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Subject: Winter Flounder Habitat Question

All - just to follow-up on the “gut-check” question regarding available subtidal areas for potential winter flounder habitat mitigation, Phil and I discussed this some more today and the issue seems to come down to this: for biological reasons, this habitat should be north of the hurricane barrier, but adding fill to create such habitat will likely be at odds with navigational needs. It would be up to the state/port to determine if any of the area north of the barrier that is currently deeper than minus 20 ft MLLW could be raised to the minus 16 ft MLLW level and not impede with navigational uses.

Also, consistent with what Phil reported earlier, to add four feet of fill over 13 acres would require about 84,000 cubic yards of fill.