



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

# Update Report for New Hampshire



Current as of  
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**BUILDING STRONG®**

696 Virginia Road, Concord, Massachusetts 01742-2751  
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Home Page: <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/>

## Mission

The missions of the New England District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers include flood risk management, emergency preparedness and response to natural disasters and national emergencies, environmental remediation and restoration, natural resource management, stream bank and shoreline protection, navigation maintenance and improvement, support to military facilities and installations, and engineering and construction support to other government agencies. The six New England states cover 66,000 square miles and have 6,100 miles of coastline, 170 federal navigation projects (13 deep draft commercial waterways), 13 major river basins, and thousands of miles of navigable rivers and streams. The District operates and maintains 31 dams, three hurricane barriers and the Cape Cod Canal. Through its Regulatory program, the District processes nearly

2,500 applications per year for work in waters and wetlands of the six-state region. We employ about 500 professional civilian employees, with about 300 stationed at our headquarters in Concord, Mass. The other Corps of Engineers employees serve at Corps projects and offices throughout the region. For information on the New England District visit the website at: [www.nae.usace.army.mil/](http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/); or on Facebook: [facebook.com/CorpsNewEngland](https://www.facebook.com/CorpsNewEngland); or on Twitter: [twitter.com/corpsnewengland](https://twitter.com/corpsnewengland); or on Flickr: [www.flickr.com/photos/corpsnewengland](https://www.flickr.com/photos/corpsnewengland).

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## Navigation

**HAMPTON HARBOR (1st CD)** – In response to a request from Seabrook, Hampton, and New Hampshire officials, the New England District is working to complete dredging at Hampton Harbor. Hampton Harbor is located in Seabrook and Hampton, about 1.5 miles north of the New Hampshire-Massachusetts state line. The entrance to Hampton Harbor separates Seabrook and Hampton beaches and forms the mouth of the Hampton River. A small lobstering fleet, charter fishing boats, and numerous recreational craft are based in the harbor. Maintenance dredging of Hampton Harbor FNP is needed to restore the project to authorized dimensions and alleviate shoal conditions impacting safe navigation through the channels and access to anchorages.

The District completed sampling of the project in 2018 and environmental coordination with Federal and state agencies began in November 2018. A Public Notice on the project was issued Dec. 11, 2018. Funding was provided in the FY18 work plan in the amount of \$275,000 to complete environmental coordination/permitting and start plans and specifications documents leading to a solicitation. Additionally, the Corps' work plan for 2019 was approved on Nov. 20, 2018 and includes \$4,600,000 for Hampton Harbor dredging. Pending completion of environmental coordination and permits, real estate agreements and

contract award, maintenance dredging of Hampton Harbor is anticipated to begin in late fall 2019.

*On Oct. 31, 2018, the New Hampshire Port Authority made a request to USACE to initiate further studies of Hampton Harbor with a view to reducing erosion of the northern end of the Middle Ground Bar in Seabrook and the resulting rapid shoaling of the Seabrook Anchorage and Channel. Funds have not yet been received to initiate this study.*

**PORTSMOUTH HARBOR AND PISCATAQUA RIVER, NEW HAMPSHIRE (1st CD) AND MAINE (1st CD)** – This study of Portsmouth Harbor and the Piscataqua River, New Hampshire and Maine was directed by Section 437 of WRDA 2000. The non-federal sponsor is the state of New Hampshire, Pease Development Authority, Division of Ports and Harbors (PDA). The study's purpose is to determine the navigation related needs of the area and is focusing on the upper turning basin in the river near Newington, N.H. The current 800-foot width of the turning basin causes major safety concerns for shippers and limits the efficiency of shipping operations, particularly for large LPG tankers. The §905(B) reconnaissance report was completed and approved by North Atlantic Division in September 2004. A feasibility cost-sharing agreement for the PDA and Corps

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to share the cost of the feasibility study was executed on June 21, 2006. The feasibility study was initiated in 2006 using funds provided by the PDA and the FY06 E&WDAAct.

A draft Feasibility Report/draft Environmental Assessment was released for public review on March 31, 2014. The final Feasibility Report and Environmental Assessment were approved by the Civil Works Review Board on Aug. 21, 2014. State and Agency review of the proposed Chief of Engineers Report closed on Nov. 24, 2014. The final Chief of Engineers Report was signed on Feb. 8, 2015 and the reports were submitted to Congress on June 15, 2015.

