

UPDATE OF NY BIGHT MONITORING PROGRAM

July 14 - July 20, 2001

NY Bight Sampling has been as follows:

July 14	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
July 17	NY/NJ Harbor Complex Long Island Beaches	Overflight Rockaway to Shinnecock Inlet
July 18	NY/NJ Harbor Complex New Jersey Beaches	Overflight Sandy Hook to Atlantic City
July 19	NY/NJ Harbor Complex NJ DEP 200	Overflight Sandy Hook to Barnegat
July 20	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight

Projected Activities for Next Week:

July 21	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
July 23	NY/NJ Harbor Complex NJDEP 200	Overflight Barnegat to Delaware Bay
July 24	NY/NJ Harbor Complex Long Island Beaches	Overflight Rockaway to Shinnecock Inlet
July 25	NY/NJ Harbor Complex New Jersey Beaches	Overflight Sandy Hook to Cape May
July 26	NY/NJ Harbor Complex NJ Perpendiculars	Overflight NYB20's, JC14, JC27, JC41, JC53
July 27	NY/NJ Harbor Complex NJ Perpendiculars	Overflight JC61, JC69, JC75, JC85, JC90
July 28	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight

Floatables

The New York/New Jersey Harbor Complex was monitored for floatables a total of six times from July 14 - July 20, 2001. The Harbor Complex was clear of significant floatables of July 14, 16, 19 and 20.

On July 17, a narrow slick, approximately 2000 feet long, was reported just south of the Verrazano Bridge. On July 18, a moderate density slick was scattered across the boating channel north of the Verrazano Bridge. Both slicks consisted of wood, paper and garbage. All slicks were reported to the Army Corps of Engineers and clean up was conducted as necessary.

Bacteria

Bacteriological samples were collected along the Long Island coast, from Rockaway Point (LIC01) to Shinnecock Inlet East (LIC28), on July 17. Samples were collected along the New Jersey Coast from Sandy Hook (JC01A) to Atlantic City (JC75), on July 18. Southern New Jersey beach stations were not sampled due to inclement weather. All samples were tested for fecal coliform (FC) and enterococcus bacteria.

Along the Long Island coast, the highest FC count, 9 FC/100ml, and the highest enterococcus count, 6 enterococci/100ml, occurred at Rockaway Point (LIC01). The majority of the remaining counts were zero.

Along the New Jersey coast, the highest FC count, 188 FC/100ml, occurred at Shark River Inlet (JC26). The highest enterococcus count, 136 enterococci/100ml, occurred at Shark River Inlet (JC26). Other high enterococcus counts were found at Asbury Park (JC21), 70 enterococci/100ml and South Manasquan Inlet (JC37), 45 enterococci/100ml.

EPA criteria for enterococcus, 35 enterococci/100ml, is based on a geometric mean of five samples collected over a 30 day period. NJDEP was informed of the high enterococcus count.

EPA criteria for fecal coliform, 200FC/100ml, is based on a geometric mean of five samples collected over a 30 day period.

Phytoplankton

Phytoplankton samples were collected along the New Jersey coast, in Raritan Bay, Sandy Hook Bay, Barnegat Bay Area, and Great Bay, on July 18. Samples were given to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Marine Water Monitoring's Leeds Point Laboratory for analysis. The results, reported by NJDEP are as follows:

- **Raritan/Sandy Hook Bay Area:** A moderate bloom of mixed diatoms was reported in Raritan Bay waters. *Skeletonema costatum* was the dominant species. No toxic species were detected.

A mild bloom of mixed diatoms was reported in Sandy Hook Bay waters. The phytoplankton composition was similar to that of Raritan Bay, but in lower concentrations. No toxic species were detected.

- **New Jersey Coastal Area:** In the coastal waters near Long Branch a mix of diatoms, similar in composition to the waters of both the Raritan and Sandy Hook Bay waters, was present. *Prorocentrum sp.* was present in low levels.

The coastal waters, from near Manasquan to near Ship Bottom, were generally clear with algal concentrations sparse. No toxic species were detected.

- **Barnegat Bay Area:** The waters in this area generally were clear with moderate algal concentrations. *Prorocentrum sp.* was present in low levels at the northernmost station.
- **Great Bay:** The waters of the Great Bay contained a significant amount of detritus with algal concentrations sparse. No toxic species were detected.

NJDEP NEPPS

As part of our Performance Partnership Agreement with NJDEP, surface water samples were collected at 20 out of 41 stations from Sandy Hook to Cape May, and in Delaware Bay on July 19. 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 will be collected on Monday. The 41 stations are part of NJDEP's 200 Station Network.