CATALOG DOCUMENTATION
NATIONAL COASTAL ASSESSMENT DATABASE
2003 NEW YORK/NEW JERSEY HARBOR SYSTEM
OBSERVED OBJECTS INFORMATION DATA SET

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1. DATA SET IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Title of Catalog document
National Coastal Assessment
2003 New York/New Jersey Harbor System
Observed Objects Information Data Set

1.2 Author of the Catalog entry
Melissa Hughes, Raytheon

1.3 Catalog revision date
June 19, 2012

1.4 Data set name
Observed Objects Information Data Set

1.5 Task Group
Regional Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program

1.6 Data set identification code
NA

1.7 Version
NA

1.8 Requested Acknowledgment
If you plan to publish these data in any way, EPA requires a standard statement for work it has supported: "Although the data described in this article have been funded wholly or in part by the US Environmental Protection Agency through its EMAP-Estuaries Program, it has not been subjected to Agency review, and therefore does not necessarily reflect the views of the Agency; no official endorsement should be inferred."

2. INVESTIGATOR INFORMATION

2.1 Principal Investigator
Ms. Darvene A. Adams
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region II

2.2. Investigation Participant
Ms. Sandi Robinson
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - ORD/NHEERL/AED

3. DATA SET ABSTRACT

3.1 Abstract of the Data Set

The Observed Objects Information data set provides information on the presence/absence of debris which was recorded after visual observation from the sampling platform. Presence of debris may be an indicator of aesthetic quality.

3.2 Keywords for the Data Set

visual observations, observed objects, debris

4. OBJECTIVES AND INTRODUCTION

4.1 Program Objective

The project was designed to support resource management decisions related to pollution control and remediation throughout the New York/New Jersey (NY/NJ) Harbor and to assist the New York-New Jersey Harbor Estuary Program (HEP) in developing a contaminant monitoring strategy to be included in the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) for the NY/NJ Harbor system.

4.2 Data Set Objective

To provide information on the aesthetic quality of each sampling site visited in the NY/NJ harbor region.

4.3 Data Set Background Discussion

The New York/New Jersey Harbor System Sediment Assessment was based on methods used in the EMAP-Estuaries program. A probability-based sampling design ensured an unbiased estimation of condition and that all areas within the system were potentially subject to sampling. The probability based sampling design also allowed calculation of confidence limits around estimates of condition.

4.4 Summary of Data Set Parameters

The Observed Objects Information data set provides subjective information on the presence of items not occurring in a natural environment.

5. DATA ACQUISITION AND PROCESSING METHODS

5.1 Data Acquisition

5.1.1 Sampling Objective

Record the presence/absence of objects not normally associated with a natural environment and which indicate anthropogenic input.

5.1.2 Sample Collection Methods Summary

NA

5.1.3 Sampling Start Date

July 1, 2003

5.1.4 Sampling End Date

September 25, 2003

5.1.5 Platform

Sampling was conducted from the USEPA vessel, the R/V CLEAN WATERS.

5.1.6 Sampling Gear
NA

5.1.7 Manufacturer of Sampling Equipment
NA

5.1.8 Key Variables
NA

5.1.9 Collection Method Calibration
NA

5.1.10 Sample Collection Quality Control
NA

5.1.11 Sample Collection Method Reference
NA

5.2 Data Preparation and Sample Processing
NA

6. DATA MANIPULATIONS

NA

6.1 Name of new or modified values
NA

6.2 Data Manipulation Description
NA

7. DATA DESCRIPTION

7.1 Description of Parameters

Attribute Name	Format	Description
Data Group	VARCHAR2(4)	Data group conducting sampling
Sampling Year	NUMBER(4.0)	Data collection year
Station Name	VARCHAR2(20)	The station identifier
Sampling Collection Date	DATE	Date of sample collection
Latitude Decimal Degrees	NUMBER(9.3)	Decimal degrees of latitude
Longitude Decimal Degrees	NUMBER(9.3)	Decimal degrees (-) of longitude
Visit/Replicate Number	VARCHAR2(1)	Visit or trawl replicate number
Type Observation	VARCHAR2(20)	Observation made: visual/in trawl
Object Present	VARCHAR2(3)	Object present (Y/N)
Object Type	VARCHAR2(50)	Type object: natural or man-made
Object Type	VARCHAR2(50)	Type object: natural or man-made

7.1.6 Precision to which values are reported
NA

7.1.7 Minimum value in data set
NA

7.1.8 Maximum value in Data Set
NA

7.2 Data Record Example

7.2.1 Column Names for Example Records

Station Name,Sampling Collection Date,Data Group,Sampling Year,
Type Observation,Object Present,Object Type,Object Type,
Visit/Replicate Number

7.2.2 Example Data Records

R-EMAP Region 2,2003,JB301,7/31/2003,40.629,-73.759,1,Visual,N,,
R-EMAP Region 2,2003,JB303,8/8/2003,40.619,-73.778,1,Visual,N,,
R-EMAP Region 2,2003,JB305,8/7/2003,40.575,-73.87,1,Visual,N,,
R-EMAP Region 2,2003,JB306,8/5/2003,40.572,-73.88,1,Visual,Y,Man-made,

8. GEOGRAPHIC AND SPATIAL INFORMATION

8.1 Minimum Longitude

-74 Degrees 17.4 Minutes 48.00 Decimal Seconds

8.2 Maximum Longitude

-73 Degrees 45 Minutes 0.54 Decimal Seconds

8.3 Minimum Latitude

40 Degrees 25.2 Minutes 36.00 Decimal Seconds

8.4 Maximum Latitude

40 Degrees 51.6 Minutes 42.00 Decimal Seconds

8.5 Name of area or region

New York/New Jersey Harbor System:
Four sub-basins were sampled in the New York/New Jersey Harbor, including: Upper Harbor, Newark Bay, Lower Harbor (includes Raritan and Sandy Hook Bays) and Jamaica Bay. For purposes of this study, the region includes the lower portions of the Hudson, Passaic, Harlem, Hackensack and Raritan Rivers, upstream to a near-bottom salinity of 15 ppt, the East River to Long Island Sound and Lower Harbor to the Atlantic Ocean.

9. QUALITY CONTROL AND QUALITY ASSURANCE

9.1 Data Quality Objectives

NA

9.2 Data Quality Assurance Procedures

NA

10. DATA ACCESS

10.1 Data Access Procedures

Data can be downloaded from the WWW server.

10.2 Data Access Restrictions

Data can only be accessed from the WWW server.

10.3 Data Access Contact Persons

Ms. Darvene A. Adams
U.S. EPA Region II

10.4 Data Set Format

Tab-delimited

10.5 Information Concerning Anonymous FTP
Data cannot be accessed via ftp.

10.6 Information Concerning WWW
Data can be downloaded from the WWW servers.

10.7 EMAP CD-ROM Containing the Data Set
Data are not available on CD-ROM

11. REFERENCES

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12. TABLE OF ACRONYMS

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