

## **Bogue Inlet Channel Erosion Response Project Final Environmental Impact Statement**

the existing and proposed channels will occur in the intertidal environments between mean high water and mean low water (approximate elevations between 2.29 and -1.59 National Geodetic Vertical Datum) at each sampling station.

All macroinvertebrate and infauna samples collected along the existing inlet, proposed inlet, and reference site will be collected approximately six inches above mean low water to ensure that all samples are collected from the same intertidal microhabitat. This will be accomplished through the use of predicted and observed tides, field measurements, survey techniques, copious note taking and/or a handheld GPS device (especially along the existing inlet) to ensure that the samples are collected at the same location and depth. All samples will be collected at or about peak low tide to ensure that the mean low water stage is more easily observed.

The three sampling stations along the existing channel will be located along the east side of the channel. The station locations have been chosen to reflect a representative sample of infaunal and macroinvertebrate species on the seaward side, bayside and center of the existing channel.

Quantitative sampling adjacent to the proposed inlet will include three sampling stations. Sampling stations will be located from the inner to the outer intertidal shoal area on either side of the proposed inlet. Refer to Figure 6.3 for the proposed sampling stations along the existing and proposed channels.

Sampling adjacent to the east and west sides of the proposed channel will provide evidence of any changes to the shoal habitat as a result of the dredging operations.

The reference site (Station 7) was chosen to reflect macroinvertebrate and infaunal species not directly impacted by the project.

### Salt Marsh Monitoring Stations

Three infaunal sampling stations will be located at the selected salt marsh monitoring transects to identify infaunal species in the substrate of the salt marshes. One infaunal sample will be collected from each of the three transect locations, starting 5 feet from the salt marsh edge.

### **6.2.4 Sampling Methodology**

A handheld PVC coring device (10 cm in diameter) will be used to collect samples at the selected sampling stations. The sampler will focus his/her attention on the proper use and handling of the device to ensure that reliable quantitative data is obtained. The handheld PVC coring device will penetrate

Bogue Inlet Channel Erosion Response Project  
Final Environmental Impact Statement

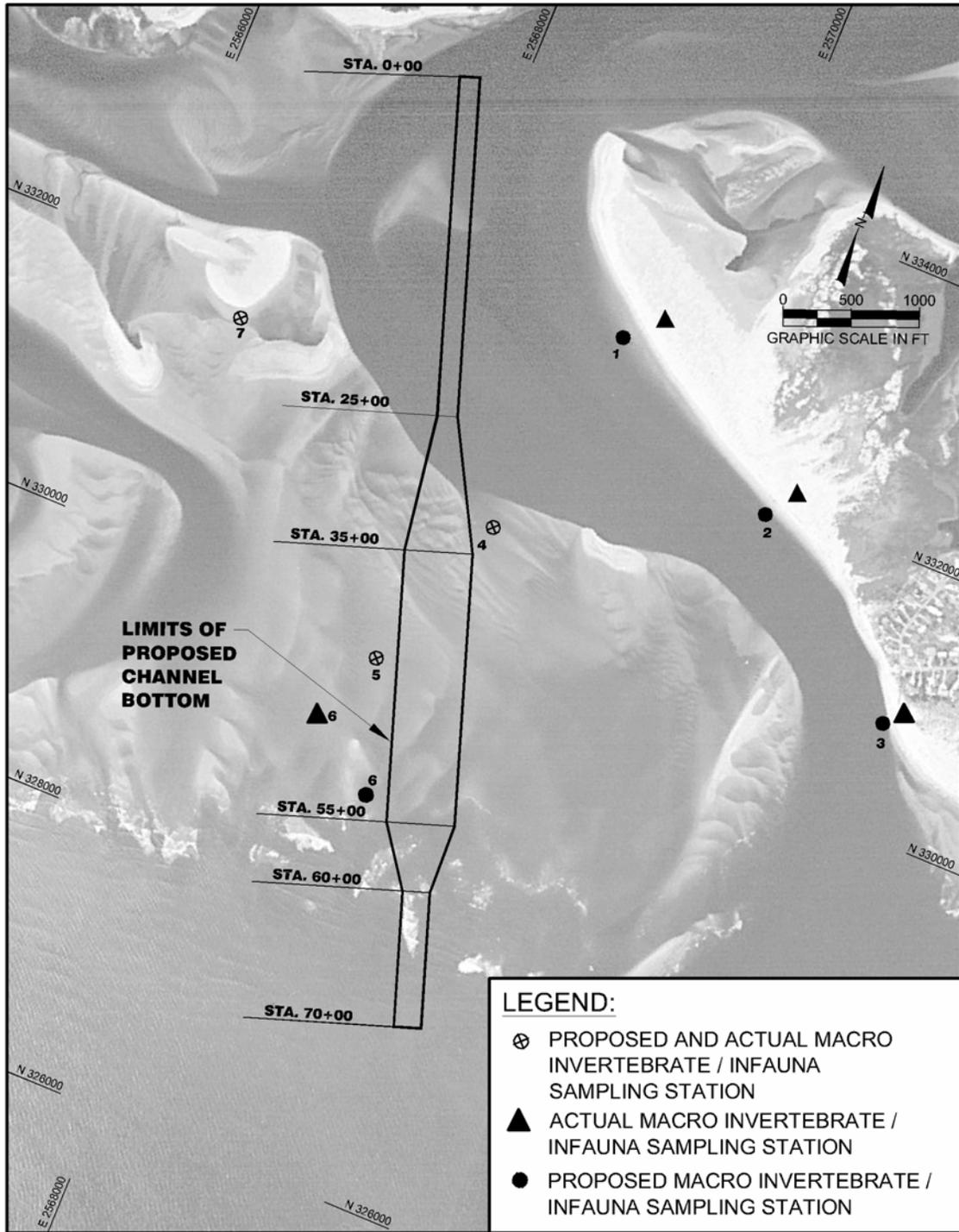


Figure 6.3. Locations of Infaunal Sampling Stations