

Shore Protection Manager

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**CARTERET COUNTY BEACH COMMISSION MEETING  
FEBRUARY 14, 2022; 2:00 pm  
EMERALD ISLE TOWN BOARD ROOM**

**Remote Access Information (Zoom Meeting):**

**Video & Integrated Computer Phone:**

<https://carteretcountync.zoom.us/j/86413125574?pwd=UjJlFd3l3ejV2V2hhWXNCWE9EQjZz09>

**Meeting ID = 864 1312 5574; Password = 054922**

## AGENDA

(1)	<b>Call to Order.</b>	<i>Chairman Broadman</i>
(2)	<b>Approval of Minutes.</b> (Regular Beach Commission Meeting – November 16, 2020)	<i>Chairman Broadman</i>
(3)	<b>2021 Beach Commission Officer Elections.</b> ( <i>chair &amp; vice-chair</i> )	<i>Chairman Broadman</i>
(4)	<b>Introduction of New Members</b>	<i>Chairman Elect</i>
(5)	<b>Room Occupancy Tax Update</b>	<i>Ryan Davenport</i>
(6)	<b>Other Business</b>	<i>Ryan Davenport</i>
(7)	<b>Public Comment</b>	<i>Chairman Elect</i>
(8)	<b>March 2022 Meeting Date.</b> (March 14, 2022 – proposed)	<i>Chairman Elect</i>
(9)	<b>Adjourn</b>	<i>Chairman Elect</i>

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## CARTERET COUNTY BEACH COMMISSION

### Agenda Topic Cover Sheet

# Approval of Minutes

## Regular Beach Commission Meeting – February 14, 2022

Meeting Date: **2/14/2022**

Topic No. **2**

Suggested Action: A motion should be entertained to approve the December 8th, 2021 and November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 meeting minutes with any recommended changes from the Beach Commission.

Attached for the Beach Commission's review, comments, and subsequent approval are the minutes for the Commission's December 8th, 2021 special meeting and November 16<sup>th</sup> regular meeting.

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**Memorandum**

To: Carteret County Beach Commission

From: Doug Huggett

Re: Carteret County Beach Commission November 16, 2021 Meeting Minutes

**Attendance:**

Commission Members Jim Normile (Chair), John Brodman (Vice-Chair), Larry Baldwin, Larry Corsello, Jimmy Farrington, Danny Navey, Tom Rule, Woody Warren, interim secretary Doug Huggett, and the general public.

**(1) Call to Order**

Chairman Normile welcomed everyone in attendance and proceeded to call the meeting to order.

**(2) Approval of Minutes**

Danny Navey made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Beach Commission Meeting. Tom Rule seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**(3) Room Occupancy Tax (ROT) Update**

Doug Huggett presented a summary of the Carteret County's monthly Room Occupancy Tax (ROT) collection report for September 2021. In the interest of time, a visual presentation was not made. However, detailed information on this summary was included in the agenda package for this meeting.

Doug stated that the September 2022 collection continues the consecutive month record breaking streak, which now stands at 16, starting in June 2020. Through September 2021, the occupancy tax is up by over 3.4 million dollars, or 43.9%, when compared with the similar period in 2020. Also, for calendar year 2021 to date, the fund is over 2.2 million dollars above the \$9,004,643 value for all of calendar 2020, with three months of collections still to come. Doug also noted that due to a computer glitch, some of the numbers found in the second paragraph in the ROT memo (\$10,089,563 and 47.7%) in the agenda package are incorrect, but the correct figures can be found in Table 2 of the agenda package.

Doug went on to state that the estimated value for the nourishment reserve at the conclusion of September 2021 is approximately \$20.0 million, which was generated by taking the July 1, 2021 opening balance, adding of revenue through September 2021, and subtracting expenditures to date through September 2021. Moving forward, the County

should expect a \$566,040.06 reimbursement to the reserve provided by the Town of Emerald Isle (via FEMA), and an outgoing reimbursement payment of \$4,031,063.78 to the State's Department of Environmental Quality, which represents the unused portion of the \$20 million this organization provided to the County in 2018 and 2019.

**(4) Nomination Committee Appointment for Beach Commission Vacancy**

Chairman Normile stated that the Town of Atlantic Beach has not yet submitted a recommendation to replace Mr. Harry Archer, who does not desire to serve another term. Additionally, the Tourism Development Authority has not yet submitted a recommendation to replace Mr. Woody Warren. Therefore, Chairman Normile went on to state that the Commission is only voting on two appointments at this time – the reappointment of Chairman Normile, and the appointment of Mr. Mike Fiorini (owner of Homers Point Marina) from Salter Path, who will replace Doug Guthrie, who does not wish to serve another term. A motion to approve these two appointments was made by Vice Chairman Brodman and seconded by Jimmy Farrington. The motion passed unanimously. These two recommended appointments will now be passed on to the County for formal adoption by the Board of Commissioners.

