



US Army Corps of Engineers

## FACT SHEET - Raritan Bay and Sandy Hook Bay, Union Beach, New Jersey

Hurricane Storm Damage Reduction Study

**DESCRIPTION:** The problem area is located in the northern portion of Monmouth County, New Jersey. It occupies an approximate 1.8 square mile area of land along the coast of Raritan Bay. The area is located in low elevation regions with numerous small creeks providing drainage. Low-lying residential and commercial structures in the area experience flooding caused by coastal storm inundation. This problem has progressively worsened in recent years due to loss of protective beaches and increased urbanization in the area with structures susceptible to flooding from rainfall and coastal storm surges, erosion and wave attack, combined with restrictions to channel flow in the tidal creeks. This area was devastated by Hurricane Sandy.

**AUTHORIZATION:** The project was authorized for construction in the Water Resources Development Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-114) on November 8, 2007. Subsequent funding and authorization is provided via P.L. 113-2, The Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, 2013

**STATUS:** The Borough of Union Beach, New Jersey, the project area, is located in the northern portion of Monmouth County, New Jersey. It occupies an approximate 1.8 square mile area of land along the coast of Raritan Bay. The area is located in low elevation regions surrounded by small creeks and a bayshore beachfront. Low-lying residential and commercial structures in the area experience flooding caused by coastal storm inundation. This problem has progressively worsened in recent years due to loss of protective beaches and increased urbanization in the area with structures susceptible to flooding from rainfall and coastal storm surges, erosion and wave attack, combined with restrictions to channel flow in the tidal creeks.

The final Feasibility report and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) were approved and released to the public in January 2004. The report recommended implementation of a storm damage reduction project consisting of a combination of levees and floodwalls, tide gates, pump stations and a dune and beach berm with terminal groins. The project would also construct wetland mitigation sites to mitigate for the loss of wetlands. The final feasibility report and EIS was approved by Corps of Engineers Headquarters on Jan 4, 2006. A Design Agreement was executed with NJDEP in July 2008. A Value Engineering Study report was completed and the results were presented to the Borough of Union Beach and NJDEP on 20 January 2011. In coordination with State and Borough representatives the Corps of Engineers began moving forward with the Preconstruction, Engineering and Design (PED) which was underway when the project area was struck by Hurricane Sandy. Serious damages to the community requires a limited re-evaluation report in order to document damages sustained and changes in conditions via the P.L. 113-2, The Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, 2013. Scoping for the Re-evaluation report is underway and being conducted with the non-federal partners, the NJ Department of Environmental Protection and the Borough of Union Beach, New Jersey.

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