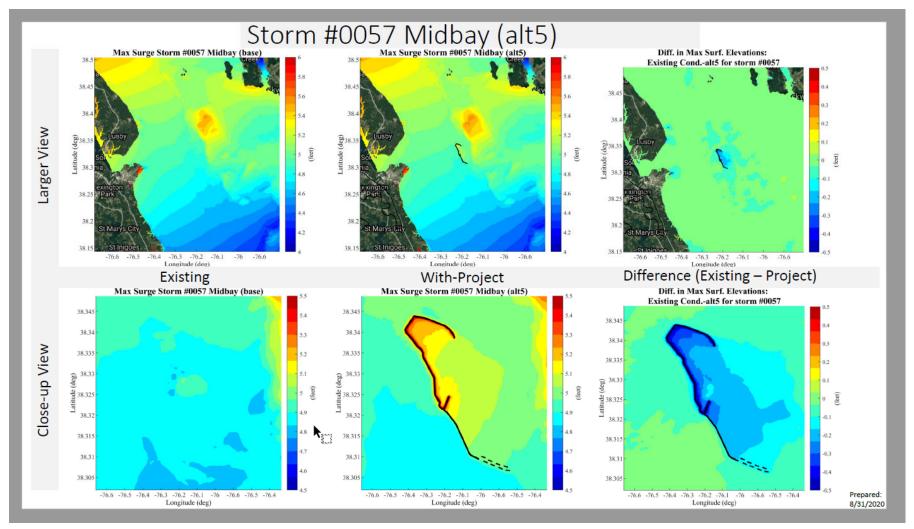








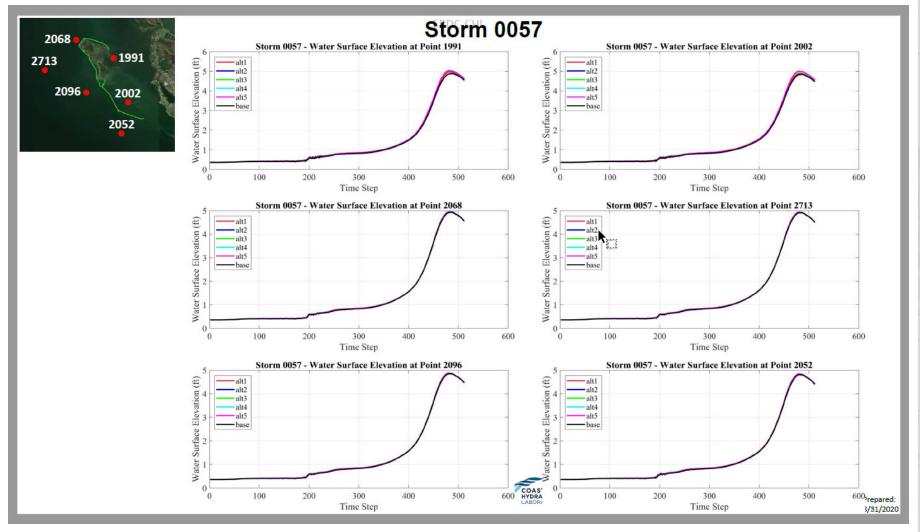








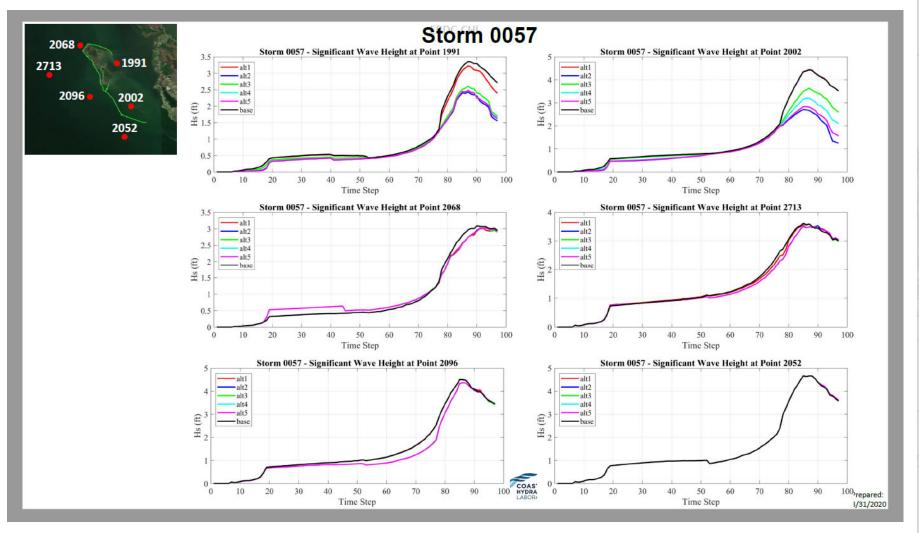
WATER SURFACE ELEVATION TIME SERIES







MAXIMUM SIGNIFICANT WAVE HEIGHT

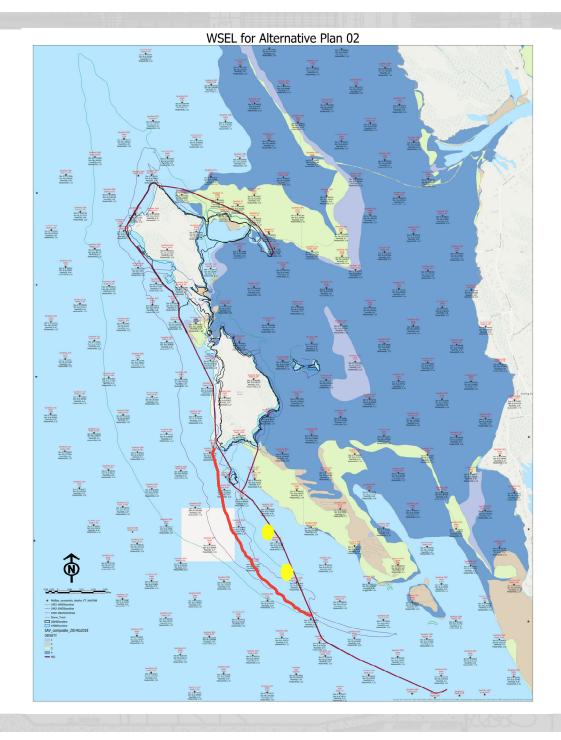






PRELIMINARY ALTERNATIVES EVALUATION

- Next step is to evaluate model results for current velocities
 - Model velocities in project area under non-storm conditions for with and without project conditions
 - Identify maximum and mean velocity during storms with and without project (5 alternatives)
 - ➤ Compare targeting alternatives which replicate the current conditions that promote SAV habitat (based on relatively consistence presence of SAV east of Barren prior to wet years of 2019 and 2020)
 - There is some information available on suitable conditions for *Ruppia maritime* and *Zostera marina* in literature
- Initial results suggest that full southern breakwater extent may not be warranted
 - > Due to poor foundation, material would need to be removed and fill used from a new borrow area to construct lower half of southern breakwater
 - Footprint of full southern breakwater does not mimic historic shoreline
 - Full evaluation needs to be completed, but initial review of H&H results suggest full breakwater is not necessary



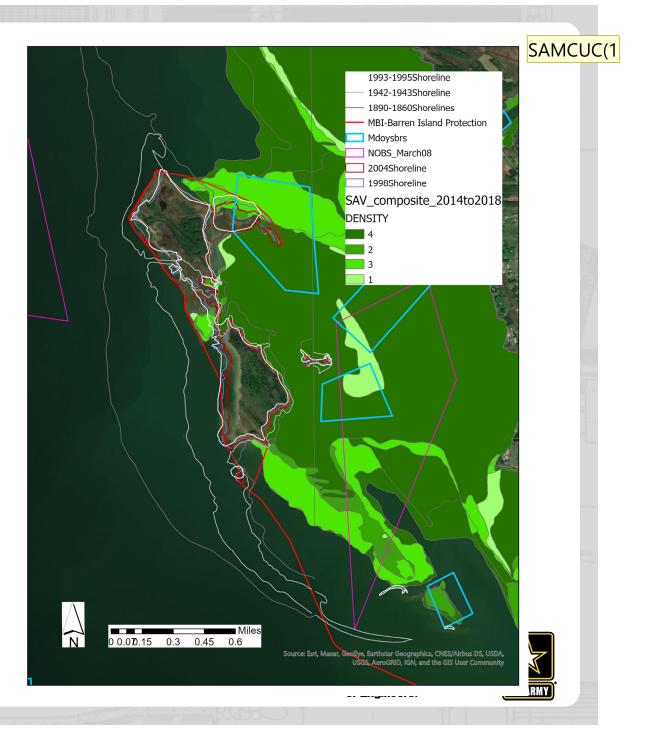




ADDITIONAL NEPA CONSIDERATIONS

Oysters:

Great Bay (bar #4): 10 bushels (November 2019)



SAMCUC(1 Sowers, Angela M CIV USARMY CENAB (USA), 9/24/2020

WETLAND DESIGN FRAMEWORK

Step 1: Identify reference marsh(es) and determine the following conditions to help guide design:

- 1. tidal range (MLLW, MLW, MHHW)
- 2. distribution of high to low marsh (including high marsh:low marsh line and high marsh:upland line)
- 3. low marsh to aquatic breakline
- 4. vegetative cover

Step 2: Using reference marsh conditions (Step #1) and lessons learned from Poplar, identify:

- 1. project goals/success metrics as a target and an acceptable range,
- 2. assumptions and conditions needed to reach these goals,
- 3. risks to achieve metrics
- 4. factors affecting success and risks

Step 3: PL sketch out design with ENG, review with agencies.

Step 4: Determine dredged material inflow plan

Step 5: Develop design plan

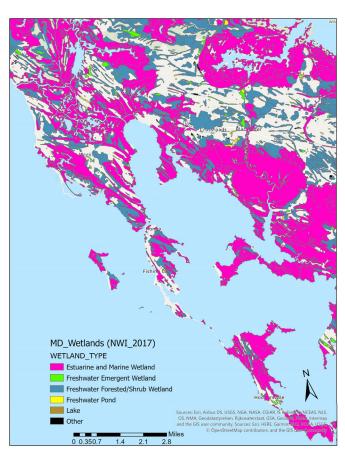
Step 6: Develop grading plan

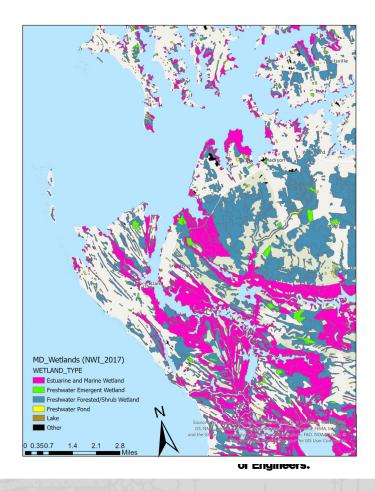




REFERENCE MARSH IDENTIFICATION

- Discussing site locations with FWS
- > We are open to suggestions or others being involved







File Name

NEXT STEPS

- > Further evaluate H&H modeling results
- Consider SAV habitat requirements with modeling results
- Refine southern breakwater design
- Identify reference marshes and collect relevant data (Step 1 of Wetland Design Framework)
- Develop success metrics (Step 2)
- Begin to draft EA



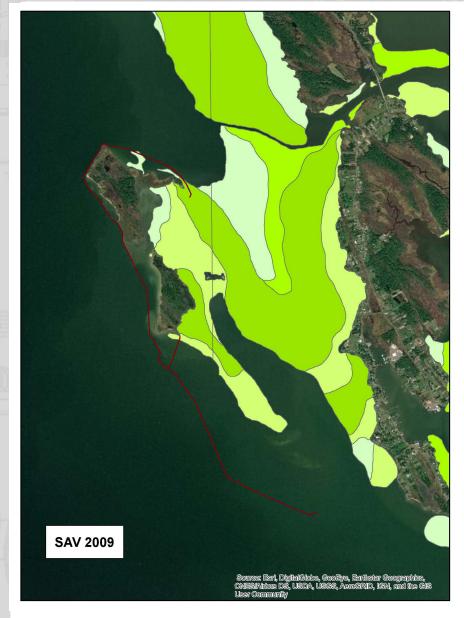


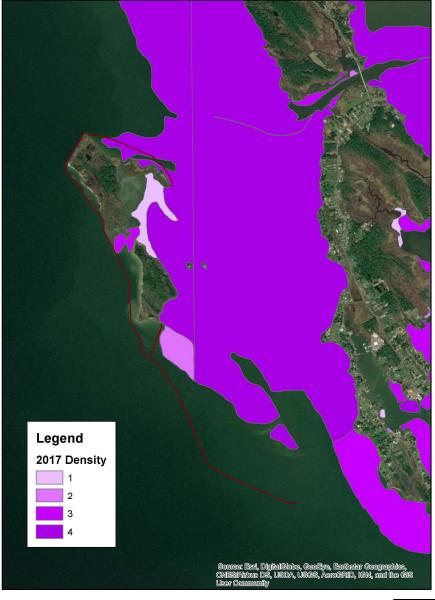
AGENCY CHECK-POINTS – BARREN ISLAND COMPONENT

- Summer 2020 Initial ERDC modeling for Barren Design Meeting
- 2. December 2020 Draft PAR provided by FWS
- 3. April 2021 Barren 35% Design Review Meeting
- 4. October 2021 Barren 65% Design Review Meeting
- 5. Summer 2021 Complete draft EFH assessment, ESA assessment, 404(b)(1) Analysis, and Critical Areas Commission response; provide to appropriate agencies
- 6. December 2021 Public Review of EA







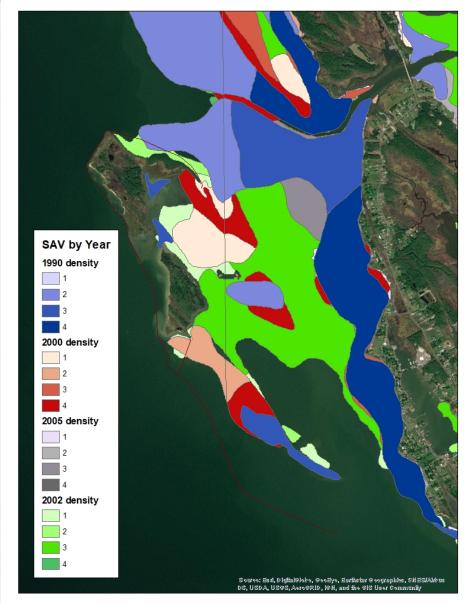


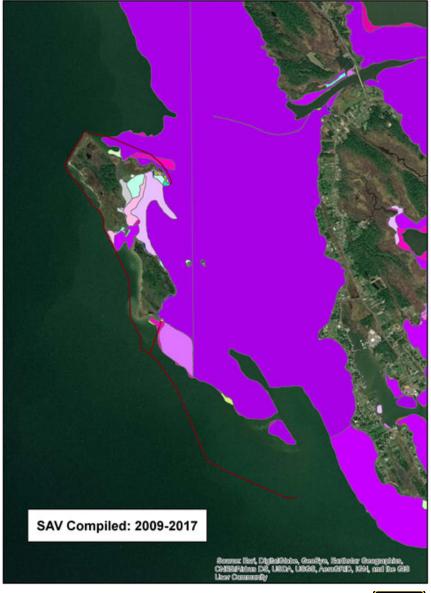














US Army Corps of Engineers. U.S.ARMY





Mid-Bay Environmental Surveys – Summer 2020 Summary

Karin Olsen, PG September 24, 2020

Summer 2020 Sampling Elements

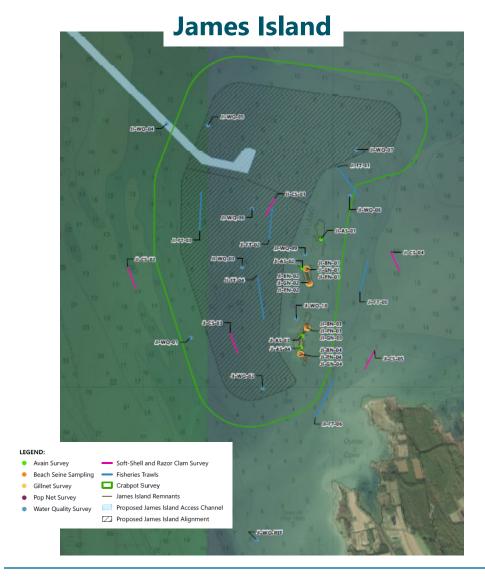
- Benthic and Water Quality
 - Total of 11 locations; 10 monitoring and 1 reference
 - 1 location in the access channel
 - For benthics, sediment sampling conducted
- Avian
 - Identify 4 habitat types: forest, wetland, beach, SAV
 - Asked the crew to assess habitats based on existing conditions
- Crab Pots
- Fisheries
 - Co-located the seine, pop net, and gill nets
 - 4 locations at James and 5 locations at Barren

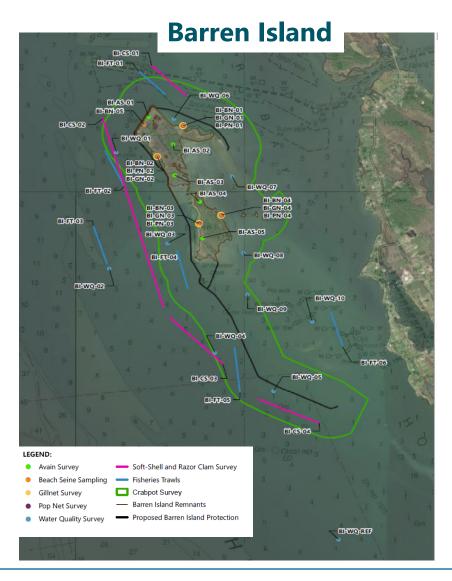
Target Locations – General Approach

- Program consistent with previous efforts
 - Some locations were moved based on existing conditions, notably the decreased island remnants at James
- All field teams were instructed to assess conditions and revise sampling coordinates if needed
 - Prioritize locations resulting in valid data
 - Viability as monitoring locations
- Successfully sampled the majority of the target locations



Target Locations





Benthic Community and Water Quality

- All target locations successfully sampled; no access or sampling challenges
- Sediment data for habitat classification collected and submitted for analysis
- Water quality samples submitted to CBL for nutrient analysis
- Still waiting on analytical results
- Upcoming Sampling
 - Fall sampling: mid-October
 - No winter sampling
 - Spring sampling in 2021



Avian Surveys – James Island

 No terrestrial habitat left – survey included shoreline, mudflat, salt marsh, and open water



