



**For Immediate Release:**

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high-res photo available upon request

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## **Dredging project underway as barge launches on Absecon Creek Sediment shift from storm events made navigation unsafe in the Creek**

**(Trenton)** - New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) officials today announced the Absecon Creek dredging project is underway as work boats and barges are launched in Atlantic County.

Dredging operations are expected to begin in July and continue 12-hours-a-day, six-days-a-week, Monday to Saturday, through the end of November 2021. An estimated 70,000 cubic yards of sediment will be removed from the channel. The channel will be dredged to a depth of six feet at low tide with an allowable overdredge of one foot.

NJDOT's contractor, Severson Environmental Services, Inc., has been working since May 11, 2021, to place pipeline in and near the channel, which will be both submerged and floating, in preparation for the dredging operation. The pipeline will be used to pump sediment to the Gateway Dredged Material Management Facility.

Channel use may be limited where the dredge is in operation and where the pipeline is carrying dredged material to its placement locations. Full channel closures are not expected, although this is subject to change.

The work is part of a \$6.3 million State Channel Absecon Creek in Absecon Bay project designed to renew safe navigation and return the Absecon Creek Channel to a state of good repair. Storm events, most notably Superstorm Sandy in 2014, caused large amounts of sediment to settle in the channel rendering it unsafe for navigation at all tides. Excess sediment in the channel has created shallow spots and narrowed the channel creating navigational hazards to boaters and all operators who rely on the channel.

Mariners should be advised that State Aids to Navigation (ATON) will be removed as necessary for the duration of the project. All mariners, including those utilizing human powered craft, should be especially alert to project equipment, much of which will be continuously moving. Updates will be provided through the U.S. Coast Guard Local Notice to Mariners and NJDOT social media as the project progresses.



The public is advised to be aware of and stay alert to the construction equipment, buoys, barges and other equipment during this time. NJDOT asks that no one approach the construction site or any related

project equipment under any circumstances, whether or not active dredging operations are observed. Boaters should proceed through dredging maintenance and construction zones with the utmost caution. No wake speed should be observed in active work zones throughout the project duration.

Motorists are encouraged to check NJDOT's traffic information website [www.511nj.org](http://www.511nj.org) for construction updates and real-time travel information. For NJDOT news follow us on Twitter [@NewJerseyDOT](https://twitter.com/NewJerseyDOT) and our [Facebook page](#).

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