

15-DAY PUBLIC NOTICE

US Army Corps of Engineers ® New England District 696 Virginia Road Concord, MA 01742-2751 Comment Period Begins: July 30, 2013 Comment Period Ends: August 15, 2013

File Number: NAE-1994-340

In Reply Refer To: Ms. Diane M. Ray

Phone: (978) 318-8831

E-mail: diane.m.ray@usace.army.mil

The District Engineer has received a permit application to conduct work in waters of the United States as described below.

APPLICANT: U. S. Coast Guard Academy

ACTIVITY: Removal of existing failed pile and timber piers, replacement in same location with steel and concrete piers as well as maintenance dredging at pier locations and in channel leading to the river, new dredging around basin with disposal of dredged material at the Central Long Island Sound Disposal Site. A detailed description and plans of the activity are attached.

WATERWAY AND LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED WORK

This work is proposed in the Connecticut River off property located at 15 Mohegan Avenue, New London, Connecticut. The site coordinates are: Latitude 41.37311, Longitude -72.09623.

AUTHORITY

Permits are required pursuant to:

Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act.

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 Corps of Engineers 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 of Engineers 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.

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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.

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).

The dredging portion of this project will impact approximately <u>4 acres</u> of Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) for the attached list of species and their life stages. The replacement of the two piers will impact approximately <u>2.37 acres</u> of EFH for the attached list of species and their life stages. Habitat at this site can be described as silt, sand and gravel. Loss of this habitat may adversely affect any of the attached list of species. However the District Engineer has made a preliminary determination that the site-specific adverse effect 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. The removal of existing piles from approximately 2.04 acres of EFH will result in a beneficial effect.

The dredged material disposal is proposed for Central Long Island Sound Disposal Site (CLIS). CLIS is an open water disposal sites, which provide Essential Fish Habitat for the attached list of species and their life stages. Habitat at CLIS can be described as sand and silt. Loss of this habitat may adversely affect any of the species listed on the attached sheets. However, the District Engineer has made a preliminary determination that the site-specific adverse effect 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 his initial review, the District Engineer has determined that little likelihood exists for the proposed work to impinge upon properties with cultural or Native American significance, or listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places. Therefore, no further consideration of the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, is necessary. This determination is based upon one or more of the following:

- a. The permit area has been extensively modified by previous work.
- b. The permit area has been recently created.
- c. The proposed activity is of limited nature and scope.
- d. Review of the latest published version of the National Register shows that no presence of registered properties listed as being eligible for inclusion therein are in the permit area or general vicinity.
- e. Coordination with the State Historic Preservation Officer and/or Tribal Historic Preservation Officer(s)

ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSULTATION

The New England District, Army Corps of Engineers has reviewed the list of species protected under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, which might occur at the project site. 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 any Federally listed endangered or threatened species or their designated critical habitat provided we incorporate a special condition to any permit issued restricting dredging operations during sensitive time for any listed species or their habitat as directly by National Marine Fisheries Service. By this Public Notice, we are requesting that National Marine Fisheries Service concur with our determination and provide us with appropriate conservation recommendations.

The States of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and New York 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 obtained:

- (X) Permit, License or Assent from State.
- (X) Water Quality Certification in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act.

In order to properly evaluate the proposal, we are seeking public comment. Anyone wishing to comment is encouraged to do so. **Comments should be submitted in writing by the above date.** If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Diane M. Ray at 978-318-8831, (800) 343-4789 or (800) 362-4367, if calling from within Massachusetts.

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 Corps 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. All comments will be considered a matter of public record. 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 NOT AN AUTHORIZATION TO DQ ANY WORK.

Robert J. DeSista

Chief, Permits and Enforcement Branch

Regulatory Division

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If you would pr	refer not to continue receiving Public Notices by email, please contact Ms. Tina Chaisson at
(978) 318-8058	B or e-mail her at bettina.m.chaisson@usace.army.mil. You may also check here () and return
this portion of t	the Public Notice to: Bettina Chaisson, Regulatory Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,
696 Virginia Ro	oad, Concord, MA 01742-2751.
NAME:	
ADDRESS:	
PHONE:	

PROPOSED WORK AND PURPOSE:

The proposal includes work as described on the attached plans entitled, "USCG Academy, New London, Connecticut, New London, Concept Drawings for Project Proposal (PPR), Construct New Pier (USCG Barque Eagle Pier)" in fourteen (14) sheets, dated, "January 2012" and "Central Long Island Sound Disposal Site", each on one sheet, not dated.

The proposed work is described as follows:

- 1. Remove an existing 630' x 24' failed wooden pile-supported main pier used as a berthing location for the USCG Barque Eagle as well as the USCG Morrow and other vessels;
- 2. Remove an existing 405' x 12' failed auxiliary pier which is attached to the main pier;
- 3. All pilings, decking and the rail overpass have been deemed non-hazardous material and will be removed and disposed of at Construction and Demolition Debris at an approved upland disposal site.
- 4. Main Pier construct and maintain a new concrete-filled steel pile-supported pier and floating dock in the same approximately footprint and with the same approximately orientation but will be two feet higher and two feet wider than the existing structure
- 5. Auxiliary Pier this new pier will extend from the south side of the main pier and will provide space for the boat house which is currently located on the main pier and will provide docking space for smaller vessels. The reconstruction of this pier will greatly improve emergency vehicle access to the waterfront areas. The new auxiliary pier will have dimensions of approximately 405' x 12'.
- 6. Dredge a total of approximately 176,017 square feet (4 acres). Proposed dredging depth will be approximately -20.0' mean low water around the two piers and -12.0' mean low water in the narrow channel leading to the Federal navigation channel. A total of approximately 20,000 cubic yards of silt, sand and gravel will be dredged mechanically and disposed of at the Central Long Island Sound Disposal Site.

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.

Based on the characteristics of the dredged material, the lack of suitable alternate disposal or beneficial use sites and costs, the most feasible, practical, cost-effective and environmentally acceptable alternative for the disposal of dredged materials from the proposed dredging is disposal at the requested disposal site.

The dredged material has undergone physical, chemical, and/or biological analysis. It is our preliminary determination that the material is acceptable for disposal at this disposal site.

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Any permit issued for this project will include special conditions requiring scows to come to a complete stop when disposing of the material at the disposal site. There will also be a time of year restriction included as a special condition which prohibits dredging during ecologically sensitive times of years.

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 (suitability determined through case-by-case analyses) has been deposited at this site annually. The site has been monitored through the Corps' Disposal Area Monitoring System (DAMOS) program. 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. 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.

Summary of Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Designation

10' x 10' Square Coordinates:

Boundary	North	East	South	West
Coordinate	41° 30.0' N	72° 00.0' W	41° 20.0' N	72° 10.0' W

Square Description (i.e. habitat, landmarks, coastline markers): The waters within the square within the Connecticut River estuary affecting the following: within New London Harbor from Long Island Sound on the south, north up to just north of Smith Cove within the Thames River. These waters affect the following: Greens Harbor, Hog Back, White Rock, Melton Ledge, Groton, CT., and New London CT., Winthrop Pt., Jacobs Rock, Bailey Pt., Mamacoke River, and Harrison, CT. Also, the waters within this square are found within the Poquonock River north of the Groton – New London Airport, and affect waters within northern Jordan Cove, Jordan Brook, and North Wing Brook, near Jordan CT.

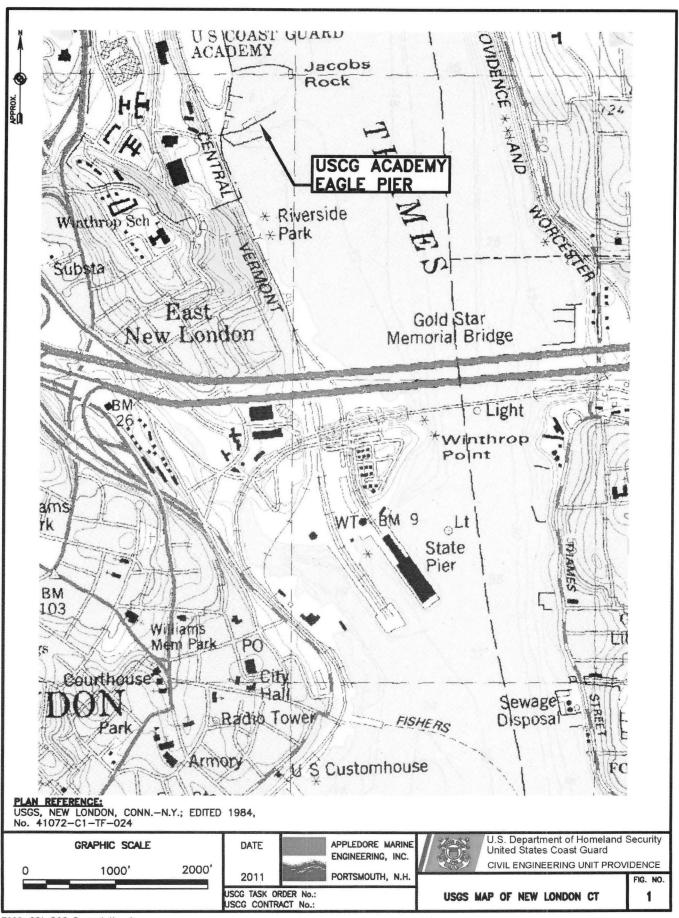
Species	Eggs	Larvae	Juveniles	Adults
Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar)			X	X
pollock (Pollachius virens)			X	X
red hake (Urophycis chuss)	X	X	X	X
windowpane flounder (Scopthalmus aquosus)	X	X	X	X
Atlantic sea herring (Clupea harengus)			X	X
monkfish (Lophius americanus)				X
bluefish (Pomatomus saltatrix)			X	X
king mackerel (Scomberomorus cavalla)	X	x	x	X
Spanish mackerel (Scomberomorus maculatus)	X	X	X	X
cobia (Rachycentron canadum)	X	X	X	X
sand tiger shark (Odontaspis taurus)		X		

