

**From:** [Ferguson, John J. \(DEC\)](#)  
**To:** [Edwards, Kristine](#)  
**Cc:** [Cicccone, Yvonne](#); [Lawrence Frame \(lframe@hntb.com\)](#); [Hitt, Noah](#); [Barnett, Elena \(Elena.Barnett@hdrinc.com\)](#); [john.duschang@hdrinc.com](#); [Casper, Peter M](#); [David Paget \(dpaget@sprlaw.com\)](#); [English, Diane M \(DEC\)](#); [Woodfield, Karen \(DEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: More Additional Dredging at TZ - Access Area Extension at [REDACTED]  
**Date:** Friday, September 11, 2015 12:22:13 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

Kris

The Department has reviewed the Thruway Authority's request to extend the Tappan Zee Bridge in-water construction access area which was the subject of a June 30, 2015 permit modification. The Access Area Extension is located along the northeast corner of the Access Area, immediately adjacent to [REDACTED] the existing Tappan Zee Bridge. The proposed additional volume to be dredged is 865 CY.

The Department hereby approves this modification with the following restrictions:

1. The extension zone includes an area with surficial and near-surface concentrations of mercury among the highest encountered in this project to date (based on the 2006 and 2008 sediment surveys). As a consequence, the Department therefore considers this a new dredging area. Accordingly, water quality monitoring should be conducted as required in Permit Conditions 59-67, and not at the reduced levels previously approved for other portions of the Access Area.
2. Specifically, under previously-modified Permit Condition 64, dredging of the Access Area Extension is to be considered an activity for which daily water quality monitoring is required.
3. Previously-modified Permit Condition 27 is hereby modified to specify that the decant water holding time is 24 hours (not 12 hours) for material dredged from the Access Area Extension.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

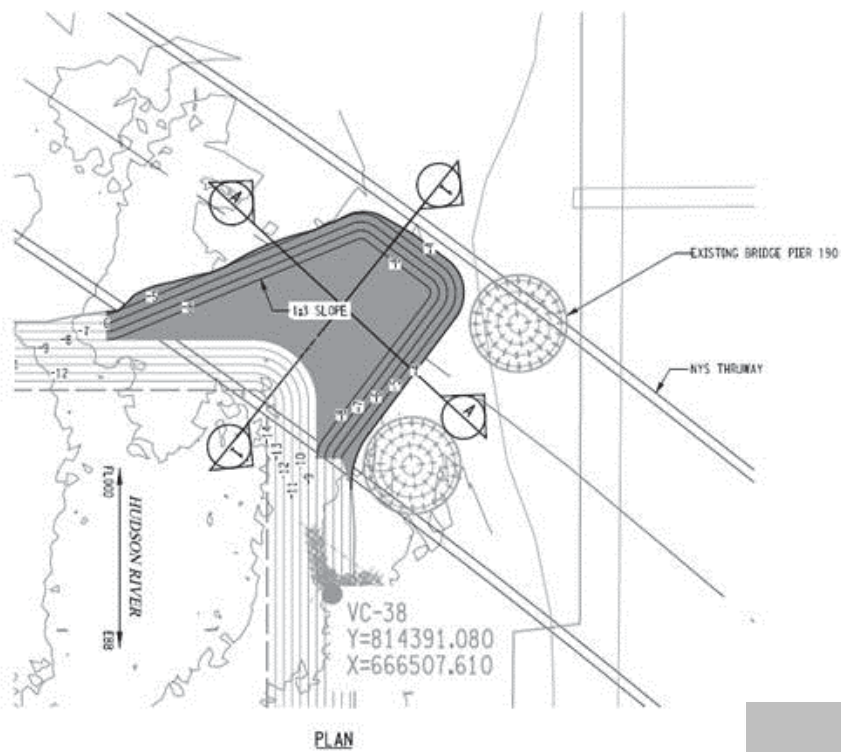
John Ferguson  
Chief Permit Administrator

