

Fact Paper

Project Name: Brunswick Harbor (O&M) Georgia

Project Purpose: Operation and Maintenance (O&M) of the Brunswick Harbor navigation channel for safe and efficient passage of harbor ship traffic.

Project Description: Brunswick Harbor is a deep-water port with project dimensions of 32 feet deep and 500 feet wide in the bar channel and 30 feet deep and 400 feet wide in the inner channels through St. Simon's Sound, Brunswick River and East River. The inner harbor is maintained through use of Andrews Island, the sole upland disposal area. The inner harbor has two turning basins, one in East River and the other in Turtle River. Terry Creek is an inactive dredged material containment area near Brunswick, Georgia contaminated by toxaphene on which the EPA and District are working to resolve concerns over possible environmental impacts. Monthly controlling depth surveys taken along the entire length of the harbor are used to monitor harbor sedimentation.

Project Sponsor: The Georgia Department of Transportation (GaDOT)

Appropriation: 96X3123 O&M

Status: The maintenance program has typically consisted of two dredging contracts with an annual average project expenditure of \$3.3 million. The two yearly contracts consist of a large business bar channel contract and a small business East River contract.

Additional Information: Our major challenges are:

- Environmental constraints limit our ability to freely dredge the harbor. We face restrictions on use of Andrews Island when colonial nesting birds are present and cannot dredge the entrance channel during specified dates due to the presence of sea turtles. Ocean channel hopper dredges are also restricted in terms of sailing speed when right whales are spotted within 10 miles of the project.

Project Manager: Roger E. Lafond, Jr.