

## Dredged Material Disposal in Rhode Island

Fiscal Year 2001 Senate Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill included funds for the Corps of Engineers to initiate efforts, in cooperation with EPA, towards identifying a long-term permanent disposal site for the State of Rhode Island. Disposal of dredged material in ocean waters in Rhode Island falls within the authority of the Marine Protection Research and Sanctuaries Act. Federal authority for designation of dredged material disposal sites for long term use in ocean waters rests with the Environmental Protection Agency. Following is a tentative schedule of the events and timeframes for getting to a permanent site.

*Letter request of interest/desire to pursue site designation from sponsor	September 21/2000
**Federal Register – Notice of Intent for EIS for permanent disposal site(s)	April 06, 2001
Scoping meetings with EPA, other Fed, State, and local and public	May 2001 – July 2001 (5/17 & 5/22 w/public)
Field Investigations, Dredging Needs Survey, Determination of Zone of Siting Feasibility, Working Group Meetings, etc. (Evaluations responding to scoping concerns	July 2001-Aug. 2003
Draft EIS released to Public for Review & Comment	April 30, 2004
**Federal Register – Notice of intent for proposed rulemaking	April 30, 2004
Tentative Public Hearings on Draft EIS	June 15, 2004
Final EIS released	November 2004
**Federal Register – Notice of intent for final rulemaking	December 2004

\* Process was initiated with a request by the State of Rhode Island

\*\* Actions are responsibility of EPA