

COASTAL RECREATIONAL FISHING LICENSE FINAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

Recipient: Long Bay Artificial Reef Association

Tracking #:

Grant Number: 6800

Grant Title: Enhancement of Inshore Artificial Reef (AR 430)

Grant Award Period: July 25, 2016 to December 31, 2017 (as amended)

Project Costs:

	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	
	\$339,000	\$132,495	RCFL Grant
	\$ 2,192	\$ 0	Matching and In-Kind
TOTAL	\$341,192	\$132,495	Total Project Costs

Description of Need and Benefits:

The Long Bay Artificial Reef Association (hereafter referred to as LBARA), began construction on AR 430 in the summer of 2013. This reef is located in the Atlantic Ocean at 33°52.190"N and 78°10.000"W which is approximately two and eight tenths (2.8) miles due south of the intersection of Beach Drive and Middleton Street in Oak Island, NC. This initial development, funded by CRFL Grant 4479, consisted of four million, three hundred and twenty-seven (4,327,000) pounds of concrete pipe spread on four patch reefs on the interior of the reef site. CRFL Grant 6800, was to develop the perimeter of the site with construction of eight (8) additional patch reefs.

This site was selected for enhancement for two reasons. First, it is one of only two sites we have that is located within state waters (three miles). The other site meeting this requirement is AR 425 which is essentially fully developed. Secondly, it was the intent of the LBARA to put all of our efforts into the full development of this site, which would draw some of the traffic from highly utilized AR 420 and AR 425.

Description of Project:

The reef materials used for this project were manufacturer reject concrete pipe. This material is readily available at no cost other than handling and transportation costs. It has been used extensively on LBARA reef sites as well as other North Carolina reef sites supervised by the NCDMF. It is relatively stable when deployed and quickly attracts marine growth.

The amount of pipe in this project was to be three thousand tons, deployed in two separate drops. The deployment plan was to have both high relief patches and low relief patches. The high relief areas are to attract baitfish and pelagic finfish species while the low relief areas are for ground fish such as flounder and black sea bass.

To fund the enhancement project, LBARA applied for a CRFL grant in the amount of three hundred and thirty-nine thousand dollars (\$339,000). This was the largest project ever undertaken by LBARA in terms of both cost and volume. The grant was approved by NC Environmental Quality and the initial contract period was to begin on July 25, 2016 and terminate on June 30, 2017.

Description of Work Performed and Completed:

In previous projects undertaken by LBARA all reef materials were acquired and accumulated directly by LBARA. The only outside contractors used were for the barging and deployment of reef materials at the reef site. Due to the physical size of this project, it was decided to use a marine contractor to perform all aspects of this project. They would acquire all reef materials, inventory and store, then barge and deploy at the reef site.

There are few marine contractors that are equipped to handle projects the scope of the one for AR 430. With the assistance of NCDMF, we were able to find one that could, and also had much of the reef materials already on hand. This contractor, Tim Mullane (dba Coleen Marine, Inc.) had previously done work for LBARA on AR 400. His company did the preparation work on the Capt. Greg MicKey (previously the Coastal Mariner), which was sunk on AR 400. His work on this project, although late, was acceptable.

A contract was negotiated and executed with Coleen Marine, Inc. to provide all reef materials and deploy them on AR 430. All of the materials were to be approved by NCDMF personnel prior to any deployments. Additionally, all deployments would also be directly supervised by the NCDMF. Since all materials for the reef were on hand, the original contract was set to expire on December 31, 2016.

The deployment plan, approved by NCDMF, was to consist of eight individual sites located on the outside perimeter of the existing reef site. There was to be four high relief patch reefs and four dispersed field patch reefs.

The contract expiration date on the contract between LBARA and Coleen Marine, Inc. came and went with no movement by Coleen. Calls and emails, when answered, offered nothing but excuses ranging from lack of suitable tugs to expired U. S. Coast Guard transportation permits. With the expiration of Grant 6800 looming, an extension request was made by LBARA to extend the grant to September 30, 2017. This extension request, Amendment 1, was executed on June 16, 2017.

Finally, on August 12, 2017, Coleen made the first of two scheduled deployments on AR 430. Sea conditions were less than ideal at the time but were on the high end of acceptable. A total of one thousand six hundred and six tons of concrete pipe and other concrete structures were dropped on four separate locations on the reef site. All of this work was directly supervised by NCDMF personnel.

Shortly after this deployment an email was received from Tim Mullane of Coleen Marine, Inc. asking for another extension of Grant 6800. He stated that the turnaround time may be past the expiration date of September 30, 2017. An additional extension was requested and Amendment 2 was granted on September 11, 2017, extending the grant to December 31, 2017. This date coincided with the permit expiration date for the reef site. No additional time extensions beyond this date were possible.

This information was transmitted to Mr. Mullane at the same time he received notification of the grant extension.

Other than requests for payment for the work performed on September 12, no communication from Coleen Marine, Inc. was received until December 25, 2017. This email, from Coleen O'Malley, president of Coleen Marine, Inc., stated that " Unfortunately due to circumstances in the Caribbean we have not been able to secure a barge. We had hoped by this point the equipment would have become available to complete this project". With the expiration of both the permit and the grant expiring, no further work on the project was possible.

