

# **EPA New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site:**

## **Issuance of Draft Fifth Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD5)**

# Current Remedy Overview

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- ◆ New Bedford Harbor Operable Unit 1 – Upper and Lower Harbor
  - » Record of Decision issued in 1998
  - » 4 ESDs issued: 2001, 2002, 2010 and 2011
- ◆ Current Remedy – excavation/dredging of contaminated sediment above cleanup levels and disposal
  - » CDFs A, B and C
  - » Off-site transportation and disposal at permitted landfill
  - » Lower Harbor CAD Cell

# Draft ESD5 - Proposed Significant Change

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- ◆ Under ESD5, EPA proposes to eliminate CDFs A, B and C and instead transport the contaminated sediment slated for those CDFs for off-site disposal at permitted landfill
- ◆ Approximately 175,000 cubic yards of in situ contaminated sediment currently slated for CDFs A, B and C, includes:
  - 48,000 cubic yards of vegetated intertidal sediment
  - 127,000 cubic yards of subtidal sediment

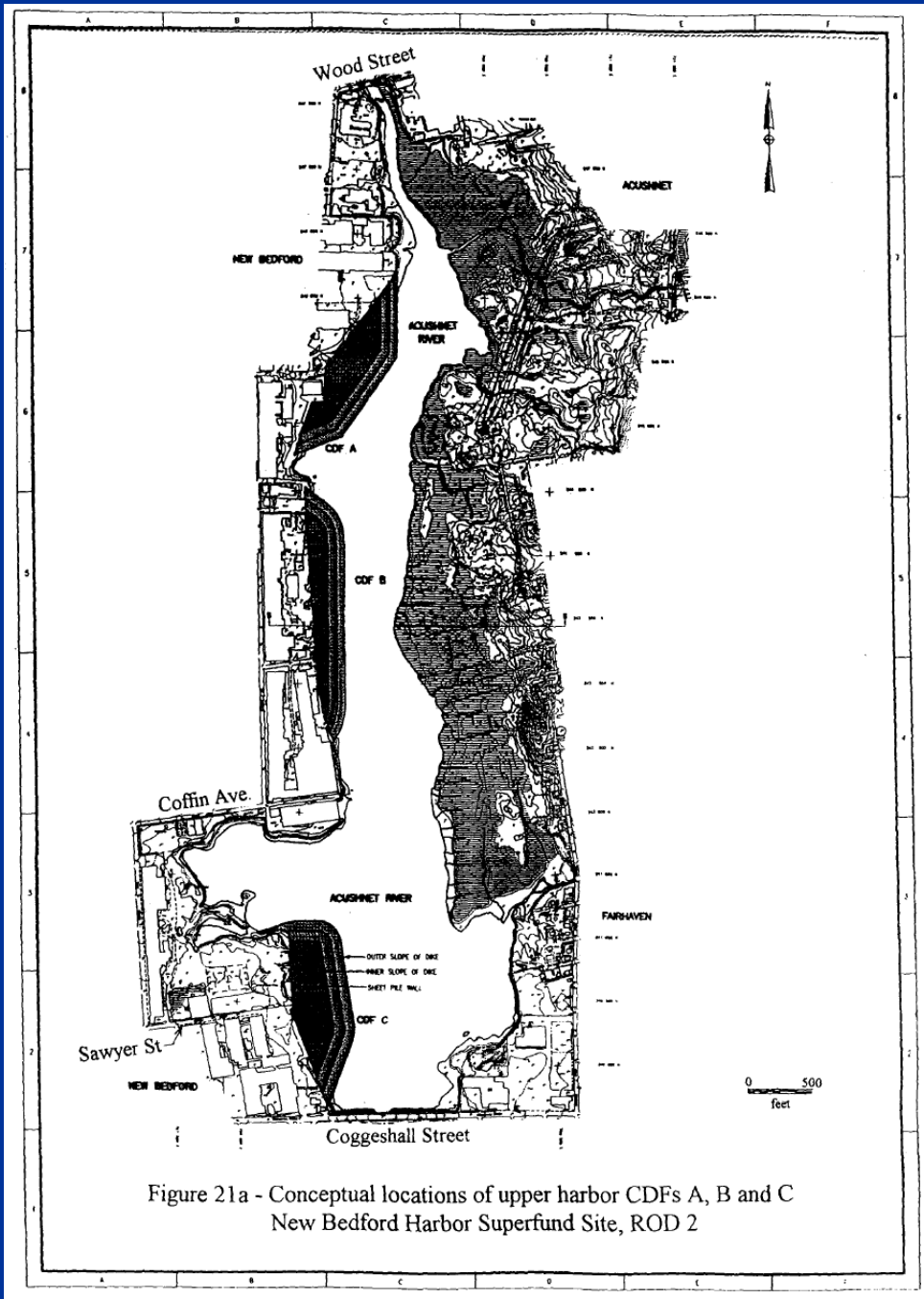


Figure 21a - Conceptual locations of upper harbor CDFs A, B and C  
New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site, ROD 2

