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November 16: a crane places sand and gravel to create a temporary dock where dump trucks will receive materials from barges for the Overlook project. - photo by R.S. DeSanto

Niantic Bay Boardwalk Reconstruction Progress Report

by R.S. De Santo, President -
East Lyme Public Trust Foundation, Inc.

Seven months after Amtrak began replacement of the Niantic River Railroad Bridge it is now beginning construction of a 240 foot long structure from shore that extends into Long Island Sound parallel to the Niantic River Channel at the mouth of the Niantic River. Known as a "groin," a steel sheet pile enclosure is used to create a temporary dock. The dock will soon be used to unload sand, gravel, and large stones brought to it by barges. Stone will be used to create the railroad embankment on which the Niantic Bay Boardwalk (a.k.a. the Overlook) will rest. Large stones will be placed along the Overlook/ railroad sea wall to armor and protect it from storm wave damage. Once construction ends, Amtrak will replace the dock with a stone groin which the Town of East Lyme and the Public Trust Foundation may use to create a fishing pier.

For more information, see:

www.publictrustfoundation.org/docs/10-18-2010.pdf

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