Sadat Associates, Inc.

# **Project History**

## Riparian (Wetland) Restoration

## **Project Name**

Franks Creek and Dead Horse Run Relocation/ Restoration

#### Client

Hurricane Associates, Inc. (NFI Real Estate)

#### Services Provided

- Subwatershed delineation and analysis
- Design drawings and specifications for restored riparian buffer
- Reception of federal, state, county, local permits
- Contractor bid analysis



Frank's Creek, a portion of which is located on 1200 Harrison Avenue, Kearny, is a drainage ditch that has deteriorated severely as a result of development activities elsewhere within the watershed. Prior to the development of the area, this part of Kearny was composed of a low-lying tidal marsh. Fill material was brought in to allow for development of the site and surrounding area. This material, which comprises the shorelines of Frank's Creek, is contaminated with organic compounds such as polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons. In addition, a major landfill





upstream has released organic compounds and metals into the surface water and sediment within Frank's Creek.

#### **Approach**

SAI was hired to complete an alternatives analysis (as required by NJDEP) on the restoration and relocation of Frank's Creek along the eastern border of the property. This analysis yielded the best solution for the proposed parking expansion project. The restoration alternative chosen will provide the following benefits:

- mitigate inefficient parking patterns on the property;
- minimize safety issues while tractor trailers cross Harrison Avenue;
- propose a newly restored stream corridor, riparian buffer, wetland habitat associated with Frank's Creek;
- further enhance the Frank's Creek stream corridor within the watershed (as a portion of Frank's Creek has been mitigated directly upstream);
- allow for the USPS to continue providing services to the northeast region;
- allow the USPS to remain as a tenant on the Hurricane Associates property (therefore continuing to contribute to the tax base of the Town of Kearny, which provides a positive economic impact to the region); and



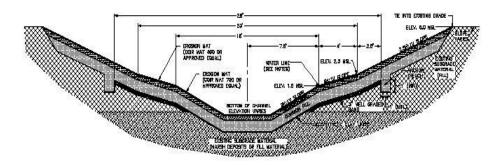
 provide a significant savings to the USPS for the cost and time of relocating its equipment and site resources to a new facility elsewhere.

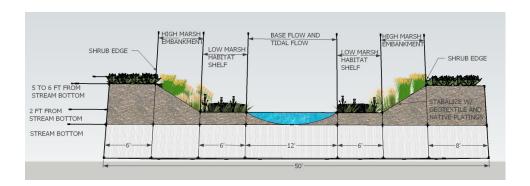
At the outset of the project, SAI completed a subwatershed investigation and documented the historical uses of the site and land use changes since 1920's, a wetland delineation and benthic macro-invertebrate study, sediment and water quality sampling programs, and a baseline stormwater analysis. SAI completed a design concept for the proposed restoration and met with key stakeholders and regulators (e.g., NJDEP, New Jersey Meadowlands Commission, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Hudson County) to receive comments and suggestions pertaining to the construction of the newly restored wetlands.

SAI prepared a preliminary design, prepared and submitted permit applications for the NJDEP, New Jersey Meadowlands Commission, Army Corps of Engineers, and Hudson County. After reception of the permit approvals, SAI prepared a final design and prepared construction and bid documents. The construction and bid documents were submitted to selected contractors and bids were received and reviewed on behalf of the client.

### **Project Impacts**

This project will successfully merge fiscal business decisions, site improvements, and environmental restoration. When completed, it will not only ameliorate the parking issues that the tenant is experiencing at the site, it will also in effect create wildlife habitat in an area so degraded that it has not been functioning as habitat for many years. In addition, this site will provide a study area for local undergraduate and graduate students in environmental science and management programs to document the transition from barren to functional wildlife habitat.





Updated 11/11.