

Town of North Topsail Beach

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February 18, 2015

RE: Shoreline Protection Projects at North Topsail Beach

Dear NTB Area Rental Agencies and Property Owners with Rentals,

The Town of North Topsail Beach currently has two shoreline protection projects underway. One project is on the very north end of the island and it should be complete within the next week (North End Sand Bag Revetment Project). The other is the Phase 5 Beach Restoration and affects the southernmost 5 miles of the town to the Surf City line.

North End Sand Bag Revetment Project

The north end sand bag revetment is located just north of the Topsail Reef Condominium complex and extends into the Beach Club at the end of New River Inlet Road. An extension project was added and now sand bags protect all of the oceanfront structures north of the Topsail Reef.

Currently, there is very little beach in front of the sand bags, even at low tide. The Town is waiting on notification from the Division of Coastal Management (CAMA) on whether or not crossovers can be built by the Town (or oceanfront property owners) to go over the sand bag revetment to access the shoreline. Depending on DCM's decision, the Town will have to assess the feasibility of constructing crossovers at the public beach access points (south of Topsail Reef, Oyster Lane, and Port Drive) before the upcoming peak season. The Town does not know, at this time, whether or not the shoreline will build up naturally in front of the sand bag revetment this spring.

It is recommended, prior to the upcoming peak season that all potential renters are notified that there will be limited access to the beach north of the Topsail Reef. The Town is close to completing a parking lot with approximately 74 spaces at the end of River Road, adjacent to the inlet. This area will be the closest access point for the properties in this area (map attached), this season.

Phase 5 Beach Restoration

The Phase 5 Beach Restoration began in mid-December and will continue through April 30, 2015. If the project is delayed an extension *may* be granted. Construction of the restoration began near 3588 Island Drive and has moved south down the beach at a rate of approximately 150 feet a day. As they are working down the beach approximately 1,000 feet of beach is blocked off for public safety. These areas are usually marked with tape and orange fencing. There have been some weather and mechanical delays and when there are those, some of the

equipment is left where the dredging ceased. The project is expected to continue to the Surf City line. If there is sufficient time, the dredge pipeline will be pulled up south of 3588 Island Drive and dredging will begin where it started, near 3588 Island Drive and continue north to the Phase 5 boundary near Myrtle Drive. The dredge pipeline comes from the offshore sand source and reaches the shoreline at approximately 4328 Island Drive (in Ocean Ridge Subdivision). This pipeline will be on the beach in front of most of the properties until April 30th (or later if an extension is granted). There are sand ramps approximately every 500 feet. The sand ramps allow for pedestrian and emergency vehicle traffic to go over the dredge pipe. See the attached maps for the location of the dredge pipe and the dredge.

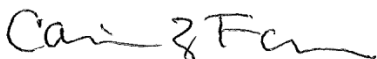
It is recommended, prior to the peak season that all potential renters are notified that a beach restoration project is taking place and that a dredge pipeline and equipment may be located on the shoreline. Based on the different variables related to the project, it is extremely hard to predict the exact location of the material discharge as it moves down the shoreline. It is important to let visitors know that there is a potential for construction activity especially south of the current location (18th Avenue). Construction activity occurs 24 hours, 7 days a week.

The Town would like you to participate in the public information meetings that take place every other Tuesday at 3:00 p.m. at the Town Hall Meeting Room to ask any questions that you may have about the Phase 5 Restoration Project. There is a conference call number available for those who cannot be in town to attend. You can also access the daily construction observation report for the project on the Town's web page which is dedicated to the Phase 5 Project (Current Project). This page includes many of the answers to the frequently asked questions about the project. <http://www.ntbnc.org/Pages/CurrentProject.aspx>

The Town understands the inconvenience that the shoreline protection projects have on its property owners and visitors, but also needs to provide shoreline protection to meet the long-term needs of the Town. Luckily the Town is not performing a majority of the work during the peak season (unlike Nags Head and Wrightsville Beach have in years past). A restored and maintained beach means that the Town will qualify for FEMA reimbursement in the event of a named natural disaster. A wide beach is beneficial for storm damage protection and is attractive. The Town wants the beach and your properties to be here for you and our visitors to enjoy for many years to come.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 910-328-1349 or carinf@north-topsail-beach.org

