



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**

Philadelphia District

## Public Notice

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Public Notice No.  
CENAP-PLE-26-03

Date:  
May 11, 2026

In Reply Refer to:  
Environmental Resources Branch

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### **DREDGING OF THE NEW JERSEY INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY MILE MARKERS 276 TO 282 BENEFICIAL USE OF DREDGED MATERIAL PLACEMENT**

#### **CAPE MAY COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Philadelphia District is initiating the scoping phase to evaluate the maintenance dredging of the New Jersey Intracoastal Waterway (NJIWW), and the beneficial use of dredged material (BUDM) placement on Shooting Island (Figure 1). In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Department of Defense NEPA Implementing Procedures Part 1.8, this notice serves as the initiation of the scoping process for any potential project or Federal action.

The Philadelphia District is evaluating the proposed maintenance dredging of an approximate 10-acre area between mile markers 276 and 282 within the NJIWW to remove shoaling for the purpose of maintaining safe and reliable navigation in the authorized channel. Approximately 60,000 cubic yards of material is proposed to be dredged from the NJIWW throughout a 10-year period. The NJIWW provides a safe, reliable and operational navigation channel for commercial fishing, while also connecting nine U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Stations. Foremost, the USCG requires a reliable channel to fulfill necessary Homeland Security requirements, while also conducting search and rescue operations. The South Jersey economy is heavily dependent on the maintenance of the NJIWW, as it provides a reliable channel for recreational and commercial fishing and tourism.

The primary objective of this evaluation and proposed maintenance dredging project is to remove shoaling from the NJIWW, providing safe navigation conditions for commercial, recreational, and USCG use. A secondary objective is the proposed BUDM placement on Shooting Island (Figure 2). Placement upon Shooting Island would restore the historical marsh footprint and elevate the degraded interior platform. Shooting Island, located in the Cape May Wetlands Wildlife Management Area (WMA) is managed by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) Division of Fish and Wildlife. The proposed BUDM for both placement areas will be designed in coordination with the NJDEP Division of Fish and Wildlife, and other project stakeholders.

All practical alternatives, including the No Action Alternative, are being evaluated in accordance with NEPA regulations. This evaluation includes an analysis of impacts on environmental, cultural, and socio-economic impacts associated with the proposed maintenance dredging of the NJIWW and the BUDM placement on Shooting Island. This notice initiates scoping procedures as outlined in the Department of Defense NEPA Implementing Procedures Part 1.8. Scoping is an early and open process for identifying any significant issues related to the proposed Federal action. Participation of the general public and other interested parties and stakeholders in identifying significant issues and alternatives is being solicited by means of this public notice. The public and other interested parties are invited to participate in the project scope by providing written comments, questions, and concerns to this office within 30 days from the date of this notice.

For further information on this assessment, please contact:

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FOR Scott Sanderson  
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Figure 1 – NJIWW Markers 276 – 282 Maintenance Dredging and Beneficial Use of Dredged Material Project



Figure 2 – Beneficial Use of Dredged Material Proposed Shooting Island Placement Areas