



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 4970
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32232-0019

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

Planning Division
Environmental Branch

JUL 07 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) Regulation (33 CFR 230.11), this letter constitutes the **Notice of Availability** (NOA) of the Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Assessment for the Jacksonville Harbor (**Mile Point**) Navigation Study, Duval County, Florida. A discussion of the project background and Tentatively Selected Plan is included as Enclosure 1.

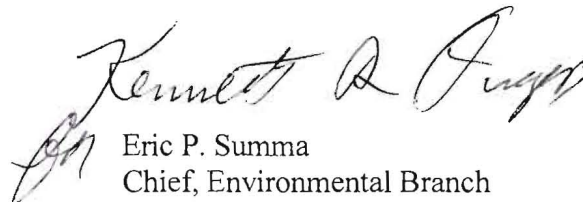
In addition, this letter serves as an invitation to a **Public Workshop** scheduled for August 15, 2011 to provide stakeholders an opportunity to further discuss the proposed work with Corps and Jacksonville Port Authority staff. Tentative information about the workshop is included as Enclosure 2. For final information regarding the meeting location please call Paul Stodola at 904-232-3271 or Samantha Borer at 904-232-1066, or visit the website listed below.

A copy of the Mile Point draft report is available for your review at the Regency Square Regional Library located at 9900 Regency Square Boulevard, Jacksonville, Florida. It is also available online at the following website (please scroll down to Jacksonville Harbor (Mile Point) Navigation Study):

http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/Divisions/Planning/Branches/Environmental/DocsNotices_OnLine_DuvalCo.htm

In regards to the NOA, any questions or comments should be submitted in writing to the letterhead address within 30 days from date of letter. Questions and comments can also be emailed to Paul.E.Stodola@usace.army.mil and Samantha.J.Borer@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,


Eric P. Summa
Chief, Environmental Branch

Enclosures

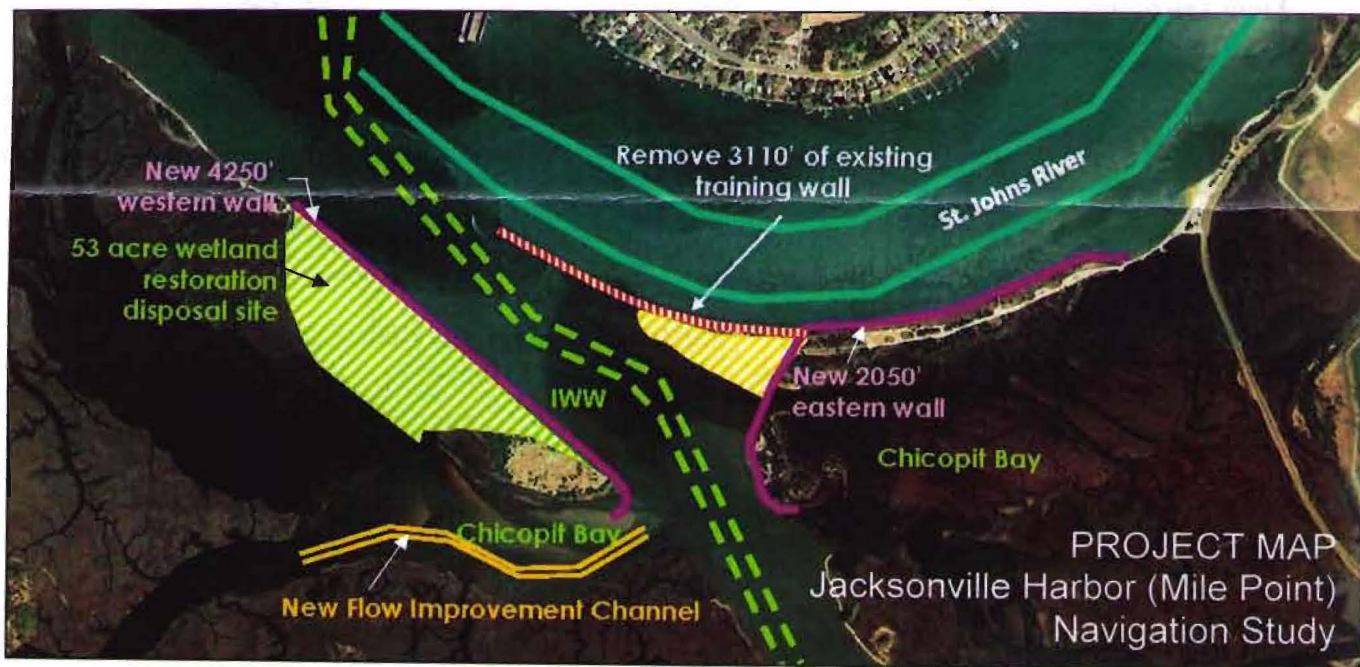
Enclosure 1: Jacksonville Harbor (Mile Point) Navigation Study

Project Background

The Mile Point study was authorized March 24, 1998 by Resolution, Docket 2550, of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. Funding was added by Congress in the appropriations for Fiscal Year 2000 to begin the reconnaissance study; the feasibility study proceeded under that authorization. The purpose of the study is to eliminate or alleviate the crosscurrents which occur during the ebb flow at the confluence of the St. Johns River with the Intracoastal Waterway (IWW). The Corps is developing and evaluating alternative plans to reduce and/or relocate the difficult and erosive crosscurrents to allow the St. Johns Bar Pilots to remove the navigation restrictions on deep draft navigation traffic, and reduce the erosive effects of the crosscurrents on the Mile Point shoreline.

Tentatively Selected Plan

The Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP) is to relocate the Mile Point training wall. Modeling indicates that relocation of the wall would result in a reduction of the crosscurrents. The TSP recommends removal of 3,100 feet of existing Mile Point training wall, including land removal and dredging to open the confluence of the Intracoastal Waterway (IWW) and St. Johns River; and construction of a new western leg (~4,250 feet) and relocated eastern leg (~2,050 feet). This plan would use dredged material from the proposed work in a beneficial manner to restore salt marsh at Great Marsh Island. A flow improvement channel within Chicopit Bay would also be constructed in order to offset potential adverse water quality effects caused by the restoration of the island.



Enclosure 2: Public Workshop for Jacksonville Harbor (Mile Point) Navigation Study

DATE: August 15, 2011

TIME: 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

PLACE: University of North Florida (UNF)-University Center, Room 1058 (map below)

The public workshop will feature an open house from 5:00 to 5:30 PM where you will be able to informally discuss the project with Corps and Jacksonville Port Authority staff. Following the open house, you will be invited to stay for a brief presentation on the proposed project from 5:30 to 5:45 PM, including: summary of the Tentatively Selected Plan; environmental impacts; and project schedule. You will have another opportunity to continue discussing the project with staff after the presentation from 5:45 to 7:00 PM. Federal and State natural resource agencies are also being invited to attend.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH FLORIDA MAP

How to find us:

From I-95:

- Exit East on J. Turner Butler Blvd. (Exit 344)
- Go approximately seven miles to the Kernan Blvd. exit.
- Exit and turn left onto Kernan Blvd.
- Turn left onto Alumni Drive.
- Turn left into the first driveway on Alumni Drive. The University Center parking lot is on your left.

From Beach Blvd.:

- From Beach Blvd. head South on Kernan Blvd.
- Turn right onto Alumni Drive.
- Turn left into the first driveway on Alumni Drive. The University Center parking lot is on your left.

From The Beaches:

- Go West on J. Turner Butler Blvd. to the Kernan Blvd. exit
- Exit and turn right onto Kernan Blvd.
- Turn left onto Alumni Drive
- Turn left into the first driveway on Alumni Drive. The University Center parking lot is on your left.

From State Road 9A:

- Exit at UNF Drive.
- Head East onto UNF Drive.
- Make a right at the first traffic light
- Make a right at the next traffic light onto Alumni Drive.
- Turn right into the first driveway on Alumni Drive. This is the University Center parking lot.

NOTE:

You DO NOT have to pay to park at the University Center.

The Center offers complimentary parking to all program participants. However, if you wish to visit other buildings on campus, you must obtain a parking permit for \$3.00.

UNF University Center
12000 Alumni Drive
Jacksonville, FL 32224 - 2678
(904) 620-4222
www.universitycenter.unf.edu

