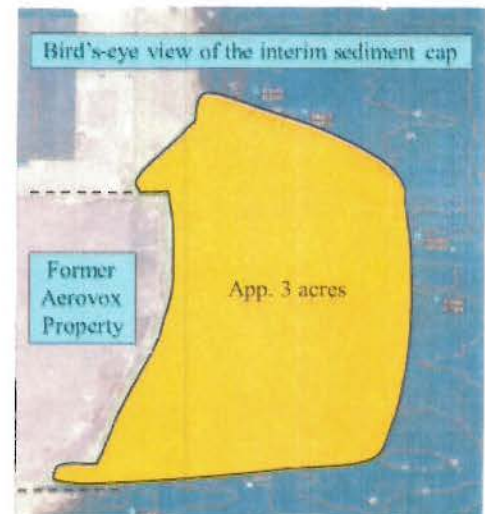
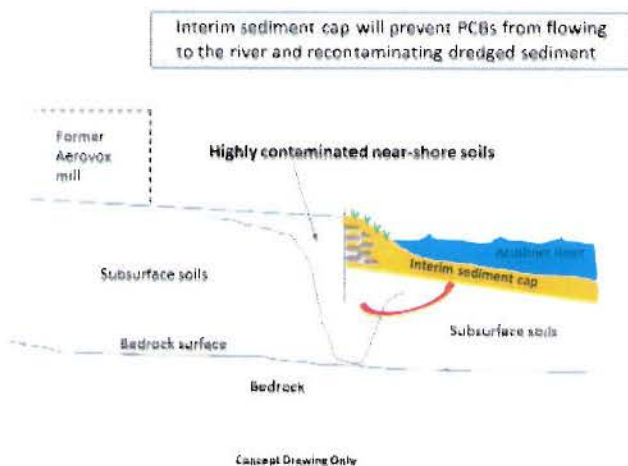


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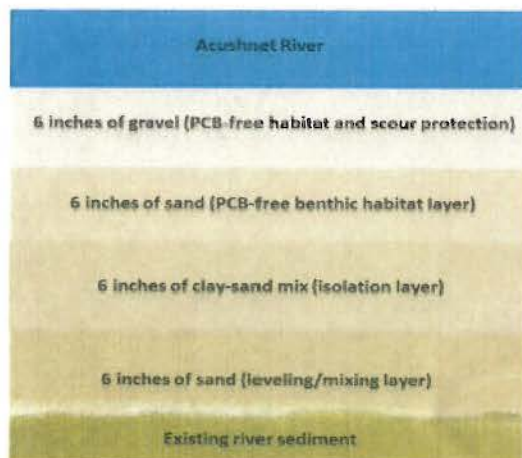
EPA to Install Interim Sediment Cap Along Aerovox Shoreline in 2018

Summary: In spring and summer 2018, EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers will install an interim sediment cap in the shoreline area abutting the former Aerovox facility. This multi-layer sediment cap will be approximately 2 feet thick, and will be placed over highly contaminated sediments abutting the former Aerovox property. Molecular processes cause the carbon in the clay layer of the cap to adsorb PCBs and prevent them from migrating upward to the river. Once installed EPA and the Corps will monitor the cap's effectiveness every year. The results of this monitoring, along with other NBH Superfund Site information, can be found at www.epa.gov/new-bedford-harbor. The diagrams below show additional detail about this interim sediment cap.

Why is EPA now placing this interim sediment cap? Thanks to a record-breaking settlement with the successor corporation to Aerovox, Inc. (AVX Corp.), EPA now has the funds it needs to implement final pass dredging in the upper harbor near Aerovox. The interim sediment cap allows this final pass dredging to proceed ahead of the ongoing Aerovox site cleanup, which is being implemented pursuant to the state 21E site cleanup program. The interim sediment cap will prevent underlying PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) and VOCs (volatile organic compounds, i.e., solvents) from recontaminating the newly dredged river sediments after the final pass dredging is accomplished. Once complete source control is achieved at the Aerovox site via the state 21E program, the interim sediment cap and underlying contaminated sediments can be removed pursuant to the 1998 Record of Decision for the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site.



Four layers of the sediment cap design



For more information about the interim sediment cap or the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site contact: David Dickerson, USEPA, Remedial Project Manager 617-918-1329; dickerson.dave@epa.gov