



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Philadelphia District
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2004
Attn: CENAP-OPR

Public Notice

Comment Period Begins: August 23, 2024
Comment Period Ends: September 22, 2024
File Number: NAP-2024-00443-100
File Name: Lacey Township Wide Dredging Project OC
Contact: Alexandra J. Kuklantz
Email: Alexandra.J.Kuklantz@usace.army.mil

This District has received an application for a Department of the Army 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: Veronica Laureigh, Lacey Township

AGENT: Junetta Dix, ACT Engineers, Inc.

LOCATION: Windy Cove, Hancy's Pond, Worden's Oyster Pond, Stouts Creek, Sunrise Beach, and Bayside Beach in Lacey Township, Ocean County, New Jersey

PURPOSE: The applicant's stated purpose of this project is to maintain safe depths for recreational navigation in the following waterways: Windy Cove, Hancy's Pond, Worden's Oyster Pond, Stouts Creek, Sunrise Beach, and Bayside Beach.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The applicant, Lacey Township, has requested Department of the Army (DA) authorization to perform maintenance dredging of six (6) township waterbodies for a ten (10)-year time period.

Work would be primarily accomplished using a mechanical dredge via one (1) large flat-top barge with a long reach or clam-shell excavator. All resultant dredged material, estimated to be approximately 74,004 cubic yards of sand and silt, would be removed from approximately 28.6 acres. Material would be placed on up to six (6) hopper barges and either directly offloaded to trucks or other staging areas via use of a clamshell excavator. Spill plates will be installed to prevent incidental fallback during offloading. Direct truck loading is the preferred offloading option. When use of a staging area is anticipated, the locations will be selected to have the least amount of public impact as possible. Any dewatering of material within staging areas will not result in a discharge of dredged material to a waterbody. Triaxle trucks used for transporting the material will be

equipped with gasketed, sealed tail gates and mud locks to prevent leakage while en route to the Oyster Creek Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) for beneficial reuse.

Operations utilizing a hydraulic cutterhead will be solely within Stouts Creek. Resultant dredged material, estimated to be 27,256 cubic yards of sand and silt, would be removed from approximately 8.5 acres and transported via pipeline directly to the Oyster Creek CDF for beneficial reuse.

For navigational safety, appropriate notifications to the U.S. Coast Guard will be made for all dredging activities. The hydraulic dredge pipeline, associated with the Stouts Creek dredging location, will be marked in accordance with U.S. Coast Guard regulations and sunk.

Each maintenance dredging event is anticipated to be approximately three (3) months in duration, including mobilization/demobilization, dredging, and material placement activities. Up to ten (10) maintenance dredging events are anticipated to be conducted over the next ten (10) years, with the initial dredging event proposed to be undertaken on or after 01-OCT-2024.

Windy Cove

Approximate Center Coordinates: (39.8666338197, -74.1432337193)

Proposed mechanical dredging of 405 cubic yards of sediment to -5.0 feet below the plane of Mean Low Water (MLW) within 1.0 acres with 3:1 side slopes. Applicant also requests one (1) additional foot of allowable overdredge or an additional 805 cubic yards for a maximum total volume of 1,210 cubic yards.

Hancy's Pond

Approximate Center Coordinates: (39.8579675122, -74.1382379085)

Proposed mechanical dredging of 4,097 cubic yards of sediment to -5.0 feet below the plane of Mean Low Water (MLW) within 2.3 acres with 3:1 side slopes. Applicant also requests one (1) additional foot of allowable overdredge or an additional 3,634 cubic yards for a total volume of 7,731 cubic yards.

Worden's Oyster Pond

Approximate Center Coordinates: (39.8610425536, -74.1339147184)

Proposed mechanical dredging of 4,064 cubic yards of sediment to -5.0 feet below the plane of Mean Low Water (MLW) within 1.2 acres with 3:1 side slopes. Applicant also requests one (1) additional foot of allowable overdredge or an additional 1,890 cubic yards for a total volume of 5,954 cubic yards.

Stouts Creek

Approximate Center Coordinates: (39.8458834542, -74.1493995976)

Proposed hydraulic dredging of 16,794 cubic yards of sediment to -5.0 feet below the plane of Mean Low Water (MLW) within 8.5 acres with 3:1 side slopes. Applicant also requests one (1) additional foot of allowable overdredge or an additional 10,462 cubic yards for a total volume of 27,256 cubic yards.

Sunrise Beach

Approximate Center Coordinates: (39.8419292901, -74.1464422969)

Proposed mechanical dredging of 1,055 cubic yards of sediment to -5.0 feet below the plane of Mean Low Water (MLW) within 1.9 acres with 3:1 side slopes. Applicant also requests one (1) additional foot of allowable overdredge or an additional 2,885 cubic yards for a total volume of 3,940 cubic yards.

Bayside Beach

Approximate Center Coordinates: (39.8209452431, -74.1656728415)

Proposed maintenance dredging of 32,870 cubic yards of sediment to -5.0 feet below the plane of Mean Low Water (MLW) within 22.2 acres with 3:1 side slopes. Applicant also requests one (1) additional foot of allowable overdredge or an additional 22,659 cubic yards for a total volume of 55,529 cubic yards.

Dredge Material Placement:

All resultant dredged material, estimated to be approximately 101,620 cubic yards of sand and silt, would be disposed of at the Oyster Creek Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at Block 100, Lot 1.05, Lacey Township, Ocean County, New Jersey (39.813473, -74.190601). The Oyster Creek CDF is operated by the New Jersey Department of Transportation – Office of Maritime Resources (NJDOT-OMR). Placement of dredged material into this CDF by Lacey Township is contingent upon execution of a use agreement between Lacey Township and NJDOT-OMR.

For additional project details, see the attached plans identified as: "DREDGE DESIGN PLAN FOR LACEY TOWNSHIP," signed by Jeffrey S. Richter, ACT Engineers, Inc., dated 13-JUN-2024, unrevised, sheets 1 through 12.

MITIGATION

The applicant has stated that the proposed project has been designed to avoid and minimize adverse effects on the aquatic environment to the maximum extent practicable. Information provided in the application and on the plans indicates that compensatory mitigation is neither practicable nor feasible for the amount of dredged or fill material to be discharged into waters of the United States.

CORPS EVALUATION FACTORS

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 these factors 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.

The evaluation of the impact of this project will also include application of the Clean Water Act Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency if the project includes a discharge of dredge or fill material pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

Evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, EPA, (40 CFR part 230) or of the criteria established under authority of section 102(a) of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972.

In cases involving construction of artificial islands, installation and other devices on the outer continental shelf lands, the decision as to whether a permit will be issued will be based on evaluation of the impact of the proposed work on navigation and national security.

ENDANGERED SPECIES

A preliminary review of this application indicates that species and/or their critical habitat pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) may be present in the action area. This office will forward this Public Notice to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and/or National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) with a request for technical assistance on whether any ESA-listed species or their critical habitat may be present in the area which would be affected by the proposed activity. This office will evaluate the potential effects of the proposed actions on ESA-listed species or their critical habitat and will consult with the USFWS and/or NMFS, as appropriate. ESA Section 7 consultation would be concluded prior to the final decision on this permit application.

CULTURAL RESOURCES AND TRIBAL TRUST

The District's Cultural Resource Specialist and Tribal Liaison is currently reviewing the proposed permit action for potential impacts to Historic Properties eligible for or listed on the National Register of Historic Places and for potential issues concerning the

Tribes. A determination of effects will be coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Office, the Tribes and other consulting parties as necessary.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) requires all federal agencies to consult with the NMFS 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. This office will evaluate the potential effects of the proposed actions on EFH and will consult with NMFS, as appropriate. Consultation would be concluded prior to the final decision on this permit application.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATE

In accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, a Water Quality Certificate (WQC) is required 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.

COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT

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 (CZM) 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 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 on the State's coastal zone should be sent to this office with a copy to the State's CZM office.

SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS AND PUBLIC HEARING REQUEST

Any comments received will be considered by this office to determine whether to issue, modify, condition, or deny a permit for this proposed project. To make this decision, comments are used to assess the probable impact on the public interest. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Comments on the proposed work must be submitted, in writing, within the comment period indicated in the header above. Any person may request, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for a public hearing must be in writing and state the reasons for holding a public hearing.

Please provide any comments, request for a public hearing, or requests for additional information to the Regulatory Project Manager indicated above. All Public Notices are posted on our website at:

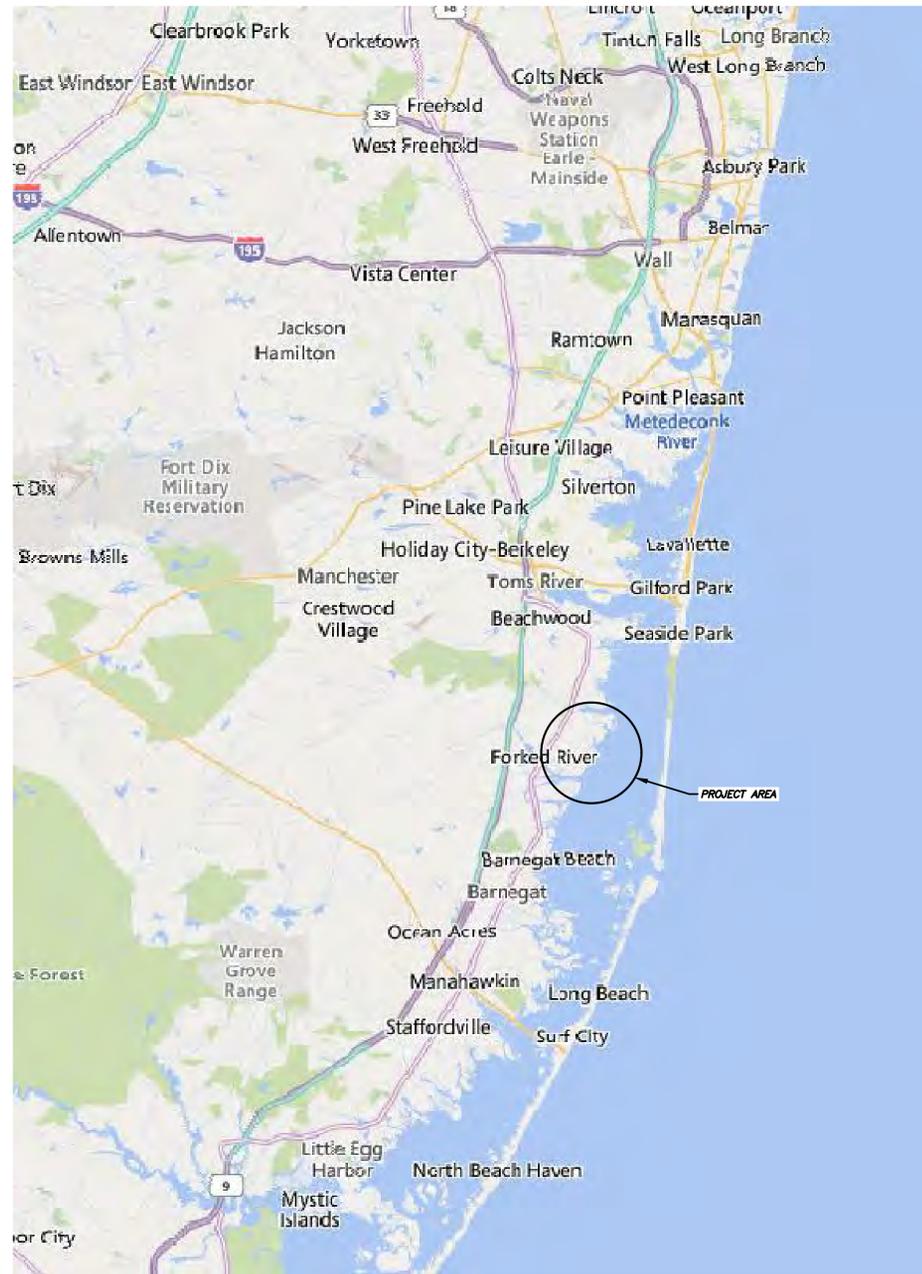
<https://www.nap.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Public-Notices/>

FOR: Todd A. Schaible
Chief, Regulatory Branch

LACEY TOWNSHIP, NEW JERSEY MAINTENANCE DREDGING PROJECT

VICINITY MAP

SCALE: 1" = 20,000'



LOCATION MAP

SCALE: 1" = 2,000'

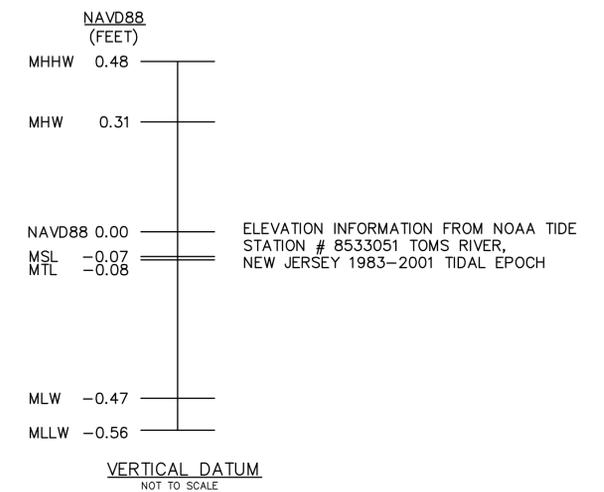


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3	DREDGE DESIGN PLAN	06/13/24
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ESTIMATE OF VOLUMES

PROJECT AREA	REQUIRED DREDGE ELEVATION (FT, MLW)	REQUIRED DREDGE VOLUME (CY)	ALLOWABLE OVERDREDGE ELEVATION (FT, MLW)	ALLOWABLE OVERDREDGE VOLUME (CY)	TOTAL VOLUME (CY)
WINDY COVE	-5.0	405	-6.0	805	1,210
HANCY'S POND	-5.0	4,097	-6.0	3,634	7,731
WORDEN'S OYSTER POND	-5.0	4,064	-6.0	1,890	5,954
STOUTS CREEK	-5.0	16,794	-6.0	10,462	27,256
SUNRISE BEACH	-5.0	1,055	-6.0	2,885	3,940
BAYSIDE BEACH	-5.0	32,870	-6.0	22,659	55,529



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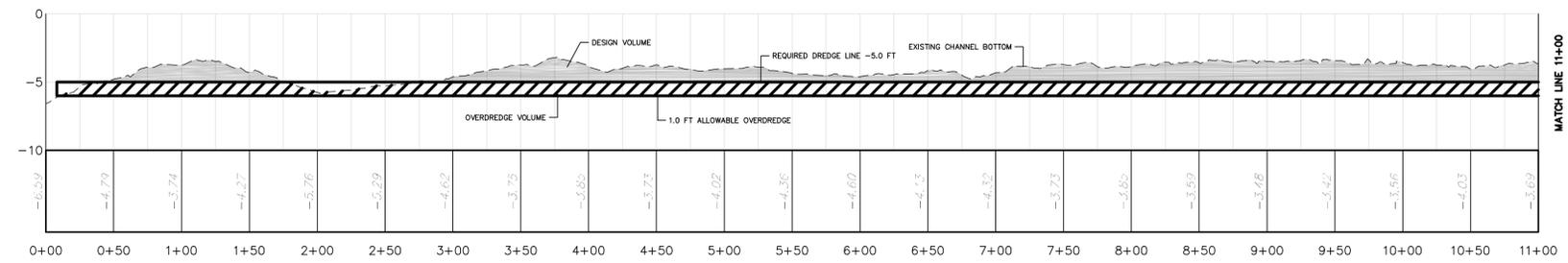
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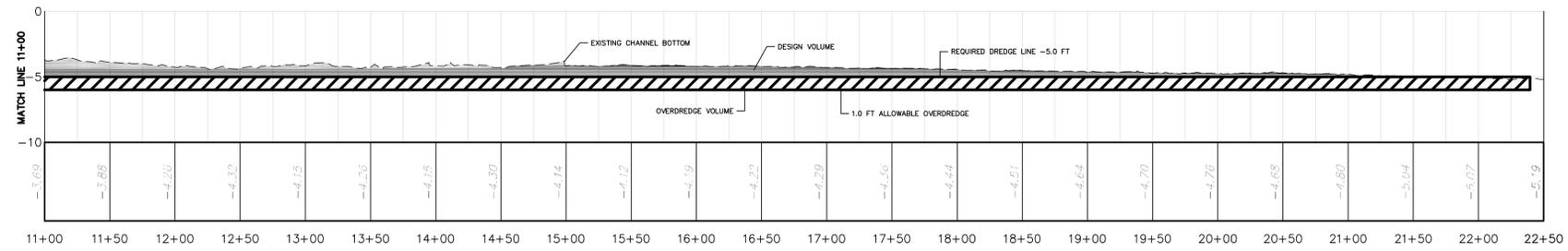
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COVER SHEET
FOR
LACEY TOWNSHIP
DREDGE DESIGN
SITUATED IN
OCEAN COUNTY
NEW JERSEY

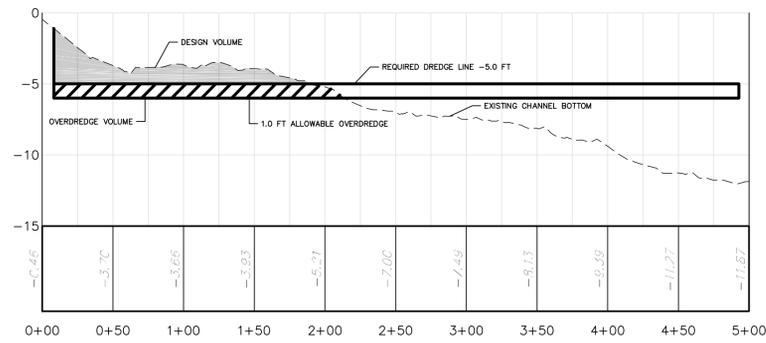
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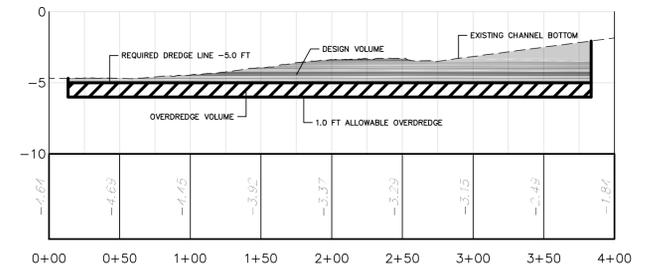
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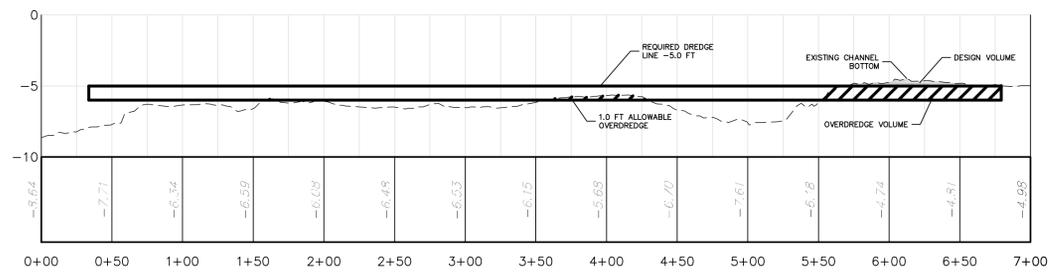
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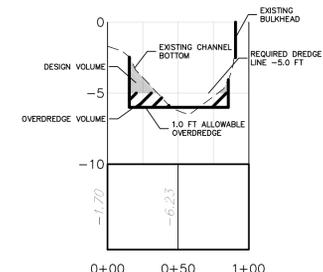
STOUTS CREEK PROFILE #2



STOUTS CREEK PROFILE #2



WINDY COVE PROFILE #1

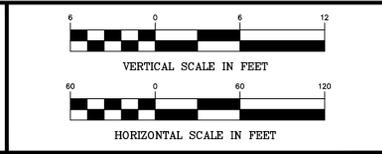


WINDY COVE PROFILE #2

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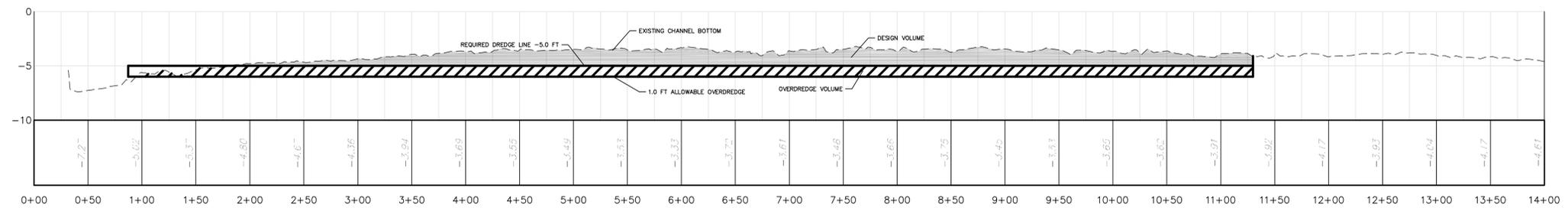
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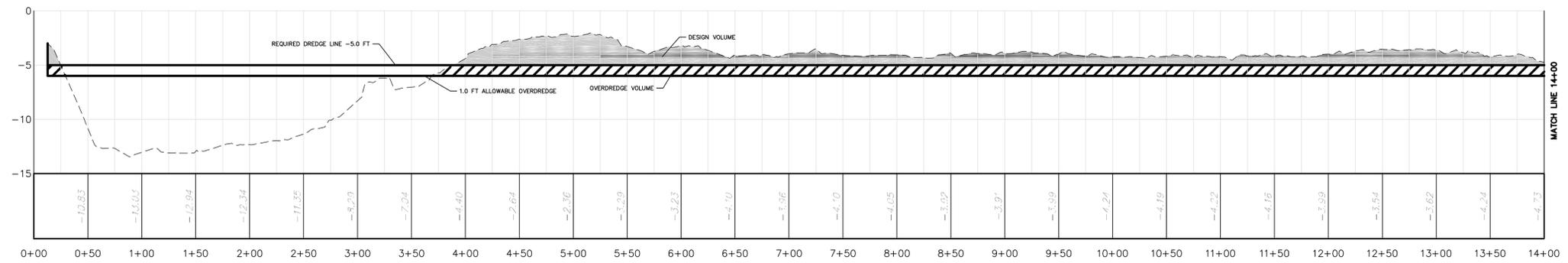
DREDGE PROFILES FOR LACEY TOWNSHIP STOUTS CREEK & WINDY COVE
SITUATED IN OCEAN COUNTY
LACEY TOWNSHIP NEW JERSEY

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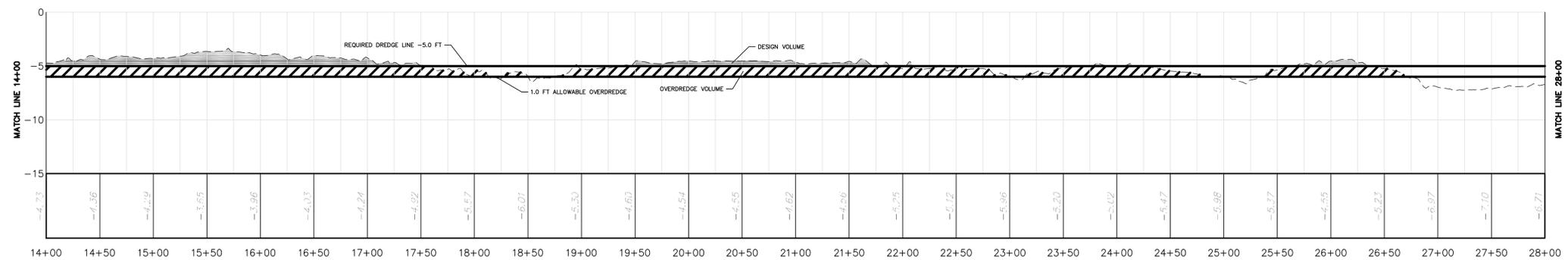
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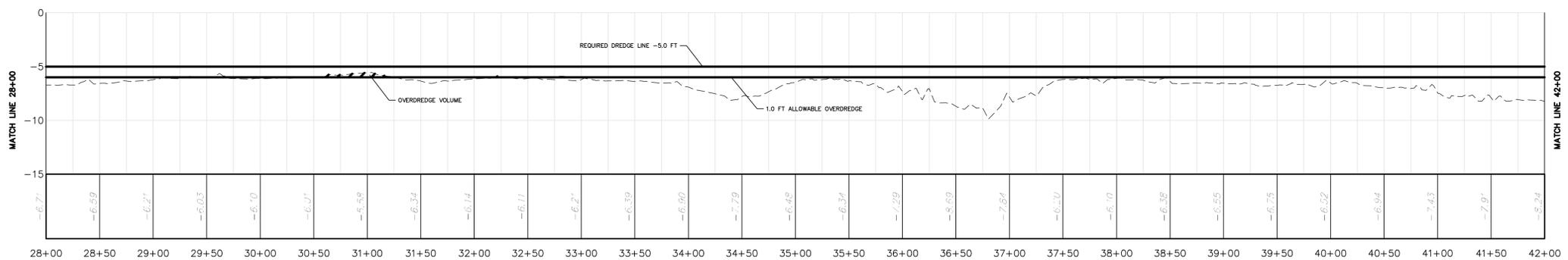
BAYSIDE BEACH PROFILE #1



BAYSIDE BEACH PROFILE #2



BAYSIDE BEACH PROFILE #2

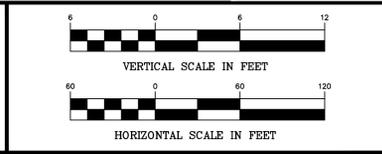


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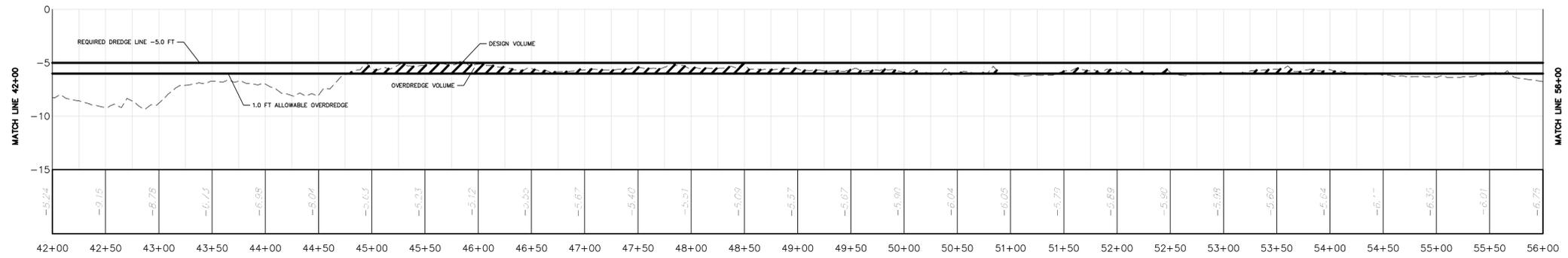
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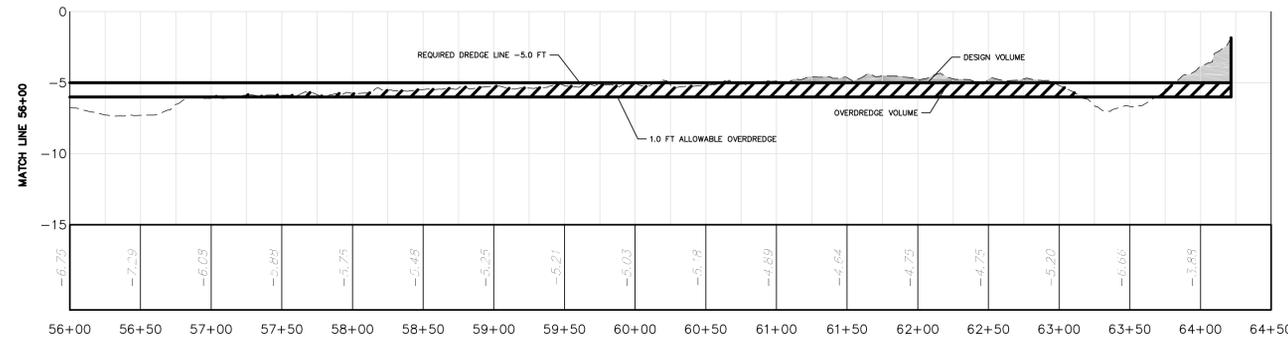
DREDGE PROFILES
FOR
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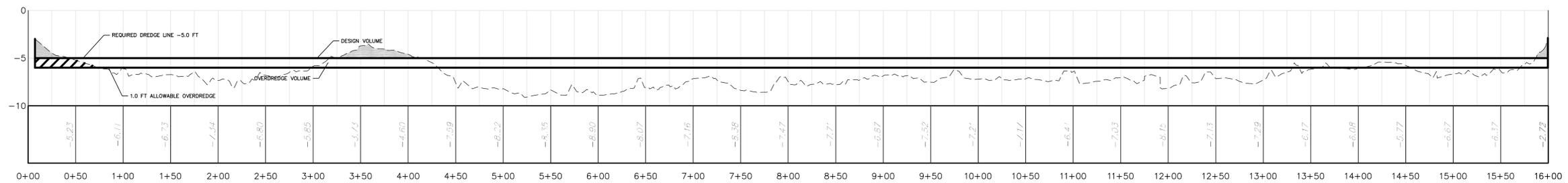
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BAYSIDE BEACH PROFILE #2



BAYSIDE BEACH PROFILE #2



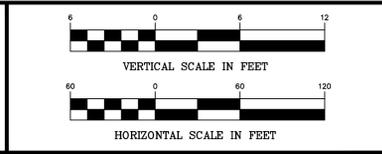
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DREDGE PROFILES FOR LACEY TOWNSHIP BAYSIDE BEACH
 SITUATED IN OCEAN COUNTY
 LACEY TOWNSHIP NEW JERSEY

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