Congress authorized the project in the WIIN Act of December 2016. The Design Phase Cost Sharing Agreement between the USACE and the sponsor for the Preconstruction, Engineering, and Design (PED) effort was executed Nov. 13, 2015. Federal and sponsor funds have been received

and design phase work is 95 percent complete. *The project is awaiting federal funding.*

**PORTSMOUTH HARBOR AND PISCATAQUA RIVER, NEW HAMPSHIRE (1st CD) AND MAINE (1st CD) –** Maintenance dredging of the back channels portion of the Portsmouth Harbor and Piscataqua River FNP (commonly called “Sagamore Creek”) was needed to restore the project to authorized dimensions and alleviate shoal conditions impacting safe navigation through the channels. A solicitation including contract plans and specifications to remove approximately 4,300 cubic yards of shoal at the confluence of the Portsmouth Harbor back channels has been issued. A \$542,970 contract was awarded on Nov. 18, 2016. Dredging was completed in April 2017. Disposal of the dredged sand was used as a beneficial use at a nearshore site off of Wallace Sands Beach.

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## Flood Plain Management Services

**NORTHERN MASSACHUSETTS/NEW HAMPSHIRE HURRICANE EVACUATION STUDY (2nd CD) –** This study is being conducted under a federally funded program cosponsored by the Corps of Engineers and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

The objective of the program is to provide a technical data report and coastal flood mapping from which the state and local communities can develop/update preparedness plans for coastal storms. It also will allow state and local officials to identify evacuation areas and routes of evacuation for various coastal events. Inundation maps have been delivered to the state and affected communities. Final census figures have been compiled and delivered to New Hampshire state and local Emergency Management officials.

**NEW HAMPSHIRE SILVER JACKETS (NH-SJ) –** Team Meeting and Projects: A quarterly meeting was held on Feb. 15, 2019 at the NHDES Offices to discuss ongoing flooding issues in New Hampshire and updates on various studies and projects by the various team members from Federal agencies and state agencies.

Recently completed New Hampshire Silver Jackets projects are the FY17 New Hampshire Ice Jams Outreach and Education and FY18 Building out New Hampshire Silver Jackets' Role in the State Disaster Recovery Plan. More information is located at: <https://silverjackets.nfrmp.us/State-Teams/New-Hampshire>.

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## Emergency Streambank Protection

This program is used to assist communities in the stabilization of streambank/shoreline emergency erosion conditions which threaten important publicly used facilities. The Section 14 authority allows the Corps of Engineers to participate in the planning and construction of stream bank erosion control projects in situations where public facilities are threatened, in partnership with a local sponsor.

For more information on the Section 14 Emergency Streambank Protection program visit the website at: [www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/PublicServices/](http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/PublicServices/)

[Continuing Authorities Program/Section 14.aspx](#).

**CONNECTICUT RIVER, LYME (2nd CD) –** *The New England District has been working with the town of Lyme to develop a Section 14 protection project for 500 feet of eroding riverbank along River Road in Lyme. The feasibility study is currently going through Corps and public review. It recommends the use of stone rip-rap to protect the bank from further erosion. The feasibility study is scheduled to be completed by the summer of 2019. Final design efforts would be initiated soon after, subject to the availability of funding.*

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## Flood Damage Reduction

This program is used to assist communities in identifying flooding problems and to formulate and construct projects for flood damage reduction. The local sponsor is required to cost-share equally in those feasibility investigations that exceed \$100,000. The Federal expenditure per project limit is \$7,000,000. The local sponsor is required

to contribute 35 percent of the cost of plans, specifications and project construction. For more information on Section 205 Flood Damage Reduction visit the website at: [www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/PublicServices/ContinuingAuthoritiesProgram/Section205.aspx](http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/PublicServices/ContinuingAuthoritiesProgram/Section205.aspx).

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## Defense Environmental Restoration Program

This Congressionally directed program (PL 98-212) provides for an expanded effort in environmental restoration. It emphasizes the identification, investigation and prompt cleanup of hazardous and toxic waste; unexploded ordnance; and unsafe buildings, structures and debris at current and former military facilities. Site and project eligibility investigations at 37 sites have been completed in New Hampshire, including 26 sites where no cleanup work was found to be necessary. Of the 11 sites where work was needed, the following efforts are underway:

**DESIGN** – The former **Grenier Air Force Station, Manchester Airport, Manchester (1st CD)** has been identified as a PRP site. The New England District office,

Manchester Airport, and the state of New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services are discussing the next steps.

**REMIEDIATION** is complete for the **Mt. Washington Test Site (2nd CD)**, the **Mt. Washington Equipment and Experimental Station (2nd CD)**, the Wright Air Development Facility, **Bartlett (2nd CD)**, Icing Research Annex, **North Conway (2nd CD)**, Concord Point Radar Station, **Rye (1st CD)**, Camp Langdon and Fort Constitution, **Newcastle (1st CD)**, Fort Dearborn in **Rye (1st CD)**, and at the Massabesic National Guard Training Range in **Auburn (1st CD)**.

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## Support to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

**WORK FOR THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY** – The New England District is designated as the Corps of Engineers total support agency for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Region I (New England) Superfund program for those federal-lead projects assigned to the Corps by EPA.

This includes responsibility for design and/or construction execution of remediation projects. In addition, the New England District is providing technical assistance upon request to EPA New England for other federal-lead projects assigned by EPA to private firms as well as for some potentially responsible party (PRP) remediation.

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## Regulatory Activities

Department of the Army permits are required from the Corps under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, and Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act. The Corps reviews permit applications for work affecting navigable waters under its Section 10 authority and the discharge of fill material into all waters, including inland wetlands, under Section 404. A list of Monthly General and Individual Permit Authorizations is provided at [www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/PermitsIssued.aspx](http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/PermitsIssued.aspx).

Relevant environmental documents are available upon written request. For information about Corps jurisdiction of wetlands and whether a permit is required for your work contact the Regulatory Division at 978-318-8338 or 978-318-8335 or by email to [cenae-r@usace.army.mil](mailto:cenae-r@usace.army.mil) or visit the website at: [www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx](http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx).

**GENERAL PERMITS** – The District has comprehensive Regional General Permits (RGPs) in place for each of the six New England states that authorize work with no more than minimal adverse effect on the aquatic environment. Up to 98 percent of all permits issued in New England are RGPs. Work eligible under the RGPs is generally approved in less than 60 days. The current New Hampshire RGP is available at: [www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/StateGeneralPermits.aspx](http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/StateGeneralPermits.aspx).

**NEW HAMPSHIRE IN-LIEU FEE PROGRAM (1st & 2nd CDs)** – In 2008 the District and the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) on an In Lieu fee (ILF) program called the Aquatic Resource Mitigation (ARM) Fund to provide an alternative to project-specific mitigation when the Corps requires mitigation. Site-specific mitigation for many of these projects has had limited ecological value due to their size, location, and/or permittee's ability to provide appropriate stewardship.

The original program was developed prior to the Federal Mitigation Rule (33 CFR 332). A rule-compliant instrument was signed on May 18, 2012. The ILF program provides applicants an efficient and workable alternative of paying a fee if the District, in consultation with the federal resource agencies and the state, agrees it is the best alternative. The fees are aggregated by service area, based on hydrologic unit codes, within the state of New Hampshire and must be used, within a specified time period, to restore or create aquatic resources and/or preserve aquatic resources and their associated uplands.

To date, more than \$16 million has been paid into the Fund and 84 projects have been approved for funding across the state. There was no RFP solicitation for projects in 2017 as the sponsor's staff used the time to prepare a Status and Trends report for the program, review and edit the selection



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criteria, and perform other administrative tasks for the program. The 2018 solicitation was publicized in *September 2018* and 35 applications were submitted. After review by the Site Selection Committee, the Interagency Review Team

and the state's Wetlands Council awarded approximately \$4.2 million to 26 projects in 2018. Approximately \$1.6 million is available for 2019 project awards in the Merrimack River Service Area.

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## Special Studies

**GULF OF MAINE INITIATIVE** – The New England District is a member of the Gulf of Maine working group, providing this joint U.S./Canadian committee with water resource planning expertise. Corps staff members provide technical

assistance in areas relating to our missions. Opportunities for Corps participation in ecosystem restoration are being continually considered.

