

Southern New England – New York Bight

Coastal Program in New Jersey

Represented by the following Members of Congress:

Senator Jon S. Corzine (D)
Senator Frank R. Lautenberg (D)
2nd, 3rd, 4th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th,
11th, 13th districts

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Purpose

This Coastal Program works to conserve the ecological integrity of the area's heavily populated coastal zone. The program is responsible for coastal resources from Cape Cod, Massachusetts to Cape May, New Jersey. This area includes two of the largest, most heavily impacted estuaries in the Northeast: Long Island Sound and New York/New Jersey Harbor.

The work of this Coastal Program office is guided by several laws and related legislative authorities, including:

Clean Water Act
Endangered Species Act
Oil Pollution Act
Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act
Coastal Barrier Improvement Act
*Coastal Wetland Planning,
Protection and Restoration Act*

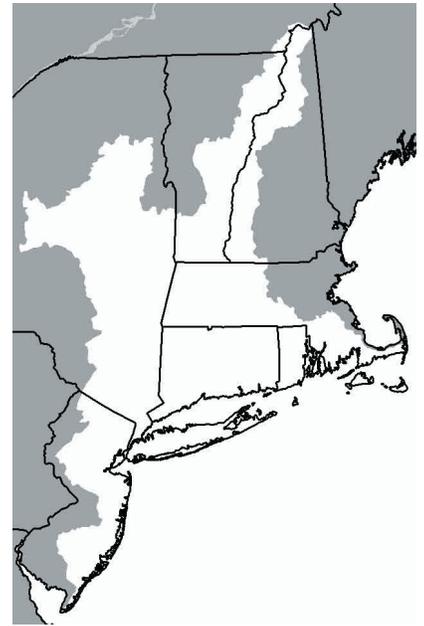
Program Activities

The Coastal Program provides expertise and resources for projects that protect and restore coastal habitats. The program also plays a critical role in multi-agency groups by identifying and mapping coastal habitats and assisting with the recovery of federally threatened and endangered species.

Current partners include *New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, NOAA, EPA, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Army Corps of Engineers, Coast Guard and the New Jersey Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership.*

Highlights

- Supporting habitat restoration to recover the federally listed threatened bog turtle
- Collaborating with partners and other Service programs to conserve wetlands in the Hackensack Meadows
- Assisting in the New York/New Jersey Harbor Estuary Program's effort to protect critical habitat for fish and wildlife
- Contributing technical expertise to the newly established New Jersey Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership
- Supporting a landscape-level effort to recover the Atlantic coast population of the federally listed threatened piping plover



Issues

Coastal lands are in extreme demand throughout the state, and property values are among the highest in the country. Land acquisition, as a priority means of protecting habitat, comes at an exceptional cost and funding does not stretch as far as it does in other parts of the country.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
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