



**New York - New Jersey  
Harbor Estuary Program**  
*Habitat Workgroup*

**Priority Acquisition and Restoration Sites**  
(Revised February 8, 2006)

The NY/NJ Harbor Estuary Program (HEP) is one of 28 National Estuary Programs established under Section 320 of the Clean Water Act. The goal of the program is to establish, restore and protect a healthy and productive harbor ecosystem with full beneficial uses.

The HEP Habitat Workgroup has developed watershed-based priorities for acquisition, protection, and restoration. The criteria used to rate the project sites include: existence of species or communities which are rare, endangered or threatened at the federal, state or local level; existing and potential ecological value and size; imminence of development; and economic considerations. The Acquisition and Restoration Priority Sites map employs an ecosystemic approach to watershed management and protection consistent with the HEP Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plans Action Priorities (CCMP H-11.3, 12.5, 12.8, and 4.4). All sites listed have been ratified by the HEP Policy Committee.

The map and sites list are dynamic works-in-progress. Sites will be added or modified as information becomes available.

## HEP Acquisition Priorities

- \* - Highest Priority Site, as selected by HEP Habitat Workgroup (NY sites ratified by HEP Policy Committee, 11 December 1997, unless otherwise noted; NJ sites ratified by HEP Policy Committee July 1997, unless otherwise noted)
  - a - Does not appear on map
  - b - Needs more information
  - c - These sites have actions pending by the US EPA, US ACE, NJDEP, or NYC DEP. Please see addenda to HEP Acquisition and Restoration Priorities sites list.
  - d - Pending ratification by HEP Policy Committee
- 1 - Funded by the Garden State Preserve Trust (in progress)
  - 2 - Funded by the 1995 NJ Green Acres Bond Act
  - 3 - Funded by the FY 1998-1999 NJ DEP (in progress)
  - 4 - Funded by the 1996 NJ Blue Acres Bond Act

### ARTHUR KILL WATERSHED

AK1	Morses Creek (NJ) <sup>(a)</sup>	Tidal Wetland Acquisition, Preservation, & Enhancement
AK2	Piles Creek (NJ) <sup>(*)</sup>	Tidal Wetland Acquisition, Preservation, & Enhancement
AK3	Alfieri Site (NJ) <sup>(*) (c)</sup>	Freshwater Wetland, Forested Floodplain Preservation
AK4	“Greenways to the Arthur Kill” (NJ) <sup>(a)</sup>	Acquisition & Preservation, Multiple Sites
AK5	Graniteville Swamp Woods (NY) <sup>(*)</sup>	Wet Woods/Headwaters of Old Place Creek
AK6	Additions to Arden Woods (NY)	Upland/Wetland Acquisition & Preservation (Ratified November 2, 2000)
AK7	Arlington Marsh (NY) <sup>(*)</sup>	Tidal Wetland Acquisition & Preservation (Ratified November 2, 2000)
AK8	Cable Avenue Woods (NY) <sup>(*)</sup>	Upland/Wetland Acquisition & Preservation (Ratified November 2, 2000)
AK9	Canada Hill Forest (NY)	Upland/Wetland Acquisition & Preservation (Ratified November 2, 2000)
AK10	Charleston/Kreisher Hill Woods (NY) <sup>(*) (c)</sup>	Upland/Wetland Acquisition & Preservation (Ratified November 2, 2000)
AK11	Little Fresh Kills (NY) <sup>(*)</sup>	Tidal Wetland Acquisition & Preservation (Ratified November 2, 2000)
AK12	North Mount Loretto Woods (NY)	Upland/Wetland Acquisition & Preservation (Ratified November 2, 2000)

