

New Jersey Coastal Resilience Plan

As part of New Jersey's ongoing efforts to reduce the risk from sea-level rise, flooding and erosion along its coast, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection is developing a Coastal Resilience Plan.

The goal of the plan is to inform and guide priorities, policies, regulations, resource allocation and funding in the coastal zone to reduce the impacts of coastal hazards. The plan also aims to increase resilience for structures, infrastructure systems, environmental resources, socially vulnerable populations and coastal communities, and attract equitable and sustainable investment.

This plan will focus on four simple goals to address the short- and long-term threats of storm surge, storm and precipitation events, and sea-level rise:

- Reduce risk and vulnerability
- Make adaptation easier
- Improve awareness and understanding
- Create consistent guidance

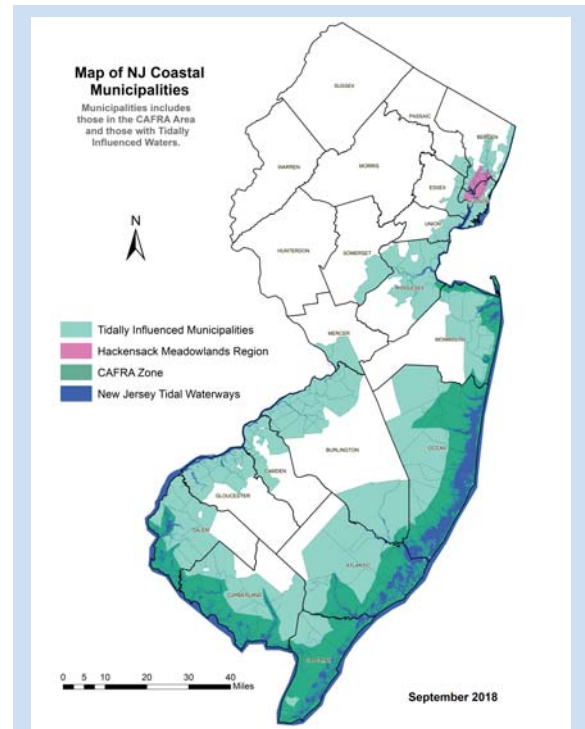
Recognizing the need to prioritize future funding allocations and project development, the DEP will develop a methodology that will help the state identify, assess and prioritize future projects, both structural projects and nature-based solutions. This system will include criteria based on project type, funding source, benefits and other factors that can inform future investment and resource allocation from the state, but can also inform planning decisions at the state and local level.

What's at risk?

New Jersey has more than 1,800 miles of shoreline along all the bays, rivers and tidal waterways in the coastal zone, which features 127 miles of ocean front. The DEP estimates that 67 percent of the entire shoreline is vulnerable to erosion.

A 2018 report from Union of Concerned Scientists estimated that 62,000 homes may be subject to chronic flooding in the next 30 years. This report also noted that New Jersey leads the nation in the number of commercial properties at-risk within this timeframe.¹

¹ Union of Concerned Scientists. Underwater: Rising Seas, Chronic Floods, and the Implications for Coastal Real Estate. 2018. <http://www.ucusa.org>



New Jersey Coastal Zone

Includes:

- 3,218.12 square miles
- 239 municipalities
- 53% of NJ population
- All tidally influenced land
- Coastal Area Facility Review Act
- Waterfront Development Area
- New Jersey Meadowlands District

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