



PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND TIMELINE

GRAYS HARBOR NAVIGATION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Project Description

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) evaluated deepening the Grays Harbor Navigation Channel from the currently maintained -36 feet mean lower low water (MLLW) to the fully authorized depth of -38 feet MLLW in a Limited Reevaluation Report and, to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act, developed a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) that will tier from the original 1982 EIS and the 1989 SEIS. The deepening would occur from the South Reach upstream to Cow Point Reach where the Port of Grays Harbor Terminal 4 is located. The Grays Harbor Navigation Improvement Project (Project) would deepen approximately 14.5 miles of the 27.5-mile channel.

Currently, the Corps removes up to 2.09 million cubic yards of sediment annually from the channel. The dredged material is placed at various approved sites, including open-water placement at the Point Chehalis and South Jetty placement sites, as well as beneficial use for beach nourishment at South Beach and Half Moon Bay. Deepening the navigation channel to -38 feet MLLW is estimated to require the initial removal of approximately 1.75 million cubic yards in the construction year. The Corps anticipates continuing to place maintenance dredged material at the same sites during and after implementation of the Project.

For additional information about the Project, visit the Corps' website at <http://www.nws.usace.army.mil> and click on Grays Harbor Navigation under Most Requested.

Comments can be directed to Josh Jackson, Grays Harbor General Investigation Project Manager, GraysHarborComments@usace.army.mil.

Project Schedule



Notes: LRR = Limited Reevaluation Report
SEIS = Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement

Project Authority

The Project, including maintenance of the federal Navigation Channel and South Jetty, North Jetty, Point Chehalis Revetment and Groins, is authorized principally by the following:

- Rivers and Harbors Act of June 3, 1896 (29 Stat. 202, Ch. 314)
- Rivers and Harbors Act of August 30, 1935 (49 Stat. 409, Ch. 831, House Document 53, 73rd Congress, 1st Session)
- As further amended, among others, by the Water Resources Development Act of November 17, 1986 (Public Law 99-662), which authorized the channel to a depth of -38 feet MLLW

Project History

1982: Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement completed by the Corps for channel improvement below -30 feet MLLW

1986: Navigation Improvement Project authorized by Congress from -46 feet MLLW (Outer Harbor) to -38 feet MLLW (Inner Harbor)

1989: General Design Memorandum completed by the Corps found economic justification for and recommended deepening to full depth in the Outer Harbor and to -36 feet MLLW in the Inner Harbor

1989: Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement completed by the Corps

1990-1991: Initial deepening to -36 feet MLLW

2009: Reconnaissance 905(b) Analysis and Report completed by the Corps documents Federal interest in reevaluation of dredging to the authorized depth of -38 feet MLLW

2012-2014: Limited Reevaluation Report documents analysis of current economic benefits and costs associated with depths of -37 ft MLLW and -38 feet MLLW

2012-2014: Second Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement documents the scope and purpose of the Project, alternatives considered, and environmental impacts of those alternatives