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111th Congress

January 2010

The Coastal Connection - *Special Edition*

[Recent Coastal Storms Wreak Havoc](#)



The [effects of Tropical Storm Ida and recent Nor'Easters \(one of which formed from Ida's remnants\)](#) are still being felt by coastal communities all along the East and Gulf Coasts, as the coastal storms caused millions of dollars worth of damage and prompted FEMA to issue major disaster declarations for all or parts of [Alabama](#), [New Jersey](#), [New York](#), and [Virginia](#). As a result of significant damages sustained by Federal shore protection, flood control, and navigation projects up and down the East Coast, thousands of residents and millions of dollars of

public and private infrastructure are now exposed to even more serious damages if severe coastal storms were to hit again. [\[Read More\]](#)

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[ASBPA Calls for Emergency Disaster Relief](#)



The [American Shore & Beach Preservation Association](#) is calling upon the President to propose an Emergency Disaster Relief package that will provide the Army Corps or Engineers with the

funds it needs to repair those Federal coastal projects along the East and Gulf Coasts that have been severely damaged by recent coastal storms. In the Middle Atlantic States alone, it is estimated that damages exceed \$250 million. Given the importance of having repairs done before the next hurricane season begins, the Association argues that there is a compelling need to act now.

While FEMA recently issued major disaster declarations for all or parts of coastal Alabama, Alaska, Louisiana, New Jersey, New York and Virginia, FEMA will not provide relief for damages sustained by Federal shore protection, flood control, and navigation projects. Disaster





assistance for these projects can only be provided by the Army Corps of Engineers through its Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies account. [\[Read More\]](#)

[Media Coverage of Coastal Storm Damage](#)

The Cape May County Herald in New Jersey covers storm damage in its article entitled, "[Group Asks for Emergency Funds for Storm-Damaged Beaches.](#)" The article highlights an ASBPA letter to President Barrack Obama that proposes funding for an Emergency Disaster Relief package so the Army Corps of Engineers can repair damaged federal coastal projects caused by recent storms, including an estimated \$38 million damage in Cape May County.



The [weather channel](#) in Norfolk, Virginia and Vetnor, New Jersey following November's Nor'easter. As illustrated in the news report, not only did the storm cause damage to coastal infrastructure, but it also flooded many streets in Downtown Norfolk.

Other Coverage:

["Ida's Remnants Ravage Mid-Atlantic"](#) (USA Today)

["East Coast Storm Damage Tops \\$100 Million"](#) (The Associated Press)

["Sen. Carper Examines Storm Damage to Dunes"](#) (Coastal Point, DE)

["Governor Kaine Tours Storm Damage"](#) (The Virginian-Pilot)

[North Carolina Storm Damage Photos](#) (Free Island Press, NC)

["NC Governor to Assess Dare County Storm Damage"](#) (The Virginian-Pilot)

["Federal Authorites to Inspect NJ Damage"](#) (The Star Ledger)

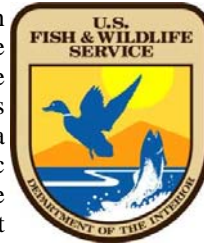
[Can Delaware's Coast Handle Another Storm?](#)



Despite controversy about the dunes and how they blocked the view of the ocean, South Bethany Mayor Gary Jayne said he's glad they were built. Harsh winds and flooding created by two nor'easters and a recent winter storm decimated the dune, leaving some homes exposed to the elements and ocean waves. He can only imagine what would have happened had the dunes not been there. [\[Read the Full Article\]](#)

[Hurricane Ida Damages FWS Habitats & Facilities](#)

Managers with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are assessing national wildlife refuge facilities and habitats damaged as Hurricane Ida swept through the mid-Atlantic November 11. Most of the heavy storm damage occurred at Virginia national wildlife refuges with other damage scattered along the eastern coast as far as Delaware.



[Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge sustained damage and flooding as a result of heavy rains, high tides and sustained wind gusts.](#) In some areas, tides were reported from 5 to 7 feet above normal, inundating refuge facilities. [\[Read FWS Press Release\]](#)

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