AK13	Neck Creek (NY) <sup>(*)</sup>	Tidal Wetland Acquisition & Preservation (Ratified November 2, 2000)
AK14	Northern Sea View (NY) <sup>(*) (c)</sup>	Woodland/Grassland Acquisition & Preservation (Ratified November 2, 2000)
AK15	Outerbridge Ponds and Woods (NY) <sup>(*)</sup>	Upland/Wetland Acquisition & Preservation (Ratified November 2, 2000)
AK16	Port Mobile Swamp Forest and Tidal Flats (NY)	Freshwater/Tidal Wetland Acquisition & Preservation (Ratified November 2, 2000)
AK17	Pouch Camp (NY)	Upland/Wetland Acquisition & Preservation (Ratified November 2, 2000)
AK18	Port Mobil Swamp Forest (NY)	Freshwater/Tidal Wetland Acquisition and Preservation
AK19	Pouch Camp (NY) <sup>(*)</sup>	Upland/Wetland Acquisition and Preservation
AK20	Merrill's Creek (NY) <sup>(*) (a)</sup>	Upland/Wetland Acquisition and Preservation
AK21	Saw Mill Park Addition (NY) <sup>(*) (a, c)</sup>	Agency Land Transfer

#### **HACKENSACK RIVER WATERSHED**

HR1	“Hudson County Mall” (NJ)	Marsh Preservation & Possible Restoration
HR2A	Hackensack Meadowlands/ Bellman's Creek (NJ)	Waterfowl & Northern Harrier Foraging Areas; Tidal Marsh Preservation/Permanent Protection & Restoration
HR2B	Hackensack Meadowlands/Penhorn Creek (NJ)	Wetland & Tidal Creek Preservation & Possible Restoration
HR2C	Hackensack Meadowlands/ Empire Tract/Moonachie Creek (NJ) <sup>(*) (c)</sup>	Wetland Acquisition; Northern Harrier & Yellow Crowned Night Heron Foraging Area
HR2D	Hackensack Meadowlands/Berry's Creek (NJ)	Permanent Protection of Wetlands & Stream Corridor
HR2E	Hackensack Meadowlands/Kearny Marsh (NJ)	Permanent Open Space Designations
HR3	Overpeck Creek (NJ)	County Park Habitat Management; Possible Restoration
HR4	Haworth (NJ) <sup>(*) (1)</sup>	Reservoir buffer, forest protection
HR5	Old Tappan (NJ) <sup>(*) (2)</sup>	Upland buffer protection
HR6	Emerson (NJ) <sup>(*) (c, 1)</sup>	Reservoir buffer, forest protection
HR7	River Vale (NJ) <sup>(*) (3)</sup>	Reservoir buffer, upland protection
HR8	Laurel Hill Park Wetlands (NJ) <sup>(a)</sup>	Acquisition- Marshes and Open Fields

HR9	Pennsylvania Railroad Harsimus Stem Embankment (NJ) <sup>(*) (a)</sup>	Acquisition-Upland Habitat
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### HUDSON RIVER WATERSHED

HUR1	Liberty State Park (NJ)	Permanent Protection for Natural Areas, Emergent Habitat Enhancement
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### JAMAICA BAY WATERSHED

JB1	Seagirt Avenue Wetlands (NY) <sup>(*)</sup>	Salt marsh, Upland buffer (Ratified March 4, 1999)
JB2	Arverne Urban Renewal Area (NY) <sup>(*) (a, c)</sup>	Beachfront Habitat Acquisition

### LONG ISLAND SOUND WATERSHED

LI1	South Brother Island (NY) <sup>(*)</sup>	Heron Rookery
LI2	City Island Wetlands (NY) <sup>(*)</sup>	Wetland Fringe, Woodland Buffer
LI3	Udall's Cove Ravine (NY) <sup>(*)</sup>	Mixed Woodland, Headwaters of Udall's Cove
LI4	Powell's Cove (NY) <sup>(*)</sup>	Salt Marsh, Upland Buffer
LI5	Huckleberry Island (NY) <sup>(*)</sup>	Colonial Wading Bird Rookery (Ratified March 4, 1999)

### NAVESINK-SHREWSBURY WATERSHED

NS1	Claypit Creek (NJ) <sup>(d)</sup>	Acquisition of Tributary Waterfront
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### NEW YORK HARBOR WATERSHED

NYH1	South Beach Wetlands, Northern Section (NY) <sup>(*)</sup>	Upland/Wetland Acquisition & Restoration (Ratified April 27, 2001)
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### RARITAN BAY WATERSHED

