



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
New England District

696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742-2751

Public Notice

In Reply Refer to: Jennifer Flanagan
nae-pn-nav@usace.army.mil

Programs/Project
Management Division

Date: February 21, 2014

Comment Period Closes: March 24, 2014

30 DAY PUBLIC NOTICE

CAMP CRONIN REVETMENT POINT JUDITH HARBOR OF REFUGE NARRAGANSETT, RHODE ISLAND

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District (USACE), plans to construct a revetment at the base of the East Shore Arm Breakwater at the Point Judith Harbor of Refuge Federal Navigation Project located in Narragansett, Rhode Island (Figure 1). This work would occur in the navigable waters of this District under provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act of 1977 (P.L. 95-217) and in accordance with Title 33, Parts 335-338 of the Code of Federal Regulations. Attachment 1 lists pertinent laws, regulations, and directives applicable to the project.

Purpose and Authority of the Work: The purpose of this proposed project is to construct a revetment at the base of the East Shore Arm breakwater and along the shore to the east to arrest erosion and stabilize the Federal property located at the Camp Cronin fishing area. In addition, the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) has asked the USACE, pursuant to the Chief's Economy Act 10 U.S.C. § 3036(d), to construct additional revetment along the shore of the Camp Cronin fishing area to protect property owned by the State of Rhode Island. Funding for the Federal portion of this effort is provided in the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013 (P.L. 113-2). Funding for the State portion of the proposed project will be provided by the State of Rhode Island. RIDEM will be responsible for any permitting requirements associated with the State portion of the proposed work.

The Point Judith Harbor of Refuge, including the East Shore Arm Breakwater, was originally authorized by the Rivers and Harbors Act of September 19, 1890. It was modified by the Rivers and Harbors Acts of June 13, 1902 and March 3, 1905 as well as a Design Memorandum dated August 24, 1961. The East Shore Arm Breakwater was last maintained in 1994 through 1995.

Project Description: The proposed Federal portion of the revetment would extend approximately 200 linear feet along the shoreline from the breakwater heading to the east. RIDEM has proposed to continue the revetment an additional 300 linear feet to the east onto State property. Approximately 22,000 tons of stone would be needed to create the 500-foot long revetment varying from 24 to 30 feet high MLLW and approximately 70 feet wide from the crest to the toe. The revetment will be constructed along an alignment which will balance the cuts and fills of the site in order to construct the revetment on stable ground and to minimize encroachment into the Camp Cronin fishing area and parking lot. To help dissipate the wave action against the stone revetment, a three-foot layer of cobble fill and native backfill from the excavation will be placed at the toe of the stone revetment.

In addition to construction of the revetment, approximately 15,000 tons of stone will be used to make emergency repairs to those sections of the East Shore Arm Breakwater damaged by Hurricane Sandy to its currently authorized dimensions. The majority of the stone would be obtained from a quarry, although a small amount of stone loosened by Hurricane Sandy may be recovered and reused. The rock would be placed on the breakwater by either a crane or excavator from land or water. It is anticipated to take approximately nine months to repair the breakwater and three months to construct the revetment.

Construction for both the USACE and RIDEM revetment and the East Shore Arm Breakwater would occur from October 1 through the end of May to avoid the beach recreation season.

Additional Information: Additional information may be obtained from Ms. Jennifer Flanagan, Programs & Civil Project Management Branch, Programs Project Management Division, at the return address shown, by email at nae-pn-nav@usace.army.mil or by telephone (978) 318-8015.

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

Federal Agencies

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

State of Rhode Island Agencies

Coastal Resources Management Council
Department of Environmental Management
Historical Preservation Commission

Environmental Impacts: An Environmental Assessment for the proposed work is being prepared and, when completed, will be available for review upon request. A preliminary determination has been made that an Environmental Impact Statement 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.

Federal Consistency with the Rhode Island Coastal Zone Management Program: I find that construction of the revetment at the Camp Cronin fishing area and the emergency repair of the East Shore Arm Breakwater at the Point Judith Harbor of Refuge in Narragansett, Rhode Island is consistent with the State of Rhode Island's Coastal Program established as a result of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972.

Other Information:

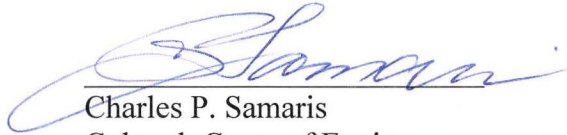
- a. Endangered Species: Pursuant to the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973 (87 Stat. 844), the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have both determined that no Federally listed or proposed, threatened or endangered species, or their critical habitat, under their respective jurisdictions, are known to occur in the project area. No further consultation under the ESA is required.
- b. Floodplain Management: In accordance with Executive Order 11988, the USACE has determined that the proposed work will not contribute to negative impacts or damages caused by floods.
- c. Cultural Resources: The proposed work is being coordinated with the Rhode Island Historic Preservation Officer. Remnants of the former South Reservation of Fort Nathanael Greene (Battery 211) are located within the area of potential effect and will be considered during project planning and implementation.
- d. Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Assessment: 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. NMFS has determined that no impacts from the proposed project to EFH are expected and therefore no further consultation is required.
- e. Additional Requirements: No work will be performed until a Water Quality Certification has been received from the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, as required under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act of 1977. A Clean Water Act Section 404(b) (1) Evaluation will be prepared for construction of the USACE portion of the Camp Cronin revetment, and RIDEM will apply for a Section 404(b) from the USACE Regulatory Division.

