



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

# Great South Bay, NY

**Federal Navigation Channel  
Maintenance of Infrastructure and Stewardship**

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**FACT SHEET**

**AUG/SEP 2012**

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**DESCRIPTION:** No work is anticipated as no funding is provided in FY12.

**AUTHORIZATION:** The Federally improved channel was authorized by the Rivers and Harbors Act of 13 June 1902 and modified in 1970. The original project provides for a navigation channel 10 feet deep, 200 feet wide from Fire Island Inlet to the Central Basin in Great South Bay opposite Patchogue, thence 100 feet wide to mile 18.9 in the Patchogue River with a turning basin at the upper end at a depth of 11 feet, thence 8 feet deep to the upstream limit of the projects. A reconnaissance report on Operations and Maintenance prepared in July 1979 concluded that no maintenance dredging is justified below 8 feet MLW for the entire channel length. The project was only 55% complete as of 1986.

**COMMERCE:** For the Great South Bay, NY there is a five-year average annual commercial tonnage of 1,352 tons reported. No commerce is reported for the Patchogue River reach of the Great South Bay.

**FUNDING:** In FY11, available funds were used to continue barebones environmental coordination, evaluate the most recent condition survey of the Bay, and perform grain size analysis as appropriate, based on coordination with the NYSDEC Region 1. In FY08 and FY09, funds were used for environmental coordination and controlling depth reports. In FY2006, \$180K was used for Engineering and Design work and to prepare final Plans and Specifications, to coordinate with the Village of Patchogue, who awarded the project contract and completed the Patchogue River reach dredging in FY08 with non-federal funds.

**STATUS:** Placement sites for dredged material from Great South Bay are needed for possible future maintenance of the more critical project areas within the Bay. Coordination with the NYSDEC and the South Shore Estuary Reserve is ongoing. The Village of Patchogue has completed the maintenance dredging of the Patchogue River with dewatering in geobags at the old Amerada Hess site along the river before trucking to Brookhaven landfill. Maintenance dredging of the Patchogue River was performed recently in 2007/2008, and previously in 1969. Maintenance dredging of GSB, performed in 1992, removed approximately 120,000 cubic yards of material.

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