



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
Philadelphia District

PROJECT FACTSHEET

Delaware River Basin Comprehensive Interim Feasibility Study for New Jersey

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CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS: Andrews (NJ-1), LoBiondo (NJ-2), Runyan (NJ-3), Smith (NJ-4), Garrett (NJ-5), Lance (NJ-7), Frelinghuysen (NJ-11), Holt (NJ-12).

APPROPRIATION / PHASE:
General Investigations /Feasibility

BUSINESS PROGRAM:
Watershed Planning

AUTHORITY: On July 20, 2005 the United States Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works requested that the Secretary of the Army review the report of the Chief of Engineers on the Delaware River and its tributaries, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New York, published as House Document 179, Seventy Third Congress, Second Session.

LOCATION: The Delaware River Basin is located in 28 counties in portions of New York, New Jersey, Delaware and Pennsylvania and drains an approximate area of 13,539 square miles.

DESCRIPTION: The purpose of the Delaware River Basin Comprehensive Flood Risk Management Interim Feasibility Study for New Jersey is to evaluate the feasibility of Federal participation in implementing flood risk management solutions along the Delaware River in New Jersey. The study also investigates flooding and associated ecosystem restoration issues related to the levee along the Delaware River in Logan and Greenwich Townships. More specifically, the study: identifies flooding problems in New Jersey associated with major storm events in September 2004, April 2005 and June 2006; evaluates the technical, economic, environmental, and institutional feasibility of Federal participation in the implementation of flood risk management projects; and determines if there is local support for implementation of the recommended plans. The Corps initiated the reconnaissance study in February 2002, completing the effort in May 2003. The study assessed the Federal interest in further feasibility studies evaluating problems and opportunities. The Corps and NJ Department of Environmental Protection signed a Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreement in July 2006.

STATUS: Funding to date supported the identification of 16 municipalities with areas requiring additional study and background data collection. Municipalities identified include Knowlton, Belvidere, White, Harmony, Phillipsburg, Pohatcong, Holland, Frenchtown, Byram (in Kingwood Township), Stockton, Lambertville, Hopewell, Ewing, Trenton, Greenwich and Logan. Additionally, the team established existing conditions, including an inventory of 2,000 structures to help identify potential flood damages, and potential future benefits with project implementation. Other completed data collection efforts include a survey of cultural/archeological resources, a survey of hazardous, toxic and radioactive waste (HRTW) sites, and geological and geomorphologic information. The US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is assisting in identification of biological resources. The team also compiled a history of flood events in the area and documented the hydraulic and hydrologic nature of the water resources.

Del. R. Basin Comprehensive, Interim Feasibility Study, NJ (continued)

We determined alternative solutions and a proposed process for screening those alternatives. We calculated base year expected annual damages within the study area. This information was combined with the information we already have on potential alternatives to give us a better sense of viability of the options. We also collected data on population, climate, and reservoir management to help us predict expected annual damages for 50 years out from the base year. This will give us a picture of what may happen in the watershed without flood risk management projects. In addition, we initiated a more robust public outreach process to share the information we have gathered.

The above work has enabled us to do an initial screening and preliminarily identify six different nonstructural flood risk management options with potential applicability in twelve municipalities. In addition, we determined that levees or floodwalls might have potential as structural options in six municipalities. Future screenings will allow us to solidify our recommendations.

FY12 funds will enable us to collect more in-depth information, such as borings for hazardous materials, surveys and hydraulic modeling, to inform further analysis of the feasibility of alternative solutions. Current estimates project a balance of \$263,000 required to complete this study. Fiscal Year 2013 funds will be used to prepare for alternate formulation briefing and feasibility level design work.

FINANCIAL DATA (\$000)	Fed	Non-Fed	Total
Reconnaissance	450	0	450
NJ Feasibility	2,233	2,233	4,466

BUDGET DATA (\$000)	Comments
Thru FY 04	45
FY 05	72
FY 06	124
FY 07	350
FY 08	247
FY 09	277
FY 10	296
FY 11	399
FY 12	277

SPONSOR: The non-Federal sponsor for the feasibility phase is the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

COMMENTS: Critical issue—need for continued funding of the Federal feasibility costs. Continuation and eventual completion of this project is imperative to establishing Federal assistance in an area that has suffered considerable floods over several recent years and remains vulnerable to future inundation.

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