

Surfers Beach Pilot Restoration Project Construction Update



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San Mateo County Harbor District, Board of Harbor Commissioners Meeting 7/16/25

Pillar Point Harbor Project Location Map



Eelgrass
Mitigation
Area

Proposed
Dredging Areas

Surfers Beach
Sand Placement

Existing Conditions at Surfers Beach



January 2023

Existing Conditions Pillar Point Harbor



Low Tide, January 2021

Project Overview

- The Project will remove ~75,000 cy of sand from Pillar Point Harbor and place it at Surfers Beach.
- Large-scale Eelgrass mitigation, involving dredging/placing ~18,000 cy of sediment is required as part of Project permits.
- This is a “Pilot Project” and, if successful, a larger version could be pursued in the future.
- Requires extensive physical and ecological monitoring.

Surfers Beach Construction Timeline

1. Contractor mobilization.
2. Begin dredging near Boat Launch Ramps and construct eelgrass mitigation area.
3. Allow placed sediment at mitigation area to settle, then transplant eelgrass.
4. Dredge and pump sand to SB, Final grading.
5. Contractor closeout and Demobilization.

Surfers Beach Pilot Project Implementation TIMELINE

Key Dates:

- Bid Opening: **May 6, 2025**
- District signs contract with Vortex Marine Construction, Inc.: **May 27**
- Limited notice to proceed and Contractor Mobilization: **June 24**
- **Proposed construction start date**: **July 28**
- Begin dredging 1B,1C, place sand at Eelgrass Mitigation Area
- Begin dredging 1A, place sand at Surfers Beach: **August 15**
- Begin Eelgrass transplant: **August 23**
- Begin dredging Area 2: **September 5**
- **Construction Completion Date**: **October 15**
- Demobilization Complete: **October 30, 2025**

Surfers Beach Pre-Construction Tasks

Pre-Construction Surveys and Monitoring Completed:

- Eelgrass surveys
- Black abalone survey
- Special Status Plant surveys.
- Bathymetry and beach survey.
- Ongoing surfing conditions monitoring.
- Sandy Beach monitoring
- Nesting Bird surveys

Pending Surveys:

- Snowy Plover surveys.

