

Future Opportunities:

\$31.6-million Deepening Funded for Jacksonville



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The impact of the Port of Jacksonville on the local economy is estimated at \$1.38 billion annually.

Jacksonville's main shipping channel, a 23-mile stretch of the St. Johns River, extends from the river's mouth to the Jacksonville Port Authority (JAXPORT) Talleyrand Marine Terminal just north of downtown Jacksonville.

The Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) approved final authorization for the deepening of Jacksonville's harbor from its current depth of -38 feet to a depth of -40 feet. Dredging will also include deepening of the west channel of JAXPORT's Blount Island Marine Terminal, taking the channel from -30 to -38 ft. The main channel will be deepened to -40 ft and -41 ft in areas where there is a limestone rock bottom.

The \$31.6 million project, to be coordinated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, will deepen the outer 14 miles of the St. Johns River federal channel from the mouth of the river to Drummond Point. Funding is secured; dredging is anticipated to begin during the summer of 2001 and to be completed in 2003.



A Great Lakes' hopper dredge working immediately adjacent to Blount Island Terminal.

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