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## Other Current Activities

**CONNECTICUT RIVER ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION STUDY (2nd CD)** – Authority to conduct an ecosystem restoration study in the upper Connecticut River watershed is provided through a resolution adopted by the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the U.S. Senate on May 23, 2001. A reconnaissance report identified several ecosystem restoration opportunities along the main stem of the Connecticut River. Since then the Water Resources Development Act of 2007 authorized the Corps to partner with The Nature Conservancy (TNC). A feasibility study was initiated with TNC in 2008. The study *investigated* alternatives to manage flow for the 73 largest dams in the basin with the goal of improving aquatic habitat while maintaining human uses such as flood control, hydropower, water supply and recreation. Various tools (e.g. operation and optimization computer models) have been developed to assess these management measures. A *final* report was *completed in 2018 and is available at: <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Projects-Topics/Connecticut-River/>.*

estimated 90% of adult standing stock. This project will begin to restore the lost benefits of those reefs. TNC is working to develop methods to ensure the long term protection of restored reefs prior to executing the cooperative agreement.

**GREAT BAY OYSTER RESTORATION (1st & 2nd CDs)** – The Nature Conservancy (TNC) received approval for funding to restore oysters in Great Bay, New Hampshire, under the Estuary Restoration Act. The work will be conducted by the TNC in partnership with the Corps of Engineers under a cooperative agreement. The project will restore 10 acres of oyster reef (eastern oyster *Crassostrea virginica*) to provide ecosystem services (especially filtration and nutrient control) and to benefit diadromous and estuarine dependent fish, benthic invertebrate communities, and eelgrass beds.

**MERRIMACK RIVER WATERSHED STUDIES (SECTION 729) (1st & 2nd CDs)** – The overall purpose of the watershed assessment study is to conduct a comprehensive field program and data collection effort combined with watershed and river modeling to provide information to stakeholders to guide local water resource management decisions. The assessment of the Merrimack River and its watershed is a multi-phase effort that is being conducted in collaboration with multiple partners and stakeholders. This study is being conducted under the authority provided in Section 729 of WRDA 1986 as amended and titled "Water Resources Needs of River Basins and Region." The Section 729 study requires (75 percent federal/25 percent nonfederal) cost sharing. The Lower Merrimack River Assessment Phase I efforts were performed at a cost of about \$2 million and cost shared with nonfederal interests in Massachusetts and New Hampshire. The study was initiated in the spring of 2002 and the Phase I report was completed in September 2006. Phase II efforts on the Upper Merrimack River Basin in New Hampshire began in 2007. The Phase II report *will be available in 2019*. The estimated cost for the Phase II Merrimack study efforts is about \$1.6 million. In 2013 the Corps started the final phase (Phase III) studies on the Lower Merrimack River Watershed. Field Sampling Plans for the Merrimack River and tributaries were completed in 2014. Water quality sampling events were conducted in 2014, 2015, and 2016. Watershed modeling was completed in 2018. The Draft Merrimack River Watershed Assessment Summary report, *including modeling results*, will be available for public review in 2019.

Oyster reefs provide ecosystem services, including water filtration, nutrient control and fish production. As late as 1970, surveys showed up to 900 acres of live oyster reefs in the Great Bay estuary, but by 2006 the system had lost an

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## Interagency and International Support

**SUPPORT TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS** – The New England District has teamed up with a sister federal agency in an effort to improve the care Soldiers are receiving at military hospitals. The U.S. Department of

Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Corps of Engineers entered into an interagency agreement in 2001 for the goods and services the Corps may provide to the VA when needed. These include project management, design services,

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construction management services, environmental services, preliminary technical investigations, surveying, and historical presentation compliance at VA facilities. In 2008, the VA started exercising its agreement with the Corps in New England and NAE is now supporting the VA with services at several facilities in New England. Current or recent projects are in Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut.

**SUPPORT TO THE COLD REGIONS RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING LABORATORY** – The New England District works to support the environmental and engineering/construction requirements, as requested, of the Corps' Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory (CRREL) in Hanover, New Hampshire. Projects are managed by the Corps under the supervision of a Corps' Quality Assurance Representative to assure compliance with contract requirements.

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## Flood Risk Management Dams, Recreation and Natural Resources Management

The New England District constructed and operates and maintains seven flood risk management project dams in New Hampshire. All are located in the 2nd Congressional District, and information on each is provided below. In addition, the Corps is responsible for the conservation of natural resources held in public trust at civil works water resources projects. Recreation areas at the 31 federal flood risk management protection projects and the Cape Cod Canal within New England are managed for multiple uses. In some areas, management is delegated to the states for specific purposes, e.g., campgrounds, wildlife management and forestry. Recreation areas at these facilities are generally open from mid-May to mid-September. For information on Corps recreation in New England visit the website at [www.nae.usace.army.mil/](http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/) and select "recreation" or for New Hampshire projects go directly to the weblink at [www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/NewHampshire.aspx](http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/NewHampshire.aspx).

