



ERDC Dredging Operations Technical Support Program (DOTS)

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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Response Summary:

The purpose of this trip was to visit the Blair Waterway in Commencement Bay, WA to develop an understanding of port operations at the Port of Tacoma and take digital imagery during transits around the area of interest. This was accomplished by riding a tug vessel around the Blair Waterway (vessel track shown in pink in Figure 1) and riding an inbound container ship into the Washington United Terminal (WUT) (vessel track shown in yellow in Figure 1). During this trip, initial discussions with pilots, the Port of Tacoma, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Seattle District (CENWS) regarding ship simulation for Tacoma Harbor were also accomplished.

Period of Performance:

The reconnaissance trip was conducted from March 11 – 15, 2019

Benefits of the Response to the USACE Dredging/Navigation Program:

The digital images taken during the reconnaissance trip will be used to develop the ship simulator's visual database for a subsequent navigation study of the Blair Waterway. This trip also facilitated initial discussions with pilots, the port, and the U.S. Army of Corps of Engineers Seattle District (CENWS).

Deliverable:

A Feasibility Level Ship Simulation Program (FLSSP) is scheduled to occur in April 2019 for the Blair Waterway in Tacoma Harbor. Following the completion of the FLSSP, a Letter Report will be sent to CENWS. Once the project moves into the Pre-Construction Engineering and Design (PED) phase, a complete ship simulation study will be completed which will result in a Technical Report being generated.

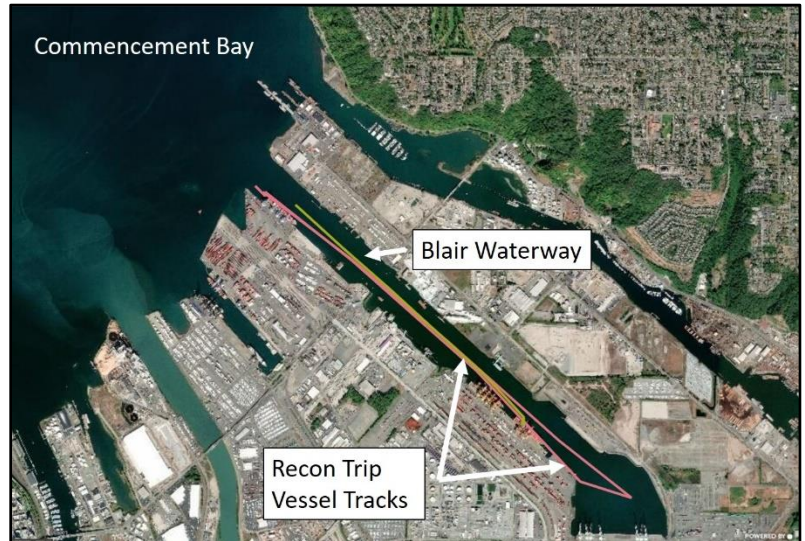


Figure 1. Vessel tracks in the Blair Waterway for the Tacoma Harbor reconnaissance trip

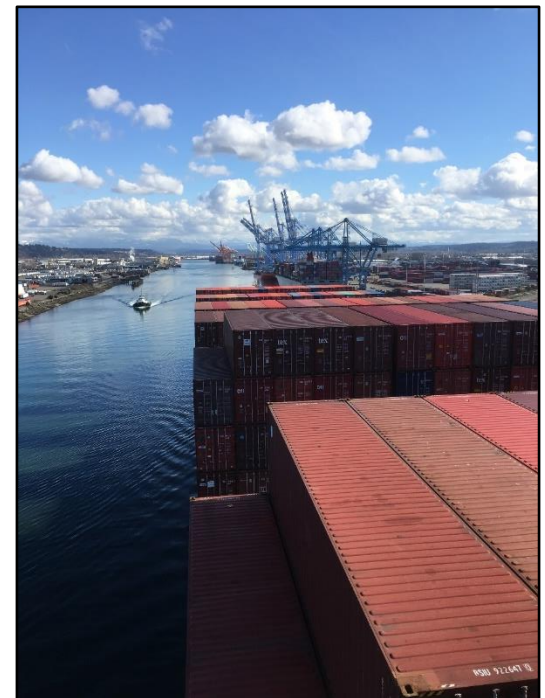


Figure 2. Container ship heading inbound on the Blair Waterway

Providing environmental and engineering technical support to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Operations and Maintenance navigation and dredging missions

