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-2013-01042-2G

2 OCTOBER 2013

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 U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE
CAPE ROMAIN NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
C/O MATT GOODRICH
MG ASSOCIATES
POST OFFICE BOX 2221
MOUNT PLEASANT, SOUTH CAROLINA 29465

for a permit to replace the existing floating dock and perform maintenance dredging in the existing boat docking basin and boat landing access channel in the

ATLANTIC INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY (AIWW)

at a location at the existing Garris Landing, located at the end of State Road 1170 (Bull's Island Road), in Awendaw, Charleston County, South Carolina. (Latitude 32.938020° – Longitude -79.654674°)

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

15 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 replacing the existing floating dock and performing maintenance dredging by hydraulic dredging of approximately 16,010 cubic yards of accumulated sediments from the an area approximately 2.58 acres in size from the existing boat docking basin and boat landing access channel as shown on the attached plans. The applicant proposes to

restore the depths to the previously authorized depths of -8.0 mean low water for the basin and -6.0 mean low water for the access channel. The applicant states that there are no shellfish resources or oyster beds in the area to be dredged. The applicant proposes to dispose of the dredged material in the U. S. Army Corps upland confined disposal facility AIWW 41S-WC located nearby. The applicant is requesting a 10 year maintenance dredging permit for the proposed work. A maintenance dredging interval of approximately five years is anticipated. The purpose of the proposed work is to periodically remove and dispose of 16,010 cubic yards of sediment that deposits in the boat docking basin and boat landing access channel adjacent to the AIWW and to replace the existing floating dock. Please note: The floating dock replacement is covered by Nationwide Permit #3 and no further authorization is required from this office. The USFWS uses Garris Landing as a base of operations for wildlife management and research in the Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge. In addition, the boat landing provides public access to the Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge and surrounding navigable waters and recreational opportunities.

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 2.58 acres of estuarine substrates 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 will have no effect on any federally endangered, threatened, or proposed species and will not result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated or proposed critical habitat. This public notice serves as a request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service for any additional information they may have on whether any listed or proposed endangered or threatened species or designated or proposed critical habitat may be present in the area which would be affected by the activity, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (as amended).

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

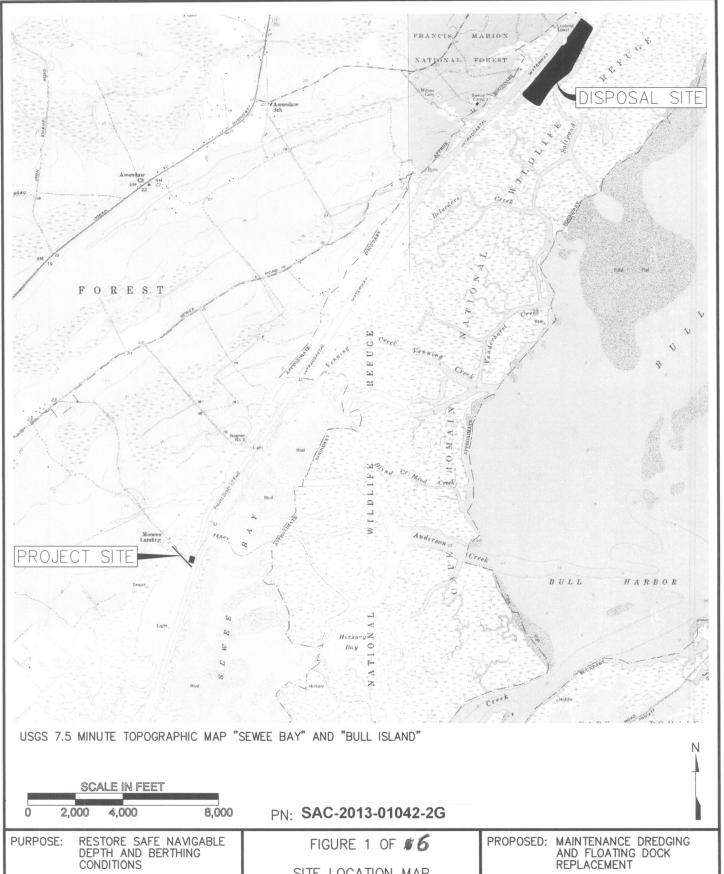
included as a registered property or property listed as being eligible for inclusion in the Register. To insure that other cultural resources that the District Engineer is not aware of are not overlooked, this public notice also serves as a request to the State Historic Preservation Office to provide 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 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 Mary Hope Green at 843-329-8044 or toll free at 1-866-329-8187.



ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNER: UNITED STATES OF AMERICA CHARLES B. THOMAS JR.

DATUM:

MG ASSOCIATES AGENT: MGA

MEAN LOW WATER

SITE LOCATION MAP

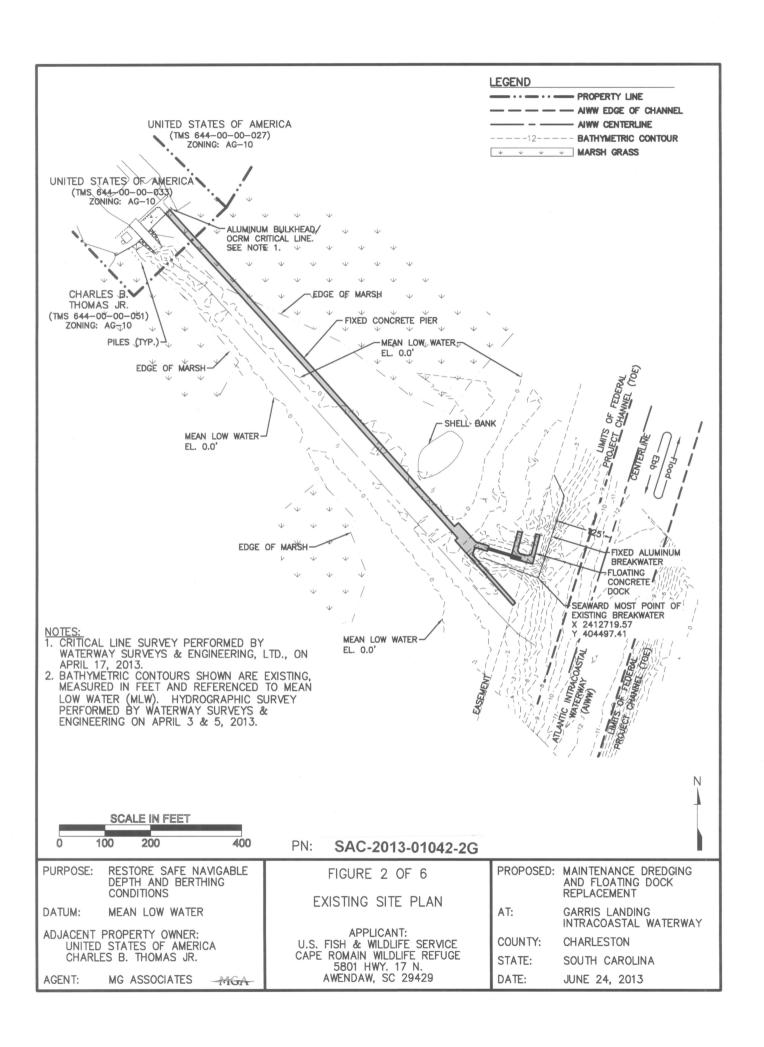
APPLICANT: U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE CAPE ROMAIN WILDLIFE REFUGE 5801 HWY. 17 N. AWENDAW, SC 29429

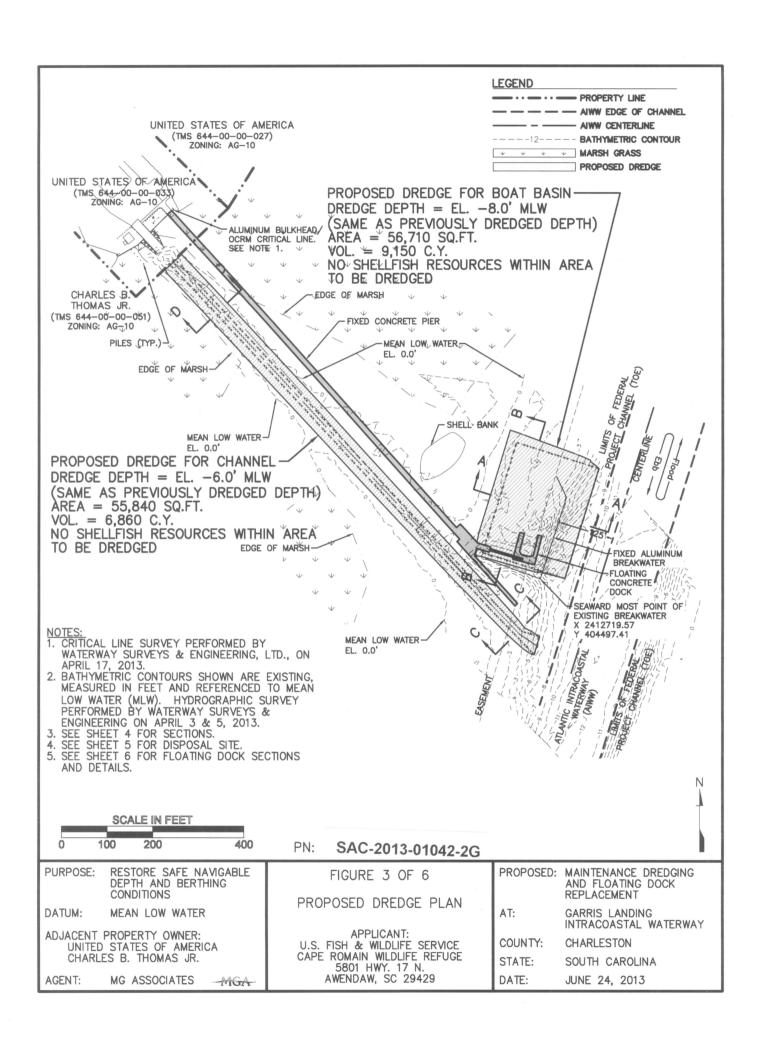
GARRIS LANDING AT:

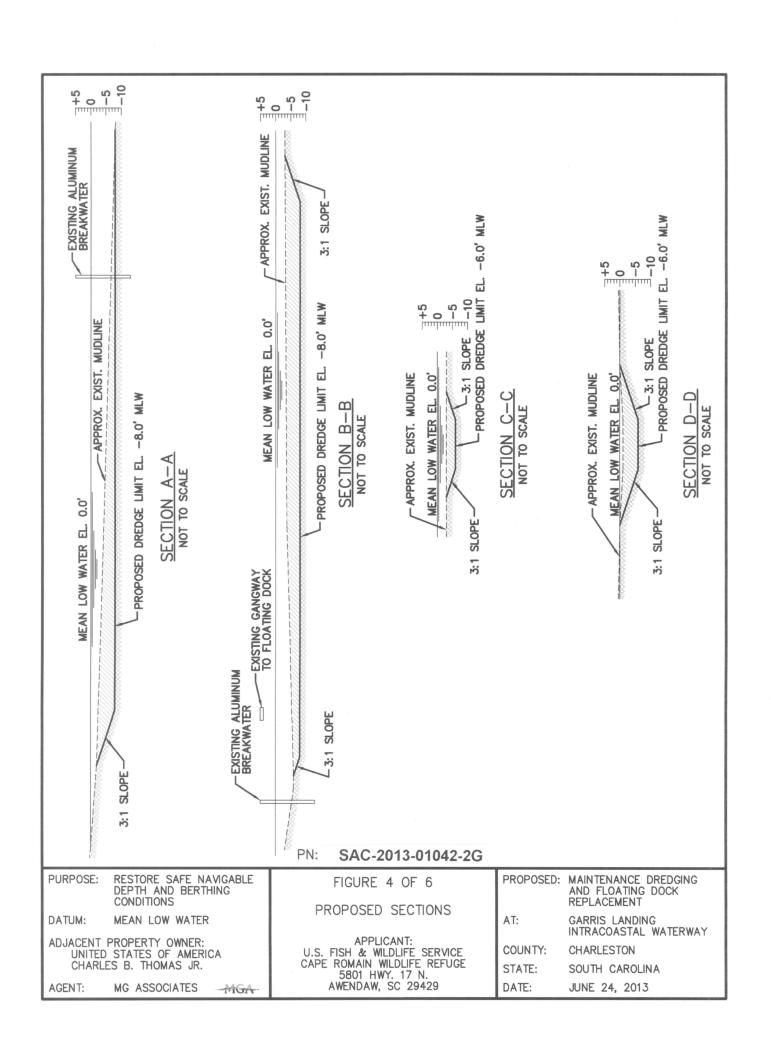
INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY

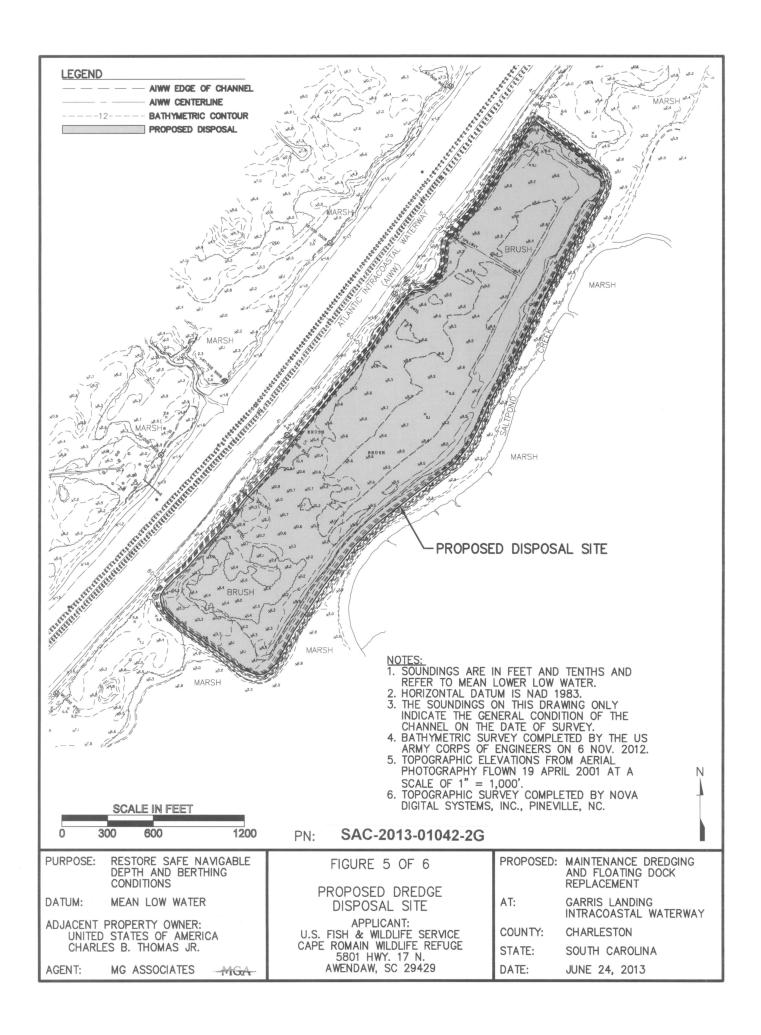
COUNTY: CHARLESTON STATE: SOUTH CAROLINA

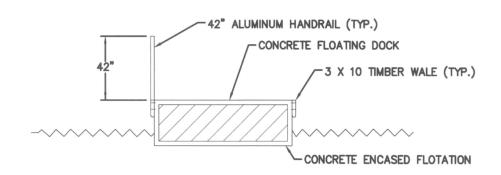
JUNE 24, 2013 DATE:



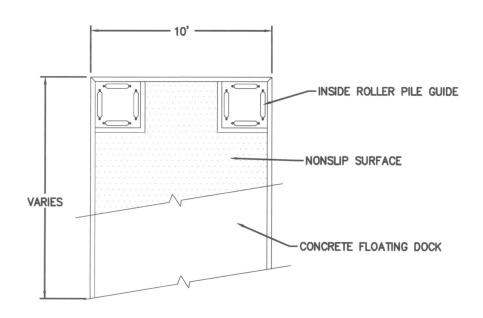








TYPICAL FLOATING DOCK SECTION NOT TO SCALE



FLOATING DOCK PLAN VIEW NOT TO SCALE

SAC-2013-01042-2G PN:

PURPOSE:

RESTORE SAFE NAVIGABLE

DEPTH AND BERTHING

CONDITIONS

DATUM:

MEAN LOW WATER

ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNER: UNITED STATES OF AMERICA CHARLES B. THOMAS JR.

AGENT:

MG ASSOCIATES

MGA

FIGURE 6 OF 6

TYPICAL FLOATING DOCK SECTION AND PLAN VIEW

APPLICANT:

U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE CAPE ROMAIN WILDLIFE REFUGE 5801 HWY. 17 N. AWENDAW, SC 29429

PROPOSED: MAINTENANCE DREDGING AND FLOATING DOCK

REPLACEMENT

AT:

GARRIS LANDING

INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY

COUNTY:

CHARLESTON

STATE:

SOUTH CAROLINA

DATE:

JUNE 24, 2013