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Public Notice

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Army Corps posts Public Notice regarding Maurice River Federal Navigation Channel and Beneficial Use of Dredged Material Project

PHILADELPHIA (March 17, 2023) – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Philadelphia District has posted a Final Environmental Assessment titled: Maurice River Federal Navigation Channel and Beneficial Use of Dredged Material, Cumberland County, New Jersey and Finding of No Significant Impact.

The Final Environmental Assessment addresses maintenance dredging and a beneficial use of dredged material placement opportunity in the lower Maurice River, Cumberland County, New Jersey.

The recommended plan is to dredge 75,000-100,000 cubic yards within a portion of the lower Maurice River federally-authorized navigation channel between stations 1+500 to 13+000 in 2023 and beneficially use the material by hydraulically pumping it into two eroded (flooded) marsh areas approximately 9 acres in size within the Heislerville Wildlife Management Area (WMA). The initial sediment placement operation will be monitored to observe sediment properties and will inform future placement operations.

In a second maintenance cycle, anticipated to occur 1-3 years after the initial placement, an additional 25,000-50,000 cy will be dredged between these stations where needed, to the authorized depth of 7 ft MLLW with 2 ft allowable over-depth. The objective of the beneficial use placement of the dredged material within the flooded marsh system is to raise the substrate elevation within intertidal mudflats and vegetated low marsh that has been continually subjected to inundation and erosion. Dredging will remove critical shoaling to maintain a safe and reliable navigation channel for commercial and recreational vessels.

The final Environmental Assessment and appendices are available at:

<https://www.nap.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Public-Notices-Reports/>