



**US Army Corps
of Engineers** ®
New England District
696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742-2751

PUBLIC NOTICE

Comment Period Begins: May 15, 2018
Comment Period Ends: June 14, 2018
File Number: NAE-2018-00495
In Reply Refer To: Sarah Wilkinson
Phone: (978) 318-8513
E-mail: sarah.a.wilkinson@usace.army.mil

The District Engineer has received a permit application to conduct work in waters of the United States from the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation. This work is proposed in Massachusetts Bay/Nantasket Beach from State Park Rd. to Phipps St., Hull, Massachusetts. The site coordinates are: Latitude 42.273272 Longitude -70.858454.

The work involves placement of 372,900 cubic yards of sand below the high tide line (HTL) on Nantasket Beach. The sand will cover 2.26 million square feet (52 acres) below the HTL at depths ranging up to 3.6 feet. The sand will be sourced from a dredging project on the Piscataqua River sponsored by a division of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Vessels (tug/scows) with sand will make multiple trips between the Piscataqua River site and Nantasket Beach to reload with sand. The sand will be pumped to shore from a barge (carrying the pump) anchored approximately 2,600 feet from shore. The frequency of the trips by the tugs/scows will be determined by the dredging schedule at the Piscataqua River site. At some point in the future the applicant intends to place an additional 322,000 cubic yards of sand on Nantasket Beach; however, the source and timing of this nourishment is not known and therefore not part of this review.

The work is shown on the attached plans entitled "Nantasket Beach Coastal Storm Damage Reduction Project Phase 2: Beach Nourishment" on 10 sheets, and dated "April 24, 2018".

The applicant proposes that project impacts have been minimized to the extent possible, impacting the minimum area of tidal waters in order to ensure shoreline stabilization and public access to the beach. The sand to be utilized is compatible with Nantasket Beach sand grain size and composition. Work vessels traveling to/from Nantasket Beach will travel no faster than 10 knots to minimize the risk of injuring marine species (i.e. federally listed whales). The time window for receiving dredged material at Nantasket Beach would be 5 ½ months (October 15 to March 31) to protect sensitive species during migration, nesting, and breeding.

AUTHORITY

Permits are required pursuant to:

- Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899
- Section 404 of the Clean Water Act
- 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

CENAE-R
FILE NO. NAE-2018-00495

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 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District (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. The Corps 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.

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.

This project will impact 52 acres of EFH. This habitat consists intertidal shoreline. Loss of this habitat may adversely affect species that use these waters and substrate. The District Engineer has made a preliminary determination that the site-specific adverse effect will not be substantial. Following the 2017 EFH programmatic agreement between the Corps and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), the Corps will submit an EFH assessment to NMFS, who in turn will provide conservation recommendations to the Corps. The Corps will coordinate with the applicant regarding implementation of these recommendations. The EFH consultation 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).

10

ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSULTATION

The Corps has reviewed the application for the potential impact on federally-listed threatened or endangered species and their designated critical habitats pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act 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 NMFS and 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 Commonwealth of Massachusetts has an approved Coastal Zone Management Program. 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:

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

COMMENTS

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 Sarah Wilkinson at the letterhead address, sarah.a.wilkinson@usace.army.mil, or (978) 318-8513.

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 DO ANY WORK.

Barbara Newman
Chief, Permits and Enforcement Branch
Regulatory Division

e. Coordination with the State Historic Preservation Officer and/or Tribal Historic Preservation Officer(s).
10

ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSULTATION

The Corps has reviewed the application for the potential impact on federally-listed threatened or endangered species and their designated critical habitats pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act 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 NMFS and 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 Commonwealth of Massachusetts has an approved Coastal Zone Management Program. 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.
- (X) Permit from local wetland agency or conservation commission.
- (X) Water Quality Certification in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act.

COMMENTS

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 Sarah Wilkinson at the letterhead address, sarah.a.wilkinson@usace.army.mil, or (978) 318-8513.

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 DO ANY WORK.



**Barbara Newman
Chief, Permits and Enforcement Branch
Regulatory Division**

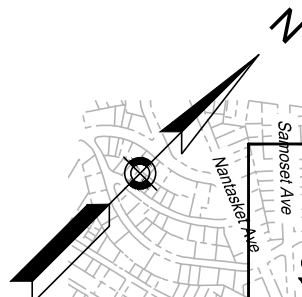
CENAE-R
FILE NO. NAE-2018-00495

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

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____



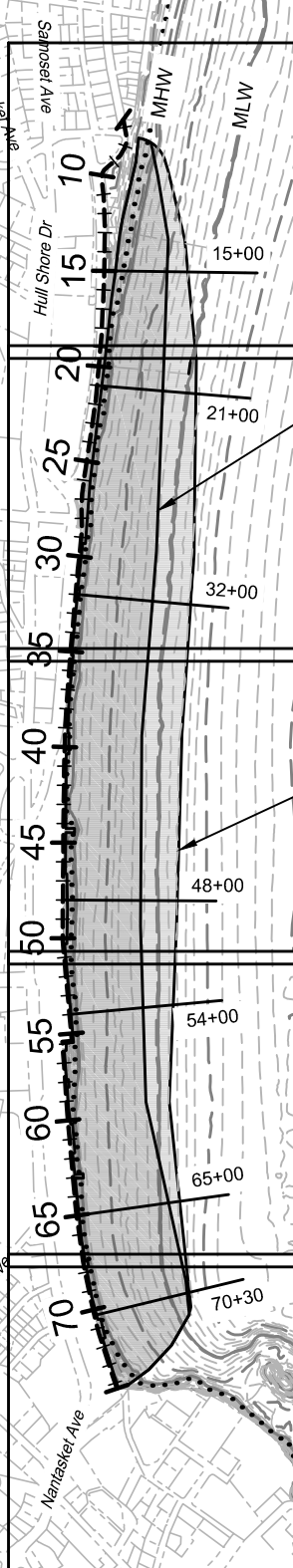
SHEET 2

SHEET 3

SHEET 4

SHEET 5

SHEET 6



PROPOSED
INITIAL BEACH
NOURISHMENT
FROM PISCATAQUA
RIVER SOURCE
(UP TO 378,000 CY)

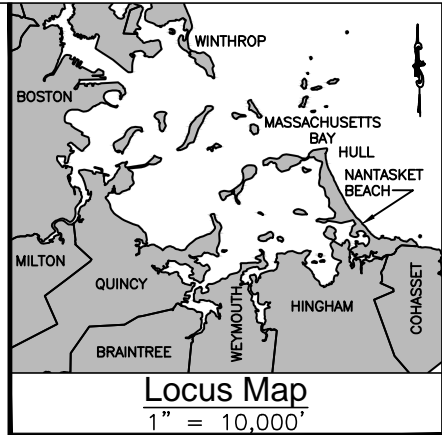
PROPOSED
BEACH
NOURISHMENT
LIMIT FOR
700,000 CY

Massachusetts Bay

DATUM:
ELEVATIONS BASED ON NAVD 88
VERTICAL DATUM (FEET)
MLW ELEVATION -5.16 FEET NAVD 88
MHW ELEVATION 4.33 FEET NAVD 88

TOTAL VOLUME OF PROPOSED PHASE 2
(BEACH NOURISHMENT) BELOW HTL =
690,550 CY @ 73± ACRES

MAXIMUM VOLUME OF PROPOSED INITIAL
NOURISHMENT FROM PISCATAQUA RIVER
SOURCE BELOW HTL = 372,900 CY @
52± ACRES



APPLICATION BY:
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF
CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

PREPARED BY:
LOUIS BERGER

APRIL 24, 2018

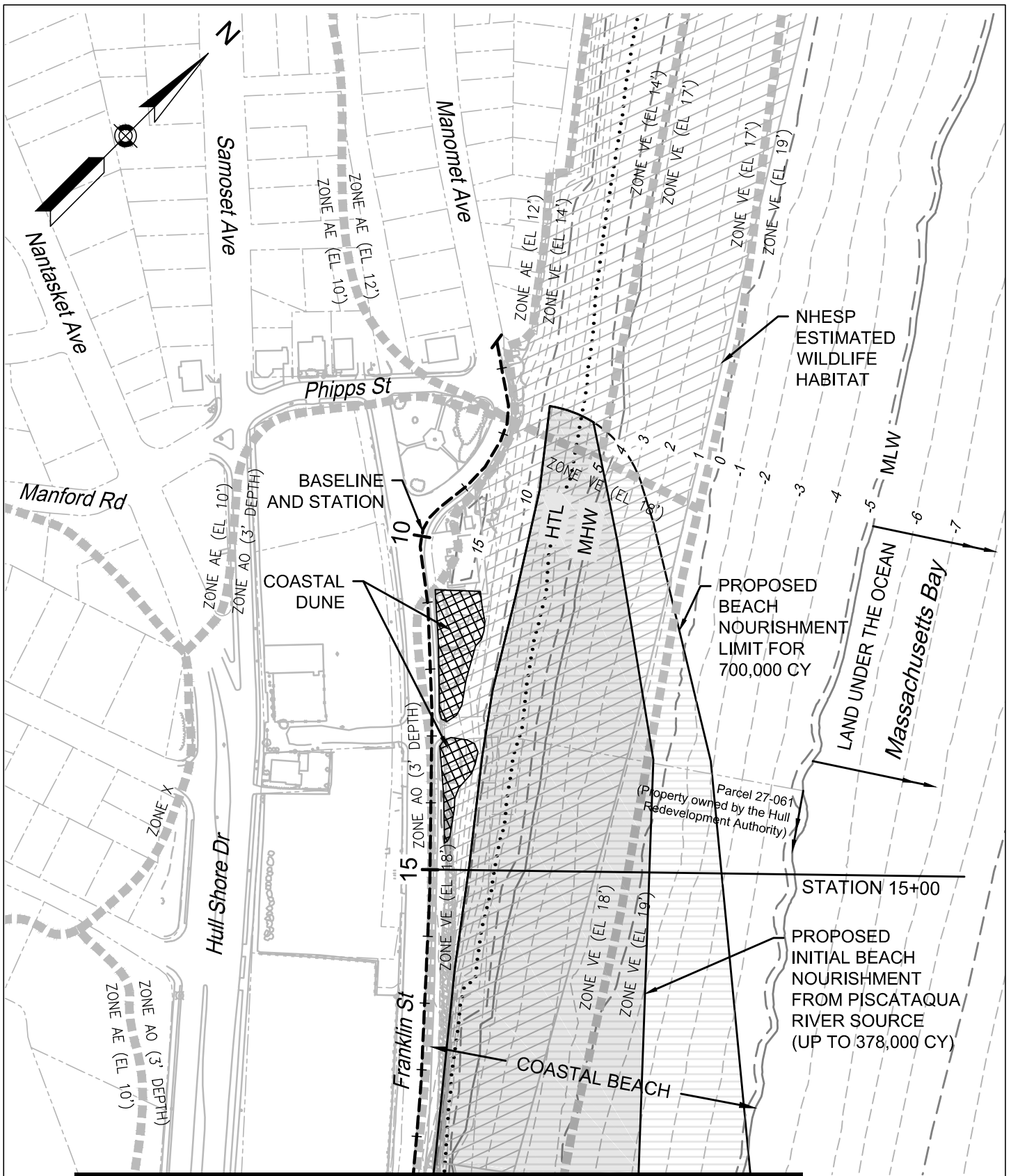
**PROJECT AREA
OVERVIEW**



SCALE: 1" = 1000'

NANTASKET BEACH
COASTAL STORM DAMAGE
REDUCTION PROJECT PHASE 2:
BEACH NOURISHMENT

HULL, MASSACHUSETTS



MATCH LINE SEE SHEET 3

APPLICATION BY:
 MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF
 CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

PREPARED BY:
 LOUIS BERGER

APRIL 24, 2018

PROPOSED WORK PLAN
SHEET 1 OF 5

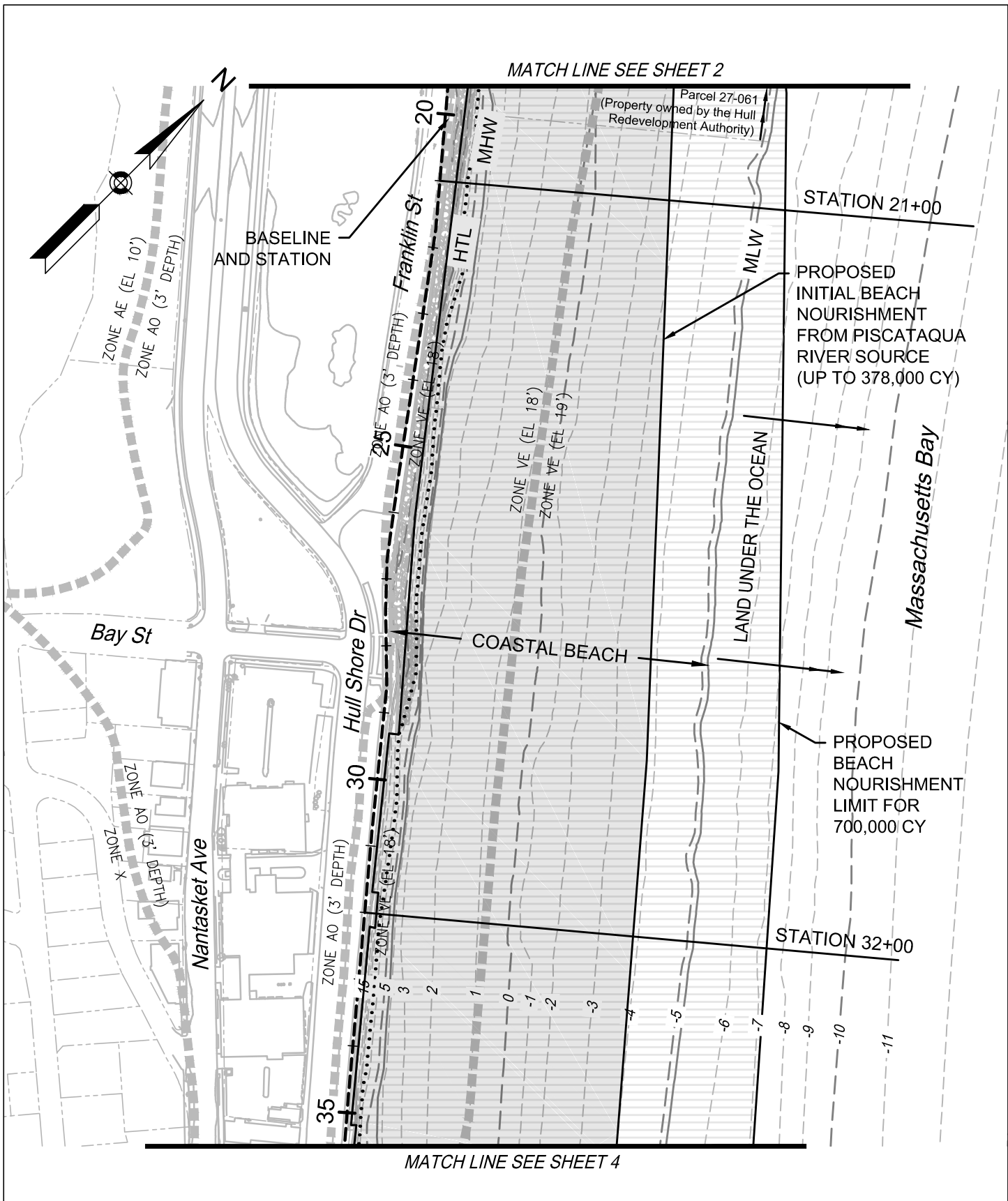


SCALE: 1" = 200'

NANTASKET BEACH
 COASTAL STORM DAMAGE
 REDUCTION PROJECT PHASE 2:
 BEACH NOURISHMENT

HULL, MASSACHUSETTS

SHEET: 2 OF 10



APPLICATION BY:
 MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF
 CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

PREPARED BY:
 LOUIS BERGER

APRIL 24, 2018

PROPOSED WORK PLAN
SHEET 2 OF 5

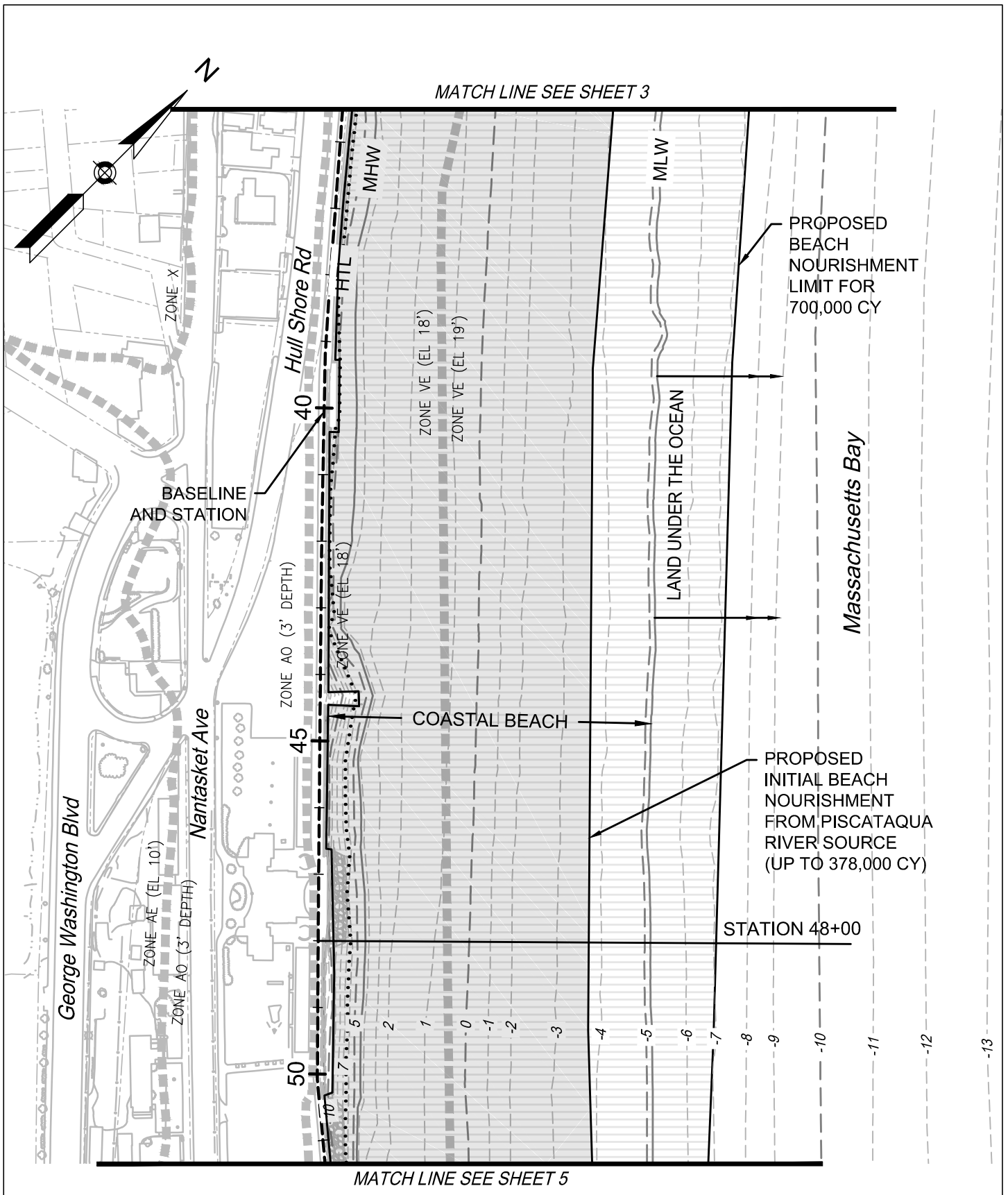


SCALE: 1" = 200'

NANTASKET BEACH
 COASTAL STORM DAMAGE
 REDUCTION PROJECT PHASE 2:
 BEACH NOURISHMENT

HULL, MASSACHUSETTS

SHEET: 3 OF 10

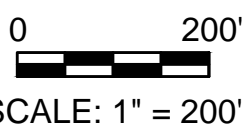


APPLICATION BY:
 MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF
 CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

PREPARED BY:
 LOUIS BERGER

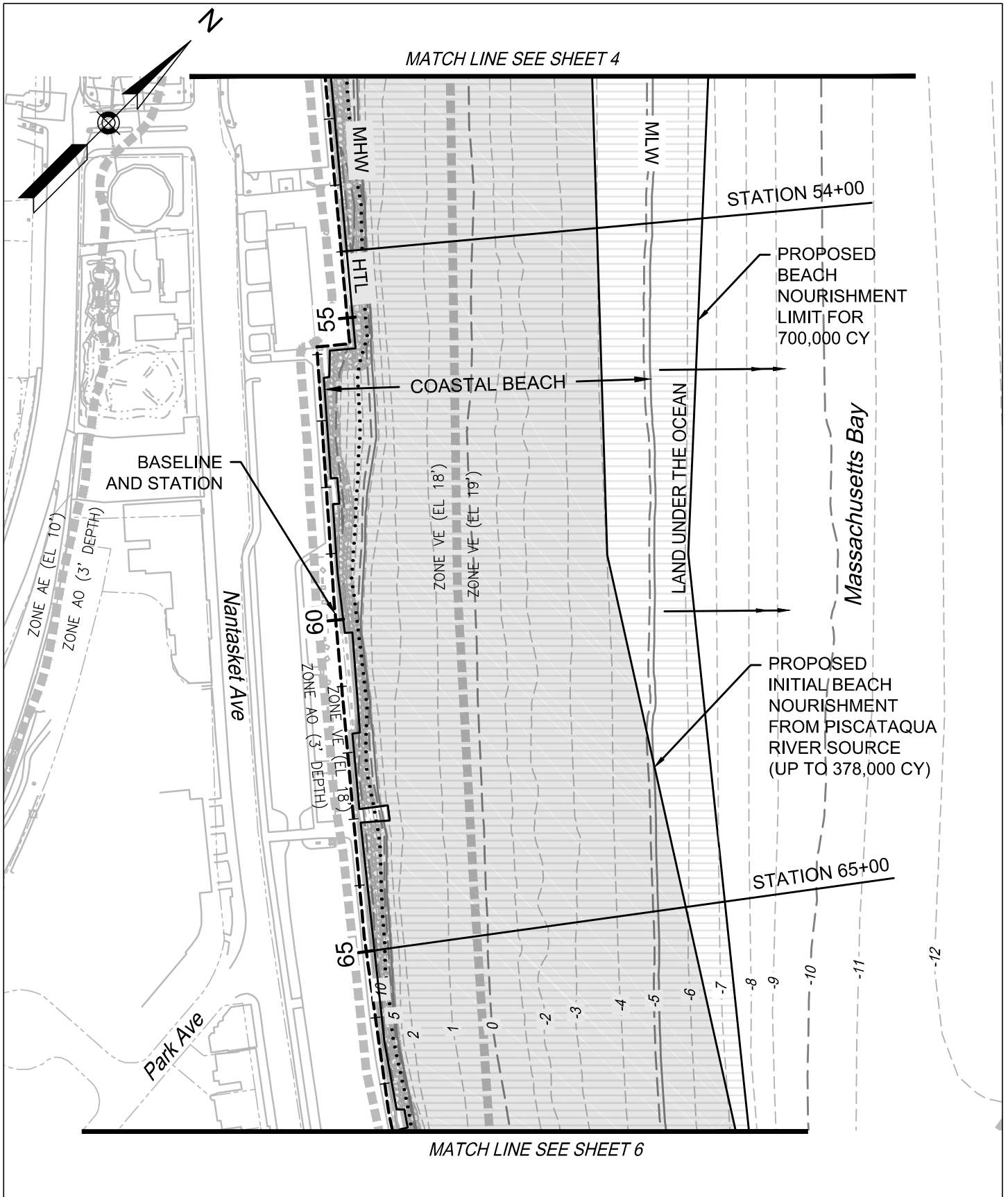
APRIL 24, 2018

PROPOSED WORK PLAN
SHEET 3 OF 5



NANTASKET BEACH
 COASTAL STORM DAMAGE
 REDUCTION PROJECT PHASE 2:
 BEACH NOURISHMENT

HULL, MASSACHUSETTS



APPLICATION BY:
 MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF
 CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

PREPARED BY:
 LOUIS BERGER

APRIL 24, 2018

PROPOSED WORK PLAN
SHEET 4 OF 5



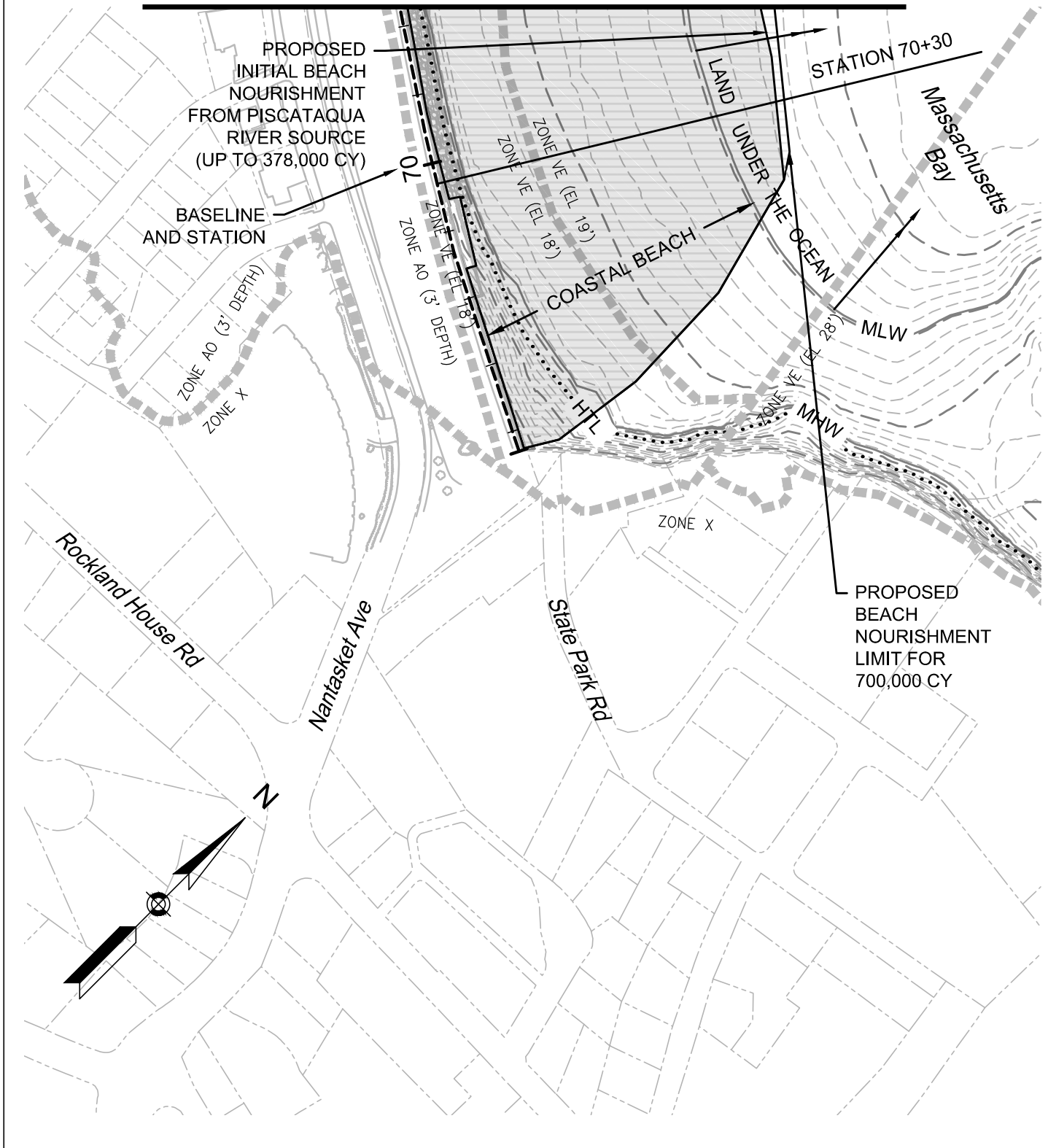
SCALE: 1" = 200'

NANTASKET BEACH
 COASTAL STORM DAMAGE
 REDUCTION PROJECT PHASE 2:
 BEACH NOURISHMENT

HULL, MASSACHUSETTS

SHEET: 5 OF 10

MATCH LINE SEE SHEET 5



APPLICATION BY:
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF
CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

PREPARED BY:
LOUIS BERGER

APRIL 24, 2018

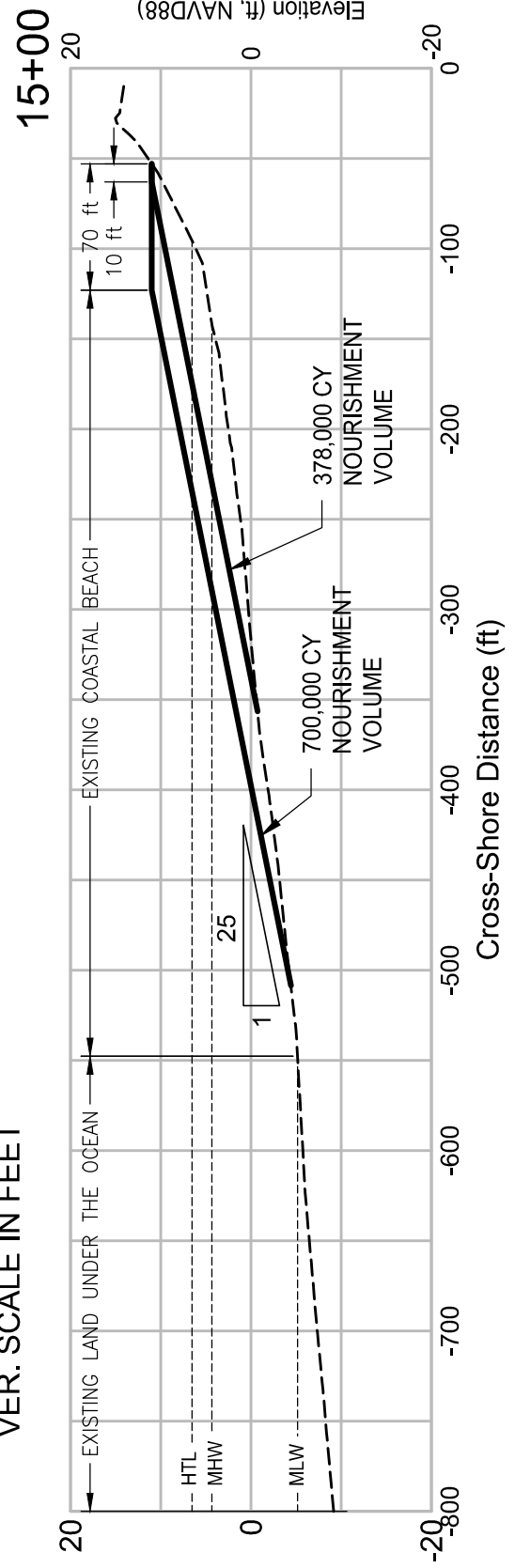
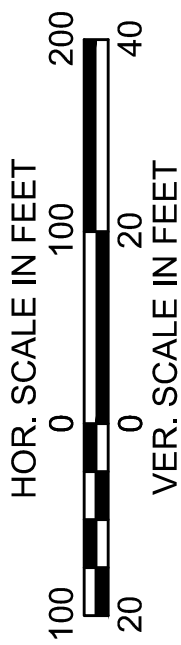
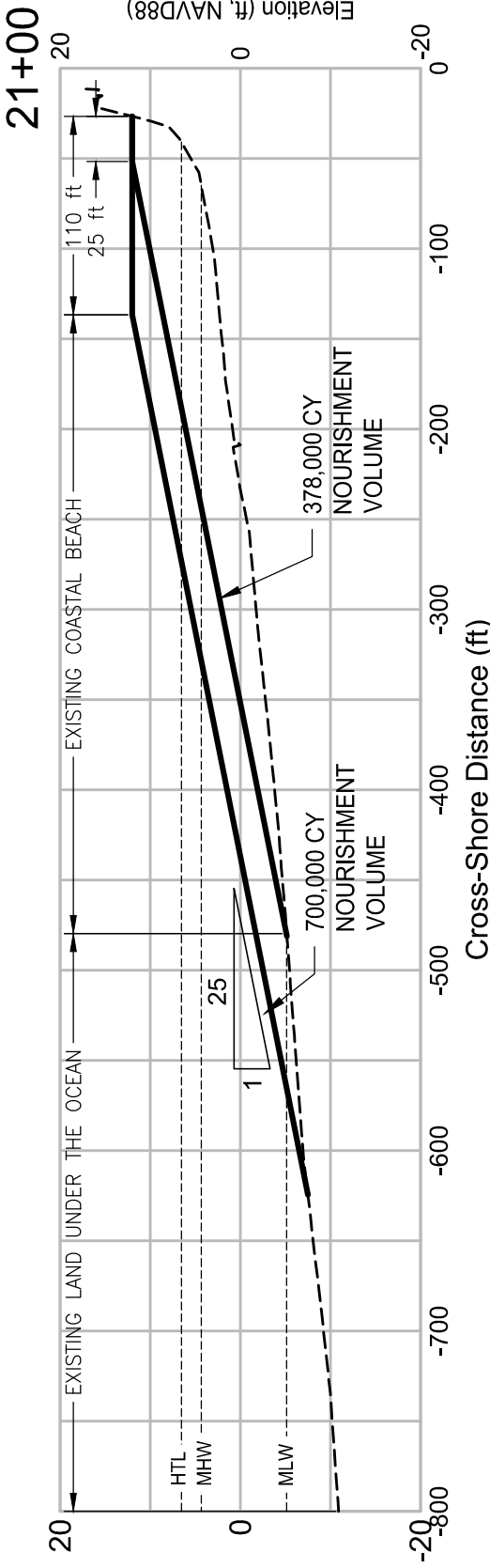
PROPOSED WORK PLAN
SHEET 5 OF 5



SCALE: 1" = 200'

NANTASKET BEACH
COASTAL STORM DAMAGE
REDUCTION PROJECT PHASE 2:
BEACH NOURISHMENT

HULL, MASSACHUSETTS



APPLICATION BY:
 MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF
 CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

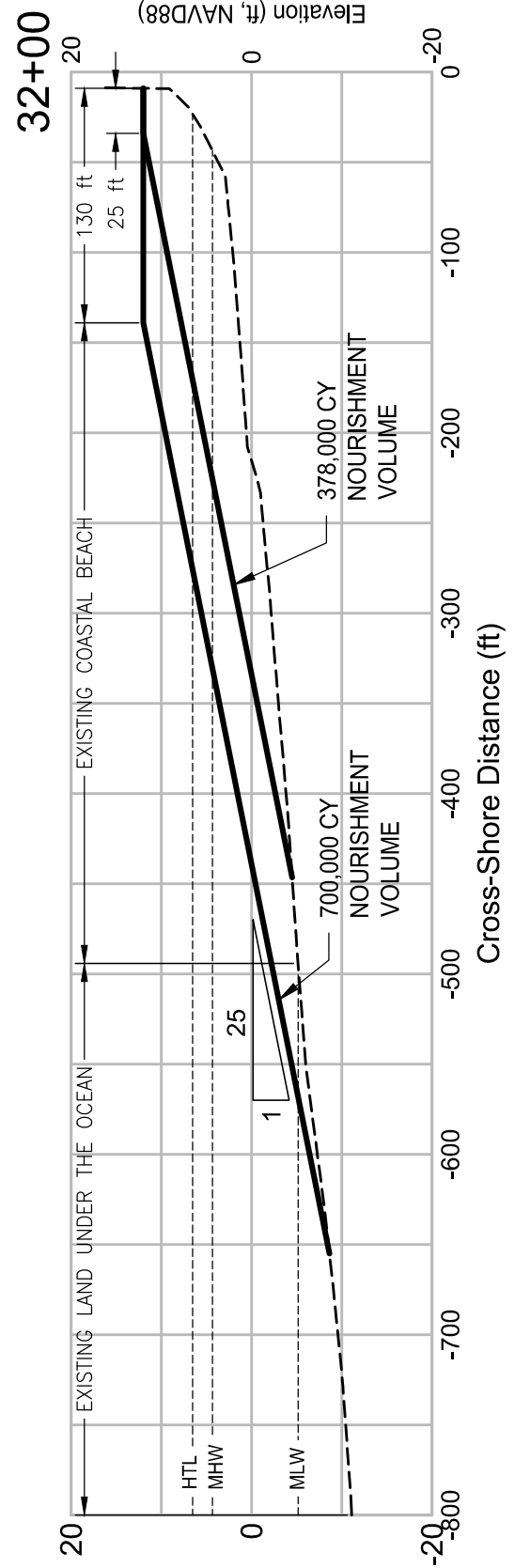
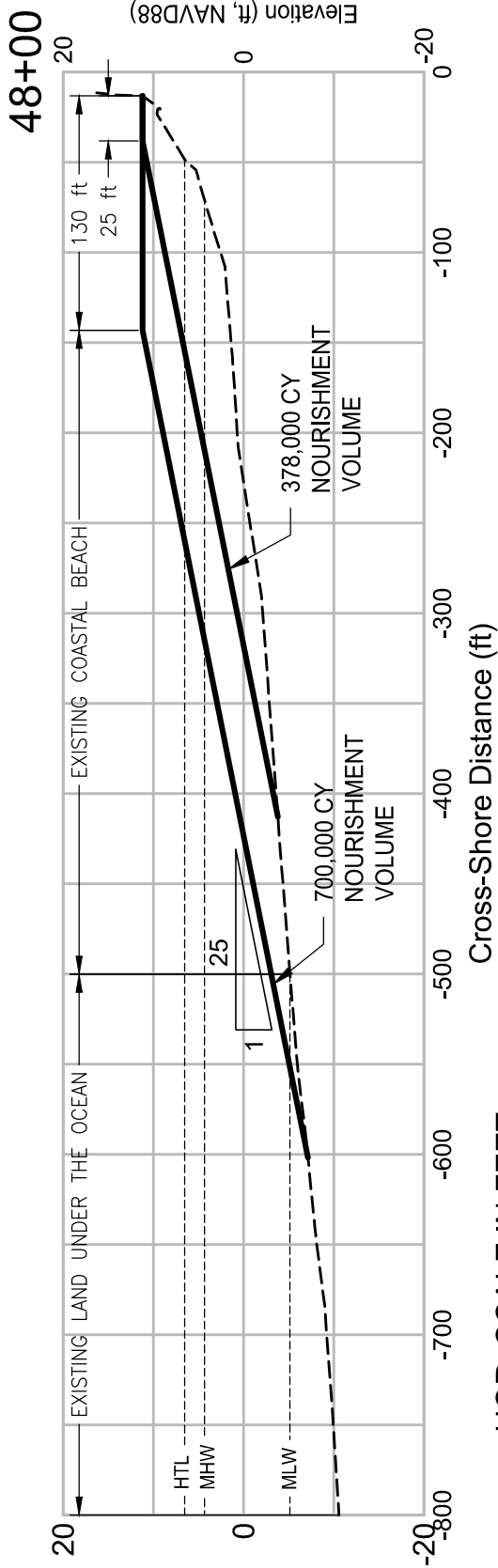
PREPARED BY:
 LOUIS BERGER

APRIL 24, 2018

CROSS SECTIONS
STA. 15+00 & 21+00

NANTASKET BEACH
 COASTAL STORM DAMAGE
 REDUCTION PROJECT PHASE 2:
 BEACH NOURISHMENT

HULL, MASSACHUSETTS



APPLICATION BY:
 MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF
 CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

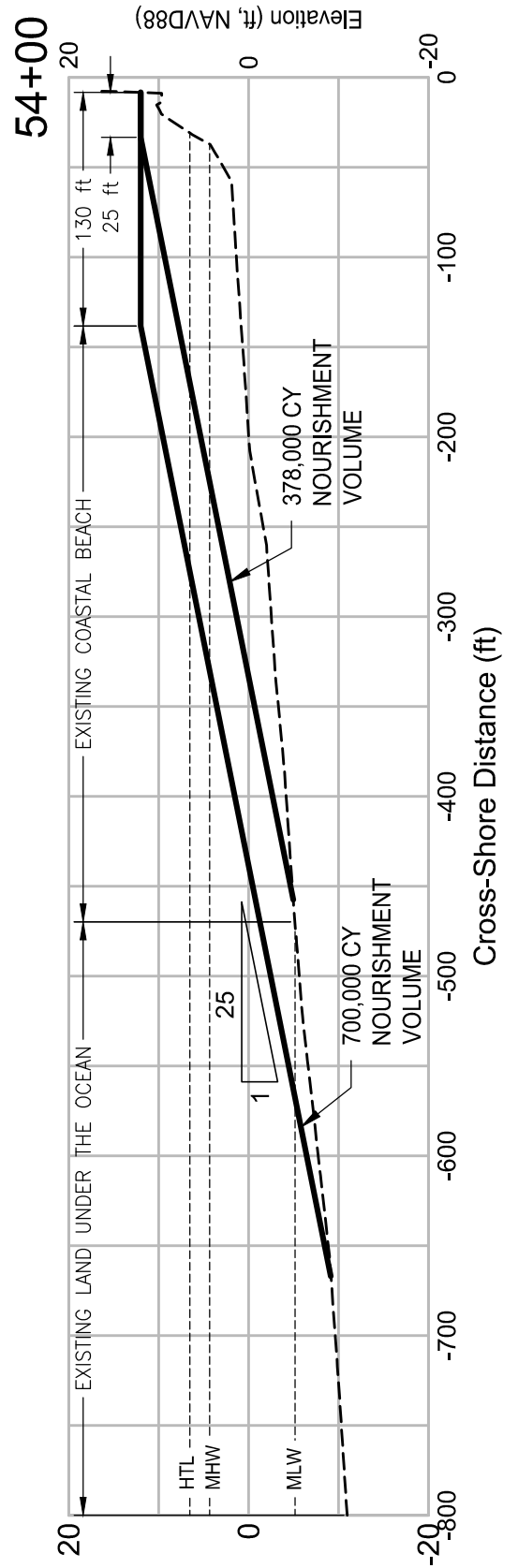
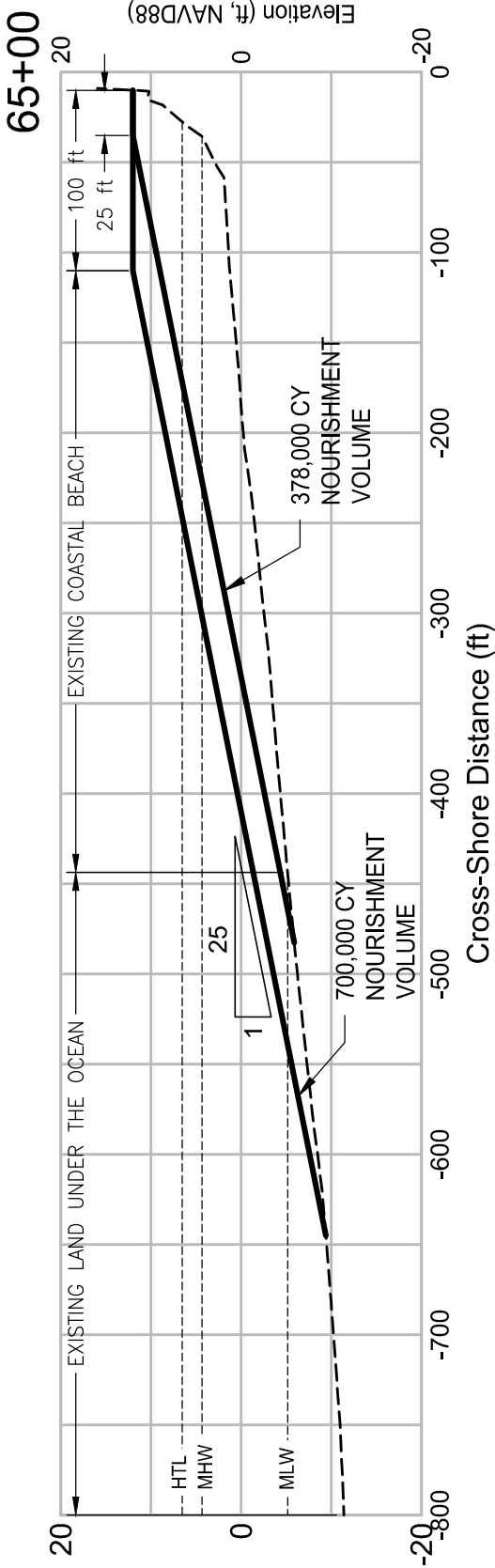
PREPARED BY:
 LOUIS BERGER

APRIL 24, 2018

CROSS SECTIONS
STA. 32+00 & 48+00

NANTASKET BEACH
 COASTAL STORM DAMAGE
 REDUCTION PROJECT PHASE 2:
 BEACH NOURISHMENT

HULL, MASSACHUSETTS



APPLICATION BY:
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF
CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

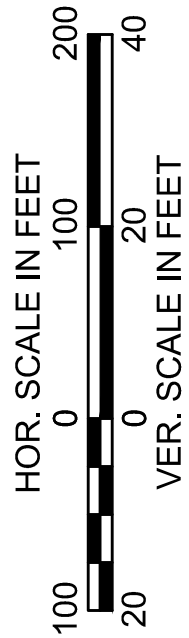
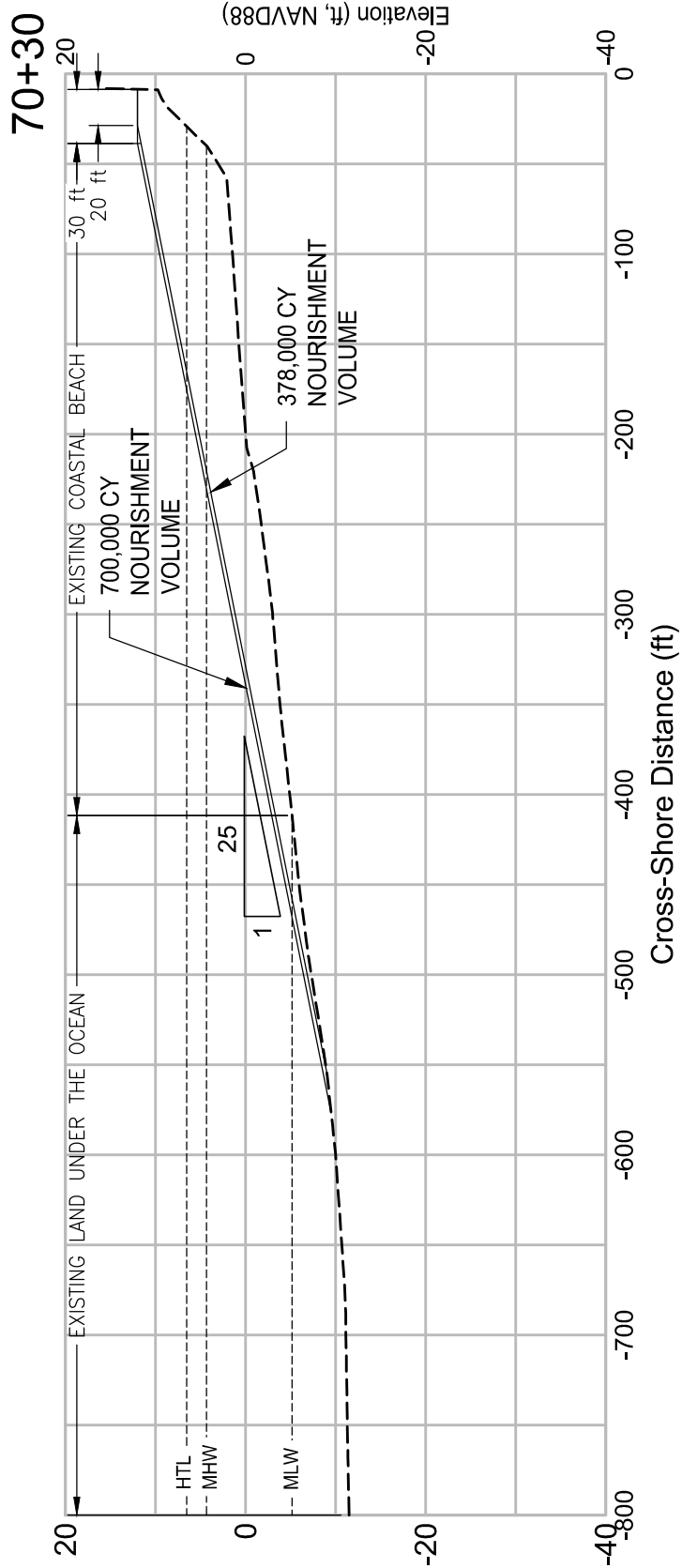
PREPARED BY:
LOUIS BERGER

APRIL 24, 2018

CROSS SECTIONS
STA. 54+00 & 65+00

NANTASKET BEACH
COASTAL STORM DAMAGE
REDUCTION PROJECT PHASE 2:
BEACH NOURISHMENT

HULL, MASSACHUSETTS



APPLICATION BY:
 MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF
 CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

PREPARED BY:
 LOUIS BERGER

APRIL 24, 2018

CROSS SECTION
STA. 70+30

NANTASKET BEACH
 COASTAL STORM DAMAGE
 REDUCTION PROJECT PHASE 2:
 BEACH NOURISHMENT

HULL, MASSACHUSETTS