



# AQUATIC HABITAT ECOSYSTEM RESORATION PROJECT

## BIG FISHWEIR CREEK

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG®

### 1) What is the project schedule?

The design and permitting phase is currently underway. Several key activities will be completed over the next several months to include channel surveys, sediment sample collection, geo-tech borings, plans & specifications, design review, FDEP Environmental Resource Permit, etc. Completion of all design and permitting activities is scheduled for 2020.

### 2) How long will the project take?

Design and permitting will be completed in 2020. Advertisement and award of the contract is subject to future Federal and non-federal appropriations. Construction is anticipated to take 8 to 12 months once funding is provided.

### 3) What are the working hours of construction?

The contractor will only be allowed to work during daylight hours.

### 4) What will occur during the design and construction phases?

The design and permitting phase has numerous activities that must occur. Our initial steps will include a detailed survey of the creek and property boundaries. This survey will be used to refine the creek channel alignment and finalize the location for the marsh restoration island. Once these activities are complete our engineering team will work to develop design plans and specifications for bidding. Other activities going on during this time include a bridge stability analysis for Herschel Street Bridge, environmental permitting, testing of the soil and water, etc.

### 5) Will there be a staging area for the project?

Yes. The contractor will need somewhere to store equipment, materials and trucks during construction. The City of Jacksonville will be responsible for identifying acceptable areas near the project.

## PROPOSED FEATURES



“Trusted Partners Delivering Value Today for a Better Tomorrow”

### 6) How can you tell if the project is successful?

Project benefits will include:

- Improved manatee access
- Immobilization of the sediments
- Island habitat for wood storks and other wading birds
- Improved fish and manatee foraging habitat
- Increased tidal flushing and improved water quality
- Improved stream and marsh habitat quality in Area A

### 7) What will be done to address the current pollution in the creek?

The purpose of this project is habitat restoration. However, by sequestering the finer sediments in geotubes, additional benefits of improvement in sediment and water quality may be observed.

### 8) What survey efforts will be completed?

Starting in the fall 2018 the Corps will contract with a survey company to collect bank to bank surveys of the entire creek. The surveyor will also collect pictures of all waterside structures (i.e. docks, retaining walls, outlet pipes, etc.). Lastly, the surveyors will complete deed title searches to identify property boundaries along the creek. Note: you might see our survey folks walking the creek as early as October 2018.

### 9) What is the average depth of the dredging?

Area A (see map above) will be dredged approximately 4 feet to 5 feet deep and 10 feet to 15 feet wide.

Area B will be dredged approximately 5 feet to 6 feet deep and 15 feet to 20 feet wide.

Area C will be dredged approximately 3.5 feet to 4.5 feet deep and 10 feet to 15 feet wide.

Area D will be dredged approximately 6 feet to 8 feet deep and 20 feet to 60 feet wide.

### 10) Will the project affect existing docks?

No. Our plan is to shift the final alignment of the creek as needed to avoid dock structures and current access.

### 11) Why is the island a necessary part of the project?

Although each of the project's restoration activities contribute towards the enhancement and improvement of the environment in the project area, creation of the island contributes the majority of the environmental benefits. Dredging of the creek alone does not provide sufficient environmental benefits to justify the project.

### 12) How large does the island have to be to serve the purpose of the project?

The size of the island is determined by several factors:

- The amount of material required to be dredged to fulfill the intended environmental benefit
- The depth of the water in the area the material will be placed
- The width of the flow channels needed to obtain water velocities sufficient to keep the channels self-maintaining
- The area of habitat required to be created to meet the project's restoration goals
- The cost associated with placing dredged material and the geotube containment walls around the island

### 13) Will the island obstruct landowners' views or access to navigable water?

The island will closely resemble existing marsh areas nearby. The island will be constructed to allow tidal flows and enable marsh grasses to grow.

### 14) How can I get more information about the project?

Project information and updates can be found at [www.saj.usace.army.mil/BigFishweirCreek](http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/BigFishweirCreek), and on our social media pages Facebook.com/JacksonvilleDistrict and Twitter.com/JaxStrong.