Environmental Studies Relative to Potential Sand Mining in the Vicinity of the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia

Final Report

January 1998
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Part 1: Benthic Habitats and Biological Resources Off the Virginia Coast 1996 and 1997
G. R. Cutter, Jr. and R. J. Diaz

Part 2: Preliminary Shoreline Adjustments to Dam Neck Beach Nourishment Project Southeast Virginia Coast
C. S. Hardaway, Jr., D. A. Milligan, G. R. Thomas, and C. H. Hobbs, III

Part 3: Nearshore Waves and Currents Observations and Modeling
J. D. Boon

Part 4: Coastal Currents
A. Valle-Levinson

Part 5: Benthic Foraminifera and Ostracoda from Virginia Continental Shelf
T. M. Cronin, S. Ishman, R. Wagner, and G. R. Cutter, Jr.

Project Manager:
Carl H. Hobbs, III
Virginia Institute of Marine Science

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The Department of the Interior

As the Nation’s principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering sound use of our land and water resources, protecting our fish, wildlife, and biological diversity, preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historic places; and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The Department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to ensure that their development is in the best interests of all our people by encouraging stewardship and citizen participation in their care. The Department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under U.S. Administration.

The Minerals Management Service Mission

As a bureau of the Department of the Interior, the Minerals Management Service’s (MMS) primary responsibilities are to manage the mineral resources located on the Nation’s Outer Continental Shelf (OCS), collect revenue from the Federal OCS and onshore federal and Indian lands, and distribute those revenues.

Moreover, in working to meet its responsibilities, the Offshore Minerals Management Program administers the OCS competitive leasing program and oversees the safe and environmentally sound exploration and production of our Nation’s offshore natural gas, oil and other mineral resources. The MMS Royalty Management Program meets its responsibilities by entrusting the efficient, timely and accurate collection and distribution of revenue from mineral leasing and production due to Indian tribes and allottees, States and the U.S. Treasury.

The MMS strives to fulfill its responsibilities through the general guiding principles of: (1) being responsive to the public’s concerns and interests by maintaining a dialog with all potentially affected parties and (2) carrying out its programs with an emphasis on working to enhance the quality of life for all Americans by lending MMS assistance and expertise to economic development and environmental protection.