



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, MOBILE DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 2288
MOBILE, AL 36628-0001

CESAM – PD EC

July 20, 2018

**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS,
MOBILE DISTRICT**

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
OF THE
DRAFT MOBILE HARBOR, ALABAMA
GENERAL REEVALUATION REPORT (GRR) WITH AN INTEGRATED
SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (SEIS)**

MOBILE COUNTY, ALABAMA

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Mobile District is announcing the availability and soliciting comments on the Draft Mobile Harbor, Alabama GRR with an Integrated SEIS, Mobile County, Alabama. A copy of the Draft SEIS is located at the following website: <http://www.sam.usace.army.mil/Missions/Program-and-Project-Management/Civil-Projects/Mobile-Harbor-GRR/>. This document is being circulated to resource agencies and the public for a 45-day comment period.

Improvements to Mobile Harbor were most recently reauthorized in Section 201 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (PL 99 – 662, Ninety-ninth Congress, Second Session), which was approved November 17, 1986, and subsequently amended by Section 302 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1996. The Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP) consists of: deepening the existing channel an additional 5 feet (existing 45-foot deep channel in the bay to 50 feet and existing 47-foot deep channel in the bar to 52 feet); adding an additional 100 feet of widening for a distance of three miles beginning at the upper end of the bend area at the 50-foot depth; including bend easing with the deepening at the upper end of the bar channel; and, modification to the Choctaw Pass turning basin to ensure safe operation at the 50-foot depth. The USACE, Mobile District conducted extensive modeling of a "maximum potential impacts" scenario with potential environmental effects equal to or greater than the TSP (i.e. dredging to a depth of 50 feet with widening of a five-mile channel section by 100 feet). It should be noted that the actual TSP represents conditions less than the modeled channel dimensions. Material dredged during the improvements will be placed at a relic shell mined area and the Mobile Ocean Dredged Material Disposal Site (ODMDS). Any suitable bar channel new work material dredged in sufficient quantity to warrant placement at the Sand Island Beneficial Use Area (SIBUA) will be accomplished accordingly. Future material from channel maintenance will be placed at those previously noted disposal sites in addition to open-water sites adjacent to the channel, the northwestern SIBUA expansion, and/or upland disposal sites.

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Public comments can be submitted through a variety of methods. Written comments may be submitted to the USACE, Mobile District by mail, facsimile, or electronic methods by September 10, 2018.

Comments on the Draft SEIS must be received at the address below within 45 days after the publication of the Notice of Availability in the Federal Register.

For further information contact:

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Sincerely,



CURTIS M. FLAKES
Chief, Planning and Environmental
Division