

STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

PO Box 47600, Olympia, WA 98504-7600 • 360-407-6000

May 16, 2024

Department of the Army U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Portland District ATTN: Duncan Newberry P.O. Box 2946 Portland, OR 97208-2946

Re: Coastal Zone Management Federal Consistency Decision for Baker Bay Pile Dike Repairs, Columbia River, Clatsop County, Oregon

Dear Duncan Newberry:

On April 15, 2024, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) submitted a Consistency Determination with the Washington State Coastal Zone Management Program (CZMP).

Years of deferred maintenance, erosion, and sedimentation has led to loss of pile dike function, increased frequency of dredging events in the FNC, and larger volumes of material removed per dredging event. The purpose of this project is to restore the hydraulic function of the Baker Bay West Pile Dike (BBWPD) system. The project is needed to provide reliable navigation to channel users including recreationalists, the Port of Ilwaco, and a U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Station. Repairing the BBWPD system is intended to reduce the need for annual dredging and prevent shoaling in vicinity of the USCG Station.

The proposed action will repair Baker Bay Pile Dike (BBPD) 0.28 and BBPD 0.28W, located in the Columbia River estuary near river mile (RM) 3.25. The Corps constructed the BBPD to stabilize the Baker Bay West Federal Navigation Channel (FNC) as part of the Baker Bay West Federal Navigation System. Shoreline connection work may require construction of a temporary Material Offload Facility (MOF) on Sand Island (also called West Sand Island). MOF construction may require dredging of up to 15,000yd³ of material adjacent to Sand Island below Mean Lower Low Water and placement of up to 16 mooring piles up to 24-inch diameter and up to 125 sheet piles depending on the contractor's means and methods.

The proposed action consists of the following major activities:

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- 1) Remove the timber piles, repair the existing rock for BB0.28 East and extend the existing dike to the present-day shoreline of West Sand Island. The new enrockment would include notches to allow juvenile fish passage along the shoreline during low water.
- 2) Construct a material transition zone between the dike and the existing sandy dune on West Sand Island.
- 3) Reinforce a low point in the dune near the landward end of BB0.28E by placing material (such as brush, root masses, logs, branches, or sand) grubbed incidentally from the construction footprint.
- 4) Installation of 12 marker piles to provide warning of submerged hazards as an aid to navigation at BBPD 0.28, 0.56, 0.70 and 0.86.
- 5) Reinforce the ends of BB0.28W by placing stone at the ends of the pile dike.
- 6) Construction of access facilities and staging areas.

Pursuant to Section 307(c)(3) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 as amended, Ecology concurs with the Corps' determination that the proposed work is consistent with Washington's CZMP.

If you have any questions regarding Ecology's decision, please contact Teressa Pucylowski at 360-764-0546.

Your right to appeal

You have a right to appeal this decision to the Pollution Control Hearings Board (PCHB) within 30 days of the date of receipt. The appeal process is governed by Chapter 43.21B RCW and Chapter 371-08 WAC. "Date of receipt" is defined in RCW 43.21B.001(2).

To appeal, you must do all of the following within 30 days of the date of receipt of this decision:

- File your notice of appeal and a copy of this decision with the PCHB (see filing information below). "Filing" means actual receipt by the PCHB during regular business hours as defined in WAC 371-08-305 and -335. "Notice of appeal" is defined in WAC 371-08-340.
- Serve a copy of your notice of appeal and this decision on the Department of Ecology mail, in person, or by email (see addresses below).

You must also comply with other applicable requirements in Chapter 43.21B RCW and Chapter 371-08 WAC.

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Filing an appeal

Filing with the PCHB

For the most current information regarding filing with the PCHB, visit: https://eluho.wa.gov/ or call: 360-664-9160.

Service on Ecology

Street Addresses:

Department of Ecology Attn: Appeals Processing Desk 300 Desmond Drive SE Lacey, WA 98503

Mailing Addresses:

Department of Ecology Attn: Appeals Processing Desk PO Box 47608 Olympia, WA 98504-7608

E-Mail Address:

ecologyappeals@ecy.wa.gov

Sincerely,

Jour Randell

Loree' Randall, Section Manager Aquatic Permitting & Protection Section Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program

Sent via e-mail: duncan.s.newberry@usace.army.mil

E-cc: Teressa Pucylowski, Ecology fedconsistency@ecy.wa.gov