

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Applicant: James Haggerty Town of Edgartown Published: July 8, 2025 Expires: August 7, 2025

New England District
Permit Application No. NAE-2025-01286

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: The New England District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. §403). The purpose of this public notice is to solicit comments from the public regarding the work described below:

**APPLICANT:** James Haggerty

Town of Edgartown P.O. Box 5158

Edgartown, MA 02539

**AGENT:** Tara Marden

Coastal Protection Engineering tmarden@coastalprotectioneng.com

4038 Masonboro Loop Road

Wilmington, NC 28409

**WATERWAY AND LOCATION:** The project would affect waters of the United States and navigable waters of the United States associated with Edgartown Harbor. The project/review area is located at Latitude 41.388811 and Longitude -70.503348; in Edgartown, Dukes County, MA.

**EXISTING CONDITIONS:** The project is located at the entrance to Edgartown Harbor, between Chappaquiddick Island and Edgartown. Longshore drift continuously moves sand along the shoreline, resulting in its southward migration into the navigation channel. Since 1995, the beach has accreted ~260 feet south into the navigation channel. Periodic dredging is needed to move this sand elsewhere and maintain safe navigational access to Edgartown Harbor. The channel serves a variety of vessels, including recreational sailboats and yachts, small powerboats, charter fishing and tour boats, harbor patrol vessels, and seasonal ferries. Its navigability is essential for local tourism, waterfront businesses, and marine services.

**PROJECT PURPOSE:** According to the applicant, the proposed project purpose is to provide safe navigation and public safety through the Edgartown Harbor Federal Navigation Channel. Beneficial reuse of the dredged sediment on updrift beaches at Fuller Street and Little Beach will help to improve shorebird nesting habitat.

**Basic:** The Corps has determined that the basic project purpose is navigation.

**Overall:** The Corps has determined that the overall project purpose to maintain safe navigational access for vessels transiting Edgartown Harbor.

**PROPOSED WORK:** The applicant requests authorization to complete 25,020 square feet (5,380 cubic yards) of new dredging within the Edgartown Harbor entrance channel to a depth of -18.50 NAVD88 with 1 foot of overdredge to -19.50 NAVD88. A hydraulic dredge will be used to complete this work. Dredged material will be stockpiled in uplands on Lighthouse Pond Beach, and then subsequently transported via a rubber tired front-end loader to Little Beach and Fuller Street Beach for disposal in uplands. Dredging is anticipated to occur every 1.5 years, or up to 7 times over a period of 10-years. Dredging and disposal will take approximately 3-4 weeks to complete.

**AVOIDANCE AND MINIMIZATION:** The applicant has provided the following information in support of efforts to avoid and/or minimize impacts to the aquatic environment: The applicant has avoided and minimized impacts to the maximum extent possible by evaluating several project alternatives, and then selecting an alternative the applicant believes is the least amount of environmental impact that achieves the project's purpose. Additionally, construction activities will adhere to time of year (TOY) restrictions to protect species during sensitive life stages.

**COMPENSATORY MITIGATION:** The applicant has provided the following explanation why compensatory mitigation should not be required: Compensatory mitigation is not required because the project will not result in a permanent loss of waters of the U.S.

**CULTURAL RESOURCES:** The Corps evaluated the undertaking pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) utilizing its existing program-specific regulations and procedures along with 36 CFR Part 800. The Corps' program-specific procedures include 33 CFR 325, Appendix C, and revised interim guidance issued in 2005 and 2007, respectively. The District Engineer consulted district files and records and the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places and initially determines that:

Should historic properties (i.e., properties listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places) be present within the Corps' permit area, the proposed activity requiring the DA permit (the undertaking) is a type of activity that has no potential to cause an effect to an historic property.

The District Engineer's final eligibility and effect determination will be based upon coordination with the SHPO and/or THPO, as appropriate and required, and with full consideration given to the proposed undertaking's potential direct and indirect effects on historic properties within the Corps-identified permit area.