- Target (previous) locations no longer exist
 - Locations were selected to minimize the amount of viewscape overlap
- Because of lack of habitat diversity, the species list was mostly water birds and shorebirds.
 - Six species of sandpiper/plover sanderling, spotted sandpiper, semipalmated sandpiper, least sandpiper, semipalmated plover, and ruddy turnstone
 - Gulls, terns, pelicans, and cormorants
 - Fish-eating raptors (osprey and eagle)

Avian Surveys – Barren Island

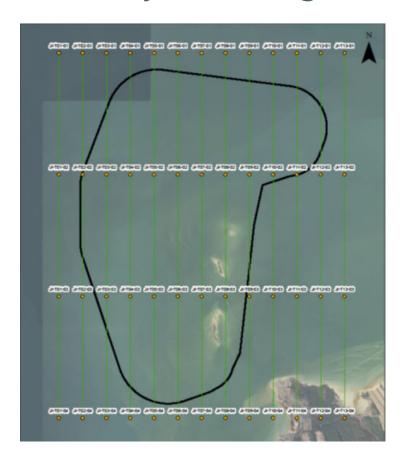
 Habitats were more diverse – survey included shoreline, mudflat, salt marsh, and open water plus forest and scrub shrub

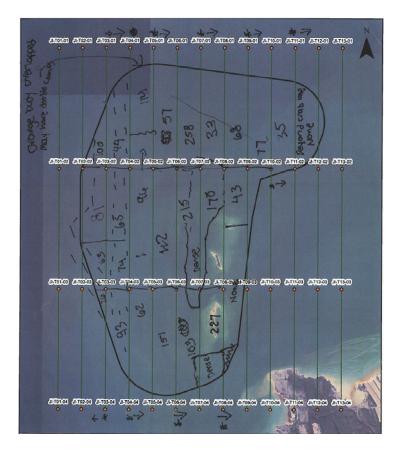


- Marsh habitat was also much larger
 - Hundreds of brown pelicans and double-crested cormorants
 - Shorebirds sanderling, spotted sandpiper, and semipalmated plover
 - Terns, gulls, and raptors, plus some clapper rails and wading birds in the marshes
 - Terrestrial birds included migrant warblers, flycatchers, hummingbirds, resident brown-headed nuthatches, Carolina wrens, pine warblers, and cardinals

Crab Pot Surveys

 Developed an area of observation and transects for consistency and navigation





Crab Pot Surveys

- Next step is GIS analysis:
 - total crabpots per acre
 - estimates within James Island footprint
- Next sampling event:
 - Sept next week
 - May, June, July 2021



Fisheries – James Island

- Trawls: all locations sampled
- 4 locations at James
 - Location 1:
 - Successful pop net, gillnet and seine
 - Seine was shorter than target approx. 20 ft in horseshoe



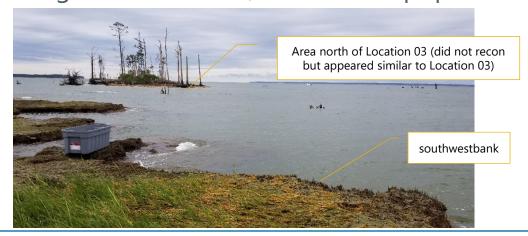
James Island, cont

- Location 2
 - Successful pop net, gillnet and seine



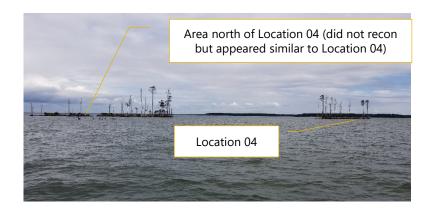


- Location 3
 - Successful gillnet and seine; abandoned pop nets



James Island, cont

- Location 4
 - Successful pop net, gillnet recovery
 - Beach seine abandoned





Fisheries – Barren Island

- Trawls: all locations sampled
- 5 locations at Barren
 - Location 1
 - Successful pop net, gillnet and seine



Barren Island, cont

- Location 2
 - Successful pop net, gillnet and seine



- Location 3
 - Successful pop net, gillnet and seine

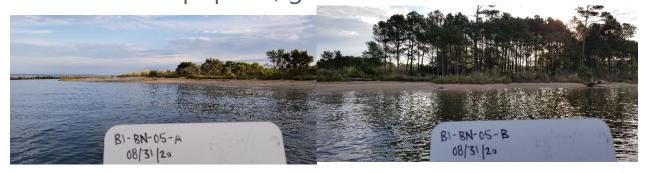


Barren Island, cont

- Location 4
 - Successful pop net, gillnet and seine

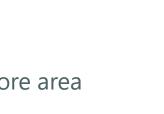


- Location 5
 - Successful pop net, gillnet and seine



Fisheries Summary

- Gill Nets
 - Successful overall
- Trawls
 - Successful overall; lots of crab pots at James hindered the gear's ability to fish effectively. Some locations were modified to avoid crab pots but maximize recovery
- Beach Seine
 - Limited "beach" area left for seining; James especially limited
 - Many of the seine locations did not extend full 100 linear ft
 - Abandoned one location (James 4) because no viable area and no 'replacement' area available
- Pop nets
 - Generally successful, but difficult to deploy
 - Abandoned one location (James 3) because no nearshore area

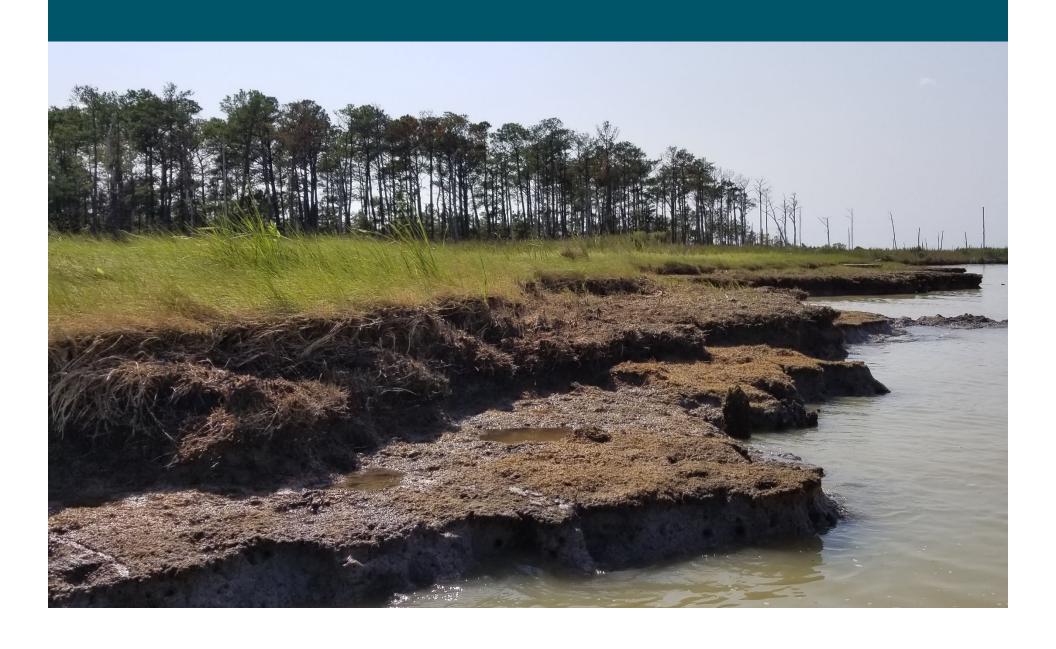


Upcoming Sampling Schedule

- Fall sampling tentative
 - Water and benthic community: week of Oct 19th
 - Fisheries: weeks of Oct 26th and Nov 2 (gill net, seine and trawl only)
 - Commercial clam survey: November
- Winter sampling
 - Water and fisheries: late January
- Spring 2021
 - April / May 2021
 - Crab Pots in May, June, July
 - Includes pop nets for fisheries



Questions/Discussion





Mid-Bay Island Ecosystem Restoration Project Design Phase Agency Coordination Update

23 February 2021; 10:30 - 12:00 a.m.

Webinar information: https://usace1.webex.com/meet/angela.sowers

Join by phone

+1-844-800-2712 US Toll Free +1-669-234-1177 US Toll

Access code: 199 872 1676

- 1. Introductions
- 2. Project status/schedule update
- 3. Biological surveys
- 4. Barren Island Habitat Delineation
- 5. Barren Island 35% Design
 - a. Engineering considerations H&H Modeling, foundation material
 - b. Natural resources considerations SAV and Oyster Resources
- 6. Next Steps
- 7. Wrap-up and Action Items

MID-CHESAPEAKE BAY ISLANDS ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECT

DESIGN PHASE AGENCY COORDINATION UPDATE

Angie Sowers
USACE - Planning
23 February 2021

"The views, opinions and findings contained in this report are those of the authors(s) and should not be construed as an official Department of the Army position, policy or decision, unless so designated by other official documentation."







AGENDA

- Introductions
- 2. Project status/schedule update
- 3. Biological surveys
- 4. Barren Island habitat delineation
- 5. Barren Island 35% design
 - a) Engineering considerations H&H modeling, foundation material
 - b) Natural resources considerations SAV and oysters
- 6. Next Steps
- 7. Wrap up and action items

"The views, opinions and findings contained in this report are those of the authors(s) and should not be construed as an official Department of the Army position, policy or decision, unless so designated by other official documentation."







SCHEDULE

Barren

- Development of survey and sampling scopes winter 2019/2020 COMPLETE
- Award AE contract summer 2020 MOVED in-house
- ERDC modeling summer 2020 IN PROGRESS
- 35% Design Complete

 May 2021
- 65% Design Complete October 2021
- NEPA: EA Public Review December 2021
- Signed FONSI March 2022
- Request CG appropriations for FY22
- Construction begins summer 2022

James

- Development of survey and sampling scopes winter 2019/2020 COMPLETE
- ERDC modeling and in-house design 2021 through winter 2023
- NEPA summer/fall 2021 to summer 2022
- Draft Design Document Report (DDR) winter 2022
- Request CG appropriations for FY24
- Construction begins summer 2024





PROGRESS SINCE SEPTEMBER MEETING

Engineering

- ERDC H&H modeling of velocities for 5 potential southern breakwater alignments; and additional run of revised alignment with increased Manning's coefficient to represent roughness provided by SAV
- Updating/aligning schedule
- Soil sampling and analysis of southern and northeast breakwater
- Development of 35% Design documents (draft)

> NEPA

- Completion of summer and fall biological surveys
- Start of predatory mammal surveys
- In field wetland delineation
- Habitat delineation
- Evaluation of potential impacts to oyster bars
- Reference marsh initial meetings, discussion





BIOLOGICAL SURVEYS - STATUS

		James and Barren Island					
	Spring	Summer		Winter 2020 -		Summer	
Survey Type	2021	2020	Fall 2020	2021	Spring 2021	2021	
Water Quality/Nutrient		٧	٧	Feb	April		
Benthic Invertebrate		٧	٧		April		
SAV	٧				20)21	
Fisheries		-					
Bottom Trawl		٧	٧	Feb	April		
Beach Seine*		٧	٧	Feb	April		
Gillnet		٧	٧	Feb	April		
Pop Net			٧		April		
Soft-shell and Razor Clam			٧				
Pound Net Telephone Survey***			٧				
Commercial Harvest Data Collection				in progress			
Crab Pot Survey^		٧		May, June, July			
Avian							
Avian surveys - point counts		٧			April/May		
Avian surveys - wetlands - SHARP					May, June	July	
Avian surveys - passive listening count	s/flushing	g survey		Jan, Feb, March		Aug, Sept	
Predatory mammals				Jan, Feb, March		Aug, Sept	

To be conducted by Anchor QEA

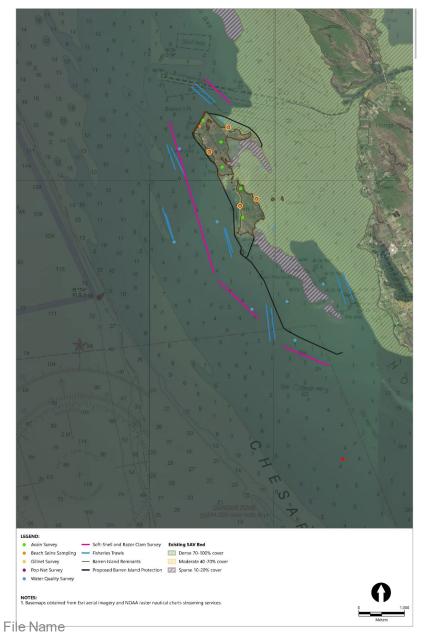
To be completed through FWCA - FWS or subcontractor (Audubon or APHIS)

To be completed by DNR





JAMES AND BARREN SAMPLING POINTS (ANCHOR QEA)





Barren Sampling Locations Camera Traps Dalok Pak, bessiges, Kleener, MTK, Part, MRK, Sectority, 1994

AVIAN AND PREDATORY MAMMALS SURVEYS - APHIS

Mammals observed Jan 7, 2022

- Red Fox (visual and sign)
- Raccoon (sign)
- River Otter (sign)
- White tailed deer (visual and sign)
- Muskrat (sign)
- Also noted remains of 1 box turtle and 2 diamond back terrapins

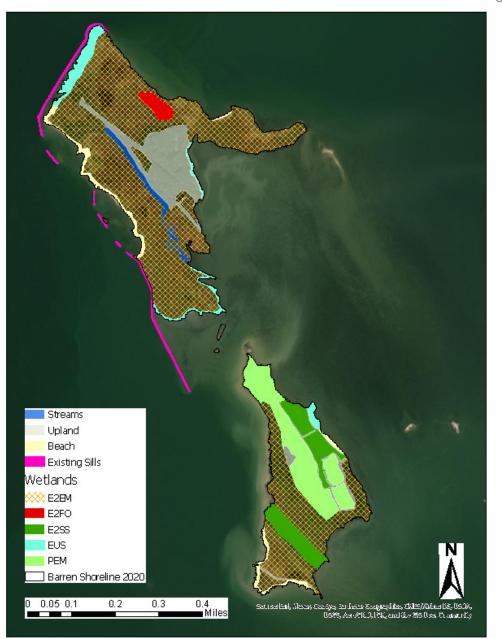




HABITAT DELINEATIONS: BARREN

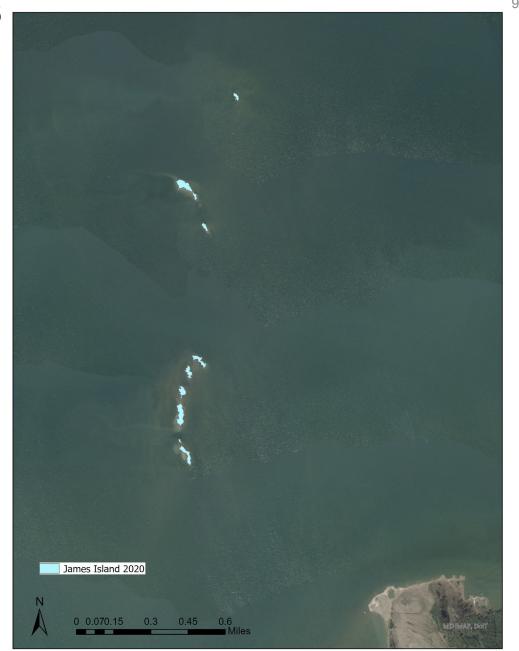
Barren Island Habitat Coverage (Acreage)							
Wetlands 117.9 ²							
PEM	13.92						
E2FO	1.70						
E2SS	8.73						
E2EM	88.74						
EUS	4.78						
Stream	1.88						
Beach	3.44						
Upland	14.51						
TOTAL	137.75						

E2FO - Estuarine, Intertidal, Forested
E2SS - Estuarine, Intertidal, Scrub-Shrub
E2EM - Estuarine, Interdial, Emergent
EUS - Estaurine, Unconsolidated Shore
PEM - Palustrine, Emergent



HABITAT DELINEATIONS JAMES

James Island Habitat				
	Acres			
Upland	3.35			



ALTERNATIVES EVALUATION

Alternatives evaluated:

- Alt 1 island protection (NE sill, improve existing sills along western shoreline, SE sill), no breakwater
- Alt 2 full breakwater
- Alt 3 short breakwater
- Alt 4 2 bird islands extended from short breakwater
- Alt 5 segmented breakwaters extended from short breakwater
- Alt 6 island protection with 150 m breakwater, 100 m gap, and 3 bird islands
- Compare targeting alternatives which replicate or improve (reduced velocity) the current conditions that promote SAV habitat (based on relatively consistence presence of SAV east of Barren prior to wet years of 2019 and 2020)
- Results suggest that full southern breakwater extent is not warranted
 - Footprint of full southern breakwater does not mimic historic shoreline
 - Due to poor foundation, material would need to be removed and fill used from a new borrow area to construct lower half of southern breakwater
 - Modeling results show that shorter breakwater can provide for existing or reduced velocities throughout the SAV habitat
 - Velocity reduction benefits higher in the southern portion of the habitat where island erosion has left habitat exposed
 - Continuing to investigate Tar Bay area velocities
 - Modeling results suggest that additional cost for longer break rare not necessary





PROPOSED 35% DESIGN

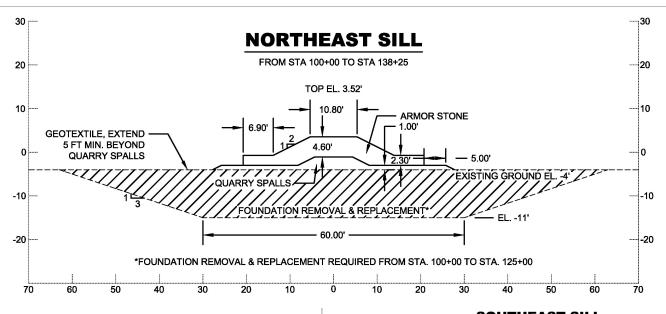
Proposed Sill Crest Elevation (NE, SE, existing) = 3.52'

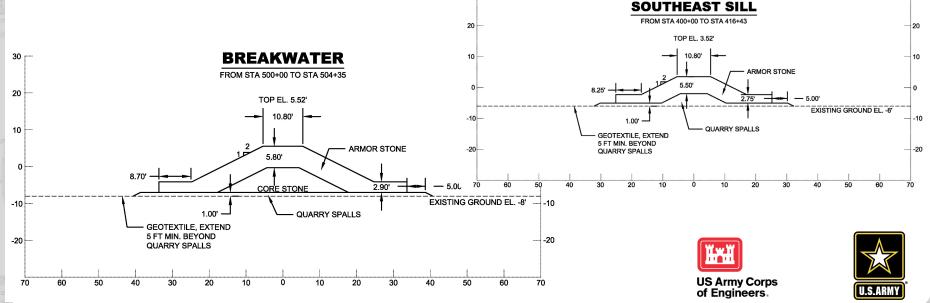
Proposed Breakwater Crest Elevation = 5.52'





