



Public Consultation Summary

Project Title: Proposed Dredge Material Management Site, Toney River, Pictou County, Nova Scotia
Proponent: Fisheries and Oceans Canada – Small Craft Harbours

Under section 82 of the *Impact Assessment Act*, Fisheries and Oceans Canada – Small Craft Harbours (DFO-SCH) must determine whether the proposed Dredge Material Management Site, on a parcel of land located across from the harbour along the Sunrise Trail (Hwy 6) in Toney River, NS (PID 65230708) is likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects. To help inform this decision, the project was posted online on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry for a 30 day public review/comment period which took place between October 14, 2020 and November 14, 2020. A virtual Town Hall and Q&A session was also held on December 16 and 17, 2020 to present additional project details and provide an opportunity for members of the public to discuss the proposed activities with the project team.

The following (**Table 1**) provides a summary of public comments received during the 30 day public review period and virtual town hall sessions (listed by subject/item of concern). It is important to note that all public comments received in relation to the proposed project are being considered during the assessment of significant environmental effects in accordance with the Canadian Impact Assessment Act.

Table 1: Summary of Public Concerns with Regards to the Proposed Dredge Material Management Site at Toney River, Pictou County, Nova Scotia

Issue/Concern	Number of Comments Received	Discussed During Virtual Town Hall
Potential aesthetic impacts/ and concerns related to site design such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What will the site look like • How site will be viewed from the highway and neighbouring community • Impacts on current views of the water and landscape 	9	√
Concerns related to proximity to community hall/public areas/residential areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Events held at community hall may be impacted by site activities • Impacts on quality of life of adjacent residences and tourists visiting area 	12	√
Concerns related to increased truck traffic and condition of roads such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased potential for accidents • Potential to create a mess on roads during wet material transport • Speed vehicles travel on highway pose safety concerns • Safety concerns with trucks crossing highway 	5	√



Potential soil/surface water/groundwater/well contamination: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What measures are in place to ensure surrounding wells will not be contaminated/impacted • How will the groundwater be monitored 	12	√
Concerns related to the timing and extent of consultation	6	-
Concerns related to odour, noise and air emissions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerns related to how odours will be managed • How long will odours persist 	14	√
Potential impacts of Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) on human health	6	√
Potential negative impact on property value in the area	8	-
Concerns related to alternative options considered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why was this site selected • Was other options considered 	7	√
Concerns related to impacts on tourism and recreation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site is visible from Highway and neighbouring cottages and residences. • Site located in close proximity to Toney River (used for swimming, paddling, boating, etc.) • Site is visible from popular hiking and walking trails 	8	√
Site decommissioning plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What will happen to the site once filled 	2	√
Concerns of potential disposal of material other than sediment originating from Toney River SCH such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic/construction/ commercial waste • Industrial waste from Boat Harbour • Dredge material originating from other harbours 	6	√

Next Steps:

The project is continuing to move through the Impact Assessment process which is anticipated to be completed by the end of January 2021. Upon completion of the Impact Assessment, a concordance table will be prepared that will detail how public comments were considered during the Impact Assessment process and applicable mitigation measures will be identified. Once complete, the concordance table will also be made available to the public via posting online to the Impact Assessment Registry.