

RESOLUTION NO. 2023- 50

**A RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING AND AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD TO JOIN IN THE EXECUTION OF A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY AND ST. JOHNS COUNTY REGARDING THE USE OF OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF SAND RESOURCES FOR THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS ST. JOHNS COUNTY COASTAL STORM RISK MANAGEMENT PROJECT AT SOUTH PONTE VEDRA AND VILANO BEACH**

**RECITALS**

**WHEREAS**, The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (“USACE”) and St. Johns County (“County”) entered into a Project Cooperation Agreement for the St. Johns County Coastal Storm Risk Management Project at South Ponte Vedra And Vilano Beach (“Project”) in 2019; and,

**WHEREAS**, after completing the initial nourishment events using sand from the St. Augustine Inlet Flood Shoal, the USACE and the County initiated the investigation and permitting of an offshore source of sand to use in addition to the St. Augustine Inlet for construction of future beach nourishments of the Project, including the Federally funded emergency repair scheduled for summer 2023; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management of the Department of the Interior has presented to the USACE and the County a memorandum of agreement (“Agreement”), attached hereto as Exhibit “A”, incorporated by reference and made a part hereof; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the best interest of the County to accept this easement for the health, safety and welfare of its citizens.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA**, as follows:

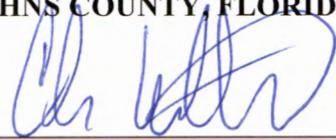
Section 1. The above Recitals are incorporated by reference into the body of this Resolution and such Recitals are adopted as findings of fact.

Section 2. The Chair of the Board is hereby authorized to execute the Agreement between the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management of the Department of the Interior, the Department of the Army and St. Johns County in substantially the form attached.

Section 3. To the extent that there are typographic and /or administrative errors that do not change the tone, tenor or concept of this Resolution, then this Resolution may be revised without subsequent approval by the Board.

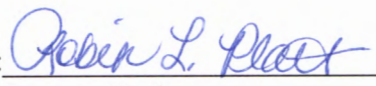
**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida, this 7th day of February, 2023.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA**

By:   
Christian Whitehurst, Chair

**ATTEST:** Brandon J. Patty  
Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller

**Rendition Date** FEB 07 2023

By:   
Deputy Clerk



**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT  
AMONG THE BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT  
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
AND THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
AND ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**REGARDING THE USE OF OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF SAND RESOURCES  
FOR THE ST. JOHNS COUNTY COASTAL STORM RISK MANAGEMENT PROJECT AT  
SOUTH PONTE VEDRA AND VILANO BEACH, FLORIDA**

**BOEM Negotiated Agreement No. OCS-A 0XXX**

**Title I. Explanatory Recitals**

- A.** Pursuant to the authority of and in accordance with Section 1401(3)1 of America’s Water Infrastructure Act of 2018 (P.L 115-270), the Department of the Army, acting through the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District (USACE), with the cooperation of St. Johns County (the “County”), represented by the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners, is endeavoring to nourish the St. Johns County shoreline at South Ponte Vedra and Vilano Beaches as part of the St. Johns County, Florida Coastal Storm Risk Management Project.
- B.** USACE and the County are undertaking the St. Johns County, Florida Coastal Storm Risk Management Project, in furtherance of the aforementioned goal to nourish the St. Johns County shoreline at South Ponte Vedra and Vilano Beaches, Florida (herein referred to as the “Project”).
- C.** Prior to a notice-to-proceed for Project construction, USACE and the County will have procured lands, easements, and rights-of-way (collectively, “Land Rights”) as necessary from upland landowners, other property rights holders, public entities, and other persons and entities of appropriate scope and duration to facilitate the Project.
- D.** USACE, which is acting as the project manager for the Project, now seeks to obtain sand in a manner that minimizes costs and leverages Federal resources.

**Title II. Purpose and Authority**

- A.** The Department of the Interior (DOI), acting through the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), enters into this Memorandum of Agreement (MOA or “Agreement”) with USACE and the County (collectively with DOI or BOEM, the “Parties”) providing for the use of up to 2,500,000 cubic yards of Outer Continental Shelf sand resources (“OCS sand resources”) for the Project under the authority of Section 8(k)(2) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (OCSLA) (43 U.S.C. § 1337(k)(2)). The term “OCS sand resources” means the sediment deposits found on or below the surface of the seabed on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS), as defined in Section 2(a) of the OCSLA (43 U.S.C. § 1331(a)). This MOA authorizes the use of Borrow Area N-3, as designated and delineated in Table 1 and on the attached maps (**Attachment 1**), in accordance with the terms of this

MOA. After removal of the OCS sand resources and placement of those resources as specified in this MOA, BOEM has no jurisdiction over those sand resources unless they return to the OCS.

**Table 1. Coordinates for Borrow Area N-3**

Point	Latitude	Longitude	Easting	Northing
1	30.0250198	-81.18572163	597,393.64	2,069,075.48
2	30.0263048	-81.17199002	601,739.82	2,069,536.02
3	30.0224770	-81.18540722	597,491.64	2,068,150.60
4	30.0240022	-81.17170560	601,828.57	2,068,698.51
5	30.0195096	-81.18504028	597,606.02	2,067,071.25
6	30.0208998	-81.17132244	601,948.14	2,067,570.08
7	30.0166504	-81.18468681	597,716.21	2,066,031.26
8	30.0179718	-81.17096083	602,060.99	2,066,505.10
9	30.0135858	-81.18430791	597,834.33	2,064,916.59
10	30.0152647	-81.17062650	602,165.33	2,065,520.44
11	30.0107819	-81.18396128	597,942.40	2,063,896.73
12	30.0124333	-81.17027688	602,274.45	2,064,490.57
13	30.0059270	-81.18336114	598,129.52	2,062,130.85
14	30.0072118	-81.16963213	602,475.70	2,062,591.38

Note: Longitude and Latitude in Geographic Coordinate System (decimal degrees) North American Datum (NAD) 1983. Easting and Northing in Florida State Plane East Coordinate System (feet) NAD 1983 (2011)

**B.** BOEM, under the authority delegated by the Secretary of the Interior, is authorized, pursuant to Section 8(k)(2) of the OCSLA (43 U.S.C. § 1337(k)(2)) to enter into this MOA concerning the potential use of OCS sand resources.

BOEM has determined that the Project meets the requirements of Section 8(k)(2)(A)(i) of the OCSLA. Therefore, in accordance with Section 8(k)(2), and subject to the terms and conditions contained herein, BOEM hereby authorizes the use of OCS sand resources from Borrow Area N-3, identified in Table 1, for the construction undertaken in furtherance of the Project. The Parties acknowledge that under the terms of Section 8(k)(2)(B), BOEM will not assess any fee against USACE or the County for the use of the OCS sand resources described herein.

Nothing in this MOA is intended to abrogate or diminish the Secretary of the Interior’s authority under the OCSLA to oversee and regulate the removal of OCS sand resources. Pursuant to 30 CFR 583.330, failure to comply with any applicable law or any provision, term, or condition of this Agreement may result in termination of the Agreement at the sole discretion of BOEM, referral to an appropriate Federal or State agency with jurisdiction for possible enforcement, or both. Failure to comply in a timely and satisfactory manner with any provision, term or condition of this Agreement may also delay or prevent BOEM’s approval of future requests for use of OCS sand by the parties to this Agreement.

The MOA may be terminated by BOEM consistent with provisions in 30 CFR 583.350. If USACE or the County violates any provisions of this MOA, BOEM may, by written notice, suspend the MOA and order any further operations of USACE, the County, or its contractors under this Agreement to cease, except such operations as may be necessary to remedy any violations. If USACE or the County

fails to remedy violations within thirty (30) days after receipt of suspension notice, BOEM may, by written notice, terminate this MOA. In the event that BOEM suspends or terminates the MOA, neither USACE nor the County will be entitled to compensation as a result of expenses or lost revenues resulting from the suspension or termination.

C. USACE enters into this MOA in compliance with the requirements of Sections 8(k)(2)(A)(i) and 8(k)(2)(D) of the OCSLA. The County enters into this MOA in compliance with the requirements of Section 8(k)(2)(A)(i) of the OCSLA.

Nothing in this MOA is intended to impede or hinder USACE's or the County's ability to complete the Project or abrogate or diminish either Parties' authority or responsibilities under applicable law, including but not limited to America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018 (PL 115-270), Clean Air Act (CAA) (42 U.S.C. §7401 *et seq.*), Clean Water Act (CWA) (33 U.S.C § 1251 *et seq.*), Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) (16 U.S.C. § 1451 *et seq.*), Endangered Species Act (ESA) (16 U.S.C. § 1531 *et seq.*), Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) (16 U.S.C. § 801 *et seq.*), Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) (16 U.S.C. § 1361 *et seq.*), Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) (16 U.S.C. §§ 703–712), National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. § 4321 *et seq.*), and the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (54 U.S.C. § 300101 *et seq.*).

### **Title III. Description of the Authorized Activity**

This MOA is intended to facilitate nourishment of South Ponte Vedra and Vilano Beaches, Florida as part of the St. Johns County Coastal Storm Risk Management Project. This MOA authorizes USACE to dredge up to 2,500,000 cubic yards of OCS sand resources from Borrow Area N-3 for placement along 2.6 miles of shoreline from Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Range Monument R103.5 to R116.5 (see **Attachment 1**).

### **Title IV. Provisions**

A. BOEM authorizes the use of OCS sand resources from Borrow Area N-3 for the Project. USACE or its contractor(s) may only extract, transport, and place such OCS sand resources from the borrow area in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth below. Except as provided above, the Parties agree that all other aspects of the Project's execution and completion remain as described in the Project Partnership Agreement between the Department of the Army and the County for the St. Johns County Coastal Storm Risk Management Project, entered into on the 23 of April, 2019, and any subsequent amendments thereto.

B. All written notifications, requests, submissions, and deliverables, unless otherwise stated, should be sent to BOEM at:

Chief, Marine Minerals Division  
Attention: Jeffrey Reidenauer, Ph.D.  
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management  
45600 Woodland Road, VAM-MMD  
Sterling, Virginia 20166

All electronic notifications, submissions, and deliverables to BOEM should be sent to [dredgeinfo@boem.gov](mailto:dredgeinfo@boem.gov).

All written notifications, requests, submissions, and deliverables to USACE should be sent to:

Jacksonville District  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Attn: Jason Harrah, Senior Project Manager  
701 San Marco Blvd  
Jacksonville, FL 32207  
904-305-0323  
[Jason.S.Harrah@usace.army.mil](mailto:Jason.S.Harrah@usace.army.mil)

All written notifications, requests, submissions, and deliverables to the County should be sent to:

Damon Douglas, MPA  
Coastal Manager  
St. Johns County Disaster Recovery  
500 San Sebastian View  
St. Augustine, FL 32084  
(904) 209-0794  
[ddouglas@sjcfl.us](mailto:ddouglas@sjcfl.us)

**C.** This MOA applies only to the extraction, transportation, and placement of OCS sand resources as described above and in the Construction Solicitation and Specifications Plan required in Title IV D. This MOA will terminate or expire (a) upon USACE sending written notice that it has obtained sufficient OCS sand resources to complete the Project, up to 2,500,000 cubic yards, or (b) three (3) years from the date of execution of this MOA, whichever occurs first. Upon request by USACE, the Parties may agree in writing to extend the terms of this MOA as necessary to provide USACE and its contractor(s) with additional time to complete the Project.