RB1	Pawpaw Hybrid Oak Coastal Woods (NY) <sup>(*)</sup>	Mixed/Hybrid Oak Coastal Woods, Abuts Raritan Bay
RB2	Leonardo (NJ) <sup>(4)</sup>	Wetland, Upland, & Dune Acquisition & Restoration
RB3	Ware Creek (NJ)	Permanent Protection of Stream Corridor
RB4	Compton Creek (NJ)	Permanent Protection of Stream Corridor
RB5	Natco Lake/Thorn's Creek (NJ)	Permanent Protection & Possible Stream/Lake Enhancement
RB6	East Creek (NJ)	Permanent Protection of Stream Corridor

RB7	Flat Creek (NJ)	Permanent Protection of Stream Corridor
RB8	Conaskonk Point (NJ) (*)	Permanent Protection; Wetland & Upland Restoration
RB9	Matawan Creek (NJ)	Permanent Protection of Stream Corridor
RB10	Treasure Lake (NJ)	Permanent Protection; Freshwater Lake Enhancement
RB11	Whale Creek/Long Neck Creek (NJ)	Permanent Protection of Stream Corridor
RB12	Marquis Creek (NJ) (*)	Permanent Protection; Wetland/Upland Restoration
RB13	Cheesequake Marsh (NJ) (*)	Permanent Protection
RB14	South Amboy (NJ)	Permanent Protection; Wetland, Forest, & Upland Restoration
RB15	Old Morgan Landfill/Raritan County Park (NJ)	Upland Habitat Preservation
RB16	Great Kills Harbor Park/Nelson-Sweetwater/Fitzgerald Woods-Plum Marina/Great Kills Crescent Beach Park (NY)	Upland/Wetland Acquisition & Restoration (Ratified April 27, 2001) Great Kills Crescent Beach Park Additions have been approved (December 14, 2004).
RB17	Manymind Creek (NJ) (a)	Salt Marsh and Fringe Habitat Acquisition
RB18	St. Edward's Campground (Camp St. Edwards) (NY) (a)	Acquisition-Upland Habitat (Scrub/Shrub & Open Fields/Lawns), View of Raritan Bay & Access to Water
RB19	Butler Manor Woods (NY) (a)	Acquisition- Freshwater Wetlands, including Small Stream

### **RARITAN RIVER WATERSHED**

RR1	Raritan River Site, Multiple Sites (NJ) (a, c)	Tidal Wetland Acquisition, Enhancement, & Restoration
RR1A	Raritan River/Disch Disposal Site (NJ) (a, b, c)	Tidal Wetland Acquisition, Enhancement, & Restoration
RR1B	Raritan River/Raritan Arsenal (NJ) (a, b)	Tidal Wetland Acquisition, Enhancement, & Restoration
RR1C	Raritan River/Kent's Neck (NJ) (a, b)	Tidal Wetland Acquisition, Enhancement, & Restoration
RR1D	Raritan River/Raritan River Waterfront (NJ) (a, b)	Tidal Wetland Acquisition, Enhancement, & Restoration
RR1E	Raritan River/Mill Brook Center (NJ) (a, b)	Tidal Wetland Acquisition, Enhancement, & Restoration

RR1F	Raritan River/Akzo Chemical (NJ) <sup>(a, b)</sup>	Tidal Wetland Acquisition, Enhancement, & Restoration
RR1G	Raritan River/Silver Lake (NJ) <sup>(a, b)</sup>	Tidal Wetland Acquisition, Enhancement, & Restoration
RR2	Dismal Swamp (NJ) <sup>(a) (d)</sup>	Wetland Acquisition

## HEP Restoration Priorities

\* - Highest Priority Site, as selected by HEP Habitat Workgroup (NY sites ratified by HEP Policy Committee, 11 December 1997, unless otherwise noted; NJ sites ratified by HEP Policy Committee July 1997, unless otherwise noted)

a - Does not appear on map

- 1 - Funded by NYS Clean Water/Clean Air Bond Act & City of New York
- 2 - Partial funding by NYS Clean Water Bond Act & City of New York
- 3 - Funded by Jamaica Bay Damages Account (NYS DEC)
- 4 - US ACE Feasibility Study site
- 5 - US ACE proposed Reconnaissance site
- 6 - US ACE 1135 proposed stream restoration site
- 7 - Funded by the 1991 Exxon Bayway Oil Spill Damage Recovery (design in progress)
- 8 - Partial funding by the 1999 Montauk Oil Damage Recovery (in progress)
- 9 - Partial funding by EPF grant (NYS DOS)
- 10 - Partial funding by the NY/NJ Oil Spill Trustees
- 11 - Partial funding by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- 12 - Public works mitigation

### ARTHUR KILL WATERSHED

AK1	Arthur Kill, Multiple Sites (NJ) <sup>(a)</sup>	Salt Marsh Restoration
AK2	Elizabeth River (NJ) <sup>(a)</sup>	Riparian Corridor Restoration/Enhancement
AK3A	Rahway River/Dri-Print Foil Printing Co. (NJ)	Forested Floodplain Preservation
AK3B	Rahway River/Central Avenue, Rahway (NJ)	Stormwater Impact Reduction; Riparian Habitat Restoration
AK3C	Rahway River/Central Avenue, Rahway (NJ)	Stormwater Impact Reduction; Riparian Habitat Enhancement
AK3D	Rahway River/Madison/Maple Avenues, Rahway (NJ)	Stormwater Impact Reduction; Streambank Stabilization; Riparian Habitat Restoration
AK3E	Rahway River/Milton Lake (NJ)	Shoreline Restoration; Possible Freshwater Habitat Creation
AK3F	Rahway River/Potter's Island (NJ)	Habitat Enhancement for Heron/Egret Rookery
AK3G	Rahway River/Joseph Medwick Park (NJ) <sup>(5,7)</sup>	Wetland Enhancement
AK3H	Rahway River/Essex Street, Rahway (NJ) <sup>(6)</sup>	Shoreline Stabilization; Riparian Buffer/Upland Enhancement
AK3I	Rahway River/West Grand Avenue, Rahway (NJ)	Streambank Restoration

AK3J	Rahway River/Union/Allen Streets, Rahway (NJ)	Floodplain Restoration; Possible Freshwater Wetland Creation
AK3K	Rahway River/Rahway River Parkway Lake (NJ)	Shoreline Stabilization; Shallow Water Habitat Enhancement
AK3L	Rahway River/Rahway River Parkway [The Lagoon] (NJ)	Shoreline Restoration; Stormwater Impact Reduction; Possible Wetland Creation
AK3M	Rahway River/Cranford (NJ)	Bank Stabilization & Riparian Habitat Restoration
AK3N	Rahway River/Vauxhall Creek (NJ) <sup>(a)</sup>	Invasive Plant Management; Streambank Replanting; Aquatic Habitat Enhancement
AK3O	Rahway River/Orange Reservoir (NJ) <sup>(a)</sup>	Lacustrine Shoreline Enhancement
AK4	Woodbridge River Restoration (NJ) <sup>(*) (5, 7, 10)</sup>	Wetland Enhancement & Wildlife Sanctuary
AK5	Arthur Kill/Kill Van Kull, Staten Island: Saw Mill and Old Place Creeks (NY) <sup>(*) (2, 10)</sup>	Salt Marsh Restoration/Non-Point Source Reduction
AK6	Arthur Kill/Kill van Kull A (NY) <sup>(a)</sup>	Clean Fill Marsh Restoration
AK7	Arthur Kill/Kill van Kull B (NY) <sup>(a)</sup>	Dredge Material Beneficial Reuse/Salt Marsh Restoration
AK8	Prall's Island (NY) <sup>(*) (1)</sup>	Heron Rookery Enhancement
AK9	Rahway Riverfront Park (NJ) <sup>(a)</sup>	Tidal Wetland Acquisition, Preservation, & Enhancement (Ratified April 27, 2001)
AK10	Range Road Forest (NJ) <sup>(*) (a)</sup>	Forest Acquisition & Preservation (Ratified April 27, 2001)
AK11	Weequahic Lake (NJ) <sup>(a)</sup>	Lake Restoration; Reverse Eutrophic Conditions; Restore Shoreline

