



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**  
New England District

# Update Report for Rhode Island



Current as of  
October 31, 2008

696 Virginia Road, Concord, Massachusetts 01742-2751  
Public Affairs Office, 978-318-8264/8238

Home Page: <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/>

## Mission

The missions of the New England District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers include flood damage reduction, emergency preparedness and response to natural disasters and national emergencies, environmental remediation and restoration, natural resource management, stream bank and shoreline protection, navigation maintenance and improvement, support to military facilities and installations, and engineering and construction support to other government agencies. The six New England states cover 66,000 square miles and have 6,100 miles of coastline, 11 deep-water ports, 102 recreational and small commercial harbors, 13 major river basins, and thousands of miles of navigable rivers and streams. The district operates and maintains 31 dams, two hurricane barriers and the Cape Cod Canal. Through its Regulatory program, the district processes about 5,000 applications per year for work in waters and wetlands of the six-state region. We employ about 510 professional civilian employees, with about 300 stationed at our headquarters in Concord, Mass. The other Corps of Engineers employees serve at Corps projects and offices throughout the region.

Index	
Defense Environmental Restoration	5
Ecological Restoration	2
Mission	1
Navigation	1
Other projects	3
Regulatory Program	4
Special Studies	6
Superfund	6

## Navigation

**BLOCK ISLAND HARBOR OF REFUGE (2nd CD) -** *Shoaling in the entrance channel is starting to impact navigation into and out of the harbor. Approximately 15,000 cubic yards of sandy material needs to be dredged from the entrance channel to return the project to authorized dimensions. Approvals are currently being sought from state and federal resource agencies. The District is planning on using the Corps-owned special purpose hopper dredge CURRITUCK to perform the work. Dredging could be performed as soon as May 2009, subject to receiving all of the necessary approvals and subject to available funding.*

**BULLOCK'S POINT COVE (1st CD) –** Shoaling has been identified in the inner harbor area of Bullock's Point Cove (BPC) and the *cities of Barrington and East Providence* and navigation interests have requested maintenance dredging of the Federal project. A survey of the channel and anchorage areas in the inner harbor indicates that about 50,000 cy of material needs to be removed to return the project to its authorized dimensions. Sampling and testing of the material indicate that the material is primarily silt. We have determined that the material from BPC is suitable for disposal into the Providence River Confined Aquatic Disposal (CAD) cells. An Environmental Assessment has been prepared and we have completed coordination with the appropriate Federal and state agencies. Federal regulations require that work involving construction of a disposal facility be cost-shared by a nonfederal interest(s). The State of Rhode Island has agreed to cost share for the disposal of

the dredged material and an amendment to the Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA) for the maintenance dredging of the Providence River has been prepared to include the proposed work at Bullock's Point Cove. *The PCA amendment is being reviewed by HQUSACE. Once approved, we can execute the agreement with the State of Rhode Island. Plans and specifications are complete. An invitation for bids will be issued as soon as the PCA is executed. Contingent on receiving competitive bids, work could begin next fall.*

**CHARLESTOWN BREACHWAY & INLET, CHARLESTOWN (2nd CD) –** Local officials requested Corps involvement to resolve growing concern for navigation safety through the breachway. The Initial Appraisal Report examined the removal of large boulders within and on the ocean side of the breachway, as well as dredging of the natural channel through the inlet and into Ninigret Pond. That report recommended proceeding with final design and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for a project to remove the boulder hazards in the inlet and its seaward approaches under Section 107 authority. The proposal to include inlet dredging into the pond was determined not cost-effective and will not be considered further. *Although the boulder removal project was approved and the federal portion funded, the difficult navigation conditions in the breachway and concern for safety of construction workers significantly increased the project cost. That increased cost reduced the benefit/cost ratio well below the 1.0 mark necessary to proceed under Section 107*

---

*Authority. The Corps of Engineers is working with Congressional representatives and the State to determine if the boulder removal can proceed under Section 3 Authority (Snagging and Clearing for Navigation) or by some other means. The non-federal sponsor, the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council (RICRMC), is in the process of identifying funds to support this project.*

