JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

CHARLESTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS 69A Hagood Avenue Charleston, South Carolina 29403-5107 and the S.C. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL OFFICE OF OCEAN AND COASTAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT 1362 McMillan Avenue, Suite 400 Charleston, South Carolina 29405

REGULATORY DIVISION

Refer to: P/N #SAC-2014-00537-1W

6 JUNE 2014

Pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403), Sections 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), and the South Carolina Coastal Zone Management Act (48-39-10 et.seq.) an application has been submitted to the Department of the Army and the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control by

THE TOWN OF KIAWAH ISLAND c/o STEVEN TRAYNUM COASTAL SCIENCE & ENGINEERING POST OFFICE BOX 8056 COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

for a permit to perform excavation to create a new flushing channel and for the placement of the excavated material to construct a closure berm in waters of the

ATLANTIC OCEAN

at a location along the oceanfront eastern shoreline of Kiawah Island near the Ocean Course Clubhouse and the Stono Inlet in Charleston County, South Carolina (closure berm: Latitude 32.610277°, Longitude -80.01632° and flushing channel: Latitude 32.606063°, Longitude -80.008705°)

In order to give all interested parties an opportunity to express their views

NOTICE

is hereby given that written statements regarding the proposed work will be received by the **Corps** until

30 Days from the Date of this Notice,

and SCDHEC will receive written statements regarding the proposed work until

30 Days from the Date of this Notice

from those interested in the activity and whose interests may be affected by the proposed work.

The proposed work consists of excavating approximately 100,000 cubic yards of beach sand from the area of the new flushing channel using land based equipment and trucking it to the existing channel for placement to create a closure berm. In detail, the placement of the excavated

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beach sand will occur along 1,500 linear feet in a 10 acre area of oceanfront shoreline to build a closure berm sufficient to close off the existing channel and allow for natural dune and washover formation. The 8 acre area of excavation will be approximately 50 feet in width to create a new low tide flushing channel in the area of the outer beach. According to the applicant, this project is a channel management plan that will protect habitat and infrastructure within the area.

PLEASE NOTE: The applicant is asking to perform this channel realignment work only when the flushing channel meanders to a certain location up to three times during a five year construction window. The work will involve excavating and relocating up to 100,000 cubic yards of beach sand each time. This work will occur in the vicinity of the previous project, P/N 2005-1W-310, but is smaller in scope and is intended to protect the habitat created as a result of that project and to prevent erosion caused by the meandering channel that is a threat to the existing infrastructure.

The applicant has listed the following primary goals of the project:

- Mitigate erosion of the beach and dune habitat
- Eliminate the need for large scale projects in the future
- Reshape the shoreline to be more stable
- Restore normal littoral transport to the west
- Allow natural rebuilding of the beach along the Ocean Course and maintain a natural dune buffer between existing fairways and the beach.

The applicant has stated that the project is for habitat protection, incorporates mitigative measures and that further mitigation is not proposed for this project. The applicant has submitted a monitoring plan and a list of recommended permit conditions to ensure that the project will be conducted in a manner that will result in minimal impacts to the oceanfront environment.

The District Engineer has concluded that the discharges associated with this project, both direct and indirect, should be reviewed by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control in accordance with provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. As such, this notice constitutes a request, on behalf of the applicant, for certification that this project will comply with applicable effluent limitations and water quality standards. The work shown on this application must also be certified as consistent with applicable provisions the Coastal Zone Management Program (15 CFR 930). The District Engineer will not process this application to a conclusion until such certifications are received. The applicant is hereby advised that supplemental information may be required by the State to facilitate the review.

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Implementation of the proposed project would impact 18 acres of estuarine substrates and emergent wetlands utilized by various life stages of species comprising the red drum, shrimp, and snapper-grouper management complexes. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would not have a substantial individual or cumulative adverse impact on EFH or fisheries managed by the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Our final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with the NMFS.

The District Engineer has consulted the most recently available information and has determined that the project is likely to adversely affect the loggerhead sea turtle, *Caretta caretta*, and/or is likely to adversely affect designated critical habitat of the piping plover, *Charadrius melodus*. This public notice serves as a request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or the National Marine Fisheries Service to initiate formal consultation on these species and/or critical habitat that may be present in the area which would be affected, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (as amended). A biological assessment (or other similar document) detailing our analysis of the effects of the action will be provided.

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), this public notice also constitutes a request to Indian Tribes to notify the District Engineer of any historic properties of religious and cultural significance to them that may be affected by the proposed undertaking.

In accordance with the NHPA, the District Engineer has also consulted the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places for the presence or absence of registered properties, or properties listed as being eligible for inclusion therein, and this worksite is not included as a registered property or property listed as being eligible for inclusion in the Register. To insure that other cultural resources that the District Engineer is not aware of are not overlooked, this public notice also serves as a request to the State Historic Preservation Office to provide any information it may have with regard to historic and cultural resources.

Any person may request, in writing, 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, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the activity on the public interest and will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act and, as appropriate, the criteria established under authority of Section 102 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972, as amended. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the project must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the project will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. A permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest. In cases of conflicting property rights, the Corps of Engineers cannot undertake to adjudicate rival claims.

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 activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of

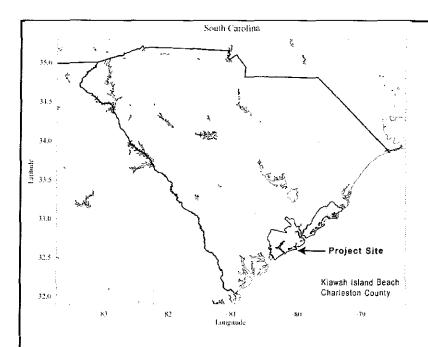
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Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this project. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the 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 activity.

If there are any questions concerning this public notice, please contact **Debbie King** at 843-329-8044 or toll free at 1-866-329-8187.

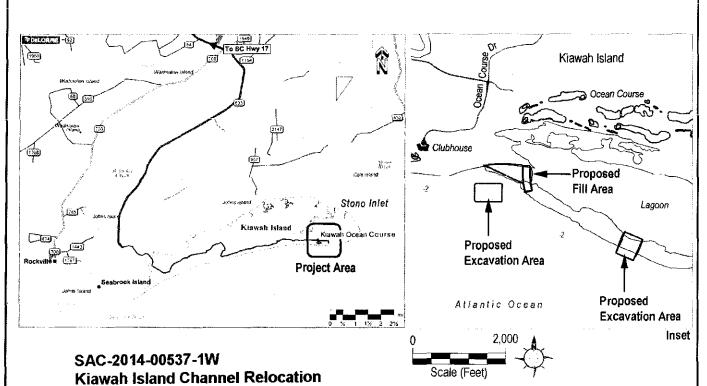


DIRECTIONS FROM SC HWY 17:

Take Highway 17 south from Charleston to Bohicket Road. Turn left, go ~20 miles to Kiawah Island Parkway (at the circle). Take Kiawah Island Parkway to main gate. Proceed through gate on Kiawah Island Parkway ~2.5 miles. Pass through second gate then turn immediately right onto Governors Drive and proceed ~4 miles to merge with Ocean Course Drive. Proceed on Ocean Course Drive to clubhouse entrance. Project is along the oceanfront, starting approximately 1,400 feet East of the Ocean Course Club House.

Project Site Coordinates

Latitude: 32° 36' 28" N Longitude: 80° 00' 50" W



APPLICANT:

Town of Kiawah Island 21 Beachwalker Drive Kiawah Island, SC 29455

AGENT:

Coastal Science & Engineering PO Box 8056 Columbia, SC 29202

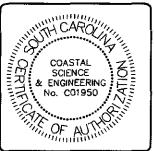
DRAWING TITLE:

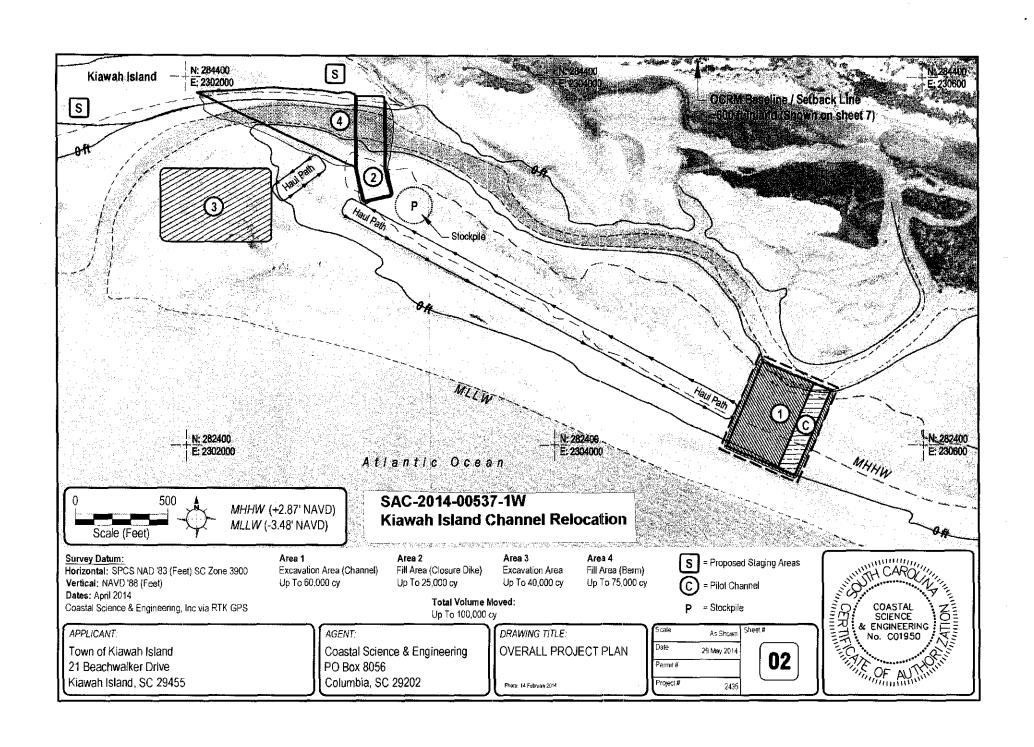
VICINITY MAP

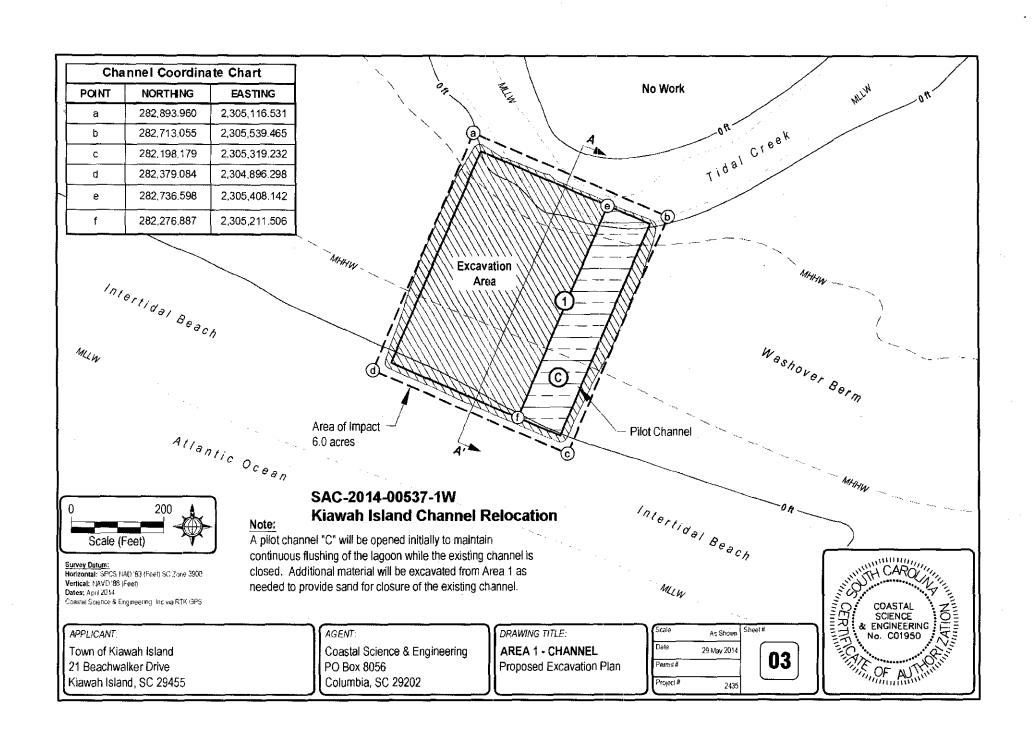
PROJECT: Kiawah Island East End Channel Relocation Project

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SAC-2014-00537-1W Kiawah Island Channel Relocation

