

For Office Use Only Executive Office of Environmental Affairs MEPA Analyst: <i>Bill Gage</i> Phone: 617-626-1025
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# NPC

## Notice of Project Change

The information requested on this form must be completed to begin MEPA Review of a NPC in accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act and its implementing regulations (see 301 CMR 11.10(1)).

Project Name: Sengekontacket Pond Dredging, Beach Nourishment, and Dune Restoration		EOEA #: 14138
Street: Sengekontacket Pond, southern end of Sylvia State Beach, Bend in the Road Beach Cow Bay Beach		
Municipality: Edgartown	Watershed: Sengokontacket Pond	
Universal Tranverse Mercator Coordinates:	Latitude: 041 24'43" N Longitude: 070 32'37" W	
Status of project construction: _____ %complete		
Proponent: Town of Edgartown, Lynne Fraker, Dredge Administrator		
Street: Town Hall, 70 Main St, PO Box 739		
Municipality: Edgartown	State: MA	Zip Code: 02539
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this NPC May Be Obtained: Lynne Fraker		
Firm/Agency: Town of Edgartown	Street: 70 Main St, PO Box 739	
Municipality: Edgartown	State: MA	Zip Code: 02539
Phone: 508-989-5840	Fax: 508-627-6123	E-mail: edgtown@vineyard.net

In 25 words or less, what is the project change? The project change involves . . . establishment of the renourishment of the public Bend in the Road Beach as phase 1 of this project. The Town is also submitting a phase one waiver for this portion of the project.

See full project change description beginning on page 3.

Date of ENF filing or publication in the Environmental Monitor: November 26, 2007

Was an EIR required?  Yes  No; if yes,  
 was a Draft EIR filed?  Yes (Date: \_\_\_\_\_ )  No  
 was a Final EIR filed?  Yes (Date: \_\_\_\_\_ )  No  
 was a Single EIR filed?  Yes (Date: \_\_\_\_\_ )  No

Have other NPCs been filed?  Yes (Date(s): \_\_\_\_\_ )  No

If this is a NPC solely for lapse of time (see 301 CMR 11.10(2)) proceed directly to

“ATTACHMENTS & SIGNATURES” on page 4.

**PERMITS / FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE / LAND TRANSFER**

List or describe all new or modified state permits, financial assistance, or land transfers not previously reviewed:

Are you requesting a finding that this project change is insignificant? (see 301 CMR 11.10(6))  
 Yes     No; if yes, attach justification.

**Change is insignificant because it does not expand the project, generate any further impacts, change project site, is not a new application for permit or financial assistance or Land transfer, does not delay environmental benefits but by phasing project, benefits will be realized closer to schedule.**

Are you requesting that a Scope in a previously issued Certificate be rescinded?  
 Yes     No; if yes, attach the Certificate

Are you requesting a change to a Scope in a previously issued Certificate?  Yes     No; if yes, attach Certificate and describe the change you are requesting:

Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts	Previously reviewed	Net Change	Currently Proposed
<b>LAND</b>			
Total site acreage	27.5 dredge and barrier beach	0	27.5 dredge and barrier beach
Acres of land altered	13.3 dune & beach renourishment	0	13.3 dune & beach renourishment
Acres of impervious area	0	0	0
Square feet of bordering vegetated wetlands alteration	0	0	0
Square feet of other wetland alteration	13.9 ac dredging	0	13.9 ac dredging
Acres of non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways	0	0	0
<b>STRUCTURES</b>			
Gross square footage	N/A		
Number of housing units	N/A		
Maximum height (in feet)	N/A		
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>			
Vehicle trips per day	N/A		
Parking spaces	N/A		
<b>WATER/WASTEWATER</b>			
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	N/A		

GPD water withdrawal	N/A		
GPD wastewater generation/ treatment	N/A		
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	N/A		

Does the project change involve any new or modified:

1. conversion of public parkland or other Article 97 public natural resources to any purpose not in accordance with Article 97? Yes No

2. release of any conservation restriction, preservation restriction, agricultural preservation restriction, or watershed preservation restriction? Yes No

3. impacts on Estimated Habitat of Rare Species, Vernal Pools, Priority Sites of Rare Species, or Exemplary Natural Communities? Yes No

4. impact on any structure, site or district listed in the State Register of Historic Place or the inventory of Historic and Archaeological Assets of the Commonwealth?

