



Balazik Review of Restrictive Dredging Window for NAO

ERDC Dredging Operations Technical Support Program (DOTS)

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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Response Summary:

NAO current has a very costly dredge restriction in the James River from February 15 to July 15 that does not have any scientific justification. Balazik has been working with NAO to obtain field data to get a better understanding of how dredging impacts the area. Several studies show the dredging impacts in the lower James are negligible and not what was presumed. NAO asked Balazik to report the data at two separate meetings, one with natural resource managers that enforce the restriction and another with river stakeholders known as the “James River Partnership” that had representation from both Virginia senators.

Period of Performance:

Meetings took place on December 14th and 17th. A one-pager was completed on January 8th in an effort to remove the dredge restriction.

Benefits of the Response to the USACE Dredging/Navigation Program:

The two talks provided a platform to share ERDC’s findings and got the ball rolling towards an attempt to get the February-July dredge restriction removed.

Deliverable:

Deliverables were the two meetings and one-pager document produced by members of the James River Partnership. NAO and industry partners have submitted the one-pager to resource managers but have not received any response.



Providing environmental and engineering technical support to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Operations and Maintenance navigation and dredging missions

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