The Parties acknowledge that there may be a need for future OCS sand resources for periodic maintenance, augmentation, or construction purposes. BOEM, USACE, and the County may enter into subsequent agreements, for the use of additional OCS sand resources for the Project, consistent with each Party's responsibilities under applicable law.

**D.** BOEM, USACE, and the County recognize that planning and coordination among the Parties will ensure that responsibilities related to OCSLA, other applicable Federal laws, and this Congressionally-authorized Project are carried out and accommodated in an efficient and timely manner so that the Project schedule will not be unnecessarily delayed or compromised. All Parties recognize that BOEM, as a Bureau in the DOI, has certain responsibilities for the orderly, timely, and efficient recovery of OCS minerals using the best available technology while ensuring environmental stewardship and compliance. Moreover, the Parties further recognize that USACE has certain stewardship and environmental compliance responsibilities that are separate and distinct from the responsibilities of BOEM. To these ends, and with respect to the Project, BOEM, USACE, and the County agree to the following terms:

**1. Plans and Performance Requirements**

USACE will include this MOA as a reference document in the advertised "Construction Solicitation and Specifications Plan" (hereinafter referred to as the "Plan"). USACE will ensure that all operations

at Borrow Area N-3 are conducted in accordance with the final approved Plan and all terms and conditions in this MOA, as well as all applicable statutes, regulations, orders, and any guidelines or directives specified or referenced herein and any project design criteria, relevant terms and conditions or reasonable and prudent measures of the latest Biological Opinion applicable to the activities authorized in this MOA. USACE will send BOEM a copy of the Plan and any modification to the Plan, when publicly available.

The dredging method for removing sand from Borrow Area N-3 will be consistent with those evaluated in all applicable NEPA documents and approved in the authorizing documents, as well as the project permits.

USACE will allow BOEM to review and comment on modifications to the Plan that may affect the borrow area or pipeline corridors on the OCS, including the use of submerged or floated pipelines to directly convey sediment from the borrow area to the placement site. BOEM will deliver these comments in a timely fashion to not unnecessarily delay USACE's construction contract or schedule.

If dredging, bottom disturbing activities, and/or conveyance methods are not wholly consistent with those evaluated in relevant NEPA documents prepared by USACE and BOEM for this Project, those included in the environmental and cultural resource consultations, and those authorized by relevant project permits, additional environmental review may be necessary. If the additional NEPA, consultations, or permit modifications would impact or otherwise supplement the provisions of the MOA, an amendment may be required.

USACE will notify BOEM electronically at least 72 hours prior to the commencement, and within 24 hours after termination, of operations at Borrow Area N-3. If BOEM is aware of any OCS activity within the jurisdiction of the DOI that may adversely affect USACE's ability to use OCS sand resources for the Project, BOEM will electronically notify USACE in a timely manner.

Prior to the commencement of construction, USACE will electronically provide BOEM with a summary of the construction schedule consistent with Paragraph 15 of this MOA. USACE, at the reasonable request of BOEM or the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE), will allow any authorized Federal inspector to access the site of any operation, when permitted by safety regulations, and will provide BOEM or BSEE any documents and records that are pertinent to occupational or public health, safety, environmental protection, conservation of natural resources, or other use of the OCS as may be requested. USACE agrees to facilitate access to the site of any operation, where practicable and deemed safe by USACE and their contractor, including, but not limited to, dredges and support equipment, fill areas, or turtle relocation trawlers, for scientists conducting sampling or observations associated with research conducted or funded by BOEM.

## **2. Environmental Responsibilities and Environmental Compliance**

USACE and/or its contractors will commit to avoiding, minimizing, or mitigating adverse effects during construction activities. USACE will prepare and provide to BOEM before commencing construction an Environmental Compliance Matrix (ECM), in coordination with the County and BOEM, to document all environmental requirements and identify roles and responsibilities to ensure compliance prior to, during, and after construction. All environmental commitments in the ECM will be reflected in the Plan.

USACE is the lead agency on behalf of the Federal Government to ensure the Project complies with applicable environmental laws, including but not limited to the CWA, CZMA, ESA, MSA, and NHPA, and any consultations or limitations imposed thereunder. USACE will instruct its contractor(s) to implement the mitigation terms, conditions, and measures required by the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), and BOEM pursuant to applicable Federal and State laws and regulations prior to commencement of activities authorized under this MOA, including extraction, transportation and placement of sand resources from Borrow Area N-3. Electronic copies of all relevant correspondence, monitoring data, and reports related to the activities covered by this MOA will be provided electronically to BOEM within 14 days of issuance (including, but not limited to, observer and dredging reports, and reports required by relevant project permits) unless the reports are required sooner by this MOA or applicable law, the permits, or the consultations. Construction may not commence until the pre-construction requirements have been completed.

### **3. Pre-Construction Notification of Activity in or near the Borrow Area**

USACE will invite BOEM to attend a pre-construction meeting that describes USACE's and/or its contractor's plan and schedule to construct the Project.

