

**DRAFT CATALOG DOCUMENTATION**  
**NATIONAL COASTAL ASSESSMENT- NORTHEAST DATABASE**  
**YEAR 2000 STATIONS**  
**STATION LOCATION DATA:"STATIONS"**

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**1. DATASET IDENTIFICATION**

**1.1 Title of Catalog document**

National Coastal Assessment-Northeast Region Database  
Year 2000 Stations  
Station Location Data

**1.2 Authors of the Catalog entry**

John Kiddon, U.S. EPA NHEERL-AED  
Harry Buffum, Computer Sciences Corp.

**1.3 Catalog revision date**

June, 2002

**1.4 Dataset name**

STATIONS

**1.5 Task Group**

National Coastal Assessment-Northeast

**1.6 Dataset identification code**

001

**1.7 Version**

001

**1.8 Request for Acknowledgment**

EMAP requests that all individuals who download EMAP data acknowledge the source of these data in any reports, papers, or presentations. If you publish these data, please include a statement similar to: "Some or all of the data described in this article were produced by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency through its Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program (EMAP)".

## 2. INVESTIGATOR INFORMATION (for full addresses see Section 13)

### 2.1 Principal Investigators

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### 2.2 Sample Collection Investigators

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### 2.3 Sample Processing Investigators

Not applicable

## 3. DATASET ABSTRACT

### 3.1 Abstract of the Dataset

The STATIONS data file reports information regarding the planned sampling locations designated by National Coastal Assessment planners for the Northeast Region. One record is presented per station. Each record reports the planned values of latitude and longitude. The actual values for these parameters, recorded at the time of sampling, are reported in the EVENTS data file. Each record also includes the names of the estuary, the State cooperative agreement nominally responsible for sampling the station, the state's original station identifier, and various statistical weighting factors (inclusion probabilities) used when performing analyses with the data.

### 3.2 Keywords for the Dataset

Station location, latitude, longitude, date, estuary name, region, state, inclusion probability

## 4. OBJECTIVES AND INTRODUCTION

### 4.1 Program Objective

The Coastal 2000 Initiative is a national EMAP effort. In Coastal 2000 we are demonstrating a consistent, integrated, probabilistic monitoring effort that will produce a national assessment of the condition of the U.S. marine estuaries. We partnered with EPA Regions, EPA's Office of Water, state resource/protection agencies in the 24 marine coastal states and Puerto Rico, USGS, and NOAA to conduct the sampling of estuaries during the late summer months of 2000 and 2001. A minimum of 50 sampling locations in each state have been established within EMAP's probabilistic sampling framework. From this we will develop a national report on the condition of the Nations's estuaries, as well as reports on the condition of the estuaries in each of the individual states and Puerto Rico. In 2002 we are beginning our assessment of the condition of the near-shore coastal environments to complement EPA's ongoing efforts to improve beach monitoring.

### 4.2 Dataset Objective

To report information about the planned location of sampling stations, including: latitude, longitude, and area; the names of the estuaries, sub-regions, and states containing the stations.

### 4.3 Dataset Background Discussion

NCA sampling stations in the Northeast were in a stratified random design. One to four strata were defined for each of ten regions. Stations in each strata were laid out in a hexagon grid pattern or a modified hexagon grid pattern. In most strata, three possible sampling locations (with "Alternate Site" codes of A, B, or C) were defined for each hexagon. Sampling crews were instructed to attempt to sample the A site first, and to proceed to the B or C site if the A site could not be sampled. Generally one site was visited, but in rare cases, another of the alternate sites was also sampled.

Sampling strata were assigned to different NCA partners, identified here by a Cooperative Agreement code ST\_COOP. Because different partners used different vessels and instrumentation, the ST\_COOP is an important identifier that is used in NCA metadata when referring to differences in sampling methods.

The STATIONS data file reports information regarding the planned sampling locations designated by program planners. (Actual locations are reported in the EVENTS data file.) The geographical information provided for a station (the names of the estuary, and state containing the station) are useful when interpreting the results of other data files. The weighting factors for a station (AREA and ST\_AREA) are used when performing statistical analyses. One record is presented per station, and only stations that were actually sampled are included.

#### 4.4 Summary of Dataset Parameters

*STATION	Station name
*STAT_ALT	Alternate Site Code (A,B, or C)
ESTUARY	Estuary Name
STA_LAT	Latitude (decimal degrees, datum NAD83)
STA_LNG	Longitude (decimal degrees, datum NAD83)
ST_COOP	State Cooperative Agreement covering Sampling
LOCAL_ID	Station Identifier used by State
STATE	State where Station is Located
REGION	Region Station is located in
STRATA	Strata Station is located in
AREA	Statistical Area represented by Station (sq. km)
ST_AREA	Statistical Area Represented by Strata (sq. km)

\* denotes parameters that should be used as key fields when merging data

The Cooperative Agreement code ST\_COOP identifies the organization that was responsible for sampling the station and the main purpose of sampling. Possible Codes are:

ST_COOP	Description	Organization responsible for sampling
ME	Maine	Casco Bay Project/U of Southern Maine
NH	New Hampshire	Jackson Estuarine Lab/UNH
MA	Massachusetts	MA Coastal Zone Mgt. U. of Massachusetts/Boston, Dartmouth
MA-FSH	Massachusetts Fish	Massachusetts Marine Fisheries
RI	Rhode Island	Roger Williams University
RI-FSH	Rhode Island Fish Survey	Roger Williams University
CT	Connecticut	Connecticut DEP
CT-FSH	Connecticut Fish Survey	Connecticut DEP
NY	New York	MSRC, Stonybrook University

		Suffolk County Dep. Health Services
		NYC DEP
		Town of Hempstead
NJ-DB	New Jersey- Delaware Bay	New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium
NJ-C	New Jersey Coast	New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium
DE	Delaware Inland Bays	Delaware DNR

The variables REGION and STRATA define bio-geographical regions and sampling strata that make up the NCA sampling design. Each strata has a represents a defined surface area (ST\_AREA). All stations except for Fish Survey sites (MA\_FSH, RI\_FSH, and CT-FSH) represent a defined surface area (AREA) which is used as a weighting factor in certain analyses.

The regions and strata are:

REGION	STRATA
Delaware	DE Inland Bays
Delaware Estuary	DE Estuary East Side DE Estuary Small Systems DE Estuary West Side Delaware River
Long Island Sound	CT Coastal LIS Fish Long Island Sound NY Small Systems
Maine	Casco Bay Cobscook Bay ME Northern Coast Penobscot Bay
Massachusetts	Buzzards Bay Cape Cod MA Fish Remaining MA Salem Sound
NY/NJ Harbor	NJ Harbor NY Harbor
New Hampshire New Jersey Coast	New Hampshire NJ Coastal
New York	Hudson River Southern Long Island
Rhode Island	Narragansett Bay RI Fish RI South Coast

## 5. DATA ACQUISITION AND PROCESSING METHODS

### 5.1 Data Acquisition / Field Sampling

Data in this data file were not acquired in the field or in laboratories; rather values were assigned by NCA program planners.

## 5.2 Data Preparation and Sample Processing

No analytical processing was involved with the STATIONS parameters

## 6. DATA ANALYSIS AND MANIPULATIONS

### 6.1 Name of New or Modified Values

Not applicable

### 6.2 Description of Data Manipulation

Not applicable

## 7. DATA DESCRIPTION

### 7.1 Description of Parameters

#### 7.1.1 Components of the Dataset

PARAMETER	TYPE	LENGTH	LABEL
STATION	Char	10	Coastal 2000 Station Name
STAT_ALT	Char	1	Alternate Site Code (A,B,C)
STATE	Char	2	State where Station is Located
ESTUARY	Char	40	Estuary Name
STA_LAT	Num	8.4	Latitude (decimal degrees, datum
STA_LNG	Num	8.4	Longitude (decimal degrees, datum
ST_COOP	Char	6	State Cooperative Agreement for
LOCAL_ID	Char	8	Station Identifier Used by State
AREA	Num	8.3	Statistical Area represented by
ST_AREA	Num	8.3	Area Represented by Strata (sq. m)
REGION	Char	40	Region Station is located in
STRATA	Char	20	Strata Station is located in

#### 7.1.2 Precision of Reported Values

STA\_LAT and STA\_LNG are reported to 0.0001 decimal degree units. AREA and ST\_AREA are reported to 0.001 square km.

#### 7.1.3 Minimum Value in Dataset

Name	Min
STA_LAT	38.4521
STA_LNG	-75.7737
AREA	0.002
ST_AREA	49.8

#### 7.1.4 Maximum Value in Dataset

Name	Max
STA_LAT	44.9456
STA_LNG	-67.0939

AREA 165  
ST\_AREA 31309

## 7.2 Data Record Example

STATION	STAT_ALT	STATE	ESTUARY	STA_LAT	STA_LNG	ST_COOP
CT00-0001	A	CT	Connecticut Ponds	41.1512	-73.2199	CT
CT00-0003	A	CT	Housatonic River	41.2877	-73.071	CT
CT00-0005	A	CT	Connecticut River	41.2738	-72.327	CT

LOCAL_ID	AREA	ST_AREA	REGION	STRATA
21A	1.13	84.4	Long Island Sound	CT Coastal
23A	3.26	84.4	Long Island Sound	CT Coastal
25A	0.06	84.4	Long Island Sound	CT Coastal

## 8. GEOGRAPHIC AND SPATIAL INFORMATION

8.1 Minimum Longitude (Westernmost)  
-75.7737 decimal degrees

8.2 Maximum Longitude (Easternmost)  
-67.0939 decimal degrees

8.3 Minimum Latitude (Southernmost)  
38.4521 decimal degrees

8.4 Maximum Latitude (Northernmost)  
44.9456 decimal degrees

8.5 Name of area or region  
The National Coastal Assessment Northeast Region covers the northeastern US coastline from Maine to Delaware.

## 9. QUALITY CONTROL AND QUALITY ASSURANCE

9.1 Measure Quality Objective  
Not applicable

9.2 Data Quality Assurance Procedures  
Not applicable

9.3 Actual Measurement Quality  
Not applicable

## 10. DATA ACCESS

10.1 Data Access Procedures  
Data can be downloaded from the web

10.2 Data Access Restrictions  
None

10.3 Data Access Contact Persons

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#### 10.4 Dataset Format

ASCII (CSV) and SAS Export files

#### 10.5 Information Concerning Anonymous FTP

Not available

#### 10.6 Information Concerning WWW

No gopher access, see Section 10.1 for WWW access

#### 10.7 EMAP CD-ROM Containing the Dataset

Data not available on CD-ROM

### 11. REFERENCES

Holland, A.F., ed. 1990. Near Coastal Program Plan for 1990: Estuaries. EPA 600/4-90/033. U.S. EPA, Office of Research and Development, NHEERL-AED, Narragansett, RI. November 1990.

Valente, R. and Strobel, C.J. 1993. Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program- Estuaries: 1993 Virginian Province Quality Assurance Project Plan. U.S. EPA, NHEERL-AED, Narragansett, RI. May 1993.

### 12. TABLE OF ACRONYMS

AED	Atlantic Ecology Division
C	Degrees Celsius
CTD	Conductivity, Temperature, and Depth
DB	Delaware Bay
DEC	Department Environmental Conservation
DEM	Department Environmental Management
DEP	Department Environmental Protection
DES	Department Environmental Services
DNREC	Dept. Natural Resources & Environmental Control
DRBC	Delaware River Basin Comm.
DO	Dissolved Oxygen
EMAP	Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
GED	Gulf Ecology Division
m	Meter
MCZM	MA Coastal Zone Management
mg/L	Milligrams per liter
MSRC	Marine Science Research Ctr. -SUNY SB
NHEERL	National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory
NJMSC	NJ Marine Sciences Consortium
QA/QC	Quality Assurance/Quality Control
ppt	Parts per thousand

RWU Roger Williams University  
 SAV Submerged Aquatic Vegetation  
 SUNY SB State University of NY @ Stony Brook  
 USEPA United States Environmental Protection Agency  
 UMASS University of Massachusetts, Boston and Dartmouth campuses  
 UNH University of New Hampshire, Jackson Estuarine lab  
 VER Versar, Inc.  
 WWW World Wide Web

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