Yes No; if yes, does the project involve any demolition or destruction of any listed or inventoried historic or archaeological resources? Yes No

5. impact upon an Area of Critical Environmental Concern? Yes No

If you answered 'Yes' to any of these 5 questions, explain below:

**PROJECT CHANGE DESCRIPTION** (attach additional pages as necessary). The project change description should include:

(a) a brief description of the project as most recently reviewed

(b) a description of material changes to the project as previously reviewed,

(c) the significance of the proposed changes, with specific reference to the factors listed 301 CMR 11.10(6), and

(d) measures that the project is taking to avoid damage to the environment or to minimize and mitigate unavoidable environmental impacts. If the change will involve modification of any previously issued Section 61 Finding, include a proposed modification of the Section 61 Finding (or it will be required in a Supplemental EIR).

**Project description**

As described in the Environmental Notification Form the most recently reviewed project consists of dune enhancement and beach nourishment on State, Town and privately owned beaches thru the performance of navigation dredging within Sengekontacket Pond. A total volume of 85 to 90,000 cubic yards will be dredged over an area of 13.9 acres from the main channel, which is proposed to be 6,060 ft long by 100 ft wide and 6 feet deep. Proposed beach nourishment will cover 13.6 acres of Barrier and Coastal beach, Coastal Dune and nearshore areas of Land Under the Ocean.

**Proposed Project Change**

The Town proposes to phase this project by renourishing the badly eroded Town owned public beach known as Bend in the Road before the EIR review is completed. The proposed phase 1 will renourish +/- 1.6 acres with 9800 cy of compatible material. The material will be pumped from the same previously permitted dredge borrow area #1, but outside the limits of the current project under review and should be considered maintenance dredging. The dredge pipe will run under the Big Bridge and down the beach to be discharged on the beach to nourish the beach and to build protective dunes. The dredge pipe will not run thru the Trapps Pond culvert for this Phase 1 project as it is proposed for the current project under review.

Bend-in-the-Road is a heavily used public beach and is now the only area where the State Highway known as Beach Road is not protected. This project will maximize storm damage protection for Beach Road, while balancing environmental issues and recreational value. This includes improved beach access ways, dune enhancement and improved beach width.

The barrier beach protects Sengecontacket Pond and the State Highway, which is constructed along the length of the barrier beach. The State Highway is of major importance not only to the Town of Edgartown, but to traffic patterns of the whole Island. Lack of protective dunes, which have been severely eroded due to storm damage and sediment starvation, has been one of the causes of roadway damage. Road repairs have been extremely costly over the years. In 1997, the Mass Highways Beach Road Protection Project, built groins and renourished the barrier beach in an area north of the proposed project, from the Little Bridge to the Big Bridge. This project continues to be maintained. Town of Edgartown owned Bend-in-the-Road beach is located south of the Mass Highways project and remains the only area along the barrier beach which provides no protection for the State Highway. Recent storms continue to over wash sand from the Town beach onto the parking lot and the State Highway. There is currently a step down of approximately 6-8 inches from the parking lot to the beach as the erosion continues.

Dunes in the area of the Bend-in-the-Road beach have completely disappeared over time. The proposed dune enhancement will rebuild dunes to a height of approx 5' and connect to the existing dunes on either side of the Town Beach. The Town feels that the dune reconstruction will be a valuable component of this beach nourishment project and will provide improved protection during storm events. The slope and grade of the dunes will also enhance and increase potential habitat for endangered shorebirds which is currently non-existent on this beach. A beach grass replanting program will add to protection and stabilization of the dunes, and help to prevent endangered shorebirds from running across the road. Beach grass will only be planted on the top of the dunes, not on the beach. The proposed nourishment area is currently devoid of 95% of vegetation. The Town will work in cooperation with Conservation Commission and NHESP to develop a planting and monitoring program to protect and enhance shorebird habitat.

Bend-in-the-Road beach is heavily used by the public. The beach area available for recreation has become minimal and the beach nourishment will greatly enhance public enjoyment. Improved beach access ways will be designed in a pattern, to allow public access while protecting the integrity of the dunes. The beach will be widened by approx 30-35 ft. to the MLW line. This will provide additional storm damage protection, increased coastal habitat, and a larger improved beach for recreational purposes. The beach slope will remain at 10-1 for shorebird habitat.