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.

Any person who has an interest that may be affected by construction of a revetment at the Camp Cronin fishing area 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 that may be affected and the manner in which the interest may be affected by this activity.

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: Ms. Jennifer Flanagan, within 30 days of this notice.

18 FEB 14
Date


Charles P. Samaris
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
District Engineer

ATTACHMENT 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.)

Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 [16 U.S.C. 1456(c)(1) and (2)], Sections 307(c)(1) and (2)

Code of Federal Regulation, Title 33, Parts 335 through 338

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

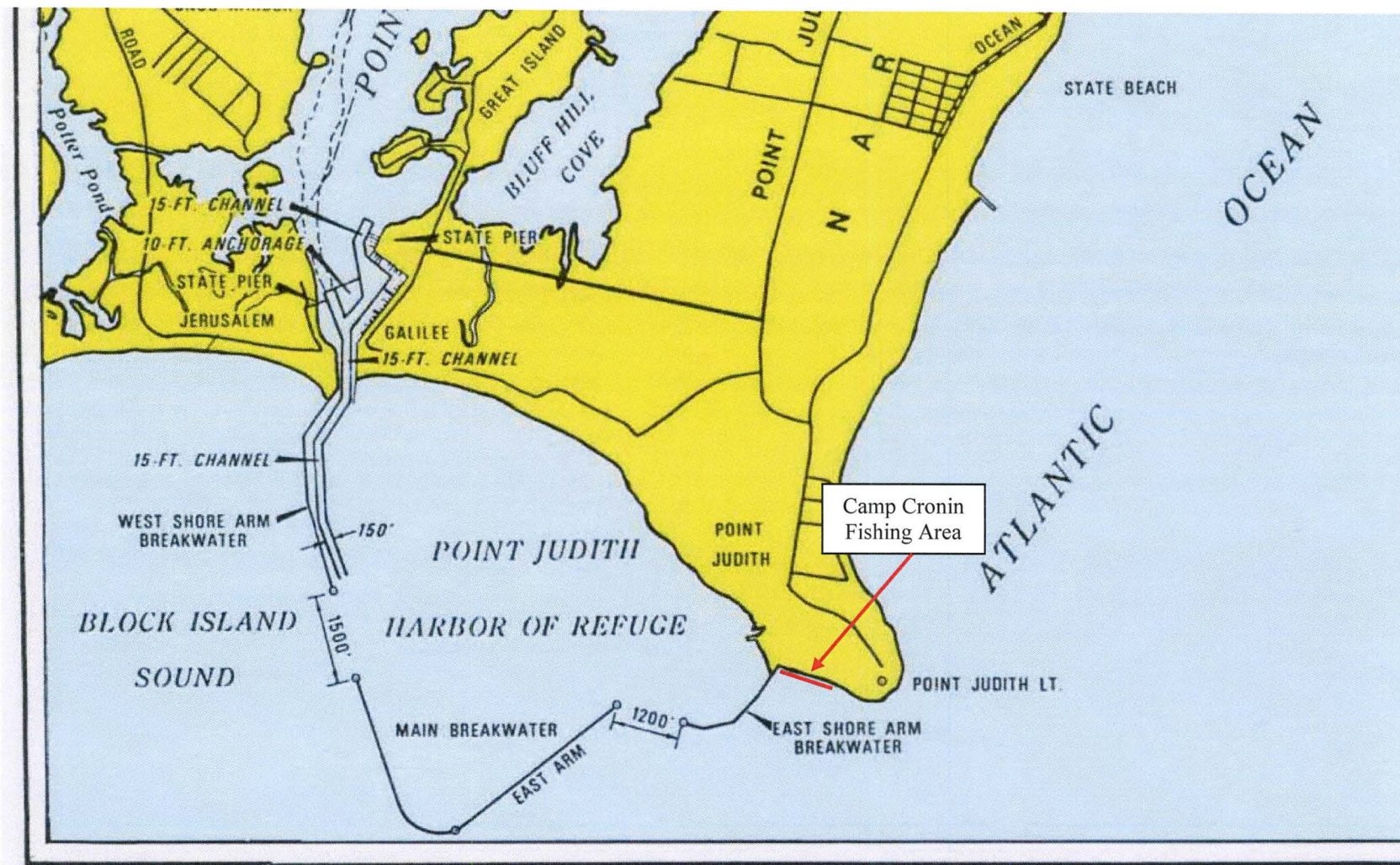


FIGURE 1: Project Location