



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

# East River South Brother Island Channel, NY

## Federal Navigation Channel Maintenance and Stewardship

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**FACT SHEET**

**DECEMBER 2008**

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**DESCRIPTION:** Maintenance dredging of critical shoals of the South Brother Island channel in the East River.

**AUTHORIZATION:** The Federal Navigation Project for East River, New York, was authorized by the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1869 and subsequently modified by the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1877, 1899, 1916, 1922 and 1970. The South Brother Island channel is part of the East River channel project. The existing project provides for a main channel from the Upper New York Bay to the Brooklyn Navy yard, a channel east of Welfare Island, a channel between South Brother Island and Berrian Islands, South Brother Island channel and removal is several reefs to give access to wharves.

South Brother Island channel is 35 feet deep and 400 feet wide, with widening at the junction with the main channel and a turning basin at the head of the channel. The length is about 1.3 miles.

**COMMERCE:** 31 million tons of through traffic use this deep draft, commercial channel annually with over 60,000 vessel trips. Two electric generating facilities are located off of the South Brothers Island Channel.

**STATUS:** The maintenance dredging contract for South Brother Island Channel was awarded December 2006 and completed by the end of January 2007. Approximately 140,000 CY of dredged material was removed from the South Brother's Island channel and placed at the Historic Area Remediation Site (HARS).

Previous dredging of the project was completed in 2002 with the removal of 245,700 cubic yards of maintenance material from the South Brother Island channel. The dredged material was used as remediation material at the Historic Area Remediation Site.

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District Area: NY # 5