

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality  
Certification under Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act

In the matter of:        Navigational Maintenance Dredging of Saugatuck Harbor Federal  
                                 Navigational Channel and Beach Nourishment Project  
                                 Allegan County, Michigan  
                                 Department of the Army  
                                 Detroit District, Corps of Engineers

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) certifies that the proposed dredging by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) in the Saugatuck Harbor navigational channel and the beach application of dredged materials on the shoreline will comply with Section 401 of the federal Clean Water Act and the Michigan Water Quality Standards provided that the conditions set forth in this Section 401 Water Quality Certification (Certification) are met. This Certification is based on the June 26, 2018, request from the USACE and information provided with that request.

Certification Conditions:

1. The Kalamazoo District Supervisor, MDEQ, shall be notified 48 hours prior to the commencement of dredging operations in the Saugatuck Harbor federal navigational channel.
2. Initiation of any work on this project confirms the USACE acceptance and agreement to comply with all terms and conditions of this certification.
3. Due to fisheries concerns in the area, dredging dates are restricted as outlined in the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), Fisheries Division, Preferred Dredging Periods document, unless modification to the established dates is requested by USACE staff and approved in writing by MDNR, Fisheries Division, staff with a copy of the approval sent to the Kalamazoo District Supervisor.
4. The dredging operation shall be limited to the boundaries of the Saugatuck Harbor federal navigational channel as defined in Figure 1. The placement of dredged material for beach nourishment shall be restricted to the near shore south of the harbor beginning immediately south of the south breakwater and extending 2,500 feet south or beginning 4,900 feet south extending 1,600 feet south between the ordinary high-water mark and the most landward 8-foot depth contour (Figure 1).
5. During dredging, the resuspension of silt, other fine particles or materials, oils, and films shall be maintained below quantities that are, or may become, injurious to any designated uses by careful equipment operation and, if necessary, the use of an environmental bucket or hydraulic dredge, floating booms, silt curtains or screens, and other suitable means.
6. The application of dredged materials on the shoreline shall not have any unnatural physical properties (turbidity, color, oil film, floating solids, foams, settleable solids, suspended solids, or deposits) in quantities that are, or may become, injurious to any designated uses. Any unusual characteristics of the discharge shall be reported immediately to the Kalamazoo District Supervisor, MDEQ, followed by a written report within 10 days detailing the findings of the investigation and steps taken to correct the condition(s).

7. It is the duty of the USACE to comply with all the terms and conditions of this Certification. Any noncompliance with the conditions or terms of this Certification constitutes a violation of the Michigan Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended, and/or the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and constitutes grounds for enforcement action; Certification termination; revocation, reissuance, or modification; or denial of a future application.

8. Civil and Criminal Liability

Nothing in this Certification shall be construed to relieve the USACE from civil or criminal penalties for noncompliance, whether or not such noncompliance is due to factors beyond the USACE's control, such as accidents, equipment breakdowns, labor disputes, or contractor performance.

9. Oil and Hazardous Substance Liability

Nothing in this Certification shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the USACE from any responsibilities, liabilities, or penalties to which the USACE may be subject under Section 311 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act except as are exempted by federal regulations.

10. State Laws

Nothing in this Certification shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the USACE from any responsibilities, liabilities, or penalties established pursuant to any applicable state or federal law.

11. Natural Resources Damages and Penalties

The state reserves the right to seek civil and/or criminal penalties and liabilities under applicable law for natural resource damages that may occur.

12. Certifications and Approvals

Nothing herein shall relieve the USACE from the requirement to obtain any other necessary state, federal, or local permits, including other permits from the MDEQ, certifications, licenses, or approvals for the beach application of dredge materials and navigational dredging operations.

13. This certification supersedes all previous certifications issued for the Saugatuck Harbor federal navigation channel and upon issuance of this certification all other certifications become void.

Issued this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2019 and shall expire on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2024.

