

# Bay Beach Nourishment Project Slaughter Beach

3/12/2026

# Agenda

- Project Overview
- Project Timeline
- Public Access Requirements
- Easements
- Next Steps
- Q&A

Josh Lippert, DNREC  
Joanna French, DNREC  
Dan Kelly, USACE



# Project Overview

- Enhance Delaware Bay shoreline
- Improve public recreational access
- Partnership with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
- Maximize funding for one-time sand placement
- Estimated total cost: \$60 million



# Project Background

- The Delaware River Dredged Material Utilization (DMU) Study, authorized by Congress in 2020, identified target areas for potential beach nourishment using dredge material from the Delaware River.
- Study analyzed dredging the Brandywine Range of the Delaware River for one-time sand placement along DE Bay beaches.
- Project deliverables propose sand placement at Pickering Beach, Kitts Hummock, Slaughter Beach, and Bowers Beach.
- In March 2026, an authorization agreement was signed between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and DNREC. Currently, the project is at 90% design completion.

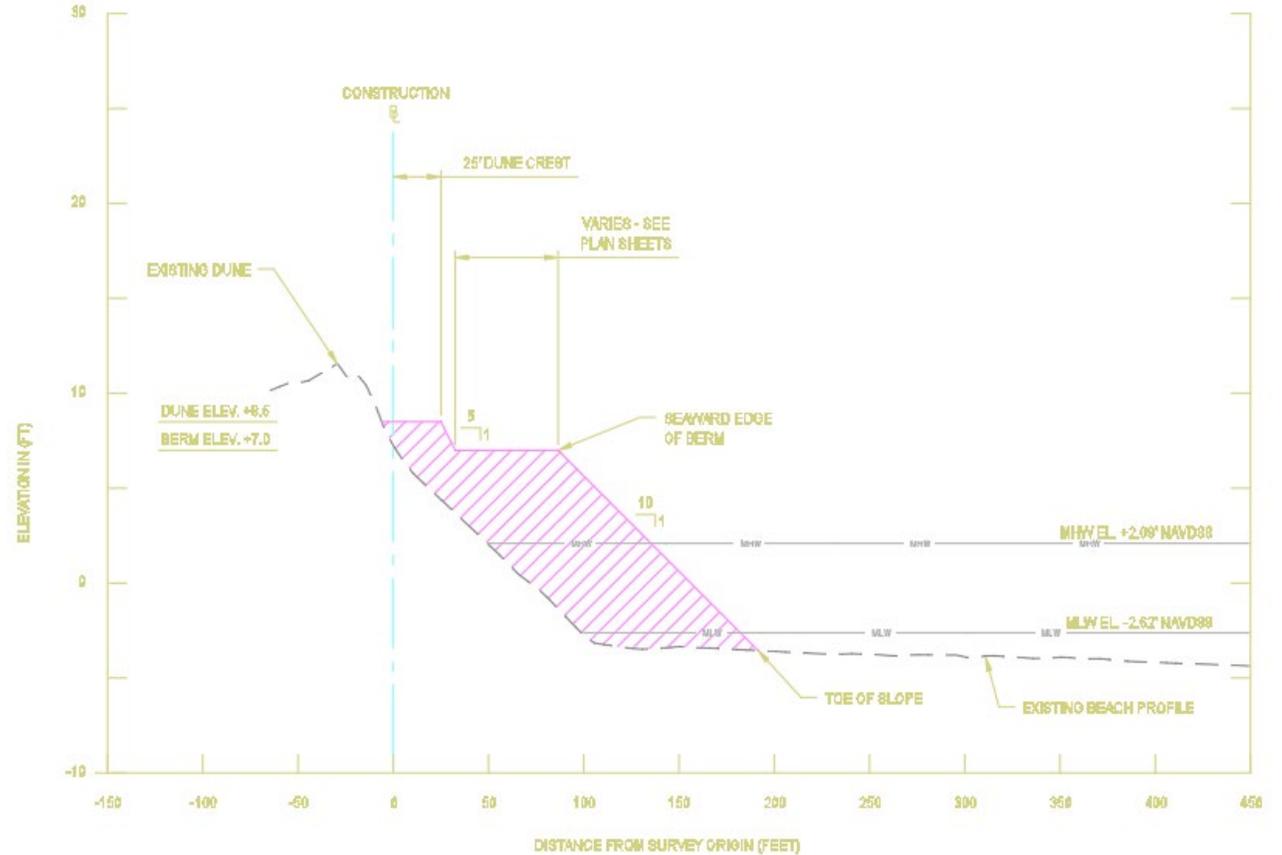


Proposed target areas for beach nourishment.  
(Bowers Beach exc.)



