



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Alaska District

Regulatory Division (1145)  
CEPOA-RD  
Post Office Box 6898  
JBER, Alaska 99506-0898

# Public Notice of Application for Permit

**PUBLIC NOTICE DATE:** June 22, 2016  
**EXPIRATION DATE:** July 14, 2016  
**REFERENCE NUMBER:** POA-2016-291  
**WATERWAY:** Zapadni Bay (Bering Sea)

Interested parties are hereby notified that a Department of the Army permit application has been received for work in waters of the United States as described below and shown on the enclosed project drawings.

Comments on the described work, with the reference number, should reach this office no later than the expiration date of this Public Notice to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. Please contact Sandy P. Gibson at (907) 753-2877, toll free from within Alaska at (800) 478-2712, by fax at (907) 753-5567, or by email at [sandy.p.gibson@usace.army.mil](mailto:sandy.p.gibson@usace.army.mil) if further information is desired concerning this notice.

**APPLICANT:** City of St. George  
Mr. Patrick Pletnikoff  
Post Office Box 929  
St. George, Alaska 99591

**AGENT:** Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities  
Ms. Hilary Lindh  
Post Office 112506  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

**LOCATION:** The project site is located within Sections 4 and 9, T. 42S, R. 130W, Seward Meridian; Latitude 56.569° N., Longitude -169.672° W.; in St. George, Alaska.

**PURPOSE:** The applicant's stated purpose is to repair the south breakwater arm of St. George Island Harbor which was damaged during the December 2015 storm event. Loss of crest height from dislodged armor stones has compromised the integrity of the structure.

**PROPOSED WORK:** The applicant proposes repair work to include the following elements:  
1) Place approximately 13,000 CY of spall rock fill on the inside of the breakwater to establish a 30-foot-wide by 200-foot-long bench road/construction pad for repairs; approximately 9,000 CY would be below the MHHW (0.43 acre). Bench/ road elevation will be about 8 feet above

MLLW and will remain in place, post repairs. 2) Recover salvageable, displaced rock material below the waterline. 3) Place approximately 500 armor stones (weighing 6-8 tons each) or 3,000 CY on the breakwater crest above the HTL, along 250 linear feet of the breakwater arm. Additional work proposed includes placement of two rows of intertwined Core Locs (see enclosed photo) on the outside of the breakwater at or just above MHHW, to reinforce the armor stones. Temporary barrier fence will be placed below MHHW to deter seals during construction. All work would be performed in accordance with the enclosed plan (sheets 1-3), May, 2016.

APPLICANT PROPOSED MITIGATION: Mitigation is not required.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The lead Federal agency, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), is responsible for compliance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. A permit for the described work will not be issued until the Section 106 process has been completed.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: The project area is within the known or historic range of the Humpback whale (*Megaptera novaeangliae*), North Pacific right whale (*Eubalaena japonica*), North Pacific gray whale (*Eschrichtius robustus*) and is within the designated Critical Habitat for Stellar Sea Lion (*Eumetopias jubatus*).

The lead Federal agency, FEMA, is responsible for compliance with the requirements under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 844). FEMA provided a determination of “**no effect**” to the above listed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers concurs with this determination. Therefore, no consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is required. The Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 prohibits unauthorized “take” of marine mammals in U.S waters. Mitigation measures are under development to avoid potential seal harassment (take) within the proposed work locations. Any comments they may have concerning endangered or threatened wildlife or plants or their critical habitat will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996, requires all Federal agencies to consult with the NMFS on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency, that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH).

The lead Federal agency, FEMA, is responsible for compliance with the requirements under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. FEMA provided a determination that EFH is present but the project **would not adversely affect** EFH. The USACE supports his determination. The NMFS provided concurrence on this EFH determination on June 7, 2016.

TRIBAL CONSULTATION: The Alaska District fully supports tribal self-governance and government-to-government relations between Federally recognized Tribes and the Federal government. Tribes with protected rights or resources that could be significantly affected by a proposed Federal action (e.g., a permit decision) have the right to consult with the Alaska

District on a government-to-government basis. Views of each Tribe regarding protected rights and resources will be accorded due consideration in this process. This Public Notice serves as notification to the Tribes within the area potentially affected by the proposed work and invites their participation in the Federal decision-making process regarding the protected Tribal right or resource. Consultation may be initiated by the affected Tribe upon written request to the District Commander during the public comment period.

PUBLIC HEARING: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, reasons for holding a public hearing.

EVALUATION: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity and its intended use on the public interest. Evaluation of the probable impacts, which the proposed activity may have on the public interest, requires a careful weighing of all the factors that become relevant in each particular case. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. The outcome of the general balancing process would determine whether to authorize a proposal, and if so, the conditions under which it will be allowed to occur. The decision should reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. All factors, which may be relevant to the proposal, must be considered including the cumulative effects thereof. Among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. For activities involving 404 discharges, a permit will be denied if the discharge that would be authorized by such permit would not comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's 404(b)(1) guidelines. Subject to the preceding sentence and any other applicable guidelines or criteria (see Sections 320.2 and 320.3), a permit will be granted unless the District Commander determines that it would be contrary to the public interest.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

AUTHORITY: This permit will be issued or denied under the following authorities:

(X) Perform work in or affecting navigable waters of the United States – Section 10 Rivers and Harbors Act 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403).

(X) Discharge dredged or fill material into waters of the United States – Section 404 Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). Therefore, our public interest review will consider the guidelines set forth under Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR 230).

Project drawings and a Notice of Application for State Water Quality Certification are enclosed with this Public Notice.

District Commander  
U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers

Enclosures

# STATE OF ALASKA

DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION  
DIVISION OF WATER  
401 Certification Program  
Non-Point Source Water Pollution Control Program

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION  
WQM/401 CERTIFICATION  
555 CORDOVA STREET  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-2617  
PHONE: (907) 269-7564/FAX: (907) 334-2415

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR STATE WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION

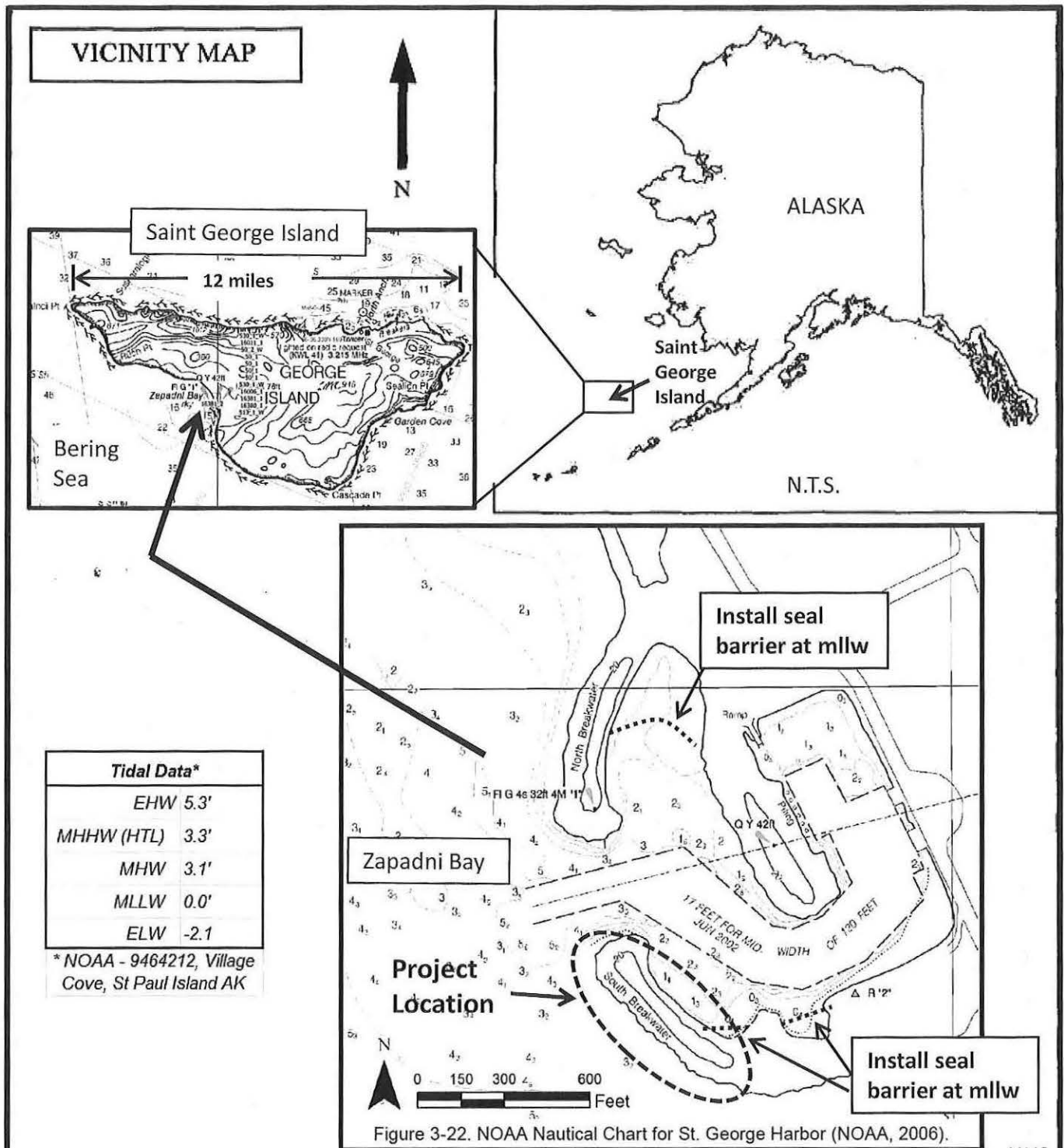
Any applicant for a federal license or permit to conduct an activity that might result in a discharge into navigable waters, in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act of 1977 (PL95-217), also must apply for and obtain certification from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation that the discharge will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. By agreement between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Environmental Conservation, application for a Department of the Army permit to discharge dredged or fill material into navigable waters under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act also may serve as application for State Water Quality Certification.

