



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

# Shark River, NJ

## Federal Navigation Channel Maintenance and Stewardship

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**FACT SHEET**

**DECEMBER 2008**

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**DESCRIPTION:** Maintenance dredging of inlet entrance to Shark River is planned for December/January of 2008/2009.

**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 are developing and will need to be dredged in December 2008/January 2009. This same shoal was previously dredged May 26 to June 6, 2008. 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. The same area was dredged December 2007 and November 2006. Users concerns regarding a continuing shoaling problem are currently being evaluated for short term and long term solutions. Approval to perform advance maintenance dredging is being requested to alleviate some of the pressure associated with dredging 2X/year and requiring the Corps dredge CURRITUCK more frequently. This is also subject to availability of funds.

Future work include evaluating the condition surveys to identify any possible inland areas of shoaling and initiate engineering and design work, as required. 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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