**(4) Other Business**

Chairman Normile gave an update on the plans for the Beach Commission and Shore Protection Office to have a program orientation presentation for newly elected officials from the County and beach communities, as well as other interested individuals. As has been done in the past, this orientation will likely take place in late February of 2022. More information on this orientation meeting will be provided as details are confirmed.

**(5) Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting Date (Emerald Isle Board Room).**

February 14, 2022, 2:00pm, regular monthly meeting.

**(7) Adjourn**

Following statements of appreciation from several Commission members directed towards outgoing Shore Protection Officer Greg “rudi” Rupolph, a motion to adjourn the November 16, 2021 meeting of the Carteret County Beach Commission was made by Jimmy Farrington and seconded by Tom Rule. Following a unanimous vote, the meeting ended at approximately 11:50AM

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**Memorandum**

To: Carteret County Beach Commission

From: Doug Huggett

Re: Carteret County Beach Commission Special Meeting December 8th, 2021 – Minutes

**Attendance**

Commission Members Jim Normile (Chair), John Brodman (Vice-Chair), Larry Baldwin, Larry Corsello, Jimmy Farrington, Danny Navey, Tom Rule, Woody Warren, interim secretary Doug Huggett, and the general public.

**(1) Call to Order**

Chairman Normile welcomed everyone in attendance (both live and remotely) and proceeded to call the meeting to order.

Chairman Normile stated that Beach Commission member Harry Archer recently passed away. A moment of silence was held in Mr. Archer's honor.

**(2) Nomination Committee Appointment for Beach Commission Vacancy**

Chairman Normile stated that because of differing meeting schedules for the Beach Commission and the Atlantic Beach Town Council, Atlantic Beach was not able to submit a nomination in time for the Beach Commission's regularly scheduled November meeting, therefore necessitating this special Beach Commission meeting. Chairman Normile went on to state that Atlantic Beach is now formally recommending Mr. Austin Waters for appointment to the Beach Commission. Danny Navey then gave an introduction to Mr. Waters. Mr. Waters was just elected to a second term as an Atlantic Beach Town Council member. Mr. Waters, who has been coming to Atlantic Beach for most of his life, has now formally located to the Town upon his retirement from the auto industry. Mr. Navey closed by stating that he knows that Mr. Waters will be a great asset to the Beach Commission, and therefore made a motion for the Commission to endorse Mr. Waters appointment. Larry Corsello seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Doug Huggett then stated that he would soon be sending a letter to the County Clerk recommending that the County Board of Commissioners approve that the appointment of Mr. Waters, as well as the appointments of Mr. Mike Fiorini and the reappointment of Chairman Normile (both approved by the Beach Commission in November) at their January 2022 meeting.

**(3) Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

**(4) Other Business**

Doug Huggett gave a briefing on a request for public scoping comments from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) considering the possible dredging of a new 2<sup>nd</sup> channel to the U.S. Coast Guard Station (USCG) at Emerald Isle. It was stated that the existing channel, which has been frequently maintained by the USACE over years, follows deep water and allows USCG vessels to access Bogue Inlet. The USACE now is initiating a study of an option of dredging a second channel to the USCG station that would allow quicker access to the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway. The USACE public scoping letter stated that dredging could take place any time of the year, and disposal of dredged material would be via placement to beach or nearshore disposal areas previously utilized, deposited in waters adjacent to the dredge area through the use of a sidecast dredge, or through placement in USACE disposal areas 60 and 61. The use of the USACE disposal areas would likely only occur if dredging takes place outside of approved beach placement times.

Following discussion, it was agreed that scoping comments would be prepared for submission to the USACE that strongly recommend that beach quality material be placed along oceanfront shoreline and not in DA's. Moffatt and Nichol will prepare the letter for Beach Commission approval and signature before the December 30, 2021 comment deadline. The letter would also point out that various cost-share options exist that might allow for the State and/or County to contribute added funds to the USACE that could provide for beneficial use of sand. Given the comment deadline, it was agreed upon that the draft memo will be reviewed by the Chair and Vice Chair for and consideration and approval, after which curtesy copies of the final letter would be provided to the rest of the Beach Commission.

**(5) Closed Session per G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6) – permitted for the discussion of personnel**

A motion was made by Mr. Navey and seconded by Mr. Rule to move into closed session. The closed session ended at approximately 10:15 AM.

**(6) Next Meeting Dates (all in Emerald Isle Board Room).**

February 14, 2022, 2:00pm, regular monthly meeting.

