

Harbour Expansion and Aggregate Mining Project

Environmental Impact Assessment
Public Consultation Meeting
Freeport, Grand Bahama

Foster B. Pestaina Centre

July 29, 2026





Dr. Rhianna Neely, Director

Agenda

Welcome

Introductions

Project Description

Environmental Setting

Impact Assessment

Question and Answer

Closing Remarks

Introductions



- DEPP - Dr. R. Neely-Murphy, Ebone Blyden
- Bahama Rock – TJ Mackey, Brian Burrows
- Geosonics
- BRON – M. Daniels



The Department of Environmental
Planning & Protection

Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources
Ground Floor, Charlotte House, Shirley Street
New Providence, The Bahamas



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND PROTECTION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The public is hereby advised that Bahama Rock Limited is proposing to carry out a project in Freeport, Grand Bahama, The Bahamas. The public is invited to participate in a public consultation meeting to be held on Wednesday, 29th July 2026 at 6:00 pm, by the project proponent to hear and discuss **environmental** matters relating to the proposed project. The consultation meeting will be held at the Foster B. Pestaina Centre (Hall at Pro-Cathedral of Christ the King Anglican Church) in Freeport, Grand Bahama. The meeting will also be available via Microsoft Teams at:

<https://tinyurl.com/bahamarock>

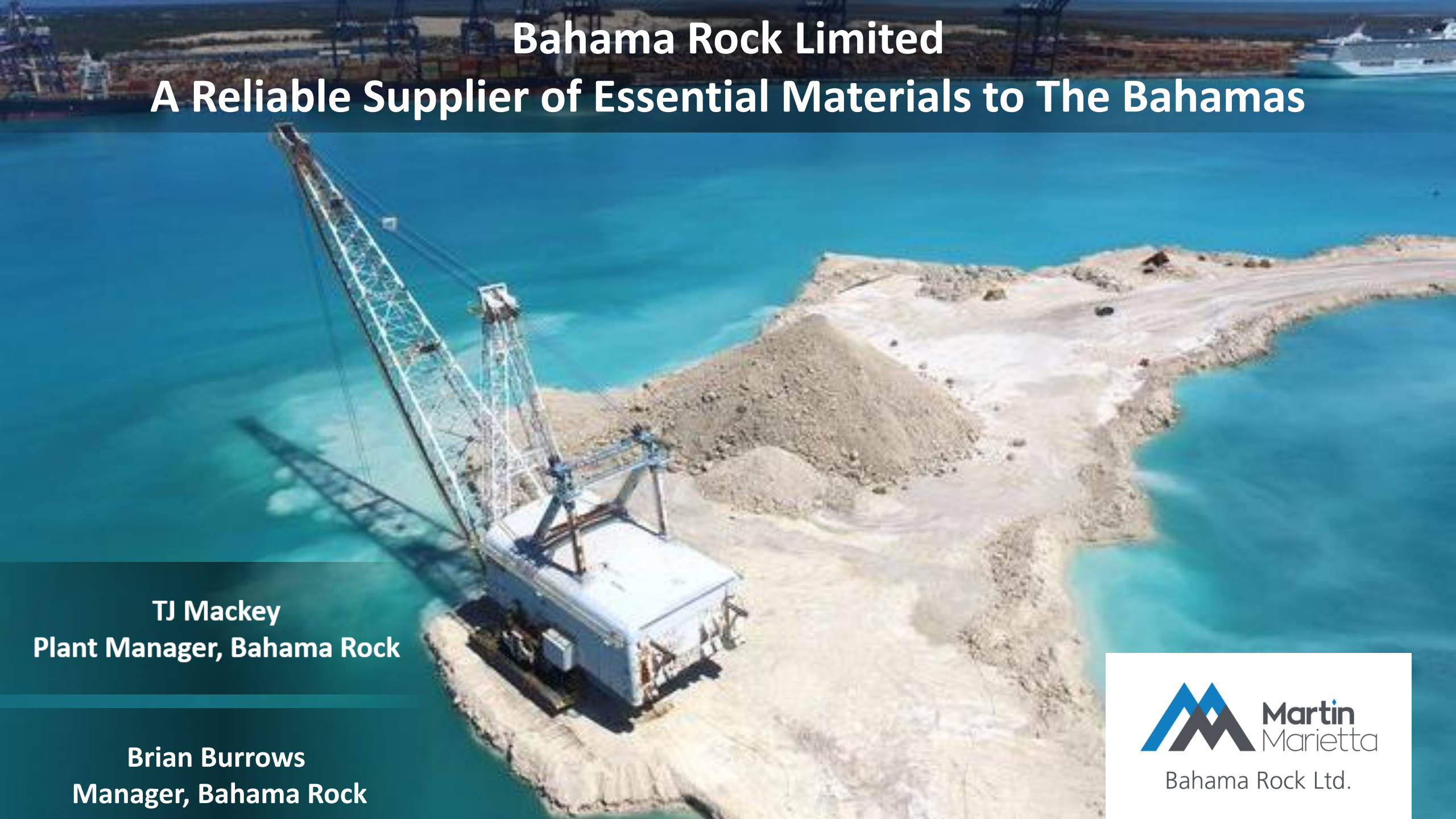
A general description of the project includes the proposed excavation of aggregates to expand the Freeport Harbour located in Freeport, Grand Bahama. The harbor expansion would consist of ~269.39 acres of the total Bahamas Cement Company property located in Southwest Point (26°31'45.96"N, 78°46'56.35"W). This harbour expansion will create additional turning basins and deep-water berths in the Freeport Harbour.

