

Ninth update of the 2012 Helicopter Monitoring Program

Floatables:

The New York/New Jersey Harbor complex was monitored for floatables six times from July 28 to August 3. The harbor was clear of significant floatable debris on July 31.

On July 28, a slick approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ mile long and 5-20 feet wide was reported in the Upper Harbor.

On July 30, a slick approximately 1.5 miles long and 10 to 50 feet wide was reported in the Hudson River.

On August 1, a slick approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ mile long and 5 to 200 feet wide was reported in Newark Bay. Another slick approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ mile in length and 100 feet wide was reported in the Kill Van Kull. A third slick approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ mile in length and 20 to 100 feet wide was reported by Coney Island.

On August 2, a slick approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ mile long and 50 to 300 feet wide was reported in Gravesend Bay. A slick approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ mile long and 10 to 100 feet wide was reported in the Hudson River. A circular patch of heavy concentration of debris approximately 200 feet in diameter was reported in the Kill Van Kull. A slick approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ mile long and 300 feet wide was reported in Newark Bay. On August 3, a slick approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ mile long and 10 to 30 feet wide was reported in the Hudson River. A slick approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ mile in length and 100 to 200 feet wide was reported in Newark Bay.

All floatable debris consisted of wood, paper, plastic, or rubber, were reported to the Army Corps of Engineers, and cleanup was conducted as necessary. The increased amount of slicks observed this week is probably due to the recent storms combined with the occurrence of high tides caused by the full moon.
Sampling:

New Jersey:

Phytoplankton samples were collected along the New Jersey coast, in Raritan Bay, Sandy Hook Bay, Barnegat Bay, Great Bay, Great Egg Harbor and Delaware Bay, on August 2. Samples were given to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), Bureau of Marine Water Monitoring Leeds Point Laboratory for analysis. Results are not yet available and will be reported next week.