February 24, 2022, 3:00pm – 5:00pm, Orientation for newly elected officials (& others).

March 28, 2022, 2:00pm, regular monthly meeting.

April 25, 2022, 2:00pm, regular monthly meeting.

**(7) Adjourn**

A motion to adjourn the December 8, 2021 Special Meeting of the Carteret County Beach Commission was made by Tom Rule and seconded by Woody Warren. Following a unanimous vote, the meeting ended at approximately 10:20AM.

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## CARTERET COUNTY BEACH COMMISSION

### Agenda Topic Cover Sheet

## 2022 Beach Commission Officer Elections (Chair and Vice-Chair)

Meeting Date: **2/14/2022**

Topic No. **3**

Suggested Action: In accordance with the Beach Commission's by-laws, the Commission should proceed to nominate and elect a Chair and Vice-Chair for this year (2022) by simple majority at our February regular meeting.

Pursuant to Article IV, Sec. 2 of the Carteret County Beach Commission bylaws, nominations and elections of the chair and vice-chair of the Commission shall take place at the regular Beach Commission meeting in January of each year. January is also designated as the "begin and end" date for the terms of Beach Commission members, and recently members Waters, Watson and Fiorini were newly appointed to the Beach Commission by the County Board of Commissioners on January 24, 2022. Mr. Fiorini has since resigned due to other obligations. Obviously, our January meeting was postponed until February and hence our officer elections will need to take place during our February 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. A complete and updated roster of the Beach Commission, copies of the meeting agendas and minutes, and the Commission's by-laws are available at <http://www.carteretcountync.gov/298/>. The Commission's current roster is also provided on the following page.

For the elections this month, any Commission member is permitted to make a nomination and officers are elected for a one-year term via simple majority by those members present at our February regular meeting (verbal or written ballot).

<b>CARTERET COUNTY BEACH COMMISSION</b>			
<b>NAME</b>	<b>RESIDING/ REPRESENTING</b>	<b>TERM LENGTH</b>	<b>TERM EXPIRES</b>
Austin Waters	Atlantic Beach	3 years	1/2025
Danny Navey	Atlantic Beach	3 years	1/2024
John Broadman	Pine Knoll Shores	3 years	1/2023
Larry Corsello	Pine Knoll Shores	3 years	1/2024
Ronnie Watson	Emerald Isle	3 years	1/2025
Tom Rule	Emerald Isle	3 years	1/2023
Mike Luther	Indian Beach	3 years	1/2024
Vacant	Bogue Banks	3 years	1/2025
Larry Baldwin	County At-Large	3 years	1/2023
Jimmy Farrington	Board of Commissioners	3 years	1/2024
Vacant	TDA	3 years	1/2025

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## CARTERET COUNTY BEACH COMMISSION

### Agenda Topic Cover Sheet

# INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Regular Beach Commission Meeting – February 14, 2022

Meeting Date: **2/14/2022**

Topic No. **4**

Suggested Action: None.

The Chairman would like to take a moment to introduce newly appointed commissioners Mr. Ronnie Watson and Mr. Austin Waters. Also, new to the team is Ryan Davenport serving as the Shoreline Protection Manager.

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## CARTERET COUNTY BEACH COMMISSION

### Agenda Topic Cover Sheet

# ROOM OCCUPANCY AND “BEACH FUND” UPDATE

Regular Beach Commission Meeting – February 14, 2022

Meeting Date: **2/14/2022**

Topic No. **5**

Suggested Action: None.

Ryan Davenport (Shoreline Protection Manager) will provide an update on Room Occupancy Tax and the balance in the Beach Commission’s fund.

## OCCUPANCY TAX COLLECTION

Reporting period: **Dec-20**

Type	Tax Received	Penalties & Interest	Total Reporting Tax
CONDOS/COTTAGE	\$ 61,313.05	\$ 15.17	26
HOTEL / MOTEL	\$ 63,040.25	\$ -	27
OTHER	\$ 3,568.93	\$ 29.73	18
ONLINE	\$ 58,088.42	\$ -	6
<b>TOTAL ALL TYPES</b>	\$ 186,010.65	\$ 44.90	<b>77</b>
<b>Total Collected</b>	\$ <b>186,055.55</b>		

### December-20

Reporting Location	Condos/Cottage Tax	Hotel/Motel Tax	Other Tax
Atlantic Beach	\$5,074.56	\$20,461.51	\$1,602.92
Beaufort	\$206.10	\$9,821.68	\$897.80
Cape Carteret	\$0.00	\$1,482.37	\$0.00
Emerald Isle	\$55,547.80	\$3,278.93	\$182.56
PKS / Salter Path/ Indian Beach	\$248.70	\$7,074.68	\$111.52
Morehead City	\$0.00	\$17,325.78	\$190.00
On Line	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Unincorporated	\$251.06	\$3,595.30	\$613.86
<b>Totals</b>	\$61,328.22	\$63,040.25	\$3,598.66

#### Notes:

- (a) The collection value represents the location of the reporting office only, and may not be 100% correlative to the actual lodging loc
- (b) The locations listed as "Unincorporated" are collectors not located in a municipality.

