

TOWN OF SUNSET BEACH  
2016 SHORELINE MANAGEMENT AND PRE-DREDGE ANALYSIS  
PHASE 2 - DESIGN

PROGRESS REPORT DATE  
MARCH 06, 2017

**Report Period: February 01 thru February 28, 2017**

The items below provide a description of key elements related to the current progress, including outstanding items and anticipated resolutions, for completing the work known as Town of Sunset Beach, 2016 Shoreline Management and Pre-Dredge Analysis, Phase 2 - Design.

**Acronyms:** M&N – Moffatt & Nichol  
DCM – North Carolina Division of Coastal Management  
NMFS – National Marine Fisheries Service  
USACE – US Army Corps of Engineers (Wilmington District)

**Phase 1 – Feasibility Analysis** (100% complete)

**Items Previously Completed:** (100%)

The Town of Sunset Beach (Town) and M&N initiated a contract on February 19<sup>th</sup> to study the feasibility of conducting approximately 3.5 miles of navigation dredging within the Town limits. The work areas include Mary's Creek, Turtle Creek, Jinks Creek, the Feeder Canal and adjoining finger canals, and the Bay area. The results of the analysis were positive and the Town elected to move forward with the design and modeling of the proposed work on June 7<sup>th</sup>. The design work was authorized to begin July 1, 2016.

**Phase 2 –Design** (95.17 % complete)

**Items Previously Completed** (88.47 %)

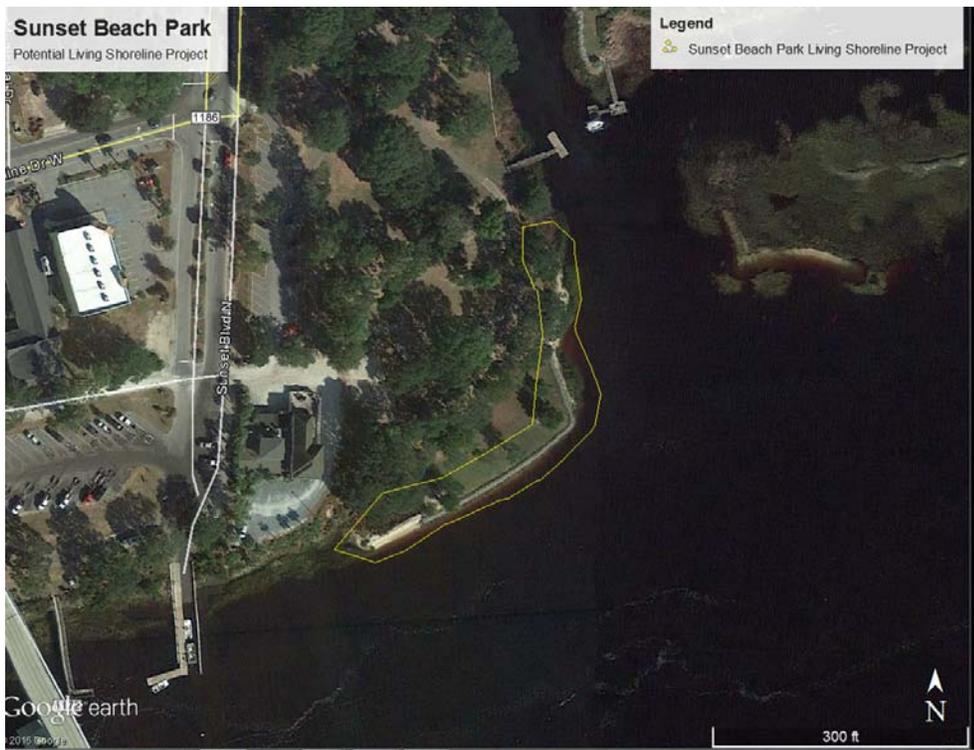
**1.0 Project Coordination**

- The Town of Sunset Beach authorized M&N to begin the design work on July 1, 2016. The first priority was to secure a Water Resource Development Grant through the State's Shallow Draft Navigation Fund. The grant was secured on August 1 and reimburses the Town 2/3's of the project cost up to \$2,779,327.
- The Town is considering available alternatives for beneficial reuse of any dredge material. This includes beach placement for cost share potential with Ocean Isle or dune restoration adjacent to Bird Island for storm protection and habitat restoration. In addition, the dredge material may also be used for a possible living shorelines project to restore marsh or intertidal habitat for invertebrates and shorebirds. Figure 1 below shows potential sites for a marsh restoration project between Mary's and Turtle Creek and along the causeway entering the island of Sunset Beach.

Conversations with DCM (Doug Huggett) and NMFS (Ken Riley) suggest the conceptual marsh restoration project considered between Mary's and Turtle Creek (Figure 1) will create considerable attention and concerns. Each entity agreed a more suitable project may be a living shoreline project proposed along the tip of the town park adjacent to Mary's Creek. Historical photographs demonstrate a potential need for some type of shoreline restoration or protection project in this area. Figure 2 shows the new location discussed with DCM and NMFS. This concept will be discussed at a future agency coordination meeting to decide a path forward.



**Figure 1. Proposed Marsh Restoration Sites (Discouraged by DCM & NMFS)**



**Figure 2 – Potential Living Shoreline Site at Sunset Beach Park (Conceptually Recommended by DCM & NMFS)**

- The Town held a Public Meeting on Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup> for M&N to present the channel design details to the property owners and interested parties of Sunset Beach. Information was provided regarding the dredge depth's and dimensions for each project area. The next step is to provide the same details to the permitting agencies to determine an equitable design for the project.

## 2.0 Refined Design

- M&N provided a proposed channel alignment for each work area within the project along with a dredge volume estimate on October 24<sup>th</sup>. The list below identifies the work areas and the necessary volume of material that would need to be dredged from each, based on the proposed alignments.

- Jinks Creek:	115,000 CY
- Bay Area:	18,200 CY**
- Feeder Channel & Finger Canals:	35,000 CY
- Mary's Creek:	8,000 CY*
- Turtle Creek:	8,000 CY*

\* The volume estimate for Mary's & Turtle Creek comes from a revised alignment provided to the Town on October 31<sup>st</sup>.

\*\* The volume estimate for the Bay Area was revised in December based on the sediment quality. The revision reduces the volume required for removal from 26,000 CY to 18,200 CY.

The alignments concentrate on providing adequate navigation access for the residents of Sunset Beach while also minimizing potential impacts to environmentally sensitive lands. The alignments also focus on maintaining a 5 ~ 10 ft clearance from any existing piling or seawall. The clearance will help the Town establish a pier head alignment for future development (where applicable) and also help avoid any potential damage to the structures as a result of the construction process.

- The alignments were developed with the assistance of a modeling analysis to identify potential impacts that may occur as part of the dredging activity. The modeling analysis assumed a worst case or maximum dredge footprint of 100 ft. wide a 7 ft deep throughout Jinks Creek and evaluated the project's potential to alter the existing tidal velocities and sediment transport trends. The analysis concentrates on the trends expected near the AIWW confluence with Jinks Creek, the 'S' curve within Jinks Creek, and Tubbs Inlet. . The results indicated no significant change should occur in the tidal velocities, or sediment transport as a result of the worst case dredging scenario. A final analysis will be conducted to show the recommended alignment after the Town and residents review the proposed alternative. In addition a storm response (Hurricane Hugo) will be added to the analysis. A modeling report will then be prepared to summarize the results for the Town and resource agencies.

## 3.0 Sediment Testing

- Catlin Engineers provided an initial report on the sediment analysis required to help define 'compatible' and 'non-compatible' material on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Review of the report suggested that additional sediment samples would be necessary to complete the analysis. As a result, Catlin reinitiated efforts to collect the samples and completed the additional field work on October 26<sup>th</sup>. Based on initial review of the sediment data approximately half of the dredge material classifies as non-compatible material.
- M&N provided an estimate of the sediment compatibility for each dredge area based on data collected by Catlin Engineers. The project design will need to consider the volume of compatible and non-compatible material for proper placement of the dredge spoil. Compatible material may be placed on the beach. However, non-compatible material will need to be placed in an alternate (upland) site. The table below provides a summary of the analysis results.

<b>Dredge Area</b>	<b>Compatible (CY)</b>	<b>Non-Compatible (CY)</b>	<b>Total (CY)</b>
Jinks Creek	100,982	13,246	114,228
Bay Area	645	17,555	18,200
Feeder Channel & Finger Canals	3,585	29,275	32,860
Mary's Creek	-	8,066	8,066
Turtle Creek	-	7,830	7,830

- A copy of the sediment analysis was also provided to DCM on January 23<sup>rd</sup> to confirm agreement with the estimates and the logic behind them. M&N will follow up with DCM in mid-February to gather any comments provided.

#### 4.0 USACE Disposal Location

- M&N verified all of the potential disposal islands are available and the USACE will not need to make a site visit to inspect the islands. The USACE will only review the project plans during the permitting process to ensure their concerns are addressed. Therefore, the site visit to look at the potential USACE placement islands has been delayed until after the next agency coordination meeting. This will allow a better understanding of how the agencies respond to the project design and reduce the potential for duplicate efforts in selecting a placement site. Figure 3 shows the potential disposal islands being considered for the project as site 308, 310, & 312. The designations were provided by the USACE as a labeling system for each disposal island.

#### 5.0 Oyster Survey

- The report detailing the oyster survey in Mary's & Turtle Creek was provided for Town review on January 5<sup>th</sup>. The report findings will be discussed at the next agency coordination meeting to determine if any mitigation efforts will be required. Due to the presence of significant resources outside the dredge alignment, within the intertidal areas of each creek, some type of oyster relocation or mitigation may be required.

#### 7.0 Conceptual Cost Estimate

- M&N has contacted multiple dredge contractors to discuss the project and to confirm construction techniques / assumptions in an attempt to develop a more accurate cost estimate for the project. A more definitive estimate will be provided once all of the design details have been resolved. This is not expected until after the next agency coordination meeting.



**Figure 3. Potential USACE Material Placement Islands**

**Progress this Period:** (6.17 % of total task)

**1.0 Project Coordination**

- M&N continues to coordinate with the Town and resource agencies to gather information regarding the dredging project as well as the potential marsh restoration alternative. The information gathered will be discussed at the next Agency Coordination meeting expected in March.

**2.0 Refined Design**

- Efforts continued towards the completion of the hydraulic modeling analysis for Jinks Creek. Delays resulted from reviewing the data in attempts to provide a concise and complete report for review by the resource agencies.

**3.0 Sediment Testing**

- DCM notified M&N on February 9<sup>th</sup>, that most likely sediment samples will be required from the material placement destination (beach) to determine compatibility. However, DCM agreed to discuss the subject at the next agency coordination meeting.

**Outstanding Items and Anticipated Completion Dates:**

**1.0 Project Coordination**

- The feasibility and permitting constraints of constructing a marsh restoration of living shoreline project in any of the proposed sites (Figures 1 & 3) will be discussed with the Town and the resource agencies. Based on the resulting comments, a project may be incorporated into the sediment management plan.

## 2.0 Refined Design

- Completion of the Jinks Creek modeling analysis is expected in early March. The report will be provided to the Town and resource agencies for review. The information will serve as a guide for the next agency coordination meeting to discuss the potential impacts of dredging Jinks Creek.

## 4.0 USACE Disposal Locations

- The inspection of the USACE material confinement islands has been delayed until after the next agency coordination meeting. Since the USACE will not be reviewing the condition of the placement island, delaying the inspection until all comments are received concerning the dredge alignments may help to reduce the need to duplicate efforts.

## 6.0 Agency Coordination Meeting

- M&N will request a second Agency Coordination Meeting to present and discuss the dredge alignments, modeling results, and any potential mitigation requirements with the state and federal agencies. The meeting is anticipated to occur in late March 2017. Based in-part on the results of this meeting, the Town will determine if moving forward with the project is appropriate.

## 7.0 Conceptual Cost Estimate

- M&N will provide an updated construction cost estimate for the proposed dredging based on the accepted design of the project. The cost estimate will be provided as the final task for the design phase and is anticipated in March 2017.

**TOWN OF SUNSET BEACH  
2016 SHORELINE MANAGEMENT & PRE-DREDGE ANALYSIS - DESIGN PHASE**

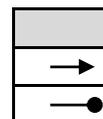
**PROGRESS REPORT  
MARCH 6, 2017**

**Progress Schedule**

Tasks	2016												2017												2018								
	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept						
Pre-Dredge Analysis Design Phase																																	
Project Coordination																																	
Public Meeting																																	
Refined Design																																	
Modeling Analysis																																	
Sediment Testing																																	
Hydrographic Survey																																	
USACE Disposal Locations																																	
Oyster Survey																																	
Agency Coordination Meeting																																	
Conceptual Cost Estimate																																	



Primary Task  
Anticipated timeframe to complete task.  
Anticipated overrun in task.



Sub-Task  
Work in progress (WIP) for task.  
Actual timeframe to complete task.