

Hereford Seawall Repair - 2020



US Army Corps
of Engineers®

SCOPE of WORK

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), in partnership with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), has awarded a contract to repair the Hereford Inlet Seawall. The work will repair approximately 530 linear feet of the wall in three separate locations. The two northern areas require both land and water-based operations, while the third area can be completed entirely from the water. Work will occur from the land adjacent to the wall and from barges within the inlet. In order to repair underwater damage to the wall, the contractor must first deconstruct the portions of the wall that are above the waterline. Large concrete mats will be laid along the inlet floor to provide a foundation for reconstructing the wall and stones will be placed on top of the mats, some weighing as much as four tons.

SCHEDULE

A contractor protest delayed the contract award approximately 5 months preventing work from starting in fall 2019. USACE and NJDEP are working with the contractor to minimize local impacts as much as possible during the summer season. This schedule may include commencement of water-based operations from a barge within the inlet as early as late-Spring 2020 and continuing through the summer season. Land-based operations would commence immediately after Labor Day 2020. The current contracted work is anticipated to last throughout the fall, winter, and spring, with completion before the 2021 summer season. USACE is pursuing additional funding to increase stone quantities by as much as 30%. This additional stone would address damages to the wall since completing the current designs. This could require additional work time as much as 3 months, depending on the amount of funding received. There are also many other factors that can impact a construction schedule including obtaining the necessary easements, weather conditions, and the unpredictability of working in an ocean environment. Commencing water-based operations as soon as possible helps to assure the likelihood of completing the work no later than June 2021.

LOCAL IMPACTS

Repair of the seawall requires operations in close proximity to residential structures. Safety fencing will be installed along the seawall adjacent to the active work area throughout both water and land-based operations. Water-based operations will be performed by a crane on a barge in the inlet, which will increase noise levels and partially obstruct the normal inlet viewscape. Land-based operations, which will commence after Labor Day 2020, require the temporary use of adjacent open spaces for truck access and storage of equipment and rock material. These areas will be surrounded by security fencing. While only land-based operations require truck access to the wall, there will be increased truck traffic in the general area throughout both water and land-based construction. Although these impacts can be inconvenient, the wall repair is critically needed to provide protection from coastal storms.