**ENDANGERED SPECIES:** The Corps has performed an initial review of the application, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Section 7 Mapper, and the NMFS Critical Habitat Mapper to determine if any threatened, endangered, proposed, or candidate species, as well as the proposed and final designated critical habitat may occur within the boundary of the proposed project. Based on this initial review, the Corps has made a preliminary determination that the proposed project may affect species and critical habitat listed in Table 1 and Table 2. No other ESA-listed species or critical habitat will be affected by the proposed action.

**Table 1:** USFWS ESA-listed species potentially present in the action area.

Species Common Name and/or Critical Habitat Name	Scientific Name	Federal Status
Northern Long Eared Bat	Myotis septentrionalis	Endangered
Tricolored Bat	Perimyotis subflavus	Proposed Endangered
Piping Plover	Charadrius melodus	Threatened
Roseate Tern	Sterna dougallii dougallii	Endangered
Rufa Red Knot	Calidris canutus rufa	Threatened
Monarch Butterfly	Danaus plexippus	Proposed Threatened
Sandplain Gerardia	Agalinis acuta	Endangered

**Table 2:** NOAA ESA-listed species potentially present in the action area.

Species Common Name	-	
and/or Critical Habitat Name	Scientific Name	Federal Status
Green sea turtle	Chelonia mydas	Threatened
Loggerhead sea turtle	Caretta caretta	Threatened
Leatherback sea turtle	Dermochelys coriacea	Endangered
Kemp's ridley sea turtle	Lepidochelys kempii	Endangered
Fin whale	Balaenoptera physalus	Endangered
North Atlantic right whale	Eubalaena glacialis	Endangered
Atlantic sturgeon	Acipenser oxyrinchus	Endangered
_	oxyrinchus	_
Shortnose sturgeon	Acipenser brevirostrum	Endangered

Pursuant to Section 7 ESA, any required consultation with the Service(s) will be conducted in accordance with 50 CFR part 402.

This notice serves as request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service for any additional information on whether any listed or proposed to be listed endangered or threatened species or critical habitat may be present in the area which would be affected by the proposed activity.

**ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT:** Pursuant to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act 1996, the Corps reviewed the project area, examined information provided by the applicant, and consulted available species information.

The Corps intends to initiate Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation separately from this public notice. A separate EFH consultation package will be sent to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). The Corps will not make a permit decision until the consultation process is complete.

**NAVIGATION:** Based on the MA State Plane coordinates provided by the applicant, the proposed dredge footprint abuts the Edgartown Harbor federal channel.

**SECTION 408:** The applicant will require permission under Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act (33 USC 408) because the activity, in whole or in part, would alter, occupy, or use a Corps Civil Works project.

**WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION:** Water Quality Certification may be required from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection.

**NOTE:** This public notice is being issued based on information furnished by the applicant. This information has not been verified or evaluated to ensure compliance with laws and regulation governing the regulatory program. The geographic extent of aquatic resources within the proposed project area that either are, or are presumed to be, within the Corps jurisdiction has not been verified by Corps personnel.

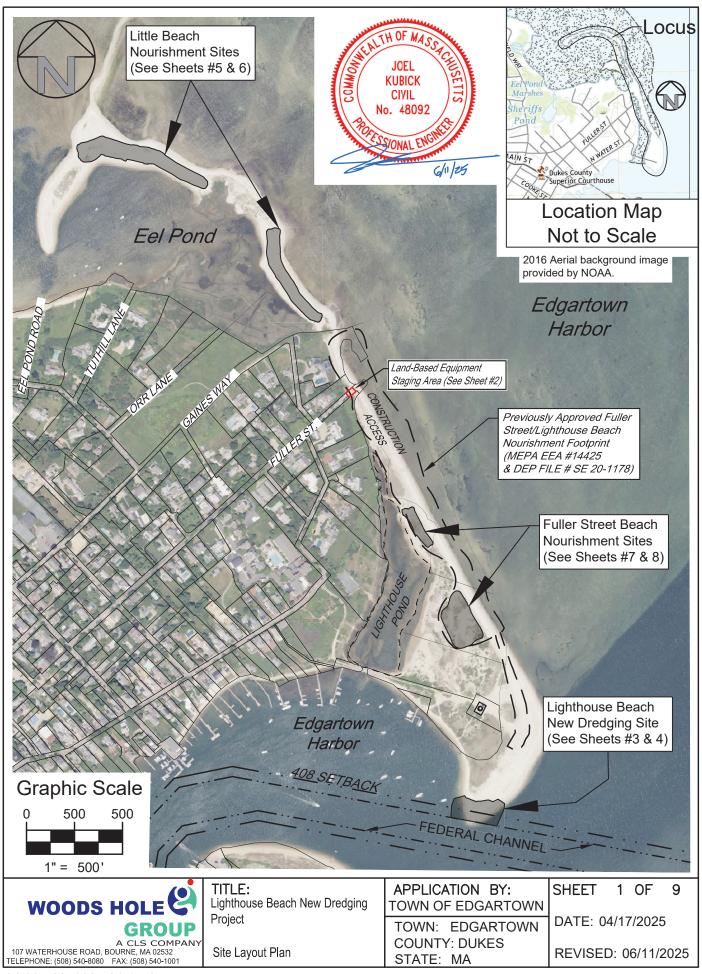
**EVALUATION:** The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including cumulative impacts thereof; among these are conservation, economics, esthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historical properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food, and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and in general, the needs and welfare of the people. Evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will also include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, EPA, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act or the criteria established under authority of Section 102(a) of the Marine Protection Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972. A permit will be granted unless its issuance is found to be contrary to the public interest.

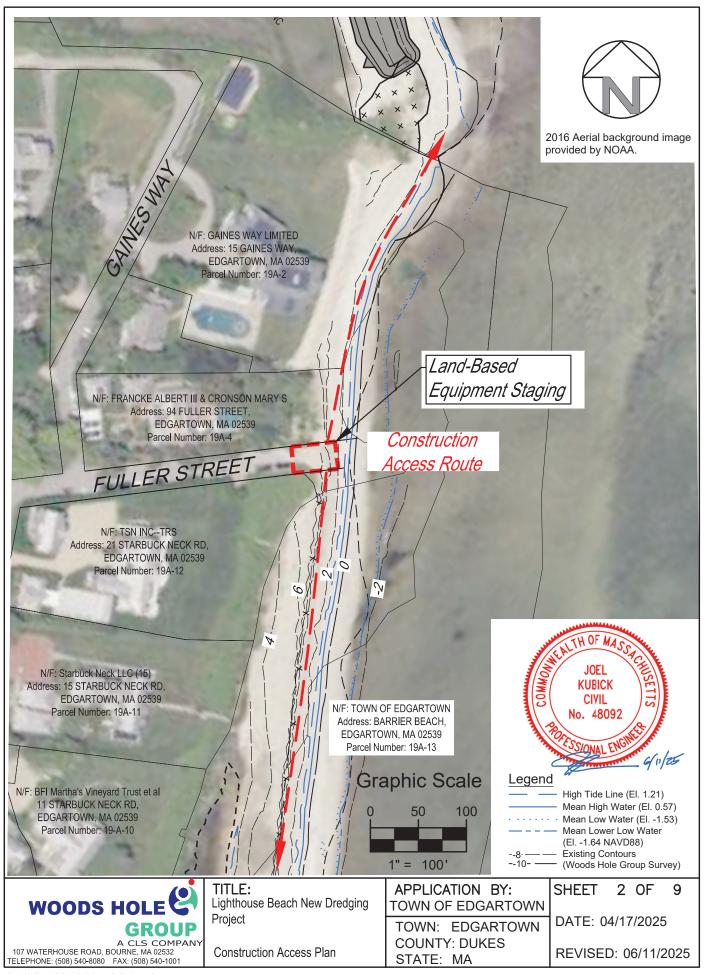
**COMMENTS:** The Corps is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other Interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition, or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this determination, comments are used to assess impacts to endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the

