

Fifth update of the 2007 Helicopter Monitoring Program

Floatables:

The New York/New Jersey Harbor complex was monitored for floatables fifteen times from June 30 - July 17. The Harbor Complex was clear of significant floatable debris on July 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, and 16.

On June 30, a slick of light density, approximately 500 yards long, was reported in the Newark Bay. A slick of light density, approximately one half mile long, was reported in the Graves End Bay.

On July 5, a slick of medium to heavy density, approximately one third mile long with varying widths, was reported in the Arthur Kill. A slick of light density, approximately 400 yards long, was reported in the Newark Bay. A slick of light density, approximately 300 yards long, was reported in the Kill Van Kull. A slick of heavy density, approximately 200 yards long, was reported in the Hudson River. A patch of debris of light density, approximately 400 yards long by 200 yards wide, was reported in the Upper Harbor. A slick of medium density, approximately 100 yards long, was reported in the Gravesend Bay.

On July 11, a discharge slick of heavy white foam, approximately one quarter mile long, was reported in the Hudson River. The foamy discharge was reported to the NYSDEC for follow-up.

On July 12, a slick of light density, approximately 200 yards long by 10 yards wide, was reported in the Kill Van Kull. A slick of light density, approximately 300 yards long, was reported in the Gravesend Bay. A slick of heavy density, approximately 400 yards long, was reported one quarter mile south of Coney Island.

On July 13, a slick of medium density, approximately one quarter mile long by 8 yards wide, was reported in the Newark Bay. A large half of a boat was reported as a navigation hazard.

On July 14, a slick of medium density, approximately 200 yards long by 8 yards wide, was reported in the Newark Bay. Scattered debris was reported in the Kill Van Kull. A slick of heavy density, approximately 150 yards long by 10 feet wide, was reported in the Lower Harbor.

On July 17, a slick of medium density, approximately 300 yards long, was reported in the Gravesend Bay.

On July 5, an oily rainbow sheen, approximately 300 yards long and 10 yards wide, was reported in the Arthur Kill. An oily rainbow sheen, approximately 300 yards long, was reported in the Kill Van Kull. An oily rainbow sheen, approximately 100 yards long by 100 yards wide, was reported in the Upper Harbor.

All floatable debris slicks consisted of large wood and plastics and were reported to Army Corps of Engineers. The Army Corps of Engineers conducted clean-ups as necessary. The oily sheens were reported to the US Coast Guard.

Sampling:

Water quality samples were collected at 26 locations from Rockaway to Shinnecock Inlet, on July 2 and July 5. Samples were given to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) to conduct fecal coliform analyses. These samples help fulfill NYSDEC's commitments to the National Shellfish Sanitation Program.

Water quality samples were collected at 16 locations along the New Jersey coast on July 3. Samples were given to the New Jersey State Department of Environmental Protection to conduct phytoplankton analyses.