

State Department: Transportation

Name of Expenditure or Program:

The State Channel Dredging Program and Dredged Material Management

Amount: \$47.9m FY14 (TTF, Federal, and State bond balances)

Overview:

The NJDOT Office of Maritime Resources has managed a cooperative State Channel Dredging Program since 2001, however following Superstorm Sandy, the Office assumed full control and oversight of NJ's program for the dredging and maintenance of State navigation channels, including dredged material management. The New Jersey State Channel Dredging Program now actively manages over 200 nautical miles of engineered waterway throughout the State. These channels range in purpose from recreation to commercial freight and in depth from 5 feet to 50 feet. Although the deepening of the Port Jersey channel is complete, maintenance dredging of the entire system is an ongoing responsibility. A considerable backlog of dredging exists that requires action to return the system to a state of good repair. This backlog existed before Superstorm Sandy, but the storm caused significant additional damage to the State channel network that requires immediate dredging to ensure safe navigation. The Office is actively seeking federal reimbursement for these Sandy-related damages. In addition, work is ongoing with State, federal and private partners to provide suitable locations to manage dredged materials for current and future projects. Beneficial uses such as highway landscaping, construction fill, shoreline and wetland restoration, and coastal recovery projects are also considered, where appropriate.

Federal Department of Origin: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA): NJDEP/NJDOT PW4846

Federal Requirements / Restrictions: USACE has been named the lead Federal agency for project permitting, EHP review and oversight.

Selection Standards: The NJDOT/OMR is instituting a Program that includes planning, engineering and construction based on asset management principles. Projects are selected based on a number of criteria including the severity of shoaling in a waterway, relative geography, the availability of dredged material management capacity, the general economic value and usage patterns of the waterway, the relative cost of the project as well as the availability of funding and the permitability of the project.

Eligibility Standards: Any work related to State navigation channel dredging and dredged material management.

Other Notes: