



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Wilmington District

Belhaven Harbor Environmental Improvements, Belhaven, NC (Project Modifications for Improvement to the Environment) (CAP Section 1135)

- **Sponsor: Town of Belhaven**
- **Name of project to be modified:
Belhaven Harbor, NC (breakwater
constructed in 1938)**
- **100% Federally funded preliminary
feasibility phase (\$100,000)
initiated in August 2006**
- **Feasibility cost sharing agreement
executed in May 2008**
- **Existing breakwater structure was
replaced in-kind using Operation
and Maintenance emergency
supplemental funds. This was
completed in May 2011**



CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: NC 3

DATE: 8 April 2013

1. **AUTHORIZATION:** Section 1135 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986, as amended.
2. **STUDY AREA:** Belhaven Harbor is located on Pantego Creek, a tributary of the Pungo River in Beaufort County, North Carolina, about 140 miles east of Raleigh. The original project was specifically authorized on June 20, 1938 (HD 693/75/3) and consists of two separate timber breakwaters at the mouth of Pantego Creek and a channel 12 feet deep, 100 feet wide, from Pungo River to a point about 800 feet east of the highway bridge, with a basin, 300 feet wide, 800 feet long, at the upper end. This structure was replaced in-kind using Operation and Maintenance emergency supplemental funds in May 2011.
3. **IMPROVEMENTS DESIRED:** The proposed modification will add a submerged reef in the lee (harbor side) of each breakwater. The structure would serve to improve the estuarine habitat and would also improve the sheltering of the harbor from waves.

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4. **COST ESTIMATE:**

\$ 434,000	(Feasibility phase \$267,000 Federal, \$167,000 non-Federal)
<u>2,726,000</u>	(Design & implementation phase 75% Federal, 25% non-Federal)
\$3,160,000	

5. **FEDERAL FUNDING ALLOCATION THRU FY 2012:** Total of \$309,000 which includes \$267,000 feasibility funds and \$42,000 in design and implementation funds.

6. **FY 2013 ALLOCATION:** \$0. Carry-in funds are being used to complete the feasibility phase.

7. **FY 2014 OPTIMUM AMOUNT:** \$2,000,000. Funds could be used to fully fund construction of environmental features.

8. **KEY DATES:**

September 2013	Approval of feasibility phase
January 2014	Execution of project partnership agreement/ begin design
May 2014	Completion of design
September 2014	Award construction contract

Note: Completion dates subject to the availability of funds.

9. **STATUS:** Agency Technical Review (ATR) began in February 2013. A preliminary restoration plan was approved in August 2004. Funds in the amount of \$100,000 were received for initiation of the feasibility phase in August 2006 at full Federal expense. Additional funds in the amount of \$130,000 were received in FY 2007 to execute the feasibility cost sharing agreement and continue the feasibility phase.

10. **OTHER INFORMATION:** The breakwater structure provides fish attraction but no significant fish habitat or food production. The proposed project provides ecosystem improvements by providing structural fish habitat.

Broad support among state and Federal resource agencies exists for improving aquatic habitat diversity. The North Carolina Division of Water Resources has indicated an interest in pursuing improvements to the Belhaven Harbor project. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has expressed support for the proposed project.

Emergency supplemental Operation and Maintenance funds were received in FY 2009 to replace the storm-damaged breakwater which was in critical condition. The in-kind replacement was completed in May 2011.