US Army Corps of Engineers. New England District

PUBLIC NOTICE

Comment Period Begins: September 17, 2024 Comment Period Ends: October 17, 2024

File Number: NAE-2022-01572

In Reply Refer to: Jana Jacobson, Regulatory Division

Phone: (207) 233-2117

Email: <u>Jana.L.Jacobson@usace.army.mil</u>

The District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District (USACE), has received a permit application, file number NAE-2022-01572, to conduct work in waters of the United States from the Guilford Yacht Club, 379 Whitfield Street, Guilford, Connecticut. This work is proposed in the West River at 379 Whitfield Street, Guilford, Connecticut and in the Long Island Sound The site coordinates are: Latitude 41.269450 Longitude -72.678335.

The work involves the maintenance dredging over an area of approximately 18.5-acre to depths of -8 feet mean lower low water (MLLW) with 1-foot of allowable overdepth in the existing Guilford Yacht Club basin and access channel for a total volume of approximately 142,300 cubic yards of dredged material. The work would be conducted from performed using a mechanical clamshell method from a floating dredge plant with disposal of dredging material at the Central Long Island Sound Disposal Site.

The work is shown on the enclosed plans titled "Maintenance Dredging Project," on twelve sheets, and dated "March 21, 2024."

Special conditions will be included to minimize adverse effects to the aquatic environment.

AUTHORITY

Permits are required pursuant to:

X Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899

X Section 404 of the Clean Water Act

X Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act.

Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 USC 408)

The decision whether to issue a permit 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 benefit which may reasonably accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are: conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural value, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain value, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The USACE is soliciting comments from the public; federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. The USACE will consider all comments received to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an environmental assessment and/or an environmental impact statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Where the activity involves the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States or the transportation of dredged material for the purpose of disposing it in ocean waters, the evaluation of the impact of the activity in the public interest will also include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, U.S Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act, and/or Section 103 of the Marine Protection Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972, as amended.

Dredged Material Disposal Mitigation Discussion:

The alternatives considered in the dredged material disposal analysis fall into four general categories: beneficial use, upland disposal, confined disposal, and open-water disposal. The feasibility of disposal alternatives was analyzed relative to the physical and chemical quality of the dredged material, the volume of material to be dredged, the availability of suitable disposal and beneficial use sites, and the cost of disposal. When applicable, the biological quality of the disposal of the material at the disposal site was also used to evaluate the feasibility of the open-water disposal alternative.

For projects with disposal of more than 25,000 cubic yards of material, the Ambro Amendment requires the dredged material to comply with the requirements of the Ocean Dumping Act. The dredged material has undergone physical, chemical, and biological analysis and has satisfied Part 227.13(b) of exclusionary criteria of the Ocean Dumping Act regulations regarding biological testing. It is our preliminary determination that the material is acceptable for disposal at this disposal site.

Central Long Island Sound Disposal Site

The Central Long Island Sound Disposal Site is frequently used for disposal of bottom sediments from various harbors along the eastern New York, northern Long Island, and central and western Connecticut coasts. An average of approximately 400,000 cubic

yards of suitable sediments (the suitability was determined with a project-specific evaluation with an established interagency review process) have been deposited at this site annually. The site has been monitored through the USACE Disposal Area Monitoring System (DAMOS) program. The DAMOS studies show that the site is a low energy environment such that sediment deposited at this location will remain within the site's boundaries. The DAMOS monitoring has also shown that distinct dredged material mounds have been formed at the site. Levels of metals and organics in the sediments within the disposal site are generally above background levels, indicative of the industrial nature of the areas dredged that utilize the site. Areas outside the disposal site have not been found to be affected by sediment deposited within the site.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-267), requires all federal agencies to consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency, that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). Essential Fish Habitat describes waters and substrate necessary for fish for spawning, breeding, feeding or growth to maturity.

The dredging portion of this project will impact approximately 18.5 acre of EFH. Habitat at this site can be described as a mix of silt, mud, and sand. The District Engineer has made a preliminary determination that the site-specific effects 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 decision.

NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT

Based on our initial review of the proposed project, it appears there is little likelihood that a historic property exists or may be affected due to the nature, scope, and magnitude of the work, and/or structures to be permitted. This is based upon the following: the permit area has been extensively modified by previous work. Additional review and consultation to fulfill requirements under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, will be ongoing as part of the permit review process.

ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSULTATION

The USACE has reviewed the application for the potential impact on federally-listed threatened or endangered species and their designated critical habitat pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) as amended. It is our preliminary determination that the proposed activity for which authorization is being sought is designed, situated or will be operated/used in such a manner that it is not likely to adversely affect a listed species or their critical habitat. We are coordinating with the National Marine Fisheries Service and/or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on listed species under their jurisdiction and the ESA consultation will be concluded prior to the final decision.

OTHER GOVERNMENT AUTHORIZATIONS

The states of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island have approved Coastal Zone Management Programs. Where applicable, the applicant states that any proposed activity will comply with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the approved Coastal Zone Management Program. By this public notice, we are requesting the state concurrence or objection to the applicant's consistency statement.

The following authorizations have been applied for, or have been, or will be obtained:

- (X) Permit, license or assent from State.
- () Permit from local wetland agency or conservation commission.
- (X) Water Quality Certification in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act.

COMMENTS

The USACE is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the USACE to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity. People submitting comments are advised that all comments received will be available for public review in their entirety and will be considered a matter of public record.

CENAE-R File No. NAE-2022-01572

Comments should be submitted in writing by the above date. If you have any questions, please contact Jana Jacobson, Regulatory Division, at Jana.L.Jacobson@usace.army.mil or (207) 233-2117.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider the application. Requests for a public hearing shall specifically state the reasons for holding a public hearing. The USACE holds public hearings for the purpose of obtaining public comments when that is the best means for understanding a wide variety of concerns from a diverse segment of the public.

The initial determinations made herein will be reviewed in light of facts submitted in response to this notice. Copies of letters of objection will be forwarded to the applicant who will normally be requested to contact objectors directly in an effort to reach an understanding.

THIS NOTICE IS <u>NOT</u> AN AUTHORIZATION TO DO ANY WORK.

Jon T. Coleman Team Leader Technical Regional Execution Center North Atlantic Division

Please contact Ms. Tina Chaisson at bettina.m.chaisson@usace.army.mil or (978) 318-8058 if you would like to be removed from our public notice mailing list.

MAINTENANCE DREDGING PROJECT

GUILFORD YACHT CLUB

DRAWING LIST

SHEET NO.	SHEET TITLE	ORIGINAL DATE	REVISION DATE	NOTES
1 OF 12	TITLE SHEET	3-21-2024		
2 OF 12	USGS TOPOGRAPHIC QAUDRANGLE MAP	3-21-2024		
3 OF 12	GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM MAP	3-21-2024		
4 OF 12	SHEET INDEX MAP	3-21-2024		
5 OF 12	EXISTING & PROPOSED CONDITIONS PLAN	3-21-2024		
6 OF 12	EXISTING & PROPOSED CONDITIONS PLAN	3-21-2024		
7 OF 12	EXISTING & PROPOSED CONDITIONS PLAN	3-21-2024		
8 OF 12	EXISTING & PROPOSED CONDITIONS PLAN	3-21-2024		
9 OF 12	EXISTING & PROPOSED CONDITIONS PLAN	3-21-2024		
10 OF 12	EXISTING & PROPOSED CONDITIONS PLAN	3-21-2024		
11 OF 12	CROSS SECTION A	3-21-2024		
12 OF 12	CROSS SECTION B	3-21-2024		

PROJECT NOTES

- 1. REFERENCE IS MADE TO THE FOLLOWING MAPS:
 - A. "HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY, GUILFORD YACHT CLUB, 379 WHITFIELD STREET, GUILFORD, CONNECTICUT", DATED MAY 20, 2022 SCALE 1" = 40' AND PREPARED BY COASTLINE CONSULTING & DEVELOPMENT, LLC (TIMOTHY MCCARTHY, CERTIFIED HYDROGRAPHER Cert. No. 296).
- 2. BENCHMARK, TIDE LINES, AND SOUNDINGS ARE REFERENCED TO THE MEAN LOW WATER DATUM. THE CJL (COASTAL JURISDICTION LINE) ELEVATION OF 6.8' MLW IS THE VALUE FOR GUILFORD, CT AS ESTABLISHED BY THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION. THE LPT (LOWEST PREDICTED TIDE) ELEVATION OF -1.3' IS THE LOWEST PREDICTED TIDE VALUE FOR GUILFORD HARBOR USING TIDETRAC, VERSION 2.4, http://www.tidetrac.com, FOR THE ONE YEAR PERIOD IN 2021.

GENERAL NOTES

- 1. THESE DRAWINGS WERE PREPARED FROM RECORDED RESEARCH, FIELD OBSERVATIONS, DRAWINGS NOTED HEREON, AND OTHER SOURCES.
- 2. THESE DRAWINGS ARE FOR PLANNING AND PERMITTING PURPOSES ONLY AND NOT INTENDED FOR STRUCTURAL DESIGN, BID DOCUMENTS, OR CONSTRUCTION.
- 3. THE FEMA FLOOD LINES ARE DIGITIZED FLOOD PROFILE MAPS, SHOWN TO SATISFY PERMIT REQUIREMENTS, AND NOT INTENDED FOR INSURANCE OR ELEVATION CERTIFICATE PURPOSES. BASE FLOOD ELEVATIONS ARE IN NAVD88.
- 4. SITE MAY BE SUBJECT TO AND/OR TOGETHER WITH CERTAIN LITTORAL, RIPARIAN, OR OTHER RIGHTS AS PER THE RECORD MAY APPEAR. ANY UNDERGROUND AND/OR UNDERWATER UTILITY, STRUCTURE, AND FACILITY LOCATIONS DEPICTED AND/OR NOTED HEREON MAY HAVE BEEN COMPILED, IN PART, FROM RECORD MAPPING SUPPLIED BY THE RESPECTIVE UTILITY COMPANIES OR GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES, FROM PAROLE TESTIMONY AND FROM OTHER SOURCES. THESE LOCATIONS MUST BE CONSIDERED AS APPROXIMATE IN NATURE. ADDITIONALLY, OTHER SUCH FEATURES MAY EXIST ON THE SITE, THE LOCATIONS OF WHICH ARE UNKNOWN TO COASTLINE CONSULTING & DEVELOPMENT, LLC. THE SIZE, LOCATION AND EXISTENCE OF ALL SUCH FEATURES MUST BE FIELD DETERMINED AND VERIFIED BY THE APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES PRIOR TO ANY CONSTRUCTION. CALL BEFORE YOU DIG: 1-800-922-4455.

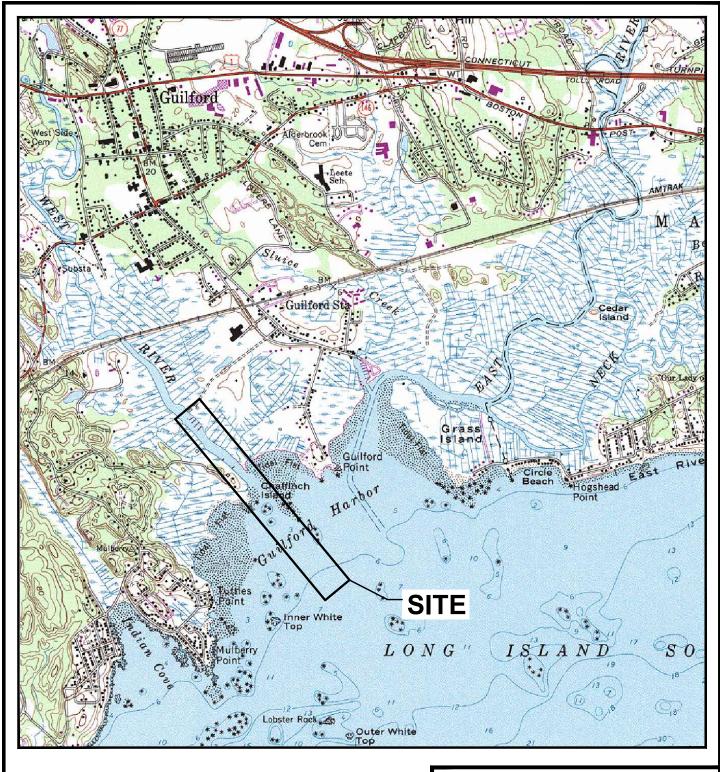
TIDAL DATUM PLANE COASTAL JURISDICTION LINE (CJL) = EL +6.8 MEAN HIGH WATER (MHW) = EL +5.2 NAVD88 = +2.86 (CONVERSION) MEAN LOW WATER (MLW) = EL = 0.0' LOWEST PREDICTED TIDE (LPT) = EL -1.3'

Coastline Consulting & Development 57-B East Industrial Road, Branford, CT 06405 (203) 433-4486