Pre-Construction Mobilization Began 6/28



Dredge pipe staging area on bluff above beach



Pre-Construction Mobilization Began 6/28



Dredge pipe assembly



Telehandler for transporting pipe

Phase 1 Eelgrass Salvage/Transplant June 24-27



MTS staff bundling eelgrass turions for transplanting

Phase 1 Eelgrass Salvage/Transplant June 24-27

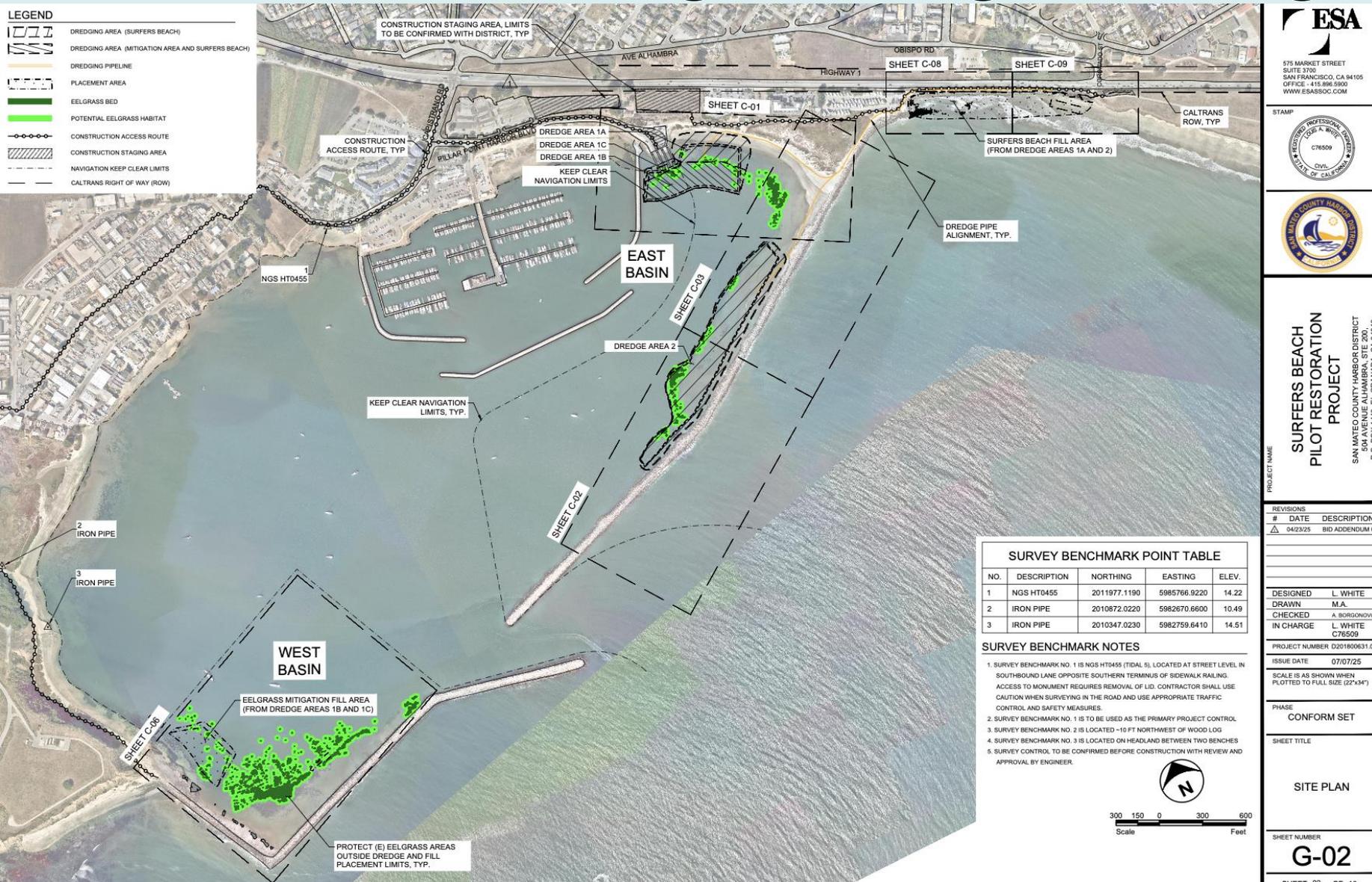


Eelgrass units ready for transplant



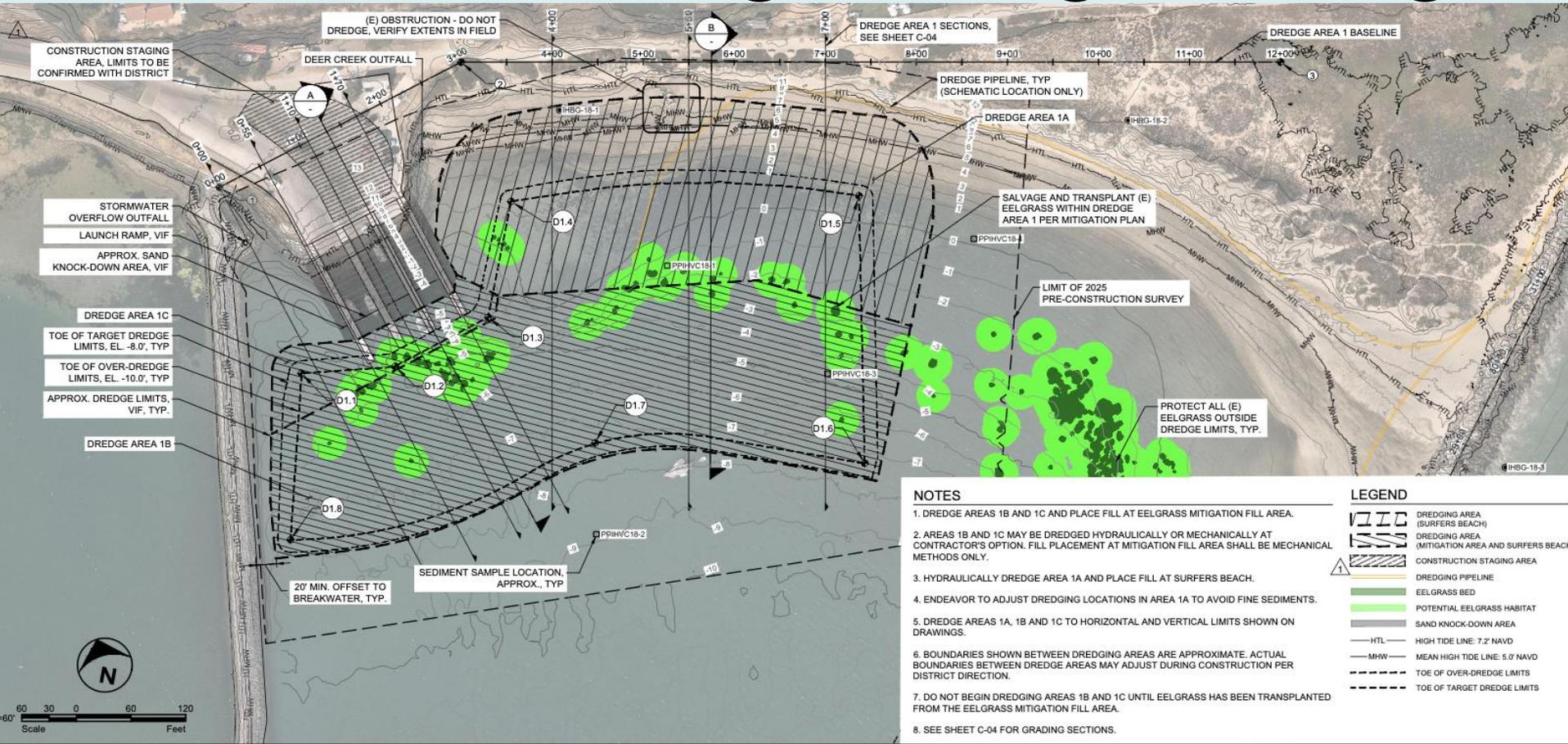
West basin eelgrass transplant area

Surfers Beach: Engineering & Design



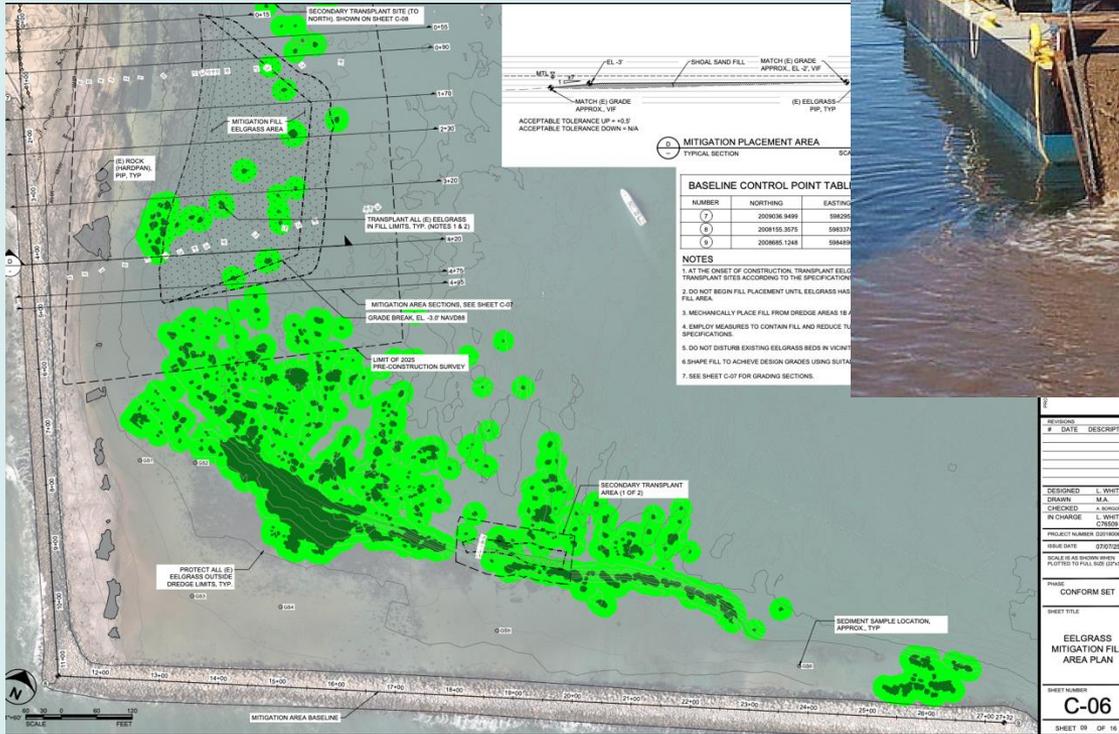
Site Plan – Showing dredge areas, eelgrass mitigation and beach placement.

