



Project Summary

MASON INLET RELOCATION PROJECT New Hanover County, North Carolina

Summary: In March 2002, Mason Inlet was relocated 3,000 feet north along Figure Eight Island. Ms. Erickson, as the Project's Engineer of Record for this highly unique Project coordinated all services including planning, design, NC DCM and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permit processing, and she prepared the final construction documents. The Project's Contractor, Southwind Dredging constructed the Project on budget and within the allotted 3.5 month construction window. This project provided a rare opportunity to relocate a rapidly migrating inlet that posed a substantial threat to Wrightville Beach with more than \$239 million dollars in potential economic losses that would result without the Project.

Date: December 2002 – April 2002

Location: New Hanover County, North Carolina

Key Project Elements:

- Design and Permit a 900,000 CY Dredging Beach Nourishment Project
- Processed and Acquired all Regulatory Permits from DCM and USACE Wilmington District
- Economic Analysis of Project Benefits and Costs for Project Financing
- Geotechnical Analysis of Sand Source and Channel Excavation
- Construction Administration Services

Project Construction began in late December 2001 and was completed in April 2002. To date, the inlet has provided significant recreational benefits to boaters and beach users, improved flushing within the Middle Sound Estuary and AIWW and beach nourishment to control erosion at Figure Eight Island. ECE worked with the USACE, Coastal Inlet Program to monitor the changes in tidal currents, water levels and the sand budget for the adjacent beaches and inlet to evaluate post-construction changes. Ms. Erickson continues to assist New Hanover County in the implementation of their special assessment program to refund the tourist bed tax using the special district financing program developed to pay for the Mason Inlet Relocation Project.

