



US Army Corps
Of Engineers
Wilmington District

PUBLIC NOTICE

Issue Date: June 21, 2013
Comment Deadline: July 22, 2013
Corps Action ID #: 2005-00344
(ORM # 2004-00344)

All interested parties are hereby advised that the Wilmington District, Corps of Engineers (Corps) has published a Notice of Intent (NOI) in the Federal Register to prepare a Draft Supplement of the December 2009 Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Town of North Topsail Beach's project to relocate the New River Inlet ebb tide channel and to place dredge material along 11.1 miles of ocean shoreline of North Topsail Beach in Onslow County, North Carolina. The main purpose of the project is to provide short and long-term protection of the Town's infrastructure. The Draft Supplement will address the Town's proposed modification to consolidate Phases II-V of the original plan into one phase (in a single dredging event), to utilize a hopper dredge, to increase the beach fill density in the original Phase V footprint, to include an additional borrow source, and to extend their dredging activity outside the permitted dredging window.

Specific plans and location information are described below and shown on the attached plans. This Public Notice and all attached plans are also available on the Wilmington District Web Site at <http://www.saw.usace.army.mil/Missions/RegulatoryPermitProgram/PublicNotices.aspx>

Applicant: Town of North Topsail Beach
C/o: Mr. Stewart Turille (Town Manager)
2008 Loggerhead Court
Town of North Topsail Beach, North Carolina 28460

Contracting Engineer: Coastal Planning & Engineering, Inc. (CP&E)
C/o: Mr. Ken Wilson
4038 Masonboro Loop Road
Wilmington, North Carolina 28409

Authority

The Corps will evaluate this project pursuant to applicable procedures for Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbor; and will prepare a Supplement to the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) to assess the proposal. The Corps will be coordinating with North Carolina Division of Coastal Management and North Carolina Division of Water Quality in the development of the Draft Supplemental EIS to ensure the process complies with all State requirements. In addition, the Corps will be reinitiating consultation with the

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the US Fish and Wildlife Service pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and reinitiating Essential Fish Habitat consultation with the NMFS pursuant to Magnuson-Stevens Act.

Location

The project site encompasses approximately 11.1 miles of North Topsail Beach oceanfront shoreline, extending from New River Inlet to approximately 0.5 miles southwest of NC Hwy 210 high rise bridge; an offshore borrow source located approximately 0.5 mile across from the high rise bridge; and an upland disposal island (DA 143) located at the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway (AIWW) and New River intersection, in Onslow County, North Carolina.

Project Description

Between November 26, 2012 and February 9, 2013, the Town of North Topsail Beach implemented Phase I of their authorization, which encompassed the relocation of the New River Inlet ebb tide channel by use of a cutter head dredge and the placement of the dredged material along approximately 1.5 miles of the island's northeast end. Upon the completion of Phase I, the Town has reevaluated its financial status and seeks to modify their DA authorization. A key component in the modification request is to combine Phases II-V. This would replace the current multi-nourishment cycle within the remaining 9.6 miles with a one-time nourishment event constructed during a single dredging window. The proposal also requests that dredging be allowed outside the November 16- March 31 dredge window to extend their operation to April 30, and that the dredging operation include the use of hopper dredge plants. The Town seeks to include a new borrow source, DA143, which is an upland disposal island located near the intersection of New River and the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway. Historically, DA 143 has been used by USACE as a disposal area during maintenance dredging of nearby federal navigation channels. It is estimated that the disposal island contains approximately 1.9 million cubic yards of material, which will be short of the approximate 2.6 million cubic yards needed for the 9.6 miles of ocean front nourishment. With this short fall of beach fill, the remaining material will be dredged from the existing permitted off-shore borrow source. The 2.6 million cubic yards of material includes the Town's modification plans to increase the original fill density of Phase V from 25.2 cubic yards/linear foot to a range of 57-132 cubic yards/linear foot.

This notice announces that our Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS for this project will be published in the Federal Register on June 21, 2013 and can be found on the Federal Register website: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/browse/collection.action?collectionCode=FR>. After connecting with the website, click through the dates to June 21, 2013 (Friday). Click on "Defense Department"; and locate the North Topsail Beach project under "Notices".

As disclosed in the Notice of Intent, any written comments pertinent to the proposed work and preparation of the Supplemental EIS, as outlined above, must be submitted to this office, Attention: Mickey T. Sugg, and received by July 22, 2013. Questions can be directed to Mr. Sugg at telephone (910) 251-4811, Wilmington Regulatory Field Office, or by e-mail at mickey.t.sugg@usace.army.mil.

North Topsail Beach Shoreline Protection Project
Final Environmental Impact Statement

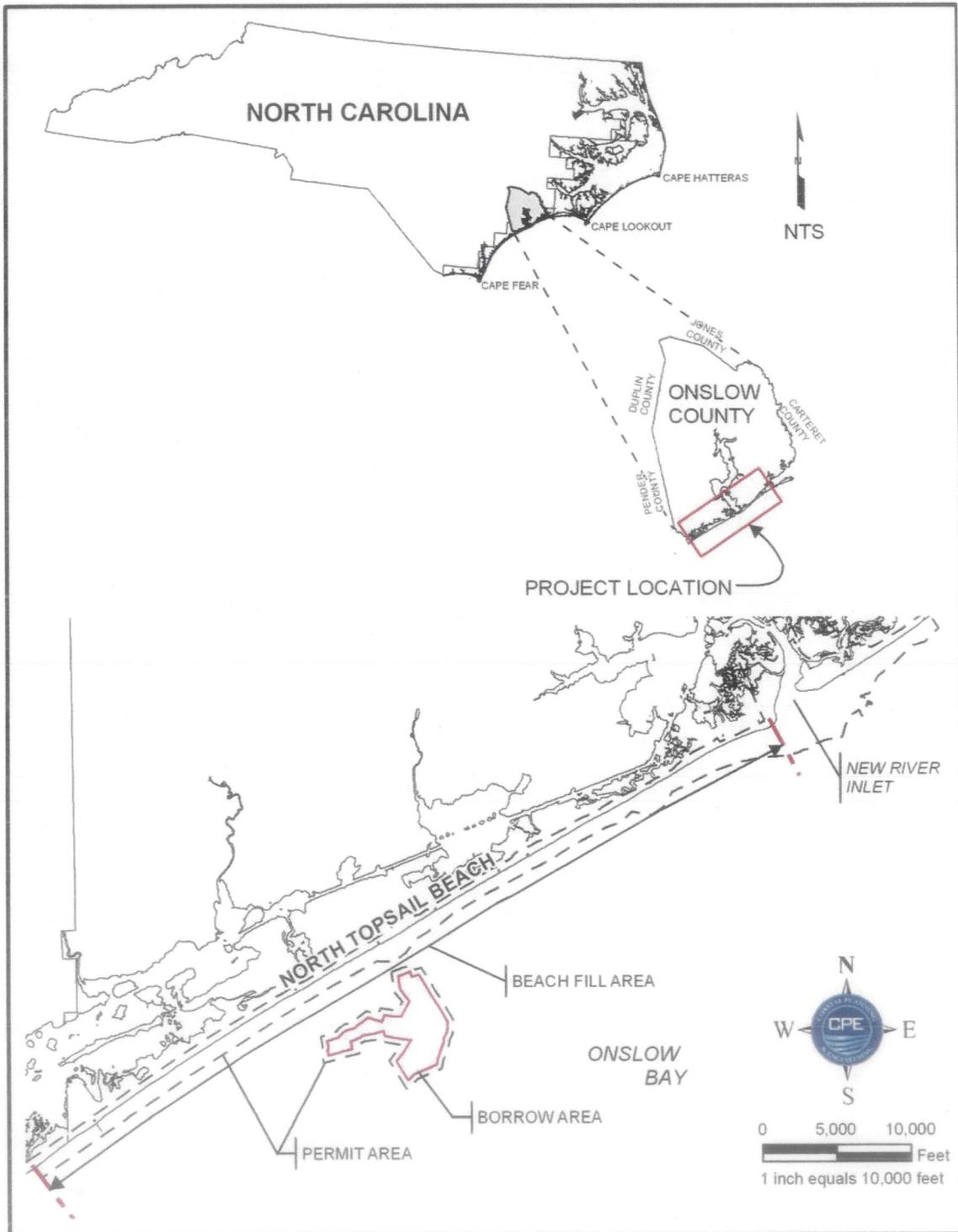


Figure 1 – Project Location Map

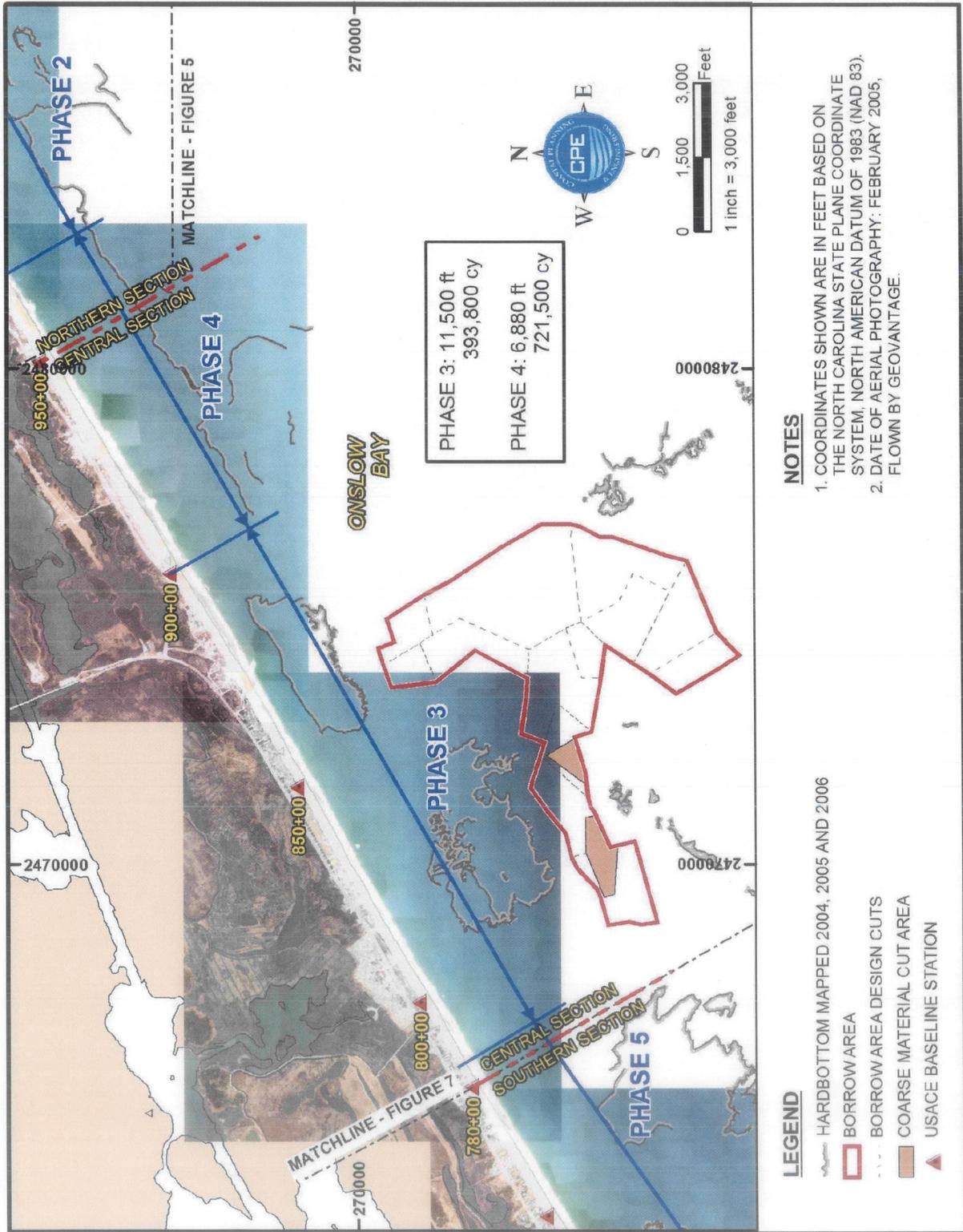


Figure 2- Phases within the Central Section and location of the offshore borrow area.

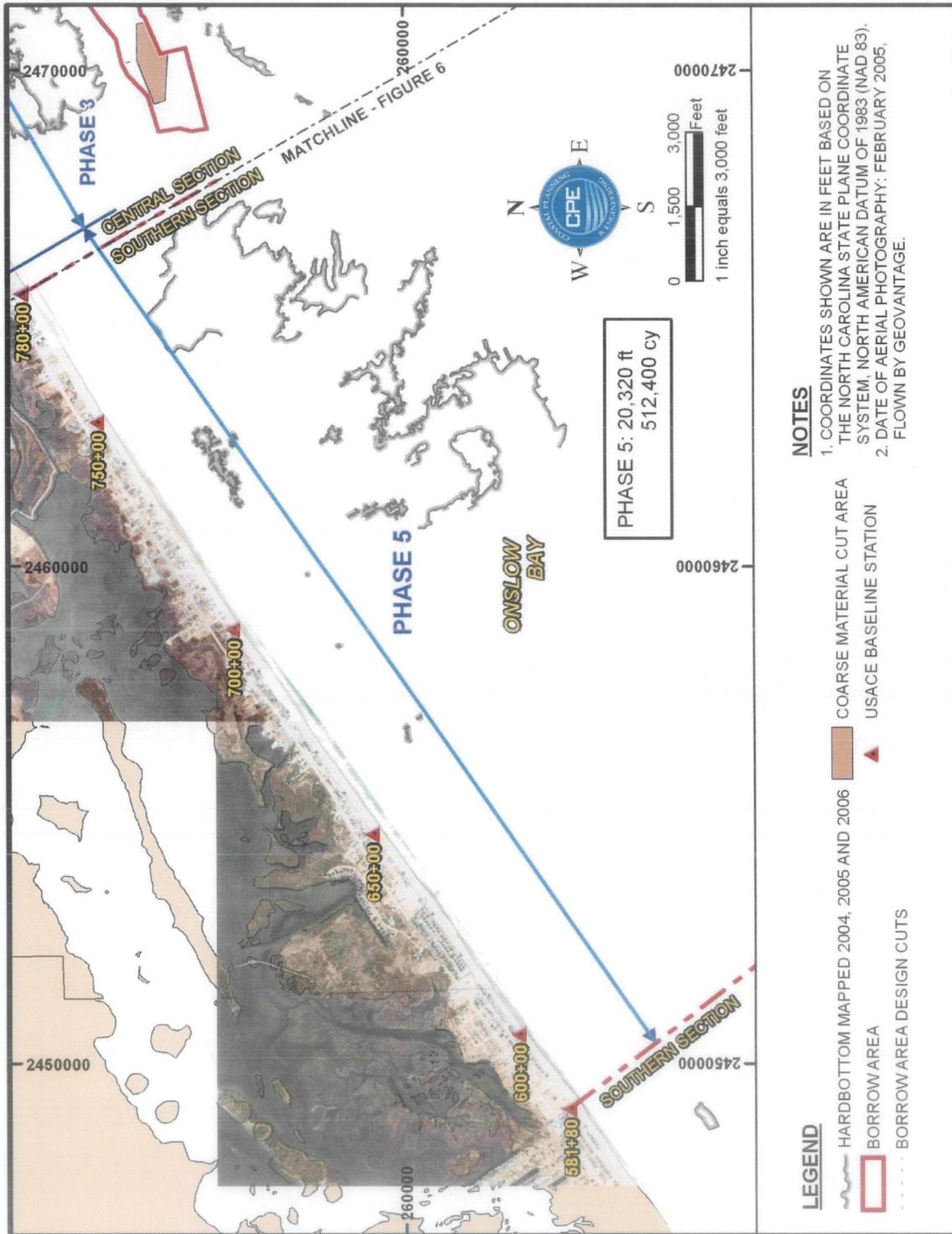


Figure 3- Phases within the Southern Section.

