

DISTRICT: Galveston

DATE: January 3, 2003

PROJECT NAME: Brazos Island Harbor, Texas

LOCATION: The project is located in the vicinities of Port Isabel and Brownsville in Cameron County, Texas.

CURRENT FUNDING CATEGORY: Operations and Maintenance, General

DESCRIPTION: Provides deep draft access from the Gulf of Mexico through a jettied entrance channel to Brownsville, and a side channel and shallow draft Fishing Boat Harbor near Port Isabel. The project is 22.8 miles in length. The project reaches and dimensions are tabulated below:

Outer Bar Channel	44 X 300
Jetty Channel	44 X 300-400 feet
Padre Island to Goose Island	42 X 400-250 feet
Goose Island to Turning Basin Extension	42 X 300 feet
Turning Basin Extension to Brownsville Turning Basin	38-36 X 500-1200 feet 1200 feet
Fishing Boat Harbor	15 X 100-305 feet
Port Isabel Channel and Port Isabel Turning Basin	36 X 200 X 1000

Maintenance of the project to authorized dimensions is a Federal responsibility. Safe and efficient commercial navigation is of national interest.

FUNDING STATUS:

Expenditures for FY 02:	\$2,530,000.00
Obligations for FY 03:	\$2,143,000.00
Proposed President's Budget for FY 04:	\$ 0.00

COMPLETED OPERATIONS FOR FY 02: Dredge Main Channel and Entrance Channel

PROJECTED OPERATIONS FOR FY 03: Rehab Placement Area Levee and Spillway

PROPOSED OPERATIONS FOR FY 04: Dredge Inside Channel. Funding in the amount of \$2,143,000 was eliminated by OMB and replaced with lower SWD priority Homeland Security and Hydropower work packages.

LOCAL CONTACTS: The Brownsville Navigation District is the local project sponsor for Brownsville Ship Channel; Port Isabel-San Benito Navigation District is the local project sponsor for the Port Isabel Channel and Turning Basin.

Brazos Island Harbor, Texas (cont'd)

ISSUES AND OTHER INFORMATION: The port of Brownsville, home port to NAFTA, is a first class deepwater port providing facilities for the movement of cargo from the U.S. and Mexico to Europe, Asia, and the rest of the world. If channel is not dredged in FY 04, the impacts to navigations will be immediate and severe.

Statistics compiled for calendar year 1996 show a movement of 2,515,000 tons of commerce. In FY-02, material from the Jetty Channel was used beneficially for restoration of the beach and is scheduled to restore beaches on future contracts. The dredged material is assessed for pollutants prior to dredging. The City of South Padre Island and GLO funded the extra pumping and placement costs.

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