Salt Marsh Mitigation Project at Joseph P. Medwick Park, Carteret, N.J.

As of February 2012

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS **BUILDING STRONG®**

DESCRIPTION

The Joseph P. Medwick Park in Carteret, New Jersey has been selected for restoration by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to compensate for the unavoidable, potential shallow water impacts resulting from the deepening of the Arthur Kill Channel in the New York/New Jersey Harbor. The Corps, along with The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, are deepening key shipping channels in the Harbor as part of an overall harbor effort to ensure safe and efficient channels for the larger class of vessels calling at the port. In addition to ensuring a safe, efficient Port, the partners are committed to maintaining a healthy, diverse and sustainable environment through the creation, enhancement and restoration of aquatic, wetland and upland habitat.

The area of Medwick Park that is being restored by the Corps and the Port Authority, in partnership with Middlesex County, N.J. Department of Parks and Recreation, consists of approximately 14 acres of tidal wetlands located in the northern portion of the park along the southern shore of the Rahway River. The tidal wetland is currently dominated by common reed (Phragmites australis), with isolated remnant areas of saltmarsh cordgrass (Spartina alterniflora) and salt hay (Spartina patens), all of which are found along the tidal creeks leading to the river. After clearing, excavating and grading the site, the phragmites will be removed and replaced by native wetland species. Once tidal inundation to the area has been reestablished, water and sediment quality will be improved, promoting the return of native fish and wildlife.

The restoration project consists of clearing, excavating and grading an area of approximately 14 acres, removal and disposal of approximately 35,000 cubic yards of soil to an approved landfill site, removal of invasive species such as phragmites and regrading of the marsh surface to achieve elevations that are more favorable to the growth of desirable species (such as various Spartina alterniflora), limited placement of clean soil and replanting of more than 270,000 native wetland species, such as various spartina grasses.

STATUS
On Sept. 29, 2005, the Corps awarded a $3.3 million contract to the Dawson Corporation of Clarksburg, NJ. A Notice to Proceed was issued on October 19, 2005. Mobilization at the site was in February 2006.

The restoration work was substantially completed in December 2006. The contractual completion date was March 14, 2007. Final inspection was held on July 30, 2007. Construction accepted as completed. Monitoring of the site has been completed..

CONTACT: Mr. Michael Millard, Project Manager, Project Management Division, Harbor Programs Branch
email: michael.j.millard@usace.army.mil tel: (917) 790-8206 FAX: (212) 264-2924.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

State	Senator/Representative
NJ	Sen. Robert Menendez
NJ	Sen. Frank Lautenberg
NJ-13	Rep. Albio Sires