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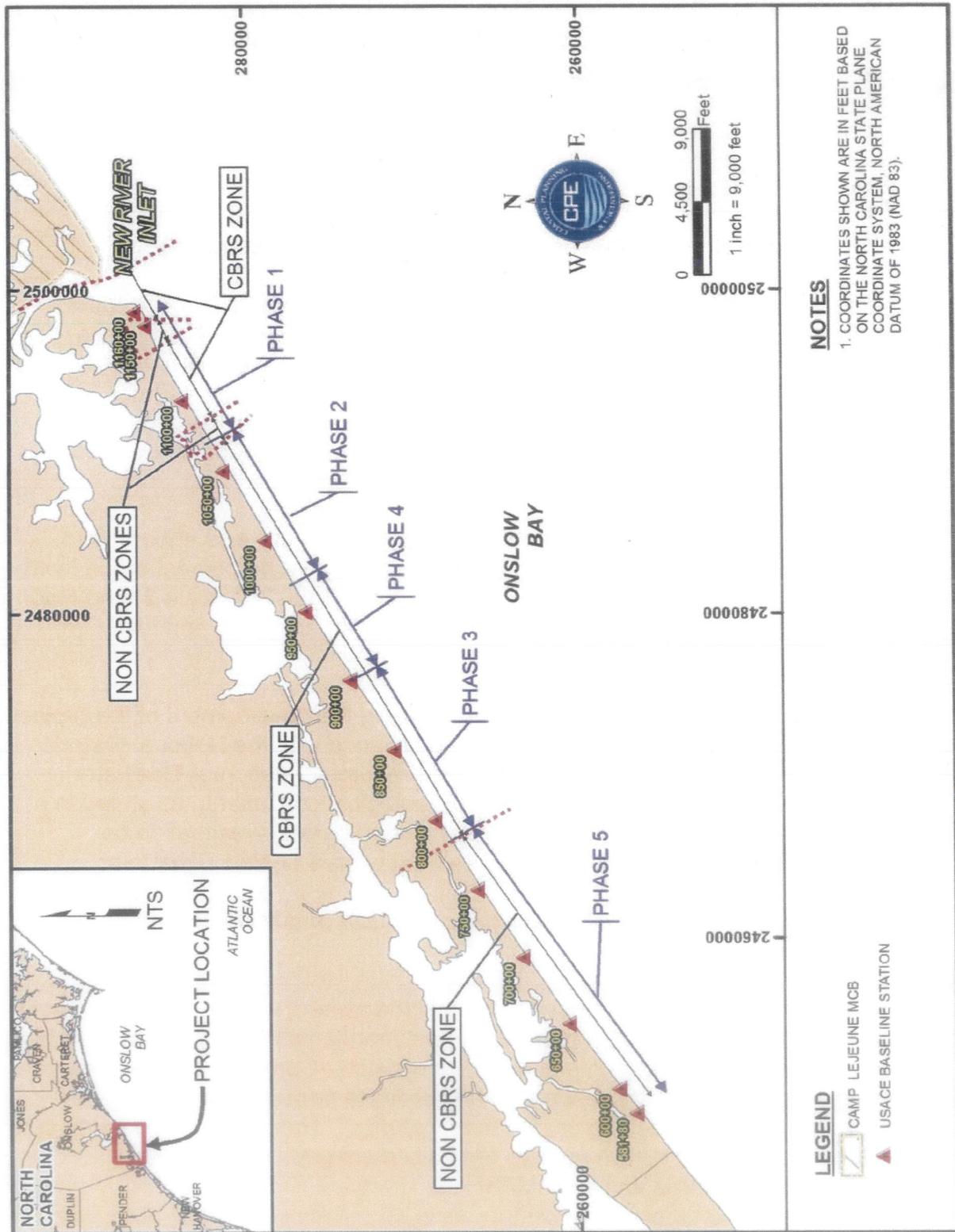
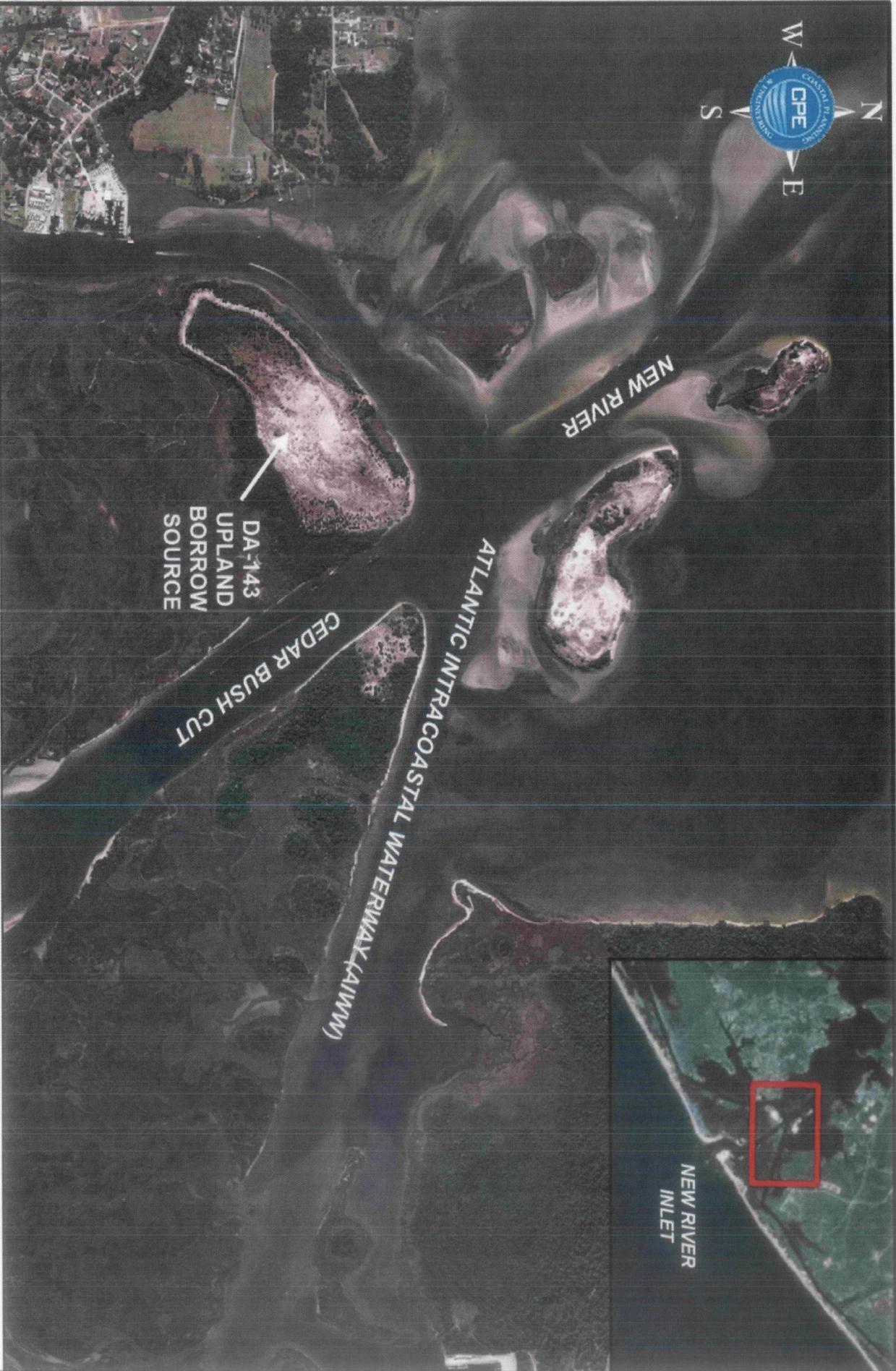


Figure 4 – CBRs Zones



NOTES

1. AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY PROVIDED BY THE ATLANTIC GROUP (TAG): FLOWN JUNE 2008.