USACE, after receiving notification from its contractor(s), will notify BOEM at [dredgeinfo@boem.gov](mailto:dredgeinfo@boem.gov) within 72 hours prior to the commencement of and no later than 24 hours after termination of operations at Borrow Area N-3.

### **4. Other Responsibilities**

BOEM does not warrant that the OCS sand resources used in this Project are suitable for the purpose for which they are intended by USACE and the County. BOEM's responsibility under this Project is limited to the authorization of access to OCS sand resources from Borrow Area N-3 as described in this MOA, and therefore BOEM disclaims any and all responsibility for the physical and financial activities undertaken, damages or liabilities, incidents or injuries, or negligence by the other Parties in pursuit of the Project.

To the extent permitted by law, the County, its agent(s), and its contractor(s) will indemnify BOEM for, and agree to hold BOEM harmless from, any claims for loss, costs, damages, injuries to persons, or expenses caused by, or resulting from any operation under this MOA. However, USACE, the County, or their agent(s) and contractor(s) are not responsible to BOEM for any loss, cost, damage, injury, or expense that directly results from (1) the sole negligence of BOEM, or (2) USACE or the County's non-negligent compliance with a BOEM order or directive imposed under this MOA.

USACE and the County or their contractor(s) must notify BOEM of any encounter of hazards on the OCS and any OCS sediment placed on the beach that has unsuitable characteristics relative to native sediment characteristics. The specific location where unsuitable sediment was dredged, or where hazards were encountered, within Borrow Area N-3 must be delineated and said location must be provided to BOEM in shapefile format, with applicable metadata detailing why it is recommended for avoidance, for future planning purposes. Additionally, any encounter of ordnance must be reported to BOEM using the process outlined in Paragraph 10.

### **5. Dredge Positioning**



During all phases of the Project, USACE will ensure that the dredge and any bottom-disturbing equipment is outfitted with an onboard global positioning system (GPS) capable of maintaining and recording location within an accuracy range of no more than plus or minus three (3) meters. The GPS needs to be installed as close to the draghead or cutterhead as is practicable or needs to use appropriate instrumentation to accurately represent the position of the dredging operations. During dredging operations, USACE will immediately notify BOEM electronically if dredging occurs outside of the approved borrow area. Such notification will be made as soon as possible after the time USACE becomes aware of dredging outside of the approved borrow area.

Anchoring, spudding, or other bottom-disturbing activities are not authorized outside of the approved borrow area on the OCS, unless there are immediate concerns of safety, navigation risks or emergency situations.

USACE will coordinate with the National Dredging Quality Management (DQM) program in advance of construction commencement to provide appropriate project-specific information, inform them of BOEM's role in the Project and relevant MOA stipulations, and develop a coordination plan to ensure that all DQM-related deliverables in accordance with this MOA are internally reviewed and delivered to BOEM on time and in accordance with BOEM formatting requirements. USACE will provide BOEM, electronically, with all appropriate DQM data acquired during the Project using procedures jointly developed by USACE's National DQM Data Program Support Center and BOEM. USACE will submit the DQM data every two weeks.

## **6. Dredge Operation**

The final, approved Plan (required pursuant to Paragraph 1) will include provisions designed to maximize efficiency and conservation of the resource during the removal of sand from Borrow Area N-3. The purpose of these provisions is to avoid "wasting" sediment in Borrow Area N-3 that could be used to nourish the beach now and in the future. USACE and/or its contractor(s) will conduct all dredging operations in accordance with requirements outlined in the ECM. Any modification to this Plan will be coordinated with BOEM for approval prior to commencement of dredging.

## **7. Submittal of Production and Volume Information**

USACE, in cooperation with the dredge operator, will submit to BOEM a summary of the dredge track lines, outlining any deviations from the Plan, every two weeks. This will include a color-coded plot of the draghead, cutterhead, or other hydraulic or mechanical dredging device, showing any horizontal or vertical dredge violations. The dredge track lines must show dredge status: hoteling, dredging, transiting, or unloading. This map will be in PDF format.

At least every two weeks, USACE will electronically provide a report of the construction progress including estimated volumetric production rates to BOEM. The USACE's project completion report, as described below, will also include production and volume information.

## **8. Local Notice to Mariners**

USACE will require its contractor(s) for the Project to place a notice in the U.S. Coast Guard Local Notice to Mariners regarding the timeframe and location of dredging and construction operations in advance of commencement of dredging.

## **9. Marine Pollution Control and Contingency Plan**

USACE will require its contractor(s) and subcontractor(s) to prepare for and take all necessary precautions to prevent discharges of oil and releases of waste or hazardous materials that may impair water quality. In the event of such an occurrence, notification and response will be in accordance with applicable requirements of 40 C.F.R. part 300. All dredging and support operations under this MOA will be compliant with U.S. Coast Guard regulations and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Vessel General Permit, as applicable. USACE will notify BOEM of any noncompliant discharges and remedial actions taken, and USACE will provide copies of reports of the incident and resultant actions electronically.

## **10. Encounter of Ordnance**

The encounter of ordnance is possible on the OCS, and it is the responsibility of USACE and its contractor(s) to proactively manage this risk and any resulting situation should the need arise. If USACE or its contractor(s) encounter any ordnance while conducting dredging activities at Borrow Area N-3, it will report the discovery within 24 hours to Dr. Jeff Reidenauer, Chief, BOEM Marine Minerals Division, at (703) 787-1851 and [dredgeinfo@boem.gov](mailto:dredgeinfo@boem.gov).