Surfers Beach: Engineering & Design



Dredging Areas 1A – 1C: Sediment to be placed at eelgrass mitigation area and Surfer's Beach

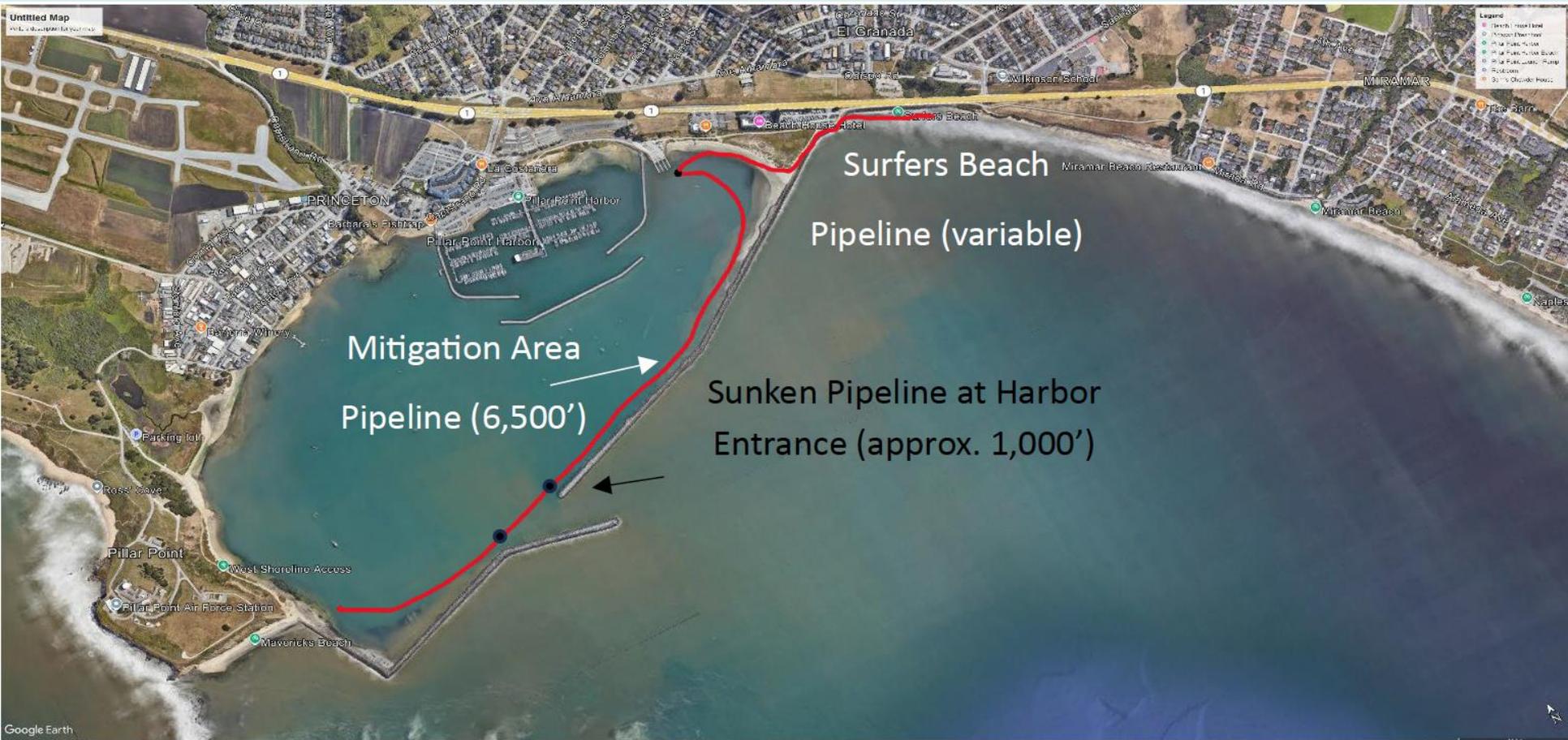
Surfers Beach Project Construction



Slurry Placement Barge

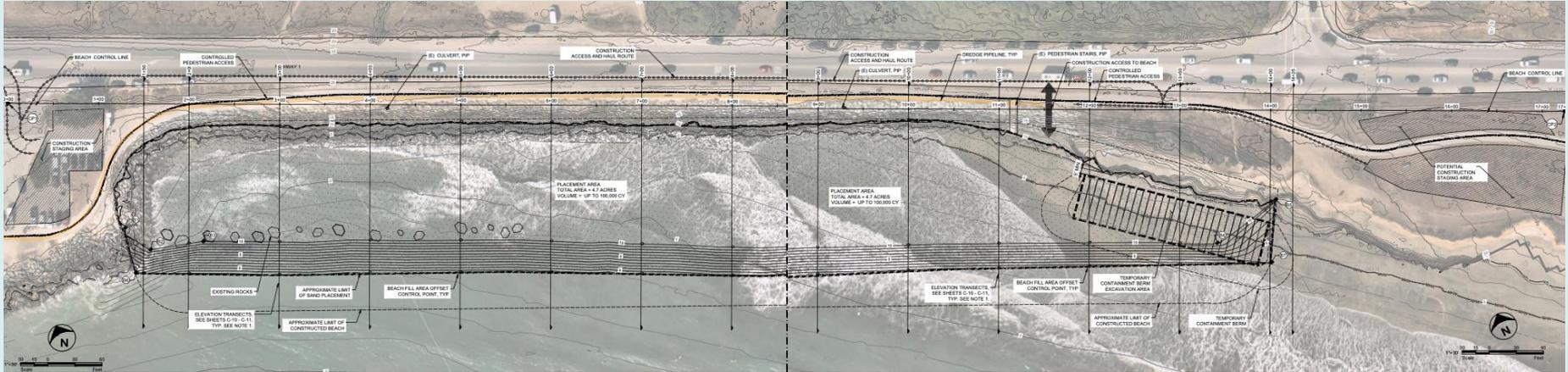
Eelgrass Mitigation Fill Area

Surfers Beach Project Construction



Dredge Pipeline Alignment to Eelgrass Mitigation Fill Area

Surfers Beach: Engineering & Design



Beach Restoration Design – to be discussed in more detail at future Board of Harbor Commissioner public meeting as the construction process progresses.

Surfers Beach Implementation Timeline

KEY DATES – PUBLIC NOTIFICATION REQUIRED

- **Pipeline launch JULY 10-18** – Final assembly of the dredge pipeline segments and placement in water. Contractor estimates approximately 2-1/2 hours to move and launch each of the 9 sections. Construction crews will work with pedestrians and cyclists to allow limited passage during operations as it is safe to do so.
- **Closure of East inner-Harbor Entrance – JULY 28 – AUGUST 15**
During initial dredge operations to the eelgrass mitigation site, the eastern entrance to inner harbor will be closed off for safety purposes.
- **Closure of Main Harbor Entrance – JULY 28/29** Once the dredge is onsite, the pipeline will be pulled into final position and sunk by filling with water. This operation is expected to take approximately **4 hours**.

Project Information Available

<https://www.smharbor.com/surfers-beach-pilot-restoration-project>

- Project Description.
- Preliminary Design Report
- Final Plans and Technical Specification
- CEQA Final IS-MND.
- Harbor-wide Eelgrass Mitigation and Management Plan.
- Sediment Sampling and Analysis Report.
- Biological Assessment.
- Federal/State Wetland Delineation Reports.
- Permits

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