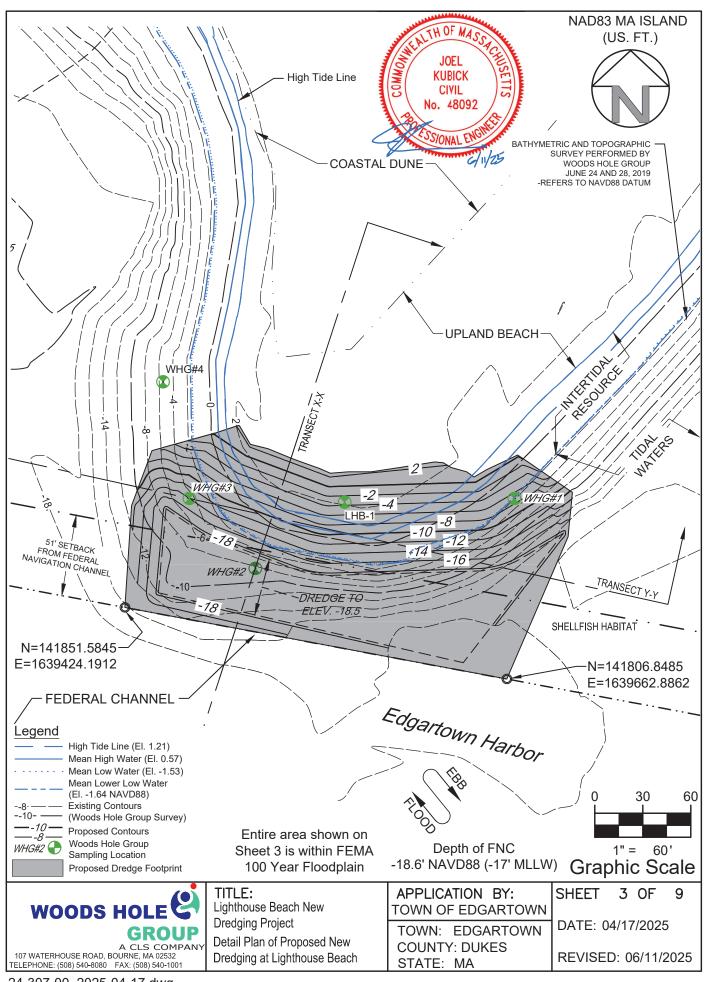
preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA) and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

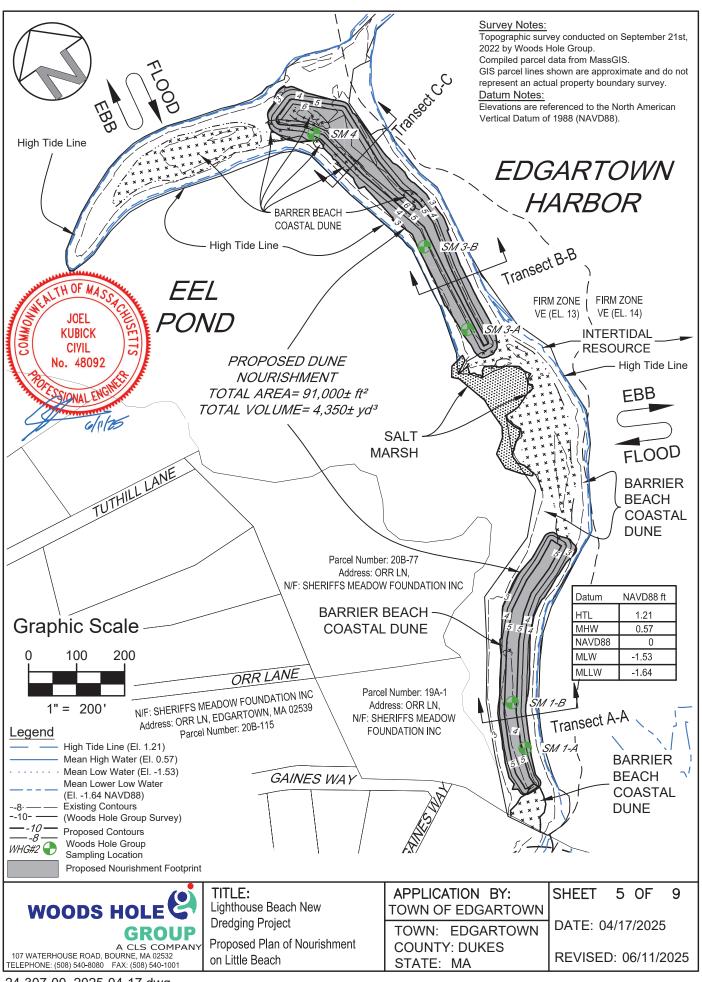
The New England District will receive written comments on the proposed work, as outlined above, until August 7, 2025. Comments should be submitted electronically via the Regulatory Request System (RRS) at <a href="https://rrs.usace.army.mil/rrs">https://rrs.usace.army.mil/rrs</a> or to <a href="mailto:cenae-r-pn-ma@usace.army.mil">cenae-r-pn-ma@usace.army.mil</a>. Alternatively, you may submit comments in writing to the Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District, Attention: Regulatory Division, 696 Virginia Road, Concord, MA 01742. Please refer to permit application number NAE-2025-01286 in your comments.