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Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

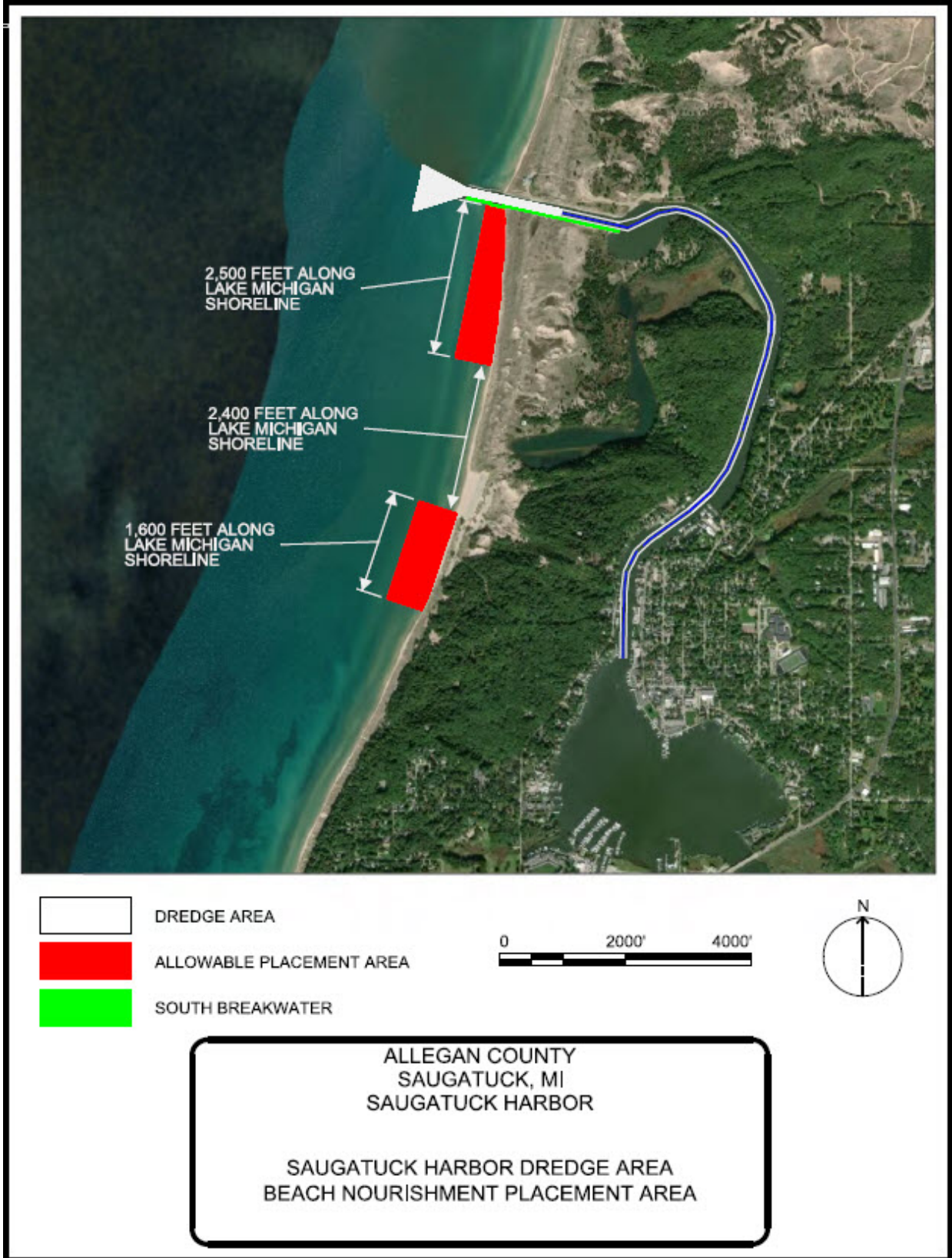


Figure 1. Proposed dredge area within the Saugatuck Harbor federal navigational channel and beach nourishment placement locations along the Lake Michigan shoreline.