



# Public Notice

<b>U.S. Army Corps Of Engineers</b>	Permit Application No: _____	SWG-2024-00550
	Date Issued: _____	02/10/2025
	Comments _____	
<b>Galveston District</b>	Due: _____	03/10/2025

## U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, GALVESTON DISTRICT

**PURPOSE OF PUBLIC NOTICE:** To inform you of a proposal for work in which you might be interested. It is also to solicit your comments and information to better enable us to make a reasonable decision on factors affecting the public interest. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is not the entity proposing or performing the proposed work, nor has the Corps taken a position, in favor or against the proposed work.

**AUTHORITY:** This application will be reviewed pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

**APPLICANT:** Jeff Edmonds  
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Corpus Christi, Texas 78401  
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**AGENT:** Harrison McNeil  
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Corpus Christi, Texas 78401  
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**LOCATION:** The project is located in Oso Bay, at South Bay Park, in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas.

**LATITUDE & LONGITUDE (NAD 83):**  
Latitude: 27.691613° North; Longitude: -97.317788° West

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The City of Corpus Christi proposes to replace the failing retaining wall and shoreline protection at South Bay Park with a sand beach, a vegetated articulating block mat (ABM) revetment, and a rock groin system. The proposed system will closely mimic the historical shoreline, add resilience with the installation of rock groins, provide an ecological uplift from existing site conditions, and create the only official public recreational access point for Oso Bay.

Approximately 1,980 cubic yards (CY) of sand and 371 CY of rock will be placed into Oso Bay for the proposed beach and rock groin shoreline stabilization concept. The shoreline will also include approximately 127 CY of vegetated concrete articulating block mattress (ABM) revetment, which will be placed on top of geotextile fabric to reduce settlement. The ABM revetment will be approximately 6-inches thick and occupy approximately 0.022 acres below the high tide line (HTL). Sand fill will total approximately 0.527 acres, and rock fill for the rock groin will total approximately 0.100 acres in Oso Bay. All fill material in Oso Bay will total approximately 0.65 acres.

The Project will also remove an existing storm drain and install a new drainage outfall east of the rock groin. Moreover, additional repairs will be implemented, such as park upland sidewalks, and one walkway ramp, to allow the community safe access to the proposed sand beach.

The rock groins will be constructed west and east of the sand beach. The western rock groin will be approximately 74 linear feet (LF), and the eastern rock groin will be approximately 99 LF in length. The two rock groins will have a crest elevation of +3.5 feet (ft) North American Vertical Datum (NAVD), approximately 2.5 horizontal (minimum) to 1 vertical side slope. The groins will be approximately 8 feet wide at the top of the crest and have an average base width of 25 feet, as illustrated in Attachment A. The rock will be placed on geotextile fabric on the bay bottom to help reduce settlement.

Sand fill is proposed to be placed between the rock groins at a maximum elevation of +2.75 ft NAVD for shoreline stabilization and beach sand creation. Fill material will be provided by a contractor and will be tested for total organic carbon (TOC), total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH), ammonia, grain size distribution, and percent solids. Construction machinery such as tracked excavators, front-end loaders, dump trucks, or dozers will access the Project Area from existing roads adjacent to South Bay Park and the landside. No vessels, other aquatic construction machinery, or dredging are proposed to minimize aquatic disturbances.

**AVOIDANCE AND MINIMIZATION:** To minimize aquatic impacts, construction equipment will access the Project Area from existing roads located adjacent to South Bay Park. No dredging is proposed for this Project, and fill material placement will meet the TCEQ total dissolved particles threshold.

**MITIGATION:** The proposed Project aims to restore the historical shoreline of South Bay Park by creating a stabilized shoreline with a sand beach, vegetated ABM revetment, and a rock groin system. The Project will not impact any special aquatic resources such as seagrass, oyster reefs, or wetlands. The Project will provide an ecological uplift by placing a rock groin that provides increased availability of hard substrate as a habitat for other estuarine and marine organisms and provide a sand beach for public access to Oso Bay and foraging grounds for shorebirds. Since the Project's main goal is to restore the existing shoreline, and it does not result in the loss of special aquatic sites, compensatory mitigation is not proposed.

