

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION II

DATE:

SUBJECT: New York Bight Monitoring Program Observations, 2005

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: John Kushwara, Chief
Monitoring and Assessment Branch (DESA-MAB)

Attached for your information is the tenth and final update of the 2005 NY Bight Monitoring Program. This update covers the period from August 19 - September 1, 2005.

Attachment

cc: Kathleen Callahan, Acting 2RA, via LAN
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Walter Mugdan, 2DEPP, via LAN
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Grebe

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UPDATE OF NY BIGHT MONITORING PROGRAM FROM August 19 - September 1, 2005

NY Bight Sampling has been as follows:

August 19	NY/NJ Harbor Complex Perpendiculars	Overflight Cancelled due to rain
August 20	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
August 22 - 26	All flights were canceled due to mechanical problems with the helicopter	
August 27	NY/NJ Harbor Complex	Overflight
August 29	NY/NJ Harbor Complex Perpendiculars	Overflight JC61, JC69, JC75, JC85, JC90
August 30	NY/NJ Harbor Complex Long Island Beaches	Overflight Cancelled due to rain
August 31	NY/NJ Harbor Complex New Jersey Beaches	Overflight Cancelled due to weather
September 1	NY/NJ Harbor Complex Perpendiculars	Overflight NYB20, JC14, JC27, JC41, JC53

The helicopter monitoring program was scheduled to continue until Sept 10. In light of the recent tragedy in the Gulf, on September 2, the EPA helicopter was re-directed to assist in the response/rescue operations in the affected areas of Hurricane Katrina.

This ends our floatables and beach surveillance/sampling program for 2005.

Floatables

The New York/New Jersey Harbor Complex was monitored for floatables seven times from August 19 - September 1. The Harbor Complex was clear of significant floatable debris on August 19, 27, 29, 30, 31 and September 1.

On August 20, a major slick, approximately 1 ½ to 2 miles long, was reported in Newark Bay. The slick consisted of large wood and trash and was immediately reported to the Army Corps of Engineers. Clean up was conducted as necessary.

Dissolved Oxygen

Bottom water samples were collected for dissolved oxygen (DO) analysis at the Barnegat (JC61), Beach Haven (JC69), Atlantic City (JC75), Strathmere (JC85) and Hereford (JC90) perpendiculars on August 29; and at the Sandy Hook (NYB20), Long Branch (JC14), Belmar (JC27), Bay Head (JC41) and Seaside Heights (JC53) perpendiculars on September 1.

Table 1 presents the bottom DO results for the perpendiculars sampled on August 29. The lowest DO value, 4.1 mg/l, occurred five nautical miles off Strathmere (JC85I).

Tables 2 and 3 present the bottom dissolved oxygen (DO) results for the perpendiculars sampled on September 1. The lowest DO concentration, 4.3 mg/l, occurred three nautical miles off Bay Head (JC41G).

These values are excellent for this time of year.

Table 1

Dissolved Oxygen Concentrations of Bottom Water Samples at the Barnegat (JC61), Beach Haven (JC69), Atlantic City (JC75), Strathmere (JC85) and Hereford (JC90) perpendiculars - August 29, 2005.

Location (Nautical Mile Offshore)	Barnegat JC 61	Beach Haven JC 69	Atlantic City JC 75	Strathmer e JC 85	Hereford JC 90
1	7.2	6.3	7.7	5.0	4.7
3	5.3	4.6	6.2	6.3	7.0
5	6.5	5.6	5.7	4.1	6.1
7	5.5	4.9	6.0	5.7	4.2
9	5.5	5.3	6.8	6.9	7.2

Dissolved Oxygen Concentrations of Bottom Water Samples at the Sandy Hook Perpendiculars (mg/l) - September 1, 2005.

Location (Nautical Miles Offshore)	Station	DO (mg/l)
2	NYB20	4.9
4	NYB21	4.5
6	NYB22	5.1
7.4	NYB23	4.5
8.6	NYB24	5.2

Table 3

Dissolved Oxygen Concentrations of Bottom Water Samples at the Long Branch (JC14), Belmar (JC27), Bay Head (JC 41) and Seaside Heights (JC53) perpendiculars (mg/l) - September 1, 2005.

Location (Nautical Miles Offshore)	Long Branch JC 14	Belmar JC 27	Bay Head JC 41	Seaside Heights JC 53
1	4.8	4.5	4.6	4.7
3	4.7	4.5	4.3	5.2
5	5.7	5.1	6.0	6.4
7	4.5	6.2	6.2	6.5
9	5.1	5.8	5.6	6.5