

The plant site boundaries include a small portion of the East River, which is New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYCDEC)-mapped littoral zone (LZ). An approximately 1-acre area of Coastal Shoals, Bars, and Mudflats (SM), is also located within the boundaries of the project site (see Figure 6-2). Although the plant site encompasses a small portion of littoral zone and coastal shoals, bars and mudflats, no wetland vegetation is present on the site, and no in-water work is proposed as part of the proposed action. Therefore, there would be no impacts to aquatic species. The vacant 4.3-acre parcel on which the proposed egg-shaped digesters would be constructed and the 1.2-acre construction staging area both contain highly disturbed fill material and vegetation typical of urban environments. As described in Chapter 15, “Water Quality,” the proposed action would include enhanced nitrogen removal facilities, thereby improving the quality of the plant’s effluent to the East River. This could, in turn, provide benefits for aquatic resources. Therefore, no potential significant adverse impacts would occur and an assessment of natural resource impacts is not warranted. *