



For Immediate Release:  
Aug. 17, 2010  
Release No. CT 2010-082

Contact:  
Tim Dugan, 978-318-8264  
timothy.j.dugan@usace.army.mil

## Connecticut Department of Transportation seeks Corps permit to place fill to reconstruct I-95 over West River in New Haven

**CONCORD, Mass.** – The Connecticut Department of Transportation is seeking a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to conduct work in waters of the United States in conjunction with reconstruction of Interstate 95 over the West River in New Haven and West Haven, Conn.

The Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) proposes to discharge dredged and or fill materials below the high tide line in the West River, and in inland and tidal wetlands, in association with the reconstruction of I-95 over the West River in New Haven and West Haven (state project 92-522).

The reconstruction project extends from approximately 200 meters east of the I-95 Bridge over Metro North railroad in West Haven to approximately 250 meters east of Howard Avenue in New Haven, and includes replacement of the I-95 Bridge crossing over the West River, and reconstruction of interchanges 44 and 45.

The proposed work will permanently impact 0.04 acre of inland wetlands, 0.03 acre of vegetated tidal wetlands, 0.022 acre of intertidal flats, and 0.043 acre of river/harbor bottom (excavation/backfill occurring with cofferdams/marine enclosures).

The proposed project will impact (temporary and permanent impacts) approximately 1.2 acres of Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) for various species and life stages. This habitat in the project areas consists of tidal wetlands and intertidal flats on the east and west shorelines of the West River, and West River bottom. The substrate of the West River bottom is sand, or sand and gravel fill overlying organic silt overlying sand or silty sand.

Loss of this habitat may adversely affect these species as a result of pier removal and construction, construction of temporary structures to facilitate bridge replacement and demolition of structures. However, the Corps has made a preliminary determination that the site-specific adverse effect will not be substantial. Further consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service regarding EFH conservation recommendations is being conducted and will be concluded prior to the final permit decision.

The application for the federal permit was filed with the Corps of Engineers in compliance with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, which regulates the discharge or fill of material in United States waters, including wetlands; and with Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act, which provides for federal regulation of any work in, or affecting navigable waters of the United States. The public notice can be viewed on the Corps website at <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil>. Select Regulatory/Permitting and then weekly public notices.

– more –



## **Connecticut DOT seeks Corps permit/2-2-2-2-2**

Public comments on the Corps permit review (File # NAE-2008-846) should be forwarded no later than Sept. 17, 2010 to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District, Regulatory Division (ATTN: Susan Lee), 696 Virginia Road, Concord, MA 01742-2751. Additional information is available from Permit Project Manager Susan Lee at 978-318-8494 or toll free 800-343-4789 or 800-362-4367 (if calling from within Massachusetts) or by email to: [susan.k.lee@usace.army.mil](mailto:susan.k.lee@usace.army.mil).

# # #

