MATAGORDA SHIP CHANNEL, TEXAS
Feasibility Study and Environmental Impact Statement
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

Cox Bay
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
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Milestone</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Execute FCSA with Calhoun Port Authority</td>
<td>Aug 5, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notice of Intent to File an EIS</td>
<td>Dec 23, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scoping Meeting</td>
<td>Jan 24, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scoping Comments Accepted Through</td>
<td>Feb 13, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternatives Milestone</td>
<td>Feb 21, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP) Milestone</td>
<td>Jan 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draft Report for Reviews</td>
<td>Apr 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agency Decision Milestone (ADM)</td>
<td>Jul 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feasibility Report Complete</td>
<td>Feb 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Works Review Board (CWRB)</td>
<td>Apr 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S&amp;A Review</td>
<td>May 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chief’s Report</td>
<td>Jul 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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