

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION II

DATE:

SUBJECT: New York Bight Monitoring Program Observations, 2005

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TO: Barbara A. Finazzo, Director
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THRU: John Kushwara, Chief
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Attached for your information is the third update of the 2005 NY Bight Monitoring Program.
This update covers the period from June 18 - June 24, 2005.

Attachment

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Grebe

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UPDATE OF NY BIGHT MONITORING PROGRAM FROM June 18 - June 24, 2005

NY Bight Sampling has been as follows:

June 18	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
June 20	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	NJDEP Nutrient Network	Sandy Hook to Barnegat
June 21	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	Long Island Beaches	Rockaway to Shinnecock Inlet East
June 22	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	New Jersey Beaches	Sandy Hook to Hereford Inlet
June 23	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	NJDEP Nutrient Network	Barnegat to Delaware Bay
June 24	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	Perpendiculars	NYB20's, JC14, 27, 41, 53

Projected Activities for Next Week:

June 25	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
June 27	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	Perpendiculars	JC61, JC69, JC75, JC85, JC90
June 28	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	Long Island Beaches	Rockaway to Shinnecock Inlet East
June 29	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	New Jersey Beaches	Sandy Hook to Cape May Point
June 30	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	Perpendiculars	NYB20's, JC14, 27, 41, 53
July 1	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
July 2	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight

Floatables

The New York/New Jersey Harbor Complex was monitored for floatables six times from June 18 - 24. The Harbor Complex was clear of significant floatable debris on June 18 - 22.

On June 23, a slick, approximately 2 miles long with varying widths, was reported in Newark Bay. The slick was of light density consisting of large wood, paper and plastic.

On June 24, a slick, approximately 3 miles long with varying widths, was reported in the lower New York Harbor, approximately 2 miles southwest of Rockaway. The slick was of light density consisting of mostly reeds, with some wood, paper and plastic.

All slicks were reported to the Army Corps of Engineers, and the DECA Floatables Coordinator. Clean ups were conducted as necessary.

Bacteria

On June 21, bacteriological samples were taken along the Long Island coast from Rockaway Point (LIC01) to Shinnecock Inlet East (LIC28). On June 22, samples were taken along the New Jersey coast from Sandy Hook (JC01A) to Helerford Inlet (JC92). The Long Island samples were tested for fecal coliform (FC) and enterococcus bacteria. New Jersey samples were analyzed for enterococcus bacteria.

On June 21, along the Long Island coast, the highest fecal coliform count, 20 FC/100ml, occurred at Rockaway Beach (LIC03) and Point Lookout (LIC10). The highest enterococcus count, 20 enterococci/100ml, occurred at Far Rockaway (LIC05) and Water Island (LIC20).

On June 22, along the New Jersey coast, the highest enterococcus count, 20 enterococci/100ml, occurred at three locations, Island Beach State Park (JC57), Absecon Inlet (JC74), and Ocean City (JC81).

All counts are well below water quality standards.

Phytoplankton

Phytoplankton samples were collected along the New Jersey coast, in Raritan Bay, Sandy Hook Bay, Barnegat Bay, Great Bay and Great Egg Harbor on July 22. 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

The waters of Raritan Bay had a diverse assemblage of phytoplankton species below bloom concentrations. No toxic species were detected.

The waters of Sandy Hook Bay had a diverse assemblage of phytoplankton species below bloom concentrations. *Pseudonitzschia sp.* and *Dinophysis sp.* were detected but concentrations were below bloom or toxic levels.

New Jersey Coastal Area

The ocean waters from Long Branch to Cape May were generally clear with sparse algal concentrations. *Dinophysis sp.* was detected off the coast of Long Branch, but was below bloom or toxic levels. No toxic species were detected from Manasquan to Cape May.

No sample was taken from the ocean off the coast of Ship Bottom.

Barnegat Bay Area

The waters of Barnegat Bay from Toms River to Barnegat Inlet had sparse algal concentrations with a significant amount of detritus.

The waters from Manahawkin Bay to Little Egg Harbor were generally clear with sparse algal concentrations. No toxic species were detected.

Great Bay

The waters of Great Bay were generally clear with sparse algal concentrations. No toxic species were detected.

Great Egg Harbor

The waters of the Great Egg Harbor were generally clear with sparse algal concentrations. No toxic species were detected

NJDEP NEPPS

As part of our Performance Partnership Agreement with NJDEP, surface water samples were collected at 41 stations from Sandy Hook to Delaware Bay on June 20 and 23. 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 analyses, which were completed in the field and by our Edison Laboratory respectively. These 41 stations are part of NJDEP's 200 Nutrient Station Network.

Dissolved Oxygen

Bottom water samples were collected for dissolved oxygen (DO) analysis at the Sandy Hook (NYB20), Long Branch (JC14), Belmar (JC27), Bay Head (JC41) and Seaside Heights (JC53) perpendiculars on June 24. The results are not available for this week's report and will be reported next week.