The project environmental document(s) are available on: <https://www.bahamarockproject.com/documents>. Hard copies of the documents are available for review at the Department of Environmental Planning and Protection (DEPP), the Grand Bahama Island Administrator's Freeport Office, and the Grand Bahama Island Administrator's Eight Mile Rock Office during normal business hours.

The general public and interested parties are invited to submit written comments to the DEPP at information@depp.gov.bs, the project proponent at bahamarock@martinmarietta.com, and the environmental consultant at publicconsultations@bebron.com.

Public Consultation Process

- EIA posted online on July 6, 2026
- Notice Published in the Nassau Guardian and The Tribune
- Nassau Guardian dates
 - July 9, 14, 16, 21, 23, 28
- Tribune dates
 - July 9, 14, 19, and other dates
- Hard copies available in New Providence and Grand Bahama
 - DEPP
 - Grand Bahama Port Authority Office, Freeport & Eight Mile Rock Island Administrators' Office



Bahama Rock Limited

A Reliable Supplier of Essential Materials to The Bahamas

TJ Mackey
Plant Manager, Bahama Rock

Brian Burrows
Manager, Bahama Rock



About Bahama Rock Ltd

- We are a local facility with **38 years** of operations in Freeport
- We supply construction **aggregates that are essential** to the economy
 - These materials are required for our **roads, homes, schools, churches, tourist attractions, disaster relief** and other infrastructure needs
 - The Bahamas requires over 350,000 tons of aggregates per year
- We provide over **85 direct jobs and support over 200 indirect** jobs locally
 - Many of our employees and suppliers are in the room tonight
- We contribute over **\$25 million every year** in local economic impact
- We have a long-term record of **community support and disaster relief**
- We are committed to **safe operations, environmental stewardship, and regulatory compliance**



Project Purpose

Ensure reliable local supply of essential materials

- Existing property has reached end of life
- Developing the BCC property avoids supply disruption
- Alternatively, importing material would mean higher costs

Preserve local jobs and economic impact

- +285 jobs and +\$25 million annual economic activity

Balance economic development with environmental protection

- EIA guides mitigation and monitoring efforts

Expand Freeport Harbour for additional commerce, tourism, and other local benefits



Project Benefits

The Project will greatly benefit Grand Bahama as well as the wider Bahamas by:

- ✓ Increasing recreational opportunities for locals and expanding tourism on the island
- ✓ Increasing access to shipping goods and supplies, as well as providing a naturally sourced product for sale locally
- ✓ Providing a reliable aggregates supplier in The Bahamas that can meet the demand for the Bahamian construction community
- ✓ Removing invasive species and replanting of native plant species
- ✓ Beach replenishment, dune refurbishment, and long-term stabilization of this important ecosystem will assist with flood resistance in low lying areas
- ✓ Improving the moorings



Imported Aggregates Would Cost Significantly More Than Locally Sourced Material

Potential Additional Costs Associated with Importing Aggregates to the Bahamas from other countries:

- ✓ Ocean Freight & Shipping
- ✓ Customs Duties & Tariffs
- ✓ Aggregate Transport Levies
- ✓ Customs Processing Fees
- ✓ Value Added Tax (VAT)
- ✓ Port Handling
- ✓ Storage & Rehandling
- ✓ Additional Environmental Emissions

**POTENTIAL
COST IMPACT**
At Least 2x Local Cost

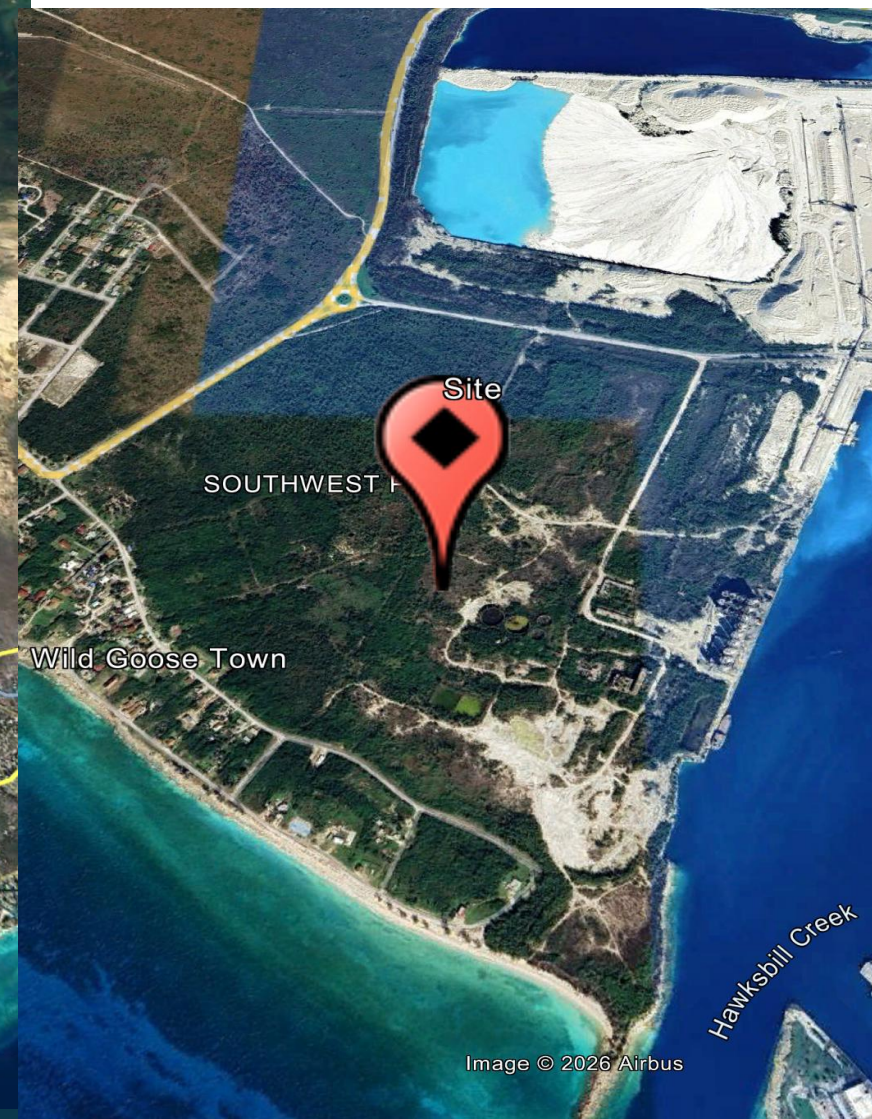
Up to 150% Higher
Delivered Cost Per Ton



