Lower Passaic River Restoration Project and Newark Bay Study

Community Involvement Plan

June 2006

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US Environmental Protection Agency
Region 2

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Lower Passaic River Restoration Project / Newark Bay Study

Community Involvement Plan (CIP)

Preface

We are pleased to release this Community Involvement Plan (CIP) for the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project / Newark Bay Study. The partner agencies are committed to active and open public involvement throughout the life of this project. This CIP provides a toolbox of options for keeping the public informed and for soliciting input. Each respective agency has its own set of guidance with regard to public involvement. This CIP does not attempt to capture every possible outreach initiative among all six partner agencies or fit one specific CIP template.

This CIP is divided into two parts to enable the reader to go directly to the sections of greatest interest, and also contains charts and graphics to enable the reader to see at a glance project activities and opportunities for public involvement.

Part One includes the following:

1.1 Overview: discusses the purpose and scope of the CIP, as well as legal authorities.

1.2 Project Background: outlines the problems being addressed by the project and describes the project areas and the unique federal-state partnership that is supporting the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project.

1.3 Project Activities: describes the various cleanup and restoration activities that have taken place or will take place as part of both the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project and the Newark Bay Study.

> The partner agencies are the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), the NJ Department of Transportation/Office of Maritime Resources (NJDOT/OMR), the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

1.4 Community Profile: presents a comprehensive profile including: physical characteristics, land use characteristics, public infrastructure, recreation, and population and demographics.

Part Two is the Action Plan. It includes the following:

2.1 History of Community Involvement: describes involvement as a local process, as well as prior efforts at the Diamond Alkali site and for flood control projects.

2.2 Key Community Concerns: discusses the community interview process, identifies key concerns by subject, and explains how the partner agencies will address them.

2.3 Communication Goals: outlines the major communication goals of the partner agencies.

2.4 Community Involvement Tools and Outreach Activities: presents the various tools and activities that may be used throughout the lifecycle of the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project / Newark Bay Study.

2.5 Evaluation of Community Involvement and Outreach: outlines how community involvement and outreach efforts will be evaluated.

Additionally, there are a number of appendices that serve as a resource for project contacts, potential meeting locations, locations of information repositories, a glossary of terms, and other information. A bibliography is listed in Appendix 18, as individual citations are not included in this CIP.

The CIP will be a living document for a dynamic project – it will be reviewed annually. It will be updated to reflect project progress and changes to community needs, concerns, issues, and contacts. The CIP will be revised:

- prior to the start of long-term cleanup and restoration work;
- at a minimum every three years; and/or
- at other points as necessary based on the annual reviews.

Please contact David Kluesner or Carolyn Vadino (see Appendix 3), the partner agency public affairs representatives, with your comments, concerns, and questions regarding the CIP or the project, so that we may continue in a partnership of meaningful public participation, involvement, and dialogue.

Terms in **bold** may be found in the glossary.

Public: A broad term that includes everyone who may be impacted, potentially impacted by, or have interest in the project.

FIGURE 1: Community Involvement Toolbox

31 potential community involvement tools and activities have been identified that address community concerns. They are included here as a quick and easy reference guide. Detailed descriptions, methods, and goals for each of these tools can be found in Section 2.4 of this CIP.

Tools	Community Concerns / Need Addressed
Community Advisory Group (CAG)	Addresses concerns about "keeping the project moving"; provides a forum for coordination with partner agencies, interest groups, and municipalities on such issues as land restoration and redevelopment.
Community Events	Promotes interaction with individual community members and the environmental justice community.
Coordination with Local Government/ Other Agencies	Addresses concerns about inter-agency coordination on all levels, clarity of health advisories, redevelopment, and green space issues.
Environmental Justice Activities	Addresses issue that populations of concern (among socio-economic, ethnic, and linguistic groups) are involved in the project, particularly on issues like health advisories, green space, and redevelopment; addresses translation issues.
Fact Sheets	Addresses public need for understandable information on project issues, ecological issues, health advisories, partner agency roles. May be available in other languages.
Field Notifications	Addresses need for information about project work areas; issues concerning public safety and health.
Information Repositories	Provides project documents for public study and use in a local facility that is easily accessed and user-friendly.
Maps and Visual Aids	Enhances public understanding and familiarity with project areas and the relationship of project areas to local communities.
Media Notification / Events	Increases / raises public awareness of project activities, health issues, fish advisories, and opportunities for involvement.
Newsletters	Raises overall public awareness and information level; enhances interaction between the community and the partner agencies.
Project "Roadmap"	Addresses public concerns about communicating the project "at a glance" and in terms of installments.
Mailing List Updates and Maintenance	Provides timely notification and information regarding project activities, meetings, and events.
Project Websites - www.ourpassaic.org and www.ournewarkbay.org	Addresses community concerns about access to project information, documents, and announcements; provides public with another communication tool.
Public Availability Sessions / Forums	Held in the local community, fosters an atmosphere of casual interaction and outreach.
Public Comment Period	Provides public involvement in the decision making process.
Public Meetings	Provides a more formal venue for public interaction and input on major project milestones and to take official public comment.
Public Notices	Ensures that the public receives timely information and announcement of project activities, actions, and comment periods.
Public Service Announcements (PSAs)	Provides important information / announcements and messages about health advisories and project actions via radio and television; addresses public concerns about reaching out and informing a broad spectrum of the community.
Public TV / Public Access TV	Brings important project information to a wide audience in their homes; raises public awareness about health advisories and environmental justice issues.
School / Educational Outreach	Engages the student / teacher / parent population; addresses public concern about project status, environmental stewardship / awareness of environmental justice / human and ecological health issues.
Project Site Visits / Tours	Offers an opportunity to provide project information and dispel public myths about the Lower Passaic River and Newark Bay.
Speakers' Bureau	Addresses concerns about reaching business, civic, and municipal constituencies.
Stakeholder Group Interaction	Enhances communication between the various constituencies that make up the involved public; addresses communication concerns between the public and the partner agencies.
Surveys and Focus Groups	Addresses public concerns with a "snapshot in time".
Technical Assistance Grant (TAG)	Fosters public understanding of technical issues.
Technical Outreach Services for Communities (TOSC)	Fosters public understanding of technical issues.
Toll-free Hotline (English/Spanish)	Provides the public with direct agency contacts, which is important for people who do not use the Internet.
Video Production	Includes production of videos about fish advisories, dredging, and technical issues, which addresses public concerns about the availability of user-friendly project information.
Workshops, Seminars, Symposia	Addresses public concern regarding need to be kept informed of scientific and technical information and research related to the project.
Public Input	Provides public involvement in the decision making process.
Email	Enhances communication between the various constituencies that make up the involved public; addresses communication concerns between the public and the partner agencies.

Figure 2: Minimum Requirements for Soliciting Public Comment

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Meetings	Defines the scope of issues to be addressed in an environmental document. Formal public meetings associated with the NEPA process and public comment period during which public comment is taken in both written and oral form.
Proposed Plan (Superfund)	Identifies EPA's proposed cleanup method, outlines important information about the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study, and provides a summary of the different alternative cleanup plans the agency reviewed (including "No Action"). The Proposed Plan is presented in a public meeting where formal public comment is taken by a stenographer and a meeting transcript is prepared. Public comment is also taken throughout the defined public comment period. Public comments are answered in a Responsiveness Summary.
Draft Assessment Plan	The Natural Resource Trustees develop a Draft Assessment Plan to identify how the potential natural resource damages will be evaluated. The Plan is put out for public review and comment during a formal public comment period.
Draft Restoration and Compensation Determination Plan	The Natural Resources Trustees also develop a Draft Restoration and Compensation Determination Plan (Restoration Plan) and an Environmental Assessment, which are usually combined into one document, that identifies a primary restoration action to return injured natural resources to baseline conditions, as well as compensatory restoration action for the interim loss of services. This analysis involves evaluation of a range of primary and compensatory restoration alternatives, selection and justification of proposed restoration(s), and preparation of the plan. The public must be given the opportunity to comment on the Draft Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment.

Figure 2 lists the minimum public comment requirements. At these junctures, public comment is formally taken during an official public comment period. These comments assist the partner agencies in ensuring that the public's concerns and suggestions are taken into account during the decision-making process. The partner agencies will go above and beyond these minimum requirements through use of many of the 31 tools listed in the Community Involvement Toolbox to obtain public input into the projects.

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Part 1
Project Summary and Community Profile

1.1 Overview

Purpose of the Community Involvement Plan

A partnership of federal and state agencies has joined together to study and identify **cleanup** and **restoration** options for the Lower Passaic River, from Dundee Dam to Newark Bay. This effort is referred to as the "Lower Passaic River Restoration Project". The partners share complementary authorities and responsibilities in the Lower Passaic River. The government's goal in coordinating its authorities is to implement them within the waterway for the maximum benefit of the public.

Also underway is a study of Newark Bay, including portions of the Hackensack River, Kill Van Kull and Arthur Kill. This effort – which is being conducted under the direction of EPA, in coordination with the trustees – is referred to as the "Newark Bay Study". This CIP addresses community involvement and outreach activities for both the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project and Newark Bay Study for the following reasons:

- The Newark Bay Study is a Superfund study included as part of EPA's work at the Diamond Alkali Superfund site in Newark, New Jersey. The Diamond Alkali Superfund site includes the lower 17 miles of the Passaic River and Newark Bay;
- Combining community involvement and outreach activities into one plan makes sense because many of the same organizations and communities are concerned with the study and

The partner agencies consist of EPA, the Corps, NJDOT, NJDEP, NOAA, and USFWS. They have joined together to study and identify cleanup and restoration options for the Lower Passaic River. Public involvement and input will play an important role in the decision making process.

Public Involvement Requirements
The federal agencies have used the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Comprehensive Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) public involvement guidance while compiling this CIP. See Appendix 14 for additional NEPA and CERCLA public involvement information.

cleanup of both bodies of water, thereby allowing for efficient coordination of outreach efforts.

This CIP describes a range of suggested community involvement and outreach tools and activities that have been identified by the partner agencies. Not all of the tools and activities will necessarily be implemented. Rather, the partner agencies will annually review, select, and prioritize which tools and activities to implement based on input from **stakeholders** and in consideration of a number of project management and community factors. This CIP does not attempt to prescribe where, how or when each tool and activity will be used. Specific information on the major project documents, decisions, and activities will be provided to the public through fact sheets, project websites, and electronic notices, to name a few ways.

Stakeholder: An individual or institution (church, school, organization, employer, etc.) that is strongly impacted by the project.

The plan's purpose is to serve as a guide for the partner agencies in providing opportunities for public information and input regarding cleanup, injury assessment, and restoration activities in the Lower Passaic River and Newark Bay watershed study areas. It is also designed to assist the communities and other stakeholders throughout the project areas to become meaningfully involved in and informed about the project.

In developing this plan, the partner agencies collaborated with a broad cross section of stakeholders to gather their input on designing a successful community involvement and outreach program. This plan is based on community interviews, historical records, and the previous community relations plans for the Diamond Alkali site, among other sources of information. The *Community Interview Report*, April 2005, prepared by Malcolm Pirnie, is a companion document to this CIP. It provides a summary of community concerns and suggestions for community involvement that were heard during community interviews conducted by the partner agencies. The Community Interview Report is available on the project websites at www.ourpassaic.org and www.ournewarkbay.org.

Scope of the Community Involvement Plan

The partner agencies recognize the unique nature of the project, the watershed, and surrounding communities; therefore a plan with broad-based public involvement goals was developed. These goals touch all components of the project – contamination, assessments, cleanup, and restoration. The tools and activities in this CIP are not specifically targeted toward other state and federal cleanup and resto-

The HEP is an effort to develop a plan to protect, conserve, and restore the NY/NJ Harbor Estuary. For more information on HEP, please visit www.harborestuary.org

ration efforts planned or underway within the project study areas. However, this CIP has the goal of addressing consistency and compatibility with related efforts and initiatives, such as: the Corps' continued federal mission areas including restoration (i.e. the overall **Hudson-Raritan Estuary Ecosystem Study {HRE})**, WRDA Authorized and Clean Water Act regulated navigation program activities, dredged material management, the NY/NJ **Harbor Estuary Program (HEP)**, state-run site cleanups, and other EPA Superfund work in the areas. All watershed based improvement activities are best understood as interrelated, with due consideration given to other related efforts in the study areas.

This plan offers helpful suggestions for community involvement and outreach, rather than a prescriptive approach. The suggested outreach activities and tools in the following pages are flexible in nature and were designed to appeal to multiple audiences. The partner agencies recognize that not all outreach activities and tools are suited for all groups and will work closely with the public in selecting, implementing, and evaluating activities.

Where possible, the CIP attempts to lay out a sequence of project activities. However, the partner agencies do not currently have the information necessary to identify the precise timing of all activities and points for community involvement and outreach. Therefore, this CIP will remain a living document that will annually be reviewed. It will be revised at a minimum of every three years or sooner as needed, evolving as the project progresses. Specific timeline information on the major project documents, decisions, and activities will be provided to the public through fact sheets, project websites, and electronic notices, to name just a few ways.

The Corps is currently conducting a feasibility study for ecosystem restoration in the Hudson-Raritan Estuary. Information on the Hudson-Raritan Estuary Study can be found at www.nan.usace.army.mil/harbor/envt.htm

Information on state-run cleanups at abandoned, hazardous waste sites in the project areas that are being managed by NJDEP can be found at www.nj.gov/dep/srp/kcs-nj/

Legal Authorities

The EPA, Corps, and NJDOT/OMR have formed a partnership with the trustee agencies NOAA, USFWS, and NJDEP to bring together the authorities of the **Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)**, the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), the Clean Water Act (CWA) and other laws to identify opportunities to cleanup and restore the Lower Passaic River. The Newark Bay Study is being conducted under CERCLA.

EPA has lead responsibility for the Newark Bay Study and for the Superfund portion of the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project,

For further information regarding authorities and funding, please visit Appendix 14.

CERCLA – Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act. For additional abbreviations and acronyms, see Appendix 1.

with the Corps and its cost-sharing sponsor, NJDOT, responsible for the WRDA portion. The trustee agencies are responsible for **Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration (NRDAR)** under CERCLA.

The Superfund program is the federal government's program to clean up the nation's uncontrolled hazardous waste sites. For information on the Superfund process, visit www.epa.gov/superfund

1.2 Project Background

Problems Being Addressed by this Project

The Passaic River and Newark Bay areas have a long history of industrialization. During the 1800s, the areas surrounding the Lower Passaic River and Newark Bay became a focal point for our nation's industrial revolution. By the 20th century, Newark had established itself as the largest industrial-based city in the country. The urban and industrial development surrounding the Lower Passaic River and Newark Bay, combined with associated population growth, have resulted in the following conditions: poor water quality, contaminated sediments, bans on fish and shellfish consumption, lost **wetlands**, and degraded **habitat**. Figure 3 contains a history of events surrounding the Diamond Alkali Superfund site and creation of the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project. While this chronology of events is significant to the project, the Diamond Alkali site is not the only source of contamination in the Passaic River and Newark Bay. It is important to understand that sediment contamination in the Passaic River and Newark Bay, and other problems being addressed by the partner agencies, came from numerous parties and sources over the past 100 years, including direct discharges via spills, runoff, groundwater migration and outfall pipes, as well as indirect discharges through sewers, to name a few. Population growth and development pressures have also contributed to the degradation of the Passaic River and Newark Bay.

Industrial discharges along the Passaic River and Newark Bay have caused significant contamination of both the river and surrounding communities.

The efforts of the partner agencies are being integrated to develop a comprehensive watershed-based plan for the cleanup and restoration of the Lower Passaic River Basin. The goal is to develop a plan to improve water quality, clean up contamination found in the river, and restore the ecological health of the Lower Passaic River and surrounding watershed.

The outcome of these studies will likely include one or more proposals for sediment cleanup under Superfund and the identification of **ecosystem** restoration opportunities in the study areas to support broader estuary-wide restoration efforts and to compensate for **natu-**

Dams and fill material placed along the shores have changed the natural flow of water in the Lower Passaic River and Newark Bay, resulting in a loss of: floodplains, fish spawning habitat, wetlands, waterfowl nesting areas, and crucial fish, aquatic, and terrestrial habitats.

ral resource injury. Cleanup alternatives and ecosystem restoration measures will be formulated together to ensure that the overall solution(s) to the complex problems posed by the contamination and overall degradation in the areas are compatible and provide for protection of human health and the environment.

The goal of the Newark Bay Study is to investigate contamination in the Newark Bay watershed and to evaluate potential options to address this contamination, if necessary.

Description of Project Areas

The project areas (see Figure 4) are located in northeastern New Jersey within parts of Essex, Bergen, Hudson, Passaic, and Union Counties, as well as portions of Staten Island, Richmond County, NY. These counties are predominantly urban and maintain a population of approximately 2.8 million people. The average population density in this area is 4,700 people per square mile. Land use consists primarily of residential, commercial, and industrial properties.

The Passaic River spans over 80 miles through suburban and urban areas from its headwaters in Morristown, NJ, to its confluence with the tidal waters of Newark Bay. The Passaic River watershed drains an area of approximately 935 square miles with 787 square miles in New Jersey and 148 square miles in New York. Seven major tributaries bring water into the river's main stem.

The lower portion of the basin is highly urbanized with significant development in its natural **floodplains**. The Corps has two flood control studies on the Lower Passaic River (at Harrison and Saddle River) investigating measures to reduce flooding due to urban growth. In the Upper Basin, the Corps has floodway projects to preserve the hydrologic regime. The Lower Passaic River basin has experienced considerable development, resulting in significant losses of: floodplains, fish spawning habitat, **benthic** habitat, wetlands, waterfowl nesting areas and other valuable fish and aquatic and terrestrial habitat areas. In addition, the natural hydrologic regime of the Lower Basin has been altered by water supply projects and mills from early industrialization.

Benthic: Pertaining to the organisms living in or on the bottom layer of a body of water.

Newark Bay is part of the New York/New Jersey Harbor Estuary, which is in the center of one of the most urbanized and industrialized parts of the nation. Newark Bay is approximately six miles long and one mile wide and is located at the confluence of the Passaic and