# CDFs A, B and C vs. Off-Site Disposal

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## CDFs A, B and C

- ◆ Design, construction and filling could take ~5 years – could delay remedy
- ◆ Complex engineering and implementability issues; changes to land use where conceptually planned
- ◆ Cost estimate: \$56 Million
- ◆ Filling of on the order of 10 acres of subtidal area

## Off-Site Disposal

- ◆ Ongoing operation; no delay to remedy
- ◆ Adequate capacity at permitted facilities; few implementability issues
- ◆ Cost estimate: \$33 Million
- ◆ No additional CDF filling activities; dredging of footprint of CDFs

# Draft ESD5 – Final Disposition of Pilot CDF Pursuant to ESD1 (2001)

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- ◆ Under Current Remedy – ESD1 (2001) provided for Pilot CDF area to be Interim TSCA Facility
  - » EPA would continue to confirm protectiveness over time to demonstrate suitable as a permanent CDF
    - Continue groundwater and air monitoring
    - Conduct groundwater modeling
  - » Once protectiveness confirmed, EPA would propose Pilot CDF as a permanent TSCA facility

# Draft ESD5 – Proposed Significant Change

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- ◆ Under ESD5, EPA confirms Pilot CDF is Suitable and Proposes the Pilot CDF as a Permanent TSCA Facility
  - » Subsurface features naturally impermeable clay layer
  - » Groundwater and air monitoring conducted for 20+ years
  - » Groundwater modeling evaluation performed
  - » Monitoring and modeling demonstrate PCBs are not migrating
  - » Monitoring and modeling confirm protectiveness

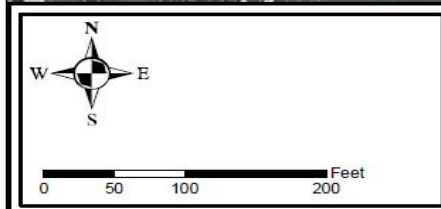




# Pilot CDF

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- ◆ Pilot CDF is a portion of the CDF initially constructed in 1988/1989
- ◆ PCB-contaminated sediment and debris have been disposed in the Pilot CDF under the remedy
- ◆ Approximately 19,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediment and debris
- ◆ Average PCB concentration of material ~200-260 ppm
- ◆ Within the footprint of where CDF C (~8 acres) was conceptually planned
- ◆ Approximately 1.65 acres – generally coincident with newly created land



Monitoring Well Locations		
New Bedford Harbor Sawyer Street CDF New Bedford, MA		
SCALE	DATE	PROJECT NO.
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Figure Number
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# Pilot CDF – Proposed Ongoing and Long Term Monitoring and Maintenance

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- ◆ Continued periodic groundwater and air monitoring
- ◆ Clean cover/cap would be installed over Pilot CDF meeting all applicable federal and state requirements
- ◆ Institutional controls to ensure integrity of cap over time
- ◆ Periodic inspections of cap and sidewalls
- ◆ Capped Pilot CDF would be available for recreational reuse

# Draft ESD5 – Public Comment

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- ◆ Draft ESD5 and Administrative Index available at <http://www2.epa.gov/new-bedford-harbor>
- ◆ Public Comment Period Open starting tomorrow  
April 24, 2015 – May 26, 2015
- ◆ Send comments to:  
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Site, U.S. EPA Region I  
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5 Post Office Square, Suite 100  
Boston, MA 02109-3912  
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# Administrative Record

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EPA Region 1 Records Center

5 Post Office Square

Boston, MA 02109-3912

(617) 918-1440

Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

New Bedford Free Public Library

613 Pleasant Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Reference Department

New Bedford, MA 02740

(508) 961-3067

Monday – Thursday: 9:00 am – 9:00 pm

Friday – Saturday: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm