



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**  
Wilmington District

CESAW-ECP-PE

29 July 2016

**PUBLIC NOTICE & NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY**

**Draft Environmental Assessment (EA)**  
**Eagle Island Improvements**  
**Dike Raise to Elevation 50 Feet**  
**Brunswick and New Hanover Counties, NC**

**PURPOSE OF PUBLIC NOTICE:** This Notice is to inform you that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Wilmington District has prepared the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA), Eagle Island Improvements, Dike Raise to Elevation 50 Feet NAVD88, dated July 2016, and it is available for review. The purpose of this notice is also to solicit your comments and information to better enable us to make a reasonable decision on factors affecting the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors that may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof.

**INFORMATION:** The draft EA for the Eagle Island improvement project has been developed to ensure adequate dredged material disposal capacity for the Wilmington Harbor Federal Navigation Project for at least the next 16 years by recommending the construction of dike raises to elevation 50 feet for Cells 1-3 on Eagle Island in the Cape Fear River. To ensure dike stability, the 50-foot dike raise will require a supportive outer toe berm. This toe berm is projected to impact 39 acres of *Phragmites*-dominated coastal marsh.

The draft EA has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of ER 200-2-2 (33 CFR Part 230): Environmental Quality Procedures for Implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), of 1969, as amended, and 40 CFR Parts 1500 to 1508 the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations for Implementing the NEPA.

**AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT EA:** The report can be accessed as follows:

1. Online, downloaded from the Wilmington District Internet homepage at:  
<http://www.saw.usace.army.mil/Missions/Navigation/Dredging/Wilmington-Harbor/Eagle-Island/>.

2. CD copies of the draft EA may be obtained by contacting:  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District  
ATTN: Ms. Emily Hughes (CESAW-ECP-PE)  
69 Darlington Avenue  
Wilmington, North Carolina 28403  
Telephone: (910) 251-4635  
E-mail: [emily.b.hughes@usace.army.mil](mailto:emily.b.hughes@usace.army.mil)

3. The draft EA is also available for review and inspection (not for distribution) at:  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District  
District Library  
69 Darlington Avenue  
Wilmington, North Carolina 28403

(Note: Please contact Ms. Hughes to make arrangements for reviewing the EA at the District library. Her contact information is listed above.)

4. Copies of the draft EA have been mailed to federal, state, and local agencies, public interest groups, and individuals.

**SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS:** The Wilmington District USACE is soliciting comments from the public, federal, state, and local agencies and officials, and other interested parties to consider and evaluate the impacts of the proposed activity. Comments received will be considered in preparation of the final EA.

Written comments and requests for additional information should be submitted to Ms. Hughes at the above address and/or telephone number.

**COMMENT PERIOD:** Comments may be submitted no later than 30 days from the date of this public notice, so they may be considered during the final evaluation and decision process.



Elden Gatwood  
Chief, Planning and Environmental Branch