



Coastal Communications

NATIONAL COASTAL ASSESSMENT

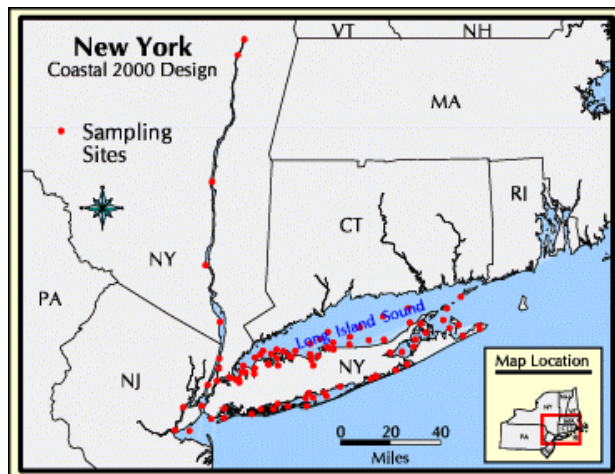
COASTAL 2000 - NEW YORK

ORD/REGION 2/OW/NY DEC



Background

The U.S. EPA's National Coastal Assessment (also known as Coastal 2000) consists of a multi-year partnership among EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD), EPA's Office of Water (OW), EPA's Regional Offices, all the coastal states, and selected territories. As part of this effort, EPA has developed a coastal monitoring program with EPA Region II and the New York Department of Environmental Conservation (NY DEC). This joint effort will determine the condition of estuarine waters in New York, and it will compare this condition with other U.S. coastal areas. This effort is being coordinated by the National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory's Atlantic Ecology Division in Narragansett, Rhode Island.



Coastal 2000 Strategy

Coastal 2000 is a strategic partnership between EPA and the coastal states and other federal agencies. Each state independently surveys its coastal resources and assesses their condition using a probabilistic design and a common set of environmental indicators (see Table below) which are compatible with those of the other states. These estimates can then be aggregated to assess conditions at the EPA Regional, biogeographical, and National levels. All data will be made available for public access on the Internet. The map shows the coastal areas included in the survey and the number of sampling sites intended for estuarine waters of New York. Elements of the existing New York City Department of Environmental Protection's New York Harbor Water Quality Survey, Long Island Sound Ambient Water Quality Monitoring Program, Suffolk County Department of Health Services, and the Town of Hempstead water quality monitoring programs have been integrated with the Coastal 2000 activities. The Waste Management Institute of SUNY at Stony Brook is conducting this effort for NY DEC.

Water Quality	Sediment Quality	Biota
Dissolved oxygen	Grain size	Benthic community structure
Salinity, temperature, depth	Total organic carbon	Fish community structure
pH	Sediment chemistry	Fish external pathology
Nutrients	Benthic community structure	Fish tissue chemical analyses
Chlorophyll	Sediment toxicity	

Further Information

For further information, please contact Karen Chytalo, at New York Department of Environmental Conservation (631) 444-0430 or kchytal@gw.dec.state.ny.us; or Darvene Adams at Environmental Sciences Division in Region II at (732)-321-6700 or adams.darvene@epa.gov; or John Paul at the National Health and Environmental Effects Laboratory's Atlantic Ecology Division at (401) 782-3037 or paul.john@epa.gov. Visit the Coastal Communications web site: <http://www.epa.gov/nheerl/whatsnew>.