



The Voice of the Waterway



April 18, 2025

Congressman Greg Murphy
407 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Dr. Murphy,

The Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway Association (AIWA) is writing to request your continued support for the Operations & Maintenance of the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway (AIWW) in North Carolina through a Community Funding Project Request for Fiscal Year 2026 for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The AIWW is a vital part of the nation's transportation system. Identified as Marine Highway 95, the AIWW provides the following benefits to North Carolina and the Nation. Those benefits include:

- National defense with training activities at Camp Lejeune and elsewhere, the delivery of jet fuel to Naval Air Station Oceana in Virginia and Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort in South Carolina from Norfolk, VA and Jacksonville, FL, respectively.
- Coast Guard mission support to perform rescues and patrols
- On-water training for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms for homeland security
- Economic development for communities and marinas who gain value from commercial and recreational users, including the charter fishing fleets in North Carolina
- Commercial operations for the movement of products by tug and barge throughout the waterway but specifically in support of Nucor Steel and the ports of Wilmington and Morehead City.
- Thousands of recreational waterway users and over 10,000 snowbirds that make the annual migration from the northeast to points south each year.

Last year, we were pleased to see your request for \$4,222,000 for the dredging of the AIWW in Carteret County. We completely support this request and all others for dredging of the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway. Based on our last update from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the North Carolina section of the waterway has an Operations & Maintenance backlog of \$15,000,000 and an annual maintenance need of \$7,000,000. All requests you make on behalf of increased funding for dredging the waterway is appreciated. Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

Brad Pickel
Executive Director, Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway Association