

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION II

DATE:

SUBJECT: New York Bight Monitoring Program Observations, 2005

FROM: Helen Grebe, Regional Coastal Monitoring Coordinator
Monitoring Operations Section (DESA-MOS)

TO: Barbara A. Finazzo, Director
Division of Environmental Science and Assessment (DESA)

THRU: John Kushwara, Chief
Monitoring and Assessment Branch (DESA-MAB)

Attached for your information is the first update of the 2005 NY Bight Monitoring Program.
This update covers the period from May 25 - June 3, 2005.

Attachment

cc: Kathleen Callahan, Acting 2RA, via LAN
George Pavlou, Acting 2DRA, via LAN
Dore LaPosta, 2DECA, via LAN
Walter Mugdan, 2DEPP, via LAN
Bonnie Bellow, 2PAD, via LAN
Donna Vizian, 2OPM, via LAN
Eric Schaaf, 2ORC, via LAN
Deb Szaro, 2DESA, via LAN
Peter Brandt, 2PAD, via LAN
Mario Del Vicario, 2DEPP, via LAN
Mary Mears, 2PAD, via LAN
Doughlas Mckenna, 2DECA, via LAN
Felix Locicero, 2DEPP, via LAN
Janice Rollwagen, 2DEPP, via LAN
Larry Gaugler, 2DECA, via LAN
Bob Dieterich, 2DEPP, via LAN
Pat Carr, 2PAD, via LAN
John Bourbon, 2DESA, via LAN
Jim Ferretti, 2DESA, via LAN
Deborah Kay, 2DESA, via LAN
Irwin Katz, 2DESA, via LAN
Douglas Pabst, 2DEPP, via LAN
Robert Nyman, 2DEPP, via LAN
Kathleen Savino, 2DESA, via LAN
Leslie McGeorge, NJDEP, via LAN
Alfred Korndoerfer, NJDEP, via EMAIL
Eric Feerst, NJDEP, via EMAIL
Robert Connell, NJDEP, via EMAIL
Virginia Loftin, NJDEP, via EMAIL
Elaine Makatura, NJDEP, via EMAIL
Carol Hoffman, NYSDEC, via EMAIL
Robert Nuzzi, SCHD, via EMAIL
Lester Jargowsky, MCHD, via EMAIL
Ann Marie Fournier, MCHD, via EMAIL
Williams Simmons, MCHD, via EMAIL
Elizabeth Cosgrove, MCHD, via EMAIL
Fredrick Grassel, Rutgers via EMAIL
Dr. Robert Howarth, Cornell, via EMAIL
Robert Reid, NOAA, via EMAIL
Richard M. Warren, OCUA, via EMAIL
Richard C. Kunze, OCUA, via EMAIL
Kristen Milligan, COA, via EMAIL

2MOS-MAB-DESA:HGrebe:hg:x6797:bldg209:finalized:6/3/05

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2MAB-DESA

Grebe

Braun

Kushwara

UPDATE OF NY BIGHT MONITORING PROGRAM FROM May 25 - June 3, 2005

NY Bight Sampling has been as follows:

May 25	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Canceled due to rain
	NJ Beaches	Canceled due to rain
May 26	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	NJ Beaches	Sandy Hook to Sea Bright
May 27	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
May 28	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
May 30	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Canceled due to mechanical problems
May 31	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Canceled due to mechanical problems
	Long Island Beaches	Canceled due to mechanical problems
June 1	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	NJ Beaches	Canceled due to rain
June 2	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
June 3	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight

Projected Activities for Next Week:

June 4	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
June 6	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
June 7	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	Long Island Beaches	Rockaway to Shinnecock Inlet East
June 8	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	New Jersey Beaches	Sandy Hook to Cape May Point
June 9	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
June 10	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
June 11	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight

Floatables

The New York/New Jersey Harbor Complex was monitored for floatables on May 26, 27, 28, and June 1, 2 and 3. Floatable flights were not conducted on May 25 due to poor visibility or on May 30 or 31 due to mechanical problems with the helicopter. The Harbor Complex was clear of significant floatable debris on June 1, 2 and 3.

On May 26, a slick, approximately ¼ mile long by 5 feet wide, was reported in the East River. The slick was of light density consisting of some large wood and reeds.

On May 27, a slick was observed in the Arthur Kill that was approximately ½ mile long by 10 feet wide consisting of large wood and reeds. A second slick, approximately ¼ to ½ mile long was reported in Newark Bay and consisted of large wood and reeds. A third slick, approximately one to 1 ½ miles long was reported in the Kill Van Kull and consisted of plastic, wood and reeds.

On May 28, light scattered debris was reported in the Arthur Kill and Newark Bay. A slick, approximately ¼ mile long by 5 feet wide, consisting of light scattered reeds and plastic, was observed in the Kill Van Kull.

On June 1, an oily sheen, approximately 900 feet long by 9 feet wide, was reported in the Arthur Kill. On June 2, a smaller oily sheen, approximately 300 feet long by 60 feet wide, was reported in the East River.

All slicks were reported to the Army Corps of Engineers, and the DECA Floatables coordinator. Clean ups were conducted as necessary. All oil sheens were reported to the US Coast Guard.

Bacteria

On May 27, bacteriological samples were taken along the New Jersey coast from Sandy Hook (JC01A) to Sea Bright (JC08). All samples were analyzed for enterococcus bacteria.

The highest enterococcus count, 11 enterococci/100ml, occurred at Sandy Hook (JC01A).