



Maryland Department of Planning

Martin O'Malley
Governor
Anthony G. Brown
Lt. Governor

Richard Eberhart Hall
Secretary
Matthew J. Power
Deputy Secretary

September 19, 2008

Ms. Robyn S. Colosimo
Chief of Planning & Policy, Planning Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District
CECW-P (SA)
7701 Telegraph Road
Alexandria, VA 22315-3860

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE REVIEW PROCESS

State Application Identifier: MD20080918-0938

Reviewer Comments Due By: October 9, 2008

Project Description: Final Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement: Mid-Chesapeake Bay Island Ecosystem Restoration Study: recommended construction of tidal wetlands; upland island habitat; sills, and if needed a breakwater (see MD20060907-0960)

Project Location: Cities of Baltimore and Cambridge, Counties of Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Calvert, Dorchester, Harford, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, St. Mary's, Talbot and Wicomico

Clearinghouse Contact: Bob Rosenbush

Dear Ms. Colosimo:

Thank you for submitting your project for intergovernmental review. Participation in the Maryland Intergovernmental Review and Coordination (MIRC) process helps ensure project consistency with plans, programs, and objectives of State agencies and local governments. MIRC enhances opportunities for approval and/or funding and minimizes delays by resolving issues before project implementation.

The following agencies and/or jurisdictions have been forwarded a copy of your project for their review: the Maryland Departments of Natural Resources, the Environment, the Maryland Environmental Service; the Counties of Cecil, Dorchester, Harford, Kent, Calvert, Baltimore, Anne Arundel, Wicomico, Talbot, St. Mary's, Queen Anne's, Somerset; the Cities of Baltimore and Cambridge; and the Maryland Department of Planning, including the Maryland Historical Trust. They have been requested to contact your agency directly by October 9, 2008 with any comments or concerns and to provide a copy of those comments to the State Clearinghouse for Intergovernmental Assistance. Please be assured that after October 9, 2008 all MIRC requirements will have been met in accordance with Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR 14.24.04). The project has been assigned a unique State Application Identifier that should be used on all documents and correspondence. If you need assistance or have questions, contact the State Clearinghouse staff noted above at 410-767-4490 or through e-mail at brosenbush@mdp.state.md.us. Thank you for your cooperation with the MIRC process. NOTE TO THE REVIEW COORDINATORS: The review document can be accessed via the Internet at http://www.nab.usace.army.mil/PN/CivilWorks.htm

Sincerely,

Linda C. Janey, J.D., Assistant Secretary
for Clearinghouse and Communications

LCJ:BR

Enclosures

cc: Steve Allan - MDPL*
08-0938_NDC.NEW.doc
Roland Limpert - DNR*
Joane Mueller - MDE*
James Harkins - MES
Eric Sennstrom - CECL*
Steven Dodd - DRCH*

Gail Owings - KENT*
Gregory Bowen - CLVT*
Jesse Bialek - BLCO*
John Dodds - ANARP*

Andrea Houseman - BCIT*
Gary Pusey - WCMC*
George Kinney - TLBT*
John Savich - STMA*
J. Steven Cohoon - QANN*

Daniel Powell - SMST*
Tracey Gordy - MDPLL*
Mary Ann Skilling-MDPLU*
Mike Paone - MDPLS*
Nat Brown - MPA

301 West Preston Street • Suite 1101 • Baltimore, Maryland 21201-2305

Telephone: 410.767.4500 • Fax: 410.767.4480 • Toll Free: 1.877.767.6272 • TTY Users: Maryland Relay

Internet: www.MDP.state.md.us



MARYLAND SALTWATER SPORTFISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC.

8039 B Fort Smallwood Road, Baltimore, MD 21226
(410) 255-5535, FAX (410) 255-1552

September 23, 2008

Headquarters, U. S. Corps of Engineers
ATTN: CECW-P (IP)
7701 Telegraph Road
Alexandria, VA 22315-3860

Dear Sir/Madam,

I write this letter on behalf of the 7,000 conservation-minded members of the Maryland Saltwater Sportfishermen's Association (MSSA) concerning the proposed Restoration of Mid-Chesapeake Bay Island.

The MSSA has been involved as a stakeholder concerning the creation or restoration of Chesapeake Bay Island. In fact, we were a member of the Port of Baltimore Dredge Material Management Commission. We have attended many meetings concerning the placement of dredge material from approach channels and the Port of Baltimore. We concur with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the need to do maintenance dredging in order to keep the Port of Baltimore a viable entity for Maryland's economy.

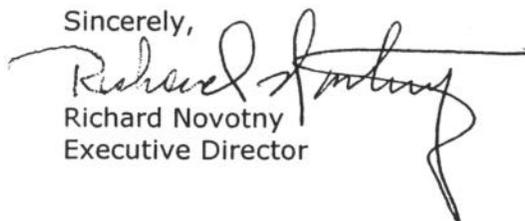
Since the Hart-Miller Island dike is getting near capacity other locations must be found. The MSSA has gone on record that we are opposed to any open water dumping of dredged material in the Chesapeake Bay.

The proposed project was a consensus among stakeholders on the Commission. Restoring James and Barren Islands would be the most beneficial use of dredge material. It would help in curing the loss of these islands through erosion. It is predicted that some of our bay islands could be lost in 20 years.

Restoring these islands would create valuable nesting habitat for a variety of wading and nesting bird species. It would also protect the submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) beds which is vital for good water quality. Furthermore, SAV provides habitat for blue crabs and many important species of finfish.

The MSSA supports the report on the Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statements for the Mid-Chesapeake Bay Island Ecosystem Restoration Project.

Sincerely,



Richard Novotny
Executive Director



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

October 7, 2008

Dr. Angie Sowers
Planning Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 1715
Baltimore, MD 21203

Re: Mid-Chesapeake Bay Island Ecosystem Restoration Integrated Feasibility Study, Using Uncontaminated Dredged Material from the Upper Chesapeake Bay Approach Channels to the Port of Baltimore to Restore and Protect Island Habitat in the Middle Portion of Chesapeake Bay, Dorchester County, MD (CEQ #20080378)

Dear Dr. Sowers:

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Mid-Chesapeake Bay Island Ecosystem Restoration Integrated Feasibility Study. EPA has determined that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has adequately addressed its comments within the FEIS and has no further concerns with this project.

Thank you for providing EPA with the opportunity to review this project. Should you have any questions regarding our comments on this project, please contact me at 215-814-3367.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William Arguto", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

William Arguto
NEPA Team Leader
Office of Environmental Programs



Please Complete Your Review & Recommendation Before October 9, 2008

Return Completed Form To: Linda C. Janey, J.D., Assistant Secretary for Clearinghouse and Communications, Maryland Department of Planning, 301 West Preston Street, Room 1104, Baltimore, MD 21201-2305 Phone: 410-767-4490 Fax: 410-767-4480

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|--|--|
| State Application Identifier: MD20080918-0938 | Clearinghouse Contact: Bob Rosenbush, 410-767-4490 broosenbush@mdp.state.md.us |
|--|--|

Location: ANAR, BCIT, BLCO, CLVT, DRCH, DRCH-CAMBRI, HRFD, KENT, QANN, SMST, STMA, TLBT, WCMC

Applicant: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District

Description: Final Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement: Mid-Chesapeake Bay Island Ecosystem Restoration Study: recommended construction of tidal wetlands; upland island habitat; sills, and if needed a breakwater

Based on a Review of the Information Provided, We Have Checked (☐) the Appropriate Determination Below

CONSISTENT RESPONSES - (For Use By STATE AGENCIES Only)

| | |
|-----------|--|
| C1 | It is Consistent with our plans, programs, and objectives |
| C2 | It is Consistent with the policies contained in Executive Order 01.01.1992.27 (Maryland Economic Growth, Resource Protection, and Planning Act of 1992), Executive Order 01.01.1998.04 (Smart Growth and Neighborhood Conservation Policy), and our plans, programs, and objectives. |
| C3 | (MHT ONLY) It has been determined that the project will have "no effect" on historic properties and that the federal and/or State historic preservation requirements have been met. |
| C4 | (DNR ONLY) It has been determined that this project is in the Coastal Zone and is not inconsistent with the Maryland Coastal Zone Management Program. |
| C7 | (MDP ONLY) It is consistent with the requirements of State Finance and Procurement Article 5-7B-02; 03; 04 and 05 Smart Growth and Neighborhood Conservation (Priority Funding Areas). |

CONSISTENT RESPONSES - (For Use By COUNTY & LOCAL AGENCIES Only)

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | C5 | It is Consistent with our plans, programs, and objectives. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | C6 | It is Consistent with the Economic Growth, Resource Protection, and Planning Visions (Planning Act of 1992), State Finance and Procurement Article 5-7B – Smart Growth and Neighborhood Conservation (Priority Funding Areas), and our plans, programs, and objectives. |

OTHER RESPONSES - (For Use By ALL)

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | R1 | GENERALLY CONSISTENT WITH QUALIFYING COMMENTS: It is generally Consistent with our plans, programs and objectives, but the attached qualifying comment is submitted for consideration. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | R2 | CONTINGENT UPON CERTAIN ACTIONS: It is generally Consistent with our plans, programs and objectives contingent upon certain actions being taken as noted in the attached comment(s). |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | R3 | NOT CONSISTENT: It raises problems concerning compatibility with our plans, programs, objectives, or Planning Act visions/policies; or it may duplicate existing program activities, as indicated in the attached comment(s). If a meeting with the applicant is requested, please check here: <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | R4 | ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUESTED: Additional information is required to complete the review. The information needed is identified below. If an extension of the review period is requested, please check here: <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | R5 | FURTHER INTEREST: Due to further interest/questions concerning this project, we request that the Clearinghouse set up a conference with the applicant. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | R6 | SUPPORTS: Supports "Smart Growth" and Federal Executive Order 12072 (Federal Space Management), which directs federal agencies to locate facilities in urban areas. |

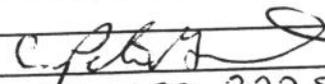
Attach additional comments if necessary OR use these spaces: _____

Name: _____
Organization: C. Pete Gutwald Director

Address: Harford County Planning & Zoning

 220 South Main St.

 Bel Air, MD 21014

Signature: 
Phone: (410) 638-3228
Date Completed: 10/7/08

Check here if comments are attached.



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, D.C. 20240

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PEP/NRM

OCT 20 2008

ER 08/989

Ms. Robyn S. Colosimo, P.E.
Acting Chief, Planning and Policy Division
Directorate of Civil Works
Headquarters
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
CECW-P (IP)
7701 Telegraph Road
Alexandria, VA 22315-3860

RE: Thirty-Day Review of Chief of Engineers Proposed Report,
Mid-Chesapeake Bay Island, Dorchester County, MD

Dear Ms. Colosimo:

The U. S. Department of the Interior (Department) has reviewed the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Chief of Engineers proposed report on the Mid-Chesapeake Bay Island, Dorchester County, MD.

The Department does not object to the proposed project. However, we do wish to emphasize the point in the report that notes in part that, "request have been made for additional coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and that "USACE has agreed to continue close coordination with agencies and other affected parties as the design and construction process continues." The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service contact is Mr. Leopoldo Miranda, Field Office Supervisor, Chesapeake Bay Field Office, Annapolis, Maryland, Leopoldo_Miranda@fws.gov, 410-573-4573 or 4575. We appreciate the opportunity to review the Chief's proposed report and supporting documents.

Sincerely, -

Willie R. Taylor, Director
Office of Environmental Policy
and Compliance

1. just see
2. see wave



MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

1800 Washington Boulevard • Baltimore, Maryland 21230
410-537-3000 • 1-800-633-6101 • <http://www.mde.state.md.us>

Martin O'Malley
Governor

Shari T. Wilson
Secretary

Anthony G. Brown
Lieutenant Governor

Robert M. Summers, Ph.D.
Deputy Secretary

October 23, 2008

Ms. Robyn S. Colosimo
Planning Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District
CECW-P (SA)
7701 Telegraph Road
Alexandria, VA 22315

RE: State Application Identifier: MD20080918-0938
Project: Mid-Chesapeake Bay Island Ecosystem Restoration Study

Dear Ms. Colosimo:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the above referenced project. The document was circulated throughout the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) for review, and the following comment is offered for your consideration.

- The James Island project is excessively large – more than two times larger than the historical island footprint.

Again, thank you for giving MDE the opportunity to review this project. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (410) 537-4120.

Sincerely,

Joane D. Mueller
Clearinghouse Coordinator

cc: Bob Rosenbush, State Clearinghouse

Bee, Patricia L HQ02

From: Steve.Kokkinakis [Steve.Kokkinakis@noaa.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2008 11:20 AM
To: Bee, Patricia L HQ02
Cc: Cristi Reid
Subject: [Fwd: Re: Mid-Chesapeake Bay Isl Ecosystem Restoration FEIS]

Hi Trish,

I just received this email below which seems to indicate at NOAA Fisheries won't be providing any further comments on your FEIS. However, there are a few others on this email chain that still may reply back to me within the next day. If you don't hear back from me by COB today, I think it is safe to assume that NOAA Fisheries won't have any comments.

Regards,
Steve

--
Steve Kokkinakis
NOAA Program Planning and Integration
NEPA Coordination and Compliance
SSMC3, Rm. 15723 (PPI)
1315 East West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910
Tel: (301) 713-1622 x189
Fax: (301) 713-0585

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Re: Mid-Chesapeake Bay Isl Ecosystem Restoration FEIS
Date: Mon, 27 Oct 2008 07:10:00 -0400
From: Peyton.Robertson <Peyton.Robertson@noaa.gov>
<mailto:Peyton.Robertson@noaa.gov>
To: Steve.Kokkinakis <Steve.Kokkinakis@noaa.gov> <mailto:Steve.Kokkinakis@noaa.gov>
CC: Cristi Reid <Cristi.Reid@noaa.gov> <mailto:Cristi.Reid@noaa.gov> , Peter Bergstrom <Peter.Bergstrom@noaa.gov> <mailto:Peter.Bergstrom@noaa.gov> , John Nichols <John.Nichols@noaa.gov> <mailto:John.Nichols@noaa.gov>
References: <4901FAD7.9050105@noaa.gov> <mailto:4901FAD7.9050105@noaa.gov>

Steve - I don't envision NCBO providing comments on this FEIS - I've copied Peter Bergstrom from my office who had participated in some of the meetings of the dredging management plan group, but is no longer doing so, in case he has any input.

Also cc'd John Nichols from NER Habitat Protection, who sits in our office in Annapolis and would typically be the person to comment on such proposals.

Peyton

Steve.Kokkinakis wrote:

> Hi Peyton,
>
> fyi, I was contacted from a Corps person (Trish) to see if our agency
> was going to provide any comments on the FEIS for the /Mid-Chesapeake
> Bay Isl Ecosystem Restoration Integrated Feasibility Study, Using
> Uncontaminated Dredged Material from the Upper Chesapeake Bay Approach
> Channel to the Pt of Baltimore to Restore & Protect Isl Habitat in the
> Middle Portion of Chesapeake Bay, Dorchester Co, MD/. Comments are
> due this Monday, Oct 27, 2008.
>
> My colleague Cristi said she hadn't heard back from the NER on whether

> they were going to comment on this FEIS.
>
> Appreciate any update on this so I can get back to Trish.
>
> Regards,
> Steve
> --
> Steve Kokkinakis
> NOAA Program Planning and Integration
> NEPA Coordination and Compliance
> SSMC3, Rm. 15723 (PPI)
> 1315 East West Highway
> Silver Spring, MD 20910
> Tel: (301) 713-1622 x189
> Fax: (301) 713-0585