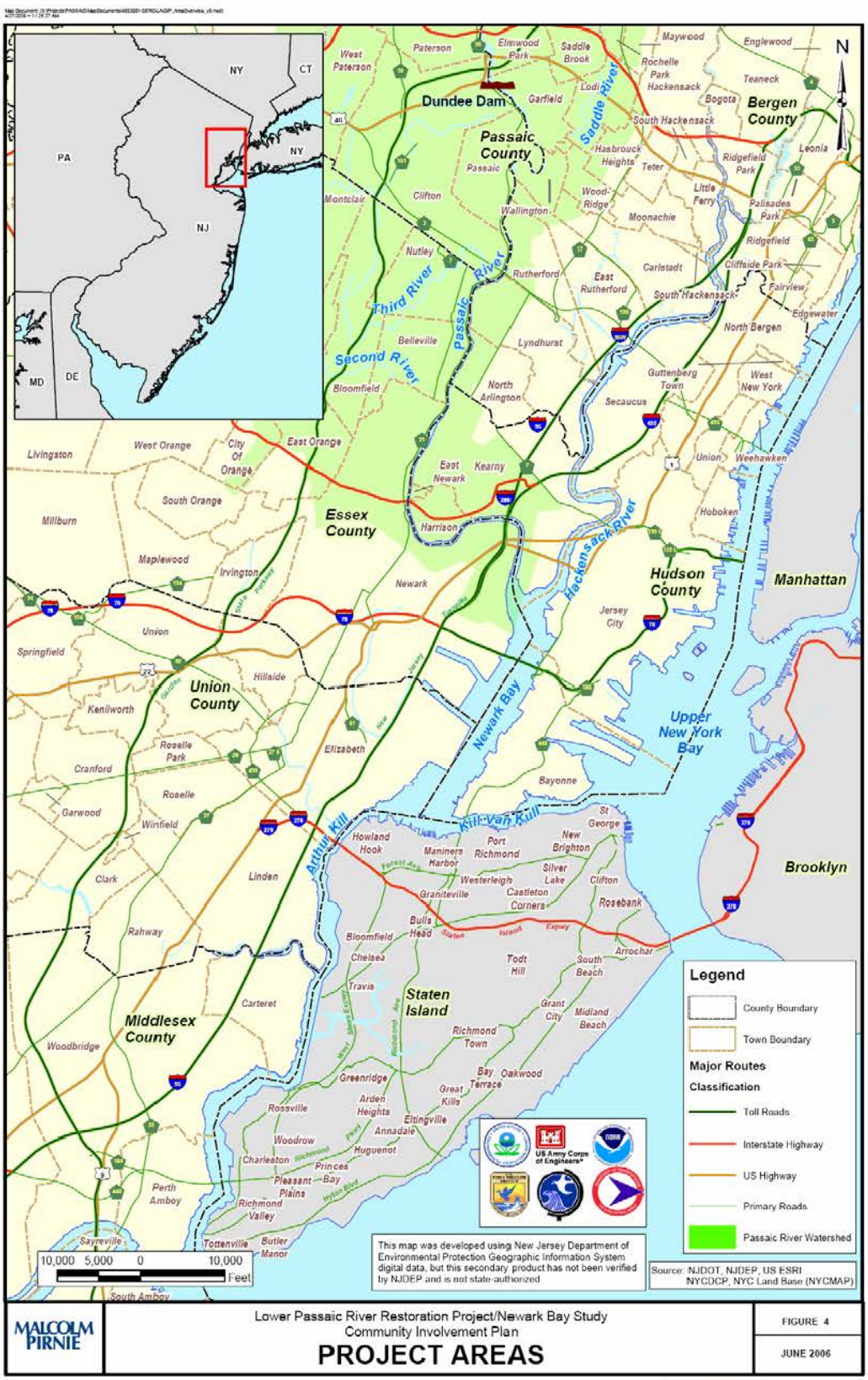
Hackensack Rivers. Newark Bay is linked to the Upper New York Bay by the Kill Van Kull and to the Raritan Bay by the Arthur Kill.

The Lower Passaic River Restoration Project includes the 17 mile length of the Passaic River and its tributaries from the Dundee Dam in Garfield, NJ to the confluence with Newark Bay. The Dundee Dam marks the end of the tidal influence of the Passaic River. The Lower Passaic River Restoration Project also encompasses the Lower Valley watershed, including tributaries to the Lower Passaic River, such as the Saddle River, Second River, and Third River. The Saddle River is the main tributary to the Lower Passaic River. The Newark Bay study area includes Newark Bay and portions of the Hackensack River, the Arthur Kill, and the Kill Van Kull.

FIGURE 3: Project History

DATE	ACTIVITY
1940s	Manufacturing facility located at 80 Lister Avenue, Newark, NJ begins producing DDT and phenoxy herbicides.
1951 - 69	Diamond Alkali Company (subsequently known as the Diamond Shamrock Chemicals Company) owns and operates a pesticides manufacturing facility at 80 Lister Avenue. In 1960, an explosion destroys several plant processes; also in 1960, production limited to herbicides, including those used in the formulation of the defoliant "Agent Orange". Diamond Alkali Company ceases operations in 1969.
1970 - 83	80 Lister Avenue goes through a series of new ownerships and production processes.
1976	Congress authorizes the Corps to begin flood control study for the Passaic River Basin under the Water Resources and Development Act (WRDA).
1982	NJDEP releases fishing advisories for reduced consumption of white perch and white catfish in the Passaic River. River abutting 80 Lister Avenue closed for commercial fishing of American eel and striped bass.
1983	NJDEP and EPA collect samples; high levels of dioxin detected in the Passaic River and at 80 Lister Avenue property. Diamond Alkali site proposed by EPA to the Superfund NPL. Fish advisories begin for the both Passaic River and Newark Bay.
1984	NJDEP issues Administrative Consent Order to Diamond Shamrock Chemicals Company to perform investigation of 80 Lister Avenue. Site finalized on the Superfund NPL. Site investigation of 80 Lister Avenue begins. NJDEP issues Administrative Consent Order to Diamond Shamrock Chemicals Company to perform cleanup of select dioxin-contaminated properties and to perform investigation of 120 Lister Avenue.
1985	Investigation results released to public. Cleanup options for 80 and 120 Lister Avenue properties detailed in feasibility study.
1986	NJDEP presents cleanup options to public.
1987	EPA and NJDEP hold public meeting to discuss the Proposed Plan for cleanup. EPA selects interim cleanup plan (Record of Decision) for the 80 and 120 Lister Avenue portion of the Diamond Alkali Superfund site, requiring the containment of contaminated materials.
1988	Diamond Alkali Superfund site transferred from state lead under NJDEP to federal lead under EPA.
1990	The federal court approves a Consent Decree among Occidental Chemical Corporation, as successor to Diamond Shamrock Chemicals Company, and Chemical Land Holdings, Inc. (now known as Tierra Solutions, Inc.) and EPA and NJDEP to implement the 1987 interim cleanup plan. Corps receives Congressional WRDA authorization for Joseph G. Minish Passaic Waterfront Park and Historic Area flood control study as an element of the Passaic River Flood Damage Reduction Project.
1993	EPA forms team to study lower six-mile stretch of the Passaic River.
1994	EPA posts trilingual fishing advisory signs along the banks of the Passaic River near the Diamond Alkali site. EPA and Occidental Chemical Corporation sign an Administrative Order on Consent to investigate the lower six-mile stretch of the Passaic River. Demolition of buildings at 80 Lister Avenue is completed.
1995	Field work begins on the lower six-mile stretch of the Passaic River.
1996 - 99	EPA, at the request of the local community, explores the potential for implementing an alternative to the interim cleanup plan selected in 1987. Alternative plan not found. EPA reviews and approves design of 1987 interim cleanup plan.
1999	Congress authorizes the Hudson-Raritan Estuary Study and the Passaic River and Newark Bay are added as priority sites under WRDA "section 312 environmental dredging".
2000	Congress authorizes the Corps to conduct the Lower Passaic River Ecosystem Restoration Study under the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA).
2000	Corps initiates a Reconnaissance Study for the Lower Passaic River. Interim cleanup begins at land portion of Diamond Alkali site, which included installation of a cap, slurry wall and flood wall around the properties and groundwater pumping and treatment.
2001	Interim cleanup completed at land portion of Diamond Alkali site. Corps completes Reconnaissance Study for the Lower Passaic River.
2002	Urban Rivers Restoration Initiative launched; EPA and Corps sign National Memorandum of Understanding for the purpose of coordinating the planning and execution of urban river cleanup and restoration.
2003	Six-mile study of Lower Passaic River expanded to include the extent of contamination in the lower 17-miles of the Passaic River. State and federal trustees sign a Memorandum of Agreement for NRDAR for the Diamond Alkali Superfund site and environs. EPA, the Corps, and NJDOT sign a Project Management Plan for the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project. Feasibility cost sharing agreement signed by the Corps and NJDOT. Selection of Passaic River as one of eight national pilot projects of the Urban Rivers Restoration Initiative.
2004	EPA enters into an Administrative Order on Consent with 31 PRPs to fund Superfund portion of the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project. EPA and Occidental Chemical Corporation enter into Administrative Order on Consent to conduct multi-year study of contamination in the Newark Bay area.
2005	12 additional PRPs were added to the Administrative Order on Consent for the Superfund portion of the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project.

FIGURE 4: Project Areas Map



Partnerships

In May 2003, the Corps and NJDOT signed an agreement to share the costs of the WRDA portion of Lower Passaic River Restoration Project. The Corps would use federal funds from annual Energy and Water Resources Appropriation Acts and NJDOT would use resources from the NY/NJ Joint Dredging Plan and state Transportation Trust Fund. In July 2003, EPA, the Corps, and NJDOT signed an agreement, called the "Project Management Plan" to coordinate an integrated (CERCLA-WRDA) study of the Lower Passaic River. This joint planning effort is consistent with the National Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between EPA and the Corps that established the Urban Rivers Restoration Initiative. The MOU calls on the two agencies to cooperate, where appropriate, on environmental remediation and restoration of degraded urban rivers.

In June 2004, EPA signed an **Administrative Order on Consent (AOC)** with 31 **potentially responsible parties (PRPs)** for them to fund the Superfund portion of the joint Lower Passaic River study. 12 additional PRPs were added to the agreement in 2005. While there are numerous parties potentially responsible for the contamination of the lower Passaic River, 43 PRPs are currently cooperating with EPA on the Superfund portion of the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project. These 43 PRPs are referred to as "Cooperating Parties" and are listed in Appendix 7. EPA is continuing with identification of additional PRPs.

The Newark Bay Study is being conducted under an AOC, signed in February 2004 with Occidental Chemical Corporation with EPA oversight under the Superfund program and in coordination with the trustee agencies.

A copy of both Administrative Orders on Consent (AOC) for the Lower Passaic River and Newark Bay are available at www.ourpassaic.org and www.ournewarkbay.org

1.3 Project Activities

The Lower Passaic River Restoration Project and Newark Bay Study will both be used to develop information necessary to evaluate possible cleanup and restoration plans for their relevant areas. The partner agencies are performing the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project. The Newark Bay Study is being performed by a PRP under CERCLA with EPA oversight and in coordination with the trustees. EPA and the Corps are working closely in Newark Bay to coordinate the CERCLA study and the Corps' ongoing dredging activities. Both

Occidental Chemical Corporation (OCC) is a successor to the Diamond Shamrock Chemicals Company. Work under the 1994 and 2004 Administrative Orders on Consent is being performed by Tierra Solutions, Inc.

projects will provide the trustees with information useful for the Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration.

The Lower Passaic River Restoration Project activities are designed to provide a plan that overall will result in:

- Reduction of risks to human health and the environment through the cleanup of contaminated sediments;
- Improvement of water quality in the river;
- Overall habitat improvement;
- Reduction in contaminants entering into the Passaic River and Newark Bay;
- Reduction in the migration of contaminants from the Passaic River to the Hudson-Raritan Estuary;
- A potentially significant cost savings to the NY/NJ Harbor navigational dredging program related to dredged material management;
- Increased potential for future waterfront development, use and economic benefits for the surrounding regions, including the increased potential for recreational and public access use of the waterfront.