Notice is hereby given that the application for a Department of the Army Permit described in the Corps of Engineers' Public Notice No. **POA-2016-291, Zapadni Bay**, serves as application for State Water Quality Certification from the Department of Environmental Conservation.

After reviewing the application, the Department may certify there is reasonable assurance the activity, and any discharge that might result, will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. The Department also may deny or waive certification.

Any person desiring to comment on the project, with respect to Water Quality Certification, may submit written comments to the address above by the expiration date of the Corps of Engineer's Public Notice.





HNS

**Project Purpose**  
 Repair Damaged Breakwater

**Applicant**  
 City of Saint George, AK

**Adjacent Property Owners**  
 City of St George, AK  
 Tanaq Corporation  
 State of Alaska, DNR ; USF&WS

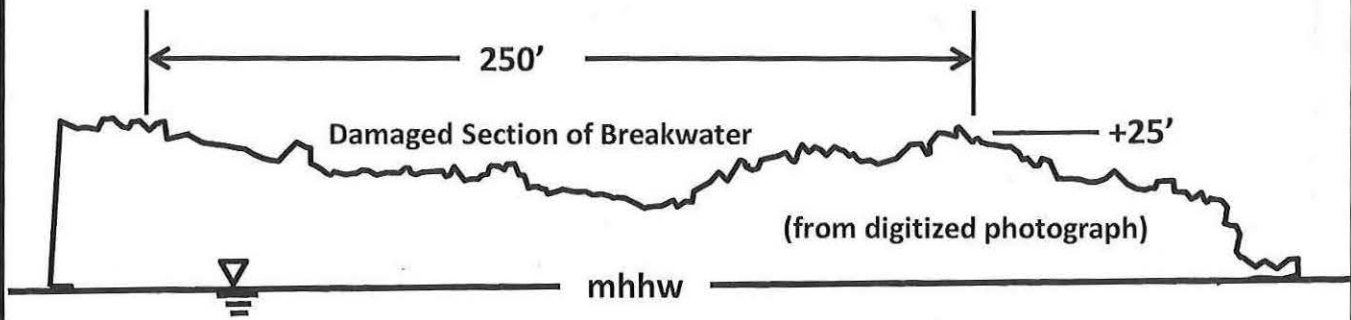
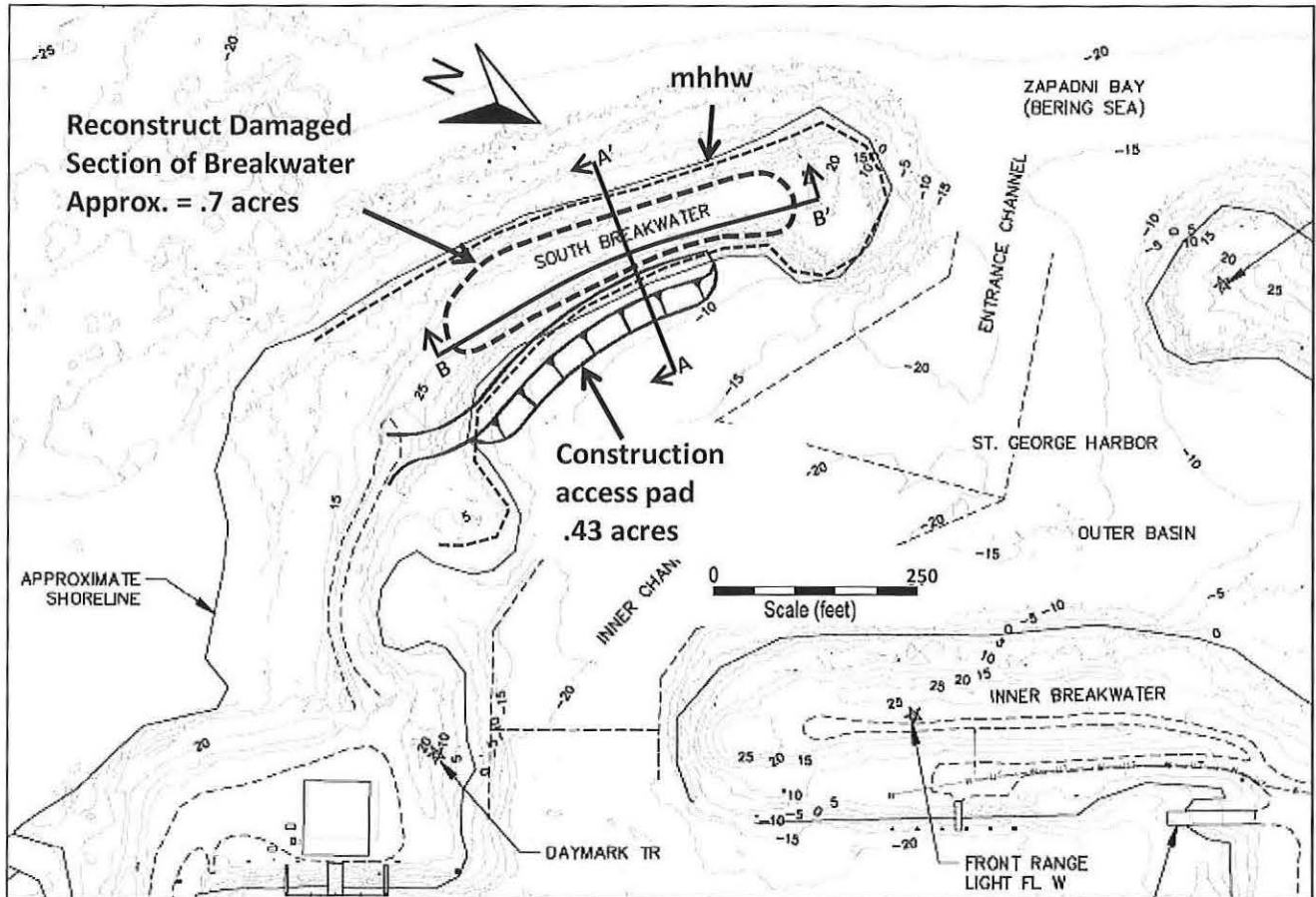
**Key and Regional Maps**

**Application by**  
 City of Saint George  
 Saint George Island, AK

**St George Harbor Breakwater Repair**  
 St George Island, Alaska

**LOCATED IN:**  
 Township 42 South  
 Range 130 West  
 Section 4 and 9, SM

**DATE:** May 2016 *Sheet 1 of 3*



Section B - B'  
Profile along Crest (N.T.S.)

HNS

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State of Alaska, DNR ; USF&WS

**SITE PLAN**  
  
**Application by**  
City of Saint George  
  
Saint George Island, AK

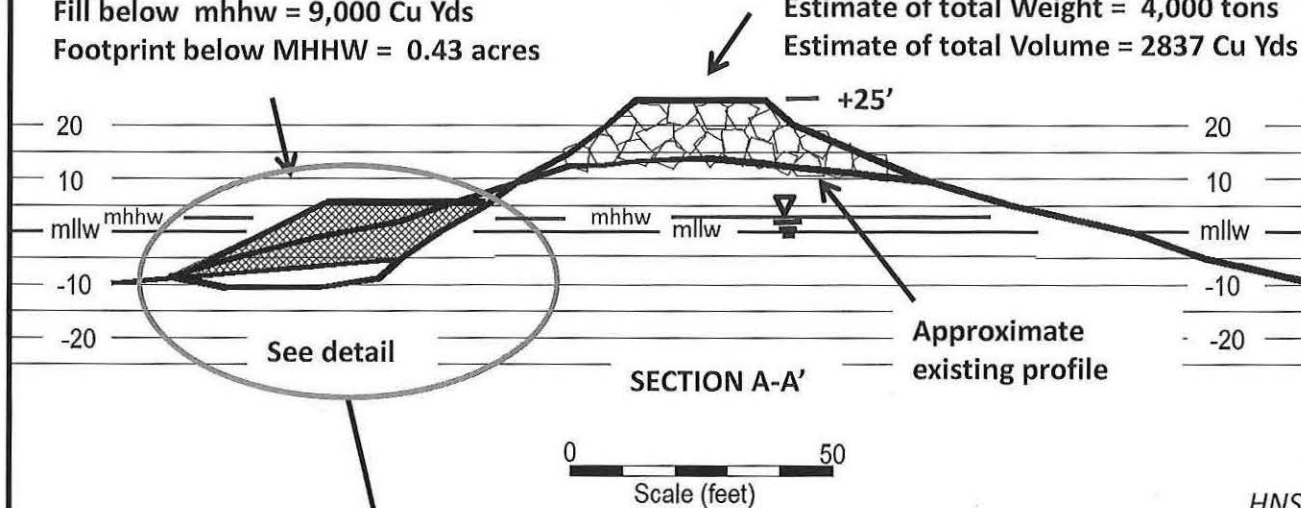
**St George Harbor Breakwater Repair**  
St George Island, Alaska  
**LOCATED IN:**  
Township 42 South  
Range 130 West  
Section 4 and 9, SM  
DATE: May 2016 Sheet 2 of 3

**CONSTRUCTION PAD:**

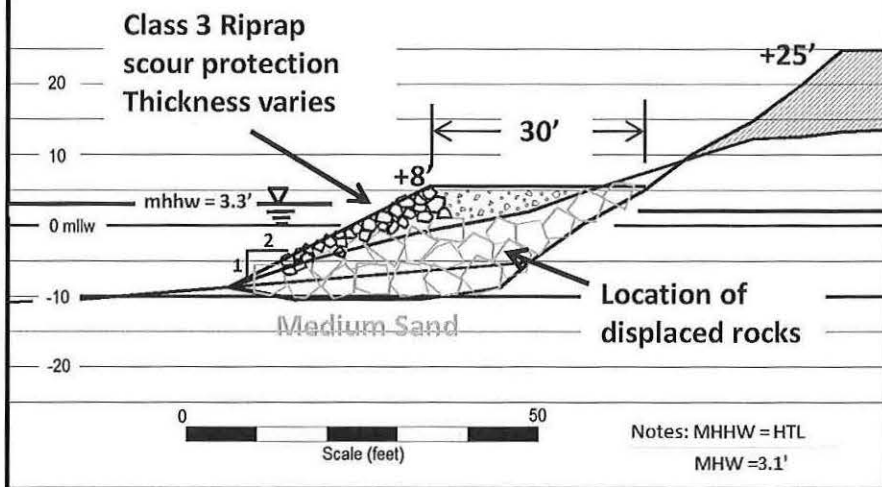
Top Elevation = +8.0'  
 Toe Elevation = -8.0  
 Total Fill = 13,000 Cu Yds  
 Fill below mhhw = 9,000 Cu Yds  
 Footprint below MHHW = 0.43 acres

**RECONSTRUCT SECTION:**

Approximately 500 ea. 6 to 8 ton stones to be replaced along 250' of damaged crest.  
 Estimate of total Weight = 4,000 tons  
 Estimate of total Volume = 2837 Cu Yds



**CONSTRUCTION PAD DETAIL**



Displaced stones will be salvaged to reconstruct breakwater and/or new stones will be brought in.

Construction pad shall remain for future breakwater maintenance and barge landing

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 State of Alaska, DNR ; USF&WS

**TYPICAL SECTIONS**

Application by

City of Saint George

Saint George Island, AK

**St George Harbor Breakwater Repair**

St George Island, Alaska

LOCATED IN:

Township 42 South  
 Range 130 West  
 Section 4 and 9, SM

DATE: May 2016 Sheet 3 of 3