<b>Total No Tax</b>		
159	-1	185
8		35
113	-2	131
1		7
<b>281</b>		<b>358</b>

<b>On Line</b>	<b>Total</b>
\$0.00	\$27,138.99
\$0.00	\$10,925.58
\$0.00	\$1,482.37
\$0.00	\$59,009.29
\$0.00	\$7,434.90
\$0.00	\$17,515.78
\$58,088.42	\$58,088.42
\$0.00	\$4,460.22
\$58,088.42	\$186,055.55

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## OCCUPANCY TAX COLLECTION

Reporting period: **Dec-21**

Type	Tax Received	Penalties & Interest	Total Reporting Tax
CONDOS/COTTAGE	\$ 44,403.24	\$ 419.16	34
HOTEL / MOTEL	\$ 109,313.96	\$ -	27
OTHER	\$ 12,041.29	\$ 1,502.08	18
ONLINE	\$ 113,416.52	\$ -	5
<b>TOTAL ALL TYPES</b>	\$ 279,175.01	\$ 1,921.24	<b>84</b>
<b>Total Collected</b>	\$ <b>281,096.25</b>		

### December-21

Reporting Location	Condos/Cottage Tax	Hotel/Motel Tax	Other Tax
Atlantic Beach	\$7,302.20	\$18,992.10	\$7,763.89
Beaufort	\$399.26	\$20,466.97	\$3,230.63
Cape Carteret	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,187.98
Emerald Isle	\$36,139.41	\$5,302.51	\$66.96
PKS / Salter Path/ Indian Beach	\$807.39	\$35,177.31	\$0.00
Morehead City	\$0.00	\$27,590.95	\$0.00
On Line	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Unincorporated	\$174.14	\$1,784.12	\$293.91
<b>Totals</b>	\$44,822.40	\$109,313.96	\$13,543.37

#### Notes:

- (a) The collection value represents the location of the reporting office only, and may not be 100% correlative to the actual lodg
- (b) The locations listed as "Unincorporated" are collectors not located in a municipality.

<b>Total No Tax</b>		
164	-1,+1	198
6		33
125	+1	143
0		5
<b>295</b>		<b>379</b>

<b>On Line</b>	<b>Total</b>
\$0.00	\$34,058.19
\$0.00	\$24,096.86
\$0.00	\$2,187.98
\$0.00	\$41,508.88
\$0.00	\$35,984.70
\$0.00	\$27,590.95
\$113,416.52	\$113,416.52
\$0.00	\$2,252.17
\$113,416.52	\$281,096.25

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ing location.

## Total Tax Collection Comparison

2020 \$8,964,264.76

2021 \$12,754,632.7

**UP \$3,790,367.94**

Estimated Year-to-Date "Beach Fund" Reserve Balance  
FY 2021-22

Opening Fund Balance (7/1/2021)	\$17,491.000
Fund Balance as of 11/10/21	\$19,976,916
Revenues	
Occupancy Tax	
Nov 21	\$378,205.99
Dec 21	<u>\$281,096.25</u>
	\$659,302.24
Expenditures	
Engineering Services	\$6,960.00
<b>Estimated Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$20,629,258.20</b>

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## CARTERET COUNTY BEACH COMMISSION

### Agenda Topic Cover Sheet

#### OTHER BUSINESS

Regular Beach Commission Meeting – February 14, 2022

Meeting Date: **2/14/2022**

Topic No. **6**

Suggested Action: None.

Ryan Davenport will provide an update on the planned United States Coast Guard (USCG) Station Emerald Isle navigation channel and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's proposed rule to designate critical habitat for the rufa red knot. Recent correspondence is attached.



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**WILMINGTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
**69 DARLINGTON AVENUE**  
**WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA 28403-1343**

November 30, 2021

Dear Sir or Madam:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, (USACE), Wilmington District, is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the purpose of increasing maintenance dredging flexibility for the United States Coast Guard (USCG) Station Emerald Isle navigation channel near Bogue Inlet, on the western end of Emerald Isle, Carteret County, North Carolina.

The USCG Station Emerald Isle's facilities include a basin and a navigation channel that connects to the existing federal navigation channel between Bogue Inlet and the AIWW (Figure 1). In 2008, the USACE completed an EA that authorized dredging the USCG navigation channel to ensure access to the USACE federally maintained navigation channel. The USCG navigation channel is 6 feet deep mean lower low water (MLLW), with 2 feet of allowable overdepth, by 90 feet wide. Due to the dynamic nature of the area, the USCG navigation channel follows naturally occurring deep water and currently extends approximately 4,000 to 5,000 feet north of the basin. The USACE is preparing an EA that proposes an additional channel route to the south (Figure 1). This route would give the USCG two options to exit the Station, providing more flexibility in accessing the federal channel and would provide a direct route to Bogue Inlet, following a natural deep water. The USACE federal channel also follows naturally occurring deep water and the channel historically migrates between an eastern route and a western route between the Atlantic Intercoastal Waterway and the inlet. The proposed southern route for the USCG's use has been previously dredged as part of the USACE federal channel (Figure 2).

The methods of dredging that will be considered for accomplishing the work include hydraulic pipeline dredge, mechanical (clamshell) dredge, government-owned sidecast dredge, and government-owned special purpose (hopper) dredge. Dredging may occur any time of the year.

The dredged material placement options include side casting, nearshore and beach placement within existing placement areas on the western end of Emerald Isle and confined upland Placements Areas (PA) 60 and 61. Use of PA 60 or 61 is likely to occur only in situations where contracted dredging must be performed during times when beach placement is typically avoided due to sea turtle nesting season (May 1 to November 15).

We are now requesting comments from the public and agencies to identify significant resources and issues of concern associated with the proposed action. The

area of potential effect are shown in Figures 1 and 2 and specifically could include any of the dredge plants or placement options listed above. Comments received as a result of this scoping letter will be considered during preparation of the Draft EA.

The EA is being prepared in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, and will address the project's relationship to all applicable Federal and State laws and Executive Orders. Resources known to occur in the study area include fisheries and benthic resources, threatened and endangered species, human resources (including socioeconomic, recreational, and aesthetic resources) and cultural resources. Potential impacts to these resources, as well as submerged aquatic vegetation, water quality, air quality, and potential hazardous and toxic wastes will be fully addressed in the EA. Should there be other issues which you believe should be discussed in the EA, please take this opportunity to bring them to our attention.

In order to effectively address any concerns that are raised, we need to have your input no later than 30 days from the date of this letter. Should you have any questions regarding this project, please contact Mr. Jeremy Overstreet, Environmental Resources Section, at (910)251-4700. Input may be provided by email to [Jeremy.R.Overstreet@usace.army.mil](mailto:Jeremy.R.Overstreet@usace.army.mil).

Sincerely,

Elden J. Gatwood  
Chief, Planning and Environmental Branch

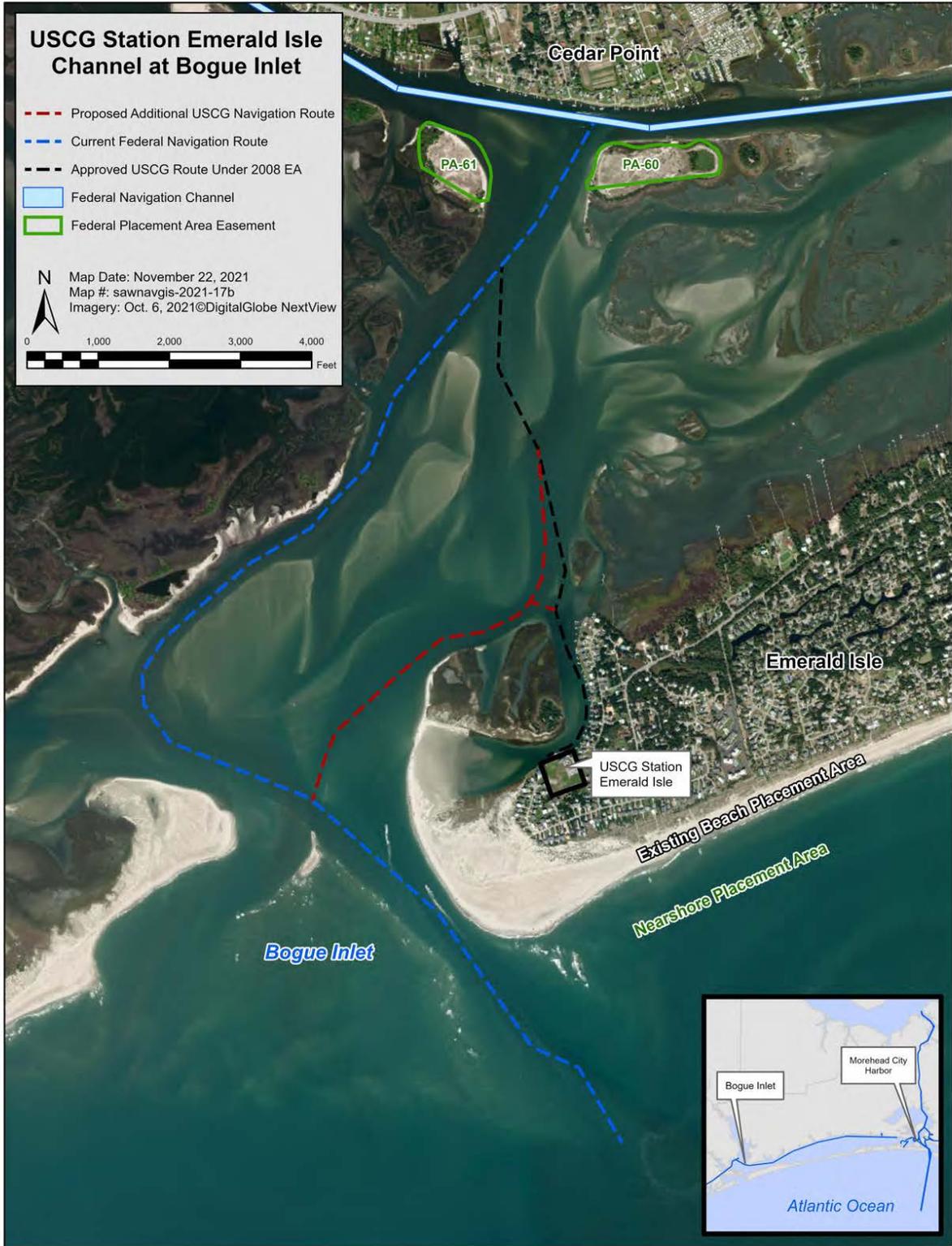


Figure 1. Project Area

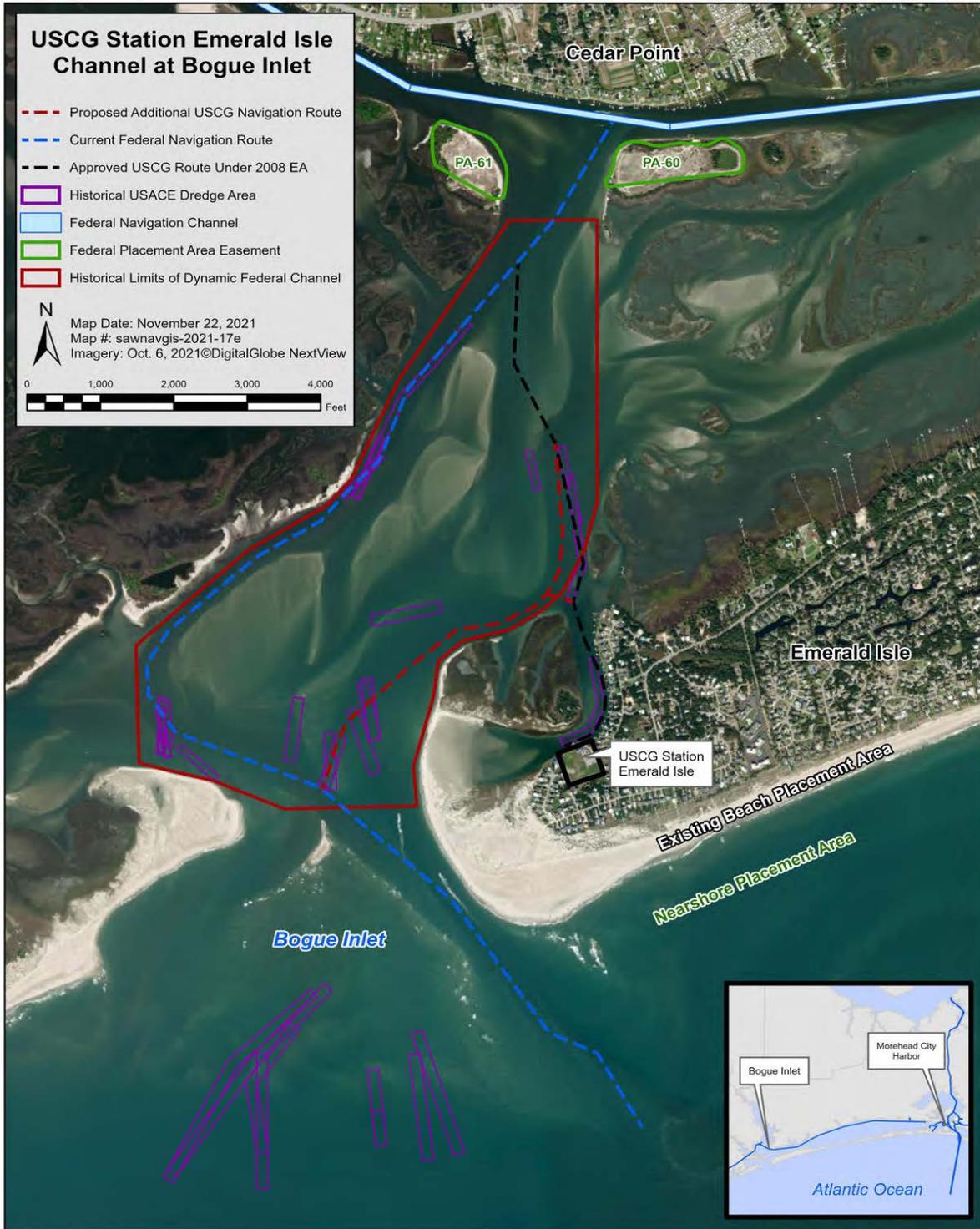


Figure 2. Past Dredging Locations

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December 19, 2021

Mr. Jeremy Overstreet  
USACE – Wilmington District  
Environmental Resources Section  
69 Darlington Road  
Wilmington, North Carolina 28403-1343

**Subject:** Public Scoping Letter – Increased Maintenance Dredging Flexibility at USCG Station Emerald Isle.

Dear Mr. Overstreet,

The Carteret County Beach Commission is in receipt of the Public Scoping Letter dated November 30, 2021. The Public Scoping Letter concerns the preparation by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, (USACE), Wilmington District of an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the purpose of increasing maintenance dredging flexibility for the United States Coast Guard (USCG) Station Emerald Isle navigation channel near Bogue Inlet, on the western end of Emerald Isle, Carteret County, North Carolina. The Public Scoping Letter indicated that the potential methods of dredging these new areas will include a hydraulic pipeline dredge, use of a mechanical (clamshell) dredge, use of government-owned sidecast dredge, and use of a government-owned special purpose (hopper) dredge. It is further indicated that dredging may occur any time of the year, and that dredged material placement options include side casting, nearshore and beach placement within existing placement areas on the western end of Emerald Isle, and placement within confined upland Placements Areas (PA) 60 and 61. The use of the upland Placement areas would be utilized in situations where dredging must be performed during times when beach placement is typically avoided due to sea turtle nesting season (May 1 to November 15). The Carteret County Beach Commission appreciates being provided the opportunity to comment on this proposal, and we fully support the USACE's efforts to maintain and increase the functionality of the important USCG operations at the Emerald Isle Station. We therefore respectfully submit the following comments for your consideration.

The mission of the Carteret County Beach Commission is to identify and develop plans, strategies, and programs to restore and maintain wide sandy beaches and dunes through environmentally sensitive beach nourishment, dune management, vegetation management, and sand management principles. As an example of the Beach Commission's efforts at maintaining Carteret County's beaches, since 2019 the County has contracted for the placement of over 5 million cubic yards of material along the beaches of Bogue Banks. This effort has cost the

County over 26 million dollars, in addition to cost shares provided by the State of North Carolina (over 20 million dollars) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (over 32 million dollars). To ensure that the Commission's mission is accomplished, we actively support and encourage any and all efforts that help to ensure the beneficial use of beach quality sand resources. This mission can be complicated by limited sand resources that can be utilized for beach nourishment purposes. Given the location of the proposed new dredge areas, it would be expected that the majority of the dredged material would consist of beach-quality sand.

With regards to the current project proposal, the Commission requests that the option of the placement of beach quality material within Placement Areas 60 and 61 be eliminated from further consideration. The placement of beach quality sand within these Placement Areas would effectively eliminate the ability to beneficially utilize this sand for beach nourishment. The use of Placement Areas 60 and 61 would also potentially be inconsistent with the North Carolina Dredge and Fill Law. Specifically, NCGS 113-229 (h1) states "*...beach-quality sand may be placed on the affected downdrift ocean beaches or, if placed elsewhere, an equivalent quality and quantity of sand from another location shall be placed on the downdrift ocean beaches*". NCGS 113-229 (h2) continues by mandating beach quality sand must be maintained within the littoral system. The referenced statute states "*Clean, beach quality material dredged from navigational channels within the active nearshore, beach or inlet shoal systems shall not be removed permanently from the active nearshore, beach or inlet shoal system. This dredged material shall be disposed of on the ocean beach or shallow active nearshore area where it is environmentally acceptable and compatible with other uses of the beach*". As was stated above, the placement of beach-quality material within the two Placement Areas would not seem to be consistent with the intent of this Law.

Additionally, while the project proposal indicates that the use of Placements Areas 60 and 61 would only be considered in situations where dredging must be performed during times sea turtle nesting season, this statement does not fully acknowledge that in many cases, regulatory agency relief from these environmental moratoria windows can be negotiated. Such relief has been granted several times for Bogue Banks nourishment projects, and it would seem likely that similar opportunities would be available to the USACE in the future. The Commission therefore further encourages the USACE to schedule the proposed projects in a manner that would eliminate the need to utilize Placement Areas 60 and 61.

As a final comment, the Commission would also like to state that should circumstances arise, we would be willing to enter into discussions with the USACE concerning funding mechanisms that would help to ensure that all beach quality material is used in the most beneficial way possible. In the past the County has utilized a November 14, 2013, Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the State of North Carolina and the USACE to pass funds on to the USACE to help with costs for projects such as the proposed action. We would therefore envision that future use of the MOU can be beneficial to both the USACE as well as Carteret County's beaches.

In closing, the Beach Commission would like to reiterate our support for the important functions carried out by both the USACE and the USCG, and we look forward to maintaining and

expanding our partnership with your agency on this and other area projects. If you should have any questions concerning these comments, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

James L. Normile

James L. Normile

Chairman, Carteret County Beach Commission

Cc: U.S. Senator Richard Burr  
U.S. Senator Thom Tillis  
Representative Greg Murphy, MD (NC-03)  
N.C. Senator Norm Sanders (District-2)  
N.C. Representative Pat McElraft, (District-13)  
Chairman Eddie Bo Wheatly, (Carteret County District-05)  
Dr. Braxton Davis, (NCDCM)



# United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Washington D.C. 20240



In Response Reply to:  
FWS/IR01/075660

January 18, 2022

The Honorable Dave Rouzer  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Rouzer:

Thank you for your letter dated September 2, 2021, also signed by several of your colleagues, regarding the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) proposed rule to designate critical habitat for the rufa red knot.

You requested the Service extend the comment period for the proposed designation of critical habitat for the rufa red knot, which closed on September 13, 2021. We considered your request and have determined that additional time for public comment is warranted. Because the previous public comment period is closed and cannot simply be extended, we intend to reopen the comment period for an additional 45 days.

The Service is evaluating new information received during the initial comment period that may result in revisions to the proposed critical habitat. We intend to use this reopening as a notice to the public of an additional opportunity to comment on the proposal, including any revisions, and will reopen the new comment period as soon as possible. We will inform your office of the timeline for reopening the public comment period and notify all interested parties.

Thank you for your interest in this matter. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me or Wendi Weber, Regional Director for the North Atlantic-Appalachian Region, the lead region for this threatened species, at 413-253-8300 or [wendi\\_weber@fws.gov](mailto:wendi_weber@fws.gov).

Sincerely,

Martha Williams,  
Principal Deputy Director  
Exercising the Delegated Authority of the Director  
U.S Fish and Wildlife Service

Shore Protection Manager

J. Ryan Davenport  
Tel: (252) 222.5835  
Fax: (252) 222.5826  
[ryan.davenport@carteretcountync.gov](mailto:ryan.davenport@carteretcountync.gov)



## CARTERET COUNTY BEACH COMMISSION

### Agenda Topic Cover Sheet

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Regular Beach Commission Meeting – February 14, 2022

Meeting Date: **2/14/2022**

Topic No. **7**

Suggested Action: None.

The Chairman would like to invite any member of the public to express suggestions or concerns to the commission.

Shore Protection Manager

J. Ryan Davenport  
Tel: (252) 222.5835  
Fax: (252) 222.5826  
[ryan.davenport@carteretcountync.gov](mailto:ryan.davenport@carteretcountync.gov)



## CARTERET COUNTY BEACH COMMISSION

### Agenda Topic Cover Sheet

## MARCH 2022 MEETING

Regular Beach Commission Meeting – February 14, 2022

Meeting Date: **2/14/2022**

Topic No. **8**

Suggested Action: The Commission should make a motion and vote to set the March 2022 meeting date.

March 14, 2022 is proposed but open for discussion

Shore Protection Manager

J. Ryan Davenport  
Tel: (252) 222.5835  
Fax: (252) 222.5826  
[ryan.davenport@carteretcountync.gov](mailto:ryan.davenport@carteretcountync.gov)



## CARTERET COUNTY BEACH COMMISSION

### Agenda Topic Cover Sheet

# ADJOURN

Regular Beach Commission Meeting – February 14, 2022

Meeting Date: **2/14/2022**

Topic No. **9**

Suggested Action: The Chairman should make a motion to adjourn.