BARREN – SILLS AND BREAKWATERS 35% DESIGN





ERDC H&H MODELING FOR BARREN ISLAND DESIGN

- Previously modeled water levels and wave heights
- Utilized CSTORM (for 25 storms) to evaluate velocities:
 - maximum water velocities,
 - 24 hour and 48 hour mean peak velocities,
 - velocities at spring high and summer low tide conditions,
 - affect of adjusting Manning's n coefficient to represent bottom roughness provided by SAV beds





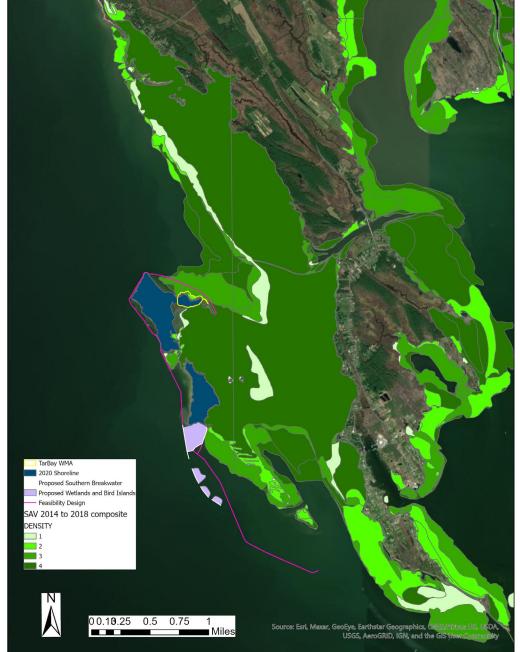
SAV CONSIDERATIONS FOR DESIGN

- > SAV species present at Barren and James:
 - Horned pondweed (Zannichellia palustris) (Barren and James) spring
 - Canopy formers wave limited
 - Eelgrass (Zostera marina) (Barren) spring
 - Meadow formers
 - Widgeon grass (*Ruppia*) (Barren and James) summer
 - canopy formers wave sensitive/impose less drag on waves
 - Macroalgae sea lettuce (*Ulva lactucna*) (previously Barren and James)
- Velocity profile requirements (Koch 2001 and CBP 2000)
 - Preferred current regime: *Z. marina* > 3 180 cm/s; *Z. palustris* < 50 cm/s
 - Intermediate currents are needed to support growth and distribution = 5 to 100 cm/s
 - minimum velocities = 3 16 cm/s, max = 50 180 cm/s
 - Wave tolerance 0-1 m limited growth for canopy formers (*Ruppia*)
 - waves > 2m tolerant growth for meadow formers





SAV HABITAT COMPOSITE 2014 TO 2018





Barren_SavePts_Alt06 Barren Save Points in SAV Beds

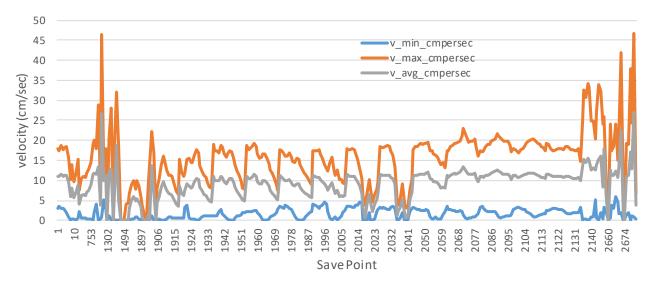
MODELING SAVE POINTS



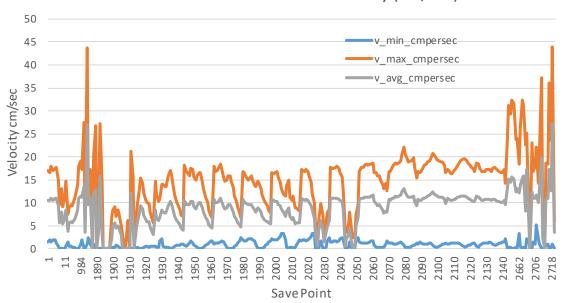


EXISTING CONDITIONS

Spring Tides High Flows - Velocity cm/sec



Summer Tides Low Flows - Velocity (cm/sec)

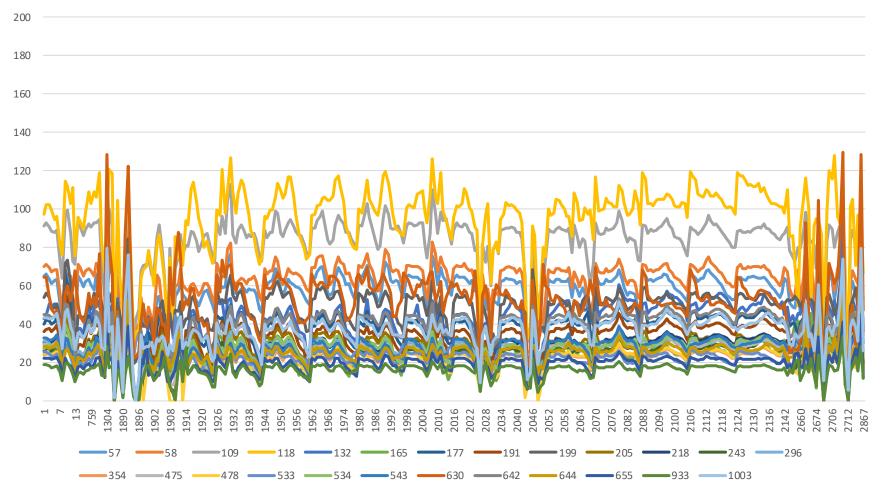


- Spring High Tides maximum ranges from 0 – 46.8 cm/s; avg ranges from 0 - 26.9 cm/s
- Summer Low Tides maximum ranges from 044 cm/s; avg ranges from
 0 27.2 cm/s







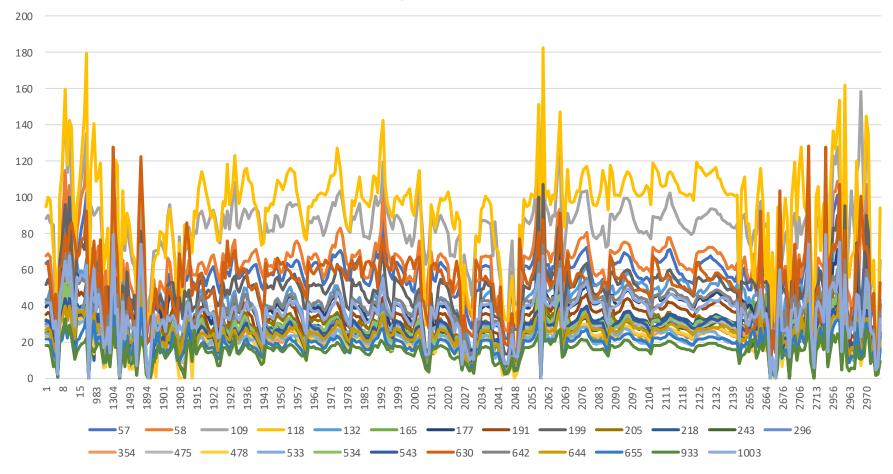


Maximum ranges from 33.6 – 129.3 cm/s; avg ranges from 16 – 95 cm/s









Maximum ranges from 34.1 – 182.6 cm/s; avg ranges from 16 – 93 cm/s





MAXIMUM STORM VELOCITIES – SUMMARY COMPARISON

	Base (Existing Conditions) - all Save Points			Alt 06 - all Save Points			Base (Existing Conditions) - Save Points in SAV			Alt 06 - Save Points in SAV		
Storm	min	max	avg	min	max	avg	min	max	avg	min	max	avg
57	14.9	83.7	57.2	0	109.0	55.8	18.5	75.7	57.3	16.4	89.7	55.2
58	17.0	90.1	62.9	9.3	121.5	62.6	21.4	83.0	63.2	19.8	105.0	61.4
109	19.9	112.8	83.6	11.3	158.1	83.1	33.8	110.0	86.0	32.5	119.6	84.2
118	15.7	128.0	95.1	0	182.6	93.0	35.3	126.2	97.2	29.3	142.3	94.6
132	0	93.2	42.7	0	90.9	41.4	17.4	54.5	41.2	4.3	56.9	39.3
165	0	72.3	26.5	0	72.2	26.0	12.5	39.6	25.9	7.3	38.8	24.3
177	0	66.1	38.1	0	86.1	36.8	20.3	49.8	37.8	7.6	53.7	35.8
191	0	56.4	32.4	0	73.1	31.2	7.6	44.3	32.3	3.8	44.7	30.5
199	10.5	84.7	49.0	0	106.9	47.9	30.4	62.9	49.0	13.5	70.7	46.1
205	0	54.6	29.3	0	61.9	28.6	16.7	39.0	29.8	7.4	38.8	28.4
218	0	52.0	27.4	0	54.2	26.3	13.2	35.6	26.3	5.2	36.3	25.0
243	0	39.5	23.2	0	49.9	22.3	8.6	32.2	23.2	2.9	31.7	21.8
296	0	50.7	27.3	0	52.0	26.3	13.1	34.2	26.9	6.5	41.2	25.6
354	0	37.3	22.2	0	45.7	21.3	11.6	32.7	21.9	4.5	34.9	20.5
475	0	37.4	24.9	0	47.5	23.8	12.1	32.4	23.8	5.3	34.5	22.4
478	0	34.6	21.0	0	45.1	20.0	8.7	30.4	21.2	3.0	30.0	19.9
533	0	70.5	23.0	0	70.4	22.2	13.7	32.7	22.4	8.3	32.1	21.3
534	0	54.4	26.9	0	54.9	25.9	14.6	36.2	26.8	5.7	36.7	25.6
543	0	49.8	26.6	0	50.8	25.6	13.1	34.1	24.9	5.9	34.6	23.5
630	13.5	129.3	53.0	0	128.6	53.4	25.1	75.0	53.5	22.6	77.3	54.3
642	0	72.2	39.1	0	73.5	37.6	20.0	51.1	38.0	9.1	53.3	36.5
644	0	62.7	24.8	0	62.7	24.0	14.4	36.8	23.9	7.6	35.3	22.9
655	0	45.0	19.2	0	45.0	18.5	9.7	31.3	18.6	4.9	30.3	17.5
933	0	33.6	15.9	0	34.1	15.1	7.3	28.5	16.2	2.7	27.1	14.9
1003	0	79.7	37.1	0	79.4	36.1	20.6	45.0	35.5	10.7	55.3	34.0





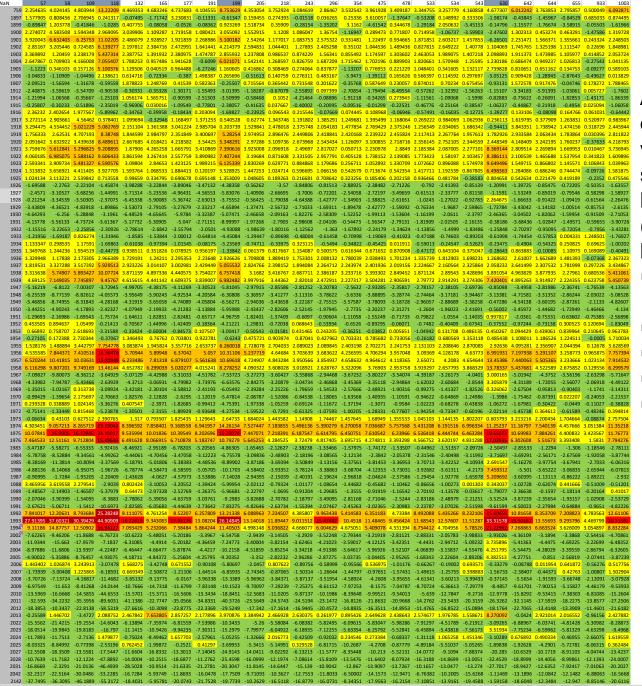
759 62.89142 71.64121 95.27257 115.9166 46.51294 26.67856 43.74815 38.79725 56.65811 33.13741 31.72706 28.4406 30.0688 25.61328 28.87036 26.3222 23.45714 31.27692 29.12496 54.79658 44.82489 27.69421 20.47919 17.56093 41.6519 1887 46.43538 54.724 70.19179 63.92654 17.36837 24.36739 28.92671 7.505279 41.0323 31.68845 13.43079 9.045577 32.79805 28.72456 17.66699 8.398361 27.06972 19.19702 17.61176 39.77445 35.93834 29.87732 20.79125 10.6572 35.19248 1899 37.25477 42.38943 70.70193 68.89944 26.89169 21.73206 26.7476 24.64248 39.67867 35.11918 30.672 25.75076 24.08526 34.93389 21.18274 14.66574 26.50899 30.64537 28.65842 38.76026 26.74637 26.19457 26.5649 18.18702 26.3771 1900 42.98258 53.48446 76.15543 81.03954 46.83114 23.78974 37.39822 31.24715 45.87425 27.02919 22.69095 19.70738 22.00589 19.59245 19.15825 18.17118 18.81856 24.17118 20.6336 40.1729 28.98558 19.17842 13.77687 16.77835 29.45586 1901 39,79762 49.52294 71.67998 79,40159 39,44072 21,00187 31.65363 27.53255 41.38124 24.34679 21.14123 19.08937 20,0013 17.55169 19.98061 16.54603 16.24499 21.86313 22.57588 36.29861 32.72655 19.88268 15.62478 14.08578 32.54 1902 39.84532 46.80988 68.1511 66.2766 29.27919 18.58144 25.23841 21.83059 35.33059 19.27281 16.15121 14.13579 15.48395 14.05874 15.0809 13.00641 14.50691 17.25516 17.43709 29.56302 26.71618 16.52793 12.47992 10.84915 25.99742 1903 57.35225 66.58704 88.7676 87.19964 45.26579 24.89941 40.70865 26.76004 51.02316 27.11723 19.54374 15.96309 23.38744 17.22634 18.33299 15.1939 21.98704 22.33721 21.60681 50.12658 34.53141 22.78423 15.8313 13.04349 34.19437 1904 57.02736 63.98561 96.06378 93.61285 48.58842 30.31812 45.60094 33.35229 53.0998 29.1232 22.85992 17.68298 24.37758 21.73007 19.54694 17.81658 22.97043 23.97245 19.54345 48.44329 33.38003 21.2044 14.3736 14.4727 31.94997 1905 38.51449 48.08163 77.70403 77.95 46.16933 37.4145 42.75853 38.01792 53.14444 36.13438 27.46301 21.87718 29.16215 23.99778 21.71754 22.45856 30.14436 30.05176 22.55211 41.88052 34.75076 27.38883 25.39225 17.738 34.46723 1906 26.12927 33.2445 63.58514 64.43786 43.85749 38.82944 44.78538 32.55798 43.05629 31.6503 27.1422 19.34633 30.19248 28.71881 23.64447 19.88435 31.07942 30.63287 23.77447 37.09049 32.00575 24.36005 18.05706 22.18077 31.39593 1907 16.44245 19.796 32.49297 34.65716 20.5095 20.30163 20.67711 12.66519 30.12292 24.64854 14.05771 9.299892 20.7649 15.39465 13.82257 8.930777 23.23964 16.33373 13.79501 29.664 21.58981 23.24988 9.69957 13.55833 25.33014 1912 59 85071 65 27405 83 26009 81 34121 45 4269 34 88467 36 67879 24 87867 48 51488 34 78261 26 1342 21 99613 31 32079 21 43868 24 43211 21 92172 32 10045 27 15531 27 60349 73 80501 37 67251 30 92088 30 30881 21 12684 41 88584 52.035 57.1794 80.9753 92.66754 35.04688 16.81318 32.97018 34.1815 39.26363 25.14164 25.50676 27.96891 24.81684 23.6745 26.55403 18.17827 22.60653 24.24129 23.68276 51.54822 31.6432 19.64173 17.32915 27.08877 28.47624 1915 50.76953 56.87454 80.24537 89.06518 35.44555 21.6532 31.73322 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29.62244 21.4217 26.3015 18.83789 40.21666 21.96358 14.78843 11.48918 16.39393 12.14706 12.85901 11.24086 16.98369 17.33613 14.36751 31.63346 22.67837 15.04676 10.67426 7.210805 22.14066 1925 47.22862 53.60947 74.70642 76.25367 32.3812 25.76924 28.96365 21.19078 41.59415 24.9255 16.81725 12.88028 18.69102 14.25621 14.92062 13.36726 19.14578 19.43852 13.71587 28.36057 21.72987 15.02427 11.46241 7.158914 22.96856 1926 64.27867 69.10606 90.74361 97.88293 47.68184 31.18179 40.53379 35.59003 52.81627 33.73187 28.82644 26.30216 31.5371 22.45366 25.85395 23.53313 26.57668 26.00602 28.72402 64.34359 40.8864 28.07815 23.30251 17.12241 38.97474 1927 58.41733 63.70994 82.79381 95.25584 44.8558 28.83685 37.79947 33.28317 45.91358 28.14621 25.92239 22.84945 25.84133 21.65122 22.73512 21.69167 22.47979 23.66032 25.48293 55.33958 35.84928 22.81707 19.43285 17.1527 33.43706 1928 58.84087 61.08235 92.52365 118.311 45.74073 26.0939 37.82812 38.83863 48.91453 29.08365 24.47573 25.89987 25.39143 20.16519 21.96491 23.05261 20.67515 26.44838 23.10594 75.5978 38.51047 22.05101 18.41633 15.64865 33.20442 1929 56.15025 61.0808 82.6042 95.65138 35.59796 25.32514 32.39361 26.57923 46.24134 27.3465 21.46366 19.12216 24.63208 17.10547 19.16393 18.62249 21.132 22.90837 20.11643 62.44014 32.8606 21.33449 15.92585 12.94992 32.13364 1930 67.01777 72.82858 98.94651 105.8039 45,70037 30.52868 40.80191 33.65972 54.49502 32.38118 27.58127 23.40662 30.17285 22.50557 25.11874 22.98481 26.18064 27.63272 25.38179 67.73766 40.93769 26.43693 20.50069 17.73706 38.82203 48.34567 30.36958 44.75905 38.21521 <mark>56.69558</mark> 35.39968 30.46322 27.11798 34.11834 28.19394 27.77297 24.45142 26.81241 31.47421 27.6521 40.57392 | 27.49677 | 37.40555 | 32.07999 | 50.20852 | 31.95013 | 26.22549 | 22.90624 | 26.82011 | 20.04277 | 22.8478 | 21.2281 | 22.16695 | 27.82524 | 23.94887 | 62.20813 | 38.80051 | 22.58222 | 15.27569 | 14.28713 | 34.23221 | 1933 54.97463 59.52137 83.07372 96.65718 38.34205 26.22908 36.28029 31.30884 47.45533 30.22479 25.38862 22.35488 26.013 19.37896 21.96324 20.48751 20.6509 26.77622 23.15303 56.71941 36.77549 21.82897 14.38846 13.60648 32.4804 45.58793 29.28349 42.40867 38.09148 53.01075 34.35794 30.35029 27.76671 30.03615 23.21346 26.17568 24.98529 21.92762 31.51592 27.03661 60.62051 43.01144 24.55208 17.33381 15.89097 36.77298 50.12009 30.70254 46.13957 41.58188 55.68091 36.34829 33.36818 30.82498 31.98308 26.17386 29.13889 27.99699 22.92127 33.97526 29.58334 60.56174 46.13098 25.77921 20.515 17.94901 38.45647 59 943 64 47138 91 71045 115 89 49.28781 29.35302 45.55832 41.35709 56.30975 35.56499 33.31218 30.73718 31.72579 26.31498 29.57742 27.80292 23.56755 33.50529 30.32882 58.43032 45.9276 27.53258 21.84205 18.62562 42.42787 42.36939 | 23.78371 | 40.18018 | 35.88468 | 50.7756 | 30.38261 | 28.98681 | 26.54441 | 27.56082 | 23.61202 | 26.39022 | 24.29794 | 21.21216 | 28.81359 | 25.94771 | 51.7366 | 40.90997 | 24.37055 | 18.66292 | 16.09256 | 37.33067 21.5169 39.12179 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51.02899 32.97843 27.15693 23.24825 27.96391 20.10155 23.17986 21.5276 22.45934 28.91876 24.62222 62.65857 39.87957 23.26162 16.72089 15.15227 35.06329 53.98225 58.61373 83.99197 39.84973 28.23661 37.41223 32.74968 48.99501 31.75037 26.60776 23.19297 27.69161 19.92173 22.8279 21.32063 21.76318 28.31969 24.42221 64.2686 38.72756 23.06097 16.36852 14.50565 34.11949 1952 58.11981 64.32472 89.70037 107.497 43.30147 28.53487 40.64279 36.08738 50.91964 33.35291 29.21115 26.24826 29.41186 22.32824 25.19137 21.80286 30.79633 26.42473 61.00313 41.53263 24.0357 18.4281 15.75772 35.77017 1953 63.69683 69.40481 95.30132 47.54898 29.58492 43.87057 40.16866 53.51633 35.1332 32.23475 29.89454 31.11318 25.27289 28.01025 26.74241 22.13596 33.13804 29.07915 60.4872 44.99136 26.04206 20.93803 17.74224 40.00215 1954 61.52413 67.29802 96.89085 116.07 50.54697 30.09515 45.55663 41.7479 55.18124 35.53588 33.61291 31.00103 31.46964 26.54986 29.48121 28.00903 23.21544 33.66303 30.85986 58.98219 46.36423 28.31057 22.23786 19.00215 43.29952 1955 61.85772 67.755 94.54698 46.9218 26.86716 44.08522 39.09113 56.30359 33.55112 32.01023 28.75447 30.23928 25.56959 28.77172 26.39036 23.17983 31.92571 29.02776 55.63109 44.65868 26.87652 20.61939 17.8648 40.28866 1956 63,97101 74,27229 95,8386 113,77 46.665 26.06195 44.17877 38.83886 57.53874 32.7548 31.46809 28.38611 29.95662 26.23193 29.25075 26.38878 23.69276 31.10714 28.73452 54.45296 44.68767 28.50763 20.22406 17.17906 43.13189 65.4575 75.96364 96.14744 103.00 42.07898 21.11153 39.8266 34.38279 53.25206 29.06447 28.27295 24.78113 27.2986 23.62837 26.67693 23.37532 23.71559 27.67208 26.9835 54.05079 40.68499 27.57678 19.01191 15.53086 41.70118 1958 63.91735 74.38185 95.72347 97.46295 39.88846 22.45881 37.04009 30.92998 50.94355 27.4409 25.78973 22.02538 25.27379 21.3999 24.75752 20.88416 23.54815 25.01625 25.05273 55.10021 37.44523 26.05249 17.79063 14.1779 39.36894 1967 57 16279 60 595 84 42239 40.21395 27.10018 38.34208 33.62366 50.94782 32.11388 28.30009 23.78155 28.34211 20.71608 24.81294 21.05581 28.28603 25.45727 62.83449 41.67046 22.5909 18.29441 15.923 35.02251 1968 51 89737 55 27443 78 55035 37.22779 26.55201 35.09386 30.07096 47.33895 30.35299 25.35668 21.37588 26.4533 18.28584 21.74171 19.72301 20.38444 26.60577 23.03076 62.13876 37.97293 21.59171 16.23286 14.33695 32.56756 1969 53,59228 57,60962 81,7967 36 93466 25 94321 34 88568 30 29783 46 55992 30 14305 25 27319 21 74702 26 58473 18 45393 21 55575 20 04584 20 92753 27 20027 23 25157 65 21628 37 57262 22 31819 16 92826 14 11897 32 68779 1970 55 6526 61 489 86 2466 104 07 40,50062 26,72756 37,97286 34,25083 48,42908 31,84649 27,89812 24,88091 28,54147 21,12508 24,12289 22,72918 21,78272 29,66572 25,47739 63,3216 40,55723 23,71433 19,08556 15,41275 34,7923 1971 64.35226 70.45509 92.92495 111.76 47 1796 27 9765 42 60001 38 5439 52 01501 34 06597 31 30071 28 39957 30 69331 24 19453 27 2101 25 76041 23 84931 32 34411 28 68121 63 4482 44 10367 25 98629 22 08234 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39.02785 49.51882 33.03975 31.7808 27.62916 30.65778 24.28052 28.15612 25.27527 23.1221 32.63395 28.47941 66.99342 45.57076 27.21512 21.16882 18.42345 41.93087 2009 62.11311 64.71128 89.3735 82.31935 35.97584 18.09579 31.0119 29.15504 34.17602 22.6571 22.47715 20.13482 20.82436 17.10339 19.38743 18.37269 16.75179 23.03188 19.40871 43.79953 31.63466 18.96029 15.86317 13.58514 28.81787 2010 47.0865 50.41447 72.80878 58.36158 26.00956 12.50714 21.53662 20.17271 26.72903 15.53652 15.37899 14.49572 16.91751 13.54318 14.04746 12.82697 15.24889 14.62056 15.08444 42.10416 21.83848 14.09229 12.72496 9.801887 21.06036 37.01287 40.9256 62.97489 29.25547 13.34643 8.24918 10.73957 6.801265 13.54914 8.746413 5.812949 5.87759 9.627897 8.874543 6.169411 5.402982 10.26801 7.614418 7.115557 35.91958 11.11641 8.222092 5.845277 5.312432 12.68151 2012 46.75937 60.72975 71.15753 40.25438 12.33753 11.16624 11.35671 7.988544 16.20698 7.55537 6.080868 4.519616 6.497813 5.109175 5.986524 4.767896 9.089133 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13.59824 18.4333 14.06291 12.73428 18.55305 21.42162 34.79409 31.21431 18.63381 13.87529 8.312906 30.54993 29.15647 44.34549 54.33547 59.30683 29.15694 26.87418 26.83466 18.16398 30.74951 19.65226 16.36958 13.25376 17.22412 15.99766 12.33758 10.03563 17.30319 15.71331 13.78392 50.81205 24.91052 14.28385 8.768967 9.559788 23.17141 2142 26.27688 33.22907 41.12843 42.46023 26.7935 25.50717 19.58562 14.25309 30.6708 19.77642 12.23008 10.19946 13.94356 15.40126 9.953243 7.851471 17.46409 13.34423 11.07343 49.06889 21.86032 15.01438 8.799915 8.205658 20.52958

Alternative 6 - Data table of max velocities (cm/s) at each save point (row) in SAV habitat for each storm (column)

- Yellow = velocity >50
- Orange = velocity > 80
- Red = velocity > 100







Alternative 6 - Data table of the change in max velocities (cm/s) at each save point (row) in SAV habitat for each storm (column) compared to the base condition

Green: ∆ < 0 (a reduction)

Yellow: 0 < ∆ < 5</p>

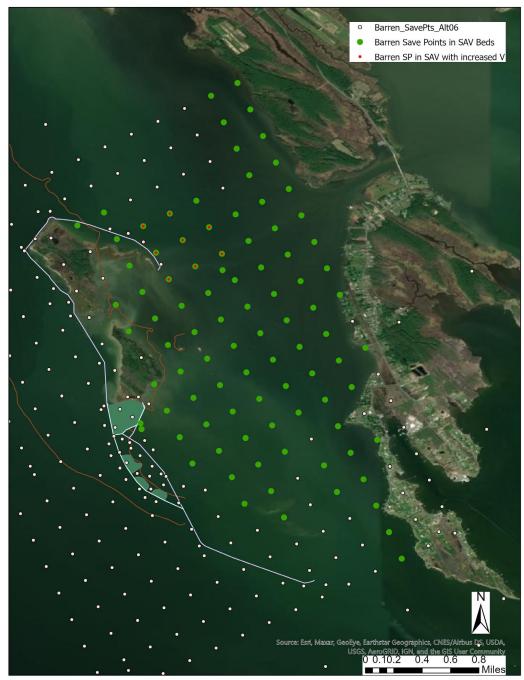
Orange: 5 < ∆ > 15

Red: 15 < ∆ > 25

Dark Red: ∆ > 25







Save Points in SAV Beds with increased velocities for select storms





BED ROUGHNESS FROM SAV – INCREASE MANNING'S N COEFFICIENT

- ➤ The model setup was adjusted to have higher Manning's values in the Tar Bay area to more accurately account for SAV in the area.
- ➤ When Manning's n was increased, the peak velocities under with-project values decreased by approximately 20-30%.



Storm	Water Level ARI	Point ID #	Existing Condition	Existing w/ Increased Manning's n	Alt P06	Alt P06 w/ Increased Manning's n	Existing Condition	Existing w/ Increased Manning's n	Alt P06	Alt P06 w/ Increased Manning's n
	(Yrs)			(Peak Storm V	elocity (cm/s)))		(Mean Storm V	Velocity (cm/s))
57	38.7	1976	60.6	-	68.2	-	10.4	-	12.8	-
		18	63.3	-	102.0	-	12.0	-	20.1	-
		1990	72.1	-	70.1	-	14.5	-	13.5	-
58	123.3	1976	66.4	53.0	78.8	62.1	11.9	9.6	14.3	11.4
		18	68.7	52.3	119.5	86.3	15.0	11.3	21.4	16.0
		1990	78.7	54.3	74.4	52.2	15.8	11.1	14.0	9.8
109	81.9	1976	87.9	-	97.4	-	16.0	-	19.4	•
		18	91.9	-	133.6	-	17.7	-	26.7	-
		1990	101.9	-	100.3	-	20.4	-	19.7	-
188	9.6	1976	85.4	66.2	101.4	78.9	11.5	8.9	13.6	10.5
		18	108.2	78.6	178.9	130.2	14.2	10.2	22.7	16.9
		1990	118.9	81.3	110.4	76.1	15.8	10.7	14.5	9.7
199	9.3	1976	40.7	-	52.0	-	7.5	-	10.0	-
		18	52.6	-	78.8	-	10.8	-	16.9	-
		1990	57.0	-	48.1	-	12.9	-	11.4	-
630	6.3	1976	40.5	-	58.7	-	7.3	-	8.2	-
		18	54.9	-	89.1	-	9.2	-	13.2	-
File N	lame	1990	61.5	-	58.4	-	10.8	-	9.5	-



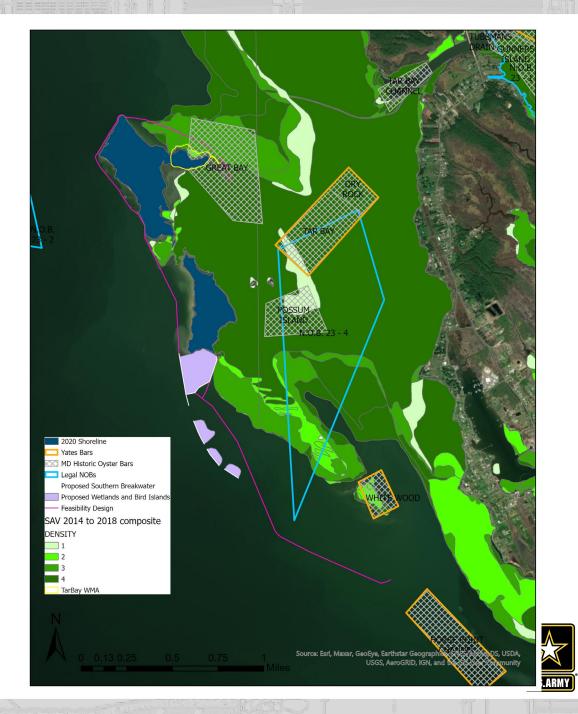
SUMMARY OF H&H MODELING AND EFFECTS ON SAV

- Proposed design provides for existing conditions or reduced maximum velocities in all areas but Tar Bay
- Affect on maximum velocities increased from north to south
- > At locations with increased velocities, velocities still within SAV habitat requirements
- Modeled velocities as presented are likely to be higher than expected (conservative) in SAV beds during the growing season because bed roughness was not factored into the full modeling effort
- Additional work needs to be done to understand the velocities in the Tar Bay area



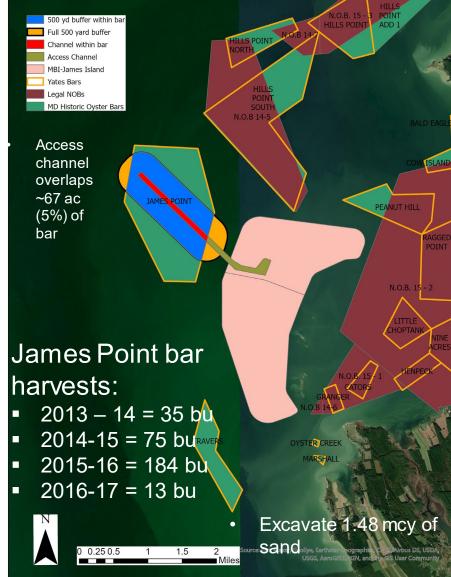


ADDITIONAL NEPA CONSIDERATIONS

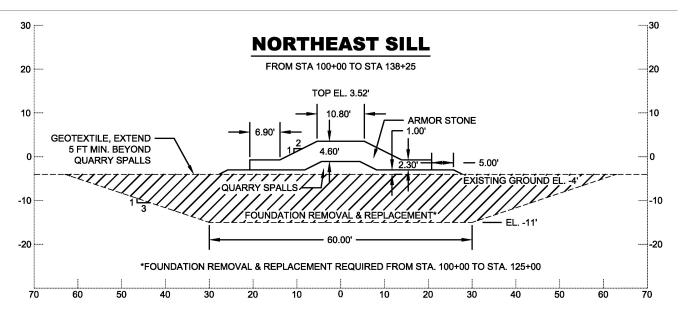


POTENTIAL OYSTER IMPACTS





BARREN – IDEA – INCORPORATE OYSTERS INTO NE SILL



0.33' MEAN HIGHER HIGH WATER (MHHW)
0.16' MEAN HIGH WATER (MHW)

-0.45' MEAN TIDE LEVEL (MTL)

TIDAL DATUMS AT BARREN ISLAND, MD FOR THE 1983-2001 TIDAL EPOCH*

NOT TO SCALE

k...

DATUM NOTES

- ALL COORDINATES ARE IN FEET AND REFERENCE THE MARYLAND STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM, NORTH AMERICAN DATUM OF 1983 (NAD83).
- ALL ELEVATIONS ARE IN FEET. UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, ALL ELEVATIONS REFERENCE THE NORTH AMERICAN VERTICAL DATUM OF 1988 (NAVD88).
- TIDAL DATUMS ARE BASED ON A TWO YEAR SERIES (JAN 2001—MAR 2003) USING NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION TIDE STATION 8571579 AS THE CONTROL TIDE STATION.





NEXT STEPS

- ➤ Further evaluate H&H modeling results in Tar Bay Area
- Complete 35% Design request agencies provide any input by March 5
- Winter and spring biological surveys
- Continue to work on identifying reference marshes and wetland design criteria
- Coordinate with FWS to confirm they have necessary information for draft PAR
- Begin to draft EA
- Support MES for permitting pre-application process
- Develop wetland restoration sequencing plan
- > Discuss expected maintenance needs for bird islands





AGENCY CHECK-POINTS – BARREN ISLAND COMPONENT

- Summer 2020 Initial ERDC modeling for Barren Design Meeting √
- 2. February 2021 Barren 35% Design Review Meeting √
- 3. March 2021 Draft PAR provided by FWS
- 4. Now through July 2021 Conduct relevant coordination to enable completion of draft EFH assessment, ESA biological assessment, 404(b)(1) Analysis, and Critical Areas Commission response
- 5. August 2021 Barren 65% Design Review Meeting
- 6. December 2021 Public Review of Barren EA







Mid-Bay Island Ecosystem Restoration Project Design Phase Agency Coordination Update

23 February 2021; 10:30 - 12:00 a.m.

Webinar information: https://usace1.webex.com/meet/angela.sowers

Join by phone

+1-844-800-2712 US Toll Free +1-669-234-1177 US Toll Access code: 199 872 1676

MEETING MINUTES

Participants

USACE: Angie Sowers, Charles Leasure, Chris Johnson, Ray Tracy, Dale Duncan, Ben Fedor,

AJ De Rosset

MPA: Dave Bibo, Amanda Penefiel, Holly Miller MES: Maura Morris, Cassandra Carr, Mindy Strevig

MDNR: Dave Brinker, Roland Limpert, John Moulis, Becky Golden, Laura Sanford, Chris Judy,

Erik Zolokowitz

USFWS: Chris Guy, Robbie Callahan, Matt Whitbeck, Amy O'Donnell

MDE: Mary Phipps-Dickerson

NOAA/NMFS: Jonathan Watson, Brian Hopper, Mary Andrews

Audobon: Dave Curson

Angie Sowers presented the project update, reviewed the habitat delineations, alternatives analysis, H&H modeling, considerations for SAV and oysters, next steps, and agency checkpoints (see slide deck and recording).

Discussion:

Angie Sowers asked for input about potential maintenance requirements for the bird islands.

