



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®  
New England District

696 Virginia Road  
Concord, MA 01742-2751

# Public Notice

Date: July 5, 2017  
Comment Period Closes: August 3, 2017

Evaluation Branch, Planning Division

## 30 DAY PUBLIC NOTICE

### EMERGENCY SHORELINE PROTECTION PROJECT MARSHFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Interested parties are hereby notified under provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (implementing regulations in 40 CFR 1500-1508 and 33 CFR 230) that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), New England District, plans to undertake emergency shoreline protection by constructing a mixed sediment revetment (berm) in front of a 300 foot section of seawall in the Brant Rock/Hewitt's Point section of Marshfield. The work is being conducted under Section 14 of the Flood Control Act of 1946 (as amended). Section 14 allows the Corps to participate in the planning and construction of stream bank and shoreline erosion control projects in situations where public facilities are in imminent threat of damage or failure by natural erosion processes on stream banks and shorelines, and are essential enough to merit federal participation in their protection. Attachment No. 1 lists pertinent laws, regulations, and directives.

#### **Purpose and Need for Work:**

Marshfield has 5-miles of public seashore and the back shore areas from Brant Rock north through Fieldston, which is protected by a concrete sea wall and/or riprap between seawall sections in Ocean Bluff and Brant Rock. Seasonal storm driven waves from the east are responsible for the removal of sand in front of the sea wall and the consequent lowering of the beach along Marshfield's shoreline. The lowering of the beach exposes the sea wall's toe and leads to undermining and failure of the wall. Flooding due to wave splash over the seawall in the Brant Rock area backs up septic tanks, inundates the back shore Esplanade area, and damages dwellings and other properties two or three times per year. The Esplanade floods to a depth of up to two feet, affecting some 38 homes and retail businesses at the southern end of the peninsula. The existing seawall, is the only coastal back shore protection for the Brant Rock study area, therefore protection of the Brant Rock seawall is needed.

Protecting the seawall's toe would ensure the wall does not fail in the future and continues to provide protection for the backshore properties of Brant Rock and its associated roads and other public infrastructure. The proposed project to prevent further

beach scour consists of the construction of a cobble/sand revetment (berm) along the seawall beginning near Franklin Street and extending approximately 300 feet to the south. (See Attachment No. 2 and 3.) The revetment will consist of coarse sand, gravel and cobble fill. The revetment would only provide protection to the existing wall, and will not significantly reduce flooding by wave splash over. Attachment No. 3 provides a cross-section of the proposed berm. Approximately every five years, the town will need to maintain the revetment by replacing lost sand, gravel and cobble fill.

**Additional Information:** Additional information may be obtained from the Planning Division of the New England District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: Mr. Robert Russo, the Project Manager at the return address shown below, by phone (978-318-8553) or by email ([Robert.S.Russo@usace.army.mil](mailto:Robert.S.Russo@usace.army.mil)).

**Coordination:** The proposed work is being coordinated with the following Federal, State, and local agencies:

Federal:

Environmental Protection Agency  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
National Marine Fisheries Service

Commonwealth of Massachusetts:

Department of Environmental Protection  
Department of Fish and Game  
    Division of Marine Fisheries  
    Division of Fisheries and Wildlife  
Office of Coastal Zone Management  
Massachusetts Historical Commission

Tribal Nations:

Mashpee Wampanoag  
Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah)

Town of Marshfield, MA:

Town Planner  
Department of Public Works

**Environmental Impacts:** A draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and Environmental Assessment (EA) for this work is available for review upon request. I have made a preliminary determination that an Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed shoreline protection is not required under the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. This determination will be reviewed in light of facts submitted in response to this notice.



**Clean Water Act:** A Water Quality Certificate will be acquired from the Massachusetts DEP pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. A preliminary Section 404(b)(1) Evaluation, pursuant to the Clean Water Act, is attached to the EA.

**Endangered Species Act:** Coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has indicated that no federally listed threatened or endangered species or critical habitat designated pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 844) under their jurisdiction occur in the vicinity of the proposed project.

**Essential Fish Habitat Assessment (EFH):** The Corps has determined that the proposed project may have a temporary adverse impact on EFH. The project area is contained within areas designated EFH as defined by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996 for federally managed fish species. The NMFS has concurred that the project impacts to EFH will be minimal.

**Federal Consistency with Connecticut's Coastal Zone Management Program:** The project will be conducted in a manner consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of the state management program established as a result of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972.

**Floodplain Management:** In accordance with Executive Order 11988, the Corps of Engineers has determined that the proposed work will not contribute to negative impacts or damages caused by floods.

**Historic and Archaeological Resources:** The project is not expected to impact any structures or sites of historic, architectural or archeological significance as defined by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended. The Massachusetts State Preservation Officer concurred with this determination.

**Comments:** Any person who has an interest that may be affected by the proposed project may request a public hearing. The request must be submitted in writing to me within 30 days of the date of this notice and must clearly set forth the interest and the manner in which the interest may be affected. Please bring this notice to the attention of anyone you know to be interested in the project.

