



Rooster Island, Dorchester County, MD

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
FACT SHEET as of February 1, 2015

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AUTHORIZATION: *Continuing Authorities Program, Section 1135 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986, as amended*

TYPE OF PROJECT: Project Modifications for the Improvement of the Environment

CONTRIBUTION TO CHESAPEAKE BAY: Directly contributes to achieving protection and restoration goals established by the 2009 Executive Order 13508 and the 2014 Chesapeake Bay Program Agreement by restoring clean water and recovering habitat.

PROJECT PHASE: *Design & Implementation*

CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST: Senators **Mikulski** and **Cardin (MD)**; Representative **Harris (MD-01)**.



Overview of the project area for Rooster Island, MD.

NON-FEDERAL SPONSOR: Dorchester County, Maryland with support from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources

BACKGROUND: Located in Dorchester County, Maryland, Rooster Island used to be a large sand spit with wetlands that protected Hambrooks Bay and the adjacent shorelines from wave action coming from the Choptank River.

Updrift sediment sources on private properties were cut off by bulkheads and groins constructed to reduce erosion. Without a continuous source of sediment for replenishment, the spit eroded leaving little vegetation. A feasibility report was finalized in 1995 and approved in 1996. The recommended plan consisted of a 2,400 foot-long breakwater, 31,000 cubic yards of sand stabilized by four stone groins and planted with 4.9 acres of marsh grasses and 1.1 acres of upland grasses. The Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA) with Dorchester County, Maryland was executed in July 1997 and construction began in 1998.

During the design and implementation phase in 1997, the refined cost estimate exceeded the non-Federal sponsor's ability to pay. Due to this cost constraint, the non-Federal sponsor requested that the recommended plan be modified without a reduction in benefits. The actual construction of the project consisted of a 1,900 foot-long breakwater, a groin field (five groins) to stabilize the leeward side, and approximately 28,125 cubic yards of sand fill which was planted with wetland vegetation. The salt marsh failed a couple of years after construction was completed and the project was inactive until 2008. At that time, funding was received to investigate reconstructing the failed salt marsh to realize the full benefits of the project. Using FY10 carry-in funding, a design contract was executed and an environmental assessment of the impacts of the proposed concept plans was performed.

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STATUS: The review of final design plans and specifications, along with the acquisition of permits were completed. Due to budget constraints, the non-federal sponsor decided to not fund their portion (25%) of construction at this time. Currently, the project is suspended until the sponsor can fund their portion of the project.

BUDGET (\$):

	<u>FEAS</u>	<u>Design and Implementation</u>
<u>Total Estimated Cost</u>	\$ 1,211,500	\$ 3,833,130
Federal Cost Estimate	913,400	2,970,130
Non-Federal Cost Estimate	298,100	863,000

<u>Federal Funds Data</u>		
Allocations thru FY 2013	\$913,400	\$2,970,130
Allocation for FY 2014	\$0	-\$2,365,000
President Budget FY 2015 ¹	\$0	\$0
Allocation for FY 2015 ²	\$0	\$0
Balance to Complete	\$0	\$2,365,000

NOTES:

¹ The President typically sends the budget to Congress in February each year. Upon release, budget amounts for the USACE Civil Works programs and specified projects are posted online at the HQUSACE website in a Program Budget Press Book at <http://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/Budget.aspx>.

² The final FY 2015 allocation amounts will be made available upon final approval pursuant to the Energy and Water Appropriations Act's continuing funding requirements.

SCHEDULE:

FY 2014 Completed Work: Finalized the design plans and specifications, along with the acquisition of permits were completed.

FY 2015 Scheduled Work: Coordination with the sponsor to establish if their budget status has changed.

COMPLETION: With optimum funding design and implementation phase can be completed in 2016.

For more information regarding the Rooster Island salt marsh restoration project, contact Mr. Anthony A. Clark, CENAB-PL-P, (410) 962-3413, or e-mail anthony.a.clark@usace.army.mil.



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