- Dave Brinker commented that more details of the design are needed to scope out maintenance needs.
- Dave Brinker stated that based on the survey data he previously provided for the historic islands to the south of Barren, those islands that were the furthest from Barren supported higher numbers of birds. He suggested increasing the distance of the islands from Barren.
 - Angie Sowers replied that we can further consider that. The current 100 m distance in the design was based on prior feedback from the resource agencies. The objective is also to use the islands in place of a breakwater to support SAV habitat conditions so both the bird habitat and benefit to SAV are objectives to balance.
- Chris Guy long-term control of vegetation will likely require periodic use of herbicide at a time when application is not detrimental to bird communities. We will likely need to

identify success metrics for the bird islands as we would for the wetlands. One metric could be a trigger for herbicide application, i.e. when a certain percent cover of vegetation is reached.

- The group discussed suitable substrates for the bird islands:
 - Oyster shell is a great substrate to support nesting. Pro: substrate used historically by nesting communities. Con: availability and its degradation releases free calcium which supports vegetation growth
 - o Angie Sowers mentioned the mixed shell available from NJ Atlantic coastal fisheries. Chris Guy had also been thinking of this material.
 - O Dave Corson added that Audubon and DNR are developing floating bird islands in the Coastal Bay with a clam shell surface.
 - O Dave Brinker stated that based on its chemical composition, clam shell would likely be more suitable than oyster shell because when clam shell degrades it releases less free calcium (by which it would not be as beneficial to vegetation growth).
 - o Chris Guy will provide size range of material from Fire Island project.
 - o Pea gravel was shown to not be a good source due to heat capture.
- Group discussed design depth of substrate
 - o It was decided 12 inches is preferred
 - AJ costs could be a concern
 - o Chris Guy stated that if costs becomes a concern USACE should ask the agencies to research the suitable depth further to refine the design recommendation.
 - Angie shared that she has costs from the use of the mixed shell through the oyster program to build 12" reefs.
- Jonathan Watson requested a characterization of the sediments in the Honga River channel and for the NE sill. Angie will follow-up with our geotechnical team members. Jonathan also asked if training dikes would be utilized.
- Angie requested any further input relevant to the 35 % design to be provided by March 5.



Mid-Chesapeake Bay Island Ecosystem Restoration Project

Barren Island Construction

Joint Evaluation Committee Meeting March 31, 2021





Agenda

1. Mid-Bay Project History

- Location
- EIS Review
- Recommended Plans
- Project Purpose

2. Project Schedule

- Mid-Bay Project Phases
- Barren Island Timeline

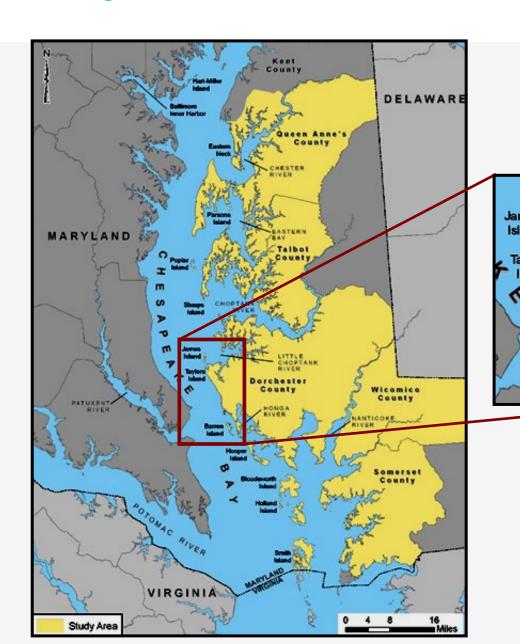
3. Barren Island Project review

- Current Conditions
- Restoration Plan
- Construction
- Wetland Restoration

4. Questions

Project History

Project Location





Mid-Bay Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement (2008)

 Mid-Bay Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement

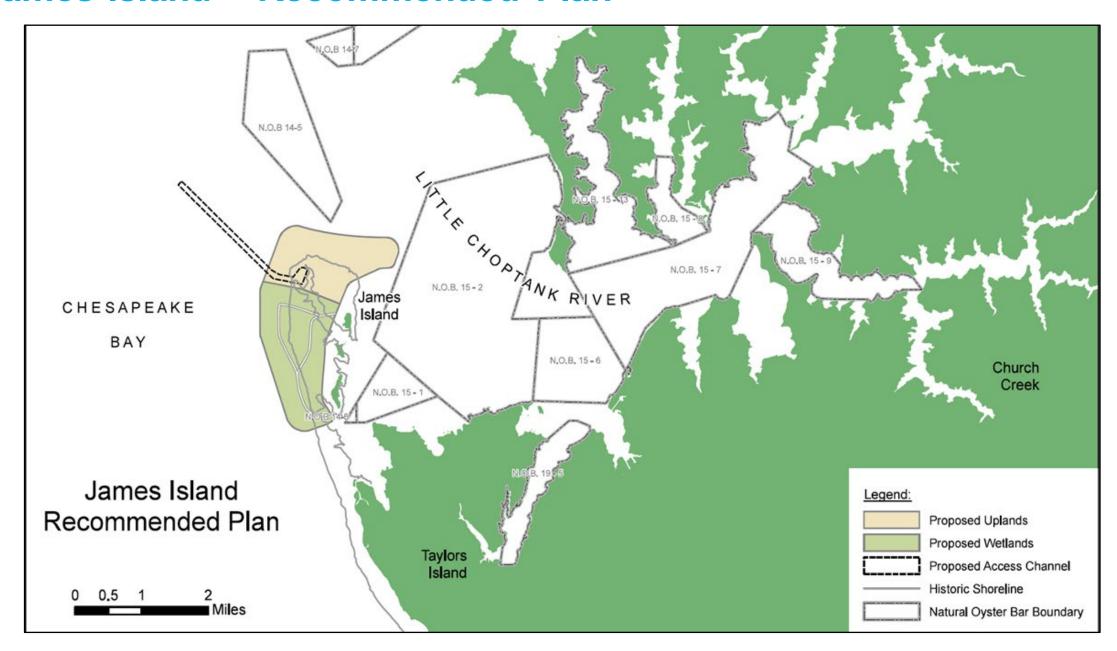


• 105 Potential Island Location → 2 Islands

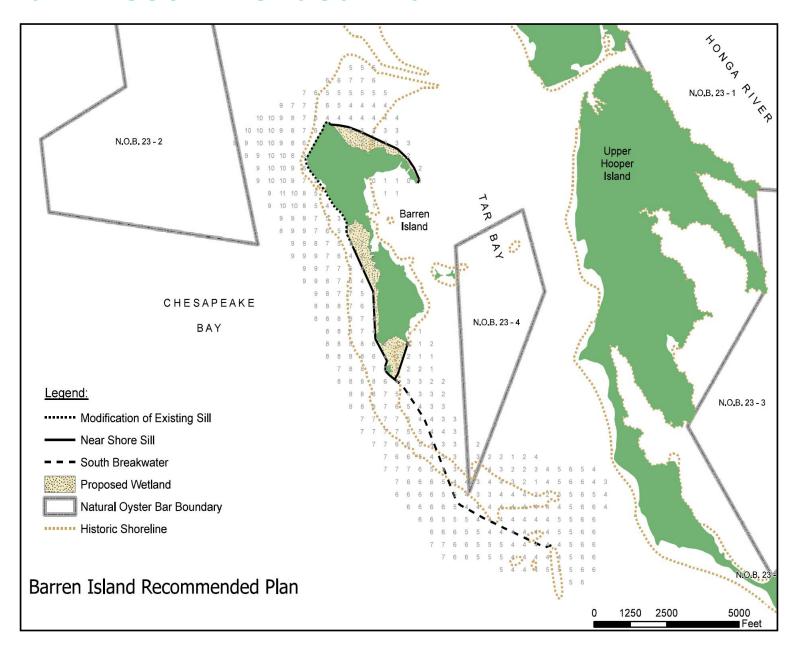


• 2 Islands → 29 Alignments

James Island - Recommended Plan



Barren Island - Recommended Plan



Project Purpose

- Restore and protect wetland, aquatic, and terrestrial island habitat for fish, reptiles, amphibians, birds, and mammals;
- Protect existing island ecosystems to prevent further loss of island and aquatic habitat;
- Provide dredged material placement capacity for Federal navigation channels;
- Increase wetlands acreage in the Chesapeake Bay watershed
- Decrease local erosion and turbidity;
- Promote conditions to establish and enhance submerged aquatic vegetation; and
- · Promote conditions that support oyster recolonization.

Project Schedule

Mid-Bay Project Phases

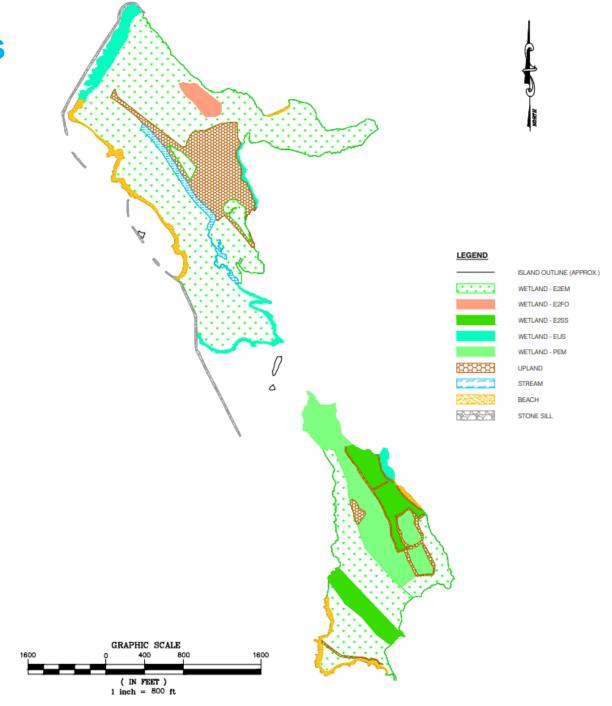
- Reconnaissance and Feasibility Studies Identified Recommended Plans – Completed 2008
- Pre-Construction Engineering and Design 2020-2024
- Sill and Breakwater/Exterior Dike Construction Following PED Phase & Funding Availability – ~2022-2028
- Continued Construction (including habitat development) and Operations and Maintenance Activities - ~2024-2065

Barren Island Schedule

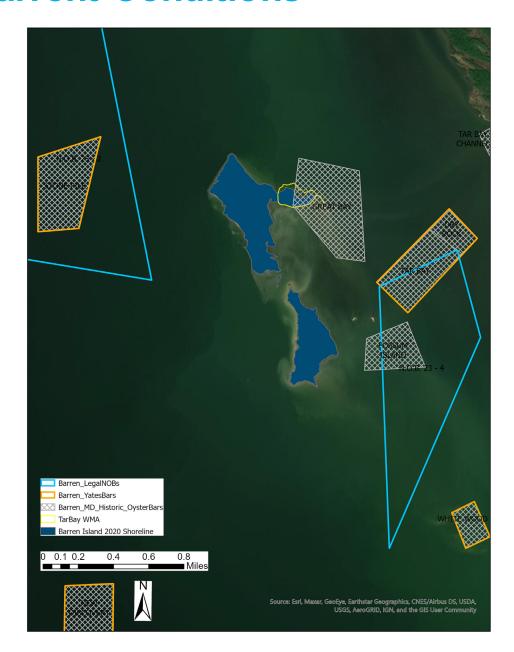
- Environmental Surveys Summer 2020 Spring 2021
- ERDC modeling Summer 2020 Current
- Permitting April 2021 April 2022
- 35% Design Complete April/May 2021
- 65% Design Complete October 2021
- NEPA: EA Public Review December 2021
- Signed FONSI March 2022
- Construction Begins Summer 2022

Project Overview

Current Conditions



Current Conditions



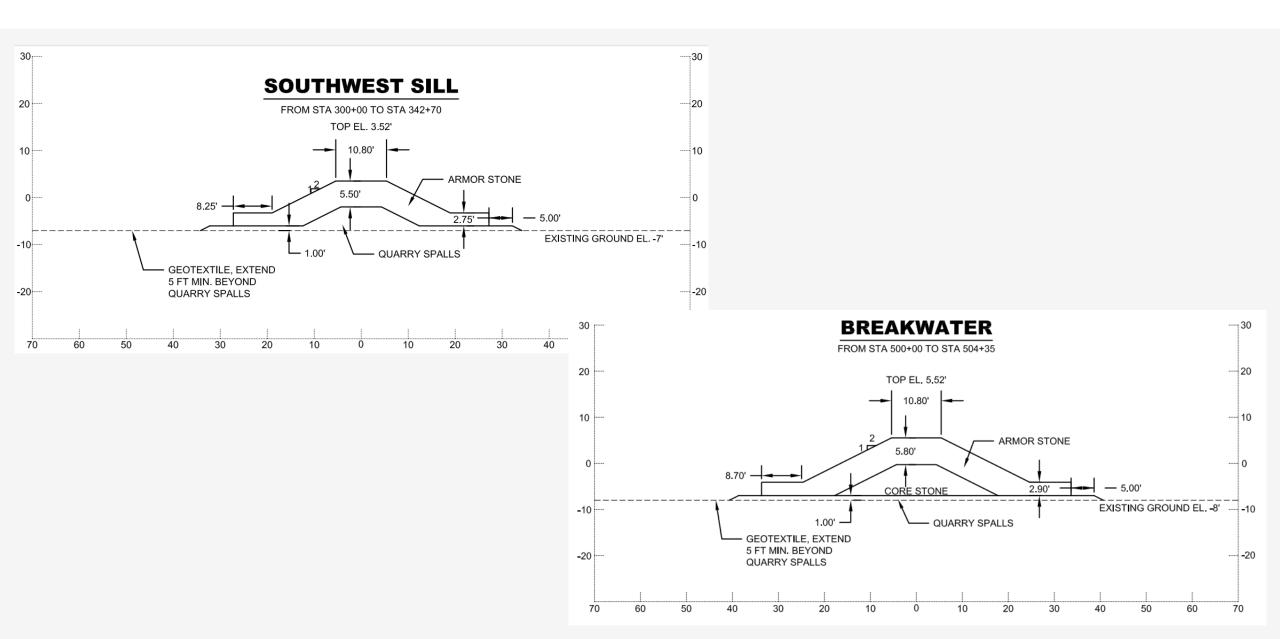


Barren Island Restoration Plan

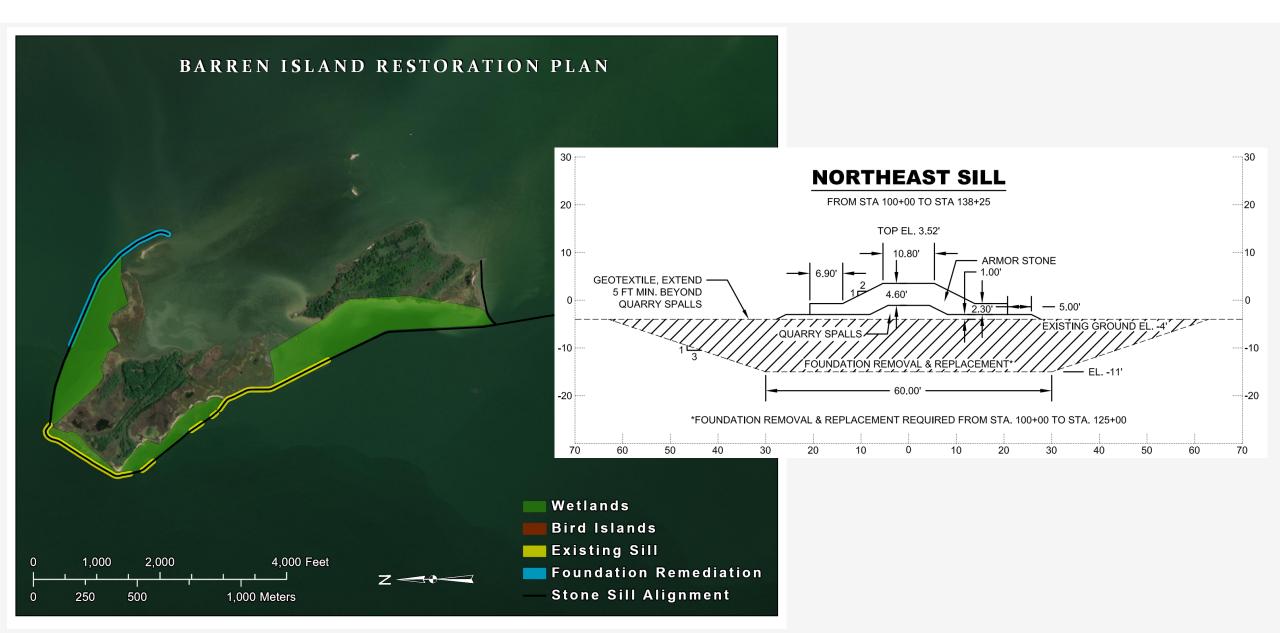
- 13,023 linear feet of sill
- 2,506 linear feet of breakwater
- 2 bird island
 (8.5 acres total)
- Minimum of 65
 acres of
 wetland and
 intertidal
 mudflats



Sill and Breakwater Construction Cross Sections



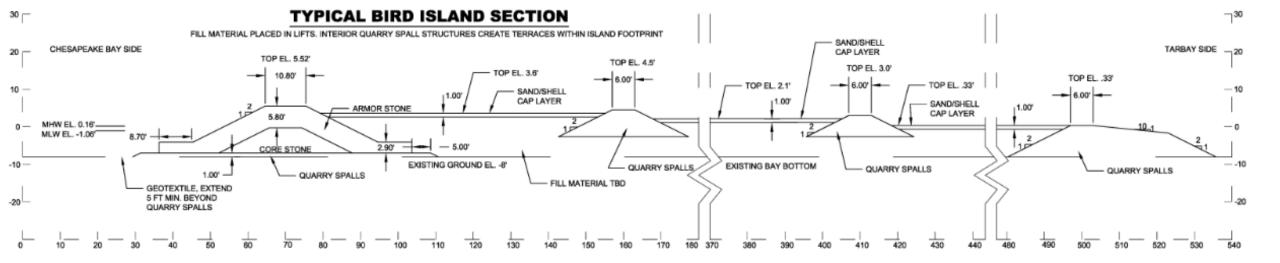
Foundation Replacement



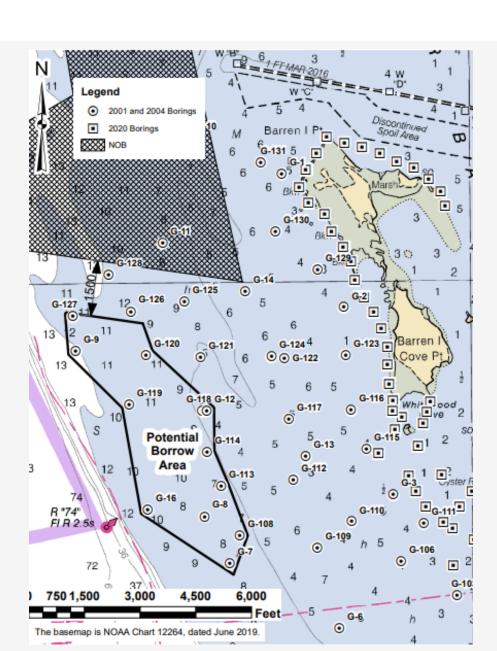
Foundation Material Placement



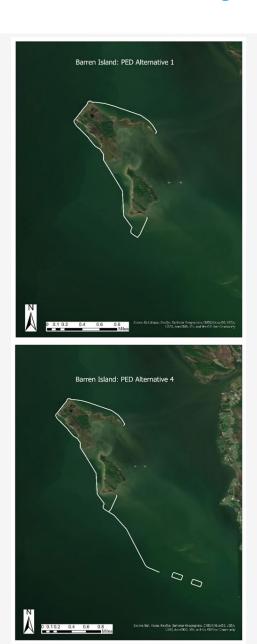
Bird Islands



Borrow Area



Alternatives Analysis



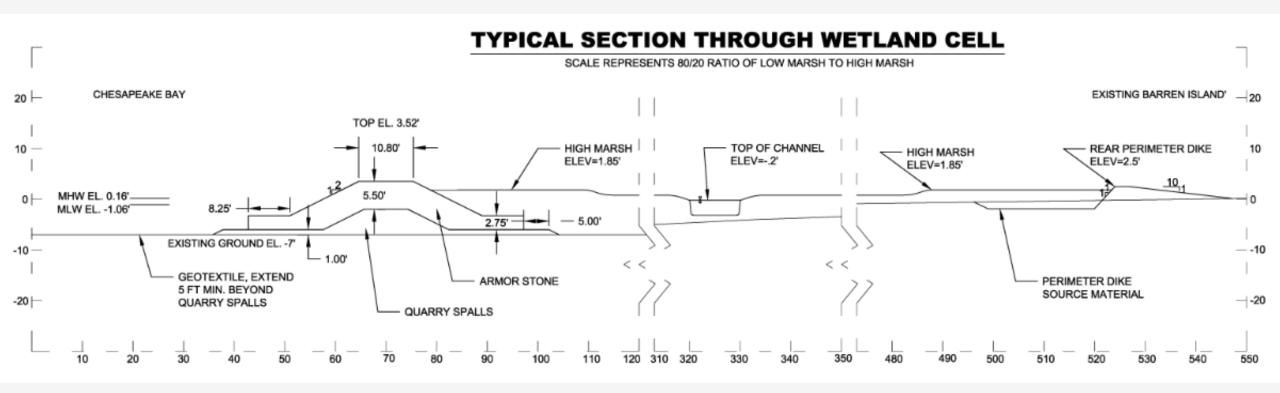




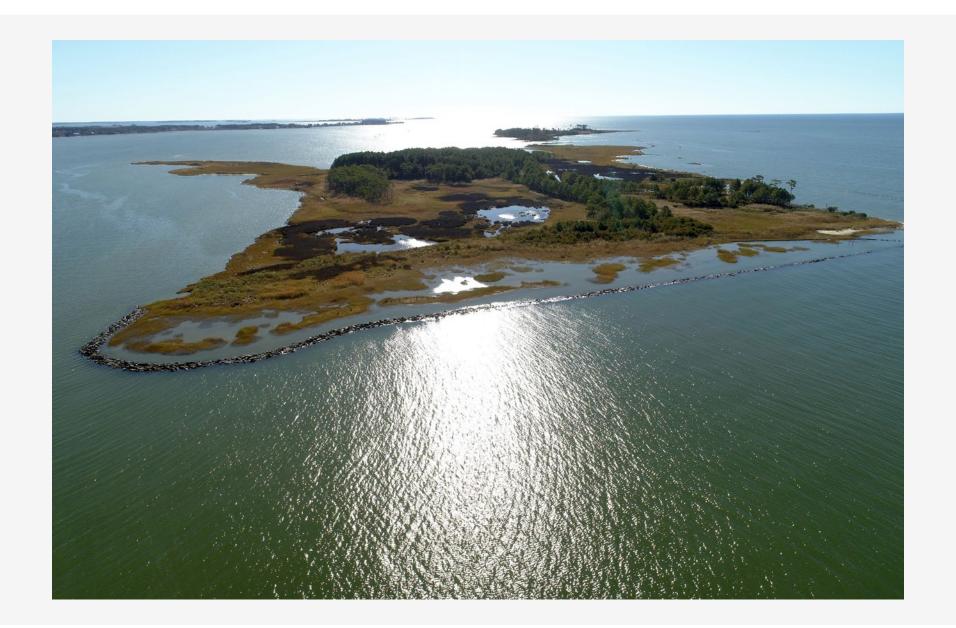
Wetland Restoration



Wetland Restoration Cross Section



Questions or concerns?







Wednesday, May 19, 2021 5:30pm EST

Mid-Chesapeake Bay Island Ecosystem Restoration Project

This year marks the 20th anniversary of Maryland's Dredged Material Management Act, a tremendous effort which has guided how we manage dredged material successfully in ways that are good for our economy, our communities, and our environment. Join us for an informative discussion that will spotlight the Mid-Bay Ecosystem Restoration Project, a future dredged material placement site that will restore and expand beneficial island habitat in the Chesapeake. This will be hosted virtually, and is free and open to the public.

For more information click link below or go to www.maryland-dmmp.com

REGISTER HERE



FEATURED SPEAKERS



Holly Miller: MDOT MPA



Trevor Cyran: US Army Corps of Engineers



Angie Sowers: US Army Corps of Engineers



Chris Guy: US Fish and Wildlife Service



Moderated by Kristen Keene:MDOT MPA

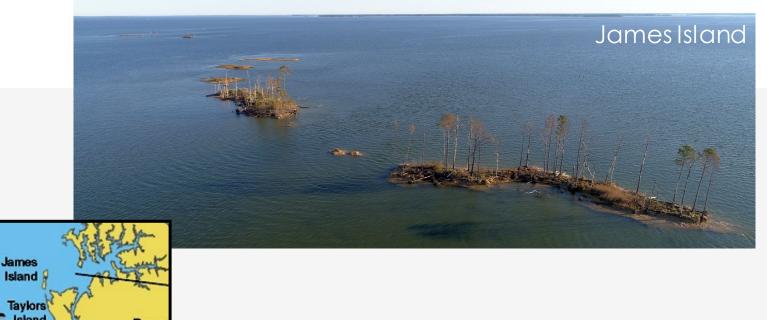




Project History

Project Location



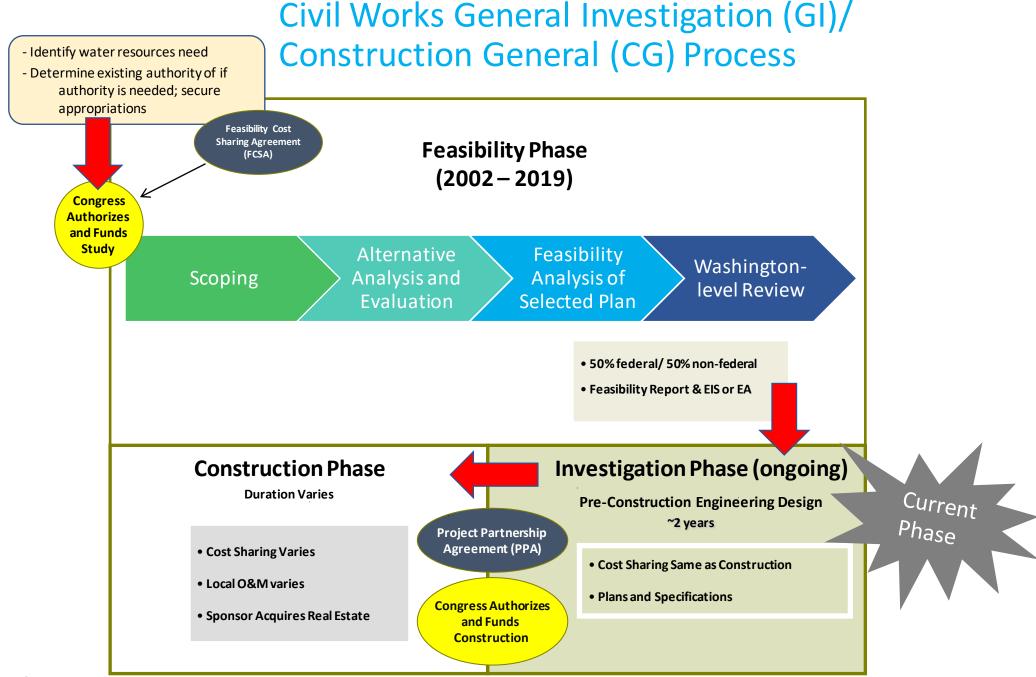


Barren Island is located directly to the west of Upper Hoopers Island in Dorchester County, Maryland



Project Purpose

- Restore and protect wetland, aquatic, and terrestrial remote island habitat for fish, reptiles, amphibians, birds, and mammals;
- Protect existing remote island ecosystems to prevent further loss of island and aquatic habitat;
- Provide dredged material placement capacity for Federal navigation channels;
- Increase wetlands acreage in the Chesapeake Bay watershed;
- Decrease local erosion and turbidity;
- Promote conditions to establish and enhance submerged aquatic vegetation; and
- Promote conditions that support oyster recolonization.



Mid-Bay Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement (2008)

 Mid-Bay Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement



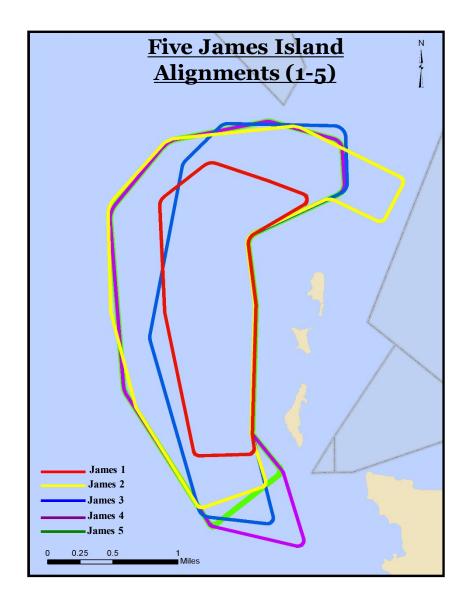
• 105 Potential Island Location → 2 Islands

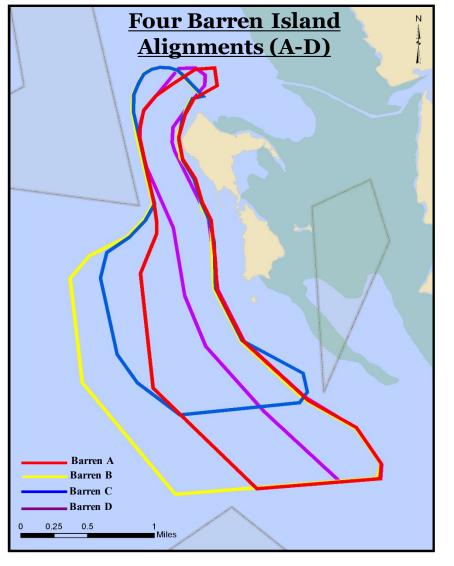


• 2 Islands → 29 Alignments

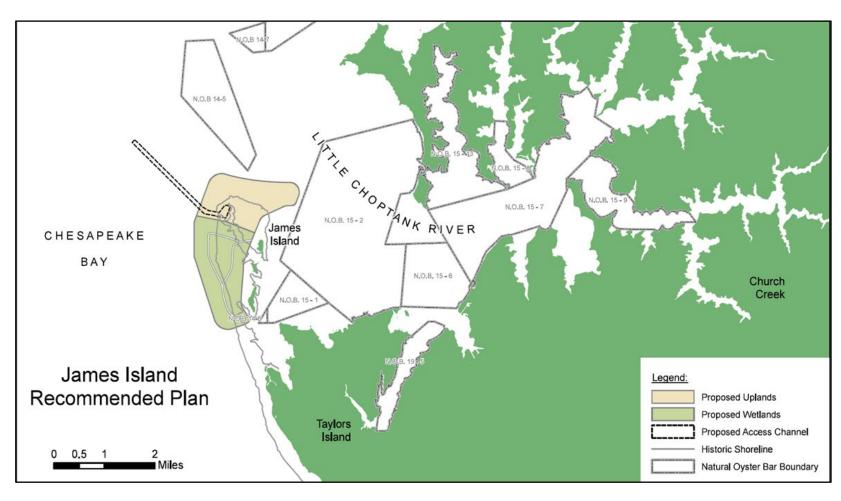
Mid-Chesapeake Bay Island Ecosystem Feasibility Phase Analysis

Alignments Evaluated



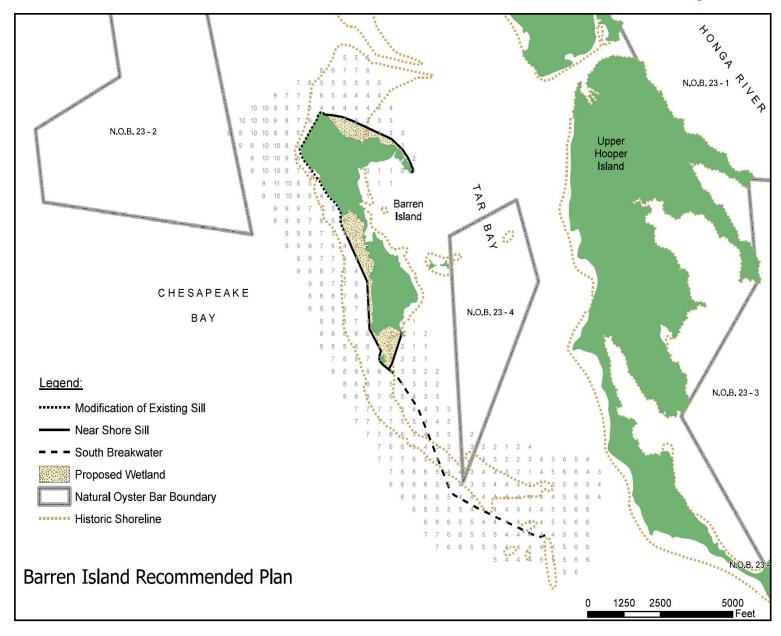


James Island – Recommended Plan (Feasibility)



- 2,072 acres
- 55% wetland, 45% upland
- Upland dike height: 20 ft
- Access Channel Dredging
- Capacity: 90-95 mcy
- Placement Duration: 28-30 years
- Design Features
 - Tidal channels through wetlands
 - Freshwater ponds
 - Intertidal/unvegetated mudflats
 - Bird nesting structures

Barren Island – Recommended Plan (Feasibility)



- 72 acres of wetland restoration, plus protection of existing island remnants and seagrass beds
- Sill height: 4 ft
- Southern Breakwater height: 6 ft
- Capacity: 0.38 mcy
- Placement Duration: ~7 years
- Design Features:
 - Existing sill modifications (4,900 ft)
 - Northern sill construction (9,760-ft)
 - Southern breakwater construction (8,200-ft)

PROJECT OVERVIEW

BARREN ISLAND COMPONENT

Barren Island: Current Conditions

- 138 acres
- Variety of habitats including:
 - Unconsolidated shore
 - 118 acres of wetlands
 - Emergent (75% of wetlands), shrub scrub, forested, and palustrine wetlands
 - Greater diversity of wetland types on southern remnant
 - 3.5 acres of beach
 - 14.5 acres of uplands
 - 2 acres of wetlands
 - Existing sills to the west (protect previous shoreline restoration projects)



Current Conditions: Oysters and SAV



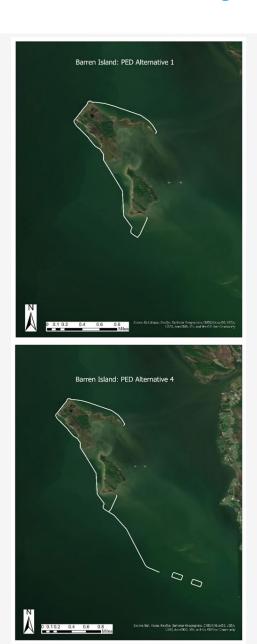


Barren Island Restoration Plan

- 13,023 linear feet of sill
- 2,506 linear feet of breakwater
- 2 bird island (8.5 acres total)
- Minimum of 65 acres of wetland and intertidal mudflats