Mark Daniels – Principal Environmental Discipline

What is an Environmental Impact Assessment?





Understanding the Project



Project Phases

- Phase 1 – Demolition and Debris Removal
- Phase 2 – Protected Tree Relocation and Land Clearing
- Phase 3 – Harbour Expansion and Aggregate Mining
- Phase 4 – Post Harbour Expansion and Aggregate Mining / Decommissioning

Image © 2026 Airbus

Imagery Date: 1/29/2023 26° 31.608' N 78° 46.732'





Existing Environment



Types of Habitat

Coppice
~53 acres

Mixed disturbed
vegetation
~10 acres

Pineland
~54 acres

Reclaimed Invasive
~181 acres



Potential Environmental Benefits

- Phase 1 Debris Removal
- Removal of Invasive Plant Species
- Beach and Dune Restoration
- Redevelopment of a Previously Disturbed Site
- Native Habitat Restoration
- Stormwater Management (via Dune Restoration)

Potential Environmental Benefits

Dune Stabilization

- Area shaded in yellow
 - BRL will periodically evaluate the beach to determine if fines from its operation need to be blended in with the existing sand for replenishment purposes
 - Invasive species will be removed during this process
- Area shaded in green
 - BRL will remove invasive species that exist on this property
 - In areas where invasive species are removed, fines from BRL's operation will be blended in with the existing ground to provide stable footing



Potential Environmental Concerns

Ambient Environment

- Groundwater
 - Potential changes to groundwater flow and nearby groundwater resources
- Air Quality
 - Temporary dust generation during demolition, land clearing and excavation and hauling
- Noise & Vibration
 - Increased noise during construction
 - Blasting activities will generate temporary noise and ground vibration.
 - Potential disturbance to nearby residence and wildlife



Potential Environmental Concerns

Ecological Environment

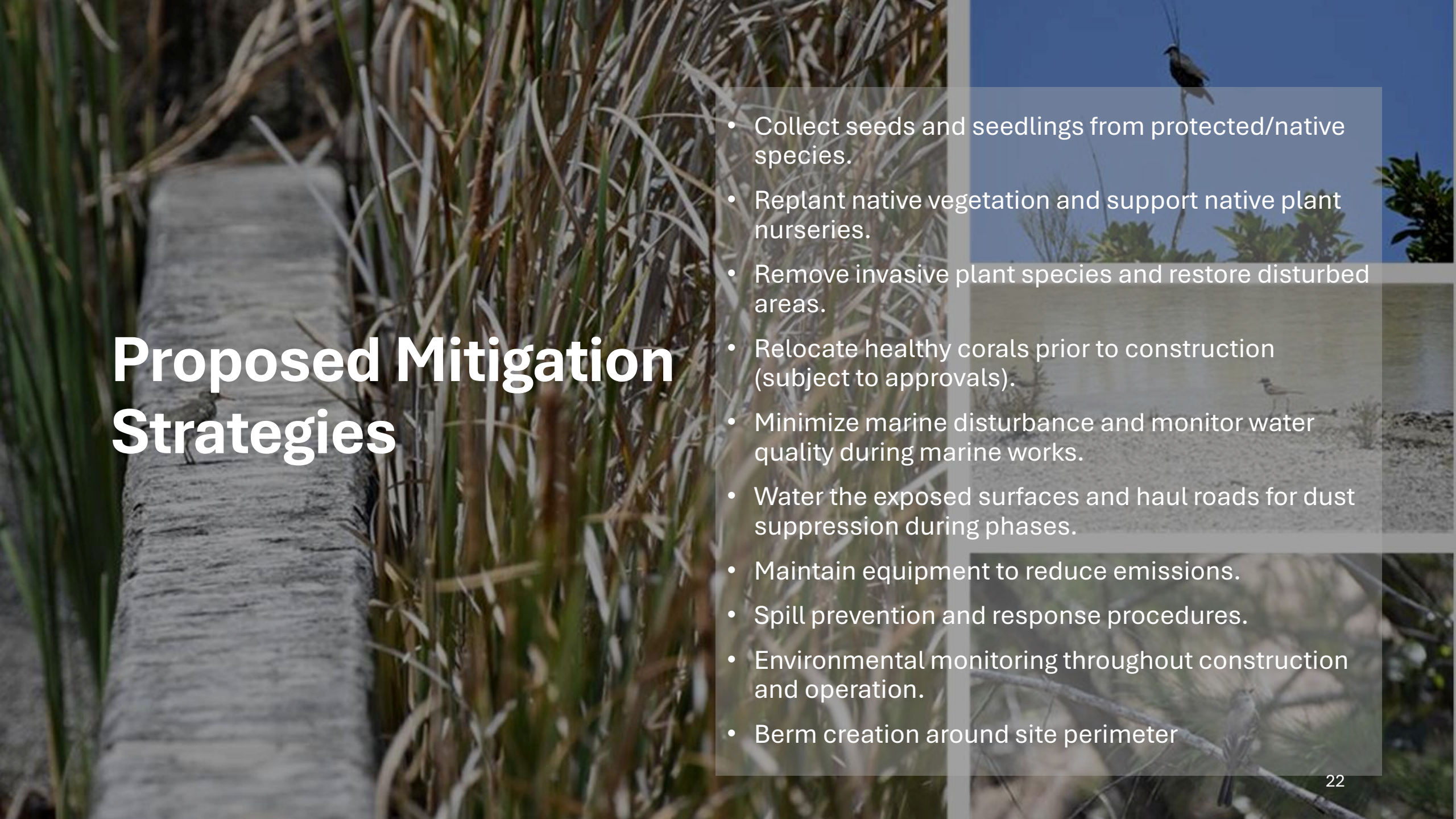
- Terrestrial Habitat
 - Removal ~269 acres of pineland, coppice and disturbed areas
 - Loss of vegetation and habitat used by wildlife
 - Removal of protected and native trees within project footprint.
- Wildlife
 - Temporary disturbance to birds and other wildlife during construction
 - Potential Impacts from blasting, equipment operation, and increased human activity.
- Marine Environment
 - Removal of hard coral
 - Temporary increase in water turbidity during marine work
 - Disturbance to nearby marine organisms during construction

Potential Environmental Concerns

The background of the slide is a photograph of a coastal or dune environment. It features a dense line of green, feathery vegetation, possibly coastal shrubs or grasses, growing on a sandy dune. In the foreground, there is a sandy path or clearing with some sparse, dry-looking grass. The sky is visible at the top, showing a blue color with some white clouds. A thin, dark horizontal line, likely a power line, runs across the upper portion of the image.

Socioeconomic Environment

- Traffic and Community
 - Increased construction traffic during construction of the berm
 - Temporary inconvenience to neighboring communities
- Landscape & Aesthetics
 - Visual character of the site will change over time post excavation.



Proposed Mitigation Strategies

- Collect seeds and seedlings from protected/native species.
- Replant native vegetation and support native plant nurseries.
- Remove invasive plant species and restore disturbed areas.
- Relocate healthy corals prior to construction (subject to approvals).
- Minimize marine disturbance and monitor water quality during marine works.
- Water the exposed surfaces and haul roads for dust suppression during phases.
- Maintain equipment to reduce emissions.
- Spill prevention and response procedures.
- Environmental monitoring throughout construction and operation.
- Berm creation around site perimeter

Blasting & Vibration Study



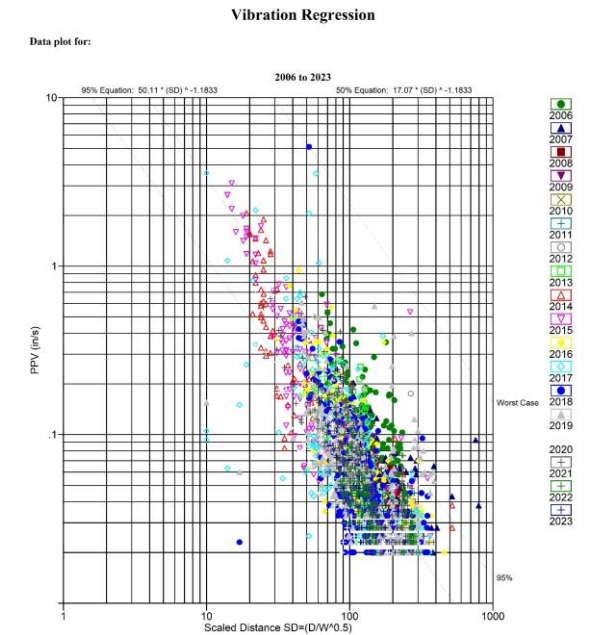
GeoSonics Inc. Seismic Analysis

Vibration Measurements 2006 – Present

- Multiple Vibration Measurements
- Data used to evaluate this project

Preblast Inspections will be offered to adjacent structures to 1,000 feet from blasting.

- Interior documentation with written reports
- Exterior photographs
- Summary report is prepared with copies available



Blasting & Vibration Study



Mitigation

- Restrict blasting to approved procedures and times.
 - Twice per week is estimated
 - Blasting conducted between 12:00 – 12:30 pm.
 - Notification by signage consistent with prior blasting
 - Consistent with prior operations at the quarry

All blasts measured for upcoming project

- Seismographs operate independently.
- Measure ground vibration and air overpressure (noise)
- Results are reviewed for each blast and adjusted as necessary



Groundwater Assessment



A comprehensive evaluation was conducted to understand existing conditions and assess potential impacts to groundwater resources.



WHAT WE DID



Reviewed existing groundwater information



Installed and **evaluated** monitoring wells



Surveyed nearby private wells



Conducted additional groundwater salinity testing



KEY FINDINGS



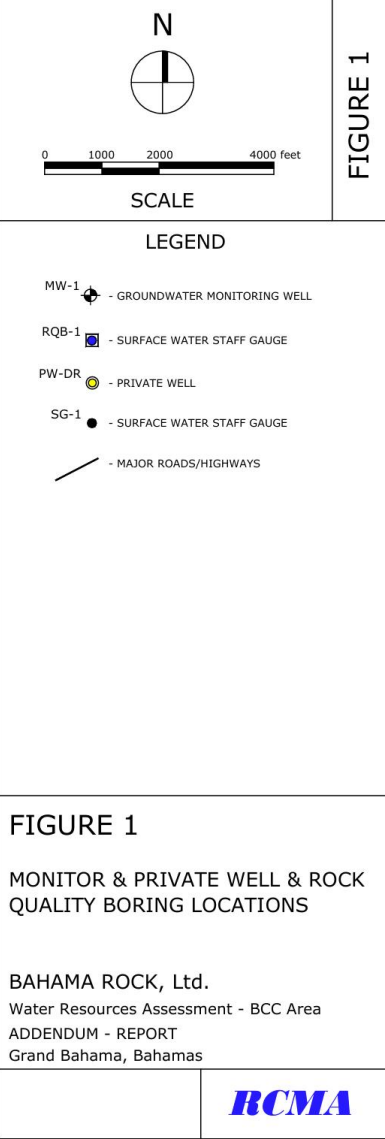
The assessment concluded **no usable freshwater lens** beneath or immediately adjacent to the project area.



Future movement of seawater within the excavation area is **not expected to affect freshwater resources** in the surrounding area.



What about saltwater intrusion?



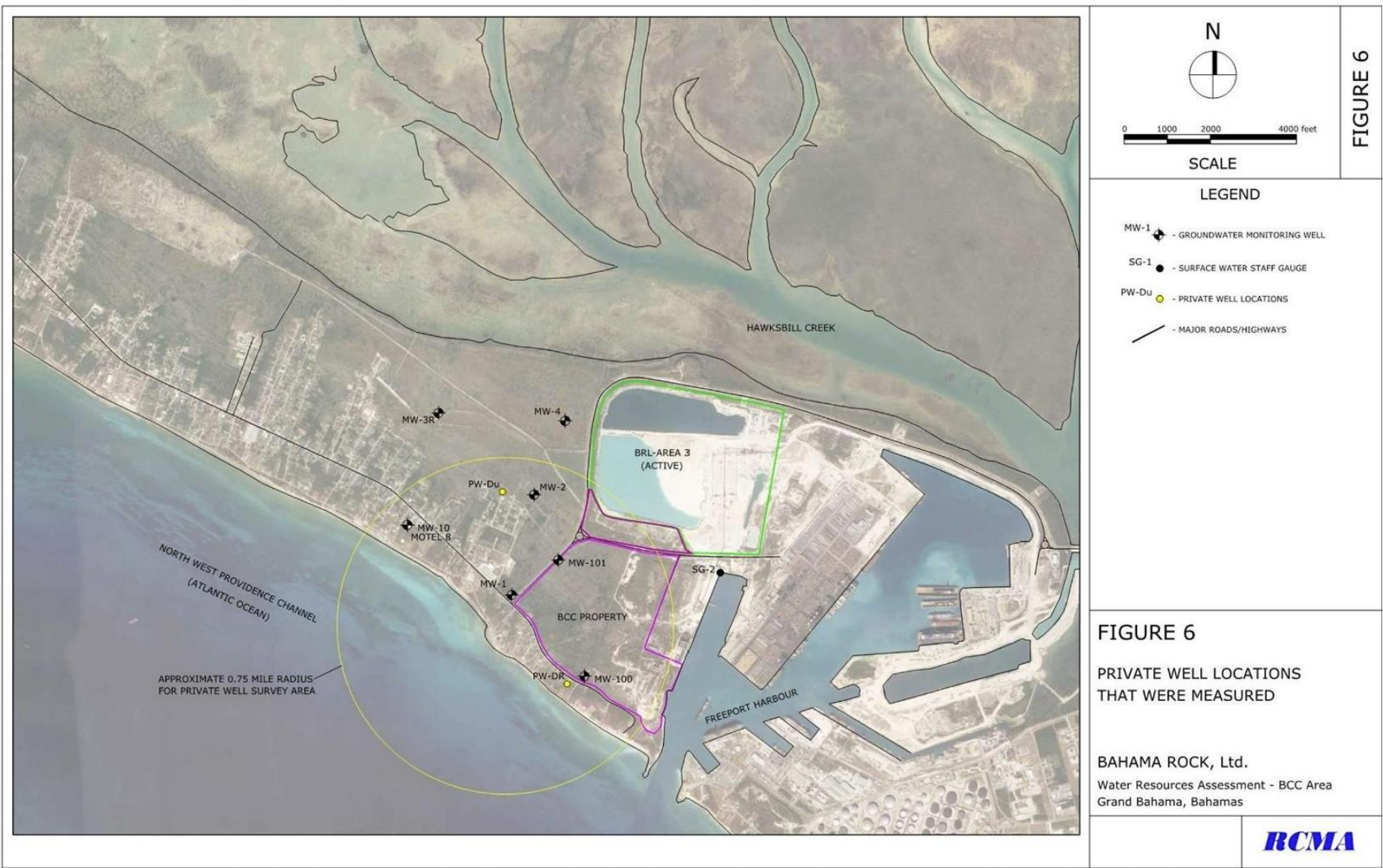
- BRL Active site
- Site Boundary
- Private Well location
- Surface Water Guage
- Monitoring Well

KEY FINDINGS

The assessment concluded **no usable freshwater lens** beneath or immediately adjacent to the project area.

Future movement of seawater within the excavation area is **not expected to affect freshwater resources** in the surrounding area.

Private Well Study



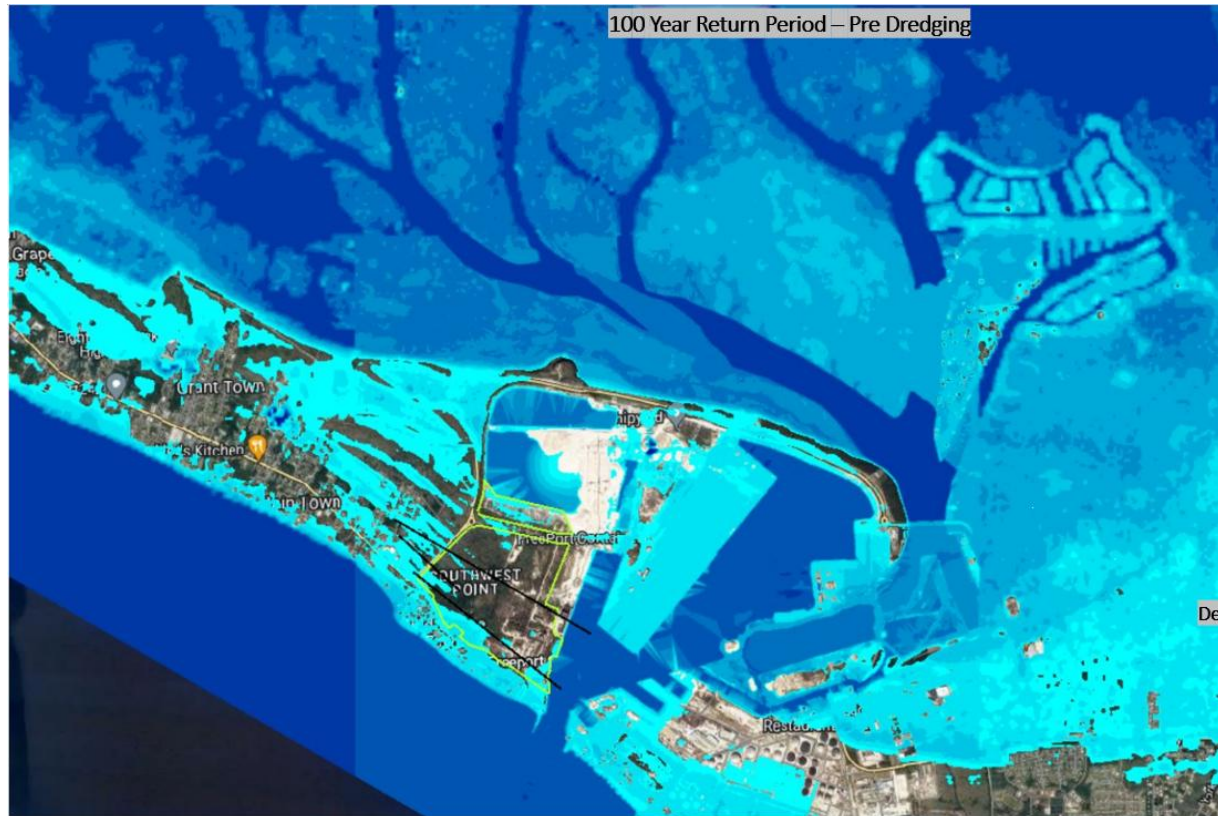
- BRL Active site
- Site Boundary
- 0.75 mile radius

Based on the studies completed, significant impacts are not anticipated as the project proceeds as designed and in compliance with mitigation measures and permit conditions.