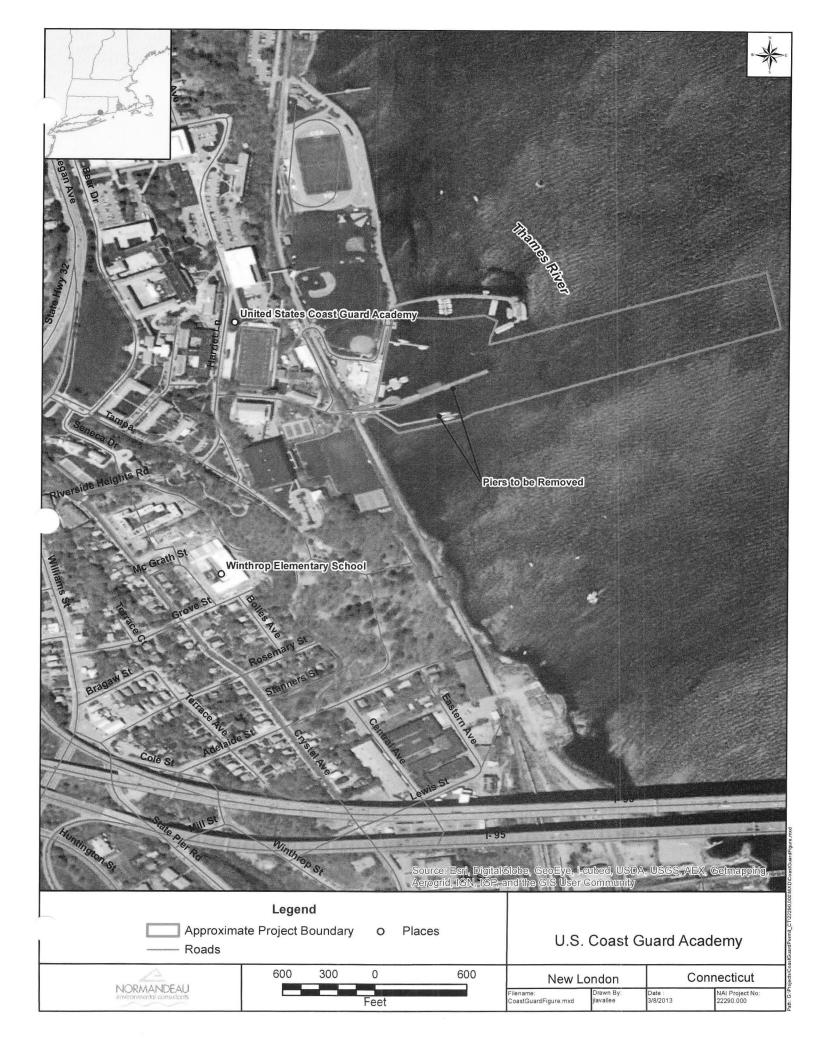
Summary of Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Designation 10 x 10 Square Coordinates: Central Long Island Sound Disposal Site

Boundary	North	East	South	West
Coordinate	41° 10.0' N	72° 50.0' W	41° 00.0' N	73° 00.0' W

<u>Square Description (i.e. habitat, landmarks, coastline markers):</u> Atlantic Ocean waters within the square within Long Island Sound affecting the following: one square south of the waters within the square south of New Haven, CT. In this square there is a dumping ground on the northeast corner.

_Species	Eggs	Larvae	Juveniles	Adults
Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar)			X	X
pollock (Pollachius virens)			X	X
whiting (Merluccius bilinearis)				X
red hake (Urophycis chuss)	X	X	X	X
winter flounder (Pleuronectes americanus)	X	X	X	X
windowpane flounder (Scopthalmus aquosus)	X	X	X	X
American plaice (Hippoglossoides platessoides)			X	X
Atlantic sea herring (Clupea harengus)			X	X
bluefish (Pomatomus saltatrix)			x	X
Atlantic mackerel (Scomber scombrus)	X	X	X	X
summer flounder (Paralicthys dentatus)			X	
scup (Stenotomus chrysops)	X	X	X	X
black sea bass (Centropristus striata)	n/a		X	
king mackerel (Scomberomorus cavalla)	X	X	x	X
Spanish mackerel (Scomberomorus maculatus)	X	X	X	X
cobia (Rachycentron canadum)	X	X	X	X
sand tiger shark (Odontaspis taurus)		X		



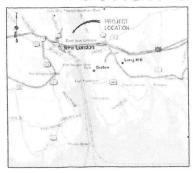




USCG ACADEMY

NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT NEW LONDON

CONCEPT DRAWINGS FOR PROJECT PROPOSAL (PPR) CONSTRUCT NEW PIER (USCG BARQUE EAGLE PIER)



VICINITY MAP

10.56° 3.05° 2.76°

u.co.

JANUARY, 2012

LIST	OF	DRAWINGS
SHEET NO.		DRAWING TITLE
	GE	NERAL
1 OF 14		COVER
	2	CIVIL
2 OF 14 3 OF 14 4 OF 14 5 OF 14 6 OF 14 7 OF 14 8 OF 14		EXISTING CONDITIONS PLAN SITE PLAN DECK PLAN DREDGE PLAN = 1 DREDGE PLAN = 2 DREDGE SECTION = 7 DREDGE SECTION = 2
	STRU	JCTURAL
9 OF 14 10 OF 14 11 OF 14 12 OF 14		REMOVALS PLAN WORK PLAN SECTIONS - 1 SECTIONS - 2
	U	TILITY
13 OF 14 14 OF 14		UTILITY PLAN - 1 UTILITY PLAN - 2

LEGEN

APPROX	APT ROYIMATE	MISC	MISCELLANEOUS
ATON	AID TO NAVIGATION	MLLW	MEAN LOWER LOW WATER
BM	BENCHMARK	MLW	MEAN LOW WATER
3	BASELINE	NIS	NOT TO SCALE
6	CENTERLINE	00	ON CENTER
CIP	SAST- N-PLACE	PCF	PLATE
B G C C J	CUBIC YARD		POUNDS PER CUBIC FOCT
CJ	CONSTRUCTION JOINT	PSF	POUNDS PER SQUARE FOOT
DEG	DEGREE	REF	REFERENCE
DIA	DIAMETER	SCH	SCHEDULE
EL	ELEVATION N FEET	SF	SQUARE FEET
CALV	GALVANIZ'E	SQ	SQLARE
HDG	HOT DIPPED GALVANIZE	22	STAINLESS STEEL
#ID	INSIDE DIAMETER	SSF	STEEL SHEET PILING
LBS	POUNDS	STA	STATION
LF	LINEAR FEET	SID	STANDARD
MAX	MAXIMUM	TYT	TYP CAL
MHW	MEAN RICH WATER	NON	UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED
MHHW	MEAN HIGHER HIGH WATER	W.b.	WORKING POINT
MIN	MINIMUM		
2	1		3
(6)			



LOCATION MAP

ELEVATION, SECTION OR DETAIL SYMBOLS



EXTERIOR ELEVATION/SECTION



INTERIOR ELEVATION/SECTION



APPLEDORE MARINE ENGINEERING PORTSMOUTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE 603.766.1870

CONSULTANTS



U. S. COAST GUARD FACILITIES DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION CENTER



FDCC LANT 5505 ROBIN HOOD ROAD NORFOLK, VIRGINA 23513-2431

MARK	DATE	DESCRIPTION
- /		
	ROJECT NO	
CAD F	E NAME:	7009~CGA.dwg
DESIGN	VED BY:	DOC
DRAWN	BY:	GBS
FORED	HY:	
CHECK	ED BY:	NJE

SCALE: A	S SHOWN	PLOT SCALE: 1-1
SHEET	TITLE	
CONSTR		PIER (USCG BARQUE EAGLE PIER)

NEW LONDON

GENERAL

OOVER

COVER

COVER

REVIEWED BY: REVIEWED BY:

PROJECT FAG SHANCH CHIEF HECH CHECKER

APPROVING OFFICER DATE

PROJECT NAMEER CHAWING NUMBER

614055

DISCHELINE /SHI MC

G-001

ETAIL

REFERENCE:

MEAN HIGH WATER (MHW) MEAN LOW WATER (MLW)

NOAA, NOS: THAMES RIVER, NEW LONDON, #8461490, 04/21/2003 FEMA FRM COMMUNITY PANEL NUMBER 090100 0001 C, 08/19/1985

TIDAL DATUMS (1083-2001 TIDAL EPOCH)

FEWA 100 YEAR BASE FLOOD ELEVATION (STELLWATER)

