

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: Sabine-Neches Waterway, TX



Sabine-Neches Waterway, TX Operation and Maintenance

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG.

FACT SHEET as of April 01, 2019

AUTHORIZATION: House Document 553, 87th Congress, Second Session

TYPE OF PROJECT: Navigation

PROJECT PHASE: Operation and Maintenance



Facilities at the Port of Beaumont

CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST: Senators Cornyn and Cruz (TX), Representatives Higgins (LA-3), Johnson (LA-4), Poe (TX-2), Weber (TX-14), and Babin (TX-36)

NON-FEDERAL SPONSOR: Sabine-Neches Navigation District

BACKGROUND: The Sabine-Neches Waterway (SNWW) project is a 40-foot deep by 400-foot wide network of navigation channels totaling approximately 97 miles. The project extends from the deep water of the Gulf of Mexico, through a jettied inlet, to the port facilities at Port Arthur, the Port of Beaumont (via the Neches River), and the Port of Orange (via the Sabine River). The project is located in the vicinities of Beaumont, Port Arthur, Orange, and Sabine Pass in Jefferson and Orange Counties, Texas, and Cameron and Calcasieu Parishes, Louisiana.

The Ports of Beaumont and Port Arthur are ranked #5 and #17 in the nation with respect to commercial tonnage. The SNWW total commercial tonnage for 2017 was 128.6 million tons; Beaumont 89.4 million tons and Port Arthur 39.2 million tons. The Ports of Beaumont and Port Arthur are also designated as Strategic Harbors, as military personnel, equipment and supplies are deployed and redeployed through its port facilities. SNWW is first in the U.S. with crude oil imports, and supplies 55% of the Nation's strategic petroleum reserves.

The SNWW navigation project supports a large percentage of the nation's petrochemical industry. The SNWW also supports two Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) facilities; where vessels calling these facilities require under keel clearances ranging between 5-7 feet. Unlike other liquid tanker vessels, the LNG vessels cannot be lightered; therefore, if required under keel clearances are not maintained the LNG vessels cannot enter the waterway.

STATUS: FY 2018 activities included maintenance dredging of the Port Arthur Canal, Junction Area and Turning Basin, Lower Reach of Neches River, Sabine Pass Waterway and Outer Bar and Bank channels; operation of the SNWW Saltwater Barrier Structure; and maintenance dredging of a non-Federal berthing areas. Also, received \$9,000,000 in supplemental funds in FY 2018 for urgent dredging in the Upper Neches River and Outer Bar and Bank channels as a result of shoaling from Hurricane Harvey.

The USACE Galveston District plays a key role in America's well-being by keeping waterways open for navigation and commerce. The Galveston District is directly responsible for monitoring more than 1,000 miles of channel. Dredges are constantly at work keeping vital marine arteries open for waterborne traffic carrying cargo ranging from crude oil to coffee. Other priorities include construction of jetties or breakwaters to protect harbor and inlet entrances and the locks along the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway at the crossing of the Brazos and Colorado rivers.

- Aids to Navigation**
- GREEN
 - RED
 - YELLOW
- Texas Ports**
- CESWG District Offices
 - Navigation Channel

