May 5, 1993

Coastal Environment Section

Mr. Larry Goldman, Field Supervisor
U.S. Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
Daphne Field Office
Post Office Drawer 1190
Daphne, Alabama 36526

Dear Mr. Goldman:

Enclosed for your review and comment is a copy of the draft environmental assessment, Section 404 (b)(1) evaluation report and unsigned Finding of No Significant Impact, for proposed shoreline protection and erosion control measures at the Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board, Main Beach Park, Dauphin Island, Alabama.

The unstable condition caused by shoreline erosion requires immediate action to eliminate the threat to the Main Beach Park bath house and pier. The proposed work described in the environmental assessment is authorized under Section 14 of the Flood Control Act of 1946, which authorizes the Secretary of the Army to undertake emergency measures to prevent erosion damages to endangered non-profit facilities, public works and highways.

This proposed action is also the subject of Public Notice No. FP93-DI08-3, dated May 7, 1993, a copy of which is provided for your review.

Should you have any questions concerning this request, please contact Mr. R. Douglas Nester at 694-3854.

Sincerely,

Susan Ivester Rees
Chief, Coastal Environment
Section

PD-EC/Nester
PD-EC/Rees
PD-E/McClellan

Enclosures

Enclosure B-12

Same letter also sent to attached list of addressees.

Send same letter to the following:

Dr. Gerald J. Miller
Environmental Assessment Branch
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IV
345 Courtland Street, N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30308

Dr. Edwin Keppner
National Marine Fisheries Service
3500 Delwood Beach Road
Panama City, Florida 32407

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION IV

345 COURTLAND STREET, N.E.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30365

MAY 24 1993

Department of the Army
Mobile District, Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 2288
Mobile, AL 36628
ATTN: Mr. Douglas Nester

Subject: Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Shoreline Protection and Erosion Control Measures at Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board, Main Beach Park, Dauphin Island, AL

Dear: Dr. Rees:

Pursuant to Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, EPA, Region IV has reviewed the subject document which describes the consequences of providing shoreline protection via approximately 3,400 tons of stone placed by a barge-mounted crane. This action is being undertaken to lessen the accelerated erosion that is occurring due to migration of Pelican Passage. During the past several years, the subject area has eroded at a rate of about 30 feet per year compared to the historical rate of about 1 feet per year. It is hoped that the use of this stone placed on a geotechnical filter fabric will serve as a stop gap measure to protect these public facilities until reoccurrence of historical erosion rates.

On the basis of the information in the EA it does not appear that this proposal will result in important adverse environmental consequences; therefore, we have no significant objections to the assigned, "Finding of No Significant Impact".

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If we can be of additional assistance, Dr. Gerald Miller (404-347-3776) will serve as initial point of contact.

Sincerely yours,

Heinz Mueller

Heinz J. Mueller, Chief
Environmental Policy Section
Federal Activities Branch

Printed on Recycled Paper

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
P.O. Drawer 1190
Daphne, AL 36526

TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA

May 13, 1993

District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 2288
Mobile, Alabama 36628

Dear Sir:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has reviewed the public notices listed below. No significant adverse effects on fish and wildlife resources are expected to result from these proposed works. Therefore, we have no objections to issuance of these permits. Our comments are provided in accordance with provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.).

Public Notice No.	Applicant	Due Date
AL93-00808-M	Portside Condo Owners Assoc.	5/9/93
FP93-DI08-3	CORPS and ADEM	5/21/93

Please keep us informed of your action regarding these matters.

Sincerely yours,

Larry E. Goldman
Field Supervisor

cc: EPA, Atlanta, GA
ADCNR, Montgomery, AL
ADCNR, Spanish Fort, AL
ADCNR, Dauphin Island, AL
ADEM, Montgomery, AL
ADEM, Mobile, AL

Doug

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Southeast Regional Office
9450 Koger Boulevard
St. Petersburg, Florida 33702

June 7, 1993

904/234-5061

Colonel Robert H. Griffin
District Engineer, Mobile District
Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers
ATTN: CESAM-PD-EC
P.O. Box 2288
Mobile, Alabama 36628-0001

Dear Colonel Griffin:

The National Marine Fisheries Service has reviewed the project plans advertised in the following public notice(s). We anticipate that any adverse effects that might occur on marine and anadromous fishery resources would be minimal and, therefore, do not object to issuance of the permit(s).

NOTICE NO.	COUNTY	APPLICANT	NOTICE DATE	DUE DATE
FP93-DI08-3	Mobile	COE	5/7/93	6/7/93

Sincerely,

Shelby D. Pruitt

for Andreas Mager, Jr.
Assistant Regional Director
Habitat Conservation Division

cc:
F/SEO2

M E S C Marine Environmental Sciences Consortium

DAUPHIN ISLAND SEA LAB
P. O. BOX 369-370
DAUPHIN ISLAND, ALABAMA 36528
TELEPHONE 205-861-2141
FAX 205-861-4646

Member Institutions

Alabama State University
Athens State College
Auburn University
Auburn University at Montgomery
Birmingham Southern College
Huntingdon College
Jacksonville State University
Livingston University
Mobile College
Samford University
Spring Hill College
Talladega College
Troy State University
Troy State at Dothan
Tuskegee University
University of Alabama
University of Alabama at Birmingham
University of Alabama in Huntsville
University of Montevallo
University of North Alabama
University of South Alabama

FAX COVER SHEET

Following and not including this cover sheet is/are 1 page(s). If any part of this transmission is received poorly or is missing, please notify us immediately at (205) 861-2141.

DATE: 6/16/93

TIME: ~~6/16/~~ 1240

TO: Doug Nester x-3854

FAX NO.: 6090-2424

ADDRESS:

FROM: Cossier

NOTES: Sorry it's late

M E S C Marine Environmental Sciences Consortium

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DAUPHIN ISLAND, ALABAMA 36528
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University of Alabama
University of Alabama at Birmingham
University of Alabama in Huntsville
University of Montevallo
University of North Alabama
University of South Alabama

Mr. Doug Nester
U.S. Corps of Engineers
Mobile District
Mobile, AL

Dear Doug,

With regard to the project proposed for the public beach area on Dauphin Island, I would suggest that the design is inadequate in that it does not provide for the problem of downdrift worsening as we have seen downdrift of the groin field on the east end.

I also can't help but feel that any project which does not contain some form of replenishment leaves something to be desired. Until this issue is addressed, almost anything looks like we're throwing money away.

Sincerely,

George F. Crozier

The Marine Environmental Sciences Consortium is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

July 1, 1993

Coastal Environment Section

Dr. George F. Crozier
Executive Director
Marine Environmental Sciences
Consortium
Post Office Box 369-370
Dauphin Island, Alabama 36528

Dear Dr. Crozier:

Please reference your letter which was faxed to the undersigned on June 16, 1993, concerning our May 7, 1993 Public Notice No. FP93-DI08-3 entitled, "Shoreline Protection and Erosion Control, Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board, Main Beach Park, Mobile County, Alabama." A copy of your letter is provided for your ease of reference.

Upon receipt, your letter was reviewed by the Mobile District's Plan Formulation Branch, Plan Development Section (PD-FP). Our coastal engineers were, throughout the planning and engineering design phase of this project, aware of the concerns regarding artificial structures and downdrift beach erosion. The approach being taken with this project is to provide for the security of the pier through the construction of the three-foot thick stone blanket. The projected effect of the action is a reduction of the scour around the pier pilings. A small sand fillet is expected to build up on the east side of the blanket and eventually overtop the blanket and deposit of the west side. No significant downdrift erosion is anticipated. Since minimal downdrift erosion is expected, no requirement for replenishment is foreseen.

Your comments on this proposed action are appreciated. Please feel free to contact me at 694-3854 should you desire to further discuss the project and its impacts.

Sincerely,

R. Douglas Nester
Acting Chief, Coastal
Environment Section

Enclosure

PD-EC/Nester
PD-FP/Burdin
PD-EC/Rees
PD-E/McClellan

497C
PD

M E S C Marine Environmental Sciences Consortium

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FAX NO.: 690-2424

ADDRESS:

FROM: Corozier

NOTES: Sorry it's late

M E S C Marine Environmental Sciences Consortium

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Mr. Doug Nester
U.S. Corps of Engineers
Mobile District
Mobile, AL

Dear Doug,

With regard to the project proposed for the public beach area on Dauphin Island, I would suggest that the design is inadequate in that it does not provide for the problem of downdrift worsening as we have seen downdrift of the groin field on the east end.

I also can't help but feel that any project which does not contain some form of replenishment leaves something to be desired. Until this issue is addressed, almost anything looks like we're throwing money away.

Sincerely,

George F. Crozier

CESAM-PD-ES (200) Mr. Beacham/441-6853/16 Nov 92

MEMORANDUM THRU PD-E

FOR PD-FP (Willis)

SUBJECT: Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Waste (HTRW) Considerations for the Section 14 Projects East End Dauphin Island and Dauphin Island Shoreline Main Beach Park, Dauphin Island, AL

1. On 4 Nov 92, Mr. Walt Burdin, PD-FP, and Mr. Robert Beacham, PD-ES, met with Mr. Mike Henderson, Executive Director of the Dauphin Island Beach Board, to discuss HTRW topics on two Section 14 reports, East End Dauphin Island and Dauphin Island Shoreline Main Beach Park. The meeting was prompted by the requirements of ER 1165-2-132 entitled "Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Waste Guidance for Civil Works Projects". The following is a summary of the meeting with Mr. Henderson, interviews and site visits to the project areas.

2. The Section 14 Project entitled East End Dauphin Island is designed to provide shoreline protection around Fort Gaines, a significant historical structure and major source of income for the community of Dauphin Island. The Fort was built in 1821 by the United States Government with expansions taking place until the outbreak of the Civil War when the Confederate States of America took control of the Fort. After the Civil War the fort returned to the Federal Government where it remained under federal control until after World War II. During both the first and second World War, the Fort was used as a submarine lookout post and during World War II it was also used for anti-aircraft training. After World War II the federal government turned control of the Fort over to the State of Alabama who in 1953 turned control of the Fort over to the Dauphin Island Beach Board. The State agreed to construct a bridge to Dauphin Island to allow easier access for tourism. According to Mr. Henderson, an inspection of the Fort was conducted at the time of transfer and no weapons or ordnance were discovered in or around the Fort. In actuality, there is no record of a shot being fired in anger from the Fort since the Civil War. It should be noted that there is a slight possibility that some unexploded ordnance could exist within the project area. Since the opening of Fort Gaines Park no Notice of Violations have been issued from local, State (ADEM), or Federal (EPA) Agencies. There are no known, reported, or suspected HTRW sites within or adjacent to the area under consideration.

3. A site inspection was conducted by Corps personnel in and around the Fort during this trip. In addition, interviews were conducted as well as conversations with personnel employed at the Fort. The Fort has been tied into the existing sewage treatment system on the island since the early 1960's. No records exist detailing what was done with the sewage prior to the Dauphin Island Beach Board's take-over. All solid waste is transported from the site by BFI, a solid waste disposal company. Prior to this specific contract all solid waste was picked up by various solid waste disposal companies or city organizations. No evidence of a landfill exist on this site. After reviewing pertinent real estate records, visiting the site and discussing the project with pertinent individuals, no known HTRW concerns were identified within the confines of the project.

4. The Section 14 project at Dauphin Island Shoreline Main Beach Park, is located on the south side of Dauphin Island approximately at the mid-point of the island. It calls for shoreline protection of the main public beach. This public beach is the main attraction for tourism to the island, the main source of income for the island. This area has experienced dramatic erosion in the past few years. It has removed, as estimated by Mr. Henderson and depicted by photographs, approximately 100 feet of shoreline. Erosion has forced the closure of a public bath house and this structure is in imminent danger of collapsing. The bath house was constructed in 1969-1970. Prior to the development of the main beach this area was the location of the Sand Dunes Casino, which was destroyed by Hurricane Camille in 1969. Portions of the concrete slab are still evident especially in the eroded areas.

5. A site inspection was conducted by Corps personnel in and around the park during this trip. In addition, interviews were conducted with personnel employed by the Dauphin Island Beach Board. The sewage service for the bath house has been tied into the existing sewage lines since its construction. No septic tanks have ever been employed in this area. All solid waste has been picked up by commercial waste interest and no landfills are in existence in the area. No known HTRW concerns were identified within the confines of the project.

CESAM-PD-ES (200)
SUBJECT: Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Waste (HTRW) Considerations for the Section 14 Projects East End Dauphin Island and Dauphin Island Shoreline Main Beach Park, Dauphin Island, AL

6. If this office can be of any assistance in this matter, please call me at 441-6871 or Mr. Robert Beacham at 441-6853.

ELLIS C. POPE
Acting Chief, Hazardous/Toxic
Waste and Environmental Support
Section

APPENDIX C

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
SECTION 404 (b)(1) EVALUATION REPORT

FINAL
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
AND
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

SHORELINE PROTECTION AND EROSION CONTROL DAUPHIN ISLAND PARK AND BEACH BOARD MAIN BEACH PARK DAUPHIN ISLAND, ALABAMA

Prepared By

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District
Planning and Environmental Division
Environment and Resources Branch
Coastal Environment Section

12 July 1993

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)

SHORELINE PROTECTION AND EROSION CONTROL
DAUPHIN ISLAND PARK AND BEACH BOARD
MAIN BEACH PARK
DAUPHIN ISLAND, ALABAMA

I. PROPOSED ACTION.

The action proposed is the shoreline protection of a portion of Dauphin Island located approximately 3.5 miles west of the east end of the Dauphin Island, Alabama. Protection of the shoreline would require the placement of approximately 3,017 tons of stone and 2,625 square yards of filter fabric for a distance of approximately 150 feet east of the pier and 200 feet west of the pier. Protection of the pier would be accomplished by the placement of 5,442 tons of stone and 3,481 square yards of filter fabric beneath the full length of the pier. The work would require the use of a barge-mounted crane and assorted land-based equipment. Further details concerning the proposed action are described in Sections 1.0 and 2.0 of the environmental assessment.

Future shoreline maintenance of the would be accomplished by the local project sponsor, the Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board.

II. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED.

a. No action
b. Beach Restoration
c. Relocation of Pelican Passage
d. Relocation of Park Structures
e. Geotube Shoreline Protection

III. FACTORS CONSIDERED IN THE DETERMINATION THAT NO ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT IS REQUIRED.

All adverse impacts which would occur as a result of the shoreline protection at Dauphin Island, Alabama, have been determined to be minor, short-term impacts. The adverse impacts associated with the proposed action include benthic destruction, esthetic degradation, increased noise levels, and air quality degradation.

The beneficial impact associated with this proposed protection is reduced shoreline erosion and protection of the existing public property.

No Federally-protected species, cultural resources or wetlands would be impacted by the action. Water quality certification and a statement of coastal zone consistency have been requested, and

no problems are anticipated which would preclude their receipt.

IV. CONCLUSIONS.

An evaluation of the environmental assessment for the shoreline protection activities at the Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board, Main Beach Park, Dauphin Island, Alabama, which describes the proposed protection activities and their effects, shows that the proposed action would have no significant impacts and the preparation of an environmental impact statement is not required.

DATE: 27 JUL 93

Robert H. Griffin
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
District Engineer

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FINAL
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
SHORELINE PROTECTION AND EROSION CONTROL
DAUPHIN ISLAND PARK AND BEACH BOARD
MAIN BEACH PARK
DAUPHIN ISLAND, ALABAMA

1.0 INTRODUCTION.

1.1 Problem Description.

According to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (1993), the ebb tidal shoal complex south of Dauphin Island, Alabama has two ephemeral, visible, offshore islands, known as Sand and Pelican Islands, that are a portion of the overall shoal. The northward migration of Pelican Island has resulted in the northward movement of Pelican Passage, one of the major tidal channels. While the movement of Pelican Passage is a natural process, based on historic literature, its present northward move is causing extensive erosion on the south shore of Dauphin Island. Historically, at some point in its migration, the island was breached and the tidal channel switched to the breach, and the severed tip moved on shore and restored the eroded portion of the main island. Presently, the Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board (DIPBB) Main Beach Park is located in the eroded area. During the past several years, this area has eroded at a rate of about 30 feet per year (ft/yr). During the 1990-1991 period, this area eroded at a rate ranging from 10 ft/yr at the pier up to 50 ft/yr approximately 1,500 feet west of the pier. Approximately 50% of the primary dune system in the eroding area is gone and DIPBB properties are in imminent danger. Also, the fishing pier is in jeopardy due to erosion of material from around the pilings. The general project area is shown in Figures 1 and 2.

1.2 Purpose of and Need for the Proposed Action.

The unstable condition caused by the shoreline erosion requires immediate action to eliminate the threat to DIPBB properties. If the present process follows historical precedent, some time in the near future, the erosive process will reverse and the beach would naturally rebuild. Upon reversal, the erosion rate is expected to revert to the norm for the area which is approximately one ft/yr. If the destruction of the DIPBB facilities can be delayed long enough for the natural process to occur, the park and its facilities are expected to survive indefinitely.

The purpose of the proposed action is to correct the shoreline erosion problem which exists along this portion of Dauphin Island. The need for the proposed action is provide protection for the DIPBB facilities.

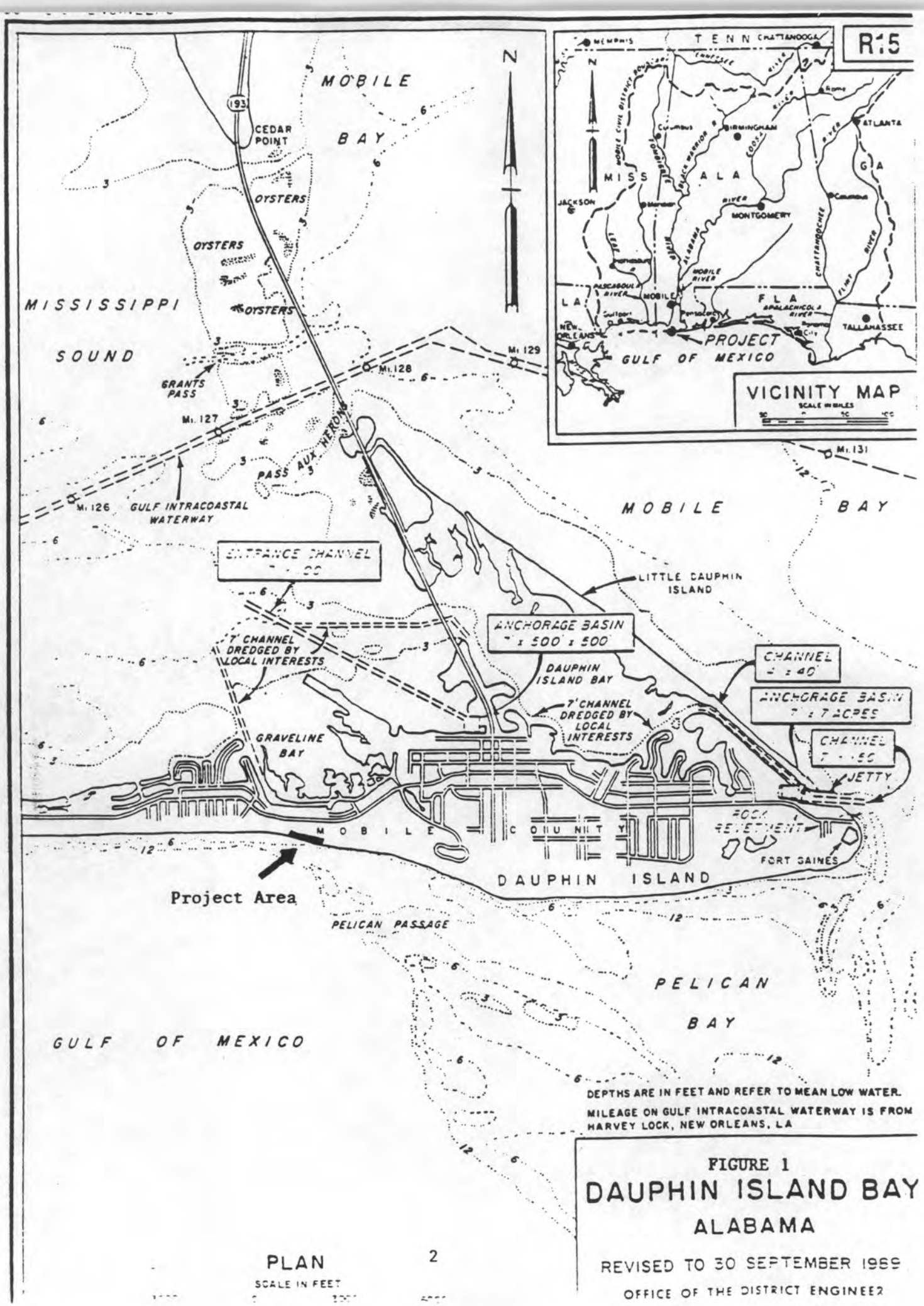

FIGURE 1

DAUPHIN ISLAND BAY

ALABAMA

REVISED TO 30 SEPTEMBER 1969

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ENGINEER

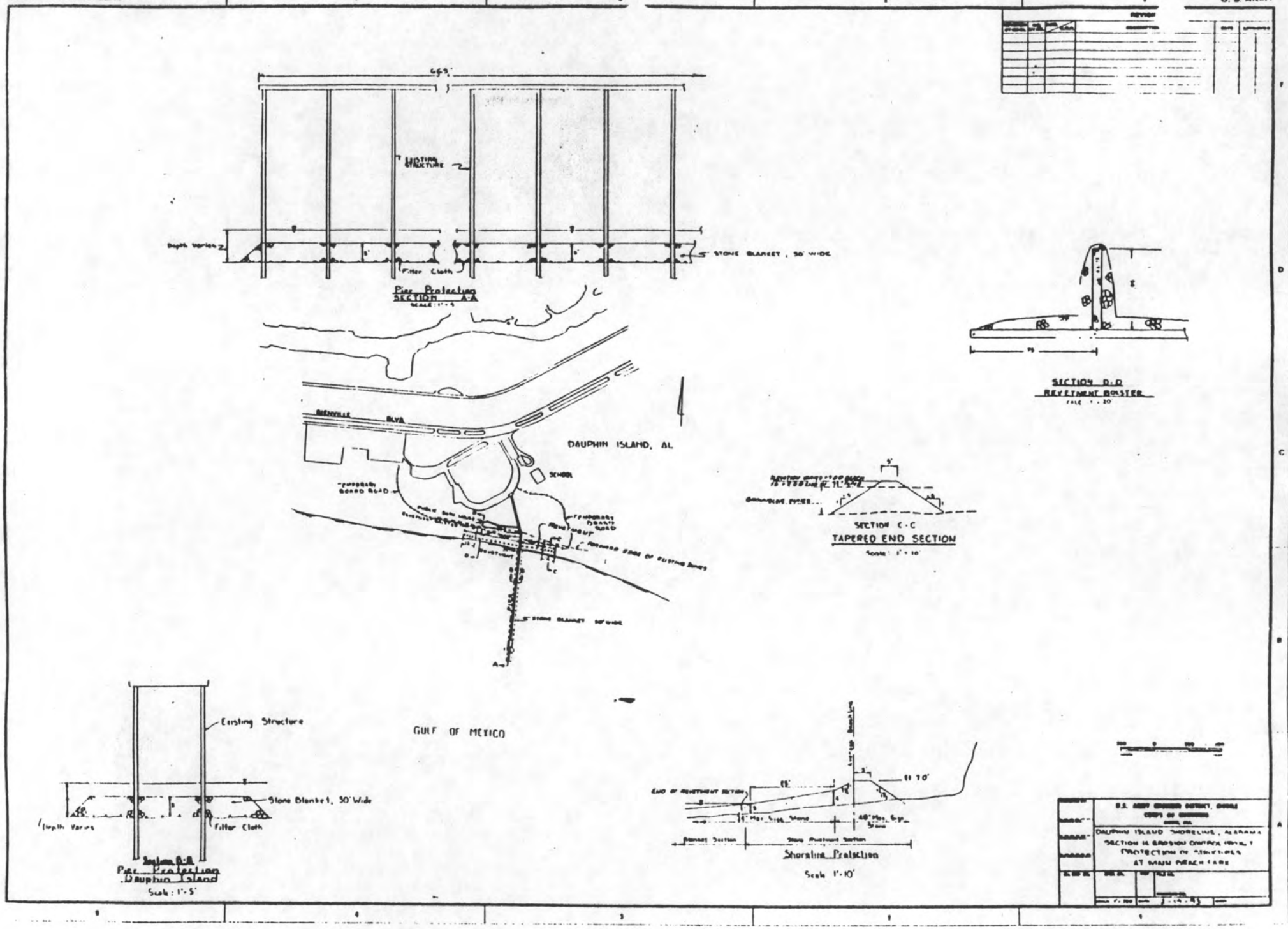
CORPS OF ENGINEERS
U. S. ARMY
Existing Structure
Depth Varies
Filter Cloth
Stone Blanket, 50' Wide
Pier Protection
SECTION A-A
DAUPHIN ISLAND, AL
SCHOOL
GULF OF MEXICO
SECTION D-D
REVETMENT BOOSTER
SECTION C-C
TAPERED END SECTION
Existing Structure
Stone Blanket, 50' Wide
Filter Cloth
Pier Protection
Dauphin Island
Scale: 1"=5'
Shoreline Protection
Scale 1"=10'
DAUPHIN ISLAND SHORELINE, ALABAMA
SECTION 16 EROSION CONTROL PROJECT
PROTECTION OF STRUCTURES
AT MAIN BEACH PARK

FIGURE 2

1.3 Authority.

The study for which this environmental assessment was prepared was conducted under the authority of Section 14 of the Flood Control Act of 1946 (Public Law 79-526), as amended. Section 14 provides authority for the Secretary of the Army to undertake emergency measures to prevent erosion damages to endangered highways, public works, and non-profit public facilities. In addition to major highway systems of National importance, eligible highways include principal highways, streets, and roads of significant importance to the community, such as arterial streets, important access routes to other communities and adjacent settlements, as well as roads designated as primary farm to market roads.

1.4 Scope.

This Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared in accordance with Engineer Regulation (ER) 200-2-2, *Procedures for Implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)*, and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) *Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act* (40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Pts. 1500-1508). The objective of the EA is to determine the magnitude of the environmental impacts of the proposed action. If such impacts are relatively minor, a *Finding of No Significant Impact* (FONSI) would be issued and the Mobile District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers may proceed with the action. If the environmental impacts are significant according to CEQs criteria (40 CFR Pt. 1508.27), an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) would be prepared before a decision is reached to implement the proposed action.

2.0 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION.

2.1 General.

The proposed action is the protection of the DIPBB pier and Main Beach Park facilities on Dauphin Island, Alabama. The details of the proposed action are described in the following sections.

2.2 Description of the Proposed Work.

The proposed work consists of the protection of those DIPBB pier and bath house which are those structures in immediate danger of collapse. The work would be accomplished through the placement of stone. The proposed action consists of two parts: (1) Protection of the shoreline in front of the bath house through the construction of a heavy stone section along the beach to arrest shoreline erosion; and, (2) Protection of the pier through the placement of a stone blanket beneath the full length of the pier to arrest the bottom recession that is reducing the support for the piling. It is estimated that the proposed action would protect the pier and bath house for approximately 15 years, if the present rate of erosion continues. At the end of that period the bottom would have receded to a depth that would no longer provide lateral support for the pier pilings.

2.2.1 Protection of the Bath House.

The protection of the bath house would be accomplished by the placement of a heavy stone control structure on geotechnical filter fabric along the shoreline beginning at a distance of 150 feet east of the pier centerline and extending 200 feet west or a total distance of 350 feet. The shoreline work would be conducted via truck and other land-based equipment. The stone protection would be sound, durable, and of suitable quality to ensure permanence of the structure in the proposed area. All stone material would be procured commercially. Stone size is based on an incident wave height of six feet at the structures, and is in accordance with the methods outlined in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Shore Protection Manual (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 1984) and the Automated Coastal Engineering System. A total of 3,017 tons of stone and 2,625 square yards of geotechnical filter fabric would be utilized for the shoreline action. The stone proposed for use for the protection of the shoreline would conform to the gradation limits given in Table 1.

TABLE 1
STONE GRADATION LIMITS
FOR
SHORELINE

Stone Weight (lbs)	Percent Lighter (by weight)	Approximate Size (inches)
8,110	Maximum Weight	38-43
3,400	64-100	28-33
2,015	41-66	24-27
1,090	11-38	20-23
505	0-15	15-17

2.2.2 Protection of the Pier.

Beginning at the shoreline structure discussed in Section 2.2.1, a three-foot thick stone blanket would be placed on geotechnical filter fabric beneath the pier for its full length to arrest bottom erosion. The blanket would extend ten feet out from the pile bents supporting the pier and completely around the perimeter of the pier. This would allow the blanket to settle around the edges as the bottom erodes and maintain the protection underneath the pier. The blanket would be 30 feet wide and 835 feet long. A total of 5,442 tons of stone and 3,481 square yards of geotechnical filter fabric would be used for the pier protection action. Work on this portion of the project would require the use of a barge-mounted crane. The stone would either barged or trucked to the east end of Dauphin Island, Billy Goat Hole area, and stockpiled. Subsequently, the stone would be loaded on barges and moved to the project area. The stone proposed for use for the protection of the pier would conform to the gradation limits given in Table 2.

TABLE 2 STONE GRADATION LIMITS FOR PIER PROTECTION		
Stone Weight (lbs)	**Percent Lighter** (by weight)	**Approximate Size** (inches)
2,400	Maximum Weight	25-29
1,000	64-100	19-22
600	42-66	16-18
325	10-38	13-15
150	0-15	10-12

2.2.3 Board Road Construction.

Construction and future project maintenance would utilize a temporary board road placed through existing openings in the dune line. Two access routes are proposed for use during the action. Both of these routes are shown on Figure 2. The total length of the board road construction is estimated at 1,150 linear feet. No excavation of the existing dune is proposed. All access routes are existing access points that are currently used by the Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board for beach maintenance and cleanup.

3.0 ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROPOSED ACTION.

Alternatives to the proposed action which were considered include: 1) No action; 2) Beach Restoration; 3) Relocation of Pelican Passage; 4) Relocation of Park Structures; and, 5) Geotube Shoreline Protection. These alternatives are discussed in the following sections.

3.1 No Action.

This alternative involves the continuation of existing conditions and no new solutions for existing problems. This alternative avoids both the monetary investment and potential adverse impacts associated with structural improvements. Without corrective action, shoreline erosion along the would continue with the resultant loss of valuable public land and facilities.

Existing flora and fauna in the project area would be left undisturbed and subject to the natural erosion conditions presently experienced along the shoreline of Dauphin Island. Existing vegetation and benthic organisms in the littoral zone and along the shoreline would not be disturbed except by the natural processes of erosion.

The DIPBB is attempting to have surplus sand from pipeline work offshore placed at the park. Pipelines to the offshore platforms are being laid to transport natural gas to a processing plant

in south Mobile County, Alabama. If the DIPBB is successful, the loss of the structure would be delayed, since the source of material is temporary. Material was previously placed in the eroding project area and remained for only 1.5 years. If the current erosion rate continues, the structure would be lost in approximately two years.

3.2 Beach Restoration.

Replenishment of the eroding beach was considered. This alternative would require the dredging and relocation of approximately 250,000 cubic yards of sand. Inshore dredging presents has logistic constraints with respect to dredge size and shallow water depths in the project area. Offshore dredging and relocation of sand to the shoreline would be cost prohibitive. Erosion of the beach would, however, continue at its present rate and the overall action would not provide lasting protection of the project area. This alternative was deleted from further consideration.

3.3 Relocation of Pelican Passage.

Using bathymetry from available charts, the available cross sectional area of Pelican Passage was computed. It was estimated that 5.0 million cubic yards of material would require removal to construct a similar passage through the existing shoal at a location of about 5,000 feet offshore where an existing, shallow channel through the island exists. A pilot channel would require dredging and that material would be used for beach nourishment and dune reconstruction. Subsequently, a full-size channel would be dredged and the material placed in the existing passage to block flow. This plan would be cost prohibitive and was omitted from further consideration.

3.4 Relocation of Park Structures.

Relocation of the pavilion, bath house and associated boardwalks to an area removed from danger was briefly considered and determined to be extremely costly. Under current policy, relocation of structures is the responsibility of the project sponsor. However, if the present rate of erosion continues, any relocation would be required again at a later date. This alternative was omitted from further consideration.

3.5 Geotube Shoreline Protection.

Textile fabric tubes filled with sand have been successfully used in Florida at experimental sites. These tubes were considered as a possible quick and inexpensive solution. Further investigation revealed a significant difference between the Florida experimental sites and the area of this proposed action. The Florida sites had an abundant supply of sand moving through the area and the tubes trapped a portion of that sand. The Dauphin Island project area has a situation where sand is moving away from the site. Also, strong tidal currents moving through Pelican Passage would ultimately result in the failure of the filter fabric and subsequent loss of sand filler. These tubes are more effective in a low wave energy environment.

3.0 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT.

The proposed project area is located approximately 3.5 miles west of the east end of Dauphin Island, Alabama. Dauphin Island is located in southeastern corner of Mobile County, Alabama. While the island is approximately 15 miles long, the area of concern is the shoreline area at the Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board recreational facilities (Figures 1 and 2). Dauphin Island averages 5 to 10 feet above mean low water (MLW), with sand dunes rising as high as 40 feet on the Gulf side.

A detailed description of the Dauphin Island area is provided in U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (1974, 1989b), and in several other environmental assessments concerning dredged material placement sites for Ft. Gaines and Village channels. Information on the coastal processes affecting Dauphin Island is reported in U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (1978), Douglass (1991) and Douglass and Haubner (1992).

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS.

4.1 General.

The environmental impacts associated with protection of the shoreline are limited to the placement of stone in the nearshore zone and along the existing shoreline. The impacts anticipated as a result of the action include benthic organism destruction, physical substrate disturbance, aesthetic degradation, noise degradation and air quality degradation.

4.2 Direct Impact.

4.2.1 Benthic Organisms.

The physical placement of the stone on waterbottoms would destroy some benthic organisms. This impact is considered temporary and insignificant. Benthic organisms should quickly repopulate the sediments which would become trapped between the stone after placement and offset some the losses associated with the construction activity. The addition of hard substrate would tend to increase the diversity of organisms within the nearshore vicinity of the pier. Turbidity caused by the stone placement into the nearshore zone cannot be avoided. However, turbidity increases would be temporary and of insignificant impact to the biological community.

4.2.2 Physical Substrate.

The shoreline protection would result in a slight change in the appearance of the shoreline in the vicinity of the project. This area is a highly dynamic area which is currently changing in appearance very rapidly. Upon reversal of the erosive trend, discussed earlier in this assessment, the shoreline would build out and may cover a large portion of the stone. An evaluation of the proposed action as required by Section 404 (b)(1) of the Clean Water Act is provided as Appendix A.

4.2.3 Esthetics.

Overall esthetic quality would be permanently impacted, however, this is portrayed as a minor impact when compared to the collapse and destruction of the affected recreational structures.

4.2.4 Noise.

Noise levels in the vicinity would be temporarily increased by construction equipment and vehicles in the area. No long-term adverse effects are anticipated.

4.2.5 Air Quality.

The shoreline protection work is expected to add vehicle exhaust emissions to the project area, but this would not result in a long-term adverse affect on the project area.

4.3 **Other Impacts.**

4.3.1 Threatened and Endangered Species.

No endangered or threatened plant or animal species would be adversely affected by the shoreline protection activities. The table describes the status of clearances under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. Copies of all endangered species coordination letters are provided in Appendix B.

Action Item	Date
Fish and Wildlife Service	
Section 7 Coordination Initiated	April 19, 1993
Biological Assessment Provided by CE	April 21, 1993
Section 7 activities concluded	May 3, 1993
National Marine Fisheries Service	
Section 7 Coordination Initiated	April 20, 1993
Biological Assessment Provided by CE	April 21, 1993
Section 7 activities concluded	May 14, 1993

4.3.2 Cultural Resources.

By letter dated April 14, 1992, the proposed action was coordinated with the Alabama State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) of the Alabama Historical Commission in Montgomery, Alabama. Our cultural resources staff have evaluated the proposed action and its potential for impact on cultural resources of the area and determined that the action would have no effect. Concurrence from the Alabama SHPO was noted on May 5, 1993 and a formal concurrence letter was received on May 24, 1993. Copies of all coordination letters are provided in Appendix B. However, if any items having apparent historical or archeological significance are discovered in the course of any activity associated with this action, work would immediately cease, all items would be carefully preserved, and the proper authorities would be notified. The proposed action would provide the recreational structures with the needed protection from the eroding effects of wind and wave action.