## **11. Bathymetric Surveys**

USACE will provide BOEM with pre- and post-dredging bathymetric surveys of Borrow Area N-3, at a minimum. USACE or its contractor(s) will conduct a pre-dredging survey of Borrow Area N-3 within 60 days prior to the commencement of dredging and will provide the data to BOEM for review via [dredgeinfo@boem.gov](mailto:dredgeinfo@boem.gov), allowing for a minimum (seven) 7 working days for BOEM to provide concurrence before USACE or its contractor(s) commences dredging. A qualified hydrographic surveyor, independent from the dredging/construction contractor, needs to conduct and oversee the survey, and must approve the survey results before transmitting them to BOEM. USACE or its contractor(s) will conduct post-dredging survey of Borrow Area N-3 within 60 days after the completion of dredging. Given available funding, BOEM recommends that USACE conduct additional bathymetric surveys of Borrow Area N-3 both one (1) and three (3) years after the completion of dredging to document borrow area evolution and provide information to inform future decisions and consultations regarding the use of OCS sand resources. USACE or its contractor(s) will perform surveys, error analysis, and reporting in accordance with the most recent edition of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA's) Office of Coast Survey Hydrographic Survey Field Procedure Manual. Survey standards and requirements are specified in the manual and can be found on the Coast Survey Document Library website (<https://nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/publications/docs/standards-and-requirements/specs/hssd-2f20.pdf>).

For bathymetric surveys, 100 percent coverage using multi-beam bathymetric survey methods is required. All bathymetric data will be roll, pitch, heave, and tide corrected using best practices. Sound velocity corrections will be applied based on measurements made during and throughout the duration of the survey using a profiling sound velocity meter to obtain water column sound velocities with casts that log the entire water column to the seafloor. Survey lines of the specific dredge area will be established at intervals necessary to provide 100 percent coverage. All survey lines will extend at least 100 meters (328 feet) beyond the edge of the limits of Borrow Area N-3 as defined in this MOA.

USACE or its contractor(s) will collect all data in such a manner that post-dredging bathymetric surveys are compatible with the pre-dredging bathymetric survey data to enable the latter to be

subtracted from the former to calculate the volume of sand removed, the shape of the excavation, and the nature of post-dredging bathymetric change. Pre-dredge bathymetric survey transects must be reoccupied during the post-dredging surveys. USACE or its contractor(s) will conduct surveys using kinematic GPS referenced to a GPS base station occupying an established monument (NAVD 88 vertical control) within 24 kilometers (15 miles) of the survey area, a National Geodetic Survey real-time network, or a water-level gauge deployed within the vicinity of Borrow Area N-3 and referenced to an established monument (NAVD 88 vertical control), unless alternative methods are approved by BOEM. Pre- and post-dredging surveys must be referenced to the same water-level gauge, tide gauge, real-time network, benchmark, or BOEM-approved method. An uncertainty or error analysis will be conducted on the bathymetric dataset based on calculated differences of measured elevations (depths) at all transect crossings. USACE or its contractor(s) will also conduct and implement other best practices typically employed to identify potential error or quantify uncertainty, such as daily bar-checks.

If data accuracy, coverage, quality, or other parameters for either pre- or post-dredging surveys are not sufficient to provide for accurate comparisons between the pre-dredge and post-dredge surveys (e.g., do not meet specifications and standards discussed or referenced above), BOEM may require USACE or its contractor(s) to conduct a new survey at the pre-dredge and/or post-dredge phase.

The delivery format for bathymetry data submission is an ASCII file (e.g., .xyz, .txt, .csv, .dat) containing x, y, z data and a digital elevation model in a format agreed upon between BOEM and USACE in writing. The file name(s) of bathymetric data submissions should be unambiguous and as a recommendation should include the survey ID (e.g., USACE survey number) and/or borrow area name, bin spacing, acronym for vertical datum, units, and date of survey completion (example file name: SURVEYID\_BorrowArea\_3x3AVG\_NAVD88\_ft\_MMDDYYYY.xyz). The horizontal data will be provided in the NAD 83 Florida State Plane East, U.S. survey feet. Vertical data will be provided in the NAVD 88, U.S. survey feet unless otherwise specified. USACE or its contractor(s) must submit a methods section and results of the uncertainty analysis, field notes, and metadata record (FGDC-endorsed geographic metadata standard, e.g., ISO 19115-2, XML encoding specifications ISO 19139) to BOEM with the processed bathymetric data products. An 8.5 x 11-inch plan view plot of the pre- and post-construction data will be provided showing the survey vessel navigation tracks, as well as contour lines at appropriate elevation intervals. A plot of the digital elevation model will also be provided. These plots will be provided in Adobe PDF format. Images and descriptions of any previously identified side scan sonar targets or newly identified bathymetric anomaly targets will be included and identified on an index map.

## **12. Avoidance of Archaeological and Benthic Habitat Resources**

### *Offshore Prehistoric or Historic Resources*

There are no known archaeological resources within Borrow Area N-3. If the Parties or their contractor(s) discover any previously unknown historic or archeological resources while accomplishing the Project, USACE will continue to serve as lead agency under NHPA Section 106. USACE will initiate the Federal and State coordination required to determine if the remains warrant a recovery effort or if the site is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. In the event that the Parties and/or dredge operators do discover any archaeological resources while conducting dredging operations in Borrow Area N-3 or in the vicinity of pump-out operations, USACE will immediately and electronically report the discovery to the Marine Minerals Division Chief at BOEM. USACE will coordinate with BOEM on the measures needed to evaluate, avoid, protect, and,

if needed, mitigate adverse impacts from an unanticipated discovery. If investigations determine that the resource is significant, the Parties will together determine if further action is required and how best to protect the resource. BOEM will work with USACE consistent with the provisions in 30 CFR 583.350.