### HACKENSACK RIVER WATERSHED

HR1	Lincoln Park West (NJ) <sup>(*) (6, 8)</sup>	Marsh, Tidal Pond, Tributary Enhancement
HR2A	Hackensack Meadowlands/NJ Turnpike, Western Spur (NJ)	Fencing to Protect Diamondback Terrapins
HR2B	Hackensack Meadowlands/Mill Creek (NJ)	Wetland & Tidal Enhancement
HR3	Van Buskirk Island (NJ)	Freshwater Wetland Restoration; Riparian Buffer
HR4	Oradell Dam (NJ)	Fish Ladder Installation
HR5	Teaneck Creek (NJ) <sup>(a)</sup>	Freshwater Wetland Restoration

**HUDSON RIVER WATERSHED**

HUR1A	Hudson River/Riverdale Park (NY) <sup>(*) (2)</sup>	Non-Point Source Reduction/Restoration
HUR1B	Hudson River/Inwood Park (NY) <sup>(*) (2,11)</sup>	Non-Point Source Reduction/Restoration
HUR1C	Hudson River/Fort Washington Park (NY) <sup>(*) (2)</sup>	Non-Point Source Reduction/Restoration
HUR1D	Hudson River/Fort Tryon Park (NY) <sup>(*) (2, 11)</sup>	Non-Point Source Reduction/Restoration
HUR1E	Hudson River/Riverside Park (NY) <sup>(*) (2)</sup>	Non-point Source Reduction/Restoration
HUR2	Spuyten Duyvil (NY)	Salt Marsh Restoration
HUR3	Liberty State Park (NJ)	Oyster Bed Restoration
HUR4	Liberty State Park Interior (NJ) <sup>(*)</sup>	Salt Marsh & Upland Restoration (Ratified April 27, 2001)

**JAMAICA BAY WATERSHED**

JB1	Bayswater Park (NY) <sup>(4)</sup>	Salt Marsh Restoration
JB2	Bergen Basin (NY) <sup>(2, 4)</sup>	Salt Marsh Restoration
JB3	Brant Point (NY) <sup>(*) (4)</sup>	Marsh & Meadow Enhancement
JB4	Breezy Point (NY)	Dune Enhancement
JB5	Canarsie Beach (NY)	Salt Marsh Restoration
JB6	Conch Basin (NY)	Salt Marsh Restoration
JB7	Dubos Point (NY) <sup>(4)</sup>	Salt Marsh Restoration
JB8	Four Sparrow Marsh (NY) <sup>(*) (1)</sup>	Salt Marsh Restoration/Wading Bird Restoration
JB9	Gerritsen Inlet (NY) <sup>(*) (2, 4)</sup>	Salt Marsh Restoration
JB10	Hawtree Basin (NY) <sup>(4)</sup>	Salt Marsh Restoration
JB11	Healy Avenue (NY) <sup>(3)</sup>	Salt Marsh Restoration
JB12	JFK Shoreline (NY)	Salt Marsh Restoration
JB13	Marine Park (NY) <sup>(*)</sup>	Salt Marsh Restoration
JB14	Mill Basin (NY)	Salt Marsh Restoration

JB15	Mott Basin (NY) (*)	Salt Marsh Restoration
JB16	Rockaway Reef (NY)	Fisheries Enhancement/Wave Dissipation
JB17	Shellbank Basin (NY)	Salt Marsh Restoration
JB18	Somerville Basin (NY)	Salt Marsh Restoration
JB19	Spring Creek (NY) (*) (2, 4)	Salt Marsh Restoration
JB20	Vernam Barbadoes A (NY) (*)	Maritime Heathland Restoration
JB21	Vernam Barbadoes B (NY) (*) (2)	Salt Marsh Restoration
JB22	White Island (NY) (*) (12)	Coastal Grassland Restoration
JB23	Bergen Beach (NY) (*)	Salt Marsh Creation (Ratified April 27, 2001)
JB24	Idlewild (NY) (*)	Salt Marsh Restoration (Ratified April 27, 2001)