# Project Design

- Typical Cross Section



**B2** TYPICAL SECTION - BEACHFILL (SLAUGHTER BEACH)  
SCALE IN FEET  
H: 0 50 100  
V: 0 5 10

# Project Timeline

- March Public Meetings
- March-April Public Access
- Spring – Easements
- Summer – Project Bidding\*
- Fall/Winter – Project Implementation\*

**\*Pending Public Access Requirements, Easement Acquisition, and time-of-year restrictions**





# Public Access Requirements

# Federal Public Access Requirements

Public Law 826, 1956 - fundamental law for federal fund usage for shore protection projects

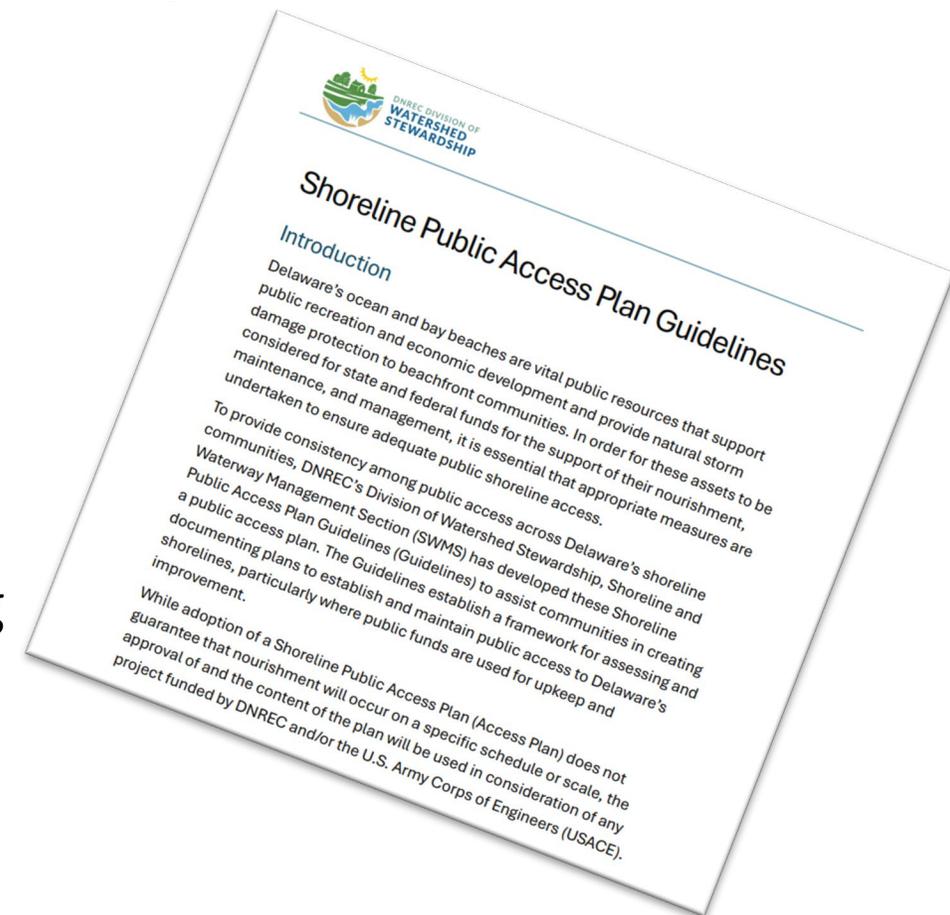
Engineering Regulation (ER) 1165-2-130 requires that 'reasonable public access be provided in accordance with the recreational use objectives of the particular area.'

- **Access** – Access points should be no more than  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile apart, with a  $\frac{1}{4}$  beach walkability.
- **Parking** – 'Parking on free or reasonable terms should be available within a reasonable walking distance of the beach.'

# DNREC Public Access Requirements

Beginning **July 1, 2026**, communities receiving nourishment and beach maintenance from the state or federal government must have a DNREC approved shoreline public access plan prior to initiation.

Federal nourishment projects currently in planning or design must have an access plan in development to remain eligible for implementation.

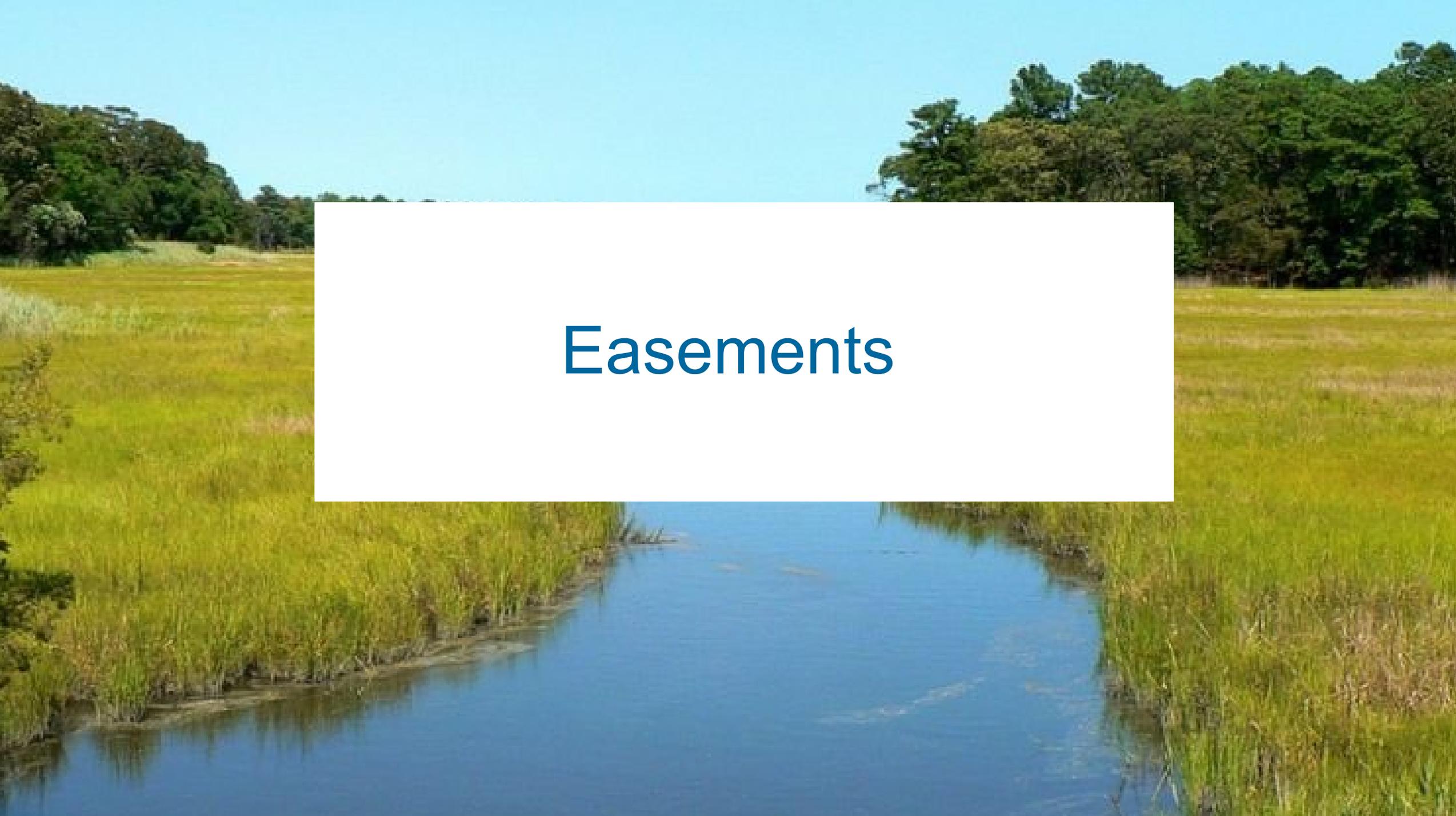


[Shoreline Public Access - DNREC](#)

# Public Access

- **Existing:**
  - Slaughter Beach Fire House
  - S. Delaware
  - Cedar
  - Sussex
  - Maryland
  - Virginia
  - Simpson
- **Required:**
  - Crossover easements and signage





# Easements

# Project Easement Types



## Perpetual

A legal right-of-way required by all bay-front parcel owners to allow beach construction, maintenance, and long-term public use on property.



## Taper

A legal, perpetual right-of-way allowing the placement and maintenance of sand where the newly constructed beach gradually transitions or 'tapers' into the natural shoreline.



