

SEG BEACH EROSION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES, April 10, 2007

The Beach Erosion Committee met at the USCOE Offices at 8:30 AM on 4/10/07, with the following in attendance:

Members: Bill Farmer, Chairman

Freda Rutherford

William Bailey

Lawrence Keegan

Jane Griess (for John Robinette)

Lou Off

Guest: Harvey Ferrelle (Tybee Beach Task Force Member)

Following a discussion of the USCOE plans and supporting documentation for the beneficial use of dredged materials from the planned Savannah Harbor Expansion Project, the following motion, as amended, was passed unanimously:

Beach Erosion Committee Motion, April 10, 2007:

“The SEG Beach Erosion Committee recommends to the Stakeholders Evaluation Group of the Savannah Harbor Expansion Project that it accept, approve, and support the USACE plans for the beneficial use and placement of dredged materials from the planned deepening project in the nearshore area within the sand sharing system south of the navigation channel, as described in the Nearshore Placement Plan, of the Dredge Material Management Plan dated March 2007, and recommend the study plans be enacted.

The SEG Beach Erosion Committee also recommends to the Stakeholders Evaluation Group that it accept, approve, and support the USACE study results titled “Coastal Erosion Final Report, 2006.”

The specifics of these recommendations are more fully described as follows:

1. Nearshore Placement Plan (March 2007)

This document provides a plan to beneficially utilize dredged materials of the Savannah Harbor Deepening Project from Station +4000 upriver from the channel entrance Station “0” to the Channel Station -53,500 oceanward of the channel entrance Station “0”, as follows:

- A. The volume of beneficially used dredged materials for a project having a 46’ inner channel new depth and a 48’ ocean channel new depth amounts to about 8,047,655 cubic yards.
- B. The volume of beneficially used dredged materials for a project 2’ deeper (48’ inner channel depth and 50’ outer channel depth) would be an estimated 10,751,503 cubic yards.
- C. All planned sediment placements for beneficially using dredged materials would place the dredged materials in 5 nearshore sites having a total capacity of about 10,754,000 cubic yards, identified as:
 - a. MLW 200
 - b. MLW 500

- c. ERDC Nearshore
 - d. Site 2
 - e. Site 2 Extension
2. **Coastal Erosion Final Report (2006)**
- This study evaluated the impact of the proposed deepening of the Savannah Harbor navigation channel. In Chapter 6, Summary and Conclusions, several phrases and sentences summarize the findings:
- A. Page 6-2. "...but the minor changes in the nearshore wave results indicate that the deepening will have little impact on the shoreline."
 - B. Page 6-3. "The current navigation channel appears to be a nearly complete sink for any sediment moving north to south along the shelf..."
 - C. Page 6-3. "Placement of dredged material back into the nearshore zone of Tybee Island would be a means of restoring this supply of sand to the Tybee beach system."
 - D. Page 6-3. "The circulation and wave modeling indicate very small changes associated with the proposed deepening."
 - E. Page 6-3. "...the additional channel deepening will not change the general overall pattern of sediment transport in the region."
 - F. Page 6-4. "Computations show that channel deepening will have negligible effect on the Tybee Island Shelf."

References:

1. EXPAN Nearshore Placement Plan Mar07.doc
2. EXPAN In-water Placement 28Aug06.XLS
3. Dmpdisposal5aug15.pdf
4. Coastal Erosion Final Report (from www.SAV-Harbor.com Study Reports, 4/07)"

Freda Rutherford inquired whether or not the USACE would evaluate the impact of the Nearshore Placement Plan on Tybee's surfing area and also on the North Beach Shore Channel, and William Bailey indicated that these issues would be addressed in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).