



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**  
Savannah District

# Media Advisory

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## Officials to celebrate completion of \$117 Million Brunswick Harbor Deepening

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### **FOR MEDIA PLANNING**

SAVANNAH, Ga. – Federal, state and local officials will mark the completion of the Brunswick Harbor Deepening Project with a symbolic ribbon cutting Monday, June 18 at 11:30 a.m. in Mary Ross Waterfront Park in Brunswick. Scheduled speakers include Congressman Jack Kingston, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, Mr. John Paul Woodley, Jr., Harold Linnenkohl, Georgia Department of Transportation Commissioner, former Senator Mack Mattingly and Doug Marchand of the Georgia Ports Authority.

Some portions of the project are still underway, these include the South Brunswick River Channel and a bird nesting island associated with this portion of the work. The completion of the East River Turning Basin, and its associated mitigation are underway. Both the South Brunswick River Channel and East River Turning Basin will be completed later this year.

The project pushed the inner harbor to a depth of 36 feet below mean low water (mlw) and the ocean entrance channel to a depth of 38 feet below mlw. The work also widened the channel to a 400 foot minimum throughout its entire 22.6-mile length. Some locations of the shipping channel were half that width earlier.

Cooperation among the Corps of Engineers, Georgia Department of Transportation, state and federal officials, contractors, and the community kept the project heading toward completion. Funding and environmental issues were resolved in ways that ensured the project continued and the impact on nature was minimized. Brunswick Harbor can now accommodate larger and deeper draft vessels. With this completion Brunswick Harbor can accommodate 100 percent of all automobile and rolling stock vessels currently afloat worldwide.

The project expanded the Lower Turtle River turning basin to 3,600 feet and the East River turning basin will measure 1,100 by 1,100 feet. The expansion of East River's basin rather than the original plan's creation of a new turning basin in the Upper East River, reduced the loss of critical wetlands by more than half and provided a more useable location for the harbor pilots. Some dredged material formed a new "bird nesting island" in St. Simons Sound.

– 30 –

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