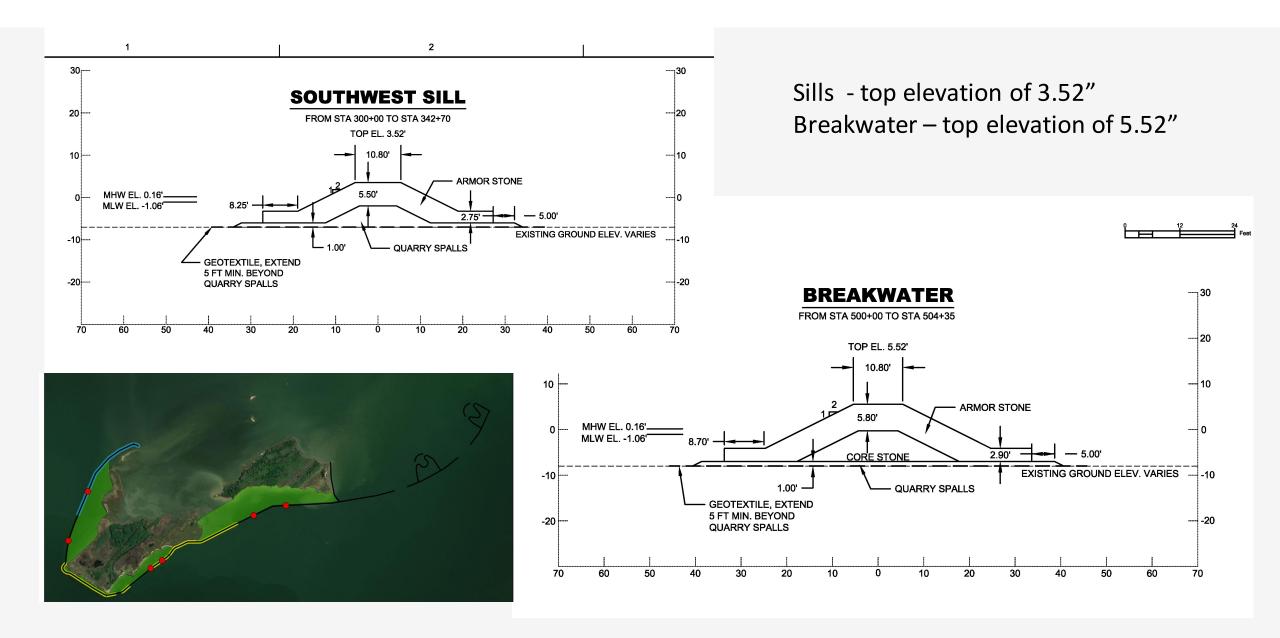
Alternatives Analysis



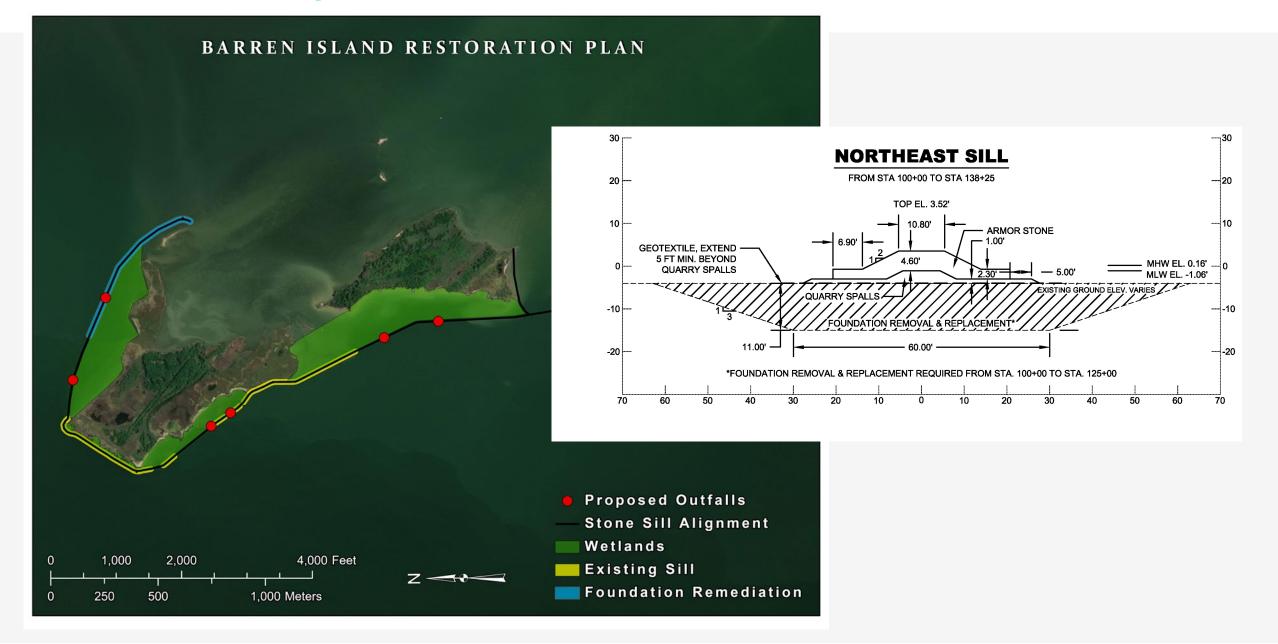




Sill and Breakwater Construction Cross Sections



Foundation Replacement



Foundation Material Placement – Wetland Restoration on Northwest



IMPACTS and BENEFITS

Wetland Restoration and Habitat



Wetland Restoration (maximum potential):

- Northwest = 12.4 acres
- Northeast = 22.2 acres
- Southwest = 42.5 acres
 TOTAL = 77 acres

Nesting bird island habitat restoration = 8.5 acres

Conserve existing 138 acres of island

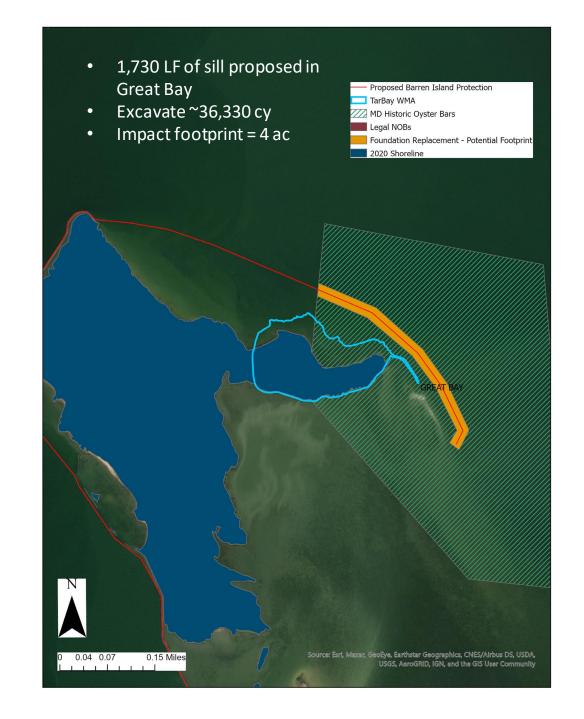
Preservation of conditions to support SAV

Wetlands impacted by wetland restoration = 1.0 acres

Shallow-water habitat conversion to wetlands and bird islands = 84.5 acres

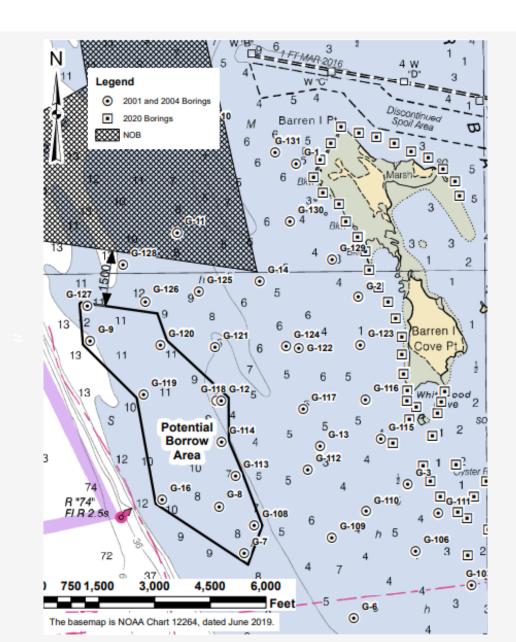
Shallow-water impacts (sills and breakwater structures) = 30.4 acres

Potential Oyster Impacts



Borrow Area

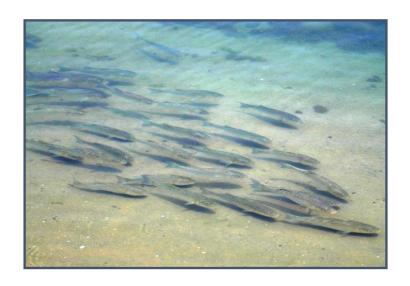
- Purpose: acquire sand for foundation replacement under northeast sill, creation of bird islands, and temporary dikes for wetland restoration
- Work is ongoing to determine extent of borrow area that would be needed to provide material needed



NEPA Considerations (National Environmental Policy Act

Development of a supplemental Environmental Assessment

Environmental Compliance



- Draft Feasibility Study/EIS was released in August 2006; ROD signed 2019
- Received highest rating (lack of objections) from US Environmental Protection Agency
- No major objections or comments were received
- During process of updating NEPA in 2017 to enable ROD to be signed, it was decided with relevant agencies to complete update during design phase
 - Essential Fish Habitat
 - Endangered Species Act
 - Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act
 - Clean Water Act Section 401 and 404
 - Critical Area Commission
 - Cultural

Environmental Surveys – Sampling Plan

	James and Barren Island					
Survey Type	Spring 2021	Summer 2020	Fall 2020	Winter 2020 - 2021	Spring 2021	Summer 2021
Water Quality/Nutrient		٧	٧	√	May	
BenthicInvertebrate		٧	٧		May	
SAV	V				2021	
Fisheries						
Bottom Trawl		٧	٧	٧	May	
Beach Seine*		٧	٧	٧	May	
Gillnet		٧	٧	٧	May	
Pop Net			٧		May	
Soft-shell and Razor Clam			٧			
Pound Net Telephone Survey***			٧			
Commercial Harvest Data Collection				٧		
Crab Pot Survey^		٧			May, June, July	
Avian						
Avian surveys - point counts		٧		,	April/May	
Avian surveys - wetlands - SHARP					May, June	July
Avian surveys - passive listening counts/flushing survey				٧		Aug, Sept
Predatory mammals				٧		Aug, Sept

To be conducted by Anchor QEA

To be completed through FWCA - FWS or subcontractor (Audubon or APHIS)

To be completed by DNR

James Island – some initial results

- No terrestrial habitat left survey included shoreline, mudflat, salt marsh, and open water
- Target locations (sampling locations from feasibility-phase surveys) no longer exist
- Because of lack of habitat diversity, the species list was mostly water birds and shorebirds.
 - Six species of sandpiper/plover sanderling, spotted sandpiper, semipalmated sandpiper, least sandpiper, semipalmated plover, and ruddy turnstone
 - Gulls, terns, pelicans, and cormorants
 - Fish-eating raptors (osprey and eagle)
- Some locations for fisheries surveys were not able to be sampled due to current conditions





Barren Island – some initial results

 Habitats were more diverse –survey included shoreline, mudflat, salt marsh, and open water plus forest and scrub shrub

Marsh habitat

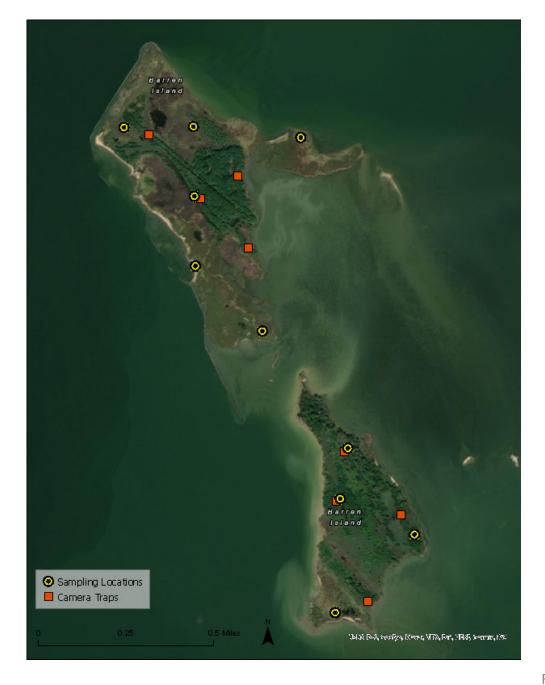
- Hundreds of brown pelicans and double-crested cormorants
- Shorebirds sanderling, spotted sandpiper, and semipalmated plover
- Terns, gulls, and raptors, plus some clapper rails and wading birds in the marshes

Terrestrial birds included migrant warblers, flycatchers, hummingbirds, resident brown-headed nuthatches,

Carolina wrens, pine warblers, and cardinals







Initial Avian and Predatory Mammals Surveys

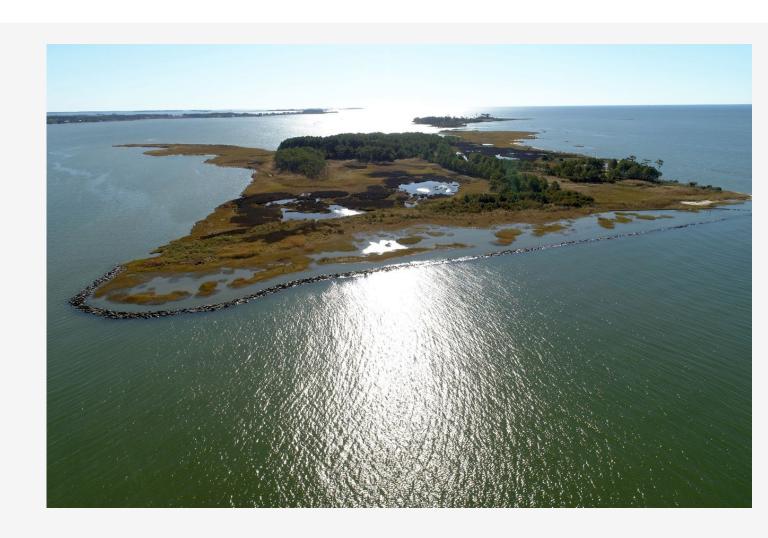
Mammals observed Jan 7, 2022

- Red Fox (visual and sign)
- Raccoon (sign)
- River Otter (sign)
- White tailed deer (visual and sign)
- Muskrat (sign)
- Also noted remains of 1 box turtle and 2 diamond back terrapins

File Name 27

Barren Island NEPA – Next Steps

- Summer 2021 Complete biological surveys
- Now through July 2021 Conduct relevant coordination to enable completion of draft assessments for inclusion in supplemental Environmental Assessment (EA)
 - 1. Essential Fish Habitat,
 - 2. Endangered Species biological assessment,
 - 3. Clean Water Act 404(b)(1) Analysis,
 - 4. Critical Areas Commission response
- July 2021 Complete draft supplemental EA for internal review



Project Schedule

Mid-Bay Project Phases (Barren and James Island Components)

- Reconnaissance and Feasibility Studies Identified Recommended
 Plans Completed 2008 Record of Decision signed in 2019
- Pre-Construction Engineering and Design 2020-2024
- Sill and Breakwater/Exterior Dike Construction Following PED Phase & Funding Availability – ~2022-2028
- Continued Construction (including habitat development) and Operations and Maintenance Activities - ~2024-2065

Barren Island NEPA Schedule

- Permitting April 2021 April 2022
- 35% Design Complete April/May 2021
- 65% Design Complete October 2021
- NEPA: EA Public Review December 2021
- Signed FONSI (Finding of No Significant Impact) March 2022
- Construction Begins Summer 2022

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Wetlands & Waterways Permits Interactive Search Portal

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Mitigation

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Public Notices

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT
WATER AND SCIENCE ADMINISTRATION
1800 WASHINGTON BOULEVARD
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21230

Notice of Application for State Wetland Licenses, Private Wetland Permits, Nontidal Wetlands and Waterways Permits and/or Water Quality

Certification and the Opportunity to Provide Written Comment or Request an Informational Hearing

November 15, 2021

The Water and Science Administration has received the applications listed below. A preliminary review has indicated that the listed projects may be subject to the opportunity for a public hearing once the application is substantially complete. Projects may be significantly altered during the review process. The applications and related information are available for inspection and copying. You may also request written notice of any hearing opportunity by having your name placed on the interested persons list for each project in which you are interested. To inspect the file or to have your name placed on the interested persons list, contact the assigned division at the telephone number indicated below or send an email to the assigned reviewer no later than December 15, 2021, unless otherwise noted in the Public Notice.

Wetlands and Waterways Program - (410) 537-3837

Nontidal Wetlands Division - (410) 537-3456

Baltimore, Cecil, and Harford Counties

201960846/19-NT-0150: MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY, 300 Authority Drive, Baltimore, Maryland 21222 has applied for a Modification to 19-NT-0150. The modification request includes design changes such as an additional stormwater management facility along southbound I-95 south of MD 152, addition of a floodwater attenuation facility located near Old Joppa Road, various other design changes to erosion and sediment control and stormwater management facilities, culvert and outfall improvements, and stream channel stabilization throughout the corridor. Also included is revised design of I-95 NB widening and a noise wall between MD 24 and Bynum Run, geotechnical borings associated with a potential Park and Ride facility located near Old Mountain Road adjacent to I-95, and clearing of trees within a wetland, buffer, and floodplain along MD 7C in Cecil County. The modification also includes minor changes to impacts at the Eccleston Mitigation Site as well as the addition of the previously constructed HT-3012 Stream Restoration site and removal of the previously proposed Lilly Run Stream and Wetland Mitigation site from the mitigation package. The project is located on I-95 from north of Old Joppa Road to Bynum Run, just south of MD 543 in Harford County, Maryland. The modification results in an overall decrease of permanent impacts to 32,931 square feet of wetland, 103,386 square feet of 25-foot nontidal wetland buffer, 4,586 linear feet waterway, and 107,429 square feet of 100-year floodplain. In total, the project will permanently impact 99,733 square feet of forested nontidal wetland, 7,733 square feet of scrub-shrub nontidal wetland, 31,094 square feet of emergent nontidal wetland, 3,187 square feet of forested/emergent nontidal wetland, 387,739 square feet of 25-foot nontidal wetland buffer, 14,013 linear feet of perennial streams, 9,956 linear feet of intermittent streams, 103,207 square feet of 100-year floodplain, and temporarily impact 58,741 square feet of forested nontidal wetland, 6,258 square feet of scrub-shrub nontidal wetland, 83,592 square feet of emergent nontidal wetland, 5,236 square feet of palustrine, unconsolidated

bottom wetland, 192,652 square feet of 25-foot nontidal wetland buffer, 1,560 linear feet of perennial streams, 954 linear feet of intermittent streams, and 778,357 square feet of 100-year floodplain. Despite an overall reduction in impact, the project will result in new permanent impacts to 22,412 square feet of forested nontidal wetland, 170 square feet of scrub-shrub nontidal wetland, 6.319 square feet of emergent nontidal wetland, 69,795 square feet of 25-foot nontidal wetland buffer, 1,580 linear feet of perennial streams, and 1,663 linear feet of intermittent streams, and new temporary impacts to 2,608 square feet of palustrine, forested wetland, 721 square feet of palustrine, emergent wetland, 1,739 square feet of 25-foot nontidal wetland buffer, 273 linear feet of perennial streams, and 109 linear feet of intermittent streams, not previously authorized for disturbance. The mitigation requirement is 252,400 square feet of wetland mitigation and 10,634 linear feet of stream mitigation. The proposed mitigation will be provided off-site at the following locations: Eccleston Mitigation Site adjacent to Greenspring Valley Road and Park Heights Avenue in Baltimore County, Carsins Run Mitigation Site located along I-95 southbound in Harford County, and HT 3012 Stream Restoration Site in Baltimore County. A virtual public informational hearing for only the proposed work listed in this public notice is being held to gather information and hear testimony to assist the Department in making a determination regarding an application for a Nontidal Wetlands and Waterways Permit. The virtual public hearing is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on **December 2, 2021.** The plans and an opportunity to ask questions will be provided from 6:30 pm - 7:00 p.m.The public informational hearing will begin promptly at 7:00 pm and end at 9:00 p.m. In order to view or participate in the hearing, a participant must register at:

https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7017776319619504400 , webinar ID 285-539-851 and directions will be electronically forwarded to the email provided. If internet service is not available, the participant may call 1-866-901-6455 and then enter access code 834-073-155 to hear the public hearing. Phone only participants will not have the ability to provide testimony during the hearing, however, statements may be provided to Jennifer Bird by November 24, 2021, to be read during the hearing which may not be longer than three minutes in length. Information and questions can be provided orally by participants during the hearing through the virtual platform. Written comments and requests to be included on the interested persons list may be sent by December 30, 2021, to the Maryland Department of the Environment. For nontidal wetland concerns, send correspondence to the attention of Jennifer Bird, 1800 Washington Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21230 or at jennifer.bird@maryland.gov or 410-316-7959. Any further notices concerning actions on the application will be provided on the Maryland Department of the Environment's website,

https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Water/WetlandsandWaterways/Pages/I-

95_ETL_North_Sect200_PhaseII.aspx. Please refer to Subsection 5-907 of the Annotated Code of Maryland or the Code of Maryland Regulations 26.23.02 and 26.24.02 for information regarding the application process.

Howard County

202061493/20-NT-3200: LKQ CORPORATION, 3918 Cedar Day Circle, Valrico, Florida 33506, has applied to construct a Pollution Control System (PCS), two storm drain outfalls, and removal and replacement of gravel base at an auto salvage compound. The PCS will entail the construction of two facilities at the top and bottom of Dorsey Run on the property. The storm drain outfalls will convey run-off from offsite and flow from tributaries which will bypass the auto salvage facility. Grading within the 100-year floodplain will result in the removal of existing contaminated gravel and replacement with clean gravel. The project will permanently impact 328 linear feet (3,006 square feet) of Dorsey Run (Use I) and 164,595 square feet of the associated 100-year floodplain. The project will also temporarily impact 665 linear feet (5,340 square feet) of Dorsey Run (Use I) and 40,480 square feet of the associated 100-year floodplain. The project is located at 8125 Washington Boulevard, Jessup, in Howard County. Written comments, requests for a public informational hearing and requests to be included on the interested persons list may be sent by November 30, 2021 to the Maryland Department of the Environment,

Attn: Debra Correia, 1800 Washington Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21230 or at debra.correia@maryland.gov or 410-537-3900. Any further notices concerning actions on the application will be provided only by mail to those persons on the interested persons list. Please refer to Subsection 5-907 of the Annotated Code of Maryland or the Code of Maryland Regulations 26.23.02 for information regarding the application process.

Prince George's County

202161394/21-NT-0448: WERRLEIN WSSC LLC, 522 Defense Highway, Annapolis, Maryland 21401, has applied for the redevelopment of a vacant Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) administrative facility & associated parking lots into a single-family residential subdivision with associated infrastructure. The applicant has also proposed to provide floodplain compensation for the area being filled. The project will permanently impact 498 square feet of nontidal wetland, 4,914 square feet of the 25-foot nontidal wetland buffer, and 2.36 acres of the 100-year nontidal floodplain. The project is proposed on the Northwest Branch of the Anacostia River (Use I). The project location is 4017 Hamilton Street Hyattsville, MD 20781; at the intersection of 40th place and Gallatin Street in Prince George's County. Written comments, requests for a public informational hearing and requests to be included on the interested persons list may be sent by December 15, 2021 to the Maryland Department of the Environment, Attn: Ryan Din, 1800 Washington Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21230 or ryan.din@maryland.gov or 410-537-4247. Any further notices concerning actions on the application will be provided only by mail to those persons on the interested persons list. Please refer to Subsection 5-907 of the Annotated Code of Maryland or the Code of Maryland Regulations 26.23.02 and 26.17.04 for information regarding the application process.

Tidal Wetlands Division - (410) 537-3571

Kent County

202160896/21-WL-0641: SAFE HARBOR MARINA c/o Peter Clark at 14785 Preston Road Ste. 975, Dallas, Texas 75254 has applied to (A) construct and backfill 787 linear feet of replacement timber bulkhead within a maximum of 18 inches channelward of a deteriorated bulkhead in addition to (B) reconfigure the Great Oak Landing LLC marina located in the tidal waters of Fairlee Creek at 22170 Great Oak Landing Road, Chestertown, Maryland 21620. The reconfiguration proposes to: (1) remove all fixed piers and piles at docks F and G, remove the dock extension and piles on Dock D, and remove the existing 6.5-foot wide by 56-foot long travel lift pier; (2) Dock D: construct a 362-foot long by 8-foot wide main floating pier, with a 130-foot long by 8-foot wide floating "T" head, six 70-foot long by 7-foot wide floating finger piers, six 60-foot long by 6-foot wide floating finger piers and install 42 mooring piles to create 26 slips, all within a maximum of 660-feet channel ward of the mean high water line; (3) Dock F: construct a 494-foot long by 8-foot wide main floating pier, with a 128-foot long by 8-foot wide floating "T" head, eight 60-foot long by 6-foot wide floating finger piers, eight 50-foot long by 5-foot wide floating finger piers, six 40-foot long by 4-foot wide floating finger piers and install 59 mooring piles to create 46 slips, all within a maximum of 610 feet channel ward of the mean high water line; (4) Dock G: construct a 486foot long by 8-foot wide floating main pier, with a 128 foot-long by 8-foot wide floating "T" head, eight 60-foot long by 6-foot wide floating finger pier, eight 50-foot long by 5-foot wide floating finger piers, six 40-foot long by 4-foot wide floating finger piers and to install 58 mooring piles to create 46 slips, all within a maximum of 640-feet channelward of the mean high water line; (5) Dock H: construct a 10-foot by 138-foot "L" head floating pier

extension attached to the existing 10-foot wide by 55-foot long H dock, all to extend no more than 180-feet channelward of the of the existing bulkhead; (6) Travel Lift: widen the existing travel lift well from 22.9-feet wide to 30.75-feet wide, by removing the existing Southern travel lift pier, and constructing a 6.5-foot wide by 56-foot long travel lift pier 7.85-feet southwest from its previous location, all to extend no more than 56-feet channelward of the of the existing bulkhead. For more information, please contact Andrew Belfield at Andrew.Belfield@Maryland.gov or 410-537-3514.

Prince George's County

202160863/21-WL-0624: SMOOT HARBOR, LLC at 12500 Fair Lakes Circle, Suite 400, Fairfax, Virginia 22033 has applied to maintenance hydraulic or mechanical dredge a 7.29 acre approach and channel area to a depth of 10.84 feet at mean low water and transport 5800 cubic yards of dredge material; all dredge material to be transported via barge to a site known as the Piney Reclamation located at 12065 Forgotten Farm Place, Waldorf 20602 in Charles County, Maryland. The purpose of the project is to maintain navigation to Smoot Harbor. The proposed project is located within the tidal waters of the Smoot Harbor off the Potomac River along the shoreline of 165 Waterfront Street, National Harbor Maryland 20745 in Oxon Hill, Prince George's County. **The Public Notice period begins November 15, 2021 and ends on December 2, 2021.** For more information, please contact Melissa McCanna at Melissa.mccanna@maryland.gov or at 410-537-4053.

202160863/-WP-0625: SMOOT HARBOR, LLC at 12500 Fair Lakes Circle, Suite 400, Fairfax, Virginia 22033 has applied to authorize regulated activities in private tidal waters of the Potomac River at Smoot Bay to upgrade, expand and reconfigure the present pier system to increase the number and size of marina slips; construct a new boat ramp and add visitor amenities; and maintain and improve navigable access at National Harbor, Oxon Hill, Prince Georges County, Maryland. The proposed project is located within the tidal waters of the Smoot Harbor off the Potomac River along the shoreline of 165 Waterfront Street, National Harbor Maryland 20745 in Oxon Hill, Prince George's County. Additional information can be obtained by contacting Melissa McCanna at Melissa.McCanna@maryland.gov or at 410-537-4053. The proposed project, which has been divided into seven separate categories, is described below.

- (A) Heritage Cove (SHA Piers): (1) Pier B, (Western "SHA" pier): Extend the existing pier landward 19 feet by 10 feet wide to connect the pier to uplands; construct one 252-foot long by 10.5-foot wide floating pier with associated gangway, and a 36-foot long by 10.5 foot East/West connector near-shore platform, a 60-foot long by 15-foot wide "L" head platform with associated gangways attached to the pier, and five 40-foot long by 7-foot wide floating finger piers; install eight 40-foot long by 18.5-foot wide boatlifts, emplace up to 16 mooring piles, construct a roof system over all the lifts to create eight covered boat slips, all extending a maximum of 295 feet channelward of the mean high water line. (2) Pier A, (Eastern "SHA" pier): Construct a 252-foot long by 10.5-foot wide floating pier, a 60-foot long by 15-foot wide "L" head platform with associated gangways attached to the pier; construct five 40-foot long by 7-foot wide floating finger piers, install eight 40-foot long by 18.5-foot wide boatlifts, emplace 16 mooring piles, construct a roof system over all the lifts to create eight covered boat slips, all extending a maximum of 295 feet channelward of the mean high water line.
- (B) North Pier, North Marina: (1) Remove one 95-foot long by 4-foot wide floating pier; (2) Construct two 100-foot long by 100-foot wide platforms with tensile roof structures attached to an existing pier a maximum of 680 feet channelward of the mean high water line; (3) Construct two floating piers connected to an existing fixed pier with the following dimensions: 286-foot long by 12-foot wide with associated gangway, and 397-foot long by 12-foot wide with associated gang way, extending a maximum of 730 feet from the mean high water line.
- (C) South Pier, North Marina: (1) Pier 2: Construct a 249-foot by 10-foot wide floating pier extension with a 130-

foot by 10-foot "T" head platform, eleven 60-foot long by 5-foot wide floating finger piers, and one 60-foot long by 8-foot wide finger pier. (2) Pier 3: Construct a 249-foot long by 10-foot wide floating pier extension with a 130-foot by 10-foot "T" head platform, and eight 60-foot long by 5-foot wide floating finger piers. (3) Pier 4: Construct a 249-foot long by 10-foot wide floating pier extension with a 61-foot by 10-foot "L" head platform, and four 60-foot long by 5-foot wide floating finger piers, all extending a maximum of 750 feet from the mean high water line. (D) Gaylord Pier: (1) Construct two 60-foot long by 5-foot wide floating finger piers attached to the existing fixed pier and emplace 3 mooring piles extending a maximum of 284 feet from the mean high water line; (2) Construct associated gangways over existing floating structures, extending a maximum of 400 feet from the mean high water line.

- (E) South Marina Boat Ramp: (1.) Construct a 61-foot long by 68-foot wide 4 lane boat ramp with two fixed 154-foot long by 8-foot wide launching piers with two 180-foot long sheet pile groins under the pier decking.
- (F) South Marina. Construct a floating pier system creating 162 additional boat slips as follows: (1) Remove a 93-foot long by 12-foot wide floating T-head; (2) Construct a 314-foot long by 10-foot wide main access pier comprised of an existing 47-foot long by 10-foot wide South Marina pier with a 12-foot long by 10-foot wide floating pier, and a 255-foot long by 10-foot wide floating pier to be attached to an existing landward concrete pier and steel gangway; (3) Construct four 210-foot long by 8-foot wide floating piers (Piers A, B, C and F) with forty-two 28-foot long by 5-foot wide floating finger piers; (4) Construct two 390-foot long by 8-foot wide floating piers (Piers D and E) with thirty nine 28-foot long by 5-foot wide floating finger piers; (5) Construct a 610-foot long wave screen attached to Piers A and D, and construct a 128-foot long by 16-foot wide wave attenuator at the western end of Pier D, all extending a maximum of 420 feet from the mean high water line.
- (G) Smoot Cove: (1) Install eighteen mooring buoys with a 100-foot mooring radius west of the Heritage Cove piers and to extend a maximum of 1,300 feet channel ward of the approximate mean high water line; (2) Install nine mooring buoys with a 140-foot mooring radius south of the Heritage Cove piers to extend a maximum of 700 feet channel ward of the mean high water line; (3) Install three mooring buoys with a 100-foot mooring radius east of the Gaylord Pier and to extend a maximum of 200 feet channel ward of the approximate mean high water line; and (4) Install five mooring buoys with a 100-foot mooring radius east of the South Pier/North Marina and to extend a maximum of 200 feet channel ward of the approximate mean high water line.
- (H) Dredging. Mechanically or hydraulically dredge the following areas, all dredge material to be transported via truck to a site known to a site known as the Piney Reclamation located at 12065 Forgotten Farm Place, Waldorf 20602 in Charles County, Maryland. (1) Dredge a portion of a 1.37 acre approach/navigation channel area to a depth of 10.84 feet at mean low water MLW and a 0.14 acre area to excavate the South Marina Boat Ramp to a depth of 4.84 feet at MLW and transport 7,150 cubic yards of dredge material; (2) Dredge an 8.48 acre area of a channel and mooring area to a depth of 10.84 feet at MLW and transport up to 13,100 cubic yards of dredge material. (3) Provide periodic maintenance dredging for a period of six years of previously dredged channel and mooring areas to maintain the following depths: (3.i) A 9.8 acre area to a depth of 4.84 feet at MLW; (3.ii) A 25.8 acre area to a depth of 7.84 feet at MLW, and (3.iii) A 42.41 acre area to a depth of 10.84 feet at MLW.

Dorchester County - EFFECTIVE 10/22/2021

202160895/21-WL-0640/21-WQC-0331/MDOT Maryland Port Administration, Amanda Peñafiel, World Trade Center, 401 E. Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD 21202 has applied to restore a remote island habitat at Barren Island, which is located in Dorchester County adjacent to Upper Hoopers Island. The project is the smaller portion of the Mid-Chesapeake Bay Island Ecosystem Restoration Project and will include the restoration of approximately 83 acres of wetlands, construction of approximately 13,023 linear feet of new and modified stone sills and 4,620 linear feet of segmented breakwater to immediately provide increased protection to the eroding Barren Island and to the potential submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) habitat to the east of Barren Island, and installation of 2 bird nesting habitat islands (approximately 8.5 acres total). Approximately 52,500 cubic yards of material that is

unsuitable for construction foundation will be dredged from the northeast Barren Island stone sill location to an approximate depth of 7 feet and will be placed hydraulically or mechanically within the confined area behind the constructed stone sills at Barren Island. Approximately 429,000 cubic yards of authorized maintenance material dredged from small local federal navigation channels will be placed behind the confining stone sills up to the mean high water elevation to construct the wetlands. Wetlands will include low and high marsh plantings as well as intertidal mudflats. During final wetland planning, current conditions will be evaluated with respect to sea level rise projections and determinations of sustainable marsh elevations to identify high to low marsh ratios. A public hearing for only the proposed work listed in this public notice is being held to gather information and hear testimony to assist the Department in making a determination regarding an application for a wetlands license and permits. A public hearing was scheduled at the Madison Volunteer Fire Department (1154 Taylors Island Rd, Madison, MD 21648) at 6:30 PM on November 15, 2021, with an informational poster session held from 6:00 PM - 6:30 PM but has been CANCELLED. A NEW hearing date is planned to be held, if one is requested by the public during the open public comment period from October 22, 2021 to November 29, 2021 by 5:00 pm. The informational public hearing is pre-scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on January 6, 2022 at the Madison Volunteer Fire Department, 1154 Taylors Island Rd, Madison, MD 21648. The pre-scheduled hearing will be cancelled if no hearing requests are received by 5 pm on November 29, 2021. A poster session/display will be available from 6:00 PM to 6:30 PM where project drawings can be reviewed and MDOT Maryland Port Administration representatives will also be available to answer questions. Please check the Department's website for updates on the hearing status at the followinglink:

https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Water/WetlandsandWaterways/Pages/BarrenIsland.aspx
Written comments and requests to be included on the interested persons list may be sent by November 29, 2021 to the Maryland Department of the Environment attention of Mary Phipps-Dickerson, 407 Race Street,
Cambridge, Maryland 21613 or at Mary.Phipps-Dickerson@maryland.gov or 410-901-4033. Any further notices concerning actions on the application will be provided only by mail to those persons on the interested persons list.

Water Quality Certification - (410) 537-3837

Dorchester County - EFFECTIVE 10/22/2021

202160895/21-WL-0640/21-WQC-0331/MDOT Maryland Port Administration, Amanda Peñafiel, World Trade Center, 401 E. Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD 21202 has applied to restore a remote island habitat at Barren Island, which is located in Dorchester County adjacent to Upper Hoopers Island. The project is the smaller portion of the Mid-Chesapeake Bay Island Ecosystem Restoration Project and will include the restoration of approximately 83 acres of wetlands, construction of approximately 13,023 linear feet of new and modified stone sills and 4,620 linear feet of segmented breakwater to immediately provide increased protection to the eroding Barren Island and to the potential submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) habitat to the east of Barren Island, and installation of 2 bird nesting habitat islands (approximately 8.5 acres total). Approximately 52,500 cubic yards of material that is unsuitable for construction foundation will be dredged from the northeast Barren Island stone sill location to an approximate depth of 7 feet and will be placed hydraulically or mechanically within the confined area behind the constructed stone sills at Barren Island. Approximately 429,000 cubic yards of authorized maintenance material dredged from small local federal navigation channels will be placed behind the confining stone sills up to the mean high water elevation to construct the wetlands. Wetlands will include low and high marsh plantings as well as intertidal mudflats. During final wetland planning, current conditions will be evaluated with respect to sea level rise projections and determinations of sustainable marsh elevations to identify high to low marsh ratios. A public

hearing for only the proposed work listed in this public notice is being held to gather information and hear testimony to assist the Department in making a determination regarding an application for a wetlands license and permits. A public hearing was scheduled at the Madison Volunteer Fire Department (1154 Taylors Island Rd, Madison, MD 21648) at 6:30 PM on November 15, 2021, with an informational poster session held from 6:00 PM – 6:30 PM but has been **CANCELLED**. A NEW hearing date is planned to be held, if one is requested by the public during the open public comment period from October 22, 2021 to November 29, 2021 by 5:00 pm. **The informational public hearing is pre-scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on January 6, 2022 at the Madison Volunteer Fire Department, 1154 Taylors Island Rd, Madison, MD 21648.** *The pre-scheduled hearing will be cancelled if no hearing requests are received by 5 pm on November 29, 2021***. A poster session/display will be available from 6:00 PM to 6:30 PM where project drawings can be reviewed and MDOT Maryland Port Administration representatives will also be available to answer questions. Please check the Department's website for updates on the hearing status at the followinglink:**

https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Water/WetlandsandWaterways/Pages/BarrenIsland.aspx
Written comments and requests to be included on the interested persons list may be sent by November 29, 2021 to the Maryland Department of the Environment attention of Mary Phipps-Dickerson, 407 Race Street,
Cambridge, Maryland 21613 or at Mary.Phipps-Dickerson@maryland.gov or 410-901-4033. Any further notices concerning actions on the application will be provided only by mail to those persons on the interested persons list.

Contact Us

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1800 Washington Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21230

(410) 537-3000