**GREAT SALT POND, BLOCK ISLAND (2nd CD) -** *Shoaling in the entrance channel to Great Salt Pond on Block Island is significantly impacting safe navigation in and out of the harbor. Approximately 15,000 cubic yards of sandy material needs to be removed from a particular shoal area of the channel to restore the project to a reasonable safe condition. The District is working with state and federal resource agencies to determine a location for disposal of the dredged material. Once approvals are received, the district plans the use the Corps' owned special purpose hopper dredge "CURRITUCK" to perform the work. Dredging could be performed in May 2009, subject to receipt of applicable approvals and necessary funding.*

*Additionally, the District is planning a more extensive dredging effort to restore the project to authorized dimensions. Approximately 150,000 cubic yards of sandy material would need to be removed by contract to a commercial dredging contractor. Work is underway to identify an appropriate disposal site for the material.*

**POINT JUDITH HARBOR OF REFUGE (2nd CD) -**

*Shoaling in the entrance channel continues to adversely impact navigation in and out of Point Judith Harbor of Refuge. Approximately 23,000 cy of sandy material needs to be dredged from the entrance channel to complete maintenance dredging of this project. Funds for the work are included in the FY 09 President's budget. CRMC will be conducting some on site investigations of the channel in an effort to identify marine debris in the dredging areas in hopes of avoiding problems we encountered dredging in Phase 1. We anticipate the work will take place when the dredging window opens in the fall of 2009.*

The Corps has also received a request from the RI CRMC to conduct a study of potential channel improvements at Point Judith under the Section 107 continuing authority. The study would examine a proposal last made in the early 1990s to widen and extend the Federal channel northeasterly along the north bulkhead at the Port of Galilee. Work on this study would begin once Federal funds are made available. Completion of a study would require execution of an FCSA to share the study costs with the RI CRMC. A study could be completed within about 18 months of FCSA execution.

\$187,000 has been appropriated in FY08 for the purpose of studying the condition and effectiveness of the main breakwater forming the Point Judith outer Harbor of Refuge. These funds will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of the breakwater in its current condition to provide protection for navigation, as well as the ancillary benefits of shore protection.

---

## Flood Plain Management Services

**RHODE ISLAND SEA LEVEL RISE (1st & 2nd CDs) -** The Nature Conservancy (TNC) has requested that the Corps of Engineers New England District conduct a study

associated with sea level rise for coastal Rhode Island. *The District has not been able to finalize a scope of work yet with TNC. Discussions are ongoing.*

---

## Ecological Restoration/Watershed Projects

**ALLIN'S COVE ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROJECT, BARRINGTON (1st CD) -** The New England District implemented a project to restore degraded coastal wetlands at the mouth of Allin's Cove. The Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council (RICRMC) is the primary nonfederal sponsor for the project. The town of Barrington is also participating in the project with RICRMC. The project is cost shared 75 percent federal and 25 percent nonfederal. Project construction was completed by the Corps contractor Green Seal Environmental, of Sandwich, Mass. and RC& D Inc., of Providence, R.I. *in spring 2006.* Save the Bay and RICRMC will monitor the site for three years to measure the restoration changes. Additional work along Byway Road is *scheduled for October 2008* to restore an area eroded during the *April 2007 Patriots Day* storm.

England District initiated a feasibility study under the Section 206, Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Program in March 2005. The study is investigating the extent of degradation of water quality, finfish, shellfish and benthic habitat to evaluate sediment management options and other measures to restore the quality of the habitat. The Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council is the nonfederal sponsor. The team is evaluating the feasibility of restoration measures, including environmental dredging and salt marsh creation. The study is considering the importance of the release of nutrients from the sediments on habitat quality. Completion of preliminary information regarding potential restoration options and their benefits is scheduled for the *winter of 2008.*

**BRUSH NECK COVE, WARWICK (2nd CD) -** The New

**NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM -** The New England District has been requested to provide technical

---

assistance to the implementation committee for the National Estuary Program's (NEP) Narragansett Bay Project (NBP). The NBP Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan is complete. Goals of the NEP include identifying nationally significant estuaries that are threatened by pollution, development or overuse; promoting comprehensive planning for and conservation and management of these waters; encouraging the preparation of management plans; and enhancing the coordination of estuarine research. Our activities include attendance at committee meetings on water resource planning and transfer of data to the NEP Geographic Information System for approval.

**NINIGRET AND CROSS MILLS PONDS HABITAT RESTORATION PROJECT (2nd CD)** – This Section 206, Aquatic Habitat Restoration project, was initiated in November 2004. The project is sponsored by the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC) and includes dredging up to 40 acres of tidal delta in the pond, creating a sedimentation basin in the breachway, eelgrass planting in the restored pond areas, and construction of a fishway for herring at nearby Cross Mills Pond. The initial dredging work began in the fall of 2004 and was completed in the spring of 2006. Limited eelgrass planting efforts were conducted in the fall of 2006 with further work delayed until 2007 so the dredged areas could be monitored. CRMC has asked the Corps to dredge the restoration area on the east side of the pond using the funds initially set aside for eelgrass planting and the fish ladder. A dredging contract was awarded in August 2007 to GOVCON of Norman, Okla. Work began in November and was completed in January 2008.

A similar restoration effort in Winnapaug Pond, Westerly is also being considered. Final designs for Winnapaug Pond were initiated in 2006 and were completed in January 2008.

**TEN MILE RIVER ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION STUDY (1st & 2nd CDs)** - In January 1999, the New England District initiated a reconnaissance investigation to examine opportunities for environmental restoration of degraded salt marshes, freshwater wetlands, and anadromous fisheries. The area under study included the Pawcatuck, Pawtuxet, Moshassuck, Ten Mile and Woonasquatucket River watersheds and the shoreline of Narragansett Bay. The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) selected restoring anadromous fish passage at the three dams along the lower Ten Mile River in the city of East Providence as their highest priority. The fish species targeted for restoration

include American shad and two species of river herring (alewives and blueback herring).

The Ten Mile River project consists of construction of Denil-type fishways at the lowest three dams (Omega Pond Dam, Hunts Mill Dam, and the dam at Turner Reservoir) on the river. We are completing the plans and specifications and obtaining Federal and State permits. The Corps and RI Department of Environmental Management executed the Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA) on May 27, 2008. Contract award for the Turner Reservoir fishway is scheduled for *November* 2008. Contracts for the Omega Pond and Hunts Mill Dam fishways will be issued in the spring.

**TOWN POND (BOYD'S MARSH) SALT MARSH RESTORATION, PORTSMOUTH (1st CD)** - The New England District is partnering with the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management to restore 23 acres of salt pond and salt marsh habitat in the wildlife sanctuary at Town Pond. Restoration primarily involves removing and redistributing dredged material that was placed in Town Pond when the Fall River Federal navigation channel was dredged in the early 1950s. Site work began in September 2005. Most of the work is complete and salt water was returned to the pond on Sept. 21, 2007 for the first time in over 50 years. Oyster seeding will be conducted this fall.

**NARROW RIVER RESTORATION, NARRAGANSETT AND SOUTH KINGSTOWN (2nd CD)** - The New England District initiated a feasibility study under the Section 206, Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Program in March 2005. The study is considering alternatives to restore eelgrass, shellfish beds, salt marsh, and other habitats in the Narrow River. The Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council is the non-federal sponsor.

The study team has completed most of the baseline studies (bathymetric surveys, sediment mapping, shellfish and sediment sampling, shorebird surveys, a water quality summary and hydraulic modeling) and is in the process of formulating and evaluating restoration alternatives in cooperation with state and federal agencies and other stakeholders.

Potential alternatives involve dredging and redistributing sediments to restore proper elevations and depths for salt marsh and eelgrass, and inlet dredging to improve flushing. The study is considering placing dredged sand on Narragansett Beach. The schedule calls for completing an *initial* draft feasibility report in the *winter of 2008/2009*.

---

## Other projects

**COASTAL AMERICA** - The Coastal America Northeast Regional Implementation Team (NERIT) has focused its efforts on habitat restoration and, in particular, restoration of tidally constricted salt marshes and

restoration of rivers for migratory fish passage. These efforts are coordinated with the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council and the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management.



---

## Regulatory Program

Department of the Army permits are required from the Corps of Engineers under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The Corps reviews permit applications for work affecting navigable waters under its Section 10 authority and the discharge of fill material into all waters, including inland wetlands, under Section 404. *From Aug. 1, 2008 to Oct. 31, 2008, the following final actions were processed: 2 Individual Permits, 21 Category 2/reporting Programmatic General Permits (PGPs), 1 reported Category 1 PGP, 3 permit modifications and 0 denials.*

**PROGRAMMATIC GENERAL PERMIT** - The New England District has comprehensive Programmatic General Permits (PGPs) in place in each of the six New England states covering work with minimal impact on the aquatic environment. Up to 98 percent of all permits issued in New England are PGPs. The PGPs are based on state thresholds for most categories of environmental impacts and applicants generally need only file with the state. The federal screening is virtually transparent to applicants and the PGP approval in most of the states is either included in the state approval letter or mailed simultaneously. Applications appropriately covered under the PGPs are generally approved in less than 30 days. Applicants have commented favorably about the simplicity, predictability and efficiency of the PGPs. The RI PGP was reissued in February 2007 for another 5 years and is located at: [www.nae.usace.army.mil/reg/RI%20PGP%20Issuance%20\(no%20PN\).pdf](http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/reg/RI%20PGP%20Issuance%20(no%20PN).pdf)

**CHAMPLIN'S MARINA (2nd CD)** - In 2003 Champlin's Marina applied to expand its marina located in Great Salt Pond on Block Island. The new piers and floats would extend out 240 feet seaward from the present marina. They propose to expand the marina perimeter limit by 4 acres to encompass the new 3,000 linear feet of piers and 744 linear feet of floats. The largest Corps concern is that the expansion would narrow the navigation channel between the marina and the town mooring field. The Corps has indicated we would deny a 240-foot seaward extension due to navigation concerns.

There are concerns about impacts to mooring fields, fairways and general navigation. The town feels this marina is simply too large an expansion. They are worried that if this goes through the other two large marinas in Great Salt Pond will similarly expand. There are concerns about the number of boats, water quality, narrow fairways, increased navigation problems, carrying capacity of the pond and cumulative impacts.

The Public Notice expiration date was extended at the request of town and Congressional interests. Over 600 comments were received (many form letters faxed here). We decided no new information would be uncovered at a Corps public hearing. We monitored the 23 CRMC public hearings which started in early 2004 and ended in 2005. The town and Champlin's met with a mediator to help them

resolve their differences and come up with a pier/float layout they can both accept but that and subsequent mediation efforts were unsuccessful.

In late-2005 the CRMC Dock Sub-Committee voted 3-1 to approve a proposed reduced seaward extension of 170 feet. The CRMC Council then voted on the 170-foot seaward extension in early 2006. It was a 5-5 tie so nothing was approved which was a defeat for the marina. Champlin's has been fighting that decision ever since. They filed lawsuits against Governor Carcieri, the CRMC Council and others. They continue to appeal the CRMC decision that denied the 170-foot expansion. In January 2008 Superior Court Judge Netti Vogel surprised observers by raising the possibility of having CRMC again vote on the application but disqualifying up to 4-6 Council members for showing bias or taking part in improper communications involving the case. This would lead to other legal questions including the minimum number of Council members needed for a quorum. Lawyers for both sides have submitted briefs. There is no deadline for Judge Vogel to make a decision.

**TF GREEN AIRPORT, WARWICK (2nd CD)** - The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is seeking a Corps permit to potentially impact 12-21 acres of inland wetlands to provide operational and safety improvements to TF Green Airport in Warwick. The FAA has restarted its EIS process. Public scoping meetings were originally held in 2002. At that time, the proposed project only addressed short-term runway length needs. In 2003 the Rhode Island Airport Corporation revisited aviation forecasts and prepared a Master Plan that called for a longer-term plan to extend one of the runways up to 9,500 feet. The EIS was put on hold while other master planning ideas and alternative runway extension options were considered. The FAA is now preparing an EIS to study impacts related to runway extension, runway reconstruction, safety and improvements, terminal road improvements, concourse expansion, parking improvements, a new cargo facility and other activities.

The Corps is participating in the EIS process, having attended many inter-agency coordination meetings starting in 2005. These agencies have included, among others, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Narragansett Tribe. During the fall of 2007, other runway length alternatives were discussed and in October 2007 we agreed on two alternatives to be fully described in the Draft EIS. In addition to the No-Action alternative, lengths of 9,350 feet and 8,700 feet will be included and considered in our subsequent permitting process. FAA is now preparing the Draft EIS to evaluate the environmental consequences of these alternatives. We've had preliminary discussions regarding new wetland mitigation requirements. We expect an application in the fall of 2008 to coincide with the Draft EIS.

---

## Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP)

This is a Congressionally directed program (PL 98-212) that emphasizes the identification, investigation and prompt cleanup of hazardous and toxic waste; unexploded ordnance; buildings and other structures and debris at current and former military facilities. A total of 85 formerly used defense sites (FUDS) have been identified in Rhode Island. Site and project eligibility investigations at all sites are now complete, including 53 where no work was found to be necessary. Of the 32 sites where work was needed, the following efforts are underway:

### **QUONSET POINT, DAVISVILLE and NORTH KINGSTOWN (2nd CD).**

**Blue Beach Site** – Several remedial actions have been performed at this site since 1999 and we continue to sample (for TCE) 2 wells on an annual basis. Further site investigations will likely be required to address arsenic contaminated soil and the TCE in groundwater. Discussions are ongoing with the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management. Activity in fiscal year 2008 was limited to the annual groundwater sampling.

**Aqua Tank Farm** – Test results from monitoring wells at the site indicate that concentrations of all groundwater contaminants comply with the ground water quality standards that are recommended by Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (DEM) with the exception of Light Non-Aqueous Phase Liquid (LNAPL). *Work plans are scheduled for Regulatory Review in December 2008.* Work is to include further delineation of contaminated soil, soil excavation and dewatering with water treatment.

**Electric Boat, PRP site** – USACE is currently involved in settlement negotiations with Electric Boat.

**Kiefer Park** – A free-floating product recovery system has been installed at this site but this system has not had the desired impacts on the groundwater contamination. Additional site investigations will be required and we anticipate awarding a contract for this work in 2008. Discussions are ongoing with the DEM to determine the scope of this effort.

**NIKE PR-58 site** - The New England District (NAE) will perform additional investigations at the PR-58 site through November 2008 and initiate the preparation of a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study Report that will be completed in 2010.

**Camp Avenue Dump Site** - The New England District is continuing long-term monitoring of groundwater and surface water following the installation of a soil cap in the spring of 1998. Semi-annual monitoring rounds (spring

and fall) will be completed this year along with the installation of some additional monitoring wells.

**Newport Naval Base (NETC Melville) in Newport (1st CD)** - Melville North Area of Concern (AOC) #1 is located in the central portion of the site and is currently utilized as a boat marina. The District completed the removal of an underground vault-like structure with surrounding PCB and oil-contaminated soils in September 2002. Additional investigation was required and a Site Investigation Report (SIR), dated November 2006 has been finalized. Preparatory work associated with the planned removal of an additional underground vault will take place this fiscal year.

**Charlestown (2nd CD) Naval Auxiliary Landing Field (NALF)** - A remedial action was completed in July 2008 to remove and dispose of contaminated soil. Wells were also installed as part of a Long Term Monitoring Program that will commence in October 2008. *A Draft Closure Report for the soil remediation is currently under review by the Corps and will be forwarded to the State for review in October/November 2008.*

**Nike PR-79, Foster (2nd CD)** – Annual supply well sampling continues at the four active water supply wells impacted by the contaminant of concern (COC), TCE, at levels, above the RIDEM standard for GA (Groundwater A rating) aquifers. USACE installed and is maintaining carbon filters to remove the TCE on all impacted water supply wells as a protective measure for local residents. The next supply well monitoring and carbon filter inspection event is scheduled for *September 2009*.

\* **REMEDIATION is complete** for the following:

#### **First District**

Army Reserve Center, **Lincoln**

Nike Site, **Bristol**

Fort Adams, **Newport**

Beavertail Point Naval Communications Station,  
**Jamestown**

Prudence and Rose Islands, **Portsmouth and Newport**

Fort Church, **Little Compton**

Fort Wetherill, **Newport**

Sachuest Point, **Newport**

Rose Island, **Newport**

Fort Wetherill, **Jamestown**

Sachuest Point, **Newport**

Fort Getty, **Jamestown**

Beavertail Point Naval Communications Station,  
**Jamestown**

Prospect Hill Fire Control Station, **Jamestown**

Camp Avenue Dump Site, **Davisville**,

Hull Cove Fire Control Station, **Jamestown**

---

## **Second District**

T.F. Green Airport, **Warwick**

Nike Site PR-79, **Foster**

Devil's Foot Road, **Quonset Point**

**Quonset Point** NAS, Nike PR-58

Nike Site, **Coventry**

Building, pier and pool demolition, **North Kingstown**

In addition, several remediation projects have been completed at **Quonset Point Naval Air Station (2nd CD)** and **Charlestown (2nd CD)**. These efforts included the removal of a total of 124 tanks, ranging in size from 1,000 to 25,000 gallons, cleaning and grouting of three miles of pipeline, and removal of 20 transformers.

**FUDS Inspections** - The Corps is conducting Site Inspections of FUDS to determine if any munitions and explosives of concern (MEC) or munitions constituents (MCs) are present on property formerly owned or leased

by the Department of Defense. Many of the sites visited during this project may not have been used since the World War II timeframe, or their use changed when the property was transferred to another branch of the military or other private or public landowners. Alion Science & Technology, Inc. is assisting the Corps' Baltimore District in performing this evaluation at FUDS in the Northeast region. Alion and the District will review historical records and maps, meet with site regulators and key stakeholders, and conduct field inspection activities in the area(s) of interest. The outcome from these Site Inspection activities will be to determine if the project site poses any threat to human health or the environment, and if further work needs to be done either through an RI/FS or some type of removal action. Presently funded projects in Rhode Island are as follows: Fort Mansfield, Rose Island, Naval Auxiliary Landing Field and Naval Auxiliary Air Facility.

---

## **Work for the Environmental Protection Agency**

The New England District is the Corps of Engineers' total support agency for the EPA's Region I (New England) program for those federal-lead projects assigned to the Corps by EPA. This includes responsibility for design, construction execution, and some operation and maintenance of remediation projects. In addition, the district is providing technical assistance upon request to Region I for other federal-lead projects assigned by EPA to private firms, as well as for some potential responsible party (PRP) remediation under Superfund.

## **Superfund Assistance**

**CENTREDALE MANOR, NORTH PROVIDENCE (1st CD)** - The Centredale Manor Restoration Superfund Site consists of property located along Route 44 in North Providence and a section of the adjacent Woonasquatucket River and its associated ponds and floodplain. A chemical company and a drum reclamation company previously occupied the property, operating from the 1940s to the early 1970s. All buildings on the property were demolished in the mid-1970s. Roadway, parking lots and two high-rise residential buildings that were constructed in the late 1970s and early 1980s

currently cover the property. Elevated levels of dioxin, PCBs, chlorinated solvents and other compounds have been found in soils at the property and in soils and sediments downstream of the property.

The New England District previously designed a temporary cap for contaminated soils on the property and completed a flood inundation and hydraulic study at the site. The Corps provided technical oversight during design and construction of a non-time critical removal action (NTCRA) in FY 2002/2003, which included the reconstruction of Allendale Dam and sampling and removal of contaminated residential soils adjacent to Allendale and Lyman Mill Ponds.

The Corps contractor Battelle submitted interim final human health and ecological risk assessments for the site. A draft remedial investigation (RI) report was submitted in November 2004. An interim final RI report was submitted in July 2005. Feasibility study (FS) efforts were initiated in November 2005, with a draft FS report scheduled for early FY 2009. These documents will be used to support a cleanup effort to be documented in EPA's record of decision.

---

## **Special Studies/Projects**

**ALLENDALE DAM, NORTH PROVIDENCE (1st CD)** - The Corps was authorized by Section 358 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1992 (PL 102-508) to repair Allendale Dam on the Woonasquatucket River in North Providence. The dam was naturally breached in November 1991. Reconstruction of the dam was completed in February 2002. EPA is investigating the Centredale Manor site upstream under Superfund authority. Remediation of the contamination at the site is

being coordinated with EPA and the city of North Providence as part of the Centredale Manor Superfund Project. (See earlier entry)

**FOX POINT HURRICANE BARRIER REPAIR PROJECT (1st & 2nd CDs)** - Congress appropriated \$1.95 million in the 2001 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act to the New England District for repairing the Fox Point Hurricane Barrier. Congress



appropriated an additional \$525,000 in the 2006 Energy and Water Appropriations Act to the New England District. An additional \$1,120,000 was appropriated in FY07 to complete all of the required additional repairs to the Fox Point Hurricane Barrier, specifically, replacement of the electro-mechanical control system. The cost share agreement is 65 percent federal, 35 percent nonfederal. Eligible repairs are to be in accordance with a condition survey and technical assessment conducted by the District in 1998. The first reimbursement check in the amount of \$920,000 was presented to the city of Providence on April 8, 2002 for eligible repairs made since 1998. Total payments made to the city to date total \$2,104,790.

Outstanding work includes replacement of the electro-mechanical control system, pump station roof, miscellaneous concrete repairs, paint tainter gates and development of a maintenance management system. The city is expected to match the Federal funding at a total cost to the city of nearly \$600,000 which will complete the Federal Repair Project. Work performed by the city is subject to review by the District. Upon receipt of invoices from the city of Providence, subsequent payments for eligible work will be made until the federal limit is reached.

*A tentative agreement has been reached with the city to complete the repairs to the electro-mechanical control system. Details are being worked out.* The Fox Point Hurricane Barrier provides critical flood protection to the state capital and has prevented loss of life and property time and again since its construction in 1966.

**FOX POINT HURRICANE BARRIER TRANSITION PROJECT (1st & 2nd CDs)** – Congress authorized responsibility of the operation and maintenance of the Fox Point Hurricane Barrier to the Secretary of the Army from the City of Providence, R.I., beginning in October 2008. This authorization was included in the FY2007 National Defense Authorization Act and requires the city to convey Real Estate to the Secretary. The act also requires Congress to appropriate annual funds to the Secretary to operate and maintain the barrier. A Transition Team has been established to include members of the city and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District.

*Efforts to complete the transition of the river bank to river bank portion of the Fox Point Hurricane Barrier project began recently upon receipt of limited funding which allows for completion of the real estate transfer only. The transfer should be complete before the end of 2008. Funding has not been received to allow for the District to operate and maintain the project. In the meantime, the city will continue to operate and maintain the project until that funding is appropriated.*

**RHODE ISLAND REGION LONG TERM DREDGED MATERIAL DISPOSAL SITE EVALUATION (1st & 2nd CDs)** – At the request of the Governor of Rhode Island, the EPA and the Corps initiated a project to evaluate the designation of one or more long term dredged material disposal sites in the Rhode Island Region. Field efforts have been conducted to collect and analyze samples to determine physical oceanographic information, characterize fish, lobster and benthic resources and tissue at various locations throughout the study area. A working group was established with various stakeholders that through several meetings assisted in the development of initial screening criteria. A dredging needs survey was conducted in May 2002 and this information was used in the identification of a zone of siting (ZSF) feasibility.

The ZSF, the results of initial screening and the delineation of alternatives for evaluation in the EIS, were coordinated with the cooperating federal and state agencies and presented to the working group. The draft EIS identifying the preferred alternative for designation of a long-term disposal site was released to the public for review on April 30, 2004. Two public hearings to receive input from the public were held on June 15, 2004 in Narragansett. The comments from the public hearings and those received during the public review period, which closed on June 21, 2004, were reviewed and a Final EIS prepared.

The Final EIS was released for public review on Oct. 22, 2004. After the close of the review period on Nov. 30, 2004, comments were evaluated; a Final Rule was developed and published in the Federal Register on Dec. 16, 2004. The site became available for disposal activities as a “designated site” effective Jan. 15, 2005.