Flood Potential Analysis

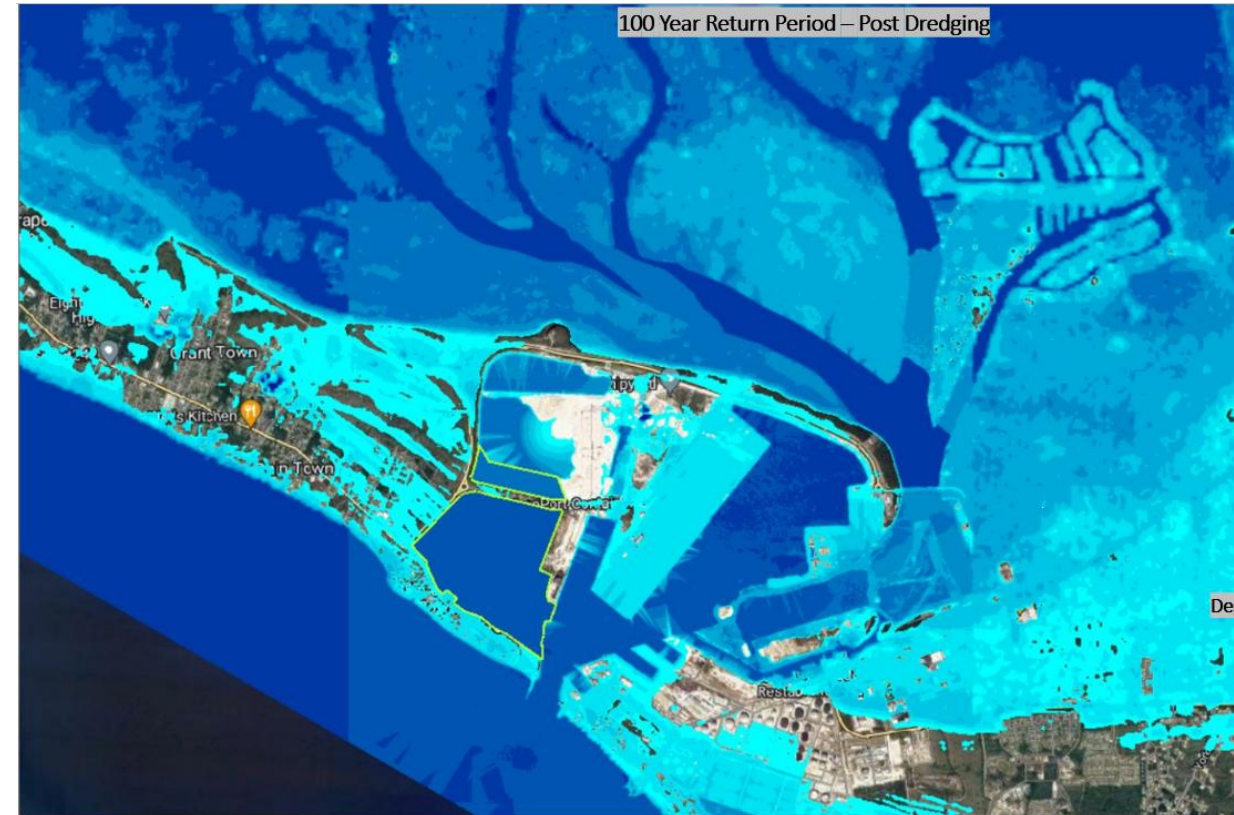
- A Flood Potential Analysis was completed to assess how the project may interact with storm surge and stormwater.
- The project considered both northern and southern storm surge events.
- The assessment reviewed existing flood mapping and evaluated projected flooding under different storm surge scenarios.
- Dune restoration and beach replenishment at Lovers Beach are intended to improve shoreline stability and increase resilience to coastal storms.

