

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION II

**DATE:**

**SUBJECT:** New York Bight Monitoring Program Observations, 2002

**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:** Randy Braun, Acting Chief  
Monitoring and Assessment Branch (DESA-MAB)

Attached for your information is the ninth update of the 2002 NY Bight Monitoring Program. This update covers the period from July 20 - July 26, 2002.

Attachment

cc: Jane Kenny, 2RA, via LAN  
William Muszynski, 2DRA, via LAN  
Richard Caspe, DECA, via LAN  
Walter Mugdam, DEPP, via LAN  
Bonnie Bellow, 2CD, via LAN  
Herbert Barrack, 2OPM, via LAN  
Eric Schaaf, 2ORC, via LAN  
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Dr. Robert Howarth, Cornell, via EMAIL  
Robert Reid, NOAA, via EMAIL

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

Grebe Glogower Braun

UPDATE OF NY BIGHT MONITORING PROGRAM FROM July 20 - July 29, 2002

**NY Bight Sampling has been as follows:**

July 20	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
July 22	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	NJDEP 200 Station Network	Barnegat Bay to Cape May
July 23	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	Long Island Beaches	Rockaway to Shinnecock Inlet
July 24	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	New Jersey Beaches	Sandy Hook to Bay Head
July 25	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	New Jersey Beaches	Mantoloking to Cape May
July 26	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight

**Projected:**

July 27	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
July 29	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	Perpendiculars	JC61's, JC69, JC75, JC85, JC90
July 30	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	Long Island Beaches	Rockaway to Shinnecock Inlet
July 31	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	New Jersey Beaches	Sandy Hook to Cape May
August 1	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	Perpendiculars	NYB20's, JC14, 27, 41, 53
August 2	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	Perpendiculars	JC61's, JC69, JC75, JC85, JC90

**Floatables**

The New York/New Jersey Harbor Complex was monitored for floatables a total of six times from July 20 to July 26, 2002. The Harbor Complex was clear of significant floatables on five days.

A half mile paper slick was observed in the Newark Bay on July 22. This slick was reported to the Corps of Engineers and cleanup was conducted as necessary.

**Bacteria**

Bacteriological samples were collected along the Long Island coast, from Rockaway (LIC01) to Shinnecock Inlet (LIC28), on July 23 and along the New Jersey coast from Sandy Hook (JC01) to Bay Head (JC41) on July 24, and from Mantoloking to Cape May on July 25. The samples were tested for fecal coliform (FC) and enterococcus bacteria. Samples collected on July 25 are not available for this week's report, and will be reported next week.

Along the Long Island coast, the highest FC count, 4 FC/100ml, occurred at Moriches Inlet West (LIC23). The highest enterococcus count, 19 enterococci/100ml, occurred at Shinnecock Inlet

(LIC28).

Along the New Jersey coast, the highest FC count, 45 FC/100ml, and the highest enterococcus count, 115 enterococci/100ml, occurred at Long Branch (JC14).

The EPA criteria for enterococcus, 35 enterococci/100ml, is based on a geometric mean of five samples collected over a 30 day period. The EPA single sample maximum criteria is 104 enterococci/100ml. New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection was notified of the elevated bacteria count.

### **Ocean Beach Closures**

After significant rainfalls, the Monmouth County Health Department closed Brown and York Avenue ocean beaches in Spring Lake for 24 hours on July 20 and 24. All other New Jersey ocean beaches remained open.

### **NJDEP NEPPS**

As part of our Performance Partnership Agreement with NJDEP, surface water samples were collected at the remaining 20 stations from Barnegat to Delaware Bay on July 22. The samples will be analyzed by NJDEP for chlorophyll, salinity, nitrate, nitrite, ortho-phosphate, ammonia, total nitrogen, and total suspended solids. Samples were also collected for temperature and dissolved oxygen analysis, which was completed in the field and by our Edison Laboratory, respectively. The remaining samples from Sandy Hook to Barnegat were collected last week. The 41 stations are part of NJDEP's 200 Station Network.

### **Dissolved Oxygen**

The Sandy Hook (NYB20), Long Branch (JC14), Belmar (JC27) and Bay Head (JC41) perpendiculars were sampled on July 19. Samples from Seaside Heights (JC53) were not taken due to bad weather. These results were not available for last week's report.

Tables 1 and 2 present the bottom dissolved oxygen (DO) results for the perpendiculars sampled on July 19. The lowest DO value, 3.0 mg/l, occurred one nautical mile off Bay Head..

All DO concentrations are typical for this time of year.

Table 1

Dissolved Oxygen Concentrations of Bottom Water Samples at the Sandy Hook perpendiculars (mg/l) - July, 2002.

Location (Nautical Miles Offshore)	Station	DO (mg/l)
2	NYB 20	4.5
4	NYB 21	5.1
6	NYB 22	5.3
7	NYB 23	4.8
8	NYB 24	4.4

Table 2

Dissolved Oxygen Concentrations of Bottom Water Samples at the Long Branch (JC14), Belmar (JC27), Bay Head (JC41) perpendiculars (mg/l) - July 19, 2002.

Location (Nautical Miles Offshore)	Long Branch JC 14	Belmar JC 27	Bay Head JC 41
1	9.2	4.3	3.0
3	5.4	4.8	7.3
5	8.0	5.5	4.8
7	4.7	5.3	6.1
9	5.8	5.6	4.7