

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, SOUTH ATLANTIC DIVISION 60 FORSYTH STREET SW, ROOM 10M15 ATLANTA, GA 30303-8801

CESAD-PDO

6 June 2023

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, South Atlantic Division FY23 and FY24 SARBO Project Assessment Recommendations for Projects Covered under the 2020 SARBO.

1. PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND. This documents the SARBO Project Assessment implementation of recommendations for FY23 and FY24 projects covered under the 2020 South Atlantic Regional Biological Opinion for Dredging and Material Placement Activities in the Southeast United States (referred to as the 2020 SARBO, Reference 2.a.)¹. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) South Atlantic Division (SAD) is required to complete this assessment in accordance with the 2020 SARBO.

2. REFERENCES. The SARBO Project Assessment recommendations incorporate the information listed below.

a. 2020 South Atlantic Regional Biological Opinion for Dredging and Material Placement Activities in the Southeast United States, issued 27 March 2020 and revised 30 July 2020.

b. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, South Atlantic Division, Documentation of SARBO Project Assessment for Dredging and Material Placement in Fiscal Year 2023, Fiscal Year 2024, and Subsequent Fiscal Years, June 2023.

c. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers South Atlantic Division Pre-Construction Risk Assessment for Maintenance Dredging of Wilmington, Morehead City, Charleston, Savannah, and Brunswick Harbors in Fiscal Year 2022, 15 July 2021.

d. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers South Atlantic Division Pre-Construction Risk Assessment for Maintenance Dredging of Wilmington, Morehead City, Charleston, Savannah, and Brunswick Harbors in Fiscal Year 2023, 23 June 2022.

3. SARBO PROJECTS. As this is the first time a formal SARBO Project Assessment was completed for all projects, the completion of documentation of the FY23 SARBO Project Assessment was delayed during the internal review process. Hence, the SARBO Project Assessment (Reference 2.b.) documents the analysis completed and recommendations that were made for projects covered under the 2020 SARBO in FY23,

¹ The 2020 SARBO was issued by NMFS on 27 March 2020 and revised on 31 July 2020, both under NMFS consultation tracking number SERO-2019-03111.

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including those already underway or completed before the formal documentation of the SARBO Project Assessment was finalized. A list of FY23 and FY24 projects covered under the 2020 SARBO is provided in Appendix 1.

4. SARBO PROJECT ASSESSMENT RECOMMENDATIONS. All other project recommendations for FY23 and FY24 are documented below based on the SARBO Project Assessment (Reference 2.b.), which includes consideration of information from the South Atlantic Division Regional Harbor Dredging Contracts 5.0 Pre-Construction Risk Assessments (Reference 2.c.) including past incidental take and lessons learned. USACE recommendations:

a. <u>Section 5 of the SARBO Project Assessment (Reference 2.b.)</u>. Apply the recommendations described in this section of the SARBO Project Assessment to projects covered under the 2020 SARBO.

b. <u>Wilmington, Morehead City, Charleston, Savannah, and Brunswick Harbors</u>. For FY23, recommendations for these projects covered under the 2020 SARBO were included in the South Atlantic Division Regional Harbor Dredging Contracts 6.0 Pre-Construction Risk Assessments (Reference 2.d.).

For FY24, as outlined in the SARBO Project Assessment (Reference 2.b.) and the South Atlantic Division Regional Harbor Dredging Contracts 6.0 Pre-Construction Risk Assessments (Reference 2.d.), the risk assessment supports USACE moving outside of historic winter dredging windows to dredge these projects. Dredging within the prior windows is not preferred due to the assessment for Atlantic sturgeon, NARWs, and likely sea turtles. However, dredging should be performed between 15 December and 31 March during FY24 because this timeframe is currently dictated by environmental compliance requirements that are being addressed.

c. <u>Hopper Dredging in King's Bay Entrance Channel and Mayport</u>. As outlined in the SARBO Project Assessment (Reference 2.b.), project timing should start after 01 April. These are Regulatory projects for the U.S. Navy that have national security significance, which limits the timing adjustments and scope of work modifications that can be implemented. Also, at this time, Kings Bay hopper dredging is restricted by environmental compliance requirements to occur between 15 December and 31 March. Mayport does not have an environmental compliance requirement that restricts the timing of work.

d. <u>Beach Nourishment Projects Located North of St. Lucie Inlet, Florida Using</u> <u>Hopper Dredging at a Borrow Site</u>. As outlined in the SARBO Project Assessment (Reference 2.b.) and subject to any supplemental environmental assessment that might be required, project timing should be shifted to start after 01 April.

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e. <u>Projects Located from St. Lucie Inlet, Florida South through the Florida Keys;</u> <u>Puerto Rico; and the U.S. Virgin Islands</u>. As outlined in the SARBO Project Assessment (Reference 2.b.), USACE Districts and SAD will continue to coordinate together and with NMFS to assure compliance with the 2020 SARBO Coral PDCs. There are no additional recommendations for these projects currently.

f. <u>Projects Completed Using Non-Hopper Dredging Equipment</u>. No additional recommendations are necessary at this time beyond those provided for all projects in Section 5 of the SARBO Project Assessment (Reference 2.b.).

Encl

RECOMMENDED BY:

JOHN D. FERGUSON, P.E. Chief, Operations & Regulatory Division

APPROVED BY:

ARRY D. MCCALLISTER, PhD, PE, SES Director of Programs

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Appendix 1

Table 1. Hopper Dredging Projects and Plan Recommendations

FY	Action Agency 2	Project Name	Dredged Area	Proposed Placement Area	Estimated Volume (CY)	Relocation Trawling	Bed leveling	ESA- Listed Coral	Sturgeon River	Timing ³
FY23	SAW REG	Southern Shores Beach Nourishment	Borrow Area A	Town of Southern Shores beach	1,800,000	Not initially	As needed	N/A	Yes	No
FY23	SAW REG	Duck Beach Nourishment	Borrow Area A	Duck beach	1,200,000	Not initially	As needed	N/A	Yes	No
FY23	SAW CW	Wilmington Harbor Inner Ocean Bar	Smith Channel	Baldhead South Beach	750,000	Not initially	As needed	N/A	Yes	Yes
FY23	SAJ REG	Naval Station Mayport	Entrance Channel & Navy Fuel Pier 111	Jacksonville ODMDS Zone A	1,800,000	Not initially	Yes	N/A	No	Yes
FY23	SAJ REG	Kings Bay Entrance Channel	Entrance Channel	Fernandina Beach ODMDS	1,187,000	Yes	As needed	N/A	Yes	Yes
FY23	SAJ CW	St. Johns County Florida Shore Protection Project (SPP)	S-1 (Borrow Area)	St. Augustine Beach (R-137 -150)	2,112,500	Not initially	As needed	N/A	N/A	Yes
FY23	SAJ CW	St. Johns County Florida Coastal Storm Risk Management	N-3 (Borrow Area)	South Ponte Vedra Beach & Vilano Beach	1,125,800	Not initially	As needed	N/A	N/A	Yes
FY23	SAJ CW	Fort Pierce SPP	Capron Shoal	Fort Pierce Beach	500,000	Not initially	As needed	N/A	N/A	No
FY23	SAJ CW	Jacksonville Harbor	O&M Bar Cut 3 to Upper Turning Channel w/ portions Cuts F & G	Upland	1,782,000	Not initially	Yes	N/A	Yes	No
FY23	SAJ CW	Fernandina Harbor	O&M 35 and 36- Foot Project	Fernandina Beach ODMDS	125,000	Not initially	Yes	N/A	No	Yes

² Regulatory (REG), Civil Works (CW), South Atlantic Wilmington (SAW), South Atlantic Charleston (SAC), South Atlantic Jacksonville (SAJ)

³ NARW Timing indicates whether a project will have vessels and/or equipment transiting areas where NARW will be present.

FY	Action Agency 2	Project Name	Dredged Area	Proposed Placement Area	Estimated Volume (CY)	Relocation Trawling	Bed leveling	ESA- Listed Coral	Sturgeon River	NARW Timing ³
FY23	SAJ CW	Flagler County SPP	Borrow Area 3A	Flagler Beach (R-80 to R-94)	1,326,000	Not initially	As needed	N/A	N/A	Yes
FY23	SAJ CW	Duval County SPP	Borrow Area S (or "F")	Atlantic Beaches	2,100,000	Not initially	As needed	N/A	N/A	Yes
FY23	SAJ REG	Hillsboro/Deerfield Beach Nourishment	Boca Inlet	Atlantic Beaches	400,000	Not initially	As needed	Yes	N/A	No
FY23	SAJ REG	Sebastian Inlet Dredge and Nourishment	Entrance channel and impoundment basin	Atlantic Beaches	1,162,000	Not initially	As needed	N/A	N/A	Yes
FY23	SAJ REG	Patrick Space Force Nourishment	Canaveral Shoals I & II	Atlantic Beaches	325,000	Not initially	As needed	N/A	N/A	Yes
FY24	SAJ CW	Mayport (NAVY) FY23 / NAVY FUEL PIER 111	Entrance Channel and around Navy Pier 111	ODMDS	1,865,000	Not initially	As needed	N/A	N/A	Yes
FY24	SAJ CW	Fort Pierce Beach FY23	Borrow Area	Beach Nourishment	500,000	Not initially	As needed	N/A	N/A	N/A
FY24	SAJ CW	Flagler County SPP	Borrow Area	Beach Nourishment	800,000	Not initially	As needed	N/A	N/A	N/A
FY24	SAW CW	Morehead City Inner Ocean Bar FY23/24	Outer Harbor	Ft Macon/ Atlantic Beach	900,000	Not initially	As needed	N/A	N/A	Yes
FY24	SAW CW	Wrightsville Beach CSRM FY24	Inlet borrow site	Wrightsville Beach	1,000,000	Not initially	As needed	N/A	N/A	Yes
FY24	SAW CW	RHDC - Wilmington Harbor FY23/24	Entrance Channel	Wilmington ODMDS	1,200,000	Not initially	As needed	N/A	Yes	Yes
FY24	SAW CW	RHDC - Morehead City Harbors FY23/24	Entrance Channel	Morehead City ODMDS	150,000	Not initially	As needed	N/A	N/A	Yes
FY24	SAJ CW	St. Lucie Inlet & Jetty Repairs FY23 (Combined)	Inlet	Beach Nourishment	500000	Not initially	As needed	Yes	N/A	N/A

FY	Action Agency 2	Project Name	Dredged Area	Proposed Placement Area	Estimated Volume (CY)	Relocation Trawling	Bed leveling	ESA- Listed Coral	Sturgeon River	NARW Timing ³
FY24	SAJ CW	King's Bay Entrance Channel (NAVY) FY24	Entrance Channel	Nearshore, Beach & ODMDS	1,500,000	Yes	As needed	N/A	Yes	Yes
FY24	SAJ CW	Mayport FY24/Jax Harbor FY24/Duval County SPP	Mayport and Jax Harbor	Beach Nourishment	1,800,000	Not initially	As needed	N/A	N/A	Yes
FY24	SAJ CW	Palm Beach Harbor - FY24	Inner and outer entrance channel	Palm Beach ODMDS, nearshore	500,000	Not initially	As needed	Yes	N/A	N/A
FY24	SAS CW	Brunswick Entrance Channel O&M- FY24-RHDC 7.0	Brunswick Harbor Entrance Channel STA 0+000 to - 45+000	Brunswick ODMDS	1,860,000	Not initially	As needed	N/A	N/A	Yes
FY24	SAJ CW	Savannah Entrance Channel O&M- FY24-RHDC 7.0	Savannah Harbor Entrance Channel 0+000 to -97+680	Savannah ODMDS	650,000	Not initially	As needed	N/A	Yes	Yes
FY24	SAC CW	Myrtle Beach Reach Renourishment	Little River Borrow Site	Myrtle Beach Reach 1	2,000,000	Not initially	As needed	N/A	N/A	Yes
FY24	SAJ CW	Jacksonville Harbor	Bar Cut 17 – 42 & Lower Terminal Channel	ODMDS and Upland	600,000	Not initially	As needed	N/A	N/A	Yes

FY	Action Agency ₄	Project Name	Dredged Area	Proposed Placement Area	Estimated Total Dredge Volume (CY)	Equipment	ESA- Listed Coral	Sturgeon River	NARW Timing
FY23	SAC CW	Charleston Harbor Lower Reaches	Charleston Lower Harbor	Charleston ODMDS	2,100,000	Mechanical	N/A	No	Yes
FY23	SAS CW	Savannah Inner Harbor	Stations 0+000 to 105+500	Dredged Material Containment Areas (DMCA) 12A	3,400,000	Cutterhead	N/A	Yes	No
FY23	SAC REG	Joint Base Charleston Maintenance Dredging	Joint Base Charleston	DMMA	1,684,000	Cutterhead	N/A	No	No
FY23	SAJ CW	Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project	N/A	Miami Beach	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No
FY23	SAS CW	Brunswick Inner Harbor, GA	Brunswick Inner Harbor, East River	Andrews Island DMCA	473,292	Cutterhead	N/A	N/A	No
FY23	SAS CW	Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway (AIWW) Selective Sites O&M	Fields Cut	DMCA 14B	102,000	Cutterhead	N/A	N/A	No
FY23	SAJ CW	Broward County SPP Segment III	N/A	Von D. Mizell Eula Johnson State Park	N/A	N/A	Yes	N/A	No
FY23	SAW CW	AIWW North	S2 tan J and Jacksonville	Onslow Beach	769,600	Cutterhead	N/A	N/A	No
FY23	SAW CW	Manteo Interior Channels and Silver Lake Maintenance Dredging	Ranges 14A, 14B & 16	Island D	558,000	Cutterhead	N/A	N/A	No
FY23	SAW CW	AIWW South	S2 tan J and Jacksonville	Onslow Beach	769,600	Cutterhead	N/A	N/A	No

 Table 2. Non-Hopper Dredging Proposed Projects and Plan Recommendations

⁴ Regulatory (REG), Civil Works (CW), South Atlantic Wilmington (SAW), South Atlantic Charleston (SAC), South Atlantic Jacksonville (SAJ)

FY	Action Agency ₄	Project Name	Dredged Area	Proposed Placement Area	Estimated Total Dredge Volume (CY)	Equipment	ESA- Listed Coral	Sturgeon River	NARW Timing
FY23	SAC REG	Kinder Morgan Bulk Terminals, Inc.	Berths 1 and 2	Daniel Island DMMA	60,000	Cutterhead	N/A	Yes	No
FY23	SAW CW	Wilmington Harbor Anchorage Basin	32' Turning Basin	Eagle Island Cell 2	1,470,000	Cutterhead	N/A	Value needed	No
FY23	SAW REG	NC Department of Transportation Fisher Ferry Route	Fort Fisher Ferry Channel	South dock Spoil Site	90,000	Cutterhead, Mechanical	N/A	Yes	
FY23	SAJ CW	AlWW-Jacksonville to Miami -, Palm Valley South Reach	IWW Palm Valley Reaches I and II	SJ-14 DMMA	400,000	Cutterhead, Mechanical	N/A	N/A	Yes
FY23	SAW CW	Military Ocean Terminal Sunny Point	N/A	Wilmington ODMDS	N/A	Mechanical	N/A	Yes	Yes
FY23	SAJ SAD	San Juan Harbor O&M	San Juan Harbor	ODMDS	150,000	Modified Hopper,	N/A	N/A	No
FY23	SAJ CW	Palm Beach Harbor	Dredge Area 1	Palm Beach Harbor Beach/ Nearshore	250,000	Cutterhead	Yes	N/A	No
FY23	SAC CW	Town Creek Federal Navigation Project	Entrance channel	Nearshore berm off Lighthouse Island	100,000	Modified Hopper	N/A	No	Yes
FY23	SAJ CW	Volusia County, FL Intracoastal Waterway /IWW)	Ponce de Leon Inlet	New Smyrna Beach	600,000	Modified Hopper, Cutterhead	N/A	N/A	Yes
FY24	SAJ REG	Canaveral Naval Ordnance Test Unit	Entrance Channel	Canaveral ODMDS	500,000	Mechanical	N/A	N/A	No
FY24	SAC REG	Hidden Cove Marina	Existing Marina Basin	Temporary Upland Basin	5,600	Cutterhead	N/A	No	No
FY24	SAC REG	Charleston Marine Manufacturing Company	Piers C, D, F, G, H, J, S, T, and U	Clouter Creek DMMA	400,000	Cutterhead	N/A	Yes	No
FY24		Amelie Oil Company	existing berth	Clouter Creek DMMA	35,000	Cutterhead	N/A	Yes	No
FY24	SAS CW	AIWW: Cumberland Dividings	AIWW between RM 704.5 - 709.5	Primary Location- Designation BU-E	316,000	Cutterhead	N/A	N/A	No

FY	Action Agency ₄	Project Name	Dredged Area	Proposed Placement Area	Estimated Total Dredge Volume (CY)	Equipment	ESA- Listed Coral	Sturgeon River	NARW Timing
FY24	SAJ REG	Marine Corps Slipway Channel at Blount Island	Marine Corps Slipway Channel	Dayson Island	150,000	Cutterhead	N/A	No	No
FY24	SAJ CW	St. Johns and Flagler County, IWW	Matanzas Inlet Reach V	SJ-1 DMMA	200,000	Modified Hopper, Cutterhead, Mechanical	N/A	N/A	No
	SAC REG	North Charleston Terminal	Existing Berths	Clouter Creek DMMA	155,000	Cutterhead	N/A	Yes	No
FY24	SAC REG	26th Street Canal Association	Existing Excavated Canal	1088S/1100S W-C	10,000	Cutterhead	N/A	N/A	No
FY24	SAS REG	Georgia Ports Authority, Garden City Terminal	Garden City Terminal Berths	Upland	254,000	Cutterhead	N/A	Yes	No
FY24	SAS REG	Georgia Ports Authority, Ocean Terminal	Berths 1,2,12, 13, 18 & 19	Upland	58,900	Cutterhead	N/A	Yes	No
FY24	SAS REG	International-Matex Tank Terminals (IMMT), Savannah South, Dock 2	Savannah South, Dock 2	Upland	30,000	Cutterhead	N/A	Yes	No
FY24	SAS REG	IMMT, Savannah South Dock 1	Savannah South Dock 1	Upland	7,000	Cutterhead	N/A	Yes	No
FY24	SAS REG	East Coast Terminal	East Coast Terminal	Upland	15,000	Cutterhead	N/A	Yes	No
FY24	SAS REG	Savannah Bulk Terminal	Savannah Bulk Terminal	Upland	25,000	Cutterhead	N/A	Yes	No
FY24	SAS REG	Southeast Maritime	Southeast Maritime	Upland	54,000	Cutterhead	N/A	Yes	No
FY24	SAS REG	Colonial Terminals Plant 1	Colonial Terminals Plant 1	Upland	47,000	Cutterhead	N/A	Yes	No
FY24	SAS REG	Colonial Terminals Plant 2	Colonial Terminals Plant 2	Upland	72,000	Cutterhead	N/A	Yes	No

FY	Action Agency ₄	Project Name	Dredged Area	Proposed Placement Area	Estimated Total Dredge Volume (CY)	Equipment	ESA- Listed Coral	Sturgeon River	NARW Timing
FY24	SAS REG	Georgia Kaolin Terminals	Georgia Kaolin Terminals	Upland	100,000	Cutterhead	N/A	Yes	No
FY24	SAS REG	Phillips 66	Phillips 66	N/A	27,000	Mechanical	N/A	Yes	No
FY24	SAS REG	IMTT Savannah North Dock	Savannah North Dock	N/A	27,000	Mechanical	N/A	Yes	No
FY24	SAS REG	G-P Gypsum Terminal	G-P Gypsum Terminal	N/A	6,000	Mechanical	N/A	Yes	No
FY24	SAS REG	Chatham County Slip 1	Chatham County Slip 1	N/A	20,000	Mechanical	N/A	Yes	No
FY24	SAS REG	Seaonus Stevedoring	Seaonus Stevedoring	N/A	20,000	Mechanical	N/A	Yes	No
FY24	SAS REG	Savannah Yacht Center	Savannah Yacht Center	N/A	8,500	Mechanical	N/A	Yes	No
FY24	SAS REG	Georgia International and Maritime Trade Center Authority Slip III	Slip III	N/A	3,000	Mechanical	N/A	Yes	No
FY24	SAS REG	Imperial Sugar	Imperial Sugar	N/A	64,000	Mechanical	N/A	Yes	No