Flood Potential Analysis



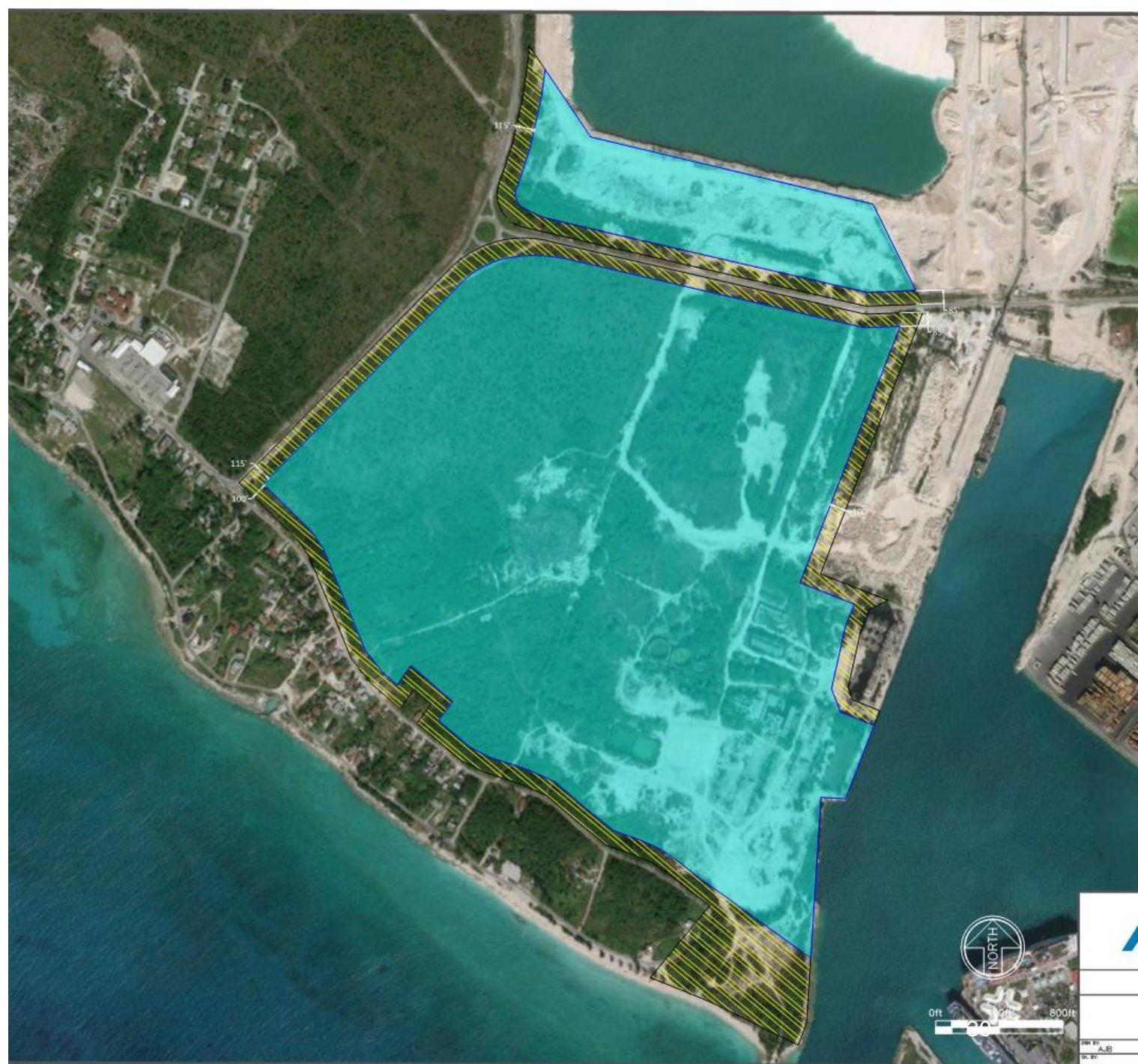
Pre Dredging

Post Dredging

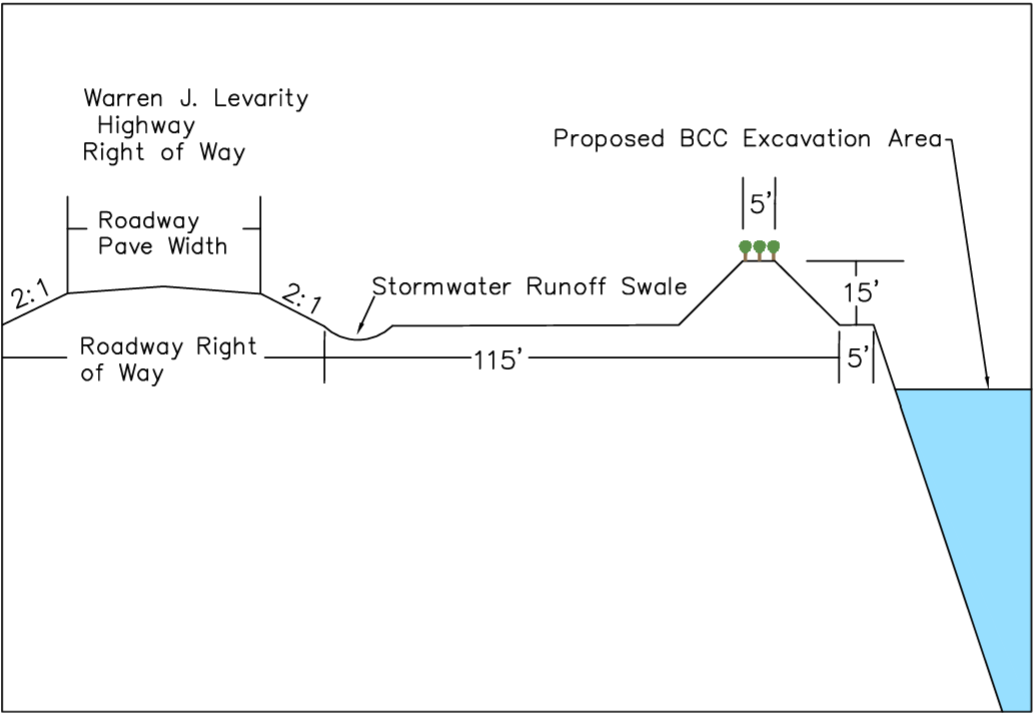


Mitigation

- 100 foot or 30.5 m buffer between the excavation site and Warren J. Levarity Highway.
- The buffer will not intersect the highway.
- 269 acres excludes the 100 ft buffer.
- Buffer will be a vegetated berm with native species.



PROPOSED BAHAMA ROCK CROSS SECTION



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DUPLICATION IS PROHIBITED.

11		BY:
10		BY:
9		BY:
8		BY:
7		BY:
6		BY:
5		BY:
4		BY:
3		BY:
2		BY:
1		BY:
0		BY:
DATE		REVISION
FILE NAME: BAHAMA.ROCK.CS		BY:
DESIGN FIRM		



BAHAMA ROCK QUARRY

PROPOSED
CROSS SECTION

QUARRY: BAHAMA ROCK

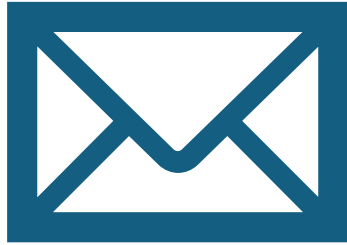
DATE: JUNE 2024	DES. NO.
SCALE: AS SHOWN	SHEET NO. 1
OK BY:	DATE:

Key Takeaways

- Both environmental impacts and benefits were identified.
- Measures have been proposed to avoid, reduce and manage environmental impacts.
- Environmental monitoring will continue if the project is approved.
 - Groundwater monitoring is proposed throughout the project to confirm that groundwater resources continue to be protected.
 - Coastal/Harbour water quality, air quality, noise, and other environmental resources are proposed to verify that mitigation measures are effective, and permit conditions are met.
- Comments and questions received during the public consultation form part of the environmental review and will help inform the decision-making process.

Question and Answer Period

Additional Questions/Comments may be submitted via email or the website.



via email at: information@depp.gov.bs
publicconsultations@bebron.com
bahamarock@martinmarietta.com



<https://www.bahamarockproject.com/feedback>

Closing Remarks

- EIA is available online at:

<https://www.bahamarockproject.com/documents>

- Comments received up to 21 business days after today will be responded to and included in the Public Consultation Report which will be submitted to DEPP.
- The end of Public Consultation Period is August 31, 2026.

