

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
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Attached for your information is the eight update of the 2005 NY Bight Monitoring Program. This update covers the period from July 29 -August 5, 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
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2MOS-MAB-DESA:HGrebe:hg:x6797:bldg209:finalized:8/5/05

2MOS-MAB 2MOS-MAB 2MAB-DESA

Grebe

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Kushwara

UPDATE OF NY BIGHT MONITORING PROGRAM FROM July 29 - August 5, 2005

NY Bight Sampling has been as follows:

July 29	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
July 30	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
August 1	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
August 2	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	Long Island Beaches	Rockaway to Shinnecock Inlet
August 3	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	New Jersey Beaches	Sandy Hook to Cape May Point
August 4	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	Perpendiculars	JC61, JC69, JC75, JC85, JC90
August 5	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight

Projected Activities for Next Week:

August 6	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
August 8	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	Perpendiculars	JC61, JC69, JC75, JC85, JC90
August 9	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	Long Island Beaches	Rockaway to Shinnecock Inlet
August 10	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	New Jersey Beaches	Sandy Hook to Cape May Point
August 11	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	Perpendiculars	NYB20, JC14, JC27, JC41, JC53
August 12	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	Perpendiculars	JC61, JC69, JC75, JC85, JC90
August 13	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight

Floatables

The New York/New Jersey Harbor Complex was monitored for floatables seven times from July 29 - August 5. The Harbor Complex was clear of significant floatable debris on all seven days.

On July 29, an oily sheen, approximately ½ mile long was reported in Newark Bay.

On August 3, a 2 mile oil slick was reported in Newark Bay. The oil slick continued with a rainbow sheen that extended the length of the Kill Van Kull.

All oil sheens and slicks were reported to the US Coast Guard.

Bacteria

On July 26, bacteriological samples were taken along the Long Island coast from Rockaway Point (LIC01) to Shinnecock Inlet East (LIC28). On July 27, samples were taken along the New Jersey coast from Sandy Hook (JC01A) to Cape May Point (JC99). The Long Island samples were tested for fecal coliform (FC) and enterococcus bacteria. New Jersey samples were analyzed for enterococcus bacteria.

On July 26, along the Long Island coast, the highest fecal coliform count, 6 FC/100ml, occurred at Rockaway Beach (LIC02). The highest enterococcus count, 51 enterococci/100ml, occurred at Smith Point County Park (LIC22).

On July 27, along the New Jersey coast, the highest enterococcus count, 60 enterococci/100ml, occurred at Monmouth Beach (JC11).

All bacteriological values are below single sample maximum water quality standards.

Phytoplankton

Phytoplankton samples were collected along the New Jersey coast, in Raritan Bay, Sandy Hook Bay, and Barnegat Bay on July 27. Samples were given to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Marine Water Monitoring's Leeds Point Laboratory for analysis. The results were not available for last week's report.

Raritan/Sandy Hook Bay Area

The waters of Raritan Bay were experiencing a mild bloom of a diverse assemblage of phytoplankton. *Olisthodiscus luteus* was detected. Sandy Hook Bay had a diverse assemblage of phytoplankton below bloom concentrations. No toxic species were detected.

New Jersey Coastal Area

The ocean waters near Long Branch and Manasquan were generally clear with sparse algal concentrations. No toxic species were detected.

Barnegat Bay Area

The waters of Barnegat Bay near the Barnegat Inlet were experiencing a bloom of mixed diatom consisting mostly of *Nitzschia sp.* (1600 cells/ml). The waters of Barnegat Bay from near Toms River to Island Beach had low concentrations of *Gyrodinium estuariale*. No toxic species were detected.

The waters of Little Egg Harbor were generally clear with low concentrations of *Nitzschia sp.*. No toxic species were detected.

Dissolved Oxygen

Bottom water samples were collected for dissolved oxygen (DO) analysis at the Barnegat (JC61), Beach Haven (JC69), Atlantic City (JC75), Strathmere (JC85) and Hereford (JC90) perpendiculars on August 4, 2005.

Table 1 presents the bottom DO results for the perpendiculars sampled on August 4. The lowest DO concentration, 2.5 mg/l, occurred one nautical mile off Strathmere (JC85E). This value is low, but appears to be isolated. All other values are above 5.4 mg/l.

Table 1

Dissolved Oxygen Concentrations of Bottom Water Samples at the Barnegat (JC61), Beach Haven (JC69), Atlantic City (JC75), Strathmere (JC85) and Hereford (JC90) perpendiculars - August 4, 2005.

Location (Nautical Mile Offshore)	Barnegat JC 61	Beach Haven JC 69	Atlantic City JC 75	Strathmer e JC 85	Hereford JC 90
1	7.0	7.7	6.5	2.5	7.8
3	5.9	5.6	6.4	7.1	6.3
5	5.7	6.4	5.7	5.6	7.9
7	5.4	6.5	5.5	5.9	6.6
9	7.5	6.7	5.7	5.9	7.4