

CESAW-ECP-PE March 6, 2023

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

NEUSE RIVER BASIN FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT TECHNICAL REPORT

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Wilmington District has terminated the Neuse River Basin, North Carolina, Feasibility Study. The Study was initiated in April 2020 utilizing Federal funds provided under the Disaster Relief Act, 2019 and was conducted in partnership with the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ). The Study focused on identifying flood risk within the Neuse River's 6,200 square mile basin and evaluating potential alternatives to help manage flood risk. As part of the termination, the USACE has prepared a Technical Report for the Neuse River Basin Flood Risk Management Study, dated February 2023. An electronic version of the Technical Report is available on the USACE, Wilmington District website at:

https://www.saw.usace.army.mil/Missions/Flood-Risk-Management/Neuse-River-Basin/

The Technical Report summarizes the analyses conducted, alternatives and associated measures considered, and rationale for screening alternatives from further consideration. During the Feasibility Study an exhaustive range of structural, nonstructural, and natural and nature-based alternatives were evaluated to determine if flood risk could be reduced within non-tidally influenced areas, generally northwest of the City of New Bern to northwestward of Durham, NC (Figure 1). However, none of these alternatives were determined to be implementable, acceptable, and/or economically viable under Federal regulations, policy, and/or guidelines.

Within the tidally influenced portion of the basin, including the City of New Bern, NC, complex factors contributing to flooding (i.e., a combination of riverine flooding, coastal storm surge and sea level rise) led to a decision that this area could not be properly evaluated within the scope and three-year timeframe of the Neuse River Basin Feasibility Study. The USACE concluded that this portion of the basin should be evaluated under a separate study specific to this unique area.

Although it was determined that there was no Federal interest in the implementation of a flood risk management plan, there are other Federal authorities that may benefit a non-Federal sponsor and stakeholders within the Neuse River basin in addressing flood risk. Potentially available authorities include Planning Assistance to States (PAS), Floodplain Management Services (FPMS), and Continuing Authorities Program (CAP) authorities. The PAS and FPMS authorities offer opportunities to capitalize on USACE engineering expertise to help identify potential solutions that could be implemented without further Federal involvement. However, The CAP authority potentially allows the implementation of a small-scale Federal/non-Federal cost-shared project.

For Further Information:

Any questions or requests for further information on the technical report should be submitted to:

Mr. Jim Medlock, Project Manager, USACE, Wilmington District or Mr. Jason Glazener, Planning Lead, USACE, Wilmington District

Email address: nrbfrm@usace.army.mil

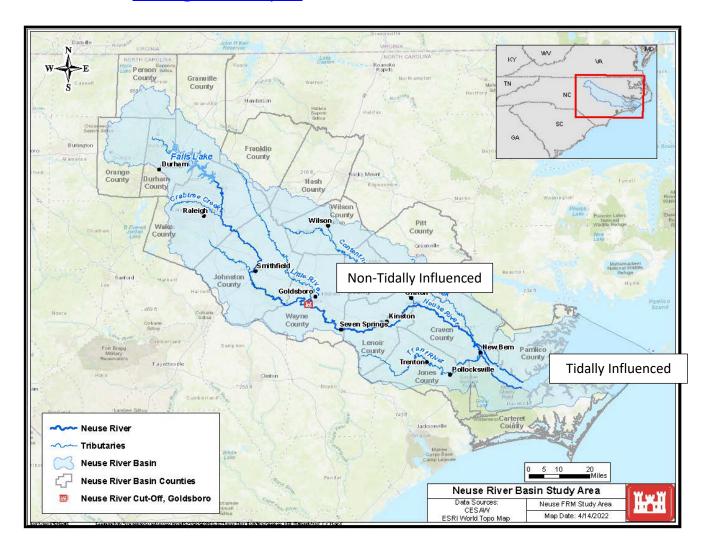


Figure 1 - Neuse River Basin, NC, Study Area – General Location of Tidally and Non-Tidally Influenced Areas