The proposed beach nourishment will be pumped by the Town owned hydraulic dredge from a previously permitted dredge site, with the use of a booster pump. This dredge site, known as borrow area #1, is permitted under DEP # 11859, and will maintain the navigation channel leading to the Big Bridge. Dredge pipe will be run under the Big Bridge and then to the beach, to avoid any impacts on marsh or other resource areas. Sediment samples taken from the dredge footprint shows that this material is suitable for the proposed beach renourishment project. No beach nourishment will be placed between April 1<sup>st</sup> and August 31<sup>st</sup>. Dredging will follow time of year restrictions to avoid impacting winter flounder.

The total area affected by beach renourishment is approx 1.65-1.7 acres. Dune enhancement will affect 23957sf and add 7800cy. Approx 150,000sf of beach will be renourished with 2000cy of compatible material.

## Alternate Analysis

1. **No-Build:** No beach nourishment is conducted. Bend in the Road barrier beach will continue to erode, with no storm protection, threatening Beach Road, which has been closed in past years due to severe storm damage. This road is of major importance not only to the Towns of Edgartown and Oak Bluffs, but to traffic patterns of the whole Island. Road repairs have been extremely costly. Lack of protective dunes has been one of the causes of roadway damage. Mass Highways did a Beach Road protection project with groins and beach nourishment in Oak Bluffs in 1997 at a cost of \$1million. Erosion of this barrier beach will have some adverse effects on nesting habitat for State listed shorebirds including Least Terns and Piping Plovers. The recreational value of this heavily used public beach will decrease as it continues to erode. Dredge area, Borrow Area 1, will continue to build and threaten the safety to navigation in channels leading to the Big Bridge.
2. **Beach Nourishment of Bend-in-the-Road Beach.** Beach nourishment will enhance the coastal and barrier beach by increasing their height and width with enhanced storm damage protection and flood control. This project will protect the barrier beach from erosion, provide bird habitat, and protect the Beach Road from future storm damage. The heavily used public beach will be enhanced by providing increased recreational value. Dredging is conducted with the Town owned hydraulic dredge. This option would cause minimal amounts of environmental impacts to water quality and/or coastal resource because dredging would be completed during cold seasons when there is less growth in the nearby resource areas, as well as less fisheries activity. Dredge area will remove a portion of the flat near the Big Bridge providing increased safety to navigation.
3. **Beach Nourishment from upland source.** Nourishment brought in from another source, would be prohibitively expensive for the Town. Use of trucks would be more damaging to the environment. No dredging will allow flat to build and reduce navigation safety.

### **Preferred Alternatives:**

Alternative No. 2: Beach Nourishment with dredging conducted by the Town owned hydraulic dredge

### **Permit History:**

EOEA# 14138

NHESP 06-20624

NHESP 07-23113 ongoing MESA review

### **Dredge Borrow Area #1 permitted under Beach Road Erosion Protection Project**

DEP #11859:

WQC T#W075131

ACOE NAE 2006-3749

EOEA# 6386

SE53-0520

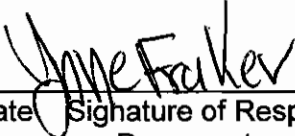
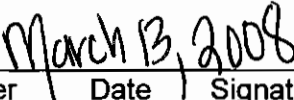
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**ATTACHMENTS & SIGNATURES**

Attachments:

1. Secretary's most recent Certificate on this project
2. Plan showing most recent previously-reviewed proposed build condition
3. Plan showing currently proposed build condition
4. Original U.S.G.S. map or good quality color copy (8-1/2 x 11 inches or larger) indicating the project location and boundaries
5. List of all agencies and persons to whom the proponent circulated the NPC, in accordance with 301 CMR 11.10(7)

Signatures:

			
Date	Signature of Responsible Officer or Proponent	Date	Signature of person preparing NPC (if different from above)

Lynne Fraker Dredge Administrator  
Name (print or type)

Name (print or type)

Town of Edgartown  
Firm/Agency

Firm/Agency

70 Main St, PO Box 739  
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