



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Wilmington District

Wilmington Harbor, NC (Navigation) (O&M)

Sponsor: State of North Carolina



CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: NC 7

DATE: 25 March 2019

1. **AUTHORIZATION:** River and Harbor Act 1930, 1945, 1950, 1962, 1964, Section 107 of the River and Harbor Act 1960, WRDA 1986, WRDA 1996, and Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act of 1998.
2. **LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION:** The project is located on the southeastern coast of North Carolina in Brunswick and New Hanover Counties. The existing project, including improvements made since August 1999, provides for a channel 44 feet deep through the ocean bar and an entrance channel changing to 42 feet deep extending to just downstream of the Cape Fear Memorial Bridge at Wilmington, NC. Upstream of this point, the channel is 38 feet deep to the Highway 133 bridge; 32 feet deep to the Hilton Bridge over the Northeast Cape Fear River; and 25 feet deep from the Hilton Bridge to a point 1-2/3 miles above. The project also includes a northwestward connecting channel, 12 feet deep, from the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway at Snows Cut to the main river channel.
3. **FY 2018 FEDERAL FUNDING ALLOCATION:** \$24,710,000 (including \$900,000 of hurricane supplemental funds).
4. **FY 2019 BUDGET AMOUNT:** \$14,715,000. These funds are being used for routine operations and maintenance in support of navigation. An additional of work plan funds are being used for additional dredging of the ocean bar and gathering of geospatial data.

PROJECT INFORMATION – Wilmington Harbor, NC (Navigation) (O&M) – Continued

5. **FY 2019 WORK PLAN:** \$2,002,000. Funds are being used for additional dredging of the ocean bar and gathering of geospatial data.

6. **FY 2020 BUDGET AMOUNT:** \$16,560,000. These funds will be used to for routine operation and maintenance in support of navigation. Funds in the amount of \$18,000,000 could be used as for additional maintenance dredging of: Anchorage Basin and adjacent channels (\$2,000,000), Outer Ocean Bar (\$1,500,000), Inner Ocean Bar (\$5,500,000) and Complete plans & specifications, and award a contract to complete the first phase of widening the Battery Island Turn (\$9,000,000).

7. **ISSUE AND/OR STATUS:** The Corps plans to dredge the inner ocean bar channel every two years. Shoreline compatible material from this maintenance dredging action is placed on adjacent shorelines, as described in the sand management plan for the project. The sand management plan calls for a 1/3 to 2/3 split of material dredged from the inner ocean bar channel to be placed on Oak Island and Bald Head Island, respectively. To meet this requirement, the Corps rotates shoreline disposal locations among the adjacent islands, with Bald Head Island getting material from 2 of every 3 maintenance dredging contracts, with the third going to Oak Island. The latest maintenance dredging contract was completed in 2018, with the material placed on Oak Island.