



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

# **BELFORD HARBOR - SHOAL HARBOR & COMPTON CREEK, NJ**

## **Feasibility Level Navigation Study**

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### **FACT SHEET**

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**DESCRIPTION:** Shoal Harbor and Compton Creek are located in Belford Harbor, Monmouth County, NJ. The existing channel consists of an inner portion with a current depth of 8 feet MLW (from Main Street to the mouth of Compton Creek at Sandy Hook Bay) and an outer portion at a depth of 12 feet MLW from the mouth of Compton Creek to deep water in Sandy Hook Bay.

**AUTHORIZATION:** Section 107, River and Harbor Act of 1960 (PL 86-645), as amended (Navigation).

**STATUS:** The current depths mentioned above no longer meet the needs of the commercial fishing fleet located in Belford. In order to continue operations, the boats must schedule the return trips home at the same time that high tide occurs to prevent the boats from running aground.

A reconnaissance report, conducted under Section 107, River and Harbor Act of 1960 (PL 86-645), as amended (Navigation), was completed in FY 90. This report concluded that navigation improvements are economically justified and that Federal interest is warranted. Consequently, the feasibility phase, which culminates in a Detailed Project Report (DPR), was initiated in August 1990 and was scheduled for completion in FY 1992. This report recommended deepening the inner channel to 10ft. and the outer channel to 14 ft., and included selected channel widening and other improvements.

The submittal of the final DPR was deferred in March 1992 pending resolution of the State's request, by letter dated 19 February 1992, for a modification to the project to accommodate Monmouth County's plan for a proposed ferry terminal and associated marine development at Belford Harbor. Upon attempted study resumption, requested by NJDEP, additional environmental work became required to determine the viability of ocean disposal of dredged material. Since the material has never been tested, the study awaits evaluation of testing protocol for other sites. This will increase the overall study costs and local responsibilities. Given the above concerns and current State budgetary priorities, the study sponsor, NJDEP, has requested that the study remain in deferred status.

### **STUDY COST:**

Estimated Federal Cost	\$456,000
Estimated Non-Federal Cost	<u>\$456,000</u>
Total	\$912,000

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