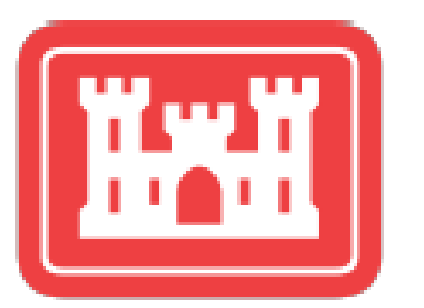




New York – New Jersey Harbor and Tributaries Coastal Storm Risk Management Study TIER 1 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT



US Army Corps of Engineers®
New York District

What is an Environmental Impact Statement?

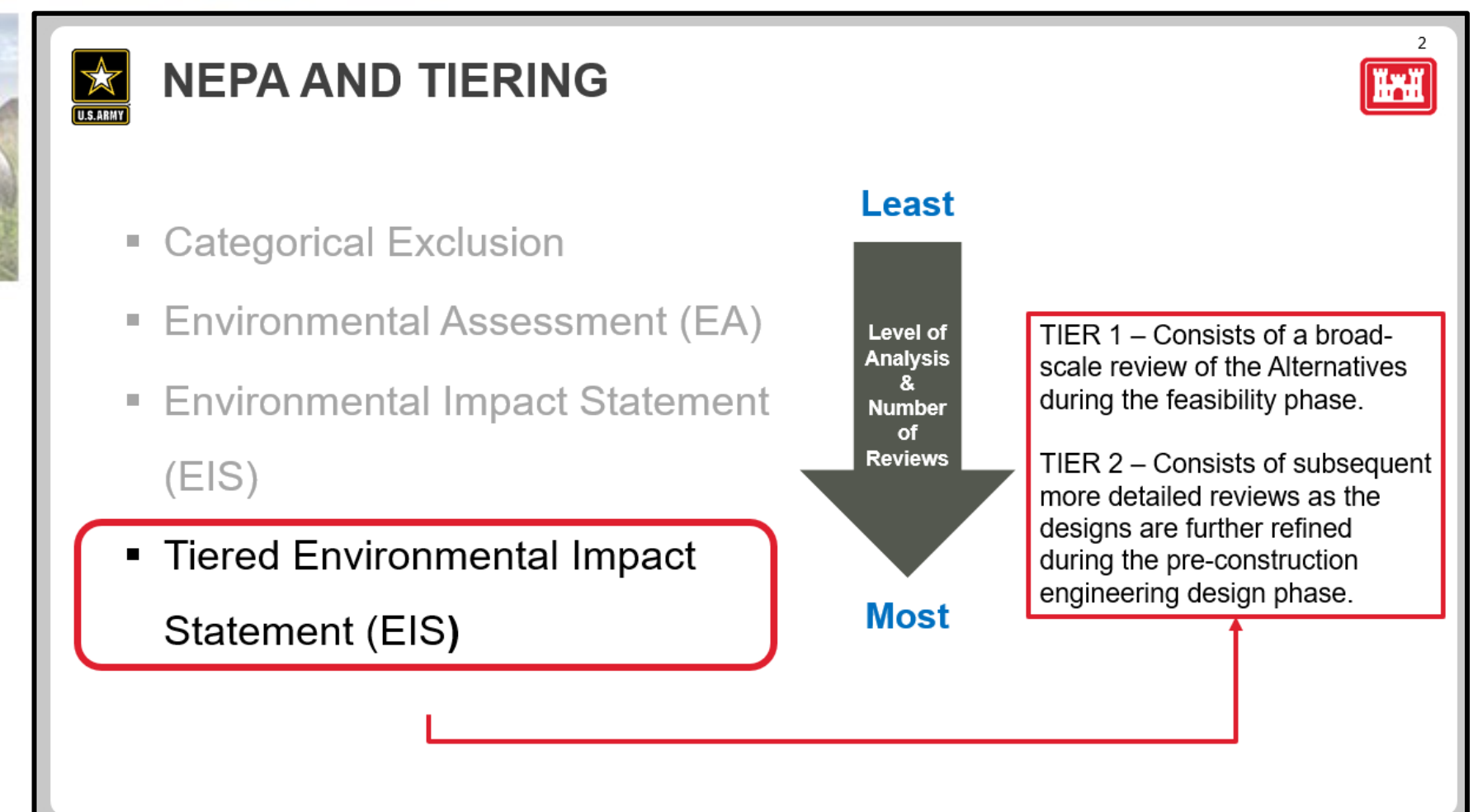
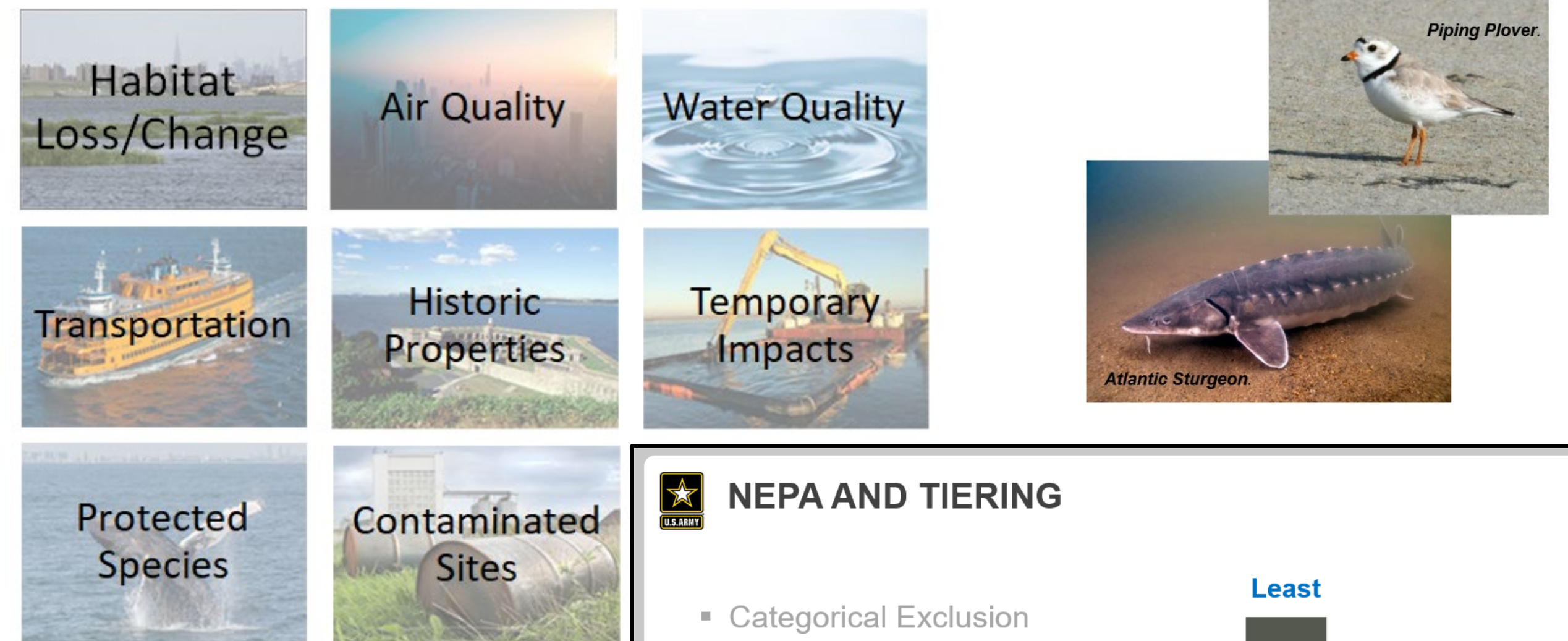
The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires federal agencies to assess environmental effects prior to constructing a project. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is the most detailed level of review required under NEPA. Multiple laws, executive orders, and regulations are considered during the NEPA process.

Due to the scale and complexity of the NYNJHAT Study, the EIS will be prepared in two tiers: Tier 1 and Tier 2. No Alternative can be constructed until the full Tier 1 and Tier 2 EIS(s) are completed, and all permits have been obtained.

How are the Tier 1 environmental impacts and benefits assessed?

