

Jersey Shore beaches: \$1.2B replenishment means beaches at their fullest

Russ Zimmer and Jean Mickle, Asbury Park Press Published 5:00 a.m. ET June 29, 2018

The Jersey Shore's beaches — treasured by locals and the reason why tourists spend billions of dollars here every summer — have never been fuller, according to a new research by Stockton University.

The findings mark a key benchmark in the recovery from superstorm Sandy, which reconfigured the coastline when it rushed ashore in October 2012.

“The challenge now is to meet expectations for the future,” said David Rosenblatt, assistant commissioner for Engineering and Construction at the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, in a statement from Stockton. “We will also be focused more on the back bay and how to address concerns there.”

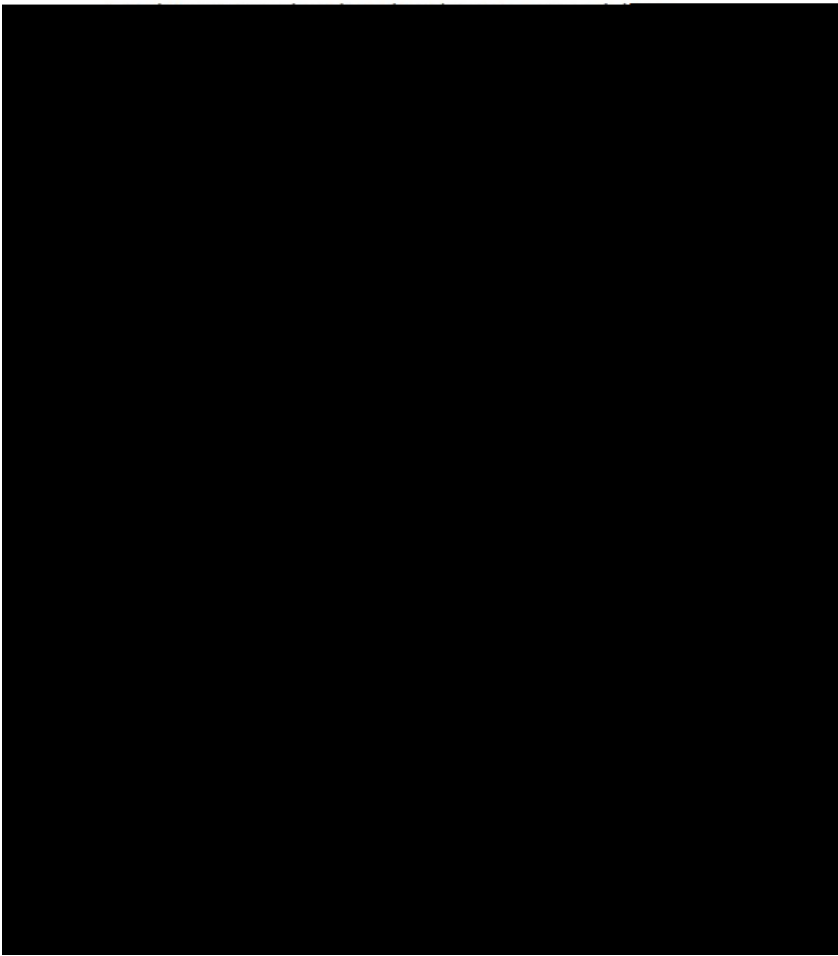
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However, maintaining copacetic beaches hasn't been cheap: Almost 163 million cubic yards of sand has been pumped onto New Jersey beaches at a cost of more than \$1.2 billion in tax dollars. Nearly all of that has come since the 1980s.

That work continues today.

A 14-mile dune project — one of the most ambitious undertakings in the history of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers — is in progress in northern Ocean Countm



But more sand has been shifted to Cape May County than anywhere else in New Jersey.

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