

PUBLIC NOTICE

1. Application: License #: 21-WL-0640

Tracking #: 202160895

AI#: 163561

21-WL-0640/21-WQC-0331/MDOT Maryland Port Administration, Amanda Peñafiel, World Trade Center, 401 E. Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD 21202 has applied to restore a remote island habitat at Barren Island, which is located in Dorchester County adjacent to Upper Hoopers Island. The project is the smaller portion of the Mid-Chesapeake Bay Island Ecosystem Restoration Project and will include the restoration of approximately 83 acres of wetlands, construction of approximately 13,023 linear feet of new and modified stone sills and 4,620 linear feet of segmented breakwater to immediately provide increased protection to the eroding Barren Island and to the potential submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) habitat to the east of Barren Island, and installation of 2 bird nesting habitat islands (approximately 8.5 acres total). Approximately 52,500 cubic yards of material that is unsuitable for construction foundation will be dredged from the northeast Barren Island stone sill location to an approximate depth of 7 feet and will be placed hydraulically or mechanically within the confined area behind the constructed stone sills at Barren Island. Approximately 429,000 cubic yards of authorized maintenance material dredged from small local federal navigation channels will be placed behind the confining stone sills up to the mean high water elevation to construct the wetlands. Wetlands will include low and high marsh plantings as well as intertidal mudflats. During final wetland planning, current conditions will be evaluated with respect to sea level rise projections and determinations of sustainable marsh elevations to identify high to low marsh ratios. A public hearing for only the proposed work listed in this public notice is being held to gather information and hear testimony to assist the Department in making a determination regarding an application for a wetlands license and permits. A public hearing was scheduled at the Madison Volunteer Fire Department (1154 Taylors Island Rd, Madison, MD 21648) at 6:30 PM on November 15, 2021, with an informational poster session held from 6:00 PM – 6:30 PM but has been **CANCELLED**. A NEW hearing date is planned to be held, if one is requested by the public during the open public comment period from October 22, 2021 to November 29, 2021 by 5:00 pm. **The informational public hearing is pre-scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on January 6, 2022 at the Madison Volunteer Fire Department, 1154 Taylors Island Rd, Madison, MD 21648. The pre-scheduled hearing will be cancelled if no hearing requests are received by 5 pm on November 29, 2021.** A poster session/display will be available from 6:00 PM to 6:30 PM where project drawings can be reviewed and MDOT Maryland Port Administration representatives will also be available to answer questions. *Please check the Department's website for updates on the hearing status at the following*

link: <https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Water/WetlandsandWaterways/Pages/BarrenIsland.aspx>

Written comments and requests to be included on the interested persons list may be sent by November 29, 2021 to the Maryland Department of the Environment attention of Mary Phipps-Dickerson, 407 Race Street, Cambridge, Maryland 21613 or at Mary.Phipps-Dickerson@maryland.gov or 410-901-4033. Any further notices concerning actions on the application will be provided only by mail to those persons on the interested persons list.