Cleanup

The Newark Bay Study and Lower Passaic River Restoration Project involve a multi-year **remedial investigation (RI) / feasibility study (FS)** which will assess the nature and extent of contamination and will develop cleanup plans to address those problems, as necessary. Information will be collected to:

- Define the nature and extent of the contamination;
- Establish the human and ecological routes of exposure and potential risks from contaminants; and
- Determine the significant, on-going sources of pollution to the study areas.

Modeling and **risk assessment** plans will be developed and a remedial investigation report will be prepared and provided to the public.

Risk assessments will be prepared. Sediment, water, and **biota** data collected during sampling activities will be used to describe how

EPA has designated a regional public liaison as a POC for community concerns and questions about the federal Superfund program in NY and NJ. The public may contact George H. Zachos via a 24hr, toll-free number at (888) 283-7628.

For a description of Risk Assessment and how it is used in the Superfund process, see the Glossary, Appendix 2.

much risk the contaminants pose to human health and the environment both now and in the future given various cleanup scenarios.

Proposals for cleanup will be evaluated and presented in a feasibility study and a **Proposed Plan**, if necessary, will be presented to the public for comment. Any such cleanup plan will ultimately be selected through a **Record of Decision (ROD)** following evaluation of public comments.

Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration

In 2003, NOAA, USFWS, and NJDEP signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) regarding Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration (NRDAR) for the Diamond Alkali site and environs. The trustees are preparing a Draft Assessment Plan, which is a generic framework to ensure the damage assessment is performed in a planned and systematic manner and the methodologies chosen demonstrate reasonable cost.

There are five broad classes of resources that can be injured:

- Biota (e.g. aquatic and terrestrial resources such as shellfish, fish, birds, mammals, etc.)
- Surface Water, including bed and bank sediments
- Groundwater
- Geological Resources
- Air

The trustees are also evaluating the services that might be lost due to injury to these resources (e.g. lost navigational services and lost recreational services such as fishing, boating, and swimming).

The NRDAR process has three primary components:

- Trustee agencies assess past, present, and future injuries to natural resources from exposure to hazardous substances.
- Trustee agencies determine the restoration needed to compensate the public for injuries to natural resources.
- Trustee agencies negotiate legal settlements or take other legal action against the parties responsible for the spill or

release. Recoveries from these cases are then directed toward restoration of the damaged resources.

The trustees are working closely with EPA, the Corps, and NJDOT to incorporate, to the extent possible, the data needs for the NRDAR with those needed in the RI to assess risks to human health and the environment. Restoration planning for the site is also currently being conducted in coordination with EPA, the Corps, and NJDOT. To date, the trustees have been undertaking the following activities:

- Creating a database of available information about the Passaic River and Newark Bay watershed;
- Conducting preliminary assessments and presenting available data at public forums;
- Drafting a preassessment screen and Assessment Plan for the Lower Passaic River and Newark Bay Study areas;
- Discussing possible cooperative agreement efforts with the PRPs; and
- Initiating restoration planning for potentially injured natural resources in coordination with EPA, the Corps and NJDOT.

Water Resources Development Act Restoration

The Corps' federal mission areas include restoration, flood control and navigation. The Lower Passaic River Restoration Project will include a cost-benefit analysis of potential cleanup and restoration opportunities in conjunction with other federal activities related to navigation and flood control, as required pursuant to the WRDA.

Some examples of restoration opportunities include:

- Benthic habitat restoration,
- Tidal wetland restoration,
- Vegetative buffer creation,
- Shoreline stabilization, and
- Aquatic habitat improvement.

The Passaic WRDA project is part of and connects two larger worlds – the HRE and EPA's Superfund program – and will play a role in both. The work performed under the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project will contribute to a comprehensive feasibility study, referred to as the Hudson-Raritan Estuary Ecosystem Study, for ecosystem restoration in the Hudson-Raritan Estuary that the Corps is currently conducting. It aims to identify a project that will comprehensively restore estuarine, wetland and adjacent habitats throughout the region. The HRE Study, which is authorized under WRDA, will consist of developing both a Comprehensive Restoration Implementation Plan (CRIP) and the implementation of restorations and enhancements throughout the estuary. The CRIP will serve as a blueprint for the Corps' restoration activities and is guiding multiple aspects of the project. It addresses eight study areas including:

- The Hudson River to Croton Bay,
- The Upper Bay,
- The East River,
- The western end of Long Island Sound,
- Newark Bay,
- The tidal Passaic and Hackensack Rivers,
- The Kill van Kull,
- The Arthur Kill,
- Lower Bay (to the Rockaway-Sandy Hook transect), and
- The tidal Raritan River.

In compliance with the **National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)**, the Corps and NJDOT intend to prepare an **Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)** for the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project. As part of that process, the partner agencies will hold a public scoping (information) meeting to provide the public with information and an opportunity for input on the project study.

