



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
Philadelphia District

News Release

Release Number: **070913**
Contact: **Khaalid Walls**
Phone: **(215) 656-6595**

— FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE —

USACE dredging ship sustains mechanical malfunction in Delaware River

PHILADELPHIA (Sep. 13, 2007): The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers today announced that its dredging ship, the McFarland, sustained a mechanical malfunction while performing emergency maintenance dredging in the Delaware River.

No one was injured during the incident. The channel area above the Tacony-Palmyra Bridge is temporarily closed, while the incident is being investigated. The McFarland is currently being escorted by the U.S. Coast Guard and the Philadelphia Police to Fort Mifflin where it will anchor.

The ship was finishing an emergency dredging operation near the Tacony-Palmyra Bridge when its drag head became partially unattached. The ship sustained a fracture to its starboard hull and had to subsequently abandon a negligible load capacity in order to safely travel to the anchoring facility.

The Corps has deployed survey boats to the incident site to investigate channel conditions. The incident is currently under investigation.