



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, SAVANNAH DISTRICT
100 W. OGLETHORPE AVENUE
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31401-3604

January 11, 2023

PUBLIC NOTICE
Savannah District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Subject: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District (Corps) has evaluated the environmental impacts of the maintenance dredging and beneficial use of dredged material to restore an island in the Cumberland Dividings, Camden County, Georgia. A Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) have been prepared to present the results of this analysis.

Public Comment Period: The Corps is pleased to provide the draft EA and FONSI for public comment. The public comment period closes at midnight February 10, 2023. Those interested in or affected by this action are invited to share their concerns or comments.

All comments received will become part of the administrative record and are subject to public release under the Freedom of Information Act, including any personally identifiable information such as name, phone numbers, and addresses.

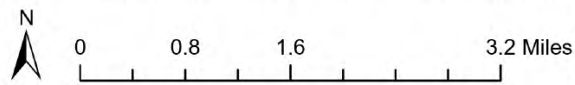
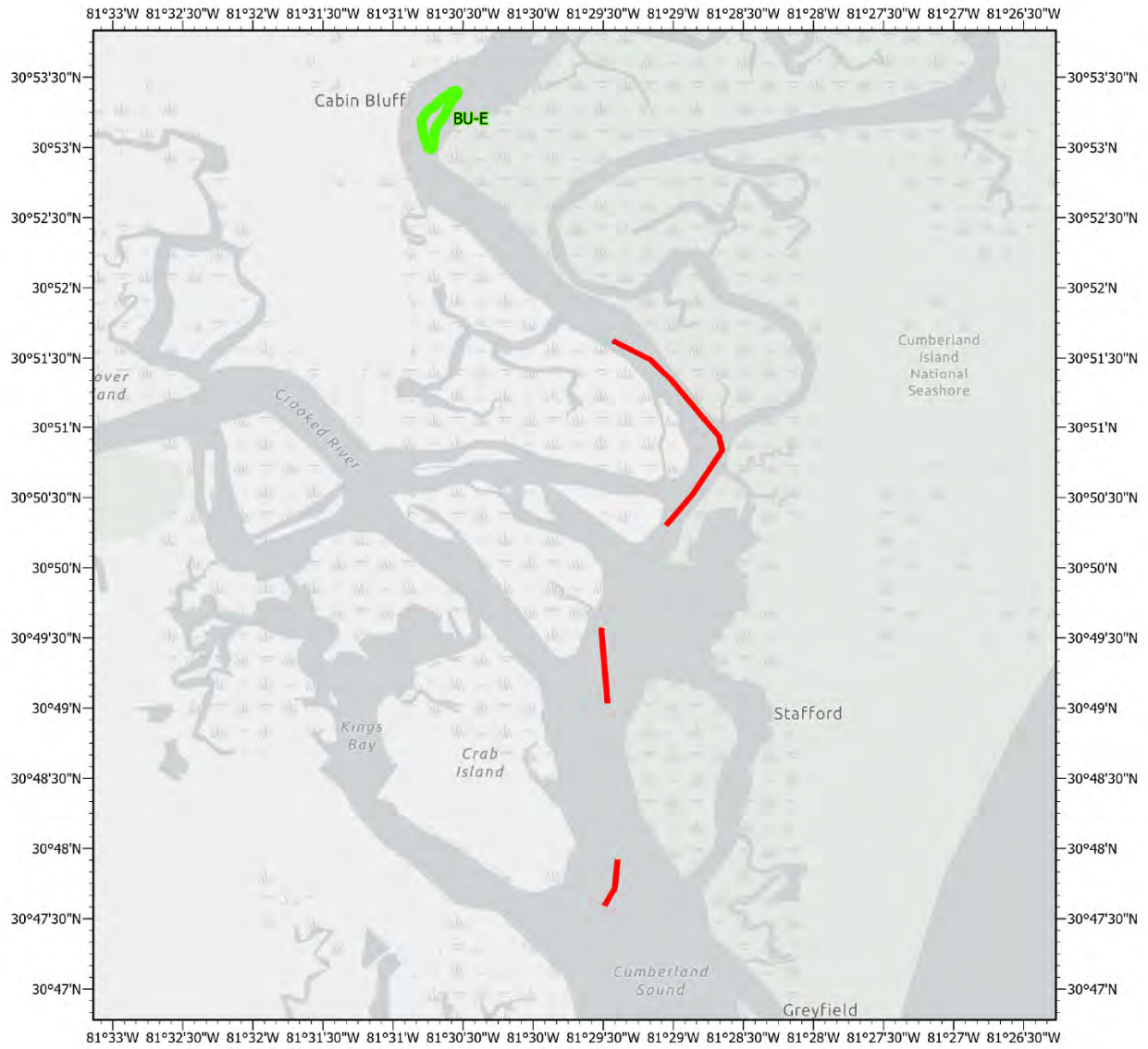
Environmental Document: The Draft EA/FONSI and Appendices are available at <https://www.sas.usace.army.mil/About/Divisions-and-Offices/Planning-Division/Plans-and-Reports/>

Copies may also be obtained through email request to the following address: CESAS-Planning@usace.army.mil

The Public Comment Period Closes Midnight February 10, 2023

Project Description: The Corps is proposing to conduct maintenance dredging of shoaled areas within the Cumberland Dividings area of the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway (AIWW), from river miles 704.5 through 709.5 and has developed placement alternatives that considers previously used upland placement sites as well as beneficial use of dredged material (BUDM) placement areas consistent with Section 125 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2020.

Approximately 316,000 cubic yards (cy) of sediment will be removed from the channel utilizing Hydraulic cutterhead dredges. The Corps is proposing placement of dredged material at one preferred site that would restore a highly eroded island habitat (BU-E) (**Figure 1**). The proposed location was chosen with consideration toward cultural, environmental, economic, and recreational resources.



DEVELOPED BY: Savannah District, Planning Branch
January 2023

Figure 1: Proposed dredging and placement option (BU-E)

The Corps has prepared a draft EA for the proposed action in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations found at 40 CFR §1500-1508 and the Corps Procedures For Implementing NEPA found at 33 CFR §230.

The Corps has made a preliminary determination that the effects of the proposed action would not be significant, and that the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not warranted. Following public review, the Corps will make a final determination on whether to make a FONSI or prepare an EIS.

Application of the Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines: Dredged material would be placed to restore an eroded bird island in the Cumberland River. The Corps has completed a Section 404(b)(1) evaluation and integrated the results into this EA. The Corps has made a determination that the action is consistent with 404(b)(1) guidelines.

Consideration of Public Comments: The Corps is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Native American Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of the proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps in its deliberations on this action.

Comment Submittal: Please submit written comments to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District by midnight February 10, 2023. Written comments may be sent via email to CESAS-Planning@usace.army.mil, or to the mailing address below:

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Savannah District
Attn: Planning Branch/ Mr. Alexander Gregory
100 West Oglethorpe Ave
Savannah, GA 31401**

Mailed comments on this notice must be postmarked by the above expiration date. In your response, please refer to Cumberland Dividings Draft EA. Should no response be received by the above expiration date, a "no comment" response will be assumed.



Kimberly L. Garvey
Chief, Planning Branch