Respectfully,



Carin Z. Faulkner, MPA
Assistant Town Manager/Town Clerk

Attachments/Enclosures



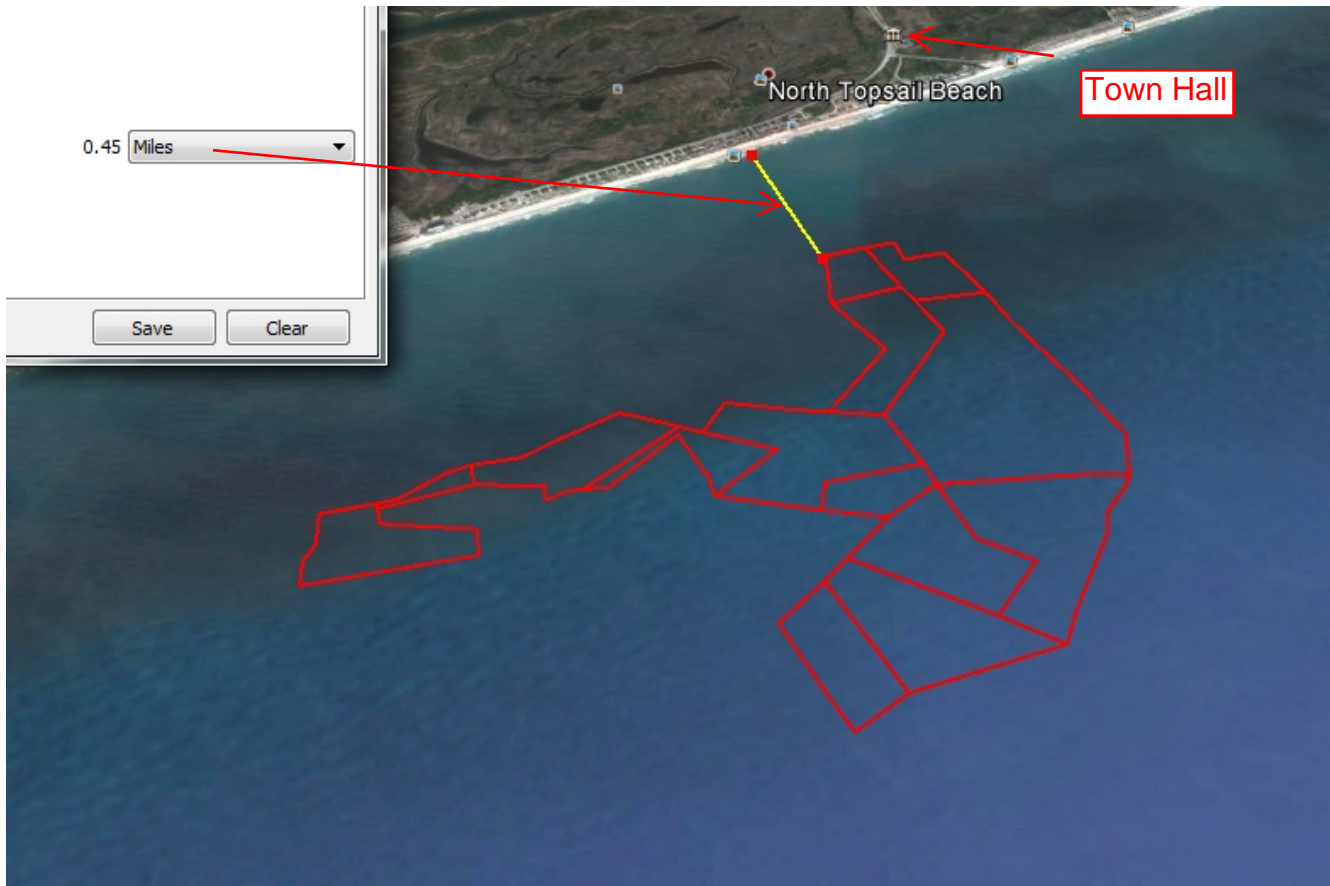
This is not a recent aerial map of the area.

The dredge pipe comes onto shore near 4328 Island Drive (Ocean Ridge Subdivision) and will extend south to where sand is being discharged on the beach.

Construction began near 3588 Island Drive and will go south to the Surf City line.

If there is sufficient time, the pipeline will be pulled up from the Surf City line to the starting point at 3588 Island Drive and sand will be placed on the beach from 3588 Island Drive north to approximately 3824 Island Drive.





The dredge will be located off-shore no closer than 0.45 miles from the shoreline. The sand taken from this area has no impact on the near-shore sand. The area that is marked in red above is the "borrow area," where the sand is coming from. The picture to the left is a close up picture of the dredge Savannah taken last month from North Topsail Beach. (Picture by Bev Green)