*Onshore and Nearshore Prehistoric or Historic Resources*

A submerged cultural resources survey performed by SEARCH, Inc. in 2022, which included magnetometer, sidescan sonar, and sub-bottom surveys, revealed two magnetometer targets in the nearshore placement area. USACE or its contractor must avoid these two targets. This avoidance requirement pertains to dredging, anchoring, spudding, placing of dredge pipeline, or other bottom disturbing activities. See Table 2 for target location and avoidance buffers.

**Table 2. Coordinates and Avoidance Buffers for Nearshore Areas to be Avoided during Dredging and Placement Operations**

Point	Latitude	Longitude	Easting	Northing	Avoidance Buffer (ft)
Target 1 (B.M010)	29.95359	81.29785	561,843.22	2,043,173.77	164
Target 2 (B.M001)	29.93372	81.29587	562,451.67	2,035,945.22	164

Note: Longitude and Latitude in Geographic Coordinate System (decimal degrees) North American Datum (NAD) 1983. Easting and Northing in Florida East State Plane Coordinates (feet) NAD 1983

If USACE discovers any previously unknown historic or archeological resources while accomplishing the activity on St. Johns County beaches, USACE will notify BOEM of any finding. USACE will initiate the Federal and State coordination required to determine if the remains warrant a recovery effort or if the site is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

*Offshore Benthic Habitat Resources*

USACE or the contractor must avoid the creation of pits or deep furrows, leaving a gradual slope over 500 feet between the dredge cut area and the ambient seafloor. USACE or the contractor must avoid changing the type of material left behind on the seafloor (e.g., from sand to silt) after dredging is complete. If a modification is needed to the dredge operational requirements, USACE may submit a written request for a minor modification consistent with 30 CFR 583.345(b). Upon receipt of the request, BOEM may grant and memorialize the minor modification via letter provided the modification is consistent with existing technical and environmental reviews.

USACE must electronically submit to BOEM the State-required Turbidity Reports when they are submitted to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). In addition, if USACE has an incidence of turbidity levels exceeding the State-required 29 NTU threshold at the dredge site sampling locations, USACE must report this incident to BOEM when reporting to the FDEP.

**13. Project Completion Report**

Consistent with Paragraph 15, USACE will submit a project completion report to BOEM within 120 days following completion of the activities authorized under this MOA. USACE will send this report

and supporting materials electronically. The report will contain, at a minimum, the following information:

- the names and titles of the project managers overseeing the effort (for USACE, the engineering firm (if applicable), and the contractor), including contact information (phone numbers, mailing addresses, and email addresses);
- a narrative including the location, construction costs, and description of the Project, the final, as-built features, boundaries, and acreage, including the restored beach width and length;
- the final total volume of material extracted from the borrow area and the volume of material actually placed on the beach or shoreline (including a description of the volume calculation method used to determine these volumes);
- notation that USACE has confirmed that BOEM has received the full set of DQM data, in ASCII files, containing the x, y, z coordinates and time stamp of the cutterhead or drag arm locations;
- a narrative discussing major construction sequences and activities, and, if applicable, any significant problems encountered and solutions implemented;
- a table showing the major types of construction equipment used and the nature of their use by phase of the Project construction (e.g., dredge, booster pumps, bulldozer, etc.);
- a list and description of any safety-related issues or accidents reported during the life of the Project;
- a narrative and any appropriate tables describing any environmental monitoring associated with the Project;
- a table listing significant construction dates beginning with bid opening and ending with final acceptance of the Project by USACE;
- digital appendices containing the as-built Project footprint (.shp /.gdb), and bathymetric survey data outlined in Section 11 above;
- metadata appropriate to geospatial deliverables; and
- any additional pertinent Project photo or video documentation in high-resolution format.

#### **14. Reporting Compliance**

USACE will designate in advance of construction a single point of contact (and preferably a back-up contact) who is responsible for facilitation of compliance with all MOA requirements. USACE will provide this contact information to BOEM, electronically, at least 30 days in advance of dredging and construction operations.

The Parties will attempt to reasonably comply with the provisions of this MOA. Should there be an allegation of a failure to comply, the alleged failure will be corrected as soon as possible and/or resolved jointly among BOEM, USACE and the County, including through the dispute resolution process identified in Paragraph 16.

#### **15. Sharing of Information**

Consistent with the purpose stipulated by the Parties in Title II, and to the extent allowed by law, policy and regulation, USACE, the County, and BOEM agree to: (1) share all information needed for or generated from the Project, including the sharing of implementation and other applicable schedules and (2) provide such information to the requesting agency as expeditiously as possible. USACE and BOEM agree to work to ensure that all required completion report information is received.

The Parties to this MOA acknowledge that information and reports required by and/or exchanged pursuant to the subject Project may include confidential business information, proprietary information, or other sensitive information that should be protected from disclosure.

Any Party, contractor, or agent of one of the Parties requesting that information or reports provided pursuant to this MOA be treated as confidential, will prominently mark the information and report as “Confidential” along with the basis for the claim of confidentiality. Any cover correspondence submitted with the information or report will likewise note the claim of confidentiality. To the extent practicable, a Party to this MOA may only request information that has been marked as “Confidential” and is in the possession of another Party to this MOA if the information is needed by the requesting Party to carry out their obligations under this MOA or if the information is necessary for the requesting Party to fulfill their obligations under the law. The Party in possession of the information requested may work with the requesting party to determine if the information may be shared without waiving the confidential nature of the material.

The Parties further agree that they will notify the other Parties as soon as possible, in writing, of any request by any person seeking the release or disclosure of information marked “Confidential” in whole or in part, including, but not limited to, requests pursuant to Court orders, discovery, subpoenas, or other compulsory process, or public access requests under applicable Federal or State law. Notification will be considered timely if it provides the Parties or individuals claiming the information or report is confidential a reasonable opportunity to seek a Court order to prevent release or disclosure. Any disputes regarding requests for information or the confidential nature of the information requested will be resolved according to applicable law and through the dispute resolution process identified in Paragraph 16. If the Party or individual claiming the information or report is confidential fails to obtain a timely Court order preventing the release or disclosure of the information, the Party in possession of the information will release it to the extent required by applicable law.

## **16. Resolution of Disputes**

The Parties agree to make every attempt to settle any disputes regarding this MOA at the lowest operational level within seven (7) days. In the case of (1) a substantial disagreement between BOEM and USACE or between BOEM and the County with respect to any aspect of BOEM’s authorization of the use of OCS sand resources in accordance with the terms and conditions as specified or (2) any alleged breach by a Party of the terms and conditions as specified herein, the undersigned will state the area(s) of disagreement or alleged breach in writing and present such statement to the other Parties for consideration. If dispute resolution is not successful within thirty (30) days and if appropriate under 30 CFR § 583.330 and 30 CFR § 583.350, BOEM may suspend or terminate the Agreement, refer the matter to appropriate Federal or State agency for enforcement, or both.

## **17. Miscellaneous**

This MOA will not affect any pre-existing or independent relationships or obligations among DOI, USACE, and the County, including any other relationships or obligations between BOEM and USACE, or any other units of such Departments.

All rights in all Cuts of Borrow Area N-3 not expressly granted to USACE and the County are hereby reserved to BOEM. BOEM reserves the right to authorize other uses in Borrow Area N-3 that will not unreasonably interfere with activities authorized under this MOA. BOEM will allow USACE and the County to review and comment on any proposed authorizations for the use of OCS sand resources in Borrow Area N-3 while this MOA is in effect. If any party to this MOA makes a request for a separate negotiated agreement for the use of OCS sand resources in Borrow Area N-3, then it must share the request with all the parties to this MOA, and BOEM will consider comments on the request from the other parties.

Nothing herein is intended to conflict with current USACE, State, or BOEM statutes or regulations. If the terms of this MOA are inconsistent with existing statutes or regulations of any of the Parties entering into this MOA, then those portions of this Agreement which are determined to be inconsistent will be invalid, but the remaining terms and conditions not affected by the inconsistency will remain in full force and effect. At the first opportunity for review of the MOA after such inconsistency is identified, all necessary changes will be accomplished either by an amendment to this MOA or by entering into a new MOA, whichever is deemed expedient to the interest of the Parties.

This Agreement may be executed in two (2) or more counterparts, each of which will be deemed an original. The signatures to this Agreement may be executed on separate pages, and when attached to this Agreement will constitute one complete document.

*[Signature Pages to follow.]*

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT  
AMONG THE BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT  
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
AND THE  
CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
AND  
ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**REGARDING THE USE OF OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF SAND RESOURCES  
FOR THE ST. JOHNS COUNTY COASTAL STORM RISK MANAGEMENT PROJECT AT  
SOUTH PONTE VEDRA AND VILANO BEACH, FLORIDA**

**BOEM Negotiated Agreement No. OCS-A 0XXX**

**Signatory Page**

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Megan Carr, PhD, CPG  
Chief, Strategic Resources Office  
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management  
Department of the Interior

\_\_\_\_\_  
James L. Booth  
Colonel, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Jacksonville District

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST.  
JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