4.3.3 Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Waste (HTRW) Considerations.

A site inspection was conducted by appropriate U.S. Army Corps of Engineers personnel on November 4, 1992. Interviews were conducted with personnel employed by the Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board. The sewage service for the bath house continues to be connected to existing sewage lines. No septic tanks are used in the area. All solid waste is picked up by private contractor and no landfills are in existence in the project area. No known HTRW concerns were identified within the confines of the project. A copy of the November 16, 1992 memorandum which documents the above stated activities is provided in Appendix B.

5.0 LIST OF AGENCIES AND OTHERS CONTACTED REGARDING THE ACTION.

The proposed action was the subject of Public Notice No. FP93-DI08-3 which was circulated with the public on May 7, 1993. Four letters were received in response to the notice. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IV, the National Marine Fisheries Service - Panama City, Florida Field Office, and the Fish and Wildlife Service - Daphne, Alabama Field Office responded with statements of "no objection" to the proposed action. Dr. George Crozier, Executive Director, Dauphin Island Sea Lab, objected to the project and indicated that downdrift erosion could occur. Our response clarified that significant downdrift erosion is not expected due to the manner in which the project is proposed for constructed. Copies of these letters are provided in Appendix B.

U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Daphne Field Office, Daphne, Alabama

U.S. Department of Commerce, National Marine Fisheries Service, Protected Species Management Branch, St. Petersburg, Florida

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IV

State of Alabama, Department of Environmental Management

Marine Environmental Sciences Consortium (Dauphin Island Sea Lab), Dauphin Island, Alabama

University of South Alabama, Department of Marine Biology, Mobile, Alabama

Mr. Mike Henderson, Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board, Dauphin Island, Alabama

6.0 DOCUMENT PREPARERS.

R. Douglas Nester. Biologist. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Planning Division, Environment & Resources Branch, Coastal Environment Section.

Dorothy H. Gibbens. Archeologist. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Planning Division, Environment & Resources Branch, Environmental Resources Planning Section.

7.0 LITERATURE CITED.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. 1974. Final Environmental Statement. Dauphin Island Bay (Maintenance Dredging), Mobile County, Alabama. Prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers with data collected under contract with the University of Alabama marine Science Program, Dauphin Island Sea Lab, Dauphin Island, Alabama. March 1974.

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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. 1984. Shore Protection Manual. 4th Edition. 2 Volumes. Prepared by the Coastal Engineering Research Center, Department of the Army, Waterways Experiment Station, Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg, MS.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. 1989a. Project Maps. Map Number R15. Prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. 1989b. Section 107 Detailed Project Report. Fort Gaines Channel (Government Cut) at Dauphin Island, Alabama. Prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District. November 1989.

Douglass, Scott L. 1991. Summary of Existing Coastal Engineering Data for Dauphin Island. University of South Alabama, College of Engineering Report No. 91-1. Prepared for the East End Management Task Force, Dauphin Island, Alabama. January 1991.

Douglass, Scott L. and Daniel R. Haubner. 1992. Coastal Processes of Dauphin Island, Alabama. University of South Alabama, College of Engineering Report No. 92-1. Prepared for the Coastal Programs Office, Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs, Montgomery, Alabama. February 1992.

APPENDIX A

SECTION 404 (b)(1)
EVALUATION REPORT

APPENDIX A

SECTION 404 (b)(1) EVALUATION REPORT FOR THE SHORELINE PROTECTION AND EROSION CONTROL EAST END OF DAUPHIN ISLAND, ALABAMA

1. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT.

Please refer to Section 1.0 and 2.0 of the environmental assessment to which this evaluation is appended.

a. Location. The project is located approximately 3.5 miles west of the east end of Dauphin Island, Alabama, a coastal barrier in the lower portion of Mobile County, Alabama. Dauphin Island is bounded by the Gulf of Mexico on the south, Mobile Bay on the east, Petit Bois Pass on the west and Mississippi Sound on the north. Please refer to Figures 1 and 2 of the referenced environmental assessment.

b. Description of the Proposed Action. The proposed action is described in Section 2.0 of the environmental assessment to which this evaluation is appended.

c. Authority and Purpose. The authority for this project is described in Section 1.3 of the environmental assessment.

d. General Description of the Discharge Site. The discharge site is described in detail in Section 2.0 of the environmental assessment to which this evaluation is appended. Generally, the site is the shoreline and nearshore area which are in the vicinity of the Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board, Main Beach Park facilities.

2. FACTUAL DETERMINATIONS.

a. **Physical Substrate Determinations.**

(1) Substrate elevation and slope. The substrate in the shoreline protection project area ranges in elevation from approximately mean sea level to approximately +3 feet National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD). The water depth at the end of the pier is approximately 9 feet.

(2) Fill type. The material proposed for placement as fill on the shoreline and in the nearshore area is variously graded stone. Refer to Tables 1 and 2 of the environmental assessment for details.

(3) Dredged/fill material movement. Currents in the vicinity of the proposed fill area are strong tidal and wind driven currents which are responsible for the eroded condition of this portion of Dauphin Island. The stone would experience some settling, but it is not expected to move. The use of the geotechnical filter fabric is expected to reduce settling.

(4) Physical effects on benthos. Some benthic organisms would be destroyed by the proposed action, however, due to the dynamic state of the project area, the impacts should not be significant.

(5) Other effects. Not applicable.

(6) Actions taken to minimize impacts. No other actions to minimize impacts to the physical substrate are deemed appropriate for this project.

b. **Water Circulation/Fluctuation, and Salinity Determination.**

(1) **Water** (No significant effects on (a) through (i) below)

(a) Salinity.
(b) Water chemistry.
(c) Clarity.
(d) Color.
(e) Odor.
(f) Taste
(g) Dissolved gases.
(h) Nutrients.
(i) Eutrophication.

(2) **Current Patterns and Circulation**

(a) Current patterns and flow. The placement of stone along the shoreline and placement of the 3-foot thick blanket beneath the pier are not expected to significantly affect current patterns and flow.

(b) Velocity. No significant effects.

(c) Stratification. No significant effects.

(d) Hydrologic effects. See (a) and (b) above. No significant effects.

(3) **Normal Water Level Fluctuations.** No significant effects.

(4) **Salinity Gradients.** No significant effects.

(5) **Actions That Will Be Taken To Minimize Impacts**. No other actions that would minimize impacts on water circulation/fluctuation and salinity are deemed necessary.

c. **Suspended Particulate/Turbidity Determinations.**

(1) Expected changes in suspended particulate and turbidity levels in the vicinity of the disposal site. The fill material is stone. Some temporary increases in turbidity are expected as dirt and dust are washed from the stone upon placement in the water. No significant effects are anticipated.

(2) Effects on the chemical and physical properties of the water column. No significant effects on (a) through (f) below.

(a) Light penetration.
(b) Dissolved oxygen.
(c) Toxic metals and organics.
(d) Pathogens.
(e) Esthetics.
(f) Others as appropriate.

(3) Effects on biota.

(a) Primary production, photosynthesis. No significant effects.

(b) Suspension/filter feeders. No significant effects.

(c) Sight feeders. No significant effects.

(4) Actions taken to minimize impacts. No further actions are deemed appropriate.

d. **Contaminant Determination**. No significant effects. The fill material is stone which is obtained from a commercial quarry and is expected to be reasonably removed from sources of pollution such that no significant impacts would occur subsequent to placement of the stone.

e. **Aquatic Ecosystem and Organism Determinations.**

(1) Effects on plankton. No significant effects.

(2) Effects on benthos. Some benthic organisms would be destroyed by the fill activity. Waterbottoms would be impacted as the new stone is placed and some benthic organisms would be destroyed, however, the project area is a highly dynamic area which is subject to rapid erosion. Therefore, significant impacts on benthos are not expected.

(3) Effects on nekton. No significant effects.

(4) Effects on aquatic food web. No significant effects.

(5) Effects on special aquatic sites.

(a) Sanctuaries and refuges. No significant effects.

(b) Wetlands. No significant effects.

(c) Mud Flats. Not applicable.

(d) Vegetated shallows. Not applicable.

(e) Coral reefs. Not applicable.

(f) Riffle and pool complexes. Not applicable.

(6) Threatened and endangered species. No threatened or endangered species are expected to be impacted by the proposed action. The proposed activity was coordinated with both the National Marine Fisheries Service and the Fish and Wildlife Service. Letters of "no effect" on Federally-protected species were received by both agencies. These letters are provided in Appendix B.

(7) Other wildlife. No significant effects.

(8) Actions to minimize impacts. No other actions to minimize impacts on the aquatic ecosystem are deemed appropriate.

f. **Proposed Disposal Site Determinations.**

(1) Mixing zone determinations. No mixing is required for the action. The fill material is stone.

(2) Determination of compliance with applicable water quality standards. The proposed action would be in compliance to the maximum extent practicable with all applicable water quality standards. Water quality certification was received from the ADEM by letter dated June 29, 1993 and a copy is provided in Appendix B.

(3) Potential effects on human use characteristics.

(a) Municipal and private water supply. No significant effects.

(b) Recreational and commercial fisheries. No significant effects.

(c) Water-related recreation. No significant effects.

(d) Esthetics. Only temporary degradation to the esthetic environment would occur as a result of the proposed action. Impacts would primarily be as a result of the physical presence of heavy equipment.

(e) Parks, national and historic monuments, national seashores, wilderness areas, research sites, and similar preserves. No significant effects.

g. **Determination of Cumulative Effects on the Aquatic Ecosystem.** The proposed action would have no significant cumulative adverse impacts. The action would have cumulative beneficial impacts due to the erosion attenuation.

h. **Determination of Secondary Effects on the Aquatic Ecosystem.** No significant secondary effects on the aquatic ecosystem would occur.

3. FINDING OF COMPLIANCE.

a. No significant adaptations to the guidelines were made relative to this evaluation.

b. Several alternatives to the proposed method of accomplishing the action along the Dauphin Island shoreline are available. These alternatives were discussed in the environmental assessment to which this evaluation is attached and are given as follows:

(1) No action

(2) Beach Restoration

(3) Relocation of Pelican Passage

(4) Relocation of Park Structures

(5) Geotube Shoreline Protection

Subsequent to the evaluation of these alternatives, it is suggested that the proposed action is the least environmentally damaging alternative. The proposed action would destroy some benthic organisms in the project area but would assist in preventing the rapid erosion of this portion of Dauphin Island.

c. A Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401 Water Quality Certification and a Coastal Zone Consistency statement were requested from the State of Alabama, Department of Environmental Management. Receipt of the certification and statement were by letter dated June 29, 1993. Coordination is complete.

d. The proposed activity is not expected to harm endangered or threatened species. No critical habitats of any endangered species exist within the project area. The activity was appropriately coordinated under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act with both the NMFS and FWS. Coordination is complete.

e. The proposed activity would not result in any significant adverse effects on human health or welfare, including municipal or private water supplies, recreation and commercial fishing, plankton, fish, shellfish, wildlife, and special aquatic sites. The life stages of aquatic life and other wildlife would not be adversely affected. Significant adverse effects on aquatic ecosystem diversity, productivity and stability, and recreational, aesthetic, and economic values would not occur.

f. No wetlands would be destroyed by the proposed action.

g. The proposed plan is specified as complying with the requirements of these guidelines.

DATE 27 JUL 93

Robert H. Griffin
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
District Engineer

APPENDIX B

ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATION LETTERS

April 21, 1993

Coastal Environment
Section

U.S. Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
Mr. Larry Goldman, Field Supervisor
Daphne Field Office
Post Office Drawer 1190
Daphne, Alabama 36526

Dear Mr. Goldman:

Please reference the April 19, 1993 telephone conversation between Mr. R. Douglas Nester, of my staff, and Ms. Celeste South concerning coordination under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and a list of Federally-protected species which may be impacted by a proposed shoreline protection project near the Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board (DIPBB) Main Beach Park.

The proposed action is the shoreline protection of the DIPBB public facilities located on the south shore of Dauphin Island approximately 3.5 miles west of the east end. A more detailed description of the proposed work is provided in Enclosure 1.

After discussion of the action with Ms. South and in the interest of time, we have chosen to utilize the list of Federally-protected species under your purview which was provided for the erosion protection action at the east end of Dauphin Island. A copy of the November 3, 1992 letter by which the list was transmitted, is provided for your ease of reference (Enclosure 2).

According to the November 3, 1993 list, two Federally-listed species may occur in the east end project area: the piping plover (threatened) and the loggerhead sea turtle (endangered). The piping plover winters along the gulf coast, including Little Dauphin Island, and the loggerhead sea turtle nests on barrier islands such as Dauphin Island between the months of April and October.

Previous Section 7 coordination activities involving the piping plover indicate that the species prefers the mud flat habitat located in the vicinity of Little Dauphin Island. Based on this information, we believe that the piping plover would not be impacted by the proposed shoreline protection activities.

With respect to the loggerhead sea turtle, Mr. Nester contacted several persons knowledgeable of sea turtle activities in the project area. The contacts utilized in this instance were: Dr. Robert L. Shipp, Sea Turtle Stranding and Salvage Network Coordinator for the State of Alabama, Dr. John Dindo, Dauphin Island Sea Lab and Mr. Mark Van Hoose, State of Alabama, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. All of the above indicate that the beach area east and west of the project area are utilized as nesting habitat. Past nesting activities have occurred on the beach in front the condominiums located approximately .75 miles east of the project area and at least one nesting has occurred on the beach in front of the Isle Dauphine Country Club, immediatley east of the project area. None of the above indicated that nesting had ever occurred in the project area.

Based on discussions with the sea turtle contacts and personal observations of the project area by the undersigned and my staff, suggests that suitable habitat for sea turtle nesting currently does not exist in the project area. Extensive shoreline and dune erosion in the project area would prohibit the likelihood of such activities.

In conclusion, we believe that the proposed action would have no effect on Federally-protected species under your purview. We would appreciate your concurrence with regard to this matter.

Should you have questions concerning our determination, please feel free to contact the undersigned or Mr. R. Douglas Nester at 694-4141 or 694-3854, respectively.

Sincerely,

Susan Ivester Rees
Chief, Coastal Environment
Section

Enclosures

PD-EC/Nester
PD-EC/Rees
PD-E/McClellan

Project Description

The plan selected would provide a heavy stone section along the beach to arrest shoreline erosion. Stone placement would begin 150 feet east of the Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board fishing pier centerline and extend approximately 200 feet west of the centerline, depending on whether or not the bath house is still standing when the project is constructed. The trapezoidal section would be placed as far gulfward as practical to permit sand eroding from the existing dune to accumulate in its rear. A stone blanket 3 feet thick and 30 feet wide, 10 feet on either side of the pier bent piling, and beginning at the toe of the shore protection, would be placed beneath the full length of the pier to arrest the bottom recession that is lessening the support for the piling. All stone would be placed on geotextile filters. Construction, and future maintenance, would utilize temporary board roads placed through existing openings in the dune line.

Design

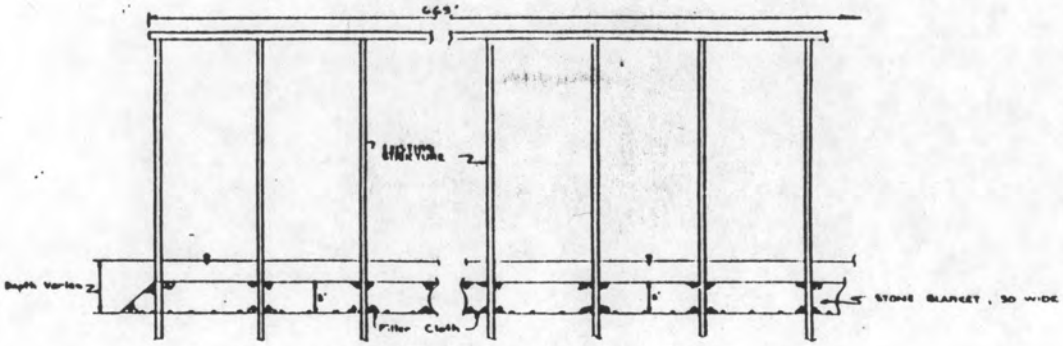
As indicated above, the selected plan consists of heavy stone protection along the shoreline and a stone blanket under the entire pier. This plan would arrest the erosion around the pier for a period of 15 years. We estimate that at the end of that period the surrounding bottom would have eroded to a depth where reliable support of the pier would no longer be available. The details of this plan are shown on the attached figure. A heavy stone control structure would start 150 feet east of the pier and extend to 200 feet west of the pier to provide protection for the bath house. (If, at the time of construction, the bath house support has eroded to the extent that protecting it is no longer practical, the structure could be shortened by 150 feet). Beginning at the shoreline structure, a 3-foot thick stone blanket would be laid on geotextile fabric underneath the pier for its full length to arrest bottom erosion. The blanket would extend 10 feet out from the pile bents supporting the pier and completely around the pier perimeter. This would allow the blanket to settle around the edges as the bottom erodes and maintain the protection underneath the pier. This blanket would be 30 feet wide and 835 feet long.

The stone protection would be sound, durable, and of suitable quality to ensure permanence in the structure, and in the climate in which it is proposed for use. Potential sources of stone would be provided in the plans and specifications, and all material necessary to perform the work would be procured commercially. Stone size is based on an incident wave height of six (6) feet at the structures, and is in accordance with the methods outlined in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Shore Protection Manual and the Automated Coastal

Engineering System.

Stone used for shoreline protection would conform to the following gradation limits		
STONE WEIGHT (lbs)	**PERCENT LIGHTER** (by weight)	**APPROXIMATE SIZE** (in)
8,110	Max. Wt.	38-43
3,400	64-100	28-33
2,015	41-66	24-27
1,090	11-38	20-23
505	0-15	15-17
Stone for pier protection would conform to the following gradation limits		
STONE WEIGHT (lbs)	**PERCENT LIGHTER** (by weight)	**APPROXIMATE SIZE** (in)
2,400	Max. Wt.	25-29
1,000	64-100	19-22
600	42-66	16-18
325	10-38	13-15
150	0-15	10-12

U.S. ARMY



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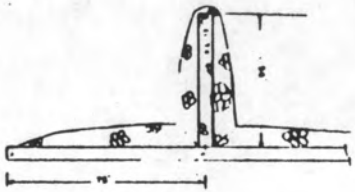

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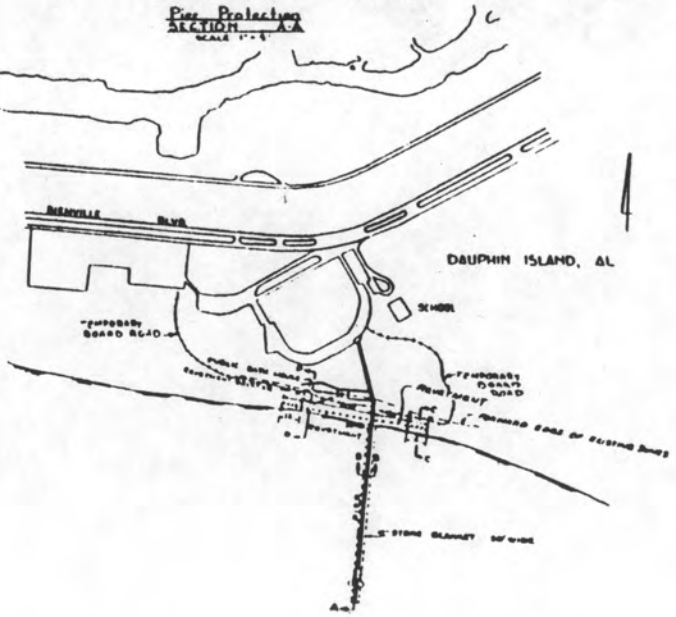

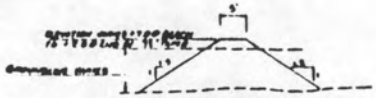

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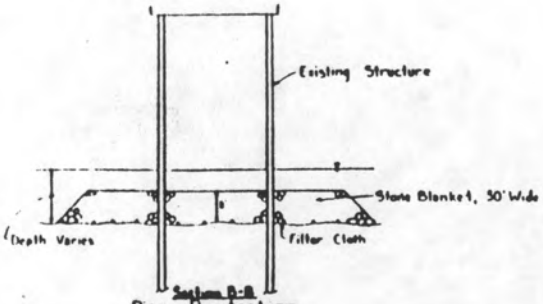

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Dauphin Island
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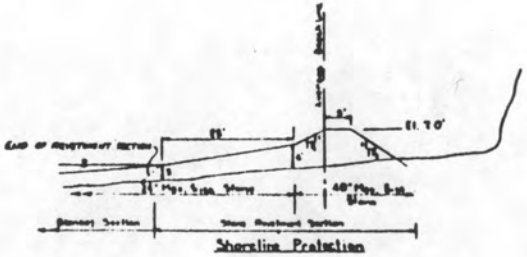
GULF OF MEXICO



Shoreline Protection
Scale: 1"=10'

U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, MOBILE
CORPS OF ENGINEERS
MOBILE, ALA.

DAUPHIN ISLAND SHORELINE, ALABAMA
SECTION 16 EROSION CONTROL PROJECT
PROTECTION OF STRUCTURES
AT MAIN BEACH PARK

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
P.O. Drawer 1190
Daphne, AL 36526

November 3, 1992

Ms. Susan Rees
Chief, Coastal Environment Section
Mobile District, Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 2288
Mobile, Alabama 36628-0001

In Reply Refer To:
Log No. C4-3-93-014

Dear Ms. Rees:

This responds to your letter of October 7, 1992 concerning a proposal for the restoration of the seawall and finger groins at Ft. Gains in Mobile County, Alabama. We have reviewed the information you enclosed and have the following comments in accordance with the Endangered Species Act (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

According to our records, two federally listed species may occur in the project area: the piping plover (threatened) and the loggerhead sea turtle (endangered). Potential impacts to either one of these species will be dependent upon where disposal occurs, if any. The piping plover winters along our Gulf coast including Little Dauphin Island, while the loggerhead sea turtle nests on barrier islands such as Dauphin Island between the months of April and October.

If you need further information regarding our concerns, please contact Celeste South at our office (Phone: 205/441-5181).

Sincerely yours,

Larry E. Goldman
Field Supervisor

PD-EC

United States Department of the Interior

TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
P.O. Drawer 1190
Daphne, AL 36526

SUSAN REES

May 3, 1993

District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 2288
Mobile, Alabama 36628

Dear Sir:

This replies to an April 21, 1993 letter from Dr. Susan Ivester Rees, Chief, Coastal Environment Section, concerning a proposed shoreline protection project near the Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board (DIPBB) Main Beach park, Mobile County, Alabama. Placement of stone structures in an area both east and west of the pier, extending a length of 350 feet as well as 850 feet into the Gulf of Mexico (30 feet wide submerged) is envisioned at this time as the complete project.

The Corps of Engineers has concluded, based upon the information included in Dr. Rees' letter that the project would have no effect on either the loggerhead sea turtle or the piping plover. We concur with your determination.

Sincerely,

Larry E. Goldman
Field Supervisor

cc: EPA, Atlanta, GA
NMFS, Panama City, FL
ADCNR, Montgomery, AL
ADCNR, Spanish Fort, AL
ADCNR, Dauphin Island, AL
ADEM, Montgomery, AL
ADEM, Mobile, AL

April 21, 1993

Coastal Environment Section

U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Protected Species Management Branch
ATTN: Dr. Terry Henwood
9450 Koger Boulevard
St. Petersburg, Florida 33702

Dear Dr. Henwood:

Please reference the April 20, 1993 telephone conversation between you and Mr. R. Douglas Nester, of my staff, concerning coordination under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and a list of Federally-protected species which may be impacted by a proposed shoreline protection project near the Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board (DIPBB) Main Beach Park.

The proposed action is the shoreline protection of the DIPBB public facilities located on the south shore of Dauphin Island approximately 3.5 miles west of the east end. A more detailed description of the proposed work is provided in Enclosure 1.

Per your discussion of the action with Mr. Nester, we understand that the list of Federally-protected species under your purview which was provided for the erosion protection action at the east end of Dauphin Island would also be appropriate for this action. A copy of the October 16, 1992 letter by which the list was transmitted, is provided for your ease of reference (Enclosure 2).

According to the October 16, 1992 list, ten Federally-listed species are under your jurisdiction in the State of Alabama of which five species are whales and five species are sea turtles. Based on the shore-based nature of the action and the fact that all construction materials would be transported to the project site by truck, we do not anticipate any impacts to the five listed whales.

With respect to the sea turtles, Mr. Nester contacted several persons who are knowledgeable of sea turtle activities in the project area. The contacts utilized in this instance were: Dr. Robert L. Shipp, Sea Turtle Stranding and Salvage Network Coordinator for the State of Alabama, Dr. John Dindo, Dauphin Island Sea Lab and Mr. Mark Van Hoose, State of Alabama, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. All of the above indicate that the beach area east and west of the project area are utilized as nesting habitat. Past nesting activities have occurred on the beach in front the condominiums located approximately .75 miles east of the project area and at least one nesting has occurred on the beach in front of the Isle Dauphine Country Club immediately east of the project area. None of the above indicated that nesting had ever occurred in the project area.

Based on discussions with the sea turtle contacts and personal observations of the project area by the undersigned and my staff suggests that suitable habitat for sea turtle nesting currently does not exist in the project area. Extensive shoreline and dune erosion in the project area would prohibit the liklihood of such activities.

In conclusion, we believe that the proposed action would have no effect on Federally-protected species under your purview. We would appreciate your concurrence with regard to this matter.

Should you have questions concerning our determination, please feel free to contact the undersigned or Mr. R. Douglas Nester at 694-4141 or 694-3854, respectively.

Sincerely,

Susan Ivester Rees
Chief, Coastal Environment
Section

Enclosures

PD-EC/NESTER
PD-EC/REES
PD-E/MCCLELLAN

Project Description

The plan selected would provide a heavy stone section along the beach to arrest shoreline erosion. Stone placement would begin 150 feet east of the Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board fishing pier centerline and extend approximately 200 feet west of the centerline, depending on whether or not the bath house is still standing when the project is constructed. The trapezoidal section would be placed as far gulfward as practical to permit sand eroding from the existing dune to accumulate in its rear. A stone blanket 3 feet thick and 30 feet wide, 10 feet on either side of the pier bent piling, and beginning at the toe of the shore protection, would be placed beneath the full length of the pier to arrest the bottom recession that is lessening the support for the piling. All stone would be placed on geotextile filters. Construction, and future maintenance, would utilize temporary board roads placed through existing openings in the dune line.

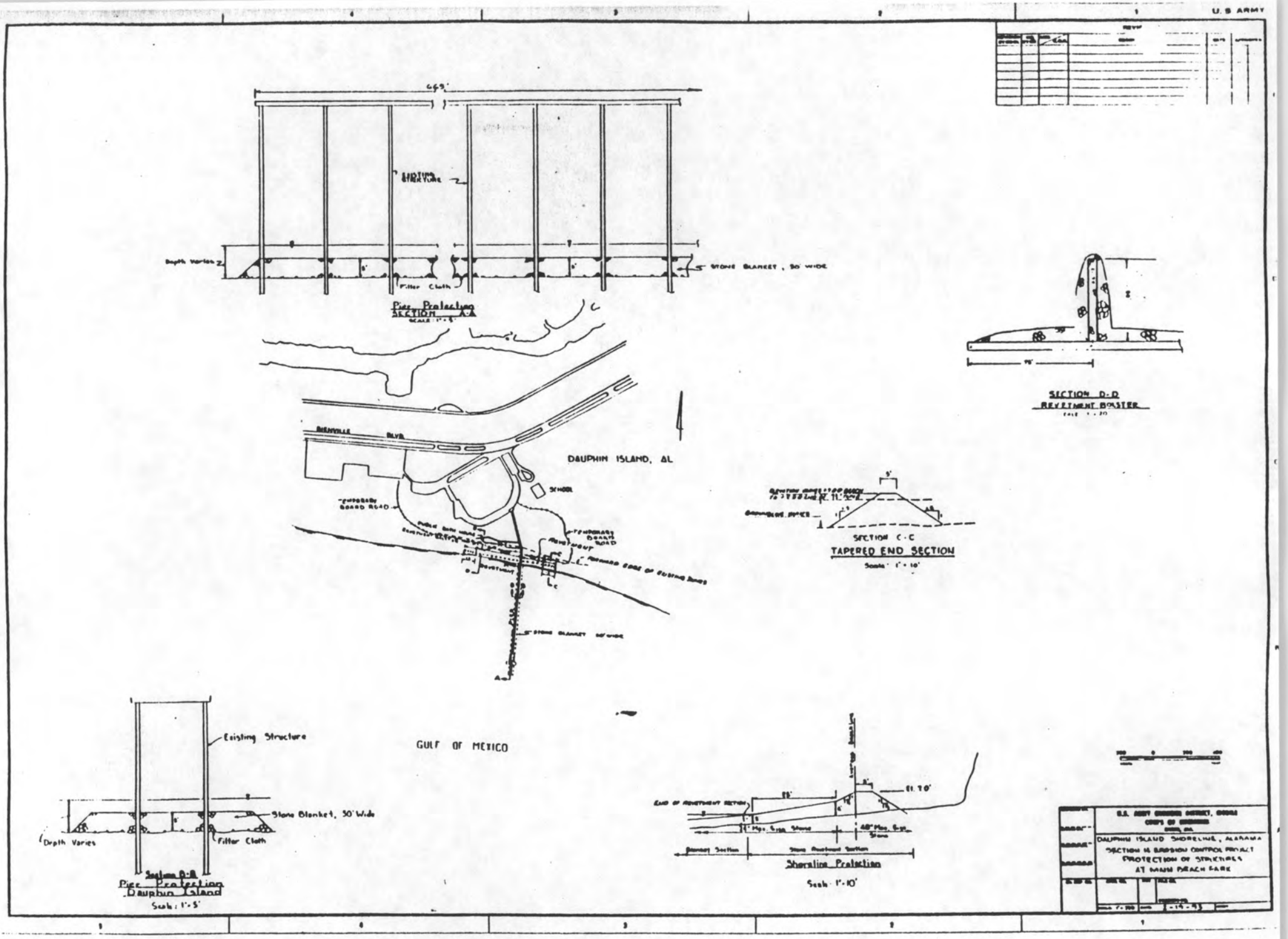
Design

As indicated above, the selected plan consists of heavy stone protection along the shoreline and a stone blanket under the entire pier. This plan would arrest the erosion around the pier for a period of 15 years. We estimate that at the end of that period the surrounding bottom would have eroded to a depth where reliable support of the pier would no longer be available. The details of this plan are shown on the attached figure. A heavy stone control structure would start 150 feet east of the pier and extend to 200 feet west of the pier to provide protection for the bath house. (If, at the time of construction, the bath house support has eroded to the extent that protecting it is no longer practical, the structure could be shortened by 150 feet). Beginning at the shoreline structure, a 3-foot thick stone blanket would be laid on geotextile fabric underneath the pier for its full length to arrest bottom erosion. The blanket would extend 10 feet out from the pile bents supporting the pier and completely around the pier perimeter. This would allow the blanket to settle around the edges as the bottom erodes and maintain the protection underneath the pier. This blanket would be 30 feet wide and 835 feet long.

The stone protection would be sound, durable, and of suitable quality to ensure permanence in the structure, and in the climate in which it is proposed for use. Potential sources of stone would be provided in the plans and specifications, and all material necessary to perform the work would be procured commercially. Stone size is based on an incident wave height of six (6)

feet at the structures, and is in accordance with the methods outlined in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Shore Protection Manual and the Automated Coastal Engineering System.

Stone used for shoreline protection would conform to the following gradation limits		
STONE WEIGHT (lbs)	**PERCENT LIGHTER** (by weight)	**APPROXIMATE SIZE** (in)
8,110	Max. Wt.	38-43
3,400	64-100	28-33
2,015	41-66	24-27
1,090	11-38	20-23
505	0-15	15-17
Stone for pier protection would conform to the following gradation limits		
STONE WEIGHT (lbs)	**PERCENT LIGHTER** (by weight)	**APPROXIMATE SIZE** (in)
2,400	Max. Wt.	25-29
1,000	64-100	19-22
600	42-66	16-18
325	10-38	13-15
150	0-15	10-12


U.S. ARMY
Depth Varies
Filter Cloth
STONE BLANKET, 30' WIDE
Pier Protection
SECTION A-A
SECTION D-D
REVETMENT BOLSTER
DAUPHIN ISLAND, AL
SCHOOL
TEMPORARY BOARD ROAD
SECTION C-C
TAPERED END SECTION
Scale: 1" = 10'
GULF OF MEXICO
Existing Structure
Stone Blanket, 30' Wide
Depth Varies
Filter Cloth
Section B-B
Pier Protection
Dauphin Island
Scale: 1" = 5'
Shoreline Protection
Scale: 1" = 10'
DAUPHIN ISLAND SHORELINE, ALABAMA
SECTION 16 EROSION CONTROL PROJECT
PROTECTION OF STRUCTURES
AT MAIN BEACH PARK

Doug

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERC
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administrati
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Southeast Region
9450 Koger Boulevard
St. Petersburg, FL 33702

October 16, 1992 F/SE013:TLD

Ms. Susan Ivester Rees
Chief, Coastal Environmental
Section
U.S. Dept. of the Army
Mobile District, COE
Post Office Box 2288
Mobile, AL 36628-0001

Dear Ms. Rees:

This responds to your letter of October 7, 1992, requesting information on endangered and threatened species under the jurisdiction of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) which might occur in the vicinity of the proposed project for the east end of Dauphin Island, Mobile County, Alabama. The enclosed list contains species under NMFS purview that may occur in the marine environment off Alabama.

If you have any questions, please contact Terry Henwood, Fishery Biologist, at 813/893-3366.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Brown

for Charles A. Oravetz, Chief
Protected Species Management
Branch

Enclosure

ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES AND CRITICAL HABITATS
UNDER
NMFS JURISDICTION

Alabama

Listed Species	Scientific Name	Status	Date Listed
finback whale	Balaenoptera physalus	E	12/02/70
humpback whale	Megaptera novaeangliae	E	12/02/70
right whale	Eubaleana glacialis	E	12/02/70
sei whale	Balaenoptera borealis	E	12/02/70
sperm whale	Physeter catodon	E	12/02/70
green sea turtle	Chelonia mydas	Th	07/28/78
hawksbill sea turtle	Eretmochelys imbricata	E	06/02/70
Kemp's (Atlantic) ridley sea turtle	Lepidochelys kempi	E	12/02/70
leatherback sea turtle	Dermochelys coriacea	E	06/02/70
loggerhead sea turtle	Caretta caretta	Th	07/28/78

SPECIES PROPOSED FOR LISTING
None

LISTED CRITICAL HABITAT
None

PROPOSED CRITICAL HABITAT
None

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Southeast Regional Office
9450 Koger Boulevard
St. Petersburg, FL 33702

MAY 14 1993 F/SE013:TAH

Dr. Susan Ivester Rees
Chief, Coastal Environment Section
Mobile District COE
P.O. Box 2288
Mobile, Alabama 36628-0001

Dear Dr. Rees:

This responds to your April 21, 1993, letter regarding a proposed shoreline protection project near Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board Main Beach Park, Dauphin Island, Alabama. A Biological Assessment (BA) was submitted pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA).

We have reviewed the BA and concur with your determination that populations of endangered/threatened species under our purview would not be adversely affected by the proposed action. However, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has jurisdiction over sea turtles on land, and they should be contacted regarding possible adverse effects to nesting turtles or nesting habitat.

This concludes consultation responsibilities under Section 7 of the ESA. However, consultation should be reinitiated if new information reveals impacts of the identified activity that may affect listed species or their critical habitat, a new species is listed, the identified activity is subsequently modified, or critical habitat determined that may be affected by the proposed activity.

If you have any questions please contact Terry Henwood, Fishery Biologist, at 813/893-3366.

Sincerely yours,

Terry Henwood

for Andrew J. Kemmerer,
Regional Director

cc: F/SEO2
F/PR2

April 14, 1993

Environmental Resources
Planning Section

Mr. F. Lawerence Oaks
Alabama State Historic
Preservation Officer
ATTN: Ms. Lee Luis
Alabama Historical Commission
725 Monroe Street
Montgomery, AL 36104

Dear Mr. Oaks:

The Mobile District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is considering the need to install shoreline protection at an existing pier on the south shore of Dauphin Island, Alabama. The location of the proposed work is shown on the enclosed map.

The proposed work consists of installing protective stone along the shoreline for a distance of 150 feet east and 150 - 300 feet west of the pier centerline. In addition, a stone blanket 30 feet wide and three feet thick would be placed under the pier from the toe of the shoreline protection for the entire pier length. All stone will be placed on geotextile filter cloth. Construction, and future maintenance, would use a temporary board road placed through existing openings in the dune line.

Given the location and nature of the proposed work, it is our opinion that a cultural resources survey is not warranted. If you agree with this determination, please sign this letter in the space provided below and return it to me within thirty days of your receipt. An expeditious response will be appreciated.

Should you have questions or require additional information, please contact Mobile District archeologist Ms. Dottie Gibbens at 205/694-4114.

Sincerely,

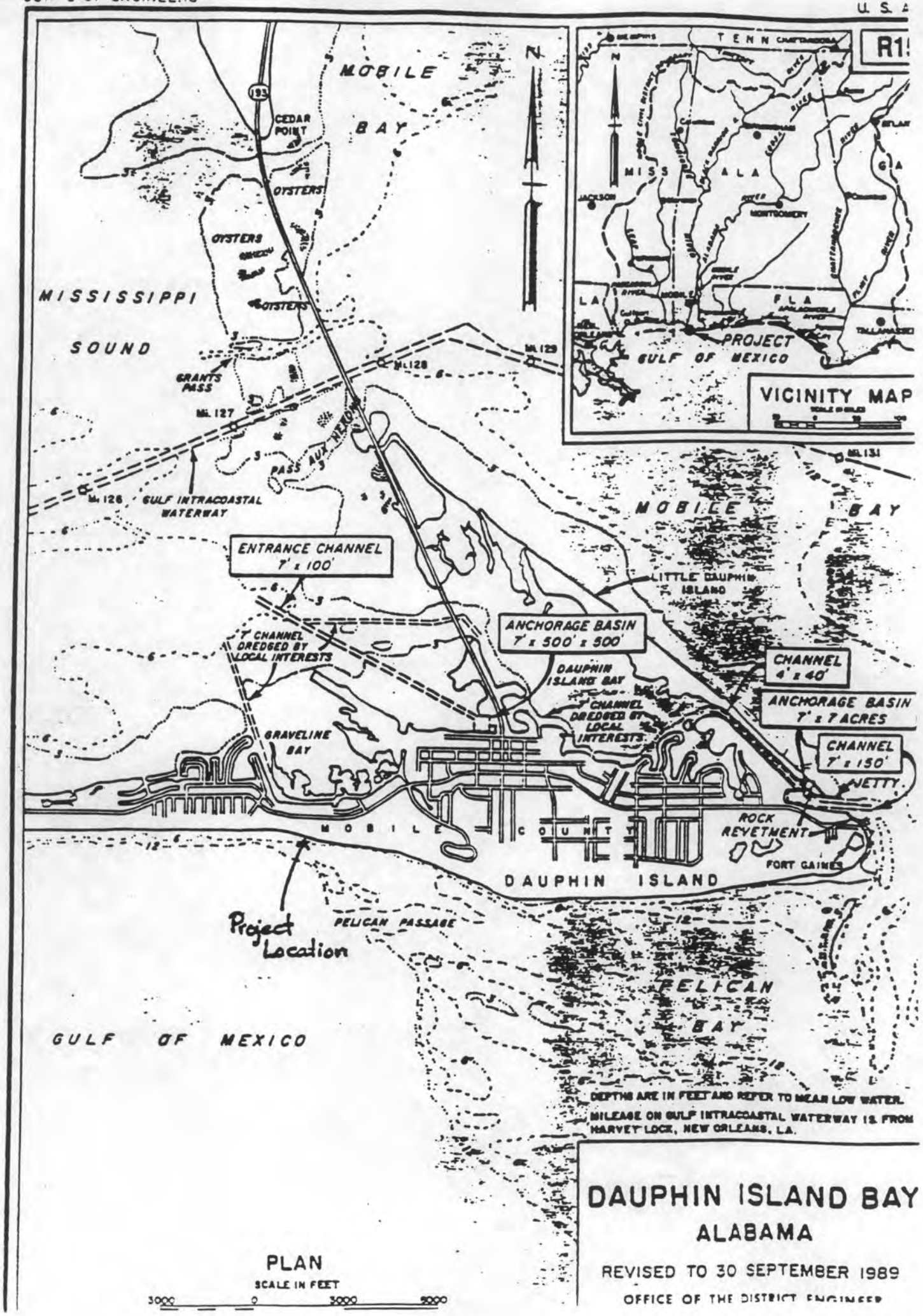
Hugh A. McClellan
Chief, Environment and Resources
Branch

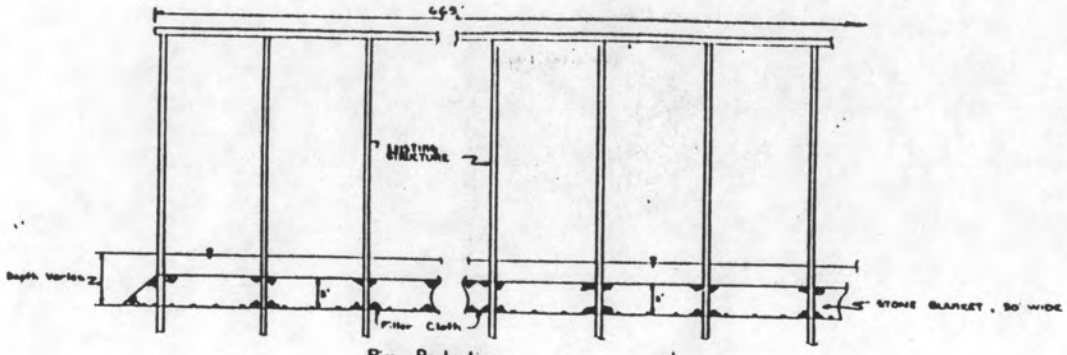
PD-ER/Gibbens/4114
PD-ER/Nielsen
PD-ER/Thornton
PD-E/McClellan

Enclosure

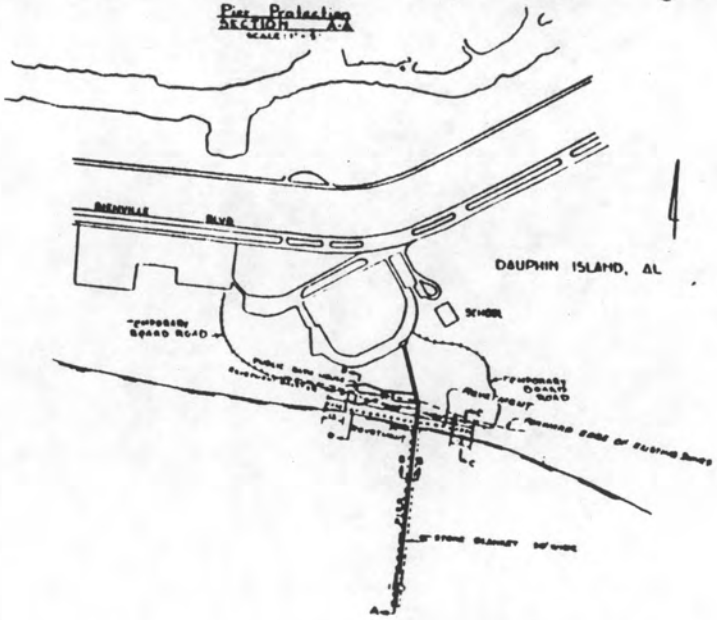
CONCURRENCE:

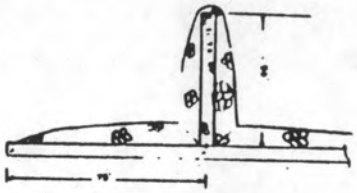
F. Lawerence Oaks Date
Alabama State Historic Preservation Officer


MOBILE BAY
CEDAR POINT
OYSTERS
MISSISSIPPI SOUND
GRANTS PASS
PASS AUX HERON
GULF INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY
ENTRANCE CHANNEL 7' x 100'
7' CHANNEL DREDGED BY LOCAL INTERESTS
GRAVELINE BAY
LITTLE DAUPHIN ISLAND
ANCHORAGE BASIN 7' x 500' x 500'
DAUPHIN ISLAND BAY
7' CHANNEL DREDGED BY LOCAL INTERESTS
CHANNEL 4' x 40'
ANCHORAGE BASIN 7' x 7 ACRES
CHANNEL 7' x 150'
JETTY
ROCK REVETMENT
FORT GAINES
MOBILE COUNTY
DAUPHIN ISLAND
PELICAN PASSAGE
Project Location
PELICAN BAY
GULF OF MEXICO
VICINITY MAP
PROJECT
GULF OF MEXICO
DEPTHS ARE IN FEET AND REFER TO MEAN LOW WATER.
MILEAGE ON GULF INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY IS FROM HARVEY LOCK, NEW ORLEANS, LA.
PLAN
SCALE IN FEET
3000 0 3000 9000
DAUPHIN ISLAND BAY
ALABAMA
REVISED TO 30 SEPTEMBER 1989
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ENGINEER

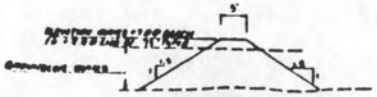


Pier Protection
SECTION A-A
SCALE: 1" = 5'

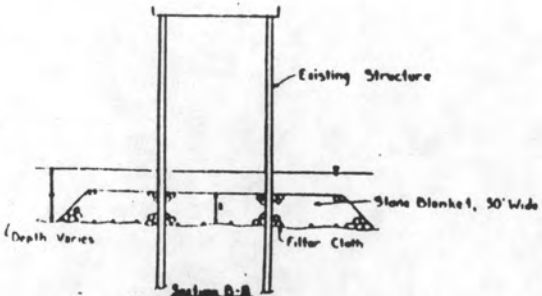




SECTION D-D
REVETMENT ROSTER
SCALE: 1" = 20'

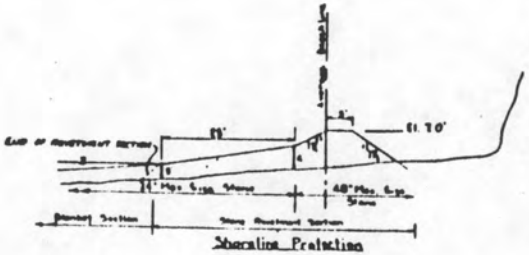


SECTION C-C
TAPERED END SECTION
Scale: 1" = 10'



Section D-D
Pier Protection
Dauphin Island
Scale: 1" = 5'

GULF OF MEXICO



Shoreline Protection
Scale: 1" = 10'

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, MOBILE
DAUPHIN ISLAND SHORELINE, ALABAMA
SECTION 14 EROSION CONTROL PROJECT
PROTECTION OF STRUCTURES
AT MAIN BEACH PARK

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
MOBILE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 2288
MOBILE, ALABAMA 36628-0001

APR 20 1993
Ala. Historical Commission

April 14, 1993

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

Environmental Resources
Planning Section

Mr. F. Lawerence Oaks
Alabama State Historic
Preservation Officer
ATTN: Ms. Lee Luis
Alabama Historical Commission
725 Monroe Street
Montgomery, AL 36104

Dear Mr. Oaks:

The Mobile District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is considering the need to install shoreline protection at an existing pier on the south shore of Dauphin Island, Alabama. The location of the proposed work is shown on the enclosed map.

The proposed work consists of installing protective stone along the shoreline for a distance of 150 feet east and 150 - 300 feet west of the pier centerline. In addition, a stone blanket 30 feet wide and three feet thick would be placed under the pier from the toe of the shoreline protection for the entire pier length. All stone will be placed on geotextile filter cloth. Construction, and future maintenance, would use a temporary board road placed through existing openings in the dune line.

Given the location and nature of the proposed work, it is our opinion that a cultural resources survey is not warranted. If you agree with this determination, please sign this letter in the space provided below and return it to me within thirty days of your receipt. An expeditious response will be appreciated.

Should you have questions or require additional information, please contact Mobile District archeologist Ms. Dottie Gibbens at 205/694-4114.

Sincerely,

Hugh A. McClellan
Chief, Environment and Resources
Branch

Enclosure

CONCURRENCE:

VAL F. Lawerence Oaks 5-5-93
F. Lawerence Oaks Date
Alabama State Historic Preservation Officer

CF: PD-L

STATE OF ALABAMA
ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION
468 South Perry Street
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130-0900

F. LAWERENCE OAKS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

TELEPHONE NUMBER
242-3184

May 24, 1993

District Engineer
Department of the Army
Mobile District, Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 2288
Mobile, Alabama 36628

Re: FP93-DI08-3
Shoreline Protection & Erosion Control
Mobile County, AL

Dear Sir:

The Alabama Historical Commission has determined that the above referenced project will not have an effect upon any cultural resources on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Therefore, our office concurs with the proposed activities.

Sincerely,

F. Lawerence Oaks

F. Lawerence Oaks
State Historic Preservation Officer

FLO/LAL/gtj

CESAM-PD-ES (200) Mr. Beacham/441-6853/16 Nov 92

MEMORANDUM THRU PD-E

FOR PD-FP (Willis)

SUBJECT: Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Waste (HTRW) Considerations for the Section 14 Projects East End Dauphin Island and Dauphin Island Shoreline Main Beach Park, Dauphin Island, AL

1. On 4 Nov 92, Mr. Walt Burdin, PD-FP, and Mr. Robert Beacham, PD-ES, met with Mr. Mike Henderson, Executive Director of the Dauphin Island Beach Board, to discuss HTRW topics on two Section 14 reports, East End Dauphin Island and Dauphin Island Shoreline Main Beach Park. The meeting was prompted by the requirements of ER 1165-2-132 entitled "Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Waste Guidance for Civil Works Projects". The following is a summary of the meeting with Mr. Henderson, interviews and site visits to the project areas.

2. The Section 14 Project entitled East End Dauphin Island is designed to provide shoreline protection around Fort Gaines, a significant historical structure and major source of income for the community of Dauphin Island. The Fort was built in 1821 by the United States Government with expansions taking place until the outbreak of the Civil War when the Confederate States of America took control of the Fort. After the Civil War the fort returned to the Federal Government where it remained under federal control until after World War II. During both the first and second World War, the Fort was used as a submarine lookout post and during World War II it was also used for anti-aircraft training. After World War II the federal government turned control of the Fort over to the State of Alabama who in 1953 turned control of the Fort over to the Dauphin Island Beach Board. The State agreed to construct a bridge to Dauphin Island to allow easier access for tourism. According to Mr. Henderson, an inspection of the Fort was conducted at the time of transfer and no weapons or ordnance were discovered in or around the Fort. In actuality, there is no record of a shot being fired in anger from the Fort since the Civil War. It should be noted that there is a slight possibility that some unexploded ordnance could exist within the project area. Since the opening of Fort Gaines Park no Notice of Violations have been issued from local, State (ADEM), or Federal (EPA) Agencies. There are no known, reported, or suspected HTRW sites within or adjacent to the area under consideration.

3. A site inspection was conducted by Corps personnel in and around the Fort during this trip. In addition, interviews were conducted as well as conversations with personnel employed at the Fort. The Fort has been tied into the existing sewage treatment system on the island since the early 1960's. No records exist detailing what was done with the sewage prior to the Dauphin Island Beach Board's take-over. All solid waste is transported from the site by BFI, a solid waste disposal company. Prior to this specific contract all solid waste was picked up by various solid waste disposal companies or city organizations. No evidence of a landfill exist on this site. After reviewing pertinent real estate records, visiting the site and discussing the project with pertinent individuals, no known HTRW concerns were identified within the confines of the project.

4. The Section 14 project at Dauphin Island Shoreline Main Beach Park, is located on the south side of Dauphin Island approximately at the mid-point of the island. It calls for shoreline protection of the main public beach. This public beach is the main attraction for tourism to the island, the main source of income for the island. This area has experienced dramatic erosion in the past few years. It has removed, as estimated by Mr. Henderson and depicted by photographs, approximately 100 feet of shoreline. Erosion has forced the closure of a public bath house and this structure is in imminent danger of collapsing. The bath house was constructed in 1969-1970. Prior to the development of the main beach this area was the location of the Sand Dunes Casino, which was destroyed by Hurricane Camille in 1969. Portions of the concrete slab are still evident especially in the eroded areas.

5. A site inspection was conducted by Corps personnel in and around the park during this trip. In addition, interviews were conducted with personnel employed by the Dauphin Island Beach Board. The sewage service for the bath house has been tied into the existing sewage lines since its construction. No septic tanks have ever been employed in this area. All solid waste has been picked up by commercial waste interest and no landfills are in existence in the area. No known HTRW concerns were identified within the confines of the project.

CESAM-PD-ES (200)
SUBJECT: Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Waste (HTRW) Considerations for the Section 14 Projects East End Dauphin Island and Dauphin Island Shoreline Main Beach Park, Dauphin Island, AL

6. If this office can be of any assistance in this matter, please call me at 441-6871 or Mr. Robert Beacham at 441-6853.

ELLIS C. POPE
Acting Chief, Hazardous/Toxic
Waste and Environmental Support
Section

Doug

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Southeast Regional Office
9450 Koger Boulevard
St. Petersburg, Florida 33702

June 7, 1993

904/234-5061

Colonel Robert H. Griffin
District Engineer, Mobile District
Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers
ATTN: CESAM-PD-EC
P.O. Box 2288
Mobile, Alabama 36628-0001

Dear Colonel Griffin:

The National Marine Fisheries Service has reviewed the project plans advertised in the following public notice(s). We anticipate that any adverse effects that might occur on marine and anadromous fishery resources would be minimal and, therefore, do not object to issuance of the permit(s).

NOTICE NO.	COUNTY	APPLICANT	NOTICE DATE	DUE DATE
FP93-DI08-3	Mobile	COE	5/7/93	6/7/93

Sincerely,

Shelley D. Fraser

for Andreas Mager, Jr.
Assistant Regional Director
Habitat Conservation Division

cc:
F/SE02

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
P.O. Drawer 1190
Daphne, AL 36526

TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA

May 13, 1993

District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 2288
Mobile, Alabama 36628

Dear Sir:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has reviewed the public notices listed below. No significant adverse effects on fish and wildlife resources are expected to result from these proposed works. Therefore, we have no objections to issuance of these permits. Our comments are provided in accordance with provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.).

Public Notice No.	Applicant	Due Date
AL93-00808-M	Portside Condo Owners Assoc.	5/9/93
FP93-DI08-3	CORPS and ADEM	5/21/93

Please keep us informed of your action regarding these matters.

Sincerely yours,

Larry E. Goldman
Field Supervisor

cc: EPA, Atlanta, GA
ADCNR, Montgomery, AL
ADCNR, Spanish Fort, AL
ADCNR, Dauphin Island, AL
ADEM, Montgomery, AL
ADEM, Mobile, AL

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION IV

345 COURTLAND STREET, N.E.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30365

MAY 24 1993

Department of the Army
Mobile District, Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 2288
Mobile, AL 36628
ATTN: Mr. Douglas Nester

Subject: Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Shoreline Protection and Erosion Control Measures at Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board, Main Beach Park, Dauphin Island, AL

Dear: Dr. Rees:

Pursuant to Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, EPA, Region IV has reviewed the subject document which describes the consequences of providing shoreline protection via approximately 3,400 tons of stone placed by a barge-mounted crane. This action is being undertaken to lessen the accelerated erosion that is occurring due to migration of Pelican Passage. During the past several years, the subject area has eroded at a rate of about 30 feet per year compared to the historical rate of about 1 feet per year. It is hoped that the use of this stone placed on a geotechnical filter fabric will serve as a stop gap measure to protect these public facilities until reoccurrence of historical erosion rates.

On the basis of the information in the EA it does not appear that this proposal will result in important adverse environmental consequences; therefore, we have no significant objections to the assigned, "Finding of No Significant Impact".

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If we can be of additional assistance, Dr. Gerald Miller (404-347-3776) will serve as initial point of contact.

Sincerely yours,

Heinz Mueller

Heinz J. Mueller, Chief
Environmental Policy Section
Federal Activities Branch

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M E S C

Marine Environmental Sciences Consortium

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FAX COVER SHEET

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DATE: 6/16/93

TIME: ~~6/16~~ 1240

TO: Doug Nester x-3854

FAX NO.: 690-2424

ADDRESS:

FROM: Corozier

NOTES: Sorry it's late

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Mr. Doug Nester
U.S. Corps of Engineers
Mobile District
Mobile, AL

Dear Doug,

With regard to the project proposed for the public beach area on Dauphin Island, I would suggest that the design is inadequate in that it does not provide for the problem of downdrift worsening as we have seen downdrift of the groin field on the east end.

I also can't help but feel that any project which does not contain some form of replenishment leaves something to be desired. Until this issue is addressed, almost anything looks like we're throwing money away.

Sincerely,

George F. Crozier

July 1, 1993

Coastal Environment Section

Dr. George F. Crozier
Executive Director
Marine Environmental Sciences
Consortium
Post Office Box 369-370
Dauphin Island, Alabama 36528

Dear Dr. Crozier:

Please reference your letter which was faxed to the undersigned on June 16, 1993, concerning our May 7, 1993 Public Notice No. FP93-DI08-3 entitled, "Shoreline Protection and Erosion Control, Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board, Main Beach Park, Mobile County, Alabama." A copy of your letter is provided for your ease of reference.

Upon receipt, your letter was reviewed by the Mobile District's Plan Formulation Branch, Plan Development Section (PD-FP). Our coastal engineers were, throughout the planning and engineering design phase of this project, aware of the concerns regarding artificial structures and downdrift beach erosion. The approach being taken with this project is to provide for the security of the pier through the construction of the three-foot thick stone blanket. The projected effect of the action is a reduction of the scour around the pier pilings. A small sand fillet is expected to build up on the east side of the blanket and eventually overtop the blanket and deposit of the west side. No significant downdrift erosion is anticipated. Since minimal downdrift erosion is expected, no requirement for replenishment is foreseen.

Your comments on this proposed action are appreciated. Please feel free to contact me at 694-3854 should you desire to further discuss the project and its impacts.

Sincerely,

R. Douglas Nester
Acting Chief, Coastal
Environment Section

Enclosure

PD-EC/~~Nester~~
PD-FP/~~Burdin~~
PD-EC/~~Rees~~
PD-E/~~McClellan~~

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U.S. Corps of Engineers
Mobile District
Mobile, AL

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Sincerely,

George F. Crozier

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ADEM

ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

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FAX 479-2593

Jim Folsom
Governor

June 29, 1993

Mr. N. D. McClure
Mobile District Corps of Engineers
P. O. Box 2288
Mobile, AL 36628-0001

Re: Corps of Engineers Federal Project
FP93-DI08-3/COEP-93-04

Dear Sir:

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management has completed its review of the Corps of Engineers' proposal to provide shoreline protection for a portion of shoreline in the vicinity of the Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board structures on the Gulf beach front on Dauphin Island, Mobile County, Alabama. This proposed project has two components; 1)a heavy stone section along the beach extending approximately 150 feet east of the public pier and approximately 200 feet west of the pier and 2)a 30 foot wide and approximately 3 foot thick blanket of stone underneath the public pier and extending out to just beyond its 665 foot length. As noted, the purpose of this project is to control erosion which is causing a threat to the pier and various structures at the shoreline. The project is being undertaken by the Corps under Section 14 of the Flood Control Act of 1946 (Public Law 79-526), as amended. The Corps of Engineers advertisement of this project by joint public notice with ADEM has been completed.

As noted in our letter of April 27, 1993, the Department has some concerns regarding the effect this project will have on the littoral drift of sand along this shoreline and what changes in erosion and accretion patterns may result. In your letter May 3, 1993, you indicated that these effects are anticipated to be minimal and that if they did arise during construction that the Corps would try to address the problem. It was also noted in the letter that once the project was complete that the non-federal sponsor would assume any liabilities such as that which may result from changes in erosion and accretion patterns as noted above. In order to assess changes in the shoreline in the future, the Department requests that aerial photography of the shoreline one mile on either side of the project with surveyed points identified on the photograph(s) be provided upon project completion.

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Action pertinent to water quality and coastal management certification is required by Section 401(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. §1251, et. seq., and the Alabama Coastal Area Management Program. We hereby issue official certification that there is reasonable assurance that the discharge resulting from the proposed activities, as submitted, will not violate applicable water quality standards established under Section 303 of the Clean Water Act and Title 22, Section 22-22-9-(g), Code of Alabama (1975). We certify that the project has been found to be consistent with the management program. This certification in no way purports to vest in you title to lands now owned by the State of Alabama nor shall it be construed as acquiescence by the State of Alabama in your possession of lands now owned by the State of Alabama.

Sincerely,

James W. Warr
Deputy Director

JWW/BR/ct

cc: Doug Nester
Coastal Environment Section
Mobile District Corps of Engineers