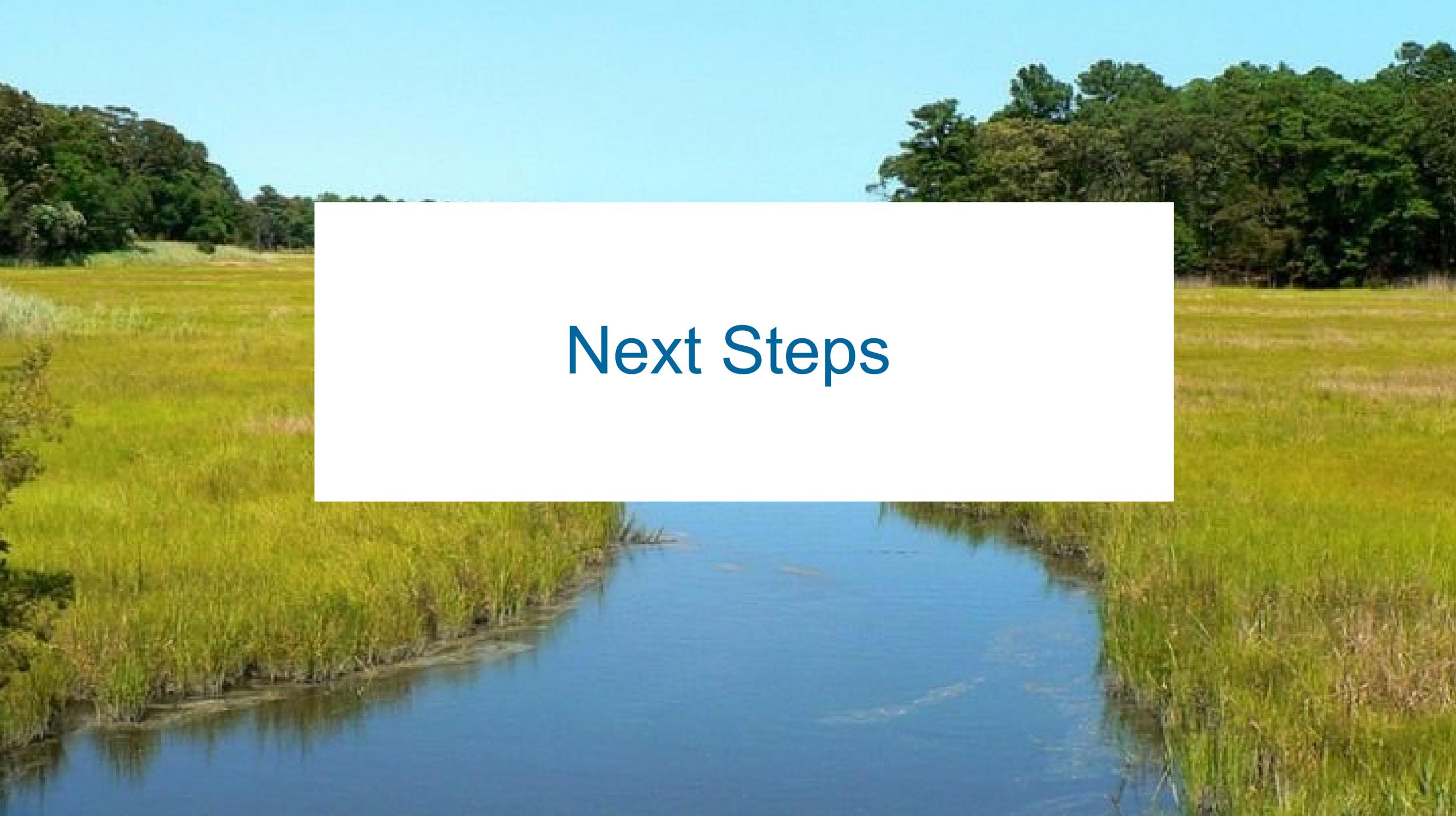
## Construction Access

Temporary, legal permission to access private property for material laydown and equipment storage throughout project construction.

# Perpetual Easements Process

- **Acquisition Types:**
  - Donation
  - Compensation
- **Steps:**
  1. Title Search
  2. Appraisal
  3. Easement Package provided to the property owner
  4. Property owner signature/notarized, and returned to DNREC
  5. Easement recorded with the County
  6. Executed easement provided to the property owner



A scenic landscape featuring a blue river or stream flowing through a lush green field. The sky is clear and blue, and there are dense green trees in the background. A white rectangular box is overlaid in the center of the image, containing the text "Next Steps" in a blue, sans-serif font.

# Next Steps

# Next Steps

- **Public Access Plan – April 30th**
  - Required Plan Submission
- **Easements – Spring 2026**

**Project Website:**

[Delaware Bay Beach Nourishment Project](https://dnrec.delaware.gov/watershed-stewardship/beaches/bay-beach-nourishment/)

<https://dnrec.delaware.gov/watershed-stewardship/beaches/bay-beach-nourishment/>



# Thank you

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