- Approximately 50 resources assessed
- Alternatives are compared to existing conditions
- Incorporating stakeholder input
- Assessed by an impact rating criteria and scorecards:

Existing Conditions



Impacts by Structural Measure Type

RESOURCE	STORM SURGE BARRIERS	TIDE GATES	FLOODWALL	FLOODWALLS WITH PARK	LEVEES	ELEVATED PROMENADES	BURIED SEAWALL/SAND DUNES	SEAWALLS	RETEMENTS	SEAWALLS WITH RETEMENTS	DEPLOYABLE FLOOD BARRIERS	BERMS	BULKHEADS	PEDESTRIAN/VEHICULAR GATES	NAVIGABLE GATES	ROAD RAISING
Wildlife	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Fish	Y+	Y+	Y+	Y+	N	Y+	Y+	Y+	Y+	Y+	Y+	N	Y+	N	Y+	N
Migratory Fish	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N
Terrestrial Vegetation	Y+	Y+	Y+	Y+	Y+	Y+	Y+	Y+	Y+	Y+	Y+	Y+	Y+	Y+	Y+	Y
Submerged Aquatic Vegetation	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Invasive and Aquatic Nuisance Species	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
Threatened and Endangered Species	Y+	Y+	Y+	Y+	Y+	Y+	Y+	Y+	Y+	Y+	Y+	Y+	Y+	Y+	Y+	Y
Terrestrial																

Impact Rating Criteria

Impact Rating and Numerical Score	Description
High (5)	Effects to the resource would have substantial consequences, locally and/or regionally. Impacts would exceed regulatory standards. Mitigation measures to offset the adverse effects would not be enough to reduce the significance of effect and therefore, effects to the resource would not be environmentally acceptable.
Moderate to High (4)	Effects to the resource would be locally and/or regionally significant. Impacts would be within regulatory standards; however, existing resource conditions are expected to be affected in the near-term, but not necessarily in the long term. Mitigation measures to reduce any potential adverse impacts would be necessary.
Moderate (3)	Effects to the resource are expected to be moderate in the near-term and localized. Impacts would be within or below regulatory standards, as applicable, and the use of mitigation measures would reduce potential adverse impacts, if applicable.
Low (2)	Effects to the resource would either be negligible or, if detectable, have minor temporary impacts locally to the resource. The impacts would be well below regulatory standards, as applicable, and mitigation measures may be implemented to sustain low to no impact to the resource.
No Impact (1)	There would be no impacts to the resource because the resource would not be affected.

Individual Resource Scorecard Examples from the Draft Report

How are the Alternatives compared for Environmental Acceptability?

The individual resource scorecards were combined into Resource Categories and averaged for an Alternative Score:

RESOURCE CATEGORY	ALTERNATIVE				
	2	3A	3B	4	5
NATURAL AND PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT					
Wildlife and Vegetation ^A	1.75	1.77	1.51	1.53	1.20
Special Status Species (Terrestrial) ^B	2.11	2.0	1.66	1.66	1.33
Special Status Species (Aquatic) ^C	1.63	1.77	1.5	1.44	1.05
Special Status Areas ^D	1.66	1.62	1.41	1.43	1.16
Commercial and Recreational Fishing	2.0	2.22	1.77	1.66	1.11
Physical Resources ^E	1.94	2.08	1.69	1.66	1.33
Hydrological Resources ^F	1.53	1.73	1.46	1.46	1.06
Water Quality	2.11	2.22	1.77	1.66	1.33
Ecosystems (NYBEM)	*To be incorporated for the Final FR/Tier 1 EIS				
Air Quality and Clean Air Act ^G	1	1	1	1	1
Regional Climate and Climate Change	1	1	1	1	1
Cultural Resources ^H	2.77	2.66	2.66	2.66	2.22
Native American Lands	1	1	1	1	1
Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Waste Sites	2.2	2.22	2.0	2.0	1.55
Navigation	1.22	1.44	1.22	1.11	1.0
Noise and Vibration	2.0	2.22	1.77	1.66	1.33
Environmental Justice	1.66	1.66	1.55	1.55	1.33
CALCULATION: Sum of the Footprint/Construction Impact Ratings (x) divided by the total number of resources included in each resource category (y). (x = alternative score; y = # of resources) x + y = Rating (1-5)					
1 - No Impact, 2 - Low Impact, 3 - Moderate Impacts, 4 - Moderate-High Impact, 5 - High Impact					
ALTERNATIVE TOTAL: (rounded to the nearest 10 th)	1.7	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.3

