



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

ELIZABETH RIVER AT HILLSIDE, NJ Flood Control Project

FACT SHEET

DESCRIPTION: The project area is within the Township of Hillside, New Jersey. Flooding has occurred along the Elizabeth River in the Township of Hillside just downstream of Route 22 due to flows, which exceed the capacity of the existing channel, and insufficient drainage of the runoff from the upland areas. The purpose of this project is the reduction of flood hazards and associated flood damages, and maintenance of fish and wildlife resources in the project area.

AUTHORIZATION/PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project is authorized by Section 205 of the Flood Control Act of 1948, as amended (33 U.S.C. 701s). The constructed plan consists of an earthen levee with interior flood control facilities along the left bank of the Elizabeth River. The levee is 1,755 feet long, has an average height of 9 feet, a 10 foot top width, and an average bottom width of 70 feet. In some sections the levee is wider to prevent seepage during any prolonged high river stages. The interior flood control measures consist of storm drains, drainage ditches, a natural ponding area, and a 40 cubic feet per second pumping chamber located within the levee. The project has various features to mitigate for the loss of wetlands due to the project, the major feature being seven mitigation depressions that both enhance existing wetlands and create new wetlands. The project reduces flood damages to approximately 80 residential and commercial structures along the left bank of the Elizabeth River just downstream of the Route 22 bridge in the vicinity of Harvard Avenue.

STATUS: The Project Cooperation Agreement between the Township of Hillside and the New York District was executed on June 9, 1999. The award of the construction contract to Merco, Inc. of Lebanon, New Jersey, a small business, was made on March 16, 2000. The Notice to Proceed was issued on 25 April 2000, and physical construction began in May 2000. The project was substantially completed on 27 February 2002. By a New York District letter dated 10 July 2003, the project was turned over to the Township of Hillside to operate and maintain. The Corps and the Township of Hillside have monitored the wetland improvements through the Summer of 2005, and in FY2006, a monitoring report will be prepared.

PROJECT COST:

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|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Estimated Federal Cost: | \$2,628,000 |
| Estimated Non-Federal Cost | <u>\$ 876,000</u> |
| Total | \$3,504,000 |

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District Area: NJ #10, Congressional Member: Donald Payne