

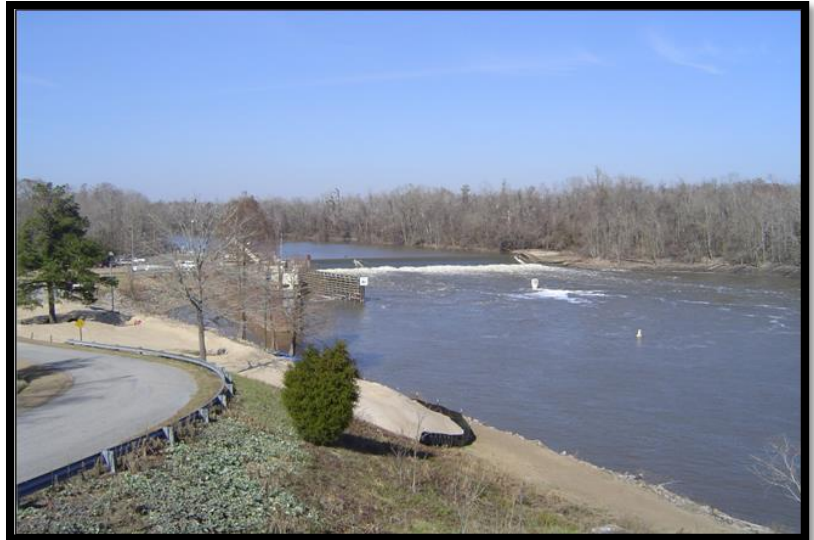


US Army Corps
of Engineers
Wilmington District

Cape Fear River above Wilmington, NC (Navigation) (O&M)

FY 2019 Planned Actions:

- Operate and maintain structures and recreation facilities



CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: NC 7, 9

DATE: 25 March 2019

1. **AUTHORIZATION:** River and Harbor Act of 1910, 1934, 1935, 1965; and Section 4 of the Flood Control Act of 1944.
2. **PROJECT AREA:** The Cape Fear River Locks and Dams, located in Bladen County in southeastern North Carolina, consist of three federally built and maintained locks and dams. They are part of the Cape Fear River above Wilmington, NC project. Two of the locks and dams were constructed between 1915 and 1917, while the third was completed in 1935. Today, these locks and dams are in poor structural condition. The locks and dams were constructed to ensure a navigable channel for commercial barges from Wilmington to Fayetteville.
3. **FEDERAL FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR FY 2018:** \$462,000.
4. **FY 2019 PRESIDENT'S BUDGET:** \$401,000. Funds are being used to provide caretaker status of the locks and dams, periodic inspections, precise alignment and provide salaries, equipment and supplies at an acceptable level of service to protect customer safety, provide a healthful and accessible experience in a safe environment, ensure integrity of government assets and operate GSA vehicles and floating plant.
5. **FY 2019 WORK PLAN:** \$64,000. Additional funds received to continue caretaker status of the locks and dams.

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6. **FY 2020 BUDGET AMOUNT:** \$495,000. Funds in the amount of \$495,000 will be used provide for caretaker status activities including required anadromous fish lockages and related activities to ensure lock operations. Funds in the amount of \$2,600,000, could be used for the following:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perform dam safety operations at Lock and Dam #3; lock wall vertical alignment monitoring; major rehabilitation to include sinking esplanade repair, pulling and repair/refurbishing miter gates, analyze lock walls including seismic and sudden drawdown conditions and perform seismic report (no DSAC rating). 	\$ 800,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perform dam safety maintenance at Lock and Dam #2; esplanade repairs; lock wall vertical alignment monitoring; and major rehabilitation (DSAC 2 Rating). 	\$ 700,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perform dam safety operations at Lock and Dam #3; lock wall vertical alignment monitoring; major rehabilitation; analyze lock walls including seismic and sudden drawdown conditions and perform seismic report (no DSAC rating). 	\$ 700,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design and construct a four vehicle parking area which provides Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) access to the restroom facilities at Lock and Dam #3. 	\$ 100,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare plans and specifications for Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible fishing piers at Lock and Dam #2 and #3. 	\$ 100,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Convert Lock and Dam #1 house and surrounding area into an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant visitor center with interpretive displays. 	\$ 200,000
Total	\$ 2,600,000

7. **ISSUES AND/OR STATUS:** Lock & Dam #1 was rated as a DSAC II structure in 2009 under the Dam Safety Action Code. Additionally, Lock #2 was rated a DSAC II in 2010. A DSAC II rated structure is defined as *urgent (unsafe or potentially unsafe)*. Since 1994, commercial traffic has practically ceased, raising questions about the economic viability and continued maintenance of the navigation project. The Corps spends in excess of \$790,000 per year on the three locks and dams and the 111 miles of associated channels (according to a review of the past 10-year maintenance records). The navigational channel associated with the Cape Fear River Locks and Dams has not been maintained for many years and is no longer navigable for commercial traffic. An initial appraisal report for a Section 216 study was approved by the Corps on 2 July 2009. Subsequent detailed studies under this authority would determine if modifications to this project were advisable due to significantly changed physical or economic conditions.

Also, a fish passage structure was completed at Lock No. 1 as an approved mitigation measure for deepening the Wilmington Harbor 96 Act navigation channel project in FY 2013. American Recovery and Reinvestment Act construction funds and state of North Carolina required contributed

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funds were used to construct this feature in accordance with the project cooperation agreement on the Wilmington Harbor 96 Act project.

Work plan funds received in FY 2017 were used to award a contract for repairs of a scour hole which is located below Lock and Dam 2. The contract was awarded to Lambert Engineering and is anticipated to be completed in the fall of 2019.

Bladen County and its partners, the Cape Fear River Partnership, have expressed an interest in designing and constructing additional fish passage structures at Lock and Dams #2 and #3. In September 2016, Bladen County requested that a Section 408 review be initiated for potential fish passage projects at Locks #2 and #3. A meeting was held in November 2016 between the Wilmington District and Bladen County to discuss the Section 408 process. Bladen County is working on potential alternatives; and is continuing to coordinate with the District.

Cape Fear lock and dam structures are evaluated as part of a disposition study which was initiated in March 2018. For more information, refer to the Wilmington District fact sheet labeled “Cape Fear River above Wilmington, NC Disposition Study.”