



Brig. Gen. Kent Savre

Hurricane Sandy Recovery Mission

Commander's Update U.S. Army Corps of Engineers North Atlantic Division



**US Army Corps
of Engineers** ®

Partners and Stakeholders,

In the 18 months since the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013 was signed, we have made remarkable progress in our recovery operations to reduce the risk of damage from future storms.

Of the 25 previously constructed federal beach projects in the northeast that were damaged by Hurricane Sandy, 19 have been restored, including all New Jersey beach-fill projects with the exception of outfall extension work in Absecon and Keansburg. The remaining six projects will be completed by the end of the year.

We have completed half of our 85 operations and maintenance projects, including jetty and seawall repair and channel dredging across the region. Of those remaining, 75% have achieved contract award or notice-to-proceed construction, and we anticipate substantial program completion by August 2015, with no major impacts to navigation.

And we have made great progress working with our partners to get the approvals for 18 new engineered beach systems in areas that did not have constructed federal projects before Hurricane Sandy hit. In June, we began construction on the first of these projects at Port Monmouth, New Jersey, and we are moving forward on other projects throughout the region as well, with multiple construction contracts slated to be awarded this fall in both New York and New Jersey. To build these projects properly, we are conducting comprehensive reviews, environmental coordination, and working with our partners to ensure we have the necessary agreements in place. Where possible, we have worked to expedite the process, in line with an aggressive initial recovery schedule.

I am proud to report that our North Atlantic Coast Comprehensive Study (NACCS) team released the draft NACCS report June 30 for stakeholder review and comment and is on track to submit the final report to Congress in January 2015. This final study will take sea-level rise and climate change scenarios into account to

evaluate coastal storm risk from a systems perspective and identify additional efforts needed to close gaps in regional resilience efforts. Consistent with the risk-reduction framework identified in our comprehensive study, 16 feasibility cost-sharing agreements have been executed out of our 18 ongoing studies. Three are scheduled for completion by the end of 2015.

Successful execution of our programs continues to be linked directly to extensive collaboration both vertically and horizontally within our organization and with Federal and Non-Federal partners, while targeting quality, timeliness and efficient stewardship of Federal dollars.

What's Ahead

With the start of another hurricane season, we remain even more vigilant in our efforts to help communities recover and enhance resilience to future extreme weather as efficiently and expeditiously as possible.

Please rest assured that our entire organization remains steadfast to preserving our valued partnership in this recovery process. Because a successful, cohesive team effort hinges on frequent, transparent communication, we will continue to make ourselves available to meet with you, respond to your questions, receive your input, and work as your teammates in this massive and critical endeavor.

Building Strong – Bridging the Atlantic!

**Kent D. Savre
Brigadier General, U.S. Army
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