



Cape Fear Firebird

The Light of Save the Cape

September 9, 2012

Dream no small dreams for they have no power to move the hearts of men.
-Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Vision

The plan to develop a megaport on the Cape Fear River was conceived, and is still supported, by men afflicted with mental myopia and tunnel vision. They do not see the lower Cape Fear region for what it is and can be—only what they want from it.

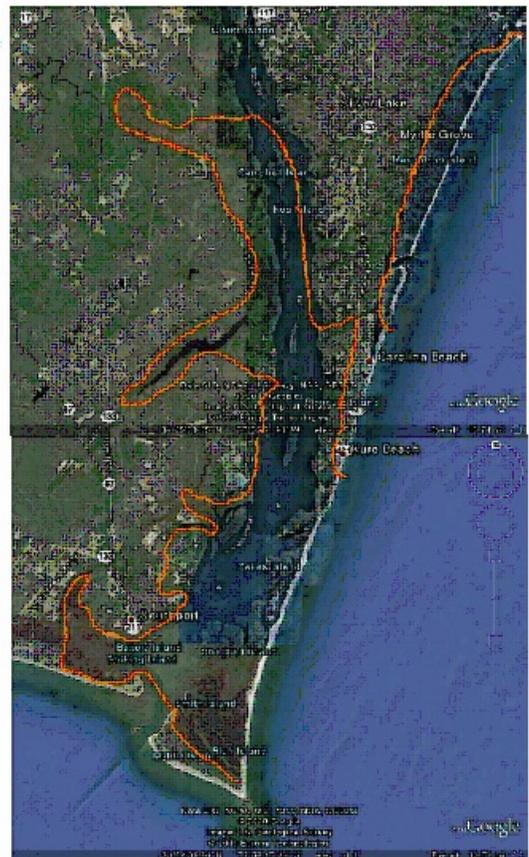
The region deserves better. One of the last relatively unspoiled river mouths on the East Coast, its special and unique natural characteristics make it a State and National natural treasure. The history of the United States is embedded in this land, indeed, in the river itself. The City of Southport has been blessed with a population that, over the years, has demonstrated a pride of place and sense of tradition that has resisted most (but, alas, not all) of the insensitive development that has spoiled so many coastal communities.

We have a vision. A vision of a lower Cape Fear growing gracefully, its people employing and enhancing the region's natural capital to serve, support, and nurture us and future generations, instead of wasting that capital on reckless exploitation. This is a rare opportunity, for so many river estuaries, once beautiful and bountiful, are now dominated by disused docks, shabby warehouses, tank farms, smokestacks, and crime-ridden slums.

Two years ago, when Save the Cape was organized, we conceived a plan for a National Seashore at the Cape Fear. With a bit of research, we found that the National Park Service had once recommended National Monument status for the Cape Fear. We put together a preliminary prospectus, which includes the conceptual map on the right and an inventory of many of the unique natural features. Go here: <http://savethecape.org/stcwp1/national-seashore>.

With the megaport put to sleep, we are turning our attention to that effort. Ambitious, yes. But whether we succeed or not, the project should serve to raise the consciousness, broaden the perspective, move the hearts of those making decisions. And we who elect them.

We could use some help, folks. Do you share our dream?



Save the Cape, Inc

Post Office Box 10542
www.savethecape.org

Southport, NC 28461