



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

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Public Notice

In Reply Refer to: Ms. Coral Siligato

nae-pn-nav@usace.army.mil

**Programs & Project
Management Division**

Date: January 25, 2022

Comment Period Closes: February 23, 2022

30 DAY PUBLIC NOTICE

REPAIRS OF THE NORTH JETTY OF THE HAMPTON HARBOR FEDERAL NAVIGATION PROJECT, HAMPTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), New England District, plans to perform work in the navigable waters of this District, subject to the provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act of 1977 (P.L. 95-217); Executive Order 11988 – Floodplain Management; and subject to the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (P.L. 91-190). The work involves repair and improvements to the North Jetty of the Hampton Harbor Federal Navigation Project (FNP) in Hampton, New Hampshire. Attachment 1 lists pertinent laws, regulations, and directives.

Project Description: The proposed work involves necessary repairs of the north jetty of the Hampton Harbor Federal Navigation Project (FNP) for damages caused by coastal storms and a vessel collision in 2016. The north jetty provides protection for vessels entering and leaving Hampton and Seabrook Harbor. The original Hampton Harbor FNP was authorized in 1964 under the continuing authority of Section 107 of the Rivers and Harbor Act of 1960. This project, completed in November 1965, consisted of an entrance channel, 8 feet deep by 150 feet wide, from deep water in the Gulf of Maine to the State Route 1A Bridge over the inlet. The Federal project also included a 1,000 foot extension of the north jetty and elevation improvement to the south jetty at the harbor inlet (Attachment 2). The existing project was designed for mixed commercial and recreational boating use with fishing as the principal purpose. Repairs to the north jetty extension occurred in 1981, 1987, and 2016.

Character and Purpose of Work: The purpose of the project is to restore full functionality of the north jetty to meet its authorized purpose and to enhance the durability of the structure using modern construction methods and practices. Hampton Jetty repair work involves reconstruction of sections of the North Jetty impacted by a vessel collision and various winter storms. The area's storm history and predicted future climate, as well as the USACE's prior experience with repairs to the structures, have informed the engineering plan with the goal of reducing the need,

frequency, and cost of future repairs. In the proposed design, the crest width of the structure is increased to 10 feet within the repair area, and seaward improvements extend to the existing grade and include redesign of the jetty toe.

Since the last maintenance, coastal storms and a vessel allision in 2016 have caused damage to the structure resulting in an unbalanced settlement of armor stones that exist from the original construction. These damaged areas have resulted in decreased functionality of the authorized structure and an overall loss of protection of the FNP. The proposed work will be accomplished within the scope of authority of the FNP's original authorization.

The north jetty maintenance repair work involves reconstruction of sections of the jetty impacted by the vessel allision, as well as widening of the jetty crest to create a more robust structure. This widening will create a modest increase in the jetty footprint, however, minimal new disturbance would be created as the existing jetty has slumped into the ocean-side of the structure and occupies a wider footprint than the originally designed dimensions. Repairs will involve roughly 450 linear feet of the jetty and will take place from both land and floating marine plant. In order to perform durable repairs, some sections of the top portion of the jetty will be dismantled to just below the water line and reconstructed with armor stone of an increased size. On the ocean side of the jetty, repairs will occur below the water to existing grade and include construction of a new jetty toe.

The armor stone thickness will be increased to a minimum of two armor stones at all locations within the repair area for an armor stone depth of approximately 9 feet. Existing 6-10 ton armor stones in the repair area in good condition will be reused. Any stone removed and not reincorporated into the structure, to include a combination of existing core/underlayer stone and armor stone, will be placed along the jetty toe on either the seaward or channel-side of the jetty.

Marine based work would begin August 1, 2022, while land-based work would be restricted to a September 5, 2022 - March 15, 2023 construction window to avoid the Federally threatened and State-endangered piping plover breeding season and recreation purposes. It is estimated that the work will take approximately 4 months to complete.

Additional Information: Additional information may be obtained from Ms. Coral Siligato, Civil Works/IIS Project Management Branch, Programs and Project Management Division, by email at nae-pn-nav@usace.army.mil or by telephone at (978) 318-8012.

Coordination: The proposed work has, or will be coordinated with the following agencies:

Federal:

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

State of New Hampshire:

New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
New Hampshire Department of Fish & Game
New Hampshire Division of Parks and Recreation
New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources

New Hampshire State Historic Preservation Office
Pease Development Authority – Division of Ports and Harbor

Local:
Town of Hampton

Environmental Impacts: An Environmental Assessment is in preparation and will be available for review upon request when complete. I have made a preliminary determination that an Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed repair and maintenance work is not required under the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. This determination will be reviewed in light of comments submitted in response to this notice.

Federal Consistency with the New Hampshire Coastal Zone Management Program: I find that the repairs of the authorized navigation project is consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the State of New Hampshire's management program established as a result of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972.

Other Information:

- a. Local Sponsor: The town of Hampton, New Hampshire is the local sponsor for the approved work.
- b. Previous Repairs: Repairs to the North Jetty were last completed in 2016 when 5,320 tons of stone were added to the damaged sections of the structure. Previous repairs were made in 1981 and 1987.
- c. Endangered Species: It is our preliminary determination that the project is not likely to adversely affect threatened or endangered species. The USACE is in consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to ensure that the proposed activity will not significantly affect any species or critical habitat designated as endangered or threatened pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 884).
- d. Floodplain Management: In accordance with Executive Order 11988, USACE has determined that the proposed work will not contribute to negative impacts or damages caused by floods.
- e. Cultural Resources: USACE is in coordination for the proposed work with the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act and implementing regulations.
- f. Essential Fish Habitat Assessment: USACE has determined that the project may have a temporary adverse effect on Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). The project site is contained within Hampton Harbor FNP in Hampton, NH, which is designated as EFH under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act for federally managed fish species. USACE assessed the effects that the project is likely to have on EFH and has

determined that there will be no significant impacts on the designated fisheries resources. The National Marine Fisheries Service has concurred with this effect determination and the USCAE will ensure that any potential impacts to EFH will be minimized.

- g. Additional Requirements: USACE has requested a 401 Water Quality Certification and Coastal Zone Management Consistency Determination Concurrence from the State of New Hampshire's Department of Environmental Services.


The decision whether to perform the proposed 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, which may be affected by the jetty repair work may request a public hearing. The request must be submitted in writing within the comment period of this notice and must clearly set forth the interest, which 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, ATTN: Coral Siligato and emailed to nae-pn-nav@usace.army.mil within 30 days of this notice.

25 January 2022
Date

Attachments



John A. Atilano II
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
District Engineer

Attachment 1

PERTINENT LAWS, REGULATIONS, AND DIRECTIVES

Clean Water Act, as amended (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.)

National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.)

Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. 661-667e)

Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (16 U.S.C. 742a, et seq.)

Migratory Marine Game-Fish Act (16 U.S.C. 760c-760g)

Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1451)

National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (54 U.S.C. 100101 et seq.)

Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.)

Clean Air Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.)

Estuary Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 1221 et seq.)

Federal Water Project Recreation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 460L-12 et seq.)

Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, as amended (54 U.S.C. 200301 et seq.)

Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended by the
Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996 (16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.)

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

Attachment 2

Hampton Harbor Federal Navigation Project



North Jetty Repair Project Area Locations

