



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, CHICAGO DISTRICT
231 SOUTH LASALLE STREET, SUITE 1500
CHICAGO IL 60604

June 22, 2026

Environmental & Cultural Resources Section
Planning Branch

SUBJECT: Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) Federal Consistency Determination
for Waukegan Harbor FY26 Maintenance Dredging, Lake County, Illinois

Eric Otto
IDNR Coastal Management Program
Michael A. Bilandic Building
160 N. LaSalle Street, Suite S-703
Chicago, Illinois 60601
eric.otto@Illinois.gov

Dear Mr. Otto:

The Chicago District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) proposes to conduct maintenance dredging of the Waukegan Harbor approach channel and advanced maintenance area in Waukegan, Lake County, Illinois (Enclosure 1). The purpose of the work is to facilitate continued safe use of the channel for commercial and recreational users by maintaining the authorized navigable depth. The proposed activity complies with Illinois' approved coastal management program and will be conducted in a manner consistent with such policies. The Chicago District is requesting concurrence from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Coastal Management Program.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Approximately 70,000 cubic yards of material will be dredged from the Waukegan Harbor approach channel and advanced maintenance area to reach the authorized depth of -22-feet low water datum (LWD) with a 2-foot over-dredge allowance. Dredged material would be placed in an established nearshore area approximately one mile south of the harbor, 1,000 feet offshore, and measuring 2,000 feet in length and width. Placement would take place either mechanically or hydraulically. A map detailing the dredging and placement areas can be found in Enclosure 1.

Section 7 coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is currently ongoing and concurrence with a "Not likely to Adversely Affect" determination is anticipated. It is understood that Piping Plovers (*Charadrius melodus*), Rufa Red Knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*), and other migratory bird species may occur adjacent to the project area. It is anticipated that noise levels at the beaches where Piping Plovers and/or Rufa Red Knots congregate will not rise above background levels.

COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT (CZMA of 1972)

Since the proposed work is within the state boundary on the waterward side of Illinois' coastal zone boundary established under the State of Illinois' Coastal Management Program, USACE is required to evaluate whether the activity will affect any coastal use or resource under the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA). The proposed action includes dredging of shoaled material from Waukegan Harbor and its placement in the nearshore area south of the harbor. The proposed action will ensure safe conditions within the federal navigation channel and is not likely to adversely affect terrestrial habitat or shorebirds within the coastal zone. USACE has determined that the proposed repair work complies with Illinois' approved Coastal Management Program and will be conducted in a manner consistent with such policies. USACE requests concurrence with this Federal Consistency Determination for the project or further guidance on how consistency can be achieved.

We request your concurrence with this determination within 60 days in accordance with the CZMA. Illinois' concurrence will be presumed if its response is not received within this timeframe plus any extension, as applicable, pursuant to 15 CFR § 930.41(b). Please contact Mr. Andrew J. Miller at _____ or _____ if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex Hoxsie".

Alex Hoxsie
Chief, Environmental & Cultural Resources
Planning Branch

Enclosures:

1. Project Location Map



US Army Corps of Engineers®

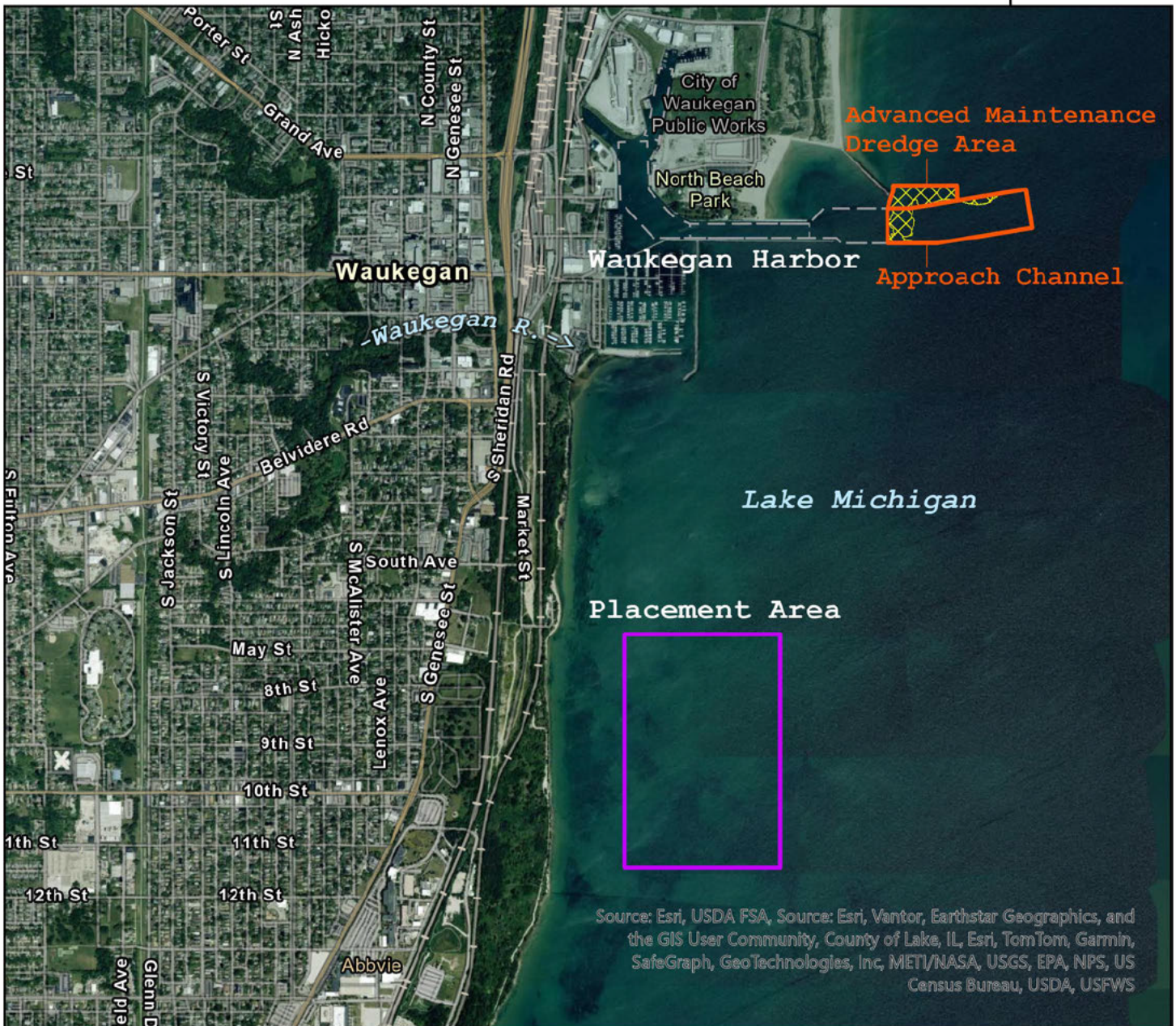
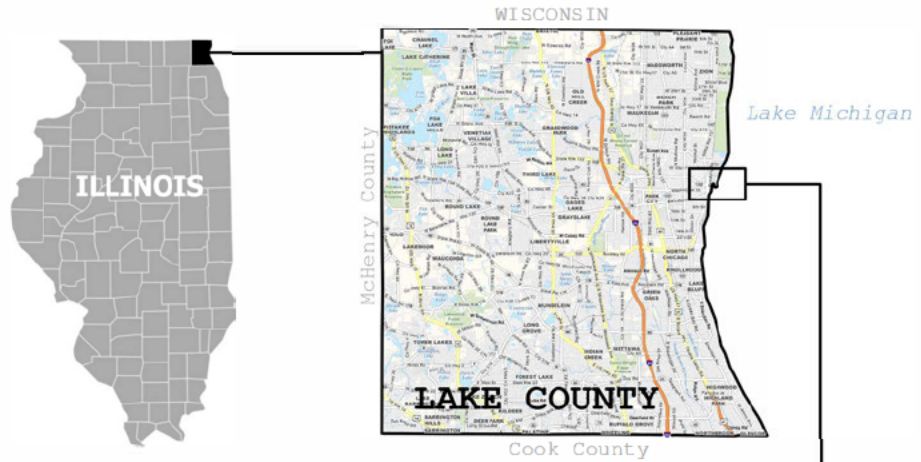
Chicago District
Planning Branch
231 South La Salle Street
Suite 1500
Chicago, Illinois 60604
312-353-6400

Enclosure 1 – Project Location Map

Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) Federal Consistency
Determination for Waukegan Harbor FY26 Maintenance
Dredging, Lake County, Illinois



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
Chicago District



Source: Esri, USDA FSA, Source: Esri, Vantor, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community, County of Lake, IL, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, USFWS

Legend

- Management Units to be Dredged
- Shoaling to be Dredged
- Placement Area
- Other Management Units