Tentatively Selected Plan

RESOURCE CATEGORY	ALTERNATIVE				
	2	3A	3B	4	5
NATURAL AND PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT					
Wildlife and Vegetation ^A	1.42	1.44	1.31	1.27	1.12
Special Status Species (Terrestrial) ^B	1.77	1.77	1.51	1.55	1.33
Special Status Species (Aquatic) ^C	1.27	1.30	1.22	1.13	1.02
Special Status Areas ^D	1.26	1.25	1.23	1.18	1.05
Commercial and Recreational Fishing	1.88	1.55	1.55	1.33	1.11
Physical Resources ^E	1.30	1.38	1.25	1.30	1.08
Hydrological Resources ^F	1.20	1.42	1.17	1.17	1.0
Water Quality	1.66	1.55	1.44	1.22	1.0
Ecosystems (NYBEM)	*To be incorporated for the Final FR/Tier 1 EIS				
Air Quality and Clean Air Act ^G	1	1	1	1	1
Regional Climate and Climate Change	1	1	1	1	1
Cultural Resources ^H	2.0	1.55	1.22	1.55	1.22
Native American Lands	1	1	1	1	1
Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Waste Sites	1.66	1.44	1.33	1.33	1.0
Navigation	1.22	1.44	1.22	1.11	1.0
Noise and Vibration	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Environmental Justice	1.77	1.66	1.55	1.55	1.33
CALCULATION: Sum of the Operations and Maintenance Assumption Ratings (x) divided by the total number of resources in each resource category (y). (x = alternative score; y = # of resources) x + y = Rating (1-5)					
1 - No Impact, 2 - Low Impact, 3 - Moderate Impacts, 4 - Moderate-High Impact, 5 - High Impact					
ALTERNATIVE TOTAL: (rounded to the nearest 10 th)	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.1

Tentatively Selected Plan

RESOURCE CATEGORY	ALTERNATIVE				
	2	3A	3B	4	5
NATURAL AND PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT					
Wildlife and Vegetation ^A	1.51	1.53	1.37	1.35	1.12
Special Status Species (Terrestrial) ^B	1.16	1.05	1.05	1.05	1.0
Special Status Species (Aquatic) ^C	1.50	1.5	1.33	1.25	1.02
Special Status Areas ^D	1.12	1.11	1.07	1.08	1.06
Commercial and Recreational Fishing	2.11	2.11	1.77	1.66	1.11
Physical Resources ^E	1.41	1.52	1.33	1.41	1.11
Hydrological Resources ^F	1.24	1.33	1.13	1.13	1.06
Water Quality	1.11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Ecosystems (NYBEM)	*To be incorporated for the Final FR/Tier 1 EIS				
Air Quality and Clean Air Act ^G	1	1	1	1	1
Regional Climate, Climate Change, and RSLC	1	1	1	1	1
Cultural Resources ^H	1.2	1.33	1.11	1.22	1.11
Native American Lands	1	1	1	1	1
Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Waste Sites	1.88	1.88	1.55	1.77	1.44
Navigation	1.22	1.44	1.22	1.11	1.0
Noise and Vibration	1.22	1.44	1.22	1.11	1.0
Environmental Justice	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
CALCULATION: Sum of the Footprint/Construction impact ratings and Operations and Maintenance Assumption Ratings (x) divided by the total number of resources. (x = alternative score; y = # of resources) x + y = Rating (1-5)					
1 - No Impact, 2 - Low Impact, 3 - Moderate Impacts, 4 - Moderate-High Impact, 5 - High Impact					
ALTERNATIVE TOTAL: (Rounded to the nearest 10 th)	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.1

Tentatively Selected Plan

Your opinion matters! Public feedback is an important part of the Environmental Impact Statement process.

Public comments help inform the Environmental Impact Statement and Alternative designs.

Please send comments to: nynjharbor.tribstudy@usace.army.mil

To learn more, use this QR code with your smartphone device →

