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Restoring the New York & New Jersey Harbor Estuary



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Significance of the Hudson Raritan Estuary



The Estuary was designated an "Estuary of National Significance" in 1988 by the US Environmental Protection Agency



- One of the Largest Estuaries in the US
 - 16,212 square miles
 - 1000 miles of coastline
 - Home to 20 million people
 - Port of NY/NJ, Largest Port on East Coast
- 3 States
 - New York
 - New Jersey
 - Connecticut
- Major Tributaries
 - Hudson River
 - Raritan River
 - Passaic River
 - Hackensack River
 - Bronx River
 - Elizabeth River
 - Rahway River
 - Shrewsbury River

The Evolving Vision of a World Class Harbor Estuary

Navigation/Port

Environment



Drift Removal
Dredged Material Management
Channel Maintenance
Comprehensive Port Improvement Plan
Harbor Deepening Project to -50 Ft.
Green Port Improvements

Hudson-Raritan Estuary Comprehensive Plan
Liberty State Park
Lower Passaic River
NJ Meadowlands
Harbor Estuary Program
Jamaica Bay
Bronx River
Planning for Sea Level Rise

Harbor Operations Committee
Storm Preparedness Planning
Storm/Flood Risk Management Projects
Hurricane Evacuation Plan

Beneficial Use of Dredged Material

Comprehensive Waterfront Planning

Public Safety



Hudson Raritan Estuary Planning Regions



What are the Problems in the HRE?



- Degraded and contaminated sediments
 - Human health and ecological risks
 - Costly dredged material management
- Lost and degraded habitat
 - 80% wetlands are gone
 - Oyster reefs and eelgrass have disappeared
- Poor water quality
- Impediments to fish passage
- Minimal and dilapidated public access



Comprehensive Restoration Plan



HUDSON-RARITAN ESTUARY Comprehensive Restoration Plan

HUDSON-RARITAN ESTUARY Comprehensive Restoration Plan

Volume I

DRAFT

March 2009

Volume II

DRAFT

March 2009



It **IS** intended to:

- Provide **a shared** vision of a restored estuary
- Serve as a Blueprint for future restoration
- Coordinate and align regional restoration activities
- Build upon HEP Structure
- Serve as living document actively managed to track progress
- Be HEP's Regional Master Plan for Restoration - Not just the USACE's Plan