#### **LONG ISLAND SOUND WATERSHED**

LI1	Aurora Pond (NY)	Freshwater Pond & Watershed Restoration
LI2	Bowery Bay (NY) (*)	Salt Marsh Restoration
LI3	Flushing Creek (NY) (*)	Salt Marsh Restoration
LI4A	LI Sound/Alley Pond Park Watershed (NY) (*) (2, 12)	Non-Point Source Reduction/Salt Marsh Restoration
LI4B	LI Sound/Seton Falls Park (NY) (*) (1)	Non-Point Source Reduction/Restoration
LI4C	LI Sound/Bronx Park (NY) (*) (2)	Non-Point Source Reduction/Restoration
LI5	Palmer Inlet (NY)	Salt Marsh/Riparian Restoration
LI6	Pelham Bay Lagoon (NY) (*) (2)	Salt Marsh Restoration
LI7	Powell's Cove (NY)	Salt Marsh Restoration
LI8	Pugsley Creek (NY)	Salt Marsh Restoration
LI9	Seton Falls (NY) (*) (1)	Freshwater Wetland Restoration
LI10	Soundview Park (NY) (*) (5)	Salt Marsh Restoration & Scrub Buffer
LI11	Turtle Cove (NY) (3)	Salt Marsh Restoration
LI12	Twin Ballfields, Forest Park (NY) (*) (1)	Shrub/Swamp Restoration
LI13	Wrack Removal, Alley Pond Park (NY) (*)	Marsh Restoration
LI14	Meadow Lake (NY) (*) (2, 4)	Nutrient Reduction/restoration (Ratified March 4, 1999)

LI15	Little Hell Gate Wetlands (Randalls and Wards Islands) (NY) <sup>(*) (9)</sup>	Salt marsh/coastal scrub restoration (Ratified March 4, 1999)
LI16	Pelham Bay Park/Tallapoosa West (NY) <sup>(*)</sup>	Intertidal Wetland Enhancement & Invasives Removal (Ratified April 27, 200)

### **NAVESINK-SHREWSBURY WATERSHED**

NS1	Shadow Lake Dam (NJ)	Fish Ladder Installation
NS2	Shrewsbury River Watershed, Multiple Sites (NJ)	Stormwater Impact Reduction; Riparian Habitat Enhancement

### **NEW YORK HARBOR WATERSHED**

NYH1	Bush Terminal (NY)	Salt Marsh Restoration
NYH2	Coney Island Creek/Dreier-Offerman (NY) <sup>(*) (2)</sup>	Salt Marsh Restoration
NYH3	Lower Bay Reef (NY)	Artificial Reef

### **PASSAIC RIVER WATERSHED**

PR1	Dundee Dam (NJ) <sup>(c)</sup>	Fish Ladder Installation
PR2	Third River (NJ) <sup>(a, c)</sup>	Fish Ladder Installation & Streambank Restoration

### **RARITAN BAY WATERSHED**

RB1	Lemon Creek (NY)	Anadromous Fish Passage Ladder
RB2	Richmond Creek (NY)	Anadromous Fish Passage Ladder
RB3	Matawan Creek/Keyport Harbor Mouth (NJ)	Oyster Bed Restoration
RB4	Cheesequake State Park (NJ)	Hook Lake Creek Restoration
RB5	Cheesequake State Park (NJ)	White Cedar Forest & Stream Restoration
RB6	Arden Heights Woods (NY) <sup>(*)</sup>	Perimeter protection/restoration/non-point source reduction (Ratified March 4, 1999)
RB7	Long Pond Park (NY) <sup>(*)</sup>	Non-point source protection and sediment reduction/wetland restoration/perimeter protection (Ratified March 4, 1999)

### **RARITAN RIVER WATERSHED**

RR1	Raritan River (NJ)	Oyster Bed Restoration
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**New York – New Jersey  
Harbor Estuary Program**  
*Habitat Workgroup*

**Addenda to the Harbor Estuary Program  
Priority Acquisition and Restoration Sites List**  
(Attached for NRG Map No. 200104-07AV)

**I. United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2**

The United States Environmental Protection Agency supports the Harbor Estuary Program Priority Acquisition and Restoration Sites List with the addition of the following language to the tables associated with the map:

**a. The Empire Tract**

The proposed site is currently the subject of two ongoing major Federal actions to which EPA is party. EPA therefore cannot approve or disapprove any motion to either accept or reject the Workgroup's recommendations with respect to this site until all agency actions have been made final. In addition, EPA is aware that the owners have expressed, by letter from their attorneys dated January 23, 1998, that they have no intention of selling this site.

**b. The Alfieri Tract**

The proposed site is currently the subject of an ongoing major Federal action, for which the state of New Jersey is lead under the assumed 404 program. EPA is a party to this action and the Corps may be potentially involved. EPA therefore cannot approve or disapprove any motion to either accept or reject the Workgroup's recommendations with respect to this site until all agency actions have been made final.

**c. Raritan Center**

The proposed site is currently the subject of an ongoing Federal action for which EPA is lead and the Corps may potentially be involved. EPA therefore cannot approve or disapprove any motion to either accept or reject the Workgroup's recommendations with respect to this site until all agency actions have been made final.

**d. Passaic Watershed Fish Ladder Installations**

EPA will support these projects only if it is demonstrated that placement of fish ladders will not increase exposure of humans to contaminated fish.

**II. United States Army Corps of Engineers, New York District**

In response to the request of the Habitat Workgroup of the Harbor Estuary Program (HEP) asking for comment upon the Workgroup's recommendations for acquisition of priority sites, the New York District Corps of Engineers (US ACE) must take a position like that of US EPA Region 2 with respect to land acquisitions. We believe it inappropriate to approve or disapprove the list of sites submitted by the Habitat Workgroup for property acquisition, because the disposition of many of the locations is the subject of ongoing federal project studies and/or Department of Army regulatory reviews.

US ACE supports the concept of acquisition of highly sensitive ecological sites for providing habitat, flood control, recreation, and a number of other important public interest functions. However, the US ACE must abstain from specifically recommending such acquisition for any particular site because of implications to federal projects or permit applications, which might be pending.

### III. New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

Due to ongoing regulatory or remedial activities, NJ DEP is unable to take a position on the sites listed below. NJ DEP has completed its review and will approve the list with the following language being added to the record. While these areas are merely recommendations, there are outstanding permit requests or potential liability risks that NJ DEP felt should be brought to the attention of the HEP Policy Committee. The following is a list of the sites with which NJ DEP has reservations.

**a. The Empire Tract**

The proposed site is currently the subject of permit applications. NJ DEP is holding a permit application for this site pending a formal Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) by the Army Corps of Engineers and a formal review by the Hackensack Meadowlands Development Commission. NJ DEP can therefore neither accept nor reject the Workgroup's recommendations with respect to this site until all agency actions have been made final.

**b. The Alfieri Tract**

The proposed site was recently denied a permit by NJ DEP, and Alfieri has again applied for a permit. NJ DEP can therefore neither accept nor reject the Workgroup's recommendations with respect to this site until all agency actions have been made final.

**c. The Raritan River Disch Site**

A permit was recently denied on this site. Potential liability problems due to possible groundwater contamination should be considered before approval of this site.

**d. The Compton's Creek Site**

Upland permits have been issued for a ferry terminal at the site, and there is presently a water-ward permit being reviewed. Therefore, NJ DEP can neither accept nor reject the Workgroup's recommendations with respect to this site until all agency actions have been made final.

**e. Emerson Woods**

Several permits have been issued on this site and several more are still outstanding. Therefore, NJ DEP can neither accept nor reject the Workgroup's recommendations with respect to this site until all agency actions have been made final.

### IV. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

While it is understood that the priorities identified in this report are advisory, NYS DEC believes the following statements of clarification are necessary:

- The State of New York is not solely bound to the priorities identified in this report, and may pursue acquisition or restoration on non-priority projects.
- The priority list can be amended in the future to include or delete projects.

**Arverne Urban Renewal Area Site**

NYSDEC needs to remain neutral on the Arverne Urban Renewal Area site, as regulatory decisions are expected to be rendered in the near future.

### V. New York City Department of Environmental Protection

**a. Charleston/Kreisher Hill Woods and Northern Sea View Sites**

New York City is currently considering several proposals for development of the Charleston/Kreisher Hill Woods and Northern Sea View sites and cannot commit to including these sites on the HEP Habitat Map at this time.

**b. Saw Mill Park Addition Site**

The City of New York cannot endorse this site at this time as NYCEDC currently has plans for the future development of portions of this property. NYCDEP is working with NYCEDC to limit or move entirely, development on the most sensitive lands of this parcel.

**c. Arverne Urban Renewal Area**

New York City Department of Planning is currently studying the Arverne Urban Renewal site. Therefore, at this time NYC is unable to endorse this site.