



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

Shark River, NJ

Federal Navigation Channel Maintenance and Stewardship

FACT SHEET

FEBRUARY 2012

DESCRIPTION: Continued engineering and design and environmental coordination for the maintenance dredging of the shoals at the entrance to the inlet along with the advanced maintenance for the Shark River Inlet. Complete the modeling effort that will help the PDT find a long-term solution for the continued shoaling issues at the entrance to the inlet.

AUTHORIZATION / PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Rivers and Harbors Act of 1945 authorized the Federal Navigation project for Shark River. The existing project provides for a channel 18 feet deep at mean low water and 150 feet wide, across the bar at the entrance to the inlet; thence 12 feet deep and generally 100 feet wide through the Main and South Channels to the Route 35 Bridge; thence 8 feet and 100 feet wide to the upper limit of the Belmar Municipal Boat Basin, with additional depths and widths where necessary and practicable to produce satisfactory current velocities at bridges. The total length of the project is approximately 1.7 miles, including the 12-foot deep, 7.3-acre anchorage area immediately east of the Route 4-N bridge.

STATUS: Shoals located at the entrance to the inlet continue to develop and were dredged recently in June 2011. These same shoals were previously dredged in June 2010 and then on average every 6 months going back to 2006. Each time, approximately 20,000 to 25,000 CY of dredged material was placed north of the L-jetty at the Borough of Avon-by-the Sea as a near shore berm in approximately 10 –14 feet of water. Users concerns regarding a continuing shoaling problem are currently being evaluated for short term and long term solutions. NAD gave approval (Jan '09) to perform advance maintenance dredging to alleviate some of the pressure associated with dredging 2X/year and requiring the Corps dredge CURRITUCK less frequently. The initial advanced maintenance was completed June 2010. The inlet will be monitored for effectiveness of the advanced maintenance.

Future work includes maintenance dredging of the entrance channel as well as dredging the inland portion of the channel. The last maintenance dredging of the inland portion of the project was performed in January 2003. This maintenance dredging project involved the dredging of shoals located in the entrance to the inlet and a portion of the main channel east of the entrance to the yacht basin. Work was completed on January 16, 2003. A total of 20,000 cubic yards of sand was dredged from the channel and placed on the beach north of the L-jetty at the Borough of Avon-by-the Sea and as a nearshore berm in approximately 10 –14 feet of water.

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