September 3, 2015

Wilmington U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Field Regulatory Office
C/O Mickey Sugg
69 Darlington Avenue
Wilmington, NC 28403

Dear Friends:

We urge you not to build the proposed terminal groin at Figure Eight Island.

It would disrupt and reduce habitat for numerous shorebirds, including some species that are already at risk.

We can't hold back the rising ocean any more than King Canute could hold back the tide! It's time for people to learn to live with our future instead of trying to stop it.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Dear Mr. Sugg:

We are members of the public that uses the public beach at Rich Inlet for boating, swimming, bird watching and fishing. We object to this proposal because it will degrade public trust uses of this beautiful and productive beach and inlet complex.

My family and I have been enjoying Rich Inlet for over 25 years and we have witnessed many, many in shape, depth and channel movement. I remember when the old ‘fisherman’s shack’ on the south end of Lea Island had a working hand pumped well and a floating dock with a passageway between the beach and an island. Now it is all one and Nature has seen fit to redeposit significant sand beaches to the south of the channel as part of the north side of Figure Head Island and in so doing has added immense protection to the north end of Figure Eight Island.

The erosion issues at Rich Inlet no longer threatens the homes at the northern end of Figure Eight Island, so I see no need for the construction of a terminal groin to address a problem that no longer exists. Not only will a terminal groin degrade and destroy public use of the inlet complex, it will
destroy critical wildlife habitat that is protected by the Federal Government of which your agency is a component.

My family and I are strongly opposed to such construction that has never worked long term at any inlet it was used at.

Sincerely
September 6, 2015

Wilmington U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Field Regulatory Office
Attn: Mickey Sugg
69 Darlington Avenue
Wilmington, NC 28403

Dear Sirs:

I am a resident of North Carolina and a frequent visitor to our mountains and our coast and appreciate the unspoiled beauty of our state. I also appreciate that people would want to protect their properties.

I understand that some residents of Figure Eight Island want to erect a fortified groin at Rich Inlet on the north end of that island. It is my understanding from expert sources that attempts to protect beaches or ocean front land with hardened structures is always to the detriment of nearby areas. One only has to look at some of the other ocean front areas on the east coast of the United States and see where attempts to protect certain areas have resulted in destruction of beaches, inlets and critical wildlife areas not to mention spoiling the beauty of the natural beaches and marshland areas.

When people choose to erect structures in environmentally sensitive and unstable areas they should be prepared to accept the risks involved and not expect to be able to destroy other people's property and important wildlife areas to protect their less than responsible decisions.

I hope that North Carolina will be known in the future as a state that has protected our natural resources and that any attempts to build groins or jetties along our coast will be rejected.

Sincerely,
Dear Mr. Sugg:

I am a resident of Wilmington, and have been for 40 years. I moved here to live in this beautiful coastal environment! I was unable to attend the recent hearing held at Ogden Elementary and would like to take this opportunity to voice my opposition to the proposed terminal groin on Rich Inlet.

I fear this terminal groin would have a terminal effect on the coastal environment!!!

I realize the purpose of the proposed groin is to save the $900 million dollar property value of Figure 8 Island, but you must also realize it will negatively impact the undeveloped barrier island which is a sanctuary to more than 90 species of nesting and migrating birds, a nesting site for sea turtles and a habitat for other plants and animals. Residents of New Hanover County and Pender County enjoy the undeveloped barrier islands and the beauty of the surrounding waters - I wonder how many homeowners on Figure 8 are actual full time residents. Should this exclusive island have the power to dismiss the value of our coastal natural habitat?

Please take into consideration all the pleas you read and hear in opposition to this project. Our planet is suffering due to the impact of humans- this decision to deny the construction of the terminal groin in Rich Inlet may be a small but mighty method of saving one of North Carolina's beautiful and valuable pristine habitats for living creatures other than humans!

Sincerely,

[Redacted]

Please honor Endangered Species Act
Please refer to statement in Coastal Review.org/2015/09/opponents-terminal