



# Hurricane Sandy Recovery

As of: 13 August 2013

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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Hurricane Sandy was a catastrophic storm that struck the Atlantic coastline in late October 2012, resulting in loss of life, severe damage to the coastline, widespread power outages, damage to infrastructure, businesses and private residences. Degraded coastal features have resulted in increased risks and vulnerability from future storm events, and expected changes in sea level rise, extreme weather events, and other impacts of climate change are likely to increase those risks even further.

The Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013 was passed by Congress and signed into law by the President on January 29, 2013 as Public Law 113-2. The legislation provides supplemental appropriations to address damages caused by Hurricane Sandy and to reduce future flood risk in ways that will support the long-term sustainability of the coastal ecosystem and communities and reduce the economic costs and risks associated with large-scale flood and storm events.



## **DESCRIPTION:**

Public Law 113-2 provides \$5.350B to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Sandy. \$3.461B is provided for Construction, \$1.008B for Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies, \$821M for Operations and Maintenance, \$50M for Investigations, and \$10M for Expenses. While much of the provided funding is limited to the Corps North Atlantic Division, Public Law 113-2 acknowledges that the impacts of Hurricane Sandy were widely experienced and provides funds that can be used for studies and projects in regions of the Corps South Atlantic Division and Great Lakes and Ohio River Division that were also affected by Hurricane Sandy.

In addition to providing funds for repairs to Corps projects damaged by Hurricane Sandy and construction of authorized Corps projects (some at full-federal expense), Public Law 113-2 provides funds to expedite, at full-federal expense, completion of studies of flood and storm damage reduction including up to \$20M (of the \$50M for Investigations) for a comprehensive study that addresses flood risks of vulnerable coastal populations in areas that were affected by Hurricane Sandy within the boundaries of the North Atlantic Division.

In partnership with other federal and non-federal agencies and stakeholders, the Corps is conducting the North Atlantic Coast Comprehensive Study (NACCS) to address flood risks of vulnerable coastal populations, and promote resilient coastal communities and support a sustainable and robust coastal landscape system, considering future sea level rise and potential impacts of climate change. To date, two interim reports have been transmitted to Congress identifying projects constructed, under construction, authorized but unconstructed, or under study. By January 2015, the Corps will deliver a final report to Congress that documents the findings of the study, describes institutional and other barriers to providing comprehensive protection to affected coastal areas, and identifies activities warranting additional analysis by the Corps.