

FINAL PUBLIC NOTICE

The Town of Holden Beach has applied for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance (PA) Program funding through the North Carolina Emergency Management (NCEM) as a sub-recipient.

Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), federal actions must be reviewed and evaluated for feasible alternatives and for social, economic, historic, environmental, legal, and safety considerations. Under Executive Order (EO) 11988 and EO 11990, FEMA is required to consider alternatives, and to provide a public notice of any proposed actions in or affecting floodplains or wetlands. EO 12898 also requires FEMA to provide the opportunity for public participation in the planning process and to consider potential impacts to minority and low-income populations. This notice may also fulfill requirements under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).

Funding for the proposed project will be conditional upon compliance with all applicable federal, tribal, state, and local laws, regulations, floodplain standards, permit requirements and conditions.

Sub-Applicant: Town of Holden Beach

Project Title: Beach Restoration at Holden Beach

Location of Proposed Work:

Facility and Address	Latitude	Longitude
Holden Beach, NC 28462	Start: 33.91450 End: 33.91430	Start: -78.24550 End: -78.25310

Special Flood Hazard Area Zone: This project is for repairs to the Town of Holden Beach's Central Reach Project which is located in a Coastal High Hazard Zone. Confirmation of location in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) was determined by the latest Flood Insurance Rate Map, Panel Number: 3720202600K. The proposed work conforms to all applicable State of North Carolina and local floodplain regulations. The proposed work will take place in wetland classifications M2US2P and M2US2N per the United States Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetlands Inventory. The actions will have little potential to impact or affect wetland values. There is a potential for the facility to be impacted by similar flooding events due to its location within a Coastal High Hazard Area. As such, measures have been identified to protect these facilities against future flooding events, as well as minimize the short-term and long-term impacts on the floodplain.

Proposed Work and Purpose:

The Town of Holden Beach plans to utilize contract labor and equipment for the following repairs to the Central Reach Project portion of the Beach: replace 722,994 CY of Engineered Beach, replace 10,000 native dune plants, and replace 800 ft of sand fence used to build and stabilize dunes. All repairs restore the facility back to its pre-disaster design, function, and capacity within the existing footprint with in-kind materials. The Town of Holden Beach plans to dredge and pipe sand for this project from an approved and permitted offshore sand borrow site, renew state and federal environmental permits from a previous 2017 project, and prepare a maintenance plan for the Engineered Beach site. A goal of this project is to minimize the impact of floods on human health, safety, or welfare and increase the useful life of the structure or facility.

Project Alternatives:

Alternative #1 (no action alternative): The 'no action' alternative would ultimately result in a negative impact on the Town of Holden Beach. The Engineered Beach functions as a crucially important social, cultural, economic, and recreational resource. Additionally, the beach promotes the natural and beneficial values served by the floodplain and protects improved property from storms.

Comment Period:

Comments are solicited from the public; local, state or federal agencies, and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of the proposed project. The comments should be made in writing and addressed to:

FEMA Internal 11988 Reviewer
FEMA Region 4
3003 Chamblee-Tucker Road
Atlanta, Georgia, 30341

Alternatively, comments may be emailed to: FEMA-R4EHP@fema.dhs.gov. Please send comments with the subject line [DR-4393-NC-00674 11988 COMMENT].

All comments are due by no later than 15 days of the posted date of this notice.

POSTED ON: May 15, 2019

End of Notice