

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION II

DATE:

SUBJECT: New York Bight Monitoring Program Observations, 2004

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, Chief
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Attached for your information is the fourth update of the 2004 NY Bight Monitoring Program. This update covers the period from June 26 - July 2, 2004.

Attachment

cc: Jane Kenny, 2RA, via LAN
Kathleen Callahan, 2DRA, via LAN
Dore LaPosta, 2DECA, via LAN
Walter Mugdan, 2DEPP, via LAN
Bonnie Bellow, 2PAD, via LAN
Joann Brennan McKee, 2OPM, via LAN
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Grebe Glogower Braun
UPDATE OF NY BIGHT MONITORING PROGRAM FROM June 26 - July 2, 2004

NY Bight Sampling has been as follows:

June 26	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
June 28	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	NJDEP 200 station network	Barnegat to Delaware Bay
June 29	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	Long Island Beaches	Rockaway to Shinnecock Inlet East
June 30	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	New Jersey Beaches	Sandy Hook to Cape May Point
July 1	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
July 2	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	Perpendiculars	NYB20's, JC 14, 27, 41, 53

Projected Activities for Next Week:

July 3	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
July 5	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
July 6	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	Long Island Beaches	Rockaway to Shinnecock Inlet East
July 7	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	New Jersey Beaches	Sandy Hook to Cape May Point
July 8	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	Perpendiculars	JC61, 69, 75, 85, 90
July 9	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
July 9	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight

Floatables

The New York/New Jersey Harbor Complex was monitored for floatables a total of six times from June 26 to July 2. The Harbor Complex was clear of significant debris three of the six days.

On June 26, light scattered debris was reported in the Arthur Kill. A small slick of wood and trash was reported in the East River. A rainbow oil sheen, approximately ½ mile long by 10 yards wide was observed in Newark Bay.

On June 30, three large slicks, each approximately 1 mile long by 10 - 30 yards wide was reported in the Upper New York Harbor. A smaller slick, approximately 1/4 mile long by 10 yards wide was also reported in the Upper New York Harbor. Ten large pieces of wood were reported in Gravesend Bay.

On July 2, a heavy density slick, approximately 200 feet long by 50 feet wide, was reported in the Kill Van Kull. A small slick, approximately 200 feet long by 50 feet wide, was reported south of the Verrazano Bridge consisting mostly of reeds, some large wood and trash.

All slicks were reported to the Army Corps of Engineers and clean ups were conducted as necessary. Rainbow oil sheens are reported to the Coast Guard.

Bacteria

On June 29, bacteriological samples were taken along the Long Island coast from Rockaway Point (LIC01) to Shinnecock Inlet East (LIC28). On June 30, 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 June 29, along the Long Island coast, the highest fecal coliform count, 4 FC/100ml, occurred at Rockaway Beach (LIC02) and Atlantic Beach (LIC05). The highest enterococcus count, 8 enterococci/100ml, occurred at Long Beach (LIC08).

Along the New Jersey coast, the highest enterococcus count, 80 enterococci/100ml, occurred at Monmouth Beach (JC11), on June 30. This value, although atypically elevated, is still below the 104 enterococcus/100ml State standard.

NJDEP NEPPS

As part of our Performance Partnership Agreement with NJDEP, surface water samples were collected at 20 out of 41 stations from Barnegat to Cape May on June 28. 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 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 July 2. Results are not available for this week's report and will be reported next week.