By Administrator Thursday, 26 March 2015 05:22 -

RALEIGH, (SGRToday.com) - The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has awarded a \$7.9 million contract to resolve critical channel maintenance issues at the Port of Morehead City.

The dredging contract was awarded to Marinex Construction Company of North Charleston, South Carolina. The contract calls for the removal of approximately 725,000 cubic yards of material from the channel.

A construction schedule will be working on a schedule to begin operations as soon as possible.

"Goods moving through the Port of Morehead City contribute nearly \$1 billion to our state's economy," said North Carolina Ports Chief Executive Officer Paul Cozza in a statement. "Our State support in ensuring the viability of the Port of Morehead City has been simply invaluable."

The Morehead City Harbor has an authorized depth of 45 feet, but shoaling sand has limited the depth to about 34 feet. That makes it difficult if not impossible for some of the Port of Morehead City's biggest customers to gain access to the facility.