After public scoping, the agencies will prepare an EIS. That document will reflect data collected, determine impacts, and develop alternative plans and the environmental impacts associated with them. The document will be published for public review and then a final decision document will be issued, which addresses the public's concerns and issues.

Figure 5 illustrates the major technical activities of the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project. Figure 6 illustrates the major technical activities of the Newark Bay Study. All activities will be coordinated among the partner agencies. Peer reviews will be conducted throughout the processes identified in Figures 5 and 6. This includes an evaluation of models, methods, risk assessments, injury assessment, feasibility study, etc.

FIGURE 5: Technical Activities – Lower Passaic River Restoration Project

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
Work Plan Development	Design of field programs and other tasks and development of plans to guide field work, laboratory analysis and chemical quality assurance, worker health and safety, and community outreach and involvement.
Preassessment Screen	An analysis of available data which allows trustees to affirm the need for continuing with a NRDAR.
Notice of Intent to Perform an Assessment	Formal public notice indicating trustees' intent to conduct an Assessment.
Restoration Opportunities Report	Identification and evaluation of restoration opportunities at each potential site.
Field Investigations	Sampling and characterization of water quality, bottom sediments, banks, existing wetlands and other habitat, adjacent upland sites, and various animals and plants in the Lower Passaic River and tributaries.
Environmental Dredging & Decontamination Pilot	Evaluation of environmental dredging in the Lower Passaic River to measure sediment resuspension, dredging performance and productivity, and sediment decontamination technologies.
Modeling	Design and application of computer models of the water flow, transport of sediments and contaminants, and chemical fate in fish and other animals that live in or near the Lower Passaic River watershed. Models will be used to evaluate current conditions and predict future conditions in order to conduct risk assessments and evaluate cleanup options and restoration opportunities. Models of storm runoff and river flow used to evaluate the feasibility and viability of identified restoration opportunities along the river's banks and tributaries may also be developed.
Human Health & Ecological Risk Assessment	Identification of exposure pathways for people and other organisms and determination of the risks and hazards to health potentially experienced from contact with the Lower Passaic River or eating fish caught there over time, assuming no cleanup and under various cleanup scenarios.
Remedial Investigation Report	Analysis and interpretation of the data collected to characterize the Lower Passaic River watershed.
Socio-Economic Studies	Evaluation of data collected to determine the costs and benefits of implementing identified environmental restoration opportunities, maintaining the Federal navigation channel in the Lower Passaic River, and economic revitalization.
Draft Assessment Plan Preparation	Development of a plan to assess and quantify injury. The plan provides a generic framework to ensure the damage assessment is performed in a planned and systematic manner and the methodologies chosen demonstrate reasonable cost.
Environmental Impact Statement Preparation	Development of a report outlining the environmental impacts of conducting identified restoration opportunities in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).
Feasibility Study	Identification and evaluation of alternatives for cleanup options and restoration opportunities.
Proposed Plan for Cleanup	Identification of preferred cleanup plan and alternatives evaluated, which undergoes public comment.
Record of Decision	Final decision to address cleanup of the contamination and restoration of the Lower Passaic River watershed.
Recommendation to Congress	Formal presentation of a recommended watershed plan to remediate and restore the Lower Passaic River following public comment on the Feasibility Study. Recommendations will include a mix of legal authorities to be used to implement the activities, such as CERCLA authority, including the polluter-pays principle, and WRDA authority, with funding from Energy and Water Appropriations Acts.
Injury Determination & Quantification Study	Additional studies needed to assess which resources are injured and to quantify the amount of the injury.
Damage Determination	A process to determine the amount of compensation required to restore injured natural resources.
Draft Restoration and Compensation Determination Plan / Environmental Assessment	Evaluation, selection, and justification of preferred restoration alternatives combined with elements to satisfy NEPA requirements.
Report of Assessment	A report prepared near the end of the NRDAR process that pulls together many of the elements, including injury and damages assessment and proposed restoration alternatives.
Final Restoration Plan	Preferred restoration actions following settlement.
Peer Reviews	Evaluation of models, methods, risk assessments, injury assessment, feasibility study, etc.

FIGURE 6: Technical Activities – Newark Bay Study

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
Work Plan Development	Design of field programs and other tasks and development of plans to guide field work, laboratory analysis and chemical quality assurance, worker health and safety, and community outreach and involvement.
Preassessment Screen	An analysis of available data which allows trustees to affirm the need for continuing with a NRDAR.
Notice of Intent to Conduct a NRDAR	Formal public notice indicating trustees' intent to conduct a NRDAR.
Field Investigations	Sampling and characterization of the water quality, bottom sediments, banks, existing wetlands and other habitat, and various animals and plants in Newark Bay and portions of the Hackensack River, Kill Van Kull, and Arthur Kill.
Modeling	Design and application of computer models of the water flow, transport of sediments and contaminants, and chemical fate in fish and other animals that live in or near the Newark Bay watershed. Models will be used to evaluate current conditions and predict future conditions in order to conduct risk assessments and evaluate cleanup options.
Human Health & Ecological Risk Assessment	Identification of exposure pathