



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®  
New England District

## PUBLIC NOTICE

**Comment Period Begins:** March 26, 2024

**Comment Period Ends:** April 25, 2024

**File Number:** NAE-2011-01338

**In Reply Refer to:** Christopher Veinotte, Regulatory Division

**Phone:** (978) 318-8495

**Email:** [Christopher.L.Veinotte@usace.army.mil](mailto:Christopher.L.Veinotte@usace.army.mil)

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The District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District (USACE), has received a permit application, file number NAE-2011-01338 to conduct work in waters of the United States from Quonset Development Corporation, 95 Cripe Street, North Kingstown, Rhode Island, 02852. This work is proposed in Narragansett Bay, 95 Cripe Street, North Kingstown, Rhode Island, 02852. The site coordinates are: Latitude 41.620561, Longitude -71.40597.

The work involves mechanically dredging three areas for a total volume of approximately 65,600 cubic yards of material from an approximately 9-acre area.

1. The Allen Harbor Approach Channel includes maintenance dredging to a depth of -10 feet Mean Lower Low Water with 1-foot of allowable overdepth and improvement dredging within the portion of the channel extending into Narragansett Bay to the same depth for a volume of approximately 49,300 cubic yards of material.
2. Allen Harbor West includes a combination of maintenance and improvement dredging to a depth of -8 feet Mean Lower Low Water with 1-foot of allowable overdepth for a volume of approximately 12,800 cubic yards of material.
3. The Little Allen's Harbor Entrance Channel includes a combination of maintenance and improvement dredging to a depth of -8 feet Mean Lower Low Water with 1-foot of allowable overdepth for a volume of approximately 3,500 cubic yards of material.

The work is shown on the enclosed plans titled "ALLEN HARBOR MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT DREDGING", on 9 sheets, and dated "10/04/2022".

Mitigation requirements are still being reviewed. Special conditions will be included to minimize adverse effects to the aquatic environment.

### AUTHORITY

Permits are required pursuant to:

- Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899  
 Section 404 of the Clean Water Act  
 Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act.  
 Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 USC 408)

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit

which may reasonably accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are: conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural value, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain value, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The USACE is soliciting comments from the public; federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. The USACE will consider all comments received to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an environmental assessment and/or an environmental impact statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Where the activity involves the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States or the transportation of dredged material for the purpose of disposing it in ocean waters, the evaluation of the impact of the activity in the public interest will also include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, U.S Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act, and/or Section 103 of the Marine Protection Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972, as amended.

## **DREDGED MATERIAL DISPOSAL MITIGATION DISCUSSION**

The alternatives considered in the dredged material disposal analysis fall into four general categories: beneficial use, upland disposal, confined disposal, and open-water disposal. The feasibility of disposal alternatives was analyzed relative to the physical and chemical quality of the dredged material, the volume of material to be dredged, the availability of suitable disposal and beneficial use sites, and the cost of disposal. When applicable, the biological quality of the disposal of the material at the disposal site was also used to evaluate the feasibility of the open-water disposal alternative.

Based on the characteristics of the dredged material, the lack of suitable alternate disposal or beneficial use sites and costs, the most feasible, practical, cost-effective and environmentally acceptable alternative for the disposal of dredged materials from the

proposed dredging is disposal at the requested disposal site. The dredged material has undergone physical, chemical, and biological testing and has satisfied the criteria for ocean disposal of dredged material as specified in Part 227 of the Ocean Dumping Act regulations. It is our preliminary determination that the material is acceptable for disposal at the Rhode Island Sound Disposal Site.

## RHODE ISLAND SOUND DISPOSAL SITE

The Rhode Island Sound Disposal Site was designated by the Environmental Protection Agency to be usable for disposal of dredged sediments in December 2004. Prior to its site designation, it was selected for temporary use and was employed during 2003-2004 for placement of over 5 million cubic yards of sediment from the Providence River (primarily from the Federal Navigation Project). All sediments disposed at this site have been determined suitable with a project-specific evaluation with an established interagency review process. The site is monitored through the USACE Disposal Area Monitoring System (DAMOS) program. The DAMOS studies show that the site is a low energy environment such that sediments deposited at this location will remain within the site's boundaries. The DAMOS monitoring has also shown that distinct dredged material mounds have been formed at the site. Sediment deposited at the disposal site has not been found to affect areas outside the disposal site.

## ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-267), requires all federal agencies to consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency, that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). Essential Fish Habitat describes waters and substrate necessary for fish for spawning, breeding, feeding or growth to maturity.

The dredging portion of this project will impact approximately 9 acres of EFH. Habitat at this site can be described as estuarine subtidal. Loss of this habitat may adversely affect species that use these waters and substrate. However, the District Engineer has made a preliminary determination that the site-specific adverse effect will not be substantial. Further consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service regarding EFH conservation recommendations is being conducted and will be concluded prior to the final decision.

## NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT

Based on our initial review of the proposed project, it appears there is little likelihood that a historic property exists or may be affected due to the nature, scope, and magnitude of the work, and/or structures to be permitted. This is based upon the following:

- a. The permit area has been extensively modified by previous work.
- b. The permit area has been recently created in modern times.
- c. The nature of the proposed work, structure, or discharge of dredged or fill material would not affect historic properties even if such properties present within the affected area.

Additional review and consultation to fulfill requirements under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, will be ongoing as part of the permit review process.

## ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSULTATION

The USACE has reviewed the application for the potential impact on federally-listed threatened or endangered species and their designated critical habitat pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) as amended. It is our preliminary determination that the proposed activity for which authorization is being sought is designed, situated or will be operated/used in such a manner that it is not likely to adversely affect a listed species or their critical habitat. We are coordinating with the National Marine Fisheries Service and/or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on listed species under their jurisdiction and the ESA consultation will be concluded prior to the final decision.

## OTHER GOVERNMENT AUTHORIZATIONS

The states of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island have approved Coastal Zone Management Programs. Where applicable, the applicant states that any proposed activity will comply with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the approved Coastal Zone Management Program. By this public notice, we are requesting the state concurrence or objection to the applicant's consistency statement.

The following authorizations have been applied for, or have been, or will be obtained:

- Permit, license or assent from State.
- Permit from local wetland agency or conservation commission.
- Water Quality Certification in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act.

## COMMENTS

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity. People submitting comments are advised that all comments received will be available for public review in their entirety and will be considered a matter of public record.

Comments should be submitted in writing by the above date. If you have any questions, please contact Christopher Veinotte, Regulatory Division, at [Christopher.L.Veinotte@usace.army.mil](mailto:Christopher.L.Veinotte@usace.army.mil), (978) 318-8495, (800) 343-4789, or (800) 362-4367.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider the application. Requests for a public hearing shall specifically state the reasons for holding a public hearing. The USACE holds public hearings for the purpose of obtaining public comments when that is the best means for understanding a wide variety of concerns from a diverse segment of the public.

The initial determinations made herein will be reviewed in light of facts submitted in response to this notice. Copies of letters of objection will be forwarded to the applicant who will normally be requested to contact objectors directly in an effort to reach an understanding.

**THIS NOTICE IS NOT AN AUTHORIZATION TO DO ANY WORK.**

*Kevin R Kotelly*

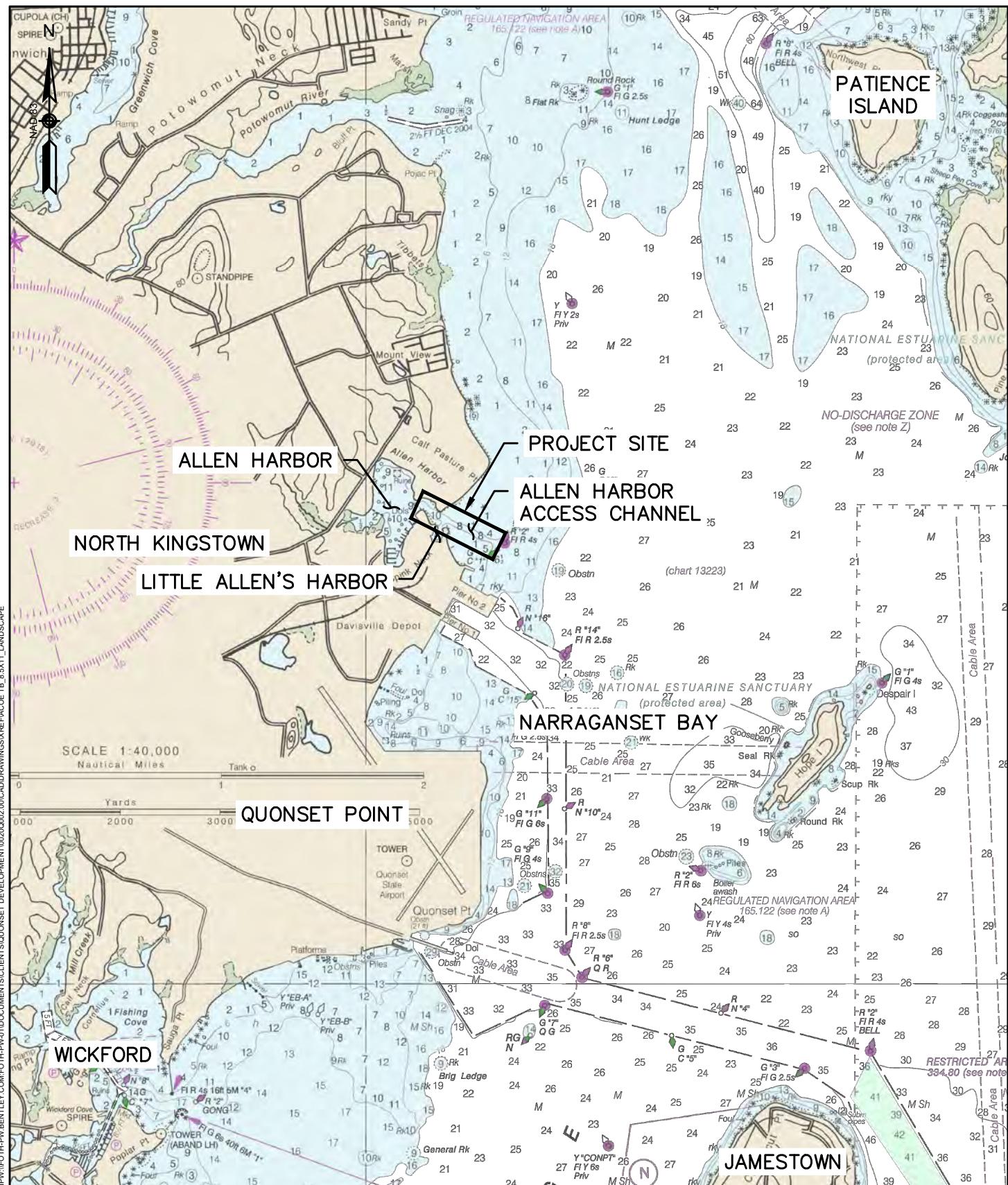
Kevin R. Kotelly  
Chief, CT/RI Section  
Regulatory Division

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Please contact Ms. Tina Chaisson at [bettina.m.chaisson@usace.army.mil](mailto:bettina.m.chaisson@usace.army.mil) or

CENAE-R  
File No. NAE-2011-01338

(978) 318-8058 if you would like to be removed from our public notice mailing list.



**PURPOSE:** ALLEN HARBOR MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT DREDGING

**DATUM:**

MLLW = 0.00'      MHW = +3.86'  
MLW = +0.16'      AHTL = +4.13'

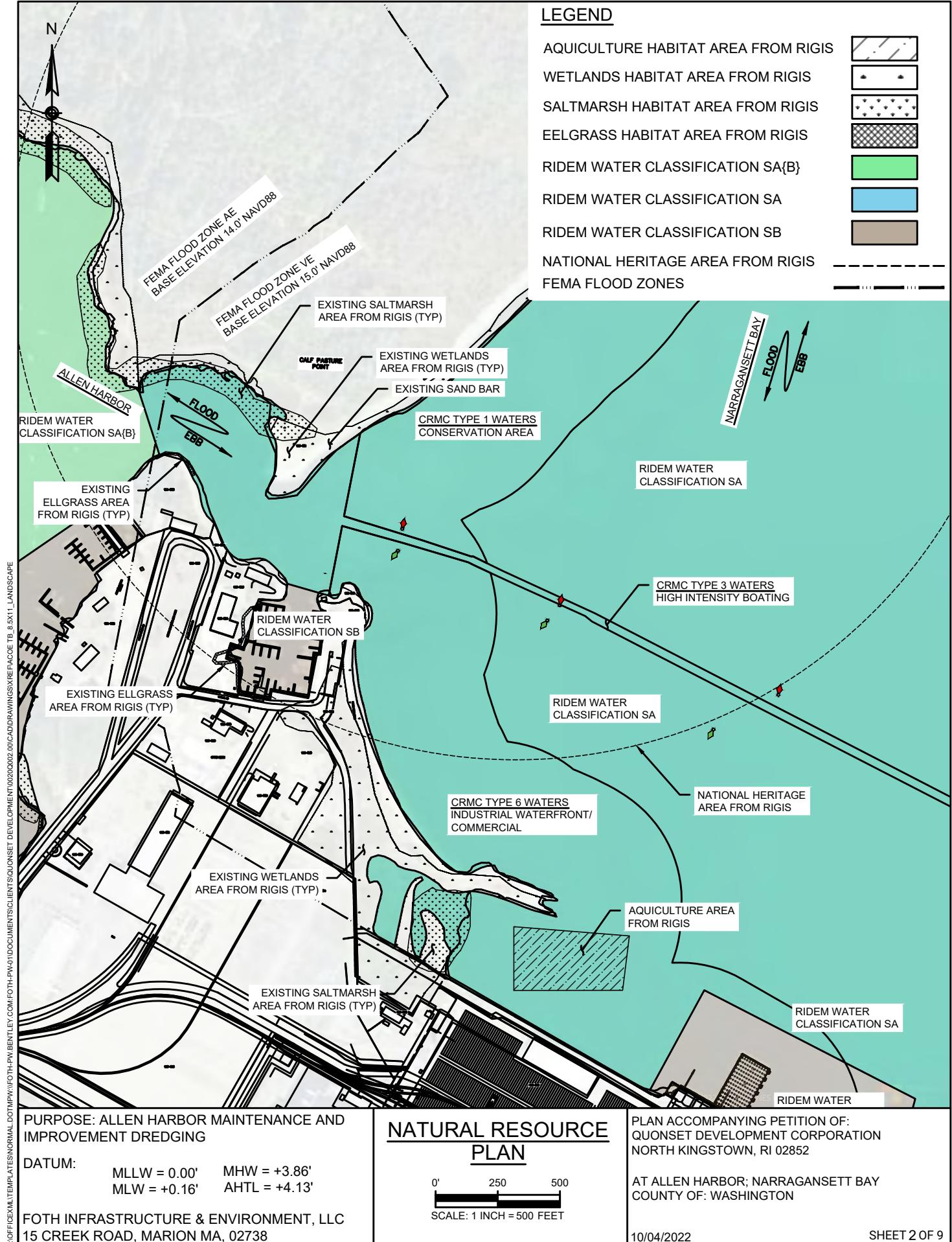
FOTH INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENT, LLC  
15 CREEK ROAD, MARION MA, 02738

### LOCUS MAP

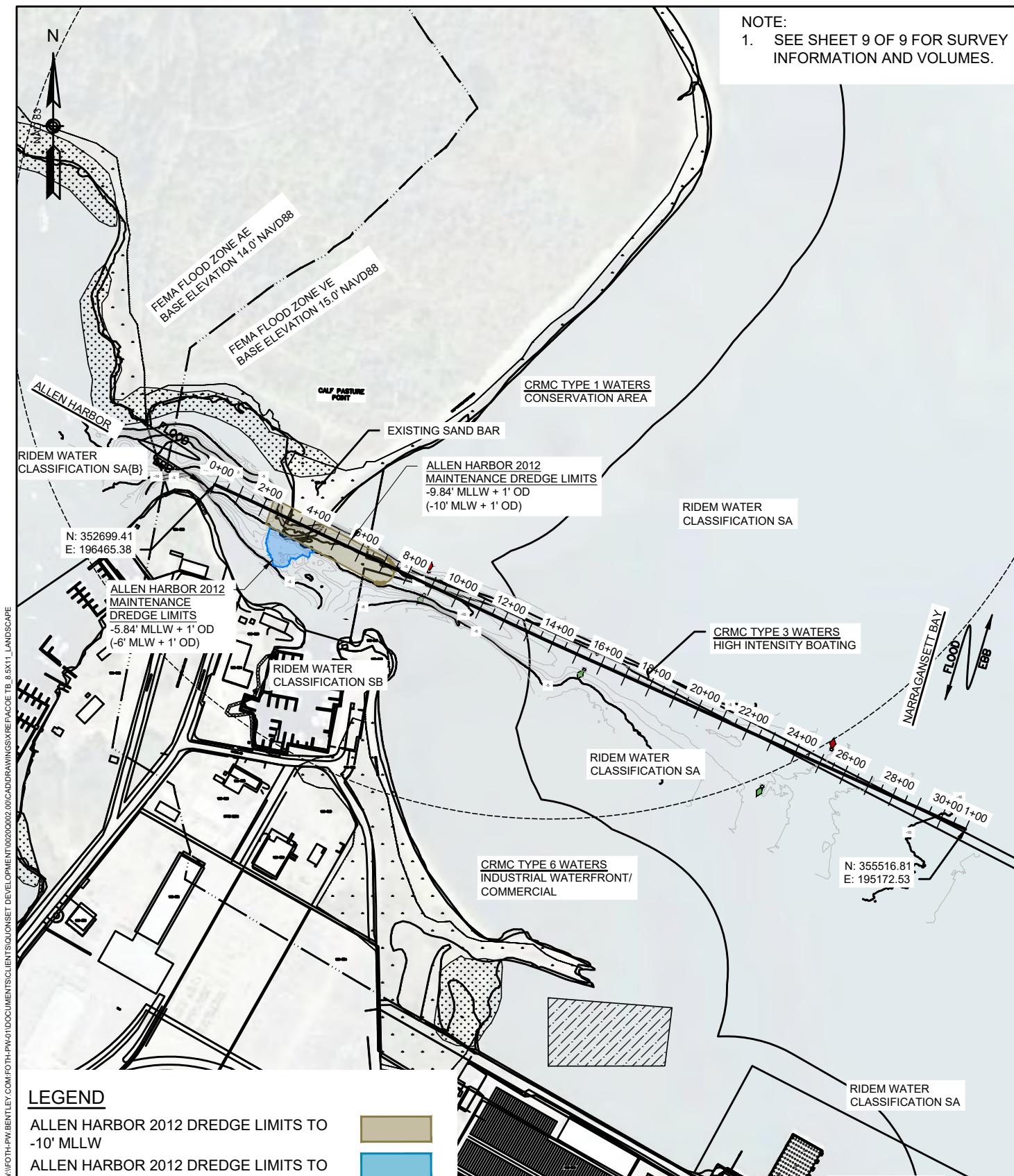
0' 2000 4000  
SCALE: 1 INCH = 4000 FEET

PLAN ACCOMPANYING PETITION OF:  
QUONSET DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
NORTH KINGSTOWN, RI 02852

AT ALLEN HARBOR; NARRAGANSETT BAY  
COUNTY OF: WASHINGTON



NOTE:  
1. SEE SHEET 9 OF 9 FOR SURVEY INFORMATION AND VOLUMES.



#### LEGEND

ALLEN HARBOR 2012 DREDGE LIMITS TO -10' MLLW



ALLEN HARBOR 2012 DREDGE LIMITS TO -10' MLLW



PURPOSE: ALLEN HARBOR MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT DREDGING

DATUM:  
MLLW = 0.00'      MHW = +3.86'  
MLW = +0.16'      AHTL = +4.13'

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15 CREEK ROAD, MARION MA, 02738

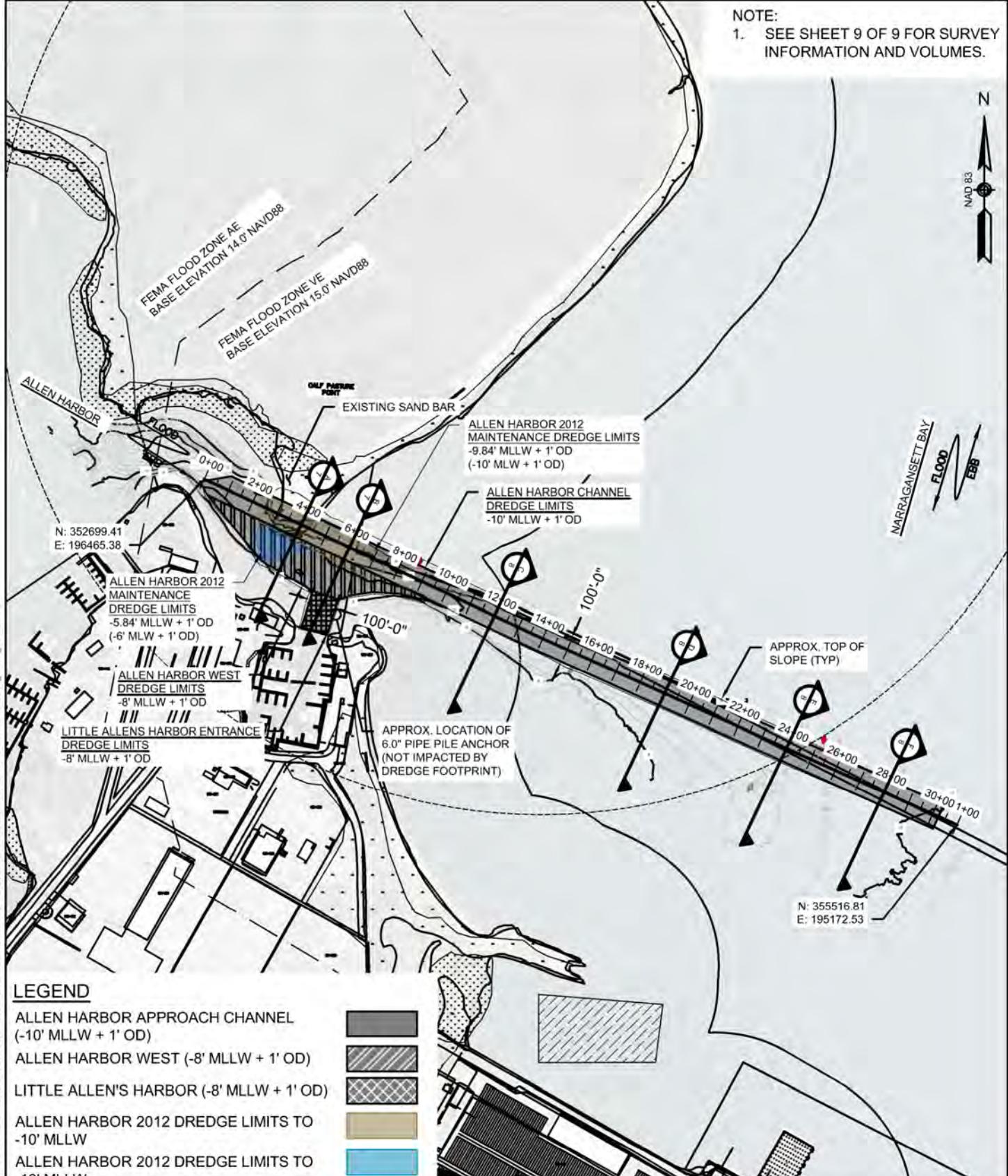
#### EXISTING CONDITIONS

0'      150      300  
SCALE: 1 INCH = 300 FEET

PLAN ACCOMPANYING PETITION OF:  
QUONSET DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
NORTH KINGSTOWN, RI 02852

AT ALLEN HARBOR; NARRAGANSETT BAY  
COUNTY OF: WASHINGTON

NOTE:  
1. SEE SHEET 9 OF 9 FOR SURVEY INFORMATION AND VOLUMES.



#### LEGEND

- ALLEN HARBOR APPROACH CHANNEL (-10' MLLW + 1' OD)
- ALLEN HARBOR WEST (-8' MLLW + 1' OD)
- LITTLE ALLEN'S HARBOR (-8' MLLW + 1' OD)
- ALLEN HARBOR 2012 DREDGE LIMITS TO -10' MLLW
- ALLEN HARBOR 2012 DREDGE LIMITS TO -10' MLLW

PURPOSE: ALLEN HARBOR MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT DREDGING

DATUM: MLLW = 0.00' MHW = +3.86'  
MLW = +0.16' AHTL = +4.13'

FOTH INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENT, LLC  
15 CREEK ROAD, MARION MA, 02738

#### OVERALL PROPOSED CONDITIONS

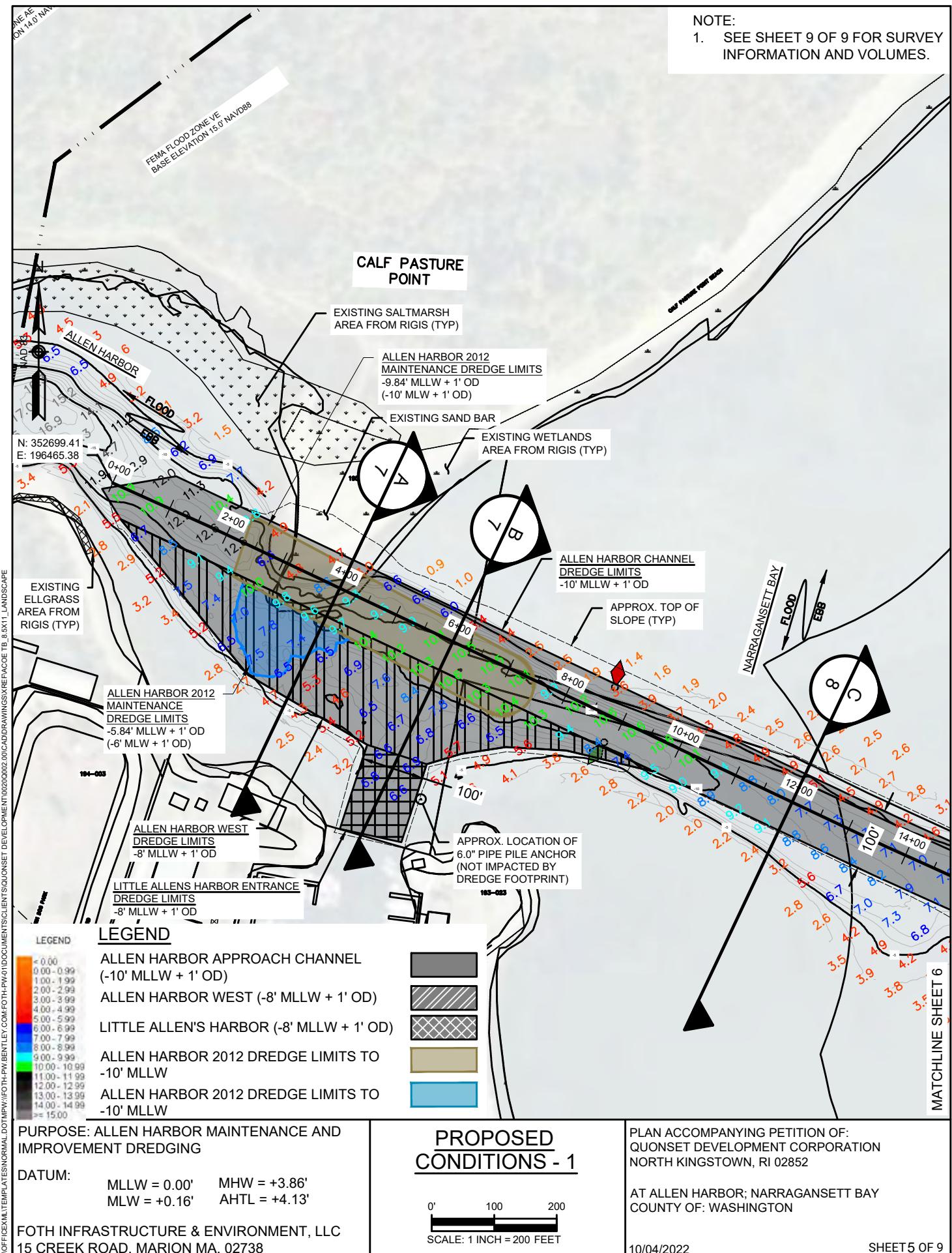
0' 250 500  
SCALE: 1 INCH = 500 FEET

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AT ALLEN HARBOR; NARRAGANSETT BAY  
COUNTY OF: WASHINGTON

10/04/2022

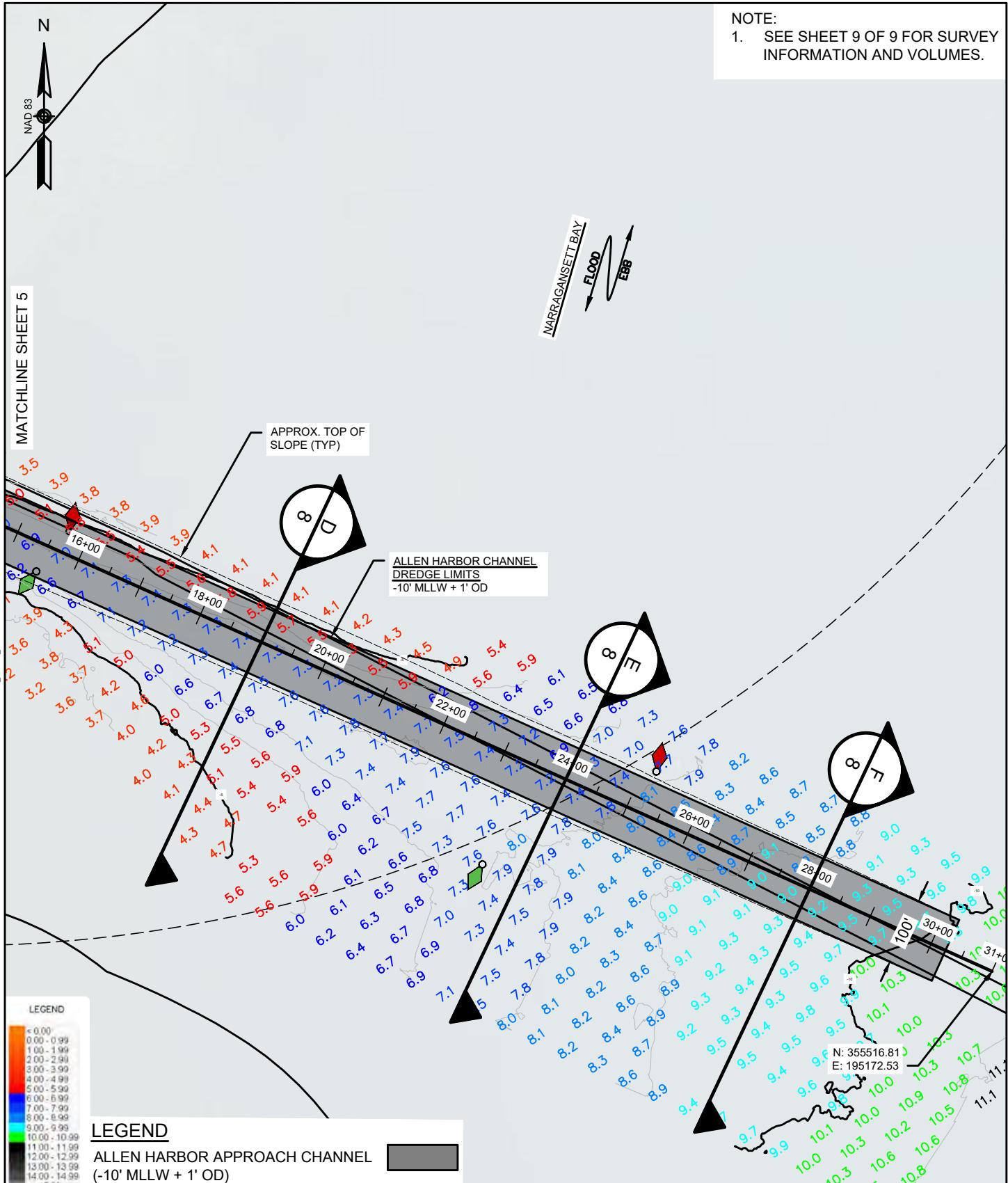
SHEET 4 OF 9



NOTE:  
1. SEE SHEET 9 OF 9 FOR SURVEY INFORMATION AND VOLUMES.

MATCHLINE SHEET 5

NOTEFAX/TEMPLATES/NORMAL.DOTMPW/PW/BENTLEY.COM/FOTH-PW/DOCUMENTS/CLIENTS/QUONSET DEVELOPMENT/00200002.00/CADD DRAWINGS/XREF/ACCE



LEGEND

ALLEN HARBOR APPROACH CHANNEL  
 $(-10' \text{ MLLW} + 1' \text{ OD})$

PROPOSED CONDITIONS - 2

0' 100' 200'  
SCALE: 1 INCH = 200 FEET

PURPOSE: ALLEN HARBOR MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT DREDGING

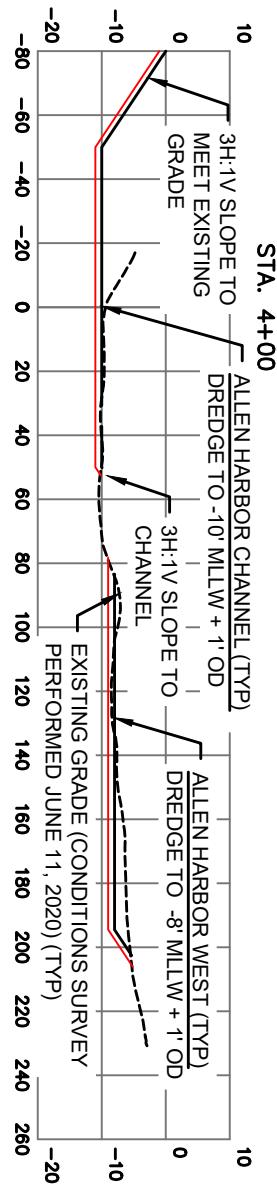
DATUM:  
MLLW = 0.00' MHW = +3.86'  
MLW = +0.16' AHTL = +4.13'

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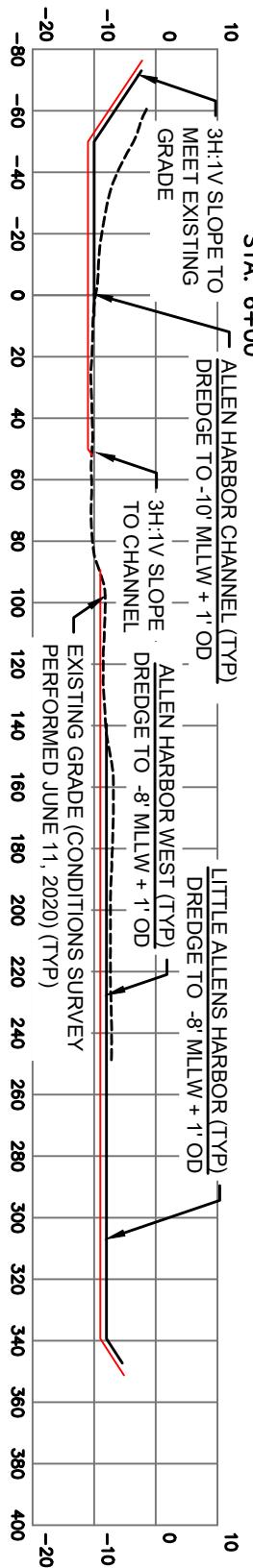
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COUNTY OF: WASHINGTON

**SECTION A**



**SECTION B**



VERTICAL SCALE  
GRAPHIC SCALE  
0 15 30 60  
(IN FEET)  
1 INCH = 30 FEET

HORIZONTAL SCALE  
GRAPHIC SCALE  
0 30 60 120  
(IN FEET)  
1 INCH = 60 FEET

PURPOSE: ALLEN HARBOR MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT DREDGING

DATUM:  
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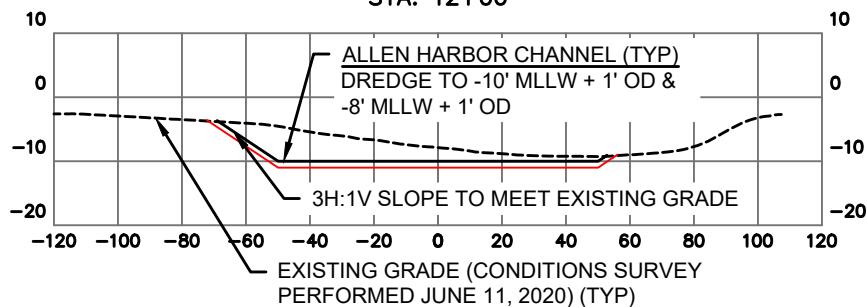
**TYPICAL PROPOSED  
SECTIONS - 1**

PLAN ACCOMPANYING PETITION OF:  
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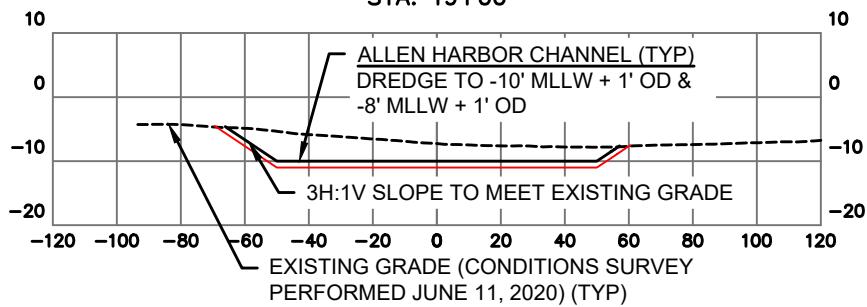
### SECTION C

STA. 12+00



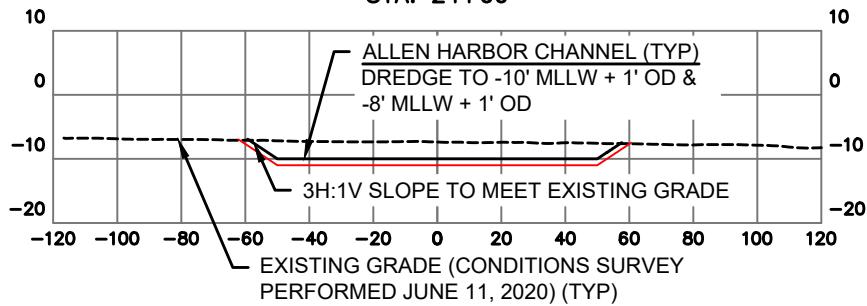
### SECTION D

STA. 19+00



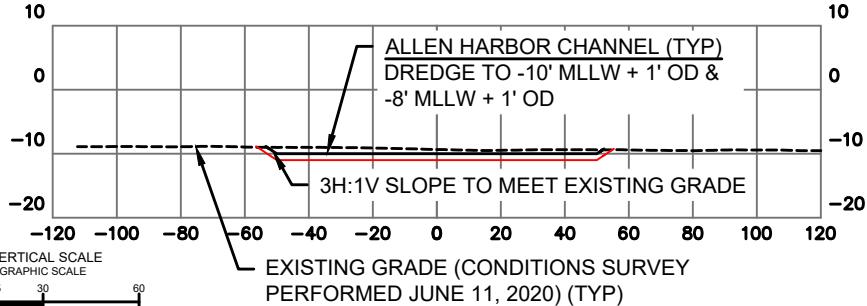
### SECTION E

STA. 24+00



### SECTION F

STA. 28+00



HORIZONTAL SCALE  
GRAPHIC SCALE  
0 30 60 120  
(IN FEET)  
1 INCH = 60 FEET

VERTICAL SCALE  
GRAPHIC SCALE  
0 15 30 60  
(IN FEET)  
1 INCH = 30 FEET

PURPOSE: ALLEN HARBOR MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT DREDGING

DATUM:  
MLLW = 0.00' MHW = +3.86'  
MLW = +0.16' AHTL = +4.13'

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### TYPICAL PROPOSED SECTIONS - 2

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AT ALLEN HARBOR; NARRAGANSETT BAY  
COUNTY OF: WASHINGTON

10/04/2022

SHEET 8 OF 9

SURVEY NOTES:

1. THE BATHYMETRIC DATA SHOWN ON THIS PLAN WAS GATHERED ON JUNE 11, 2020.
2. SOUNDINGS ARE IN FEET AND TENTHS AND REFER TO DEPTHS BELOW THE VERTICAL REFERENCE PLANE. THE VERTICAL REFERENCE PLANE FOR THIS PROJECT IS MLLW BASED ON NOAA TIDAL STATION "QUONSET POINT, RI STATION ID #8454049".
3. SOUNDINGS SHOWN AS NEGATIVE ARE ABOVE THE REFERENCE PLANE.
4. COORDINATES ARE BASED ON NAD 83 STATE PLANE RHODE ISLAND COORDINATE GRID.
5. CONTOURS ARE BASED ON THE 3' AVERAGE VALUE DATA SET.
6. RTK CORRECTIONS FOR THIS SURVEY PROVIDED BY KEYNET - VRS (GEOD 12a).
7. THE SOUNDING INFORMATION SHOWN ON THIS PLAN REPRESENTS THE 50' MINIMUM VALUE SORTED SOUNDINGS OBTAINED FROM HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYS.
8. ORTHO-IMAGERY AND SCALED DATA IS APPROXIMATE UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED AND SHOULD BE USED AS A GENERAL REFERENCE ONLY.
9. THE INFORMATION DEPICTED ON THIS PLAN REPRESENTS THE RESULTS OF SURVEYS MADE ON THE DATES SHOWN, AND CAN ONLY BE CONSIDERED AS INDICATING THE GENERAL CONDITIONS AT THAT TIME. INTERPOLATED INFORMATION FROM BETWEEN SOUNDING RUNS IS NOT GUARANTEED. SHOALS, OBSTRUCTIONS OR OTHER DIFFERING CONDITIONS MAY EXIST BETWEEN THESE RUNS. CONSULT WITH FOTH INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENT, LLC FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION.
10. POSSESSION AND USE OF THE MATERIAL CONTAINED ON THESE DRAWINGS IS GRANTED ONLY IN CONNECTION WITH ITS USE AS IT RELATES TO THE TITLED PROJECT, ANY OTHER USE, REPRODUCTION OR DISCLOSURE OF THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREON IS EXPRESSLY PROHIBITED WITHOUT THE WRITTEN CONSENT OF FOTH INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENT, LLC.

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**QDC Allen Harbor Dredge Expansion Volumes**

Site	Dredge Depth	Area (sf)	Area (Acres)	Dredge Volume (cy)	Overdredge Volume (cy)	Total Dredge Volume (cy)
<b>Allen Harbor Channel Maintenance</b>	<b>-10' MLLW + 1' OD</b>	231,704	5.32	8,000	2,300	10,200
<b>Allen Harbor Channel Improvements</b>	<b>-10' MLLW + 1' OD</b>	67,674	1.55	27,300	11,900	39,100
<b>TOTAL Allen Harbor Channel</b>	<b>-10' MLLW + 1' OD</b>	<b>299,378</b>	<b>6.87</b>	<b>35,300</b>	<b>14,200</b>	<b>49,300</b>
<b>Allen Harbor West Maintenance</b>	<b>-8' MLLW + 1' OD</b>	19,968	0.46	600	3,400	4,000
<b>Allen Harbor West Improvements</b>	<b>-8' MLLW + 1' OD</b>	37,301	0.86	2,300	6,500	8,800
<b>TOTAL Allen Harbor West</b>	<b>-8' MLLW + 1' OD</b>	<b>57,269</b>	<b>1.31</b>	<b>2,900</b>	<b>9,900</b>	<b>12,800</b>
<b>Little Allen's Harbor Entrance</b>	<b>-8' MLLW + 1' OD</b>	40,848	0.94	1,200	2,300	3,500
<b>TOTAL Little Allen's Harbor</b>	<b>-8' MLLW + 1' OD</b>	<b>40,848</b>	<b>0.94</b>	<b>1,200</b>	<b>2,300</b>	<b>3,500</b>
<b>TOTAL DREDGE EVENT</b>	<b>-10' MLLW + 1' OD / -8' MLLW + 1' OD</b>	<b>397,495</b>	<b>9.13</b>	<b>39,400</b>	<b>26,400</b>	<b>65,600</b>

*Notes:*

Total dredge areas are approximate and based on the locations shown on plans.  
 Volumes include all side slopes and overdredge.  
 Volumes include 15% contingency to account for accretion.

PURPOSE: ALLEN HARBOR MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT DREDGING	<u>NOTES</u>
DATUM: MLLW = 0.00'      MHW = +3.86' MLW = +0.16'      AHTL = +4.13'	
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AT ALLEN HARBOR; NARRAGANSETT BAY
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