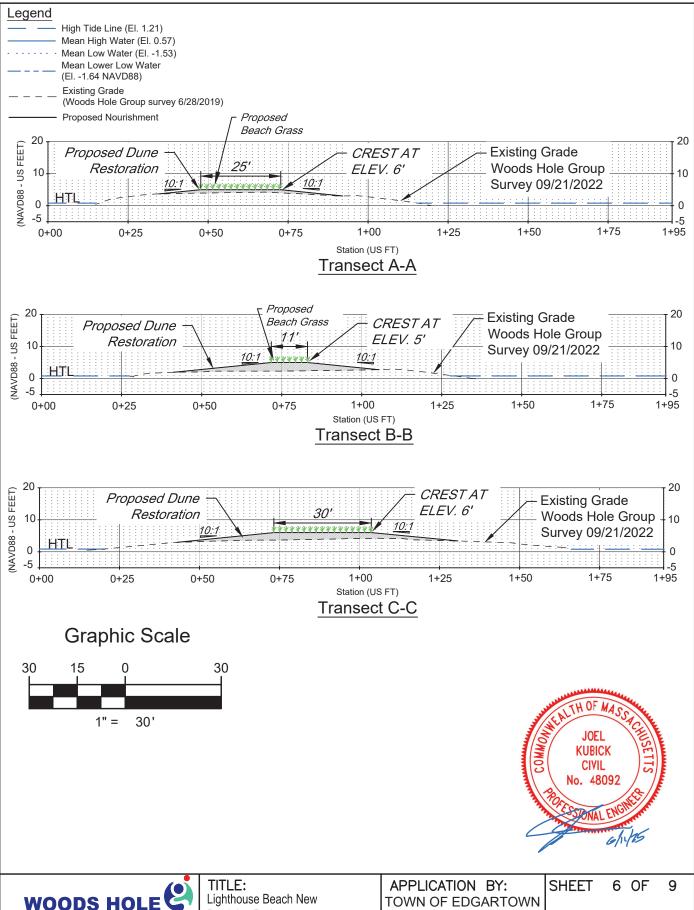
Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider the application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing. Requests for a public hearing will be granted, unless the District Engineer determines that the issues raised are insubstantial or there is otherwise no valid interest to be served by a hearing.













Lighthouse Beach New **Dredging Project** 

Proposed Nourishment at Little Beach Cross Sections

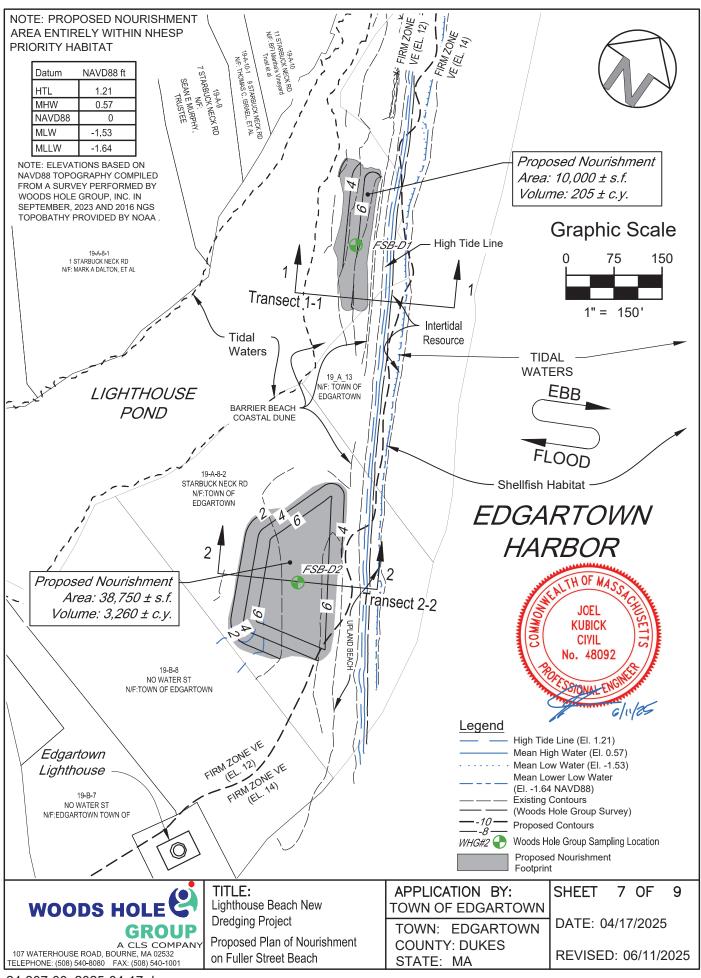
TOWN OF EDGARTOWN

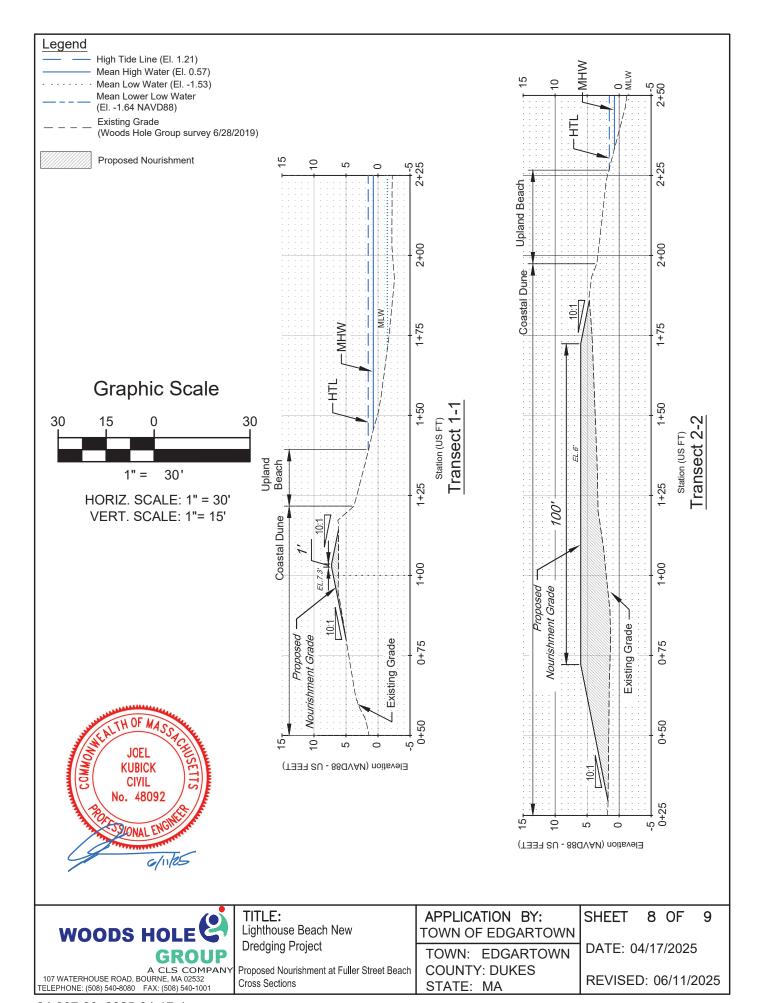
TOWN: EDGARTOWN

COUNTY: DUKES STATE: MA

DATE: 04/17/2025

REVISED: 06/11/2025





## Reference Note:

Assessors Map 19B Parcel 7, Map 19A Parcel 7, Map19A Parcel 8.2 & Map 19A Parcel 1.

The parcel lines shown on these plans were provided by MassGIS and shall be considered approximate. They do not represent a true property boundary survey.

FEMA Flood Zone VE (EL. 14), VE (EL. 13) & VE (EL. 12) as shown on FIRM Panel 25007C0119J dated 7/20/2016.

This plan is for permitting purposes only. The plan describes the full scope of the project; however, the contractor shall coordinate with Woods Hole Group, Inc. for detailing prior to providing a bid on this project.

# General Notes:

- Performance of work shall be in compliance with the plan and details, the Order of Conditions issued by the Edgartown Conservation Commission or other regulatory agency for the referenced project as described herein.
- The proposed work includes new dredging of the southernmost point of Lighthouse Beach.
- After removal, the dredged sand shall be beneficially reused along Little Beach and\or Fuller Street Beach for beach and dune enhancement. The material shall be regraded to slopes indicated on the plans.
- The entire footprint is mapped as Rare Species Critical Habitat in accordance with the Endangered Species Act Section 7 Maps.
- All equipment shall be moved to the contractor staging area at the end of the work day to avoid the possibility of inundation during normal tidal conditions. No equipment shall be left on the beach or in the active construction area
- Land based construction access shall be from Fuller Street and along Fuller Street Beach. Upon completion of work, all disturbed areas shall be re-graded and re-vegetated to match pre-construction conditions.
- A post-construction bathymetric survey shall be conducted and results reviewed by Woods Hole Group. Inc. following the completion of the work.
- The contractor shall attend a pre-construction on-site meeting which shall be attended by Woods Hole Group, Inc. and representatives of the Edgartown Conservation Commission. The contractor shall present to Woods Hole Group, Inc. and the Conservation Commission representative the proposed methods and means to construct the proposed project.
- The contactor shall not vary from the plans, specifications, Order of Conditions/Permits, or instructions provided at the pre-construction meeting, without first obtaining approval of the Conservation Commission representative and Woods Hole Group, Inc.
- 10. Prior to construction, the contractor must post the DEP File No. at the entrance to Fuller Street Beach. During construction, the contractor must have a copy of the existing Order of Conditions and all associated permits on site at all times.

### **Dredging Notes:**

- Bathymetric contours depicted on these plans represent results of the survey made on the date indicated and are representative of existing conditions at the time.
- Proposed new dredging area below MHW is 25,020 square feet, proposed new dredging area above MHW is 5,590 square feet, for a total of 30,610 SF. Sediments shall be removed to the depths indicated on the Detail Plan of Proposed New Dredging.
- Proposed Improvement Dredging and Excavation areas will generate 6,270 cubic yards of beneficial reuse material to be back-passed onto Little Beach and/or Fuller Street Beach.
- Dredging will be performed hydraulically and/or mechanically. Dredged sand will be dewatered and stockpiled within the proposed nourishment areas shown. All proposed nourishment work will occur above HTL.



TITLE: Lighthouse Beach New **Dredging Project** 

Notes

APPLICATION BY: TOWN OF EDGARTOWN

TOWN: EDGARTOWN

STATE: MA

COUNTY: DUKES

SHEET 9 OF

H OF MA

JOEL **KUBICK** CIVIL No. 48092

DATE: 04/17/2025

REVISED: 06/11/2025