**Christian Whitehurst, Chair**

**ATTEST: Brandon J. Patty,  
Clerk of the Circuit Court  
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By: \_\_\_\_\_  
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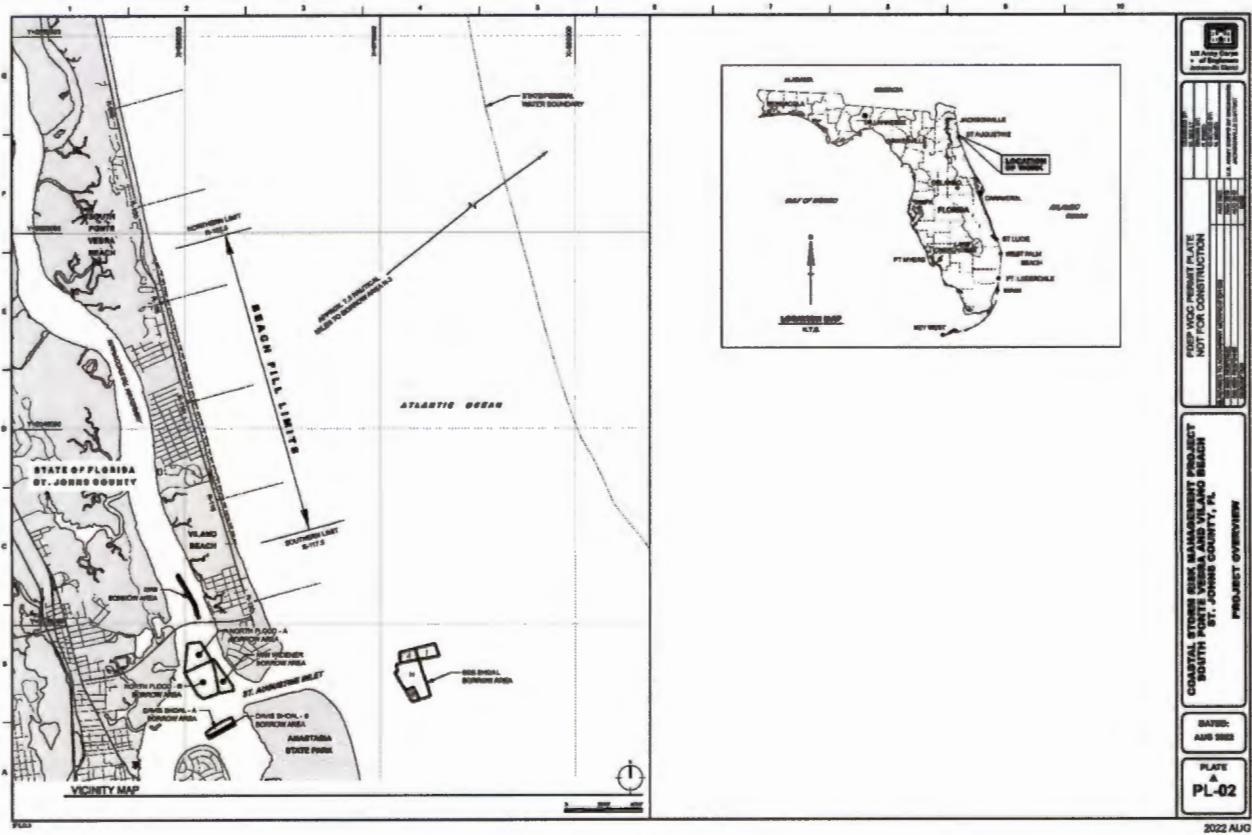
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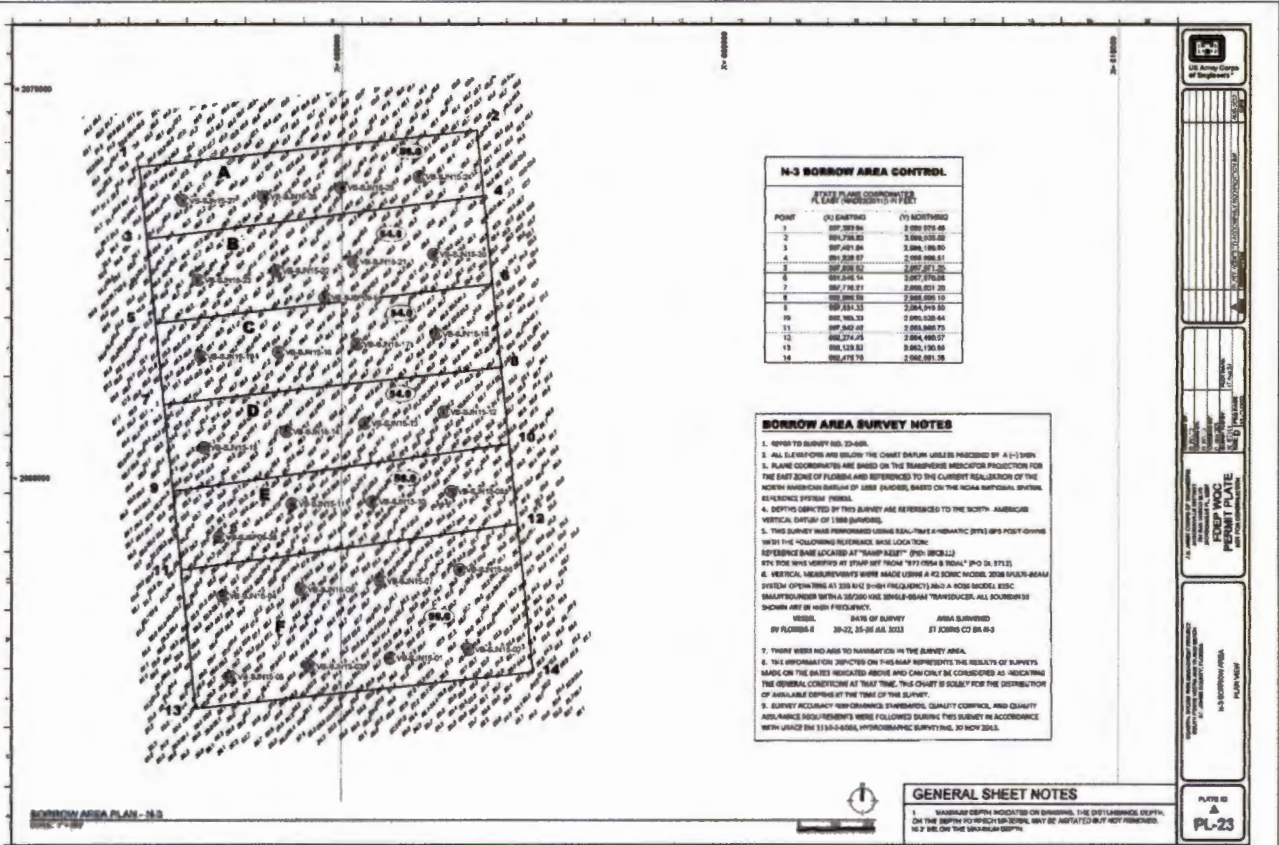
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**Attachment 1**  
**Borrow Area Map and Placement Site**



Project Location and Placement Area





Borrow Area N-3

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