

US Army Corps of Engineers

Philadelphia District Wanamaker Building 100 Penn Square East Philadelphia, PA 19107-3390 ATTN: CENAP-OPR

Public Notice

Public Notice No. CENAP-OPR-2018-00318-95

JUNE 29, 2021

Application No. CENAP-OPR-2018-00318-95

File No.

In Reply Refer to:

REGULATORY BRANCH

This District has received an application for a Department of the Army (DA) permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments and recommendations from the public concerning issuance of a Department of the Army permit for the work described below.

APPLICANT: New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection – Blue Acres Program

Attn: Ms. Fawn McGee, Director

428 East State Street, P.O Box 420, Mail Code 501-01

Trenton, New Jersey 08625

WATERWAY: Delaware Bay

LOCATION: Money Island, Downe Township, Cumberland County, New Jersey;

Latitude: 39.282405, Longitude: -75.239195.

ACTIVITY: The applicant, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection – Blue

Acres Program, has requested Department of the Army authorization to undertake the following regulated work within approximately 0.15-acres of Waters of the U.S. along approximately 1,350.0-linear feet of the

northern Delaware Bay shoreline of Money Island:

Construct five (5) 50.0-foot long by 24.0-foot wide by 5.0-foot high pyramid-shaped, nearshore, low-profile, uniform, submerged rock breakwaters (stone size ranging from 100-230 lbs.). Each breakwater would be set on tensar matting and sited approximately 75.0-linear feet seaward of the plane of Mean Low Water (MLW). The base of each breakwater would be set approximately 2.0-feet below the plane of MLW at elevation -5.0-feet NAVD88, with a crest elevation at approximately Mean Tide Level (MTL) (0.0-feet NAVD88).

Install two (2) 12.0-inch diameter timber aid to navigation pilings and one (1) ice break/aid to navigation dolphin comprised of three (3) 12.0-inch diameter timber pilings.

Replace in-place and extend an existing, deteriorated 70.0-linear foot timber wing wall by 80.0-linear feet seaward (northward) into Delaware Bay. The

wing wall would be comprised of timber sheeting and twenty-three (23) 12.0-inch diameter timber pilings. The existing timber wing wall is sited adjacent to a small, unnamed tidal creek at the Bayview Road bridge.

Complete grading and plantings of cordgrass (*Spartina sp.*) and native dune grasses along the Money Island shoreline where beneficially re-used dredged material was placed under DA Permit Number NAP-2020-00403-95.

All of the work would be accomplished via barge and scow (construction of breakwaters), vessel-mounted and land-based impact hammer (pilings and wing wall), bulldozer (grading), and hand-digging (plantings).

The breakwaters, pilings, and wing wall would all be marked in accordance with U.S. Coast Guard requirements. Specifically, the proposed dolphin is proposed be installed approximately 20.0-linear feet to the north of the extended wing wall to act both as an ice break and as an aid to navigation. The dolphin would also act as the northern-most aid to navigation for the proposed series of low-profile breakwaters. Two (2) additional individual aid to navigation pilings would be installed, one (1) midway along the outer side of the series of breakwaters and one (1) at the southern end, with both affixed with reflective orange diamond markers to warn navigating vessels.

All work is anticipated to be completed in approximately six (6) months, including mobilization/demobilization, with the projected start date on or after September 15, 2021, and with a projected end date of March 22, 2022.

PURPOSE:

The stated purpose of this project is to restore and enhance eroded Delaware Bay shoreline habitat by reducing wave energy and creating sheltered waters to enhance Horseshoe Crab (*Limulus polyphemus*) spawning opportunities and survivability while increasing the residence time of the beach sand and design template, reduce longshore sediment transport, and reduce shoaling rates at the mouth of a small, unnamed tidal creek to allow for continued tidal flow to the back marsh.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the activity's probable impact including its cumulative impacts on the public interest. The 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 work must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the work will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs and welfare of the people. A Department of the Army permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest.

The Corps of Engineers 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. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of

Engineers 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.

Due to the potential for extensive telework associated with the COVID-19 situation, all comments on the proposed work should be submitted, within thirty (30) days, via email only to the District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Philadelphia District at Philadelphia DistrictRegulatory@usace.army.mil.

The USACE Cultural Resource Specialist is currently reviewing the proposed permit action for potential impacts to Historic Properties eligible for or listed on the National Register of Historic Places. A determination of effects will be coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Office, the Tribes and other consulting parties.

A preliminary review of this application indicates that the proposed work may affect listed aquatic-based species or their critical habitat. Pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the Philadelphia District will evaluate the potential effects from the proposed actions to these species and their habitat and consult with NOAA Fisheries as appropriate. Consultation will be concluded prior to the final decision on this permit application.

A preliminary review of this application indicates that the proposed work may affect listed land-based species or their critical habitat. Pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the Philadelphia District will evaluate the potential effects from the proposed actions to these species and their habitat and consult with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service as appropriate. Consultation will be concluded prior to the final decision on this permit application.

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act requires all federal agencies to consult with the NOAA Fisheries for all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). A preliminary review of this application indicates that EFH is present within the project area. The Philadelphia District will evaluate the potential effects of the proposed actions on EFH and will consult with NOAA Fisheries as appropriate. Consultation will be concluded prior to the final decision on this permit application.

Per Federal Regulations 33 CFR 325.1(d)(7), the applicant has stated that compensatory mitigation is not required because the proposed project is expected to result in a net increase in habitat functions and values within the Delaware Bay system through restoration and enhancement of eroded shoreline habitat.

In accordance with Section 307(c) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, applicants for Federal Licenses or Permits to conduct an activity affecting land or water uses in a State's coastal zone must provide certification that the activity complies with the State's Coastal Zone Management Program. The applicant has stated that the proposed activity complies with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the approved State Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Program. No permit will be issued until the State has concurred with the applicant's

certification or has waived its right to do so. Comments concerning the impact of the proposed and/or existing activity on the State's coastal zone should be sent to this office, with a copy to the State's Office of Coastal Zone Management.

In accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, a Water Quality Certificate is necessary from the State government in which the work is located. Any comments concerning the work described above which relate to Water Quality considerations should be sent to this office with a copy to the State.

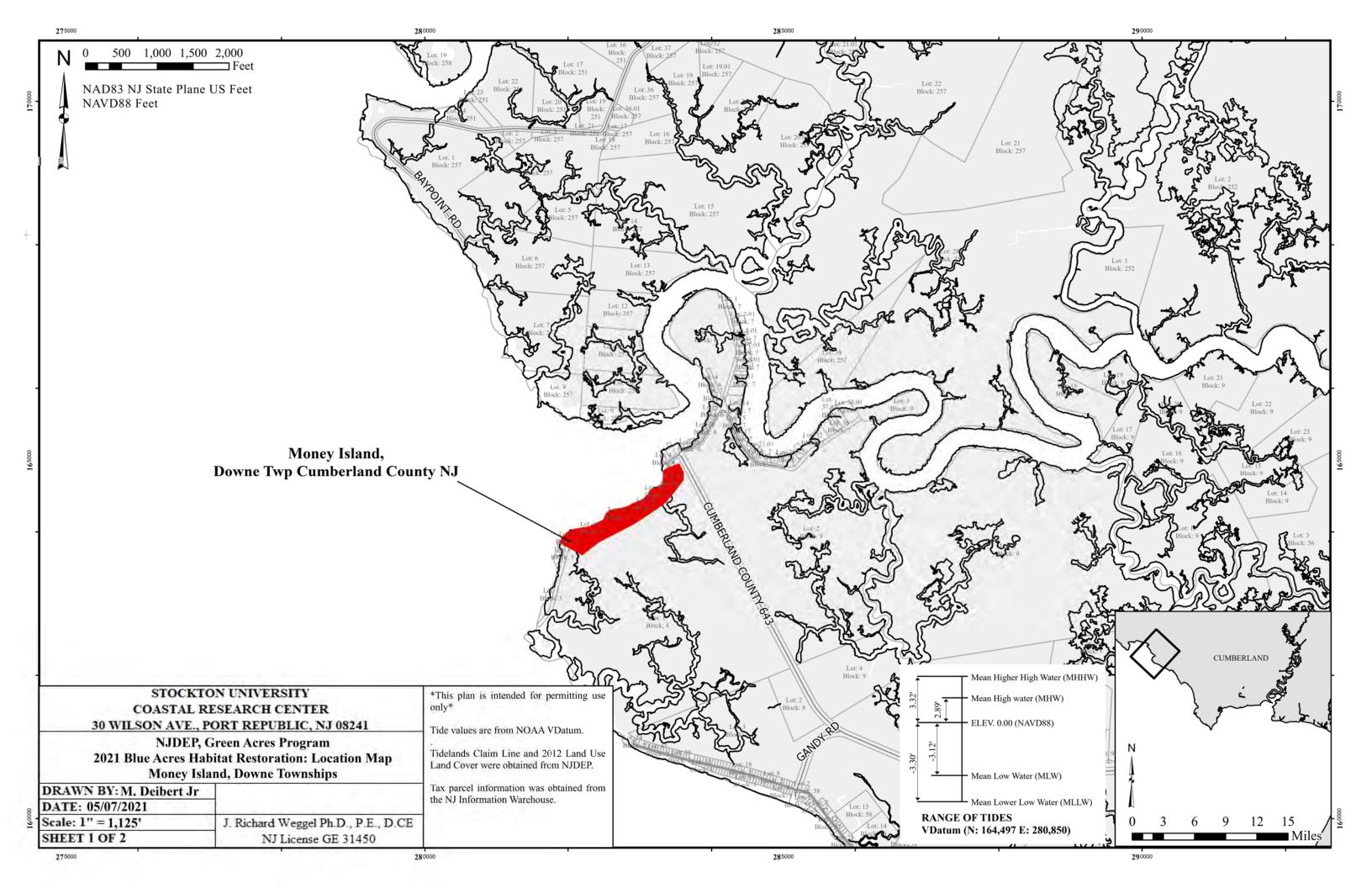
The evaluation of the impact of the work described above on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act.

Any person may request, in writing, to the District Engineer, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for a public hearing shall state, in writing to PhiladelphiaDistrictRegulatory@usace.army.mil, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

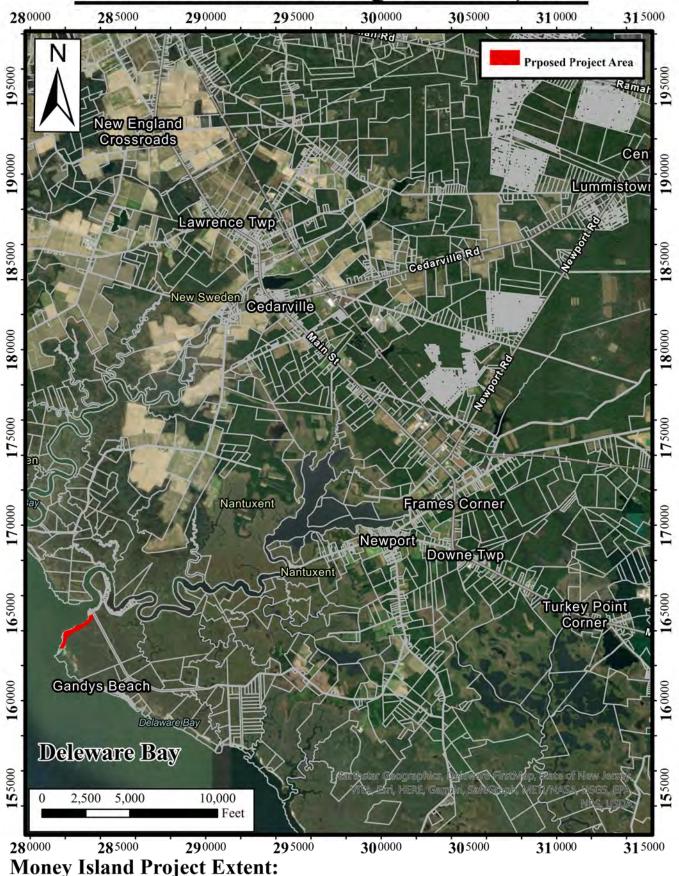
Additional information concerning this permit application may be obtained by contacting Mr. Robert Youhas of our office at via email at robert.youhas@usace.army.mil, or by phone at 215-656-6729.

Todd A. Schaible

Chief, Regulatory Branch

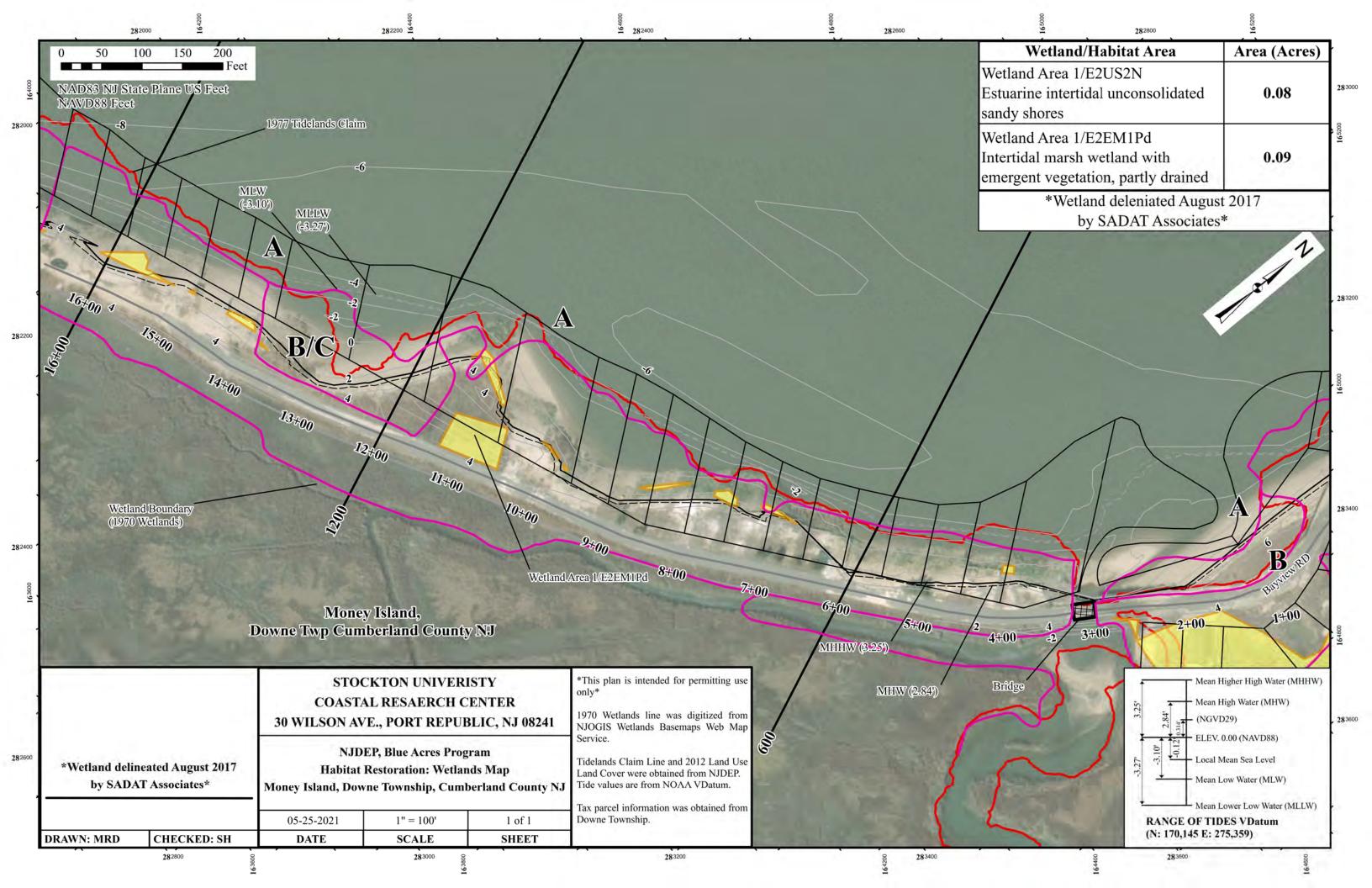


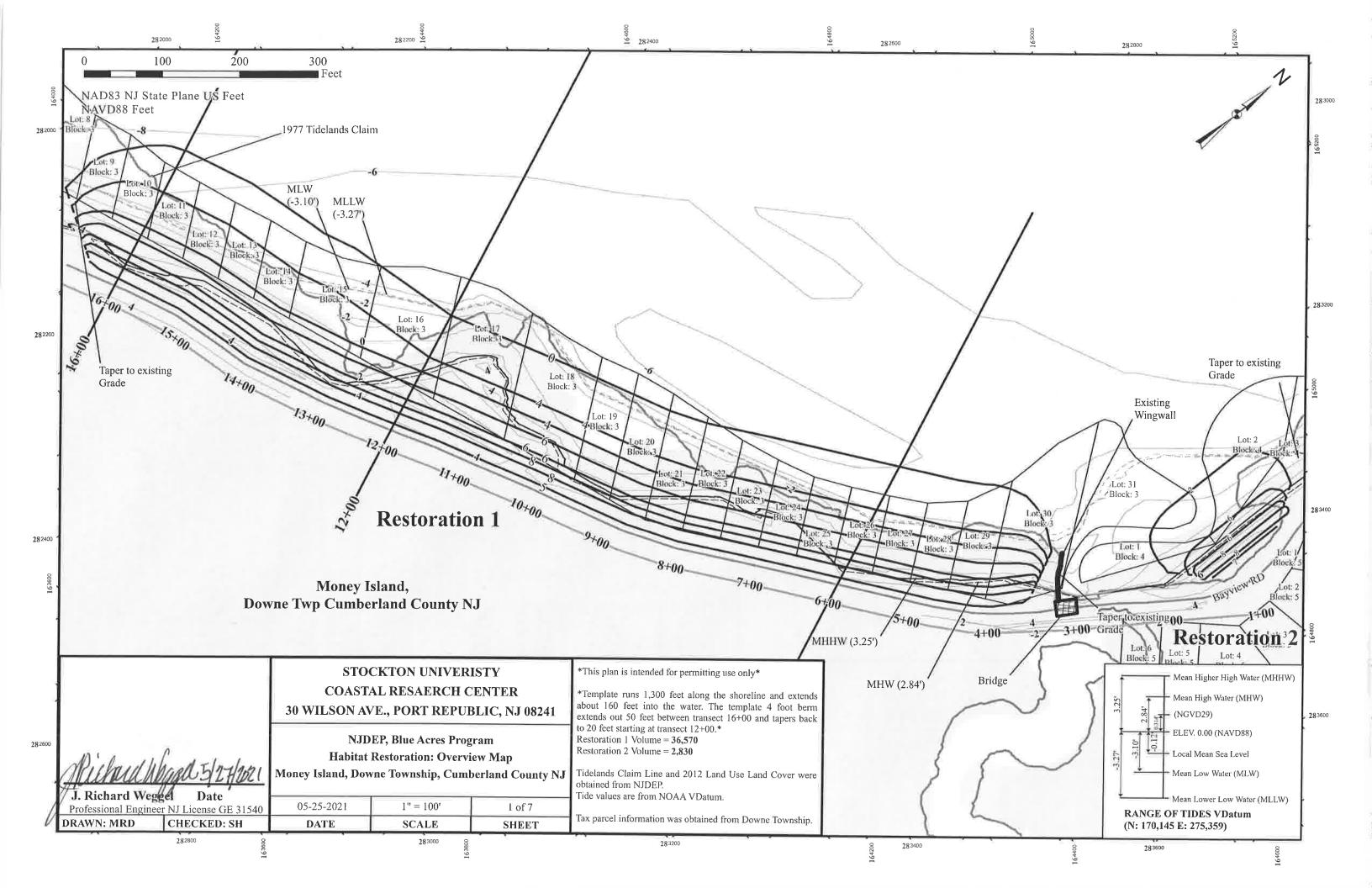
Money Island Quadrant Map: USGS Cedarville Quadrant, 162

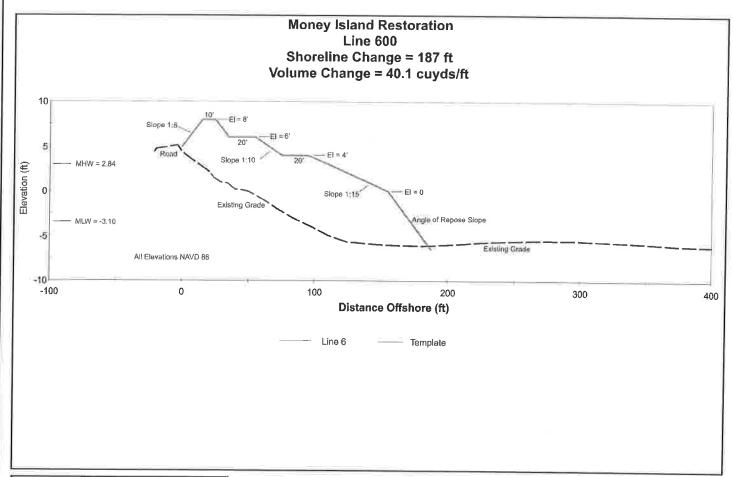


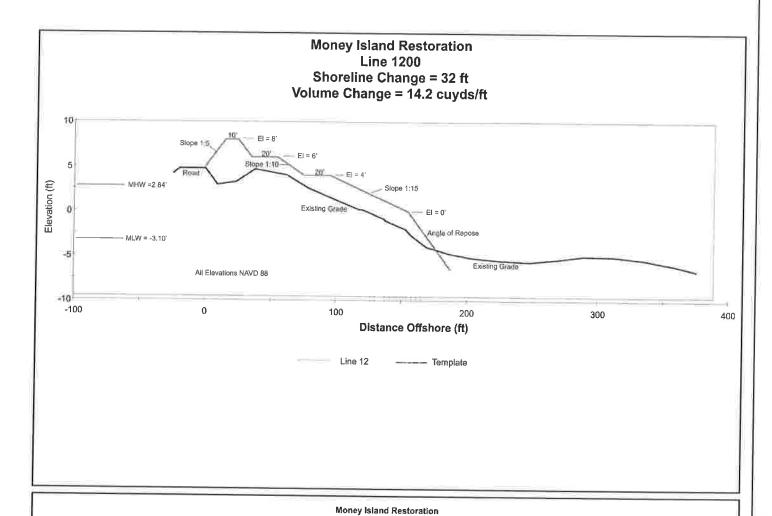
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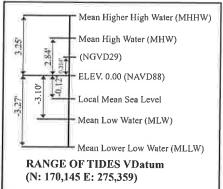
The Cumberland parcels layer and roads layer were retrieved from the Office of Geographic Information Systems (OGIS). The USGS quadrant shapefile was obtained from ESRI.













This plan is intended for permitting use only

Tide values are from NOAA VDatum.

J. Richard Weggel Date
Professional Engineer NJ License GE 31540

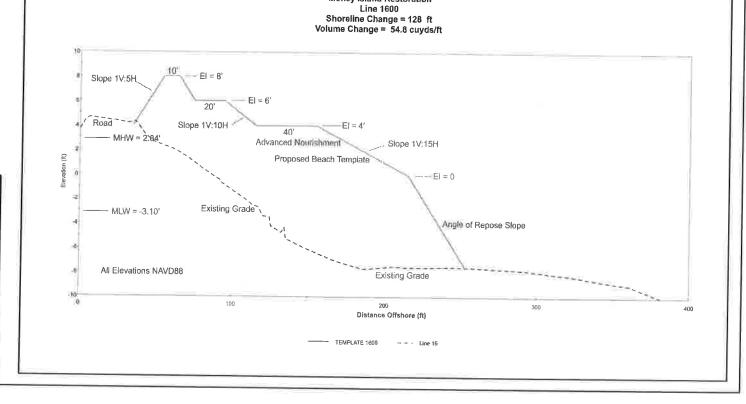
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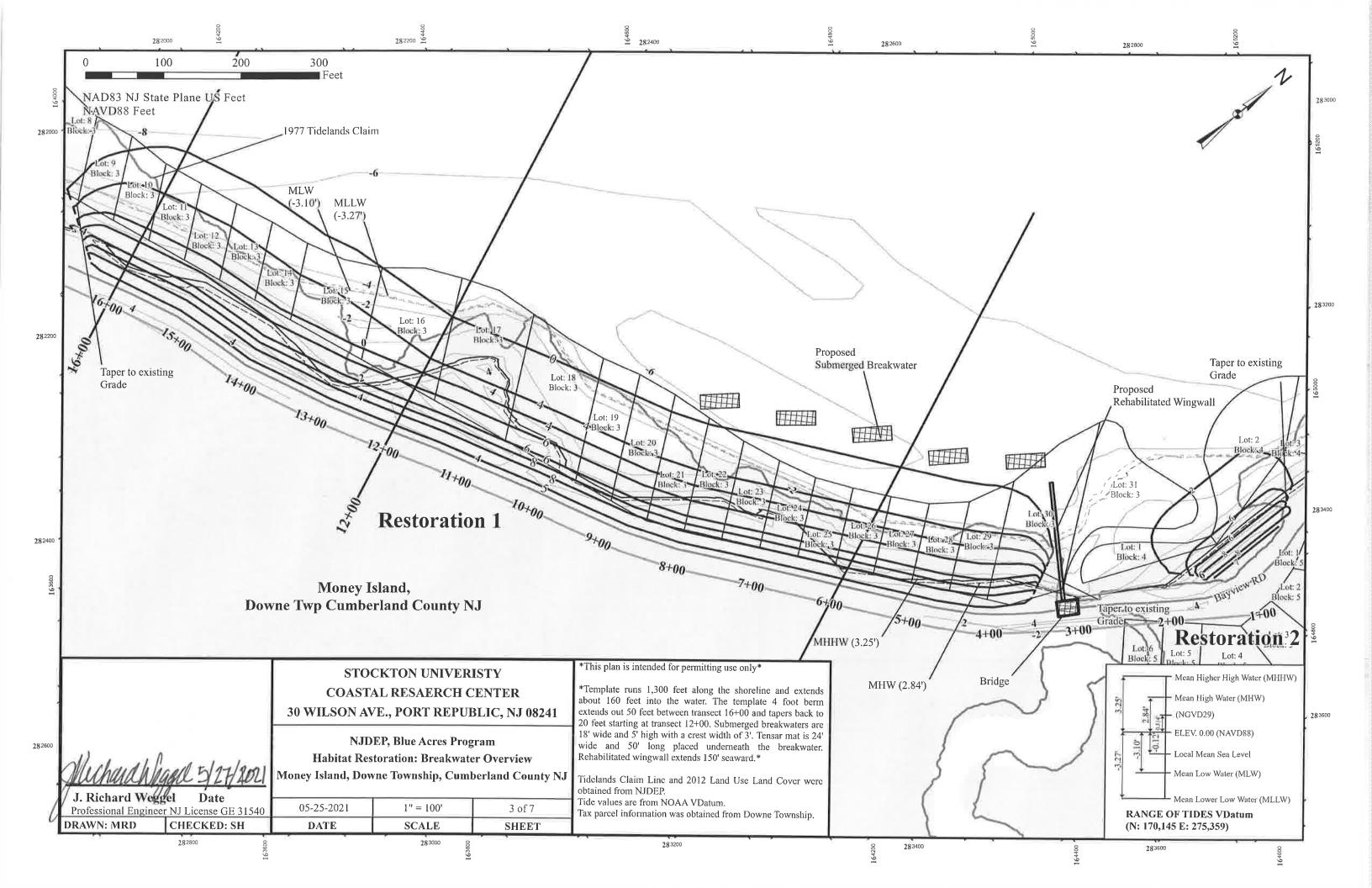
DRAWN: MRD

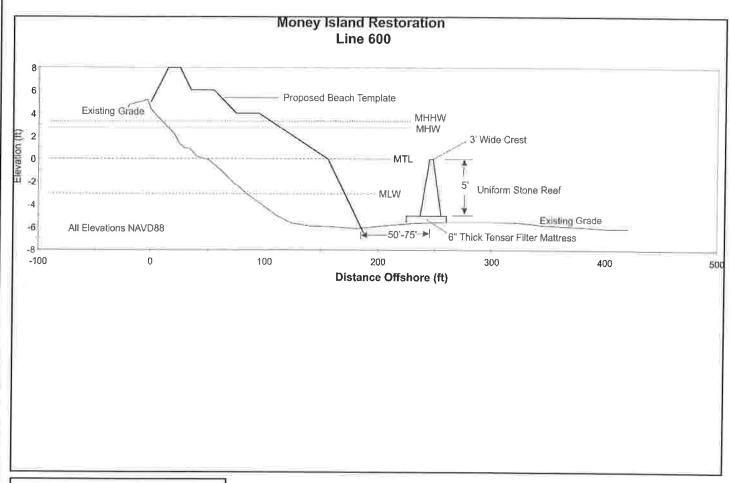
NJDEP, Blue Acres Program
Habitat Restoration: Template Cross Sections
Money Island, Downe Township, Cumberland County NJ

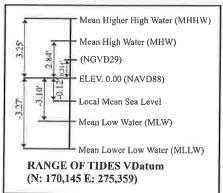
 05-25-2021
 1" = As Shown
 2 of 7

 DATE
 SCALE
 SHEET









Professional Engineer NJ License GE 31540

CHECKED: SH

DRAWN: MRD

STOCKTON UNIVERISTY COASTAL RESAERCH CENTER 30 WILSON AVE., PORT REPUBLIC, NJ 08241

NJDEP, Blue Acres Program
Habitat Restoration: Reef Cross Sections
Money Island, Downe Township, Cumberland County NJ

 05-25-2021
 1" = As Shown
 4 of 7

 DATE
 SCALE
 SHEET

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