<u>TITLE SHEET</u>
MAINTENANCE DREDGING PROJECT

GUILFORD YACHT CLUB 379 WHITFIELD STREET GUILFORD, CONNECTICUT

3-21-2024 JOB NO. 20-011 SHEET 1 OF 12



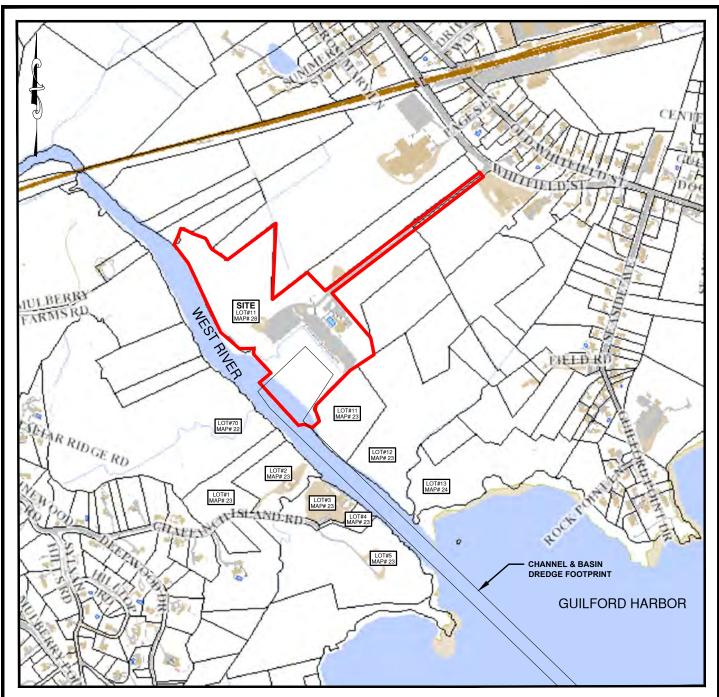
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USGS TOPOGRAPHIC QUADRANGLE MAP
MAINTENANCE DREDGING PROJECT

GUILFORD YACHT CLUB 379 WHITFIELD STREET GUILFORD, CONNECTICUT

NOTE: MAP TAKEN FROM TOPO, INC., 7.5 MINUTE USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS OF THE GUILFORD CONNECTICUT, QUADRANGLE, 1960 (PHOTO INSPECTED 1976, PHOTO REVISED 1984).

3-21-2024 SCALE: 1 = 24,000 SHEET 2 OF 12



ADJACENT DREDGE FOOTPRINT PROPERTY OWNERS							
LOT#	MAP#	PROPERTY OWNER	PROPERTY LOCATION	MAILING ADDRESS			
#70	#22	WILLIAM CUTHBERT & DANUTA ANKIEWICZ-CUTHBERT	TAILIAR RIDGE ROAD GUILFORD, CT	44 TALIAR RIDGE ROAD GUILFORD, CT 06437			
#23	#1	TOWN OF GUILFORD	CHAFFINCH ISLAND ROAD GUILFORD, CT	31 PARK STREET GUILFORD, CT 06437			
#23	#2	BAYBERRY CREEK MARINA, LLC	311 CHAFFINCH ISLAND RD GUILFORD, CT	52 CHAFFINCH ISLAND RD GUILFORD, CT 06437			
#23	#3	WEST RIVER CORPORATION	348 CHAFFINCH ISLAND RD GUILFORD, CT	348 CHAFFINCH ISLAND RD GUILFORD, CT 06437			
#23	#4	MARK A. COLLENBURG	CHAFFINCH ISLAND ROAD GUILFORD, CT	68 EAST STREET GUILFORD, CT 06437			
#23	#5	TOWN OF GUILFORD	CHAFFINCH ISLAND ROAD GUILFORD, CT	31 PARK STREET GUILFORD, CT 06437			
#23	#11	GUILFORD LAND CONSERVATION TRUST, INC.	WHITFIELD STREET GUILFORD, CT	PO BOX 200 GUILFORD, CT 06437			
#23	#12	TOWN OF GUILFORD	WHITFIELD STREET GUILFORD, CT	31 PARK STREET GUILFORD, CT 06437			
#24	#13	TOWN OF GUILFORD	CHAFFINCH ISLAND ROAD GUILFORD, CT	31 PARK STREET GUILFORD, CT 06437			

O		700		1400	

REFERENCE IS MADE TO GUILFORD GIS MAPPING https://guilford.mapxpress.net/ags_map/default.htm.

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GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM MAP
MAINTENANCE DREDGING PROJECT

GUILFORD YACHT CLUB 379 WHITFIELD STREET GUILFORD, CONNECTICUT

3-21-2024 | SCALE: 1" = 700'

SHEET 3 OF 12