**BLACKWATER DAM on the Blackwater River in Webster and Salisbury** was completed in 1941 at a cost of \$1.3 million. The 1,150-foot-long, 75-foot-high dam has a reservoir storage capacity of 14.9 billion gallons of water and has prevented damages of \$77.6 million to date. Recreational opportunities at Blackwater include hiking, biking, boating, fishing, hunting, horseback riding, dog sledding and snowmobiling with several thousand people visiting the reservoir area each year. The forest management program continues to have frequent harvests which maintain and promote healthy successional forest growth.

Project staff are currently managing the *winter* season. Over the next couple months, visitors will be enjoying fishing, hiking, and nature viewing. Others will just be enjoying being out in a beautiful natural setting while the staff will be busy patrolling the property, planning for the upcoming recreation season, and scheduling required maintenance for the next year.

*Controlled releases of water are planned from Blackwater Dam in Webster and Salisbury on Saturday and Sunday, April 27-28, 2019 to provide adequate river flows for recreational canoeing, kayaking and rafting on the Blackwater River. This water release is subject to change or cancellation, if conditions require. For more information*

*go to the website at: [https://reservoircontrol.usace.army.mil/NE/pls/cwmsweb/cwms\\_web.cwmsweb.cwmsindex](https://reservoircontrol.usace.army.mil/NE/pls/cwmsweb/cwms_web.cwmsweb.cwmsindex) and select *whitewater/recreation*. For up-to-date information, call (603) 934-2116 or visit our website at: [www.corpslakes.us/Blackwater](http://www.corpslakes.us/Blackwater) or at [www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/BlackwaterDam.aspx](http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/BlackwaterDam.aspx).*

Situated on Nubanusit Brook in Peterborough, **EDWARD MacDOWELL LAKE DAM** was completed in 1950 at a cost of \$2 million. Edward MacDowell Lake consists of an earth fill dam with stone slope protection 1,100 feet long and 67 feet high with a capacity of more than four billion gallons of water and has prevented damages of about \$20.8 million to date. There is a conservation pool at Edward MacDowell Lake covering an area of 165 acres and having a maximum depth of about seven feet. The flood storage area of the project totals 840 acres and covers parts of Hancock, Dublin and Harrisville. The lake and all associated project lands cover 1,469 acres. This is equivalent to 5.4 inches of water covering its drainage area of 44 square miles.

The Corps operates a small recreation area. Amenities include two pavilions, multiple picnic and grill locations throughout the park, beach, volleyball net, horseshoe pits and playground. Canoes, rowboats and other small boats are permitted on Edward MacDowell Lake. Project lands also offer trails for hiking and cross country skiing; snowmobile trails; undeveloped open space for ball playing and other sporting activities; drinking water; and sanitary facilities. More than 146,000 visitors annually enjoy the picnic areas, swimming areas, hiking trails, boating, fishing, hunting and snowmobiling available at Edward MacDowell Lake. For up-to-date information, call (603) 924-3431 or visit the lake's web site at [www.corpslakes.us/EdwardMacdowell](http://www.corpslakes.us/EdwardMacdowell) or at [www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/EdwardMacDowellLake.aspx](http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/EdwardMacDowellLake.aspx).

*The Corps will host a public meeting on Wednesday, March 20, 2019 in Peterborough to discuss updating the master plan for project operations and federal land management of the Edward MacDowell Lake flood risk management project. The public will have an opportunity to provide comments on the draft master plan at the public meeting or submit their comments to the Corps by April 19, 2019. The master plan is available for review at: <https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/>*

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### Missions/Recreation/Edward-MacDowell-Lake/

*The master plan is a document that conceptually establishes and guides the orderly development, administration, maintenance, preservation, enhancement and management of all natural, cultural and recreational resources at Edward MacDowell Lake. It is a land use management document and does not include any operations associated with facilities such as the dam or spillway. The updated master plan will present an inventory and assessment of the land and water resources and related physical improvement. The master plan was last updated in 1979. Public input is critical in the master plan update. This master plan will address land use pressure, along with the increased demand for outdoor recreation and shifting interest in more and varied types of outdoor experiences. The classification system and guidelines set forth are designed to guide the preservation, management and use of public lands in the future.*

*The master plan covers approximately 1,469 acres of federal land and prescribes an overall land and water management plan, resource objectives, and associated design and management concepts which provide the best possible combination of responses to regional needs, resource capabilities, and public interests consistent with authorized flood risk management purposes. The master plan covers all project resources, including fish and wildlife, vegetation, cultural, aesthetic, interpretive, recreational, commercial and outgranted lands, easements and water. The Corps has been working with the public and other stakeholders to develop the draft master plan that is now available for review and comment.*

*The master plan provides guidance for future management of the project and surrounding federal lands. The natural resources of the project will continue to be managed to provide the best combination of responses to regional and ecosystem needs, project resources and capabilities. All specific proposals for recreational or other development at the project must comply with the master plan, the Edward MacDowell Lake flood risk management reduction requirements, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and federal and Corps requirements. The Corps is preparing a draft Environmental Assessment for the master plan under NEPA. Interested parties may request a copy from the address listed below.*

*Public comments on the Edward MacDowell Lake Project master plan should be submitted by April 19, 2019 to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District, Edward MacDowell Lake Project, (Attn: Project Manager Jason Tremblay), 75 Wilder Street, Peterborough, NH 03458 or by email to [jason.c.tremblay@usace.army.mil](mailto:jason.c.tremblay@usace.army.mil). For up-to-date information, call (603) 924-3431 or visit the project web site at <https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/Edward-MacDowell-Lake/>.*

Construction of **FRANKLIN FALLS DAM** in Franklin was completed in October 1943 at a cost of \$7.9 million. Situated on the Pemigewasset River in the town of Franklin, the 1,740-foot-long, 140-foot-high dam impounds a permanent

pool of 440 acres with a maximum depth of about seven feet. The flood storage area of the project totals 2,800 acres and can store up to 50.2 billion gallons of water for flood risk management purposes. The project has prevented damages amounting to more than \$178.3 million to date. Additionally, more than 100,000 visitors annually enjoy the recreational opportunities at Franklin Falls which include designated hiking trails, mountain biking trails, snowmobiling trails, picnicking, fishing, boating, wildlife viewing, hunting, horseback riding, dog sledding and disc golf.

Project staff are currently managing the winter season. Concrete work to repair portions of the service bridge has been completed and preparations are underway for painting the service bridge. Over the next couple months, our visitors will be enjoying *winter* recreational activities. Others will just be enjoying being out in a beautiful natural setting while our staff will be busy patrolling the property, planning for the upcoming recreation season, and scheduling required maintenance for the next year. For up-to-date information, call (603) 934-2116 or visit our website at: [www.corpslakes.us/FranklinFalls](http://www.corpslakes.us/FranklinFalls) or at [www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/FranklinFallsDam.aspx](http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/FranklinFallsDam.aspx), or on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FranklinFallsDam> or on Instagram: franklin\_falls.

The **HOPKINTON-EVERETT LAKES** flood risk management project is a two-dam system of flood protection for the Merrimack Valley. **Hopkinton Dam, on the Contoocook River in Hopkinton**, is 790 feet long and 76 feet high and can impound a 3,700-acre lake. Nearby **Everett Dam, on the Piscataquog River in Weare**, is 2,000 feet long and 115 feet high and can impound a 2,900-acre lake. The lakes have a combined storage capacity of 51 billion gallons of water and are linked by a canal, which allows water to be diverted between the two pools. Construction of the dual facility was completed in 1962 at a cost of \$21.5 million. During the 1987 flood this combined project utilized 95 percent of its storage capacity and prevented \$24.5 million in flood damages. Since the construction in 1962, the two dams are credited with preventing more than \$217.1 million in damages. In addition, excellent recreational opportunities are available on project lands, including picnicking, swimming, boating, fishing, hunting and snowmobiling. An estimated 450,000 visitors come to the Hopkinton-Everett project annually.

The project's *winter* season is underway. Boaters are using the Hopkinton Lake for fishing and other visitors are using the property to relax and enjoy nature. Project staff is busy assisting visitors, patrolling the property, performing required inspections and maintenance, and working to improve recreational access and opportunities for the public.

*A \$173,316.00 contract for limitorque rehabilitation at the Hopkinton Dam was awarded on March 23, 2018 to JE Prenosil & Company of Thorndike, Massachusetts. Work consists of furnishing all labor, materials and equipment necessary to refurbish Limitorque Gate Hoist Operator Assemblies 5 and 6 with the options to furnish and install new Limitorque B320-90 Series Bevel Gear Operators*



(or equivalent) in each of the two assemblies located at the Hopkinton Dam Gatehouse. The contractor will install swivel hoist rings on the gate stem that covers both of these assemblies to aid in reinstallation and future removals. The contractor will inspect and adjust the gate stem guides for gates 1 through 6 to ensure that all gate stems are plumb, level, and centered to allow free movement of the gate stem.

For up-to-date information, call (603) 746-3601 or visit the website at [www.corplakes.us/HopkintonEverett](http://www.corplakes.us/HopkintonEverett) or at [www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/HopkintonEverettLake.aspx](http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/HopkintonEverettLake.aspx).

**OTTER BROOK LAKE on Otter Brook in Keene** was completed in 1958 at a cost of \$4.4 million. The 133-foot-high, 1,288-foot-long dam can impound a reservoir with a storage capacity of 5.7 billion gallons of water. During the 1987 flood, this dam utilized 100 percent of its storage capacity and prevented \$3.6 million in damages. Since the construction in 1958, the dam has prevented flood damages of \$47.4 million. More than 39,000 visitors annually enjoy the swimming, picnicking, boating, fishing and hunting available at the 458-acre facility. For up-to-date information, call (603) 352-4130. The website is [www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/OtterBrookLake.aspx](http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/OtterBrookLake.aspx).

The Corps reevaluated the spillway capacity at Otter Brook in 2003 using revised storm data generated by the National Weather Service. As the spillway was determined to be too small, a design to accommodate larger flood flows was completed. This effort resulted in a new concrete spillway weir with mechanical fuse plugs designed to fail prior to exceeding discharge capacity. This project was completed in the summer of 2006.

*Controlled releases of water are planned from Otter Brook Dam in Keene on Saturday and Sunday, May 4-5, 2019 to provide flows for recreational canoeing, kayaking and rafting on the Otter Brook. This release is subject to change or cancellation, if conditions require. For more information visit the website at: [https://reservoircontrol.usace.army.mil/NE/pls/cwmsweb/cwms\\_web.cwmsweb.cwmsindex](https://reservoircontrol.usace.army.mil/NE/pls/cwmsweb/cwms_web.cwmsweb.cwmsindex) and select*

*whitewater/recreation.*

**SURRY MOUNTAIN LAKE on the Ashuelot River in Surry**, just north of Keene, was completed in 1941 at a cost of \$2.8 million. The 1,800-foot-long, 86-foot-high dam has a reservoir storage capacity of 10.6 billion gallons of water. During the 1987 flood, this dam utilized 100 percent of its storage capacity and prevented \$8 million in damages. Since construction in 1941, the dam has prevented damages estimated at \$149.5 million. For up-to-date information, call (603) 352-2447 or (603) 352-4130. The website is [www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/SurryMountainLake.aspx](http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/SurryMountainLake.aspx).

In addition to its flood risk management benefits, Surry Mountain Lake also provides recreational opportunities, such as fishing, swimming and boating to 58,000 visitors annually. Restrooms, drinking water and picnic shelters also are available.

*Controlled releases of water are planned from Surry Mountain Dam in Surry on Saturday, April 27, 2019, to provide flows for recreational canoeing and kayaking on the Ashuelot River. This release is subject to change or cancellation, if conditions require. For more information visit the website at: [https://reservoircontrol.usace.army.mil/NE/pls/cwmsweb/cwms\\_web.cwmsweb.cwmsindex](https://reservoircontrol.usace.army.mil/NE/pls/cwmsweb/cwms_web.cwmsweb.cwmsindex) and select whitewater/recreation.*

*A \$98,788.00 contract for de-leading and repainting of the emergency service gate at the Surry Mountain Dam was awarded on April 2, 2018 to Coatings Unlimited, Inc. of Bridgeton, Missouri. Work consists of: construction of a containment system for the emergency service gate, which is located inside the gate tower and is approximately 12 feet high, 7 feet wide and one foot thick; complete removal of the existing lead-containing paint system to bare metal through abrasive blasting methods from gate and outer surface of pulley mechanism that suspends gate; disposal of lead-containing paint debris and spent blast media; and application of primer, stripe and top coats onto the gate and the outer surface of the pulley.*

