

# UPDATE OF NY BIGHT MONITORING PROGRAM

**May 22 - June 2, 2000**

## NY Bight Sampling has been as follows:

May 22	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
May 23	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	Long Island Beaches	Rockaway to Shinnecock Inlet
May 24	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	New Jersey Beaches	Sandy Hook to Island Beach State Park Overflight
May 25	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	NJDEP 200 Station Network
	New Jersey Coast	Overflight
May 26	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	NJDEP 200 Station Network
	New Jersey Coast	Overflight
May 27	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
May 29	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
May 30	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Rockaway to Shinnecock Inlet
	Long Island Beaches	Overflight
May31	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Sandy Hook to Cape May Inlet
	New Jersey Beaches	Overflight
June 1	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
June 2	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	

## Projected Activities for Next Week:

June 3	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
June 5	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
June 6	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	Long Island Beaches	Rockaway to Shinnecock Inlet
June 7	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
	New Jersey Beaches	Sandy Hook to Cape May Inlet
June 8	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
June 9	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight

## **Floatables**

The New York/New Jersey Harbor Complex was monitored for floatables a total of eleven times from May 22 - June 2, 2000.

The harbor complex was clear of significant floatables on seven days: May 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 29 and June 1.

On May 24, two slicks containing wood, plastics and paper were observed. One slick was north of the Goethals Bridge, of heavy density, and approximately 800 to 1200 feet long and 50 to 100 feet wide. The other slick was observed in the New York Harbor, approximately 1000 feet by 2 feet wide and of light density.

An oily sheen was observed in the Kill Van Kull on May 30. The sheen was approximately one to two miles long. On May 31 a large amount of scattered debris was observed north of the Goethals Bridge extending to the Bayonne Bridge.

On June 2, two slicks were observed in the Arthur Kill and two slicks and one patch of debris was observed in Newark Bay. In the Arthur Kill south of Pralls Island, a slick approximately one mile long of light density was observed. A second slick just north of the Goethals bridge, approximately one-quarter mile long of light density was observed.. In Newark Bay, two slicks each approximately one-half mile long of moderate density, and one patch approximately 200 by 200 feet of moderate density was observed.

All slicks and patches consisted of wood, plastics and paper. All debris was reported to the Corps of Engineers and clean-up was conducted as necessary. The oil sheen was reported the US Coast Guard.

## **Bacteria**

Bacteriological samples were collected along the Long Island coast, from Rockaway Point (LIC01) to Shinnecock Inlet (LIC28) on May 23 and 30. Samples were collected along the New Jersey Coast from Sandy Hook (JC01A) to Island Beach State Park (JC57) on May 24 and from Sandy Hook to Cape May (JC99) on May 31. All samples were tested for fecal coliform (FC) and enterococcus bacteria.

Along the Long Island coast, on May 23, the highest FC concentration, 7 FC/100ml, and the highest enterococcus count, 6 enterococci/100ml, occurred at Rockaway. On May 30, the highest FC concentration, 8 FC/100ml, occurred at East Overlook and Great South Beach. The highest enterococcus count, 4 enterococci/100ml, occurred at Cedar Island Beach.

Along the New Jersey coast, on May 24, the highest FC concentration, 16 FC/100ml, and the highest enterococcus count, 31 enterococci/100ml, occurred at Long Branch. The majority of the remaining samples had a count of zero. On May 31, the highest fecal coliform counts were 42 FC/100ml at Hereford Inlet, followed by 31 FC/100ml at Atlantic City, and 23 FC/100ml at Wildwood. The highest enterococcus count, 8 enterococci/100ml, occurred Hereford Inlet.

## **Phytoplankton**

Phytoplankton samples were collected along the New Jersey coast, in Raritan Bay, Sandy Hook Bay, Barnegat Bay Area, Great Bay, Great Egg Harbor, and Delaware Bay on May 31. 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:** Raritan Bay waters are generally clear with algal concentrations very sparse. Mixed diatoms were present in low concentrations. No toxic species were detected.
- **New Jersey Coastal Area:** Coastal waters are generally clear with algal concentrations very sparse. An exception is in the vicinity of Sea Girt, where *Cerataulina pelagica* was present in moderate concentrations.
- **Barnegat Bay Area:** Mixed diatoms were present in low concentrations in northern Barnegat Bay. *Gyrodinium* spp. was present in low concentrations in Manahawkin Bay and Little Egg Harbor. Phytoplankton levels near Little Egg Inlet were very sparse.
- **Great Bay:** *Prorocentrum micans* was detected in Great Bay, but in levels so low that it is not considered to be toxic.
- **Great Egg Harbor:** *Prorocentrum micans* was detected in Great Egg Harbor Bay, but in levels so low that it is not considered to be toxic.
- **Delaware Bay/Capeshore Area:** Mixed diatoms in low concentration were found at the mouth of Delaware Bay. Further up the bay just offshore of Dias Creek, moderate levels of mixed diatoms were present with abundant levels of small flagellates.