

Smith Island Restoration Project

Increased Flood Protection

The proposed new setback dike will be designed and built to meet federal standards and will provide greater flood protection to farmlands and other commercial and public facilities behind the dike. The new dike will qualify for federal assistance to repair major flood damage if needed in the future.

The increased flood storage provided by the restored Smith Island tidal marsh will help decrease flood pressure on other agricultural lands and diking districts in the estuary. In addition to the direct benefits of increased flood protection and flood storage, the project will also provide valuable mitigation opportunities for the agricultural community in the estuary.

The alignment selected for the new setback dike could also allow for preservation of some existing agricultural land on the project site. The advice and support of the farming community will be sought for determining the best alignment of the new setback dike.

