



Cape Horn shoreline placement fact sheet

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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Dredging mission

The Portland District's navigation mission includes placing material dredged from the federal navigation channel in specified locations. Placement areas must be identified, vetted and approved by the appropriate federal and state agencies.

The Corps identifies potential placement locations based on potential capacity of the site, distance from areas where dredging activities historically take place, and placement efficiency.

Placement sites are selected based on the best use of available resources, including how much material is to be removed from the channel, the capacity of available sites and how much it will cost to transport and place the material.

Three critical steps were necessary to place sediment on private property at Cape Horn:

- 1) Landowners in Wahkiakum County requested the Corps place dredged material on receding shoreline. For the Corps to place sediment outside of normal operations, a non-federal sponsor must cover the additional costs. The Corps signed a Memorandum of Agreement with Wahkiakum County Public Works, the non-federal sponsor. This document clearly outlines the roles and responsibilities of both organizations. It details what can and cannot be done with material dredged by the federal government; identifies Wahkiakum County as the party responsible for environmental coordination on private property; and acknowledges any shared requirements. Wahkiakum County coordinated with private landowners to ensure all appropriate sites are identified in the MOA.
- 2) Wahkiakum County Public Works, as the non-federal sponsor, was responsible for obtaining the required state and federal environmental permits. These permits include, but are not limited to, Department of the Army permits under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act for work in waters of the United States; National Marine Fisheries Service Biological Opinion; and a Washington State Department of Ecology Water Quality Certification.
- 3) Private property owners must sign right-of-entry agreements so the Corps may access and place sediment on their property.

NOTE: If the sites meet the criteria and are approved, they will be added to the Corps' list of available sites. Completing the steps above does not guarantee material will be placed on private property.

Cape Horn sediment placement details

- Sediment was placed along approximately 2500 linear feet of shoreline.
- Sediment placement was scheduled for Sept. 25 – Oct. 20. The Port of Portland's Dredge Oregon completed placement 13 days ahead of schedule on Oct. 7, 2019.

Building and maintaining property in a dynamic environment

High flows and changing hydrologic conditions can foster urgency for homeowners with property located alongside rivers and outside levees. Requesting that the Corps place dredged materials on private property requires additional coordination and documentation by a non-federal sponsor.

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Property owners who are concerned about erosion should communicate with their county representatives.



The pipeline that carried the dredged material is shown along with the newly created shoreline.



The sediment exiting the pipeline.



Bulldozers move the sediment into place after it exits the pipeline.

Protecting your property

Information about steps you can take to protect your riverside property is available at www.nwp.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx.