



GROWING THE ECONOMY, GUARDING THE ENVIRONMENT.

At North Carolina Ports, nothing is more important to us than our great relationship with the Cape Fear region. As we begin the expansion and modernization of the Wilmington Harbor, the safety and well-being of the community remain our highest priorities. We are working to ensure that the transition runs as smoothly as possible, and we are taking every precaution to keep disruptions to a minimum and safeguard our beautiful beaches and natural environment.

We believe in conducting this vital work with

100% TRANSPARENCY

See back page for answers to frequently-asked questions about the project. We welcome any other questions you may have.

The Future of the Wilmington Navigational Harbor



THE BENEFITS OF THE HARBOR ENHANCEMENT

North Carolina is a critical East Coast freight gateway. Enhancing its navigational channel will allow larger, deep-draft container ships to access the Port of Wilmington. If carriers are unable to enter the port, they will choose less efficient East Coast ports, ultimately causing longer truck hauls and increased transportation costs to move cargo in and out of the Carolinas.

The harbor enhancement will also help attract more import and export business and boost job growth. Every Ultra-Panamax container service arriving in Wilmington from the Far East has a direct impact of \$3.7 billion. Every billion dollars of economic output through North Carolina Ports represents 5,696 jobs in the state, and North Carolina Ports supports directly and indirectly 87,700 jobs across North Carolina.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the duration of the project?

North Carolina Ports looks to conclude its Section 203 study in the spring of 2019, when it ideally will be submitted to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for review and approval. There is currently no timeline for the enhancement project itself because the study will help determine what the project will look like and how long it will take.

What steps are being taken to protect wildlife and the environment?

Our goal is to minimize disruption to the natural environment. To that end, we are investing in an environmental impact study to determine the project's impact on protected species, water quality and marine, fish and wildlife resources. The Section 203 study explores any potential impacts and how to mitigate any environmental effects.

Will beaches be impacted?

The enhancement project won't have any day-to-day impact on our area beaches. Beachgoers still will be able to enjoy the sun and surf without any interruptions.

Will the project impact recreational boating and fishing?

It is our mission at NC Ports to be a good neighbor to our surrounding coastal communities, and that goes for our marine communities as well. Recreational boaters and fishers will still get to enjoy our coastal waters, Cape Fear River and local waterways without any impact during harbor enhancements.

How will the project affect tourism and local businesses?

An enhanced navigational channel will boost business for North Carolina Ports, and that could have a positive economic impact on local businesses. More traffic into and out of the Port of Wilmington could mean more traffic for local businesses.

Will drinking water be impacted?

Drinking water will not be affected as the intake for Cape Fear Public Utility Authority customers is not located within the Wilmington Navigational Harbor but further west in Bladen County. Additionally, harbor enhancements will not in any way impact the aquifer; all enhancements will still be well above the aquifer.

HAVE QUESTIONS THAT HAVEN'T BEEN ANSWERED?

Submit comments in writing to WH203study@ncports.com.