

MATAGORDA SHIP CHANNEL, TEXAS

Feasibility Study and Environmental Impact Statement



US Army Corps of Engineers.



U.S. ARMY

MEETING PURPOSE

- NEPA scoping meetings are to obtain public input on potential issues of concern regarding improvements to the Matagorda Ship Channel.
- Brief presentation
- Followed by discussion at individual stations



FEASIBILITY STUDY BACKGROUND

- USACE, in conjunction with the Calhoun Port Authority, is conducting a feasibility study
- Feasibility Cost Share Agreement was signed in August 2016

NON-FEDERAL SPONSOR

PORT OF PORT LAVACA - POINT COMFORT

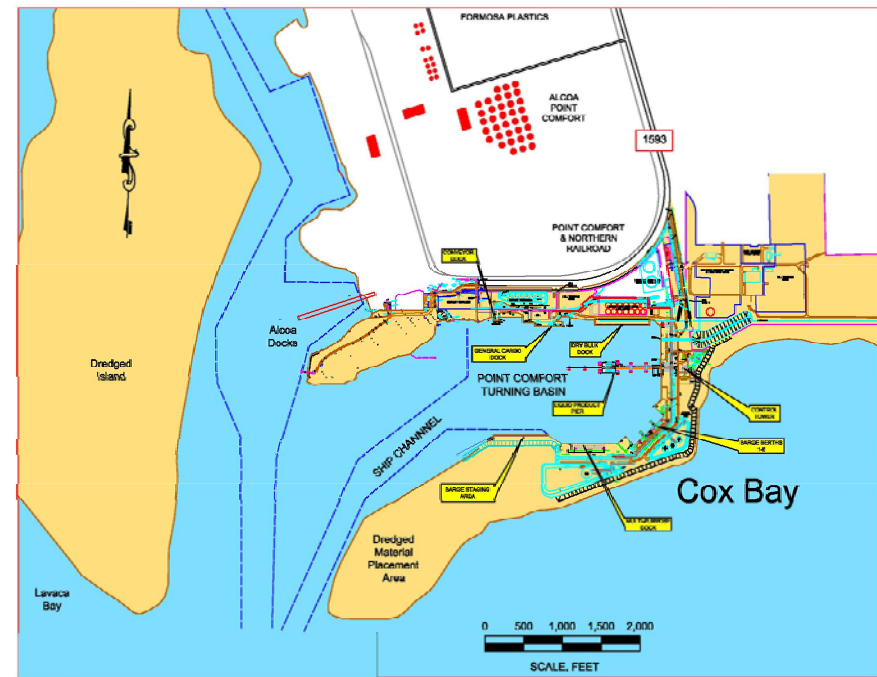


Charles Hausmann, Director, Calhoun Port Authority (CPA)

David Knuckey, Director Engineering Services, CPA



STUDY AREA



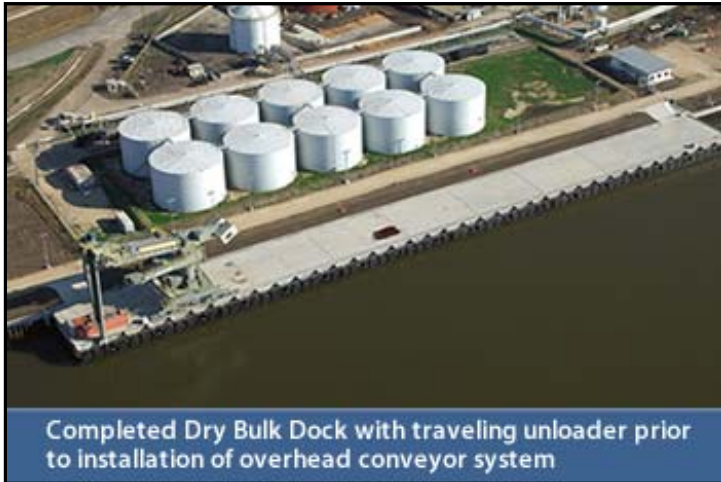
MSC Section 216 Feasibility Study



PREVIOUS STUDIES

- 2006 Matagorda Ship Channel, Texas: Jetty Stability Study
- 2009 Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Matagorda Ship Channel Improvement Project, Calhoun and Matagorda Counties, Texas
- 2013 Regional Sediment Management Studies of Matagorda Ship Channel and Matagorda Bay System

CURRENT STUDY PURPOSE



- Evaluate changes in physical or economic conditions that warrant modifications to the ship channel or port
- Analyze alternatives
- Make recommendations

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PROBLEMS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Problems

- Existing channel designed for vessels with loaded drafts of <38 feet mean lower low water
- Larger vessels are light loaded before entering
- Narrow channel
- High shoaling rates

Opportunities

- Reduce navigation costs
- Increase port efficiencies
- Large amounts of sediment for beneficial use



MEASURES TO BE CONSIDERED

- Deepening existing channel
- Widening existing channel
- Constructing ship passing lanes
- Modifications to port operations
- Modifications to existing port facilities
- Modifications to vessel traffic management

DREDGED MATERIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

- Develop plan for placement of dredged material
 - Existing upland placement areas
 - New upland placement areas
 - Open bay placement
 - Shoreline stabilization
 - Bird island nourishment
 - Marsh restoration
 - Ocean dredge material disposal areas

FEASIBILITY STUDY SCHEDULE

Milestone		Date
Scoping	Execute FCSA with Calhoun Port Authority	Aug 5, 2016
	Notice of Intent to File an EIS	Dec 23, 2016
	Scoping Meeting	Jan 24, 2017
	Scoping Comments Accepted Through	Feb 13, 2017
Alternative Evaluation and Analysis	Alternatives Milestone	Feb 21, 2017
	Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP) Milestone	Jan 2018
	Draft Report for Reviews	Apr 2018
Feasibility Level Analysis	Agency Decision Milestone (ADM)	Jul 2018
	Feasibility Report Complete	Feb 2019
	Civil Works Review Board (CWRB)	Apr 2019
	S&A Review	May 2019
	Chief's Report	Jul 2019



HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR COMMENTS

- Submit tonight on form provided, or
- Mail or email to:
 - USACE – Galveston District
 - Attn: RPEC Coastal Section
 - P.O. Box 1229
 - Galveston, TX 77533-1229
 - MSC-Feasibility@usace.army.mil
- Date Due: Monday, February 13, 2017

STUDY TEAM IN ATTENDANCE

- Edmond Russo – Deputy District Engineer
- Sheri Willey – Project Management
- Kathy Skalbeck – Planning
- Victor Otero – Real Estate
- Jan Stokes – Environmental Resources