



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT
1650 ARCH STREET
PHILADELPHIA PA 19103-2004

May 20, 2026

Environmental Resources Branch

Mr. Jesse Hayden, PE, Coastal Programs Section Administrator
Delaware Coastal Programs
Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control
100 W Water Street
Dover, DE 19904, USA
Jesse.Hayden@delaware.gov

Dear Mr. Hayden:

This letter is to notify you that the Philadelphia District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), has prepared a Detailed Project Report/Environmental Assessment (DPR/EA) entitled *Continuing Authorities Program, Section 111 Shore Damage Mitigation Project, Mispillion Inlet, Milford, Sussex County, Delaware*.

The purpose of this study is to evaluate and address the impacts of the Mispillion Inlet Federal Navigation Project (FNP), which was constructed by the USACE between 1893-1939. The study is needed to develop solutions for the shoreline erosion north of Mispillion Inlet that occurred after the jetties at the northern and southern portions of the inlet were constructed.

Shoreline changes adjacent to Mispillion Inlet reveal a significant increase in erosion following construction of the Mispillion Inlet FNP. The Mispillion Inlet FNP includes a pair of jetties and a channel with dimensions of 80 feet (width) and 6 feet (depth) below mean lower low water (MLLW). Without intervention, the shorelines are expected to continue to erode, increasing the risk of another breach along the shoreline north of Mispillion Inlet.

The DPR/EA evaluates the existing environmental, cultural, and socio-economic conditions in the study area and the potential impacts of the proposed Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP). The TSP is a one-time beach nourishment on the Conch Bar Beach, north of the Mispillion Inlet to restore shoreline habitat (see Figure 1, enclosed). The DPR/EA also evaluates the *No Action* alternative of not mitigating the shoreline erosion and considers 10 other alternatives.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, a draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and draft DPR/EA are being circulated to the appropriate Federal, State, and local agencies, and the interested public. This document is available from the Philadelphia District website for download at: <https://www.nap.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Public-Notices-Reports/> The public has been invited to comment on draft EA.

Pursuant to NEPA, USACE requests your review and comment of the draft EA. The Philadelphia District requests your review and comments on the draft report within 30 days of the date of this letter.

The proposed project is within the Delaware coastal zone. As such, the USACE reviewed the TSP for consistency with the Delaware Coastal Management Program Federal Consistency Policies and Procedures (7 DE Admin. Code 2201). Please see the enclosed DNREC Delaware Coastal Management Program Federal Consistency form enclosed. In accordance with 15 C.F.R. Subpart 930, USACE has determined the proposed project will be conducted in a manner that is consistent, to the maximum extent practicable, with the enforceable policies of the Delaware Coastal Management Program and request your concurrence with this determination.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Valerie Whalon of the Environmental Resources Branch by phone at (215) 656-0620 or by email at valerie.m.whalon@usace.army.mil or the Project Manager, Mr. Nicholas Cosenza by phone at 445-248-5372 or by email at nicholas.f.cosenza@usace.army.mil. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Scott A. Sanderson

Scott Sanderson
Chief, Planning Division

Enclosure(s)

cc: DNREC_FederalConsistency@delaware.gov



Figure 1. The Tentatively Selected Plan - Beach Nourishment