AUTHORIZATION: The Nanticoke River NW Fork project was approved by the River and Harbor Act of June 3, 1896 House Document 323 and modified in 1910 via House documents 674 and 869, and again modified in 1945 by Senate Document .

TYPE OF PROJECT: Navigation

CONTRIBUTION TO CHESAPEAKE BAY: Contributes to Executive Order 13508 goals by innovatively protecting environmental habitat, improving water quality, and expanding public access within the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

PROJECT PHASE: Operation and Maintenance

CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST: Senators Mikulski and Cardin (MD), Carper and Coons (DE), Representatives Harris (MD-1), Carney (DE).

NON-FEDERAL SPONSOR: Wicomico County, Maryland, and Sussex County, Delaware, and Dorchester County, Maryland for the NW Fork

BACKGROUND:

Although the Nanticoke River begins in Tangier Sound the 12 foot contour begins across the Maryland/Virginia border near Sharptown and continues to Seaford, Del. The Northwest Branch beings at Upper Browns Ferry and continues to Federalsburg, MD.

The project provides for a channel 12 feet deep and 100 feet wide from the 12 foot depth contour near mile 8 to the highway bridge at Seaford, Delaware, with a turning basin at the upper end and a slight widening of the channel between the bridges in the harbor at Seaford to a depth of 9 feet. The length of the sections is about 4 miles over 32 miles of river. The Northwest Fork channel is 6 feet deep and 60 feet wide from Upper Browns Wharf to the southern boundary of the town of Federalsburg, with a turning basin at the upper end. The length of the section is about 4 miles and its lower end is about 12 miles above the mouth of the river.

The project was last dredged in 1990.
**STATUS:** The upstream end of the main channel was surveyed in 2006 and funds were used to commence engineering and design. Results indicate that the project has shoaled to a controlling depth of about 8 feet. A placement site was identified and purchased by Sussex County to accommodate the dredged material. Funds are insufficient to complete the engineering & design and commence a maintenance dredging contract. The local sponsor, Sussex County, might provide the funds to complete the engineering & design.

**BUDGET:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funds Data</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Allocation for FY 2011</td>
<td>49,900</td>
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<tr>
<td>Projected Allocation for FY 2012</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President Budget FY 2013</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The projected allocation amount represents only the project specific line item amount identified in the FY 2012 Appropriations Act and does not yet account for this law's directed program level funding adjustments. This law requires USACE to submit the final project allocation amounts to Congress by 6 February 2012.

**SCHEDULE:**

**FY 2011 Completed Work:** None.

**FY 2012 Scheduled Work:** $49,900 was reprogrammed into the project in FY 2011 to begin Engineering & Design.

**FY 2012 President’s Budget:** Funds are not included in the President’s budget to complete engineering & design and award a contract to initiate the maintenance dredging. Based upon national priorities, budget resources are not available to maintain the optimum project delivery work.

**For more information** regarding the Nanticoke River, NW Fork, MD contact Robert Blama, CENAB-OP-N, (410) 962-6068, e-mail Robert.n.blama@usace.army.mil. Also see this project’s related web page at http://www.nab.usace.army.mil/Navigation/index.html