

Synopsis of July 25 – 27, 2011 Washington DC Trip
(August 11, 2011)

Bald Head's Mayor, Andy Sayre and Shoreline Protection Manager, Chris McCall met with various staff members of the federal government to discuss the crisis situation facing Bald Head Island due to lack of federal funding for the Wilmington Harbor Project.

Two specific requests were made during this trip:

- The **FY2012 budget needs to include +/- \$15 million** for the Army Corps of Engineers to dredge the Inner Bar of the Channel per the contractual obligation of the Sand Management Plan which would provide re-nourishment to Bald Head's beaches next year.
- The **FY2012 budget needs to include \$250,000** in funding for the Wilmington Harbor Navigation Improvements Project (905b) Feasibility Study. The state has budgeted for its portion but the study cannot proceed without the matching federal money. The improvements could potentially reduce the current non-natural rate of erosion on Bald Head by proposing long term solutions (i.e. hardened structures, realignment of the channel, revised dredging schedule, etc) for the shoaling issues of the channel.

Various meetings were conducted with the following officials:

Executive Office of the President

Gary Waxman, General Attorney, Office of Management & Budget

Senate

Senator Kay Hagan (D-NC)

Roger Cockrell, Professional Staff Member, Committee on Appropriations

Ted Illston, Counsel, Committee on Environment & Public Works

Tom O'Donnell, Chief of Staff for Senator Kay Hagan

Shaniqua McClendon, Legislative Correspondent for Senator Kay Hagan

Kara Weishaar, Legislative Assistant for Senator Richard Burr (R-NC)

Katie Jordan, Legislative Aide for Senator Richard Burr

House

Congressman Mike McIntyre (D-NC)

John T. Anderson, Staff Director, Subcommittee on Water Resources & Environment and
Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure

Stratton Kirton, Legislative Assistant for Rep. Mike McIntyre

United States Department of the Army

Let Mon Lee, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy & Legislation

Jeffrey McKee, representative from Headquarters, United States Army Corps of Engineers

While the Mayor was able to meet with the correct people to understand and assist Bald Head with its issues, the outlook from most of these officials was dismal concerning funding in next year's budget. The Village would like your assistance in pressing our point at the State and Federal levels.