The decision whether to perform the work will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, will be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors, which may be relevant to the proposal, will be considered; among these are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, historic values, fish and wildlife values, flood damage prevention, land use classification, and the welfare of the people.

Please bring this notice to the attention of anyone you know to be interested in this project. Comments are invited from all interested parties and should be directed to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District, 696 Virginia Road, Concord, MA 01742-2751, ATTN: Planning Division (Mr. Robert Russo), within 30 days of this notice.

30 JUN 2017

Date



Christopher J. Barron  
Colonel, Corps of Engineers  
District Engineer

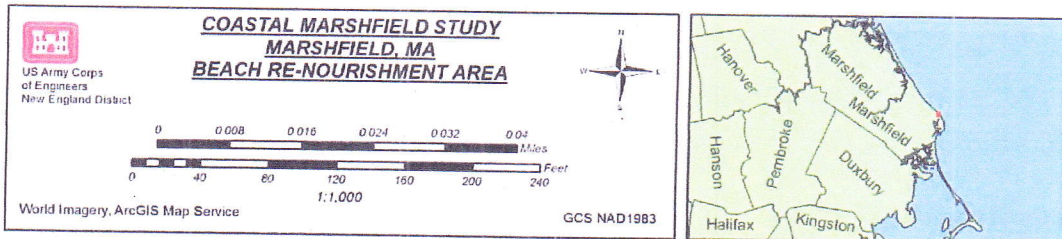
## Attachment No. 1

### PERTINENT LAWS, REGULATIONS, AND DIRECTIVES

- Clean Air Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1221 et. seq.)
- Clean Water Act, as amended (33 U.S.C. 1251 et. seq.)
- Code of Federal Regulation, Title 33, Parts 335 through 338
- Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.)
- Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 [16 U.S.C. 1456(c)(1) and (2)], Sections 307(c)(1) and (2)
- Endangered Species Act of 1973 as amended (16 U.S.C. 668aa-668cc)
- Estuary Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 1221 et. seq.)
- Federal Water Project Recreation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 4601-12 et. seq.)
- Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. 661-666c)
- Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, as amended (16 U.S.C. 4601-4 et. seq.)
- Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act as amended through January 12, 2007 and amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996
- Migratory Marine Game-Fish Act (16 U.S.C. 760c-760g)
- National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321-4347)
- National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 470)
- Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management, 24 May 1977
- Executive Order 11990, Protection of Wetlands, 24 May 1977
- Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low Income Populations, 11 February 1994
- Executive Order 13045, Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks, 21 April 1997

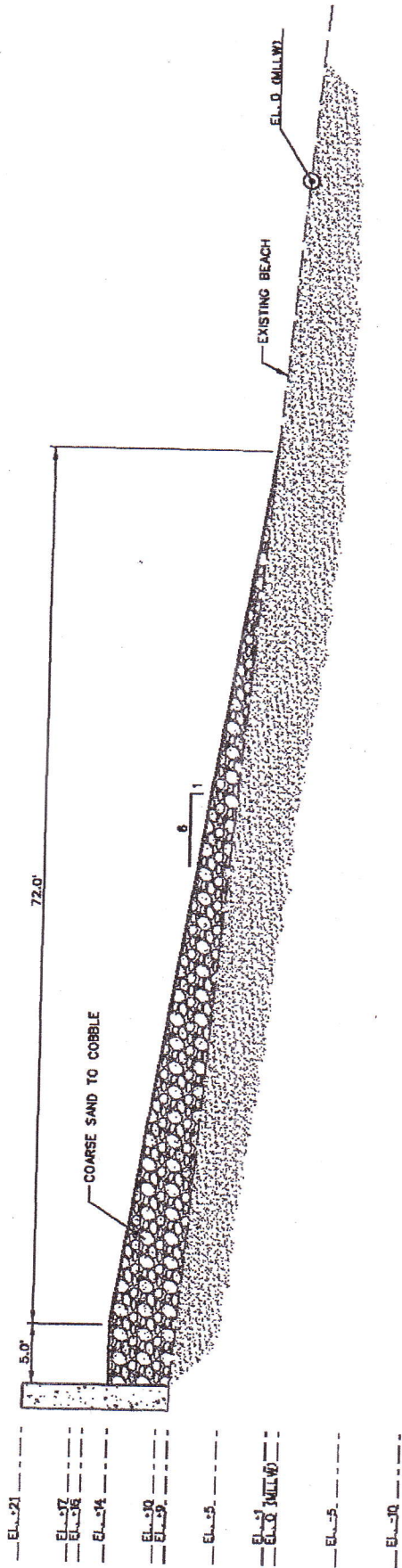


## Attachment No. 2



Location Map – project will be located between Franklin Street and Dyke Road, Marshfield, Massachusetts.

Attachment No. 3



BEACH FILL CROSS SECTION  
ALTERNATIVE B  
SCALE NONE

Cross-section of proposed mixed sediment berm to be place in front of seawall between Franklin Street and Dyke Road, Marshfield, Massachusetts.