**CURRENT SITE CONDITIONS:** The project site consists of beachfront within South Bay Park, located adjacent to open water portions of Oso Bay and single family residential developments. The existing infrastructure along the park's beachfront consists of a delapidated retaining wall that has experienced settlement, separation, and displacement, resulting in significant damage to the adjacent concrete pad overlooking Oso Bay in South Bay Park.

Based on an aquatic survey conducted in July 2024, the proposed project would not impact any special aquatic sites and will minimize aquatic impacts as construction would occur from shore.

**NOTES:** This public notice is being issued based on information furnished by the applicant. This project information has not been verified by the Corps. As of the date of this Public Notice, the Corps has received but not yet verified the wetland delineation. The applicant's plans are shown in Enclosure 1.

A preliminary review of this application indicates that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required. Since permit assessment is a continuing process, this preliminary determination of EIS requirement will be changed if data or information brought forth in the coordination process is of a significant nature.

Our evaluation will also follow the guidelines published by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to Section 404 (b)(1) of the Clean Water Act (CWA).

**OTHER AGENCY AUTHORIZATIONS:**

Consistency with the State of Texas Coastal Management Plan is required. The applicant has stated that the proposed activity complies with Texas' approved Coastal Management Program goals and policies and will be conducted in a manner consistent with said program.

The proposed project will trigger review under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (CWA). The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) will review this application under Section 401 of the CWA and in accordance with Title 30, Texas Administrative Code Section 279.1-13 to determine if the work would comply with State water quality standards. The applicant contacted TCEQ and initiated the pre-filing portion of the WQC process, on 1/28/2025. If you have comments or questions on this proposed project's

State water quality certification, please contact [401certs@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:401certs@tceq.texas.gov). You may also find information on the Section 401 process here: <https://www.epa.gov/cwa-401/basic-information-cwa-section-401-certification>.

**LEAD FEDERAL AGENCY:**

The USACE has been identified as the lead federal agency for complying with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, National Historic Preservation Act, and (if needed) Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. As such, please direct all comments, questions, or concerns regarding these Acts to the USACE.

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES:** The staff archaeologist has reviewed the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places, lists of properties determined eligible, and other sources of information. The following is current knowledge of the presence or absence of historic properties and the effects of the undertaking upon these properties:

**The permit area has been so extensively impacted by previous earth moving activities that there is no potential for historic properties to exist within the permit area. Therefore, the proposed project has no potential to effect historic properties.**

**THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES:** Threatened and/or endangered species or their critical habitat may be affected by the proposed work. Consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife and/or the National Marine Fisheries Service will be initiated to assess the effect on endangered species.

**ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT:** This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would not have a substantial adverse impact on Essential Fish Habitat or federally managed fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico. Our final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with the National Marine Fisheries Service.

**PUBLIC INTEREST REVIEW FACTORS:** This application will be reviewed in accordance with 33 CFR 320-332, the Regulatory Programs of the Corps of Engineers, and other pertinent laws, regulations and executive orders. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts, of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors, which may be relevant to the proposal, will be considered: among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

**SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS:** The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public, Federal, State, and local agencies and officials, Indian tribes, and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Impact Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

This public notice is being distributed to all known interested persons in order to assist in developing facts upon which a decision by the Corps of Engineers may be based. For accuracy and completeness of the record, all data in support of or in opposition to the proposed work should be submitted in writing setting forth sufficient detail to furnish a clear understanding of the reasons for support or opposition.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** The purpose of a public hearing is to solicit additional information to assist in the evaluation of the proposed project. Prior to the close of the comment period, any person may make a written request for a public hearing, setting forth the particular reasons for the request. The District Engineer will determine if the reasons identified for holding a public hearing are sufficient to warrant that a public hearing be held. If a public hearing is warranted, all known interested persons will be notified of the time, date, and location.

**CLOSE OF COMMENT PERIOD:** All comments pertaining to this Public Notice must reach this office on or before **March 1, 2025**. Extensions of the comment period may be granted for valid reasons provided a written request is received by the limiting date. **If no comments are received by that date, it will be considered that there are no objections.** Comments and requests for additional information should reference our file number, **SWG-2024-00550**, and should be submitted through the RRS system or the physical address listed below: <https://rrs.usace.army.mil/rrs/public-notices> OR

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DISTRICT ENGINEER  
GALVESTON DISTRICT  
CORPS OF ENGINEERS