



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**  
New York District

# Ramapo River at Oakland, NJ

## Flood Damage Reduction Project

### FACT SHEET

**DESCRIPTION:** The project involves the construction of features for flood protection along the Ramapo River from Pompton Lake in Wayne Township and the Borough of Pompton Lakes, upstream through the Borough of Oakland to West Oakland Avenue, a distance of 3.3 miles.

The principal problem along the Ramapo River is flooding caused by the backwater effect produced by the Pompton Lake Dam, the hydraulic constrictions produced by bridges crossing the river, and insufficient channel capacity. Flooding has occurred frequently, with the most recent events in 1968, 1970, 1971, 1973, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1983, 1984, 1987, 1993, January 1996, and in September 1999 from Tropical Storm Floyd.

The April 1984 flood was the most severe causing \$9,500,000 in damages (October 1995 price level). The flood had a recurrence frequency of 2 percent (a 50-year flood event). It is estimated that if a storm with a 1 percent recurrence frequency (100-year event) were to occur, approximately 350 structures would sustain damages, resulting in approximately \$11,600,000 in damages (October 1995 price level). Tropical Storm Floyd in September 1999 also caused significant damage.

**AUTHORIZATION:** The Ramapo River was studied as part of the Passaic River Basin Phase I Advanced Engineering and Design Study which was authorized by the Water Resources Development Act of 1976 (Public Law 94-587, October 22, 1976). Congressional guidance for the conduct of the study is included in House of Representatives Report 94-1702. The project was authorized for construction under the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1986 (Public Law 99-662) and reauthorized in WRDA 1996 (PL 104-303). The sponsor is the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

The authorized plan for flood damage reduction along the project area includes channel modification of 5,800 feet of the Ramapo River and the relocation of the Doty Road Bridge. The authorized plan also calls for the installation of flood control gates at the existing Pompton Lake Dam. Mitigation for the environmental impacts of the plan includes the creation of a five-acre wetland in Potash Lake. The recommended plan would provide a consistent 40-year level of protection to the project area. The plan has an estimated cost of \$13,100,000. The cost is shared by the Federal Government (~75 percent) and the State (~25 percent). The State share includes the cost for all lands, easements, and rights-of-way as well as a cash contribution. The State share may be reduced through the use of credits available for Passaic River Basin projects.

**STATUS:** Engineering and design commenced in October 1987. The final General Design Memorandum was completed in May 1994 and approved in July 1994. Preparation of plans and specifications is complete. Permits were issued in January 1999. The Project Cooperation Agreement was executed with the State on April 9, 1999. Real estate was acquired and the construction contract on the channel modification was awarded to Rencor, Inc of New Jersey at a value of \$4,754,085. Physical construction is ongoing with an August 2002 completion date.

### PROJECT COST:

Estimated Federal Cost	\$9,850,000
Estimated Non-Federal Cost	\$3,250,000
Total	\$13,100,000

**CONTACT:** Mr. John O'Connor, Project Manager, E-mail: john.a.oconnor@usace.army.mil tel: 212-264-5778  
 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District  
 26 Federal Plaza  
 New York, NY 10278 <http://www.nan.usace.army.mil>  
 Congressional District: NJ-5, NJ-8