



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**  
New York District

# Raritan Bay and Sandy Hook Bay, NJ SECTION 506

Hurricane and Storm Damage Reduction

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## FACT SHEET

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**DESCRIPTION:** The project area lies along Raritan Bay and Sandy Hook Bay and encompasses 2.7 miles of shoreline in the Borough of Keansburg and in East Keansburg (located in Middletown Township), Monmouth County, and 0.6 miles of shoreline in Laurence Harbor, located in Old Bridge Township, Middlesex County, New Jersey. In 1973, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers completed a project that consisted of the construction of groins, a beach berm, levees, pump station, floodwall, and a storm closure gate in the Keansburg area. Similarly, the Corps constructed a beach berm and levees at Laurence Harbor in 1966. As a result of recent hurricanes, coastal storm events, and the lack of subsequent storm protection measures in these areas, the shore protection and flood control abilities of the Keansburg, East Keansburg, and Laurence Harbor beaches has been significantly reduced, threatening the viability of the constructed project.

Coastal storms have been a continuing source of damage and economic loss all along the south shore of Raritan Bay. Damage to coastal structures and infrastructure can occur from three primary damage mechanisms, including inundation, direct wave attack, and storm induced recession. The Section 506 project being considered consists of the restoration of the previously constructed beach berm and renourishment of the restored beaches on a periodic basis to reduce wave induced erosion of the existing beaches and provide storm damage protection to commercial, public, and private properties and infrastructure located along the shoreline.

**AUTHORIZATION:** The existing Federal project for the Raritan Bay and Sandy Hook Bay was authorized by the Flood Control Act of October 12, 1962, as a dual purpose Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project, and reauthorized by Section 363 of WRDA 1996. Section 506 of WRDA 1996 authorizes periodic nourishment for 50 years from initiation of construction, subject to a review of the project, in accordance with WRDA 1976 and Section 934 of WRDA 1986, as amended.

**STATUS:** Funds have been appropriated for design, environmental assessment, economic analyses, cultural investigations, and real estate investigations in support of the preparation of a reevaluation report document and potential initiation of plans and specifications.

A Design Agreement was signed with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), acting as the non-federal sponsor, on November 10, 1999, and the Re-Evaluation Study started in January 1999. This reevaluation report serves as a basis for the possible extension of periodic nourishment for the constructed portions of the existing project for Keansburg and East Keansburg and Laurence Harbor. The Draft Re-Evaluation Report with Environmental Assessment was released for public review in December 2007.

**TOTAL DESIGN COST:** The total cost of the current design effort, which includes the preparation of a reevaluation report and plans and specifications, is approximately \$980,000, with cost-sharing at 75% Federal (\$735,000) and 25% non-federal (245,000).

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