---

**From:** Edwards, Kristine [mailto:[Kristine.Edwards@newnybridge.com](mailto:Kristine.Edwards@newnybridge.com)]  
**Sent:** Friday, August 28, 2015 12:02 PM  
**To:** Ferguson, John J. (DEC)  
**Cc:** [Cicccone, Yvonne](#); [Lawrence Frame \(lframe@hntb.com\)](#); [Hitt, Noah](#); [Barnett, Elena \(Elena.Barnett@hdrinc.com\)](#); [john.duschang@hdrinc.com](#); [Casper, Peter M](#); [David Paget \(dpaget@sprlaw.com\)](#)  
**Subject:** More Additional Dredging at TZ - Access Area Extension at Pier 42

John,

Attached you will find a letter from TZC detailing their request to extend the access area which was the subject of a modification to the permit dated June 30, 2015. As shown in the drawing below, the Access Area Extension is located along the northeast corner of the Access Area, immediately adjacent to [REDACTED] the Tappan Zee Bridge, and occupies the footprint of [REDACTED] of the New NY Bridge Project. Including a 1-ft overdredge, the additional volume would be **865 CY** and the additional surface area would be **0.12 acres**. This additional dredging is required to allow the installation of a precast-concrete tub at [REDACTED], under the existing bridge, instead of the previously considered cofferdam installation with cast-in-place concrete pile cap.



1. Even with the additional dredge volume associated with the Access Area Extension, the total dredge volume for the project remains considerably less than was evaluated in the FEIS. Impacts evaluated in the FEIS assumed a total of approximately 1.74 million cubic yards (MCY). The Stage 1 and Stage 2 dredging when completed will total approximately 0.99 MCY, including the 865 CY associated with the Access Area Extension.
2. Even with the addition of Access Area Extension, the total dredge footprint of 141 acres remains considerably less than the 173 acres of dredged area evaluated in the FEIS. The dredge footprint associated with removal of the Access Area Extension is only 0.12 acres. Furthermore, compensatory mitigation requirements were based on the 173 acre dredge footprint, which is considerably greater than the 141 acres of dredging, plus the 0.12 acres for Access Area Extension.
3. Dredging of Access Area Extension would not increase the potential for capturing sturgeon in the dredge bucket as the recorded interactions between sturgeon and mechanical dredge are rare and the risk of capture is low. No dead or injured sturgeon were reported during the 2013 Stage 1 Dredging which removed approximately 8,700 CY per day over a three month period, while the expected removal for Access Area Extension is only a total of 865 CY. Similar to the 2013 Stage 1 Dredging, a NMFS-approved observer would be present to watch for captured fish as sediment is deposited in the scow and to monitor the scow for fish in accordance with the NMFS approved Dredging and Pile Driving Monitoring Plan.
4. Dredging would be executed using the same means and methods as the 2013 Stage 1 dredging, using a closed environmental clamshell bucket within the August 1- October 31 dredging window. All conditions of the permit would continue to be implemented during Access Area Extension dredging as required under Permit 3-9903-00043/00012 and described in the Phase II Dredging Plan, approved by NYSDEC on July 13, 2015 which was resubmitted on 8/28/2015 to include procedures for the transfer of materials.
5. Similar to the Stage II Dredging Access Area, the area will be used infrequently; therefore, no armoring of this area is proposed.
6. No significant submerged archaeological resources were identified within the area proposed for dredging based on prior evaluations made during the FEIS.

7. The proposed dredging will conform to the Coastal Zone Management consistency documentation according to NYSDOS and local policies.

The Authority hereby request a modification to the project's permit modification to authorize this dredging. Due to the timing of this request and the end of the dredge window approaching, an expedited review would be appreciated.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you,

Kristine

The information contained in this electronic message and any attachments to this message are intended for the exclusive use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is confidential, privileged, and/or otherwise exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If this electronic message is from an attorney or someone in the Legal Department, it may also contain confidential attorney-client communications which may be privileged and protected from disclosure. If you are not the intended recipient, be advised that you have received this message in error and that any use, dissemination, forwarding, printing, or copying is strictly prohibited. Please notify the New York State Thruway Authority immediately by either responding to this e-mail or calling (518) 436-2700, and destroy all copies of this message and any attachments.