



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, DETROIT DISTRICT
477 MICHIGAN AVENUE
DETROIT MI 48226-2550

06-MAY-22

SUBJECT: Public Notice - Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Assessment (IFR/EA) for the Woodtick Peninsula Section 204 Beneficial Use of Dredged Material for Ecosystem Restoration Project, Monroe County, Michigan.

TO: ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, PUBLIC GROUPS, AND CITIZENS

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Detroit District, has prepared a draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Assessment (IFR/EA) and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Woodtick Peninsula Section 204 Beneficial Use of Dredged Material for Ecosystem Restoration Project, Monroe County, Michigan. This IFR/EA is prepared under Section 204 (Beneficial Use of Dredged Material) of the Water Resources Development Act of 1992, Public Law 102-580, of the Continuing Authorities Program. USACE is undertaking this action in partnership with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

The purpose of the project is to investigate the feasibility of beneficially using dredged material from the Toledo Harbor Federal Navigation Project for ecosystem restoration purposes at Woodtick Peninsula, located in Monroe County, Michigan (Figure 1 – Enclosure 1). The IFR/EA identifies a Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP: Alternative 4A) for ecosystem restoration that is cost-effective and promotes National Ecosystem Restoration (NER) while protecting the nation's environment. The TSP consists of dredge material placement and the creation of an in-water artificial reef adjacent to Woodtick Peninsula (Figure 2 – Enclosure 1). Dredged material would be placed on the leeside of Woodtick Peninsula to an elevation of 570.75 feet (IGLD 1985) with a 1:20 slope to a bottom elevation of 562 feet. The artificial reef would be placed off the southern end of Woodtick Peninsula and made of geosynthetic containers that are filled with dredged material and covered with stone ranging from 3 feet in diameter to 8 – 12 inches in diameter. This TSP would have a placement footprint of 115.3 acres and require approximately 156,000 cubic yards of dredged material.

A preliminary environmental analysis indicates that that proposed work would not result in significant adverse environmental effects to water quality, existing wetlands, threatened and endangered species, terrestrial resources and habitat, aquatic resources and habitat and other protected resources within the study area. Nor would it have any impacts to the local or regional climate. Data describing the anticipated impacts are described in greater detail in the IFR/EA and a Clean Water Act Section 404(b)(1) Evaluation included with the IFR/EA.

The IFR/EA is available at the Detroit District webpage:
<http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/Home.aspx> under the category "Other Public Notices" in the lower left of the page. Electronic copies of this Public Notice and EA are being sent

to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, and other Federal agencies, State agencies, Tribes, local agencies, interested groups, and individuals.

USACE is soliciting comments from the public in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of the TSP. Any person who has a concern or an interest that may be affected by the proposed project may request a public hearing or submit written comments within thirty (30) days of the date of this notice. Comments must clearly set forth what interests may be affected by the proposed activity and how the action significantly affects the quality of the human environment. Any person who has historical or cultural interests that may be affected by the proposed action may submit written comments within the comment period of this notice, clearly describing what historical or cultural interest(s) may be affected by this activity. If no comments are received by the end of the thirty (30) day review period, it will be assumed that no comments are forthcoming. Please provide all comments by email to: WP204_Study@usace.army.mil. All comments received will be taken under consideration, as applicable.

Following the comment period and a review of the comments received, a final decision regarding the necessity of preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the TSP will be made by the USACE Detroit District Engineer. Based on preliminary conclusions of the IFR/EA and Section 404(b)(1) evaluation, it appears that preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement will not be required; therefore a preliminary Statement of Findings/Finding of No Significant Impact has been included in the IFR/EA.

Additional questions may be directed to Kevin Meyer at (313) 226-6478 and Kevin.A.Meyer@usace.army.mil, or me at (313) 226-2476 and Charles.A.Uhlarik@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

Charles A. Uhlarik

Charles A. Uhlarik
Chief, Environmental Analysis Section

Enclosure

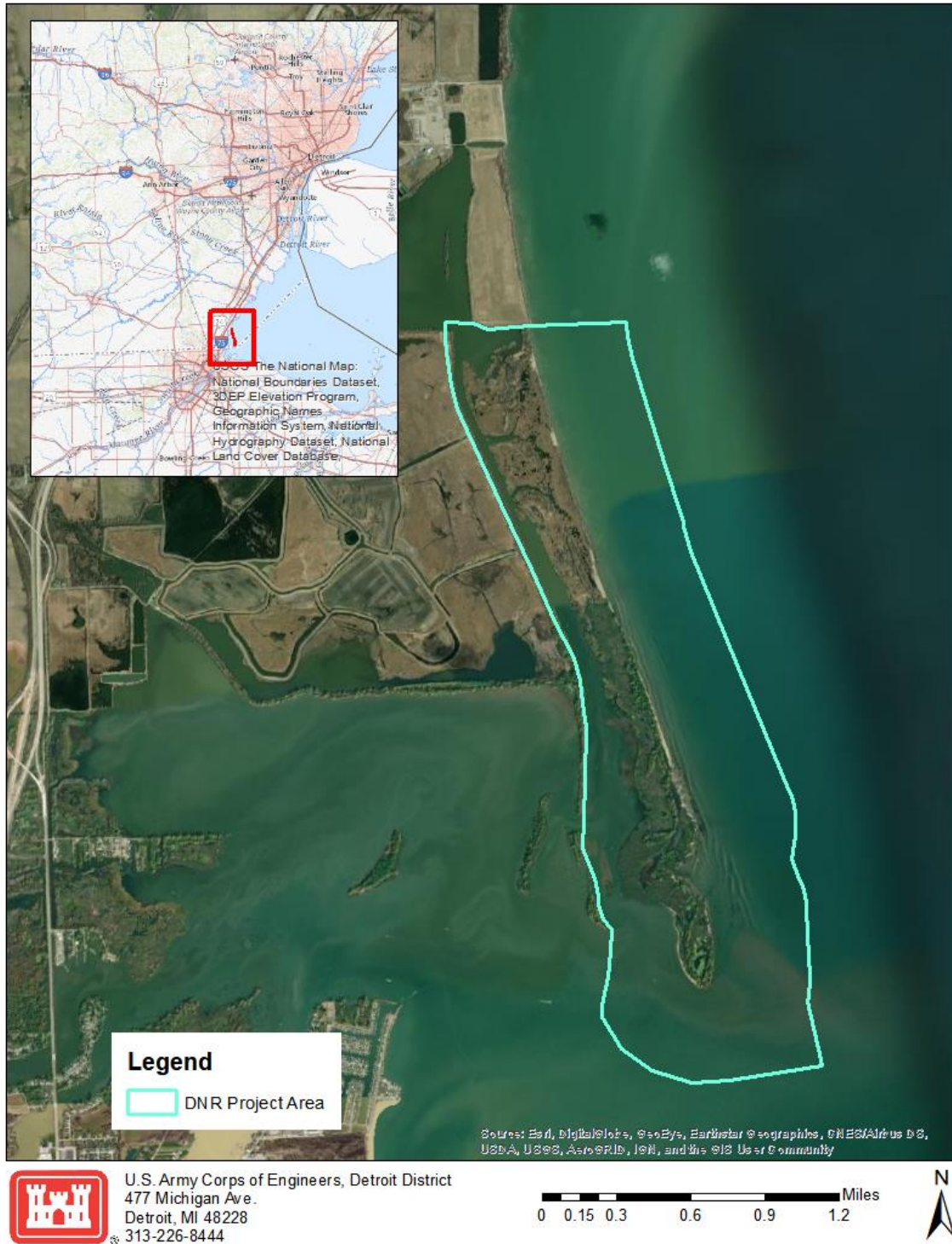


Figure 1: Location of Woodtick Peninsula in southeast Michigan. The DNR Property (blue area) is approximately 2 miles north of Toledo Harbor and lies just north of the Michigan-Ohio State line.



Alternative 4a



Legend

- Dredged material placement area
- Offshore reef

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

Figure 2: The Tentatively Selected Plan includes placing dredged material from Toledo Harbor, OH on the leeside of Woodtick Peninsula to create submerged wetland habitat for Submerged Aquatic Vegetation by increasing the bottom elevation so that a larger area is within the photic zone and the construction of an artificial reef at the southern terminus of the peninsula to create fish habitat.