PROJECT CASE STUDY / FEDERAL · WATERFRONT

Pier 6 Small Craft Berthing Facility

Naval Amphibious Base Coronado, California

NAVFAC Southwest, FEAD Coronado · In-Line as Prime Contractor



The gangway at Pier 6 — the access run from the pier deck down to the new floating berthing platform, with amphibious craft alongside.

CLIENT

U.S. Department of the Navy — NAVFAC Southwest

IN-LINE ROLE

Prime contractor, design and construction

SOLICITATION

N62473-10-G-5423-X392

VEHICLE

SBA 8(a) Basic Ordering Agreement

AWARDED

December 2013

PERIOD

120 days, design and construction

THE PROJECT

Naval Amphibious Base Coronado needed somewhere to berth its rigid-hull inflatable boats. Not a slip — a drive-on platform the crews could run a twenty-thousand-pound RIB straight up onto and step off dry.

The Navy issued it as a design-and-construct task order off In-Line's 8(a) Basic Ordering Agreement with NAVFAC Southwest: two drive-on dock and boat lift systems at Pier 6, complete, in place, and ready for use, with the gangway and pier modifications to reach them.

WHY IT WAS HARD

A construction window set by wildlife, not by the schedule

Under a Memorandum of Understanding between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Navy, work in this part of San Diego Bay is permitted **only between 16 September and 31 March**. Nothing outside that window. Design, permitting, procurement, fabrication and installation all had to land inside one narrow season — and the penalty for missing it is not a liquidated damages line, it is waiting until the following September.

Design-build in 120 days, on the water

The order covered design as well as construction. In-Line engineered the platform configuration around the boat — a RIB roughly 20,000 pounds empty, 11 feet wide and 36 feet long — and specified a modular high-density polyethylene system: air-filled, heat-sealed cubes pinned into a flexible platform that yields to the hull as the boat drives up, so a hard landing does not damage the vessel.

Permits, habitat and NEPA

Eelgrass surveys, essential fish habitat assessment, Army Corps and water permits and Coastal Commission consultation were all in play, alongside NEPA and a categorical exclusion tied to a site approval request specific to Pier 6. In-Line worked to that framework and processed the balance of the permits itself.

Modifying a working pier

Making room for the new system meant demolishing and relocating an existing pier fender and shortening it to suit the new position — on an operational amphibious base pier, with craft berthed alongside throughout.

WHAT IN-LINE DELIVERED

- **Two drive-on dock and boat lift systems** — modular HDPE floating platforms engineered to receive a 20,000-pound rigid-hull inflatable boat under power.
- **A 40-foot gangway** with slip-resistant deck, connecting the pier to the floating platform.
- **Pier fender demolition and relocation**, shortened and reset to clear the new berthing position, with demolition and construction plans submitted for government approval first.
- **Design, permitting and construction as one task order** — delivered inside the Fish and Wildlife construction window.
- **Full prime contractor delivery** — 8(a) compliance including SBA subcontractor notification and performance-of-work certification, bonding, base access and closeout.

SCOPE AT A GLANCE

Waterfront construction | Drive-on dock systems | Floating platforms | Gangway | Pier fender demolition | Design-build | Environmental permitting

THE RESULT

The facility went in at Pier 6 and has been berthing small craft at Naval Amphibious Base Coronado since. The gangway in the photograph is the access run the crews walk every day.

Design, permit, procure, demolish, build and hand over a working waterfront facility — inside a six-month window that closes whether you are finished or not.

MORE THAN FENCE AND RAILING

In-Line is a licensed general engineering and structural steel contractor holding federal contracts in its own name. Fence and railing is the largest part of what we do — it is not the limit of it.

- **We hold an 8(a) ordering agreement with NAVFAC Southwest** and have delivered task orders under it from waterfront construction at Coronado to facility construction at Twentynine Palms.
- **We design as well as build.** Design-build task orders, delegated design, engineered stamped connection details — resolved before the field sees them.
- **We work inside environmental constraints.** Habitat windows, eelgrass and fish habitat surveys, NEPA, threatened species protocols — planned into the schedule from day one.
- **We are certified, bonded, signatory, and safe.** DBE · SBE · SLBE · SB · HUBZone · SBA 8(a). Union affiliated, Local 89 & Local 12. CSLB C-13, C-51, C-32. Bonded through Old Republic Surety, rated A+ XV. **EMR 0.68.**

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