Summary of Objectives and Cost:

The total Grant 6800 project was based on a total of three thousand (3,000) tons of concrete pipe to be placed on AR 430. The actual amount deployed amounted to one thousand six hundred and six (1,606) tons which was fifty-three and a half percent (53.5%) of the total grant tonnage. The original plan was to establish eight (8) new patch reefs on the site, however only four were achieved.

The total amount of Grant 6800 was three hundred and thirty-nine thousand dollars (\$339,000). The amount paid to Coleen Marine, Inc. was in a single payment for the work performed on August 12, 2017, and was one hundred thirty-two thousand, four hundred and ninety-five dollars (\$132,495). This results in thirty-nine and one tenth of a percent (39.1%) of the total grant being expended.

Due to sea conditions at the time of the first deployment and the lack of the second deployment, none of the two thousand one hundred and ninety-two dollars (\$2,192) of like kind expenditures were incurred.

Chart 1 - Location of AR 430

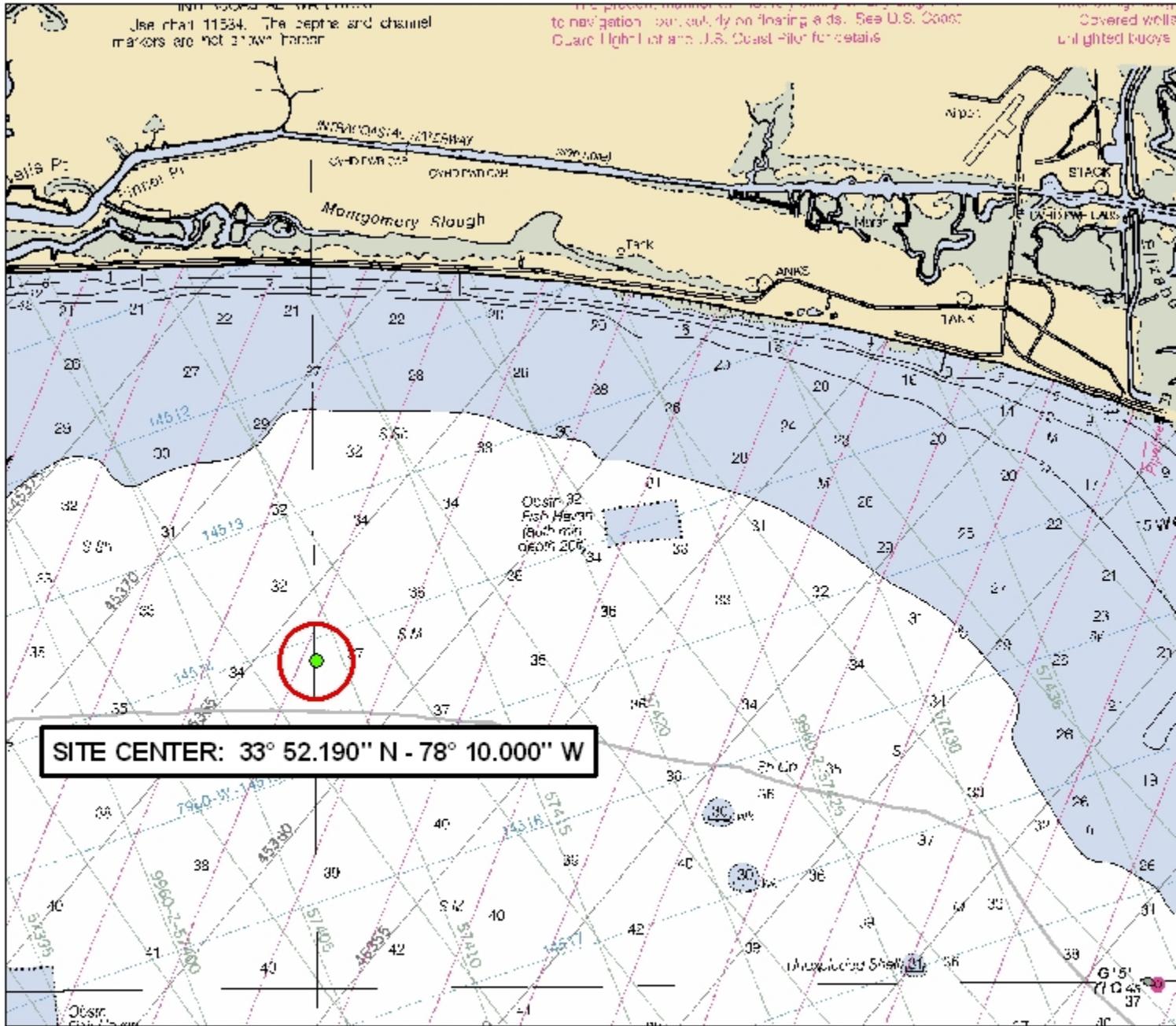


Chart 1
Proposed Reef, AR-430
Average Depth: 36'



Date: NAD83
 Projection: NC State Plane
 Application: Permit
 June 24, 2011