

## FACT SHEET



U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS



April 2015

Located on the St. Johns River near Mayport, the Mile Point Training Wall Reconfiguration Project combines relocation and reconfiguration of an existing stone (training) wall, restoration of Great Marsh Island, and creation of a flow improvement channel in Chicopit Bay. The project will help improve navigation on the St. Johns River, increasing commerce efficiencies. Added project benefits include restoring local, historic channel flow and increasing marsh habitat by up to 34 acres more than the mitigation requirement.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District awarded the Mile Point contract April 24, 2015 to Manson Construction Company of Seattle, Wash., for \$39,520,500. The Corps estimates construction will take 12-18 months with completion anticipated in the winter of 2016-17.

The Mile Point area limits navigation during ebb tide due to difficult cross-currents at the convergence of the St. Johns River with the Intracoastal Waterway. There's currently a navigation restriction during ebb tide that affects all vessels with a transit draft greater than 33 feet inbound and 36 feet outbound, inhibiting the free movement of vessel traffic. The project will not only improve vessel transit efficiency, but also reduce safety hazards from this section of the river.

The project is funded in partnership with JaxPort, the local sponsor, which advanced 100 percent of the construction cost under an advanced funds agreement.

Part of the Mile Point project infrastructure includes Helen Cooper Floyd Park, which will remain closed throughout construction. The park will be used as an equipment staging area and also contain extensive construction activity throughout project operations.



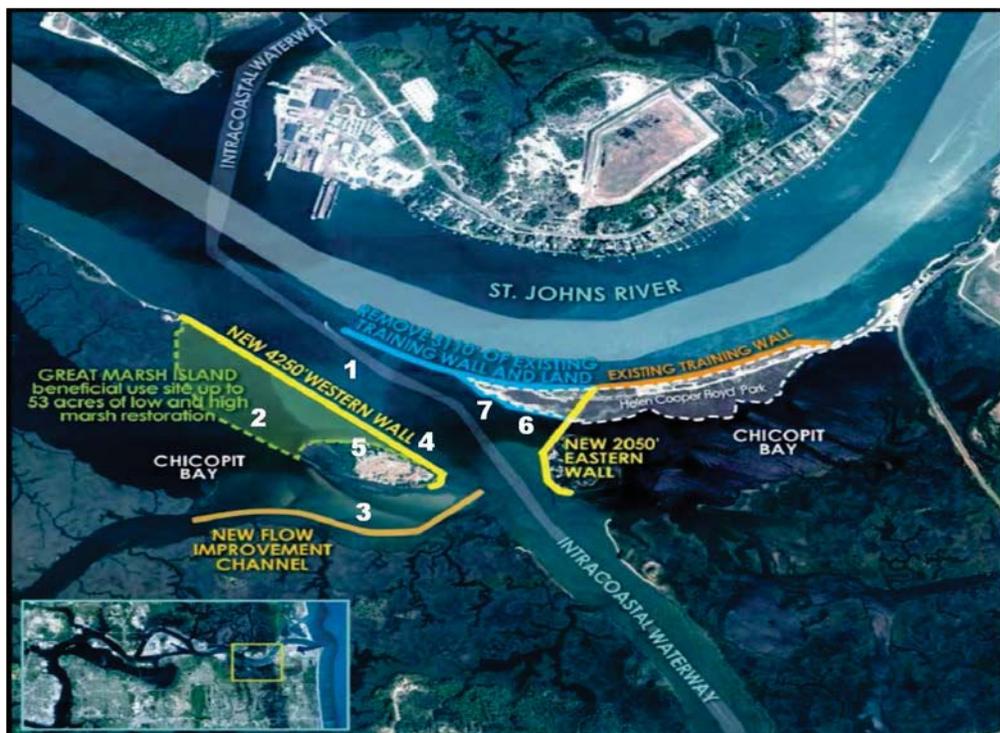
## Project Details

The Corps of Engineers will construct approximately 4,000 feet of a new west leg training wall; remove approximately 3,300 feet of the westerly end of the existing training wall to elevation -12 feet mean lower low water (MLLW), which is the average height of the lowest tide recorded at a tide station each day during the recording period; construct approximately 2,100 feet of a new east leg training wall; and, dredge the confluence area to elevation -12 feet MLLW and the flow improvement channel to elevation -6 feet MLLW, plus one foot allowable over-depth.

The Corps intends to reuse all suitable stone material recovered from the existing training wall to build the east leg training wall. The materials will be contained in the Great Marsh Island placement area, helping restore and create salt marsh. The project will result in the loss of 8.15 acres of salt marsh at Helen Cooper Floyd Park, and this will be offset by restoring 18.84 acres of salt marsh at the nearby Great Marsh Island. In addition, beyond the mitigation requirement, the Corps will use dredged material from the project in a beneficial manner to restore up to a total of 53 acres of salt marsh at Great Marsh Island. This effort will include restoration of high and low salt marsh as well as low dune and oyster habitat, which is also an excellent fish environment. The new west leg of the training wall should also substantially reduce active erosion at Great Marsh Island.

Other project work includes clearing and grubbing, marine animal monitoring, bird monitoring, turbidity monitoring, and coordinating with the U.S Coast Guard to allow its crews to remove and reinstall three aid-to-navigation structures.

The Corps asks the public to use caution in the area during staging and construction operations, and for local residents to be patient with the temporary construction noise as the project progresses. For more information on the Mile Point Navigation Project, please visit [www.saj.usace.army.mil](http://www.saj.usace.army.mil) and go to Ports, Jacksonville Harbor Mile Point.



## Project Map and Construction Sequence

- 1) The contractor's first order of work is to construct the west leg training wall (WLTW) and wall containment feature.
- 2) Place geotextile tubes and the temporary containment feature to create an initial placement area.
- 3) Dredge the flow improvement channel and place the material into the initial containment area.
- 4) Complete the remaining portion of the west leg training wall.
- 5) Place the remaining geotextile tubes to complete the overall Great Marsh Island placement area, and remove the temporary containment feature.
- 6) Complete the WLTW and begin demolition of the existing training wall along with excavation and dredging of the main dredging area.
- 7) The U.S. Coast Guard will construct two new range towers and demolish and remove the three existing range tower structures (#7260, #7265, #7287) except for their foundations.
- 8) The contractor will work in all areas of the project that still require construction.

