



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

Millstone River Basin Stony Brook, NJ

Flood Damage Reduction & Ecosystem Restoration Study

FACT SHEET

DESCRIPTION: The study area is the Millstone River Basin. The Basin is located in north-central New Jersey, halfway between Philadelphia and New York City. The Basin includes the Millstone River and its major tributaries. It encompasses parts of five New Jersey counties: Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Hunterdon, and Somerset. The 238-square mile Basin is a major tributary of the Raritan River. Stony Brook, which is the largest tributary of the Millstone River, is located near Princeton Township, New Jersey.

Flooding in the Millstone River Basin occurs as the result of intense thunderstorms, northeasters, and hurricanes. The greatest floods in the Basin have occurred as the direct result of hurricanes (Gloria in 1971 and Floyd in 1999). These storms can deposit large amounts of precipitation in the watershed, producing significant runoff and headwater flooding of the low-lying and relatively flat floodplain. Backwater flooding from the Raritan River also results in significant flood damages along the Millstone River. Specifically, the Borough of Manville, located at the confluence of these two rivers, is subject to coincident backwater flooding from the Raritan River and headwater flooding from the Millstone River. Frequent flooding occurs along the Millstone River and Stony Brooks low-lying and relative flat floodplain. From 1938 through 1999, eight major flood events have been recorded. The two largest flood events occurred during Hurricane Doria in August 1971 and Hurricane Floyd in September 1999, which caused significant damages.

Degradation of the structure and function of the Millstone River Basin's ecosystem will continue without focused restoration efforts. The Basin's ecosystem will continue to function significantly below its ecological potential. Chronic stresses will continue to reduce species diversity and abundance. The creation of a watershed management program and process will help offset adverse influences on the ecology of the Basin.

AUTHORIZATION: The study effort is authorized by U.S. House of Representatives Resolution, Docket 2611 dated August 5, 1999 (Millstone River) and Section 729 of the WRDA of 1986 (Stony Brook).

STATUS: On March 14, 2002, a feasibility cost sharing agreement was executed with the New Jersey Department of Environmental. The feasibility study will focus on two primary water resource opportunities in the Millstone River Basin: 1) flood damage reduction in Manville, and (2) ecosystem restoration at Carnegie Lake. Project area field surveys are ongoing including economic, hydraulic, and environmental analyses necessary to establish baseline conditions and formulate preliminary alternatives.

STUDY COST (Feasibility):

Estimated Federal Cost	\$3,400,000
Estimated Non-Federal Cost	<u>\$ 3,400,000</u>
Total	\$6,800,000

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District Area: NJ # 7, Congressional Member: Michael Ferguson

NJ #12, Congressional Member: Rush Holt

Please visit project web page: <http://www.nan.usace.army.mil/business/prjlinks/flooding/stone/index.htm>