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From: Mike Marsh/R1/USEPA/US

To: "Sneeringer, Paul J NAE" <Paul.J.Sneeringer@usace.army.mil>

Copy To: "Minkin, Paul NAE" <Paul.Minkin@usace.army.mil>

Delivered Date: 10/30/2012 04:30 PM EST

Subject: RE: revised planting table (Rivers End) (UNCLASSIFIED)

Paul -- Just had a long phone call with B+T. They went thought and addressed most of my questions. They are working up another redesign, along the lines of the conceptual design I had mentioned after the first round. I also talked with Paul Minkin about it. The latest design greatly impacts the existing salt marsh, which we don't want. I'd like to see a design that has more high marsh in the south sloping to low marsh in the north. Still unclear whether the berm is existing or was proposed to be constructed or expanded. We certainly don't want them building one. We're advocating tying contours into upper high marsh elevations, with a sort of U shape contour scheme sloping from high to low marsh in a south to north direction. This will unavoidably be likely to impact some high marsh (mostly upper high marsh) as they tie in the contours, but we're thinking that if the creation is too high and dry we might get invasives. Impacted high marsh fringe should restore. I'll send you a copy of the redesign as soon as I get it from B+T.

Paul M., please feel free to add your thoughts regarding our latest discussion of the redesign. And of course, both of you should please let me know if you have any questions, comments, suggestions, etc.

Thanks,

Mike

Michael Marsh
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▼ "Sneeringer, Paul J NAE" ---10/30/2012 03:25:16 PM---Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Caveats: NONE

From: "Sneeringer, Paul J NAE" <Paul.J.Sneeringer@usace.army.mil>
To: Mike Marsh/R1/USEPA/US@EPA
Cc: "Minkin, Paul NAE" <Paul.Minkin@usace.army.mil>
Date: 10/30/2012 03:25 PM
Subject: RE: revised planting table (Rivers End) (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Mike:

Please let me know when you get a response to you attached additional information e-mail sent out earlier this morning. Do you need any additional review from us at this time? Thanks.

Paul Sneeringer
(978) 505-9216

-----Original Message-----

From: marsh.mike@epamail.epa.gov [mailto:marsh.mike@epamail.epa.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, October 30, 2012 3:05 PM
To: Minkin, Paul NAE; Sneeringer, Paul J NAE
Subject: Fw: revised planting table (Rivers End)

latest plan... this is what we were working off of when I had a conversation with B+T on Rivers End Park design.

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----- Forwarded by Mike Marsh/R1/USEPA/US on 10/30/2012 03:03 PM -----

From: "Stacy Minihane" <sminihane@btiweb.com>
To: Mike Marsh/R1/USEPA/US@EPA
Cc: "Christopher Morris" <CMorris@apexcos.com>, "Chet Myers" <cmyers@apexcos.com>, "Eric Las" <elas@btiweb.com>
Date: 10/30/2012 01:02 PM
Subject: RE: revised planting table (Rivers End)

Mike- please see the attached in-progress pdf of the grading to facilitate discussion. I will call you to discuss your below comments.

Thank you,

Stacy H. Minihane, PWS
Associate

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From: marsh.mike@epamail.epa.gov [mailto:marsh.mike@epamail.epa.gov <
mailto:marsh.mike@epamail.epa.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 30, 2012 11:45 AM
To: Stacy Minihane
Cc: Christopher Morris; Chet Myers; Eric Las
Subject: Re: revised planting table (Rivers End)

Stacy - Hopefully you are doing well after yesterday's hurricane.

This table is improved from the first draft. The table should note that the proposed elevation ranges are subject to adjustment in accordance with observations of the reference wetlands (existing on-site salt marsh).

Also both plans and cross sections should indicate planting zones for various species. Also, the existing salt marsh should be shown on plans and cross sections.

I also have some initial comments and questions about the revised plans submitted in your previous email (below) . I am hoping to discuss the plan revisions with the Corps this morning, so there may be some additional questions or comments to follow.

1. It would be helpful to have plans that show only the existing grading, features.etc. and the proposed grading features etc. I realize that this is a conceptual sketch, but both the Corps and I were having some difficulty discerning various elevations, etc., with the older grading contours and features (e.g., berms, etc.) shown.

2. It appears that the revised plan would involve grading within the existing salt marsh. Any work in the existing salt marsh should be avoided, with exception of the very small fringe areas in the northern end of the site that I discussed with Chris Morris at our meeting at EPA. But the revised design should ensure that all other

existing salt marsh areas should not be impacted.

3. Please provide revised cross sections corresponding to the revised plans

4. With regard to your question about mitigation credit, we would give credit for any area that meets the definition of salt marsh - both high and low marsh.

5. Please confirm the HTL and MHW (3.71 and 2.61 feet (NGVD 1929), respectively, correct?), and indicate their location on plans and cross sections.

6. Please clarify the photo location. I assume the flag is on the post, although there appear to be two posts in the photo. Please clarify the elevation of the flagging, and your comment that the photo shows *Spartina alterniflora* extends beyond elevation ~2.0'. Assuming MHW is 2.61', I would expect *Spartina alterniflora* to grow at ~2.0' (and higher... up to ~MHW). The Corps had commented to us that they thought that target elevations may be higher than 2.0 feet. In any event, as noted before, it is our recommendation that the appropriate elevation ranges for various species be determined from using the existing on-site salt marsh as a reference site.

7. Please specify that 100% biodegradable materials will be used for erosion and sedimentation controls. The Corps noted that some erosion control materials include non-biodegradable structural elements.

8. Please clarify the design and function of the proposed fencing.

9. Plans should specify the removal of rip rap at the northern end of the site, and indicate salt marsh restoration/creation in that area.

10. Please clarify the purpose of the existing foundation at the northern end of the site. Are there future plans to construct something on that foundation, and if so, what? Could future use at this foundation have an adverse impact on mitigation project?

I'll let you know if we have further comments or questions after I have spoken to the Corps.

Thanks,

Mike

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From: "Stacy Minihane" <sminihane@btiweb.com <mailto:sminihane@btiweb.com> >
To: Mike Marsh/R1/USEPA/US@EPA
Cc: "Christopher Morris" <CMorris@apexcos.com <mailto:CMorris@apexcos.com> >, "Chet Myers" <cmyers@apexcos.com <mailto:cmyers@apexcos.com> >, "Eric Las" <elas@btiweb.com <mailto:elas@btiweb.com> >
Date: 10/30/2012 09:12 AM
Subject: revised planting table (Rivers End)

Good Morning, Mike-

Please find a revised planting table below, for your input. I believe this addresses your comments, but please advise as soon as possible if you have other changes. (Note: the colors, areas and plant numbers will be completed upon finalization).

Thank you-

Stacy H. Minihane, PWS
Associate

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Planting List

Legend Tidal Regime Elevation Area (sf) Plant Species % Coverage/Spacing Size

Color 1 Low Marsh

(Regular Inundation) Up to El. 2.6' # Smooth cordgrass (*Spartina alterniflora*) 100% at 1.5' on center, 2 culms per hole (___ plants) plugs

Color 2a High Marsh

(Periodic Inundation) El. 2.6' - 3.2' # Salt meadow grass (*Spartina patens*) 60% at 1' on center (___ plants) plugs

Spike grass (*Distichlis spicata*) 30% at 1' on center (___ plants) plugs

Black grass (*Juncus gerardii*) 10% at 1' on center (___ plants) Plugs

Color 2b High Marsh

(Periodic Inundation) El. 3.2' - 3.7' # Salt meadow grass (*Spartina patens*) 60% at 1'

on center (___ plants) plugs
Spike grass (*Distichlis spicata*) 30% at 1' on center (___ plants) plugs
Black grass (*Juncus gerardii*) 10% at 1' on center (___ plants) plugs
New England Coastal Salt Tolerant Grass Mix 100% at 1250 sf per pound seed
Marsh elder (*Iva frutescens*) ___ plants @ 4' on center 2'-3'

Color 2c High Marsh (Infrequent Inundation) El. 3.7' - 4.5' # New England Coastal Salt Tolerant Grass Mix 100% at 625 sf per pound seed
Seaside goldenrod (*Solidago sempervirens*) 25% at 950 sf per pound seed
Marsh elder (*Iva frutescens*) ___ plants @ 4' on center 2'-3'

Color 3 Upland El. 4.5' and up # New England Coastal Salt Tolerant Grass Mix 100% at 625 sf per pound seed
Eastern showy aster (*Eurybia spectabilis*) 25% at 950 sf per pound seed
Threadleaf coreopsis (*Coreopsis verticillata*) 25% at 950 sf per pound seed
Beach plum (*Prunus maritima*) ___ plants at 6' on center 2'-3'
Northern bayberry (*Myrica pensylvanica*) ___ plants at 6' on center 2'-3'

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