

ADDENDUM

Delaware River Main Channel Deepening Project Delaware Bay Winter Crab Surveys 2001 and 2002

Prepared for

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Philadelphia District
Wanamaker Building
100 Penn Square East
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Prepared by

Jon Helge Vølstad

Versar, Inc.
ESM Operations
9200 Rumsey Road
Columbia, MD 21045

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The absolute abundance of live crabs across size and sex classes in the section of the channel scheduled to be dredged (9.9 km^2) was estimated at 39,635 crabs for February 2002, or 59% of all crabs hibernating in the channel at that time (Vølstad and Kelley 2002). This estimate was obtained by extrapolating the mean density (4.02 crabs per 1000 m^2) in the section of the channel with depths between 12.2 m (40 ft) and 14.3 m (47 ft) to the entire area of this depth range. This estimated impact would only apply if all the deepening occurred during winter, and thus represents a 'worst case' scenario. However, according to plan, only a small section of the Miah Maull Range (1.13 km^2) will be dredged during winter when blue crabs are hibernating. The absolute abundance of crabs in this smaller area is estimated at 4,543 crabs, or 7% of all crabs that were hibernating in the channel. This estimate of the fraction of crabs that would be impacted by the channel deepening during winter 2002 is very similar to the estimate for 2001 (6%).

We also would like to correct one typographical error in the ABSTRACT for the 2001 report (Vølstad and Kelley 2001). The section of the Miah Maull Range scheduled to be dredged during winter was correctly reported to be 278.7 acres. This area is equivalent to 1.13 km^2 , and not 9.93 km^2 as reported in the ABSTRACT. We did estimate the abundance for the area scheduled to be dredged during winter by extrapolating the mean density to the 1.13 km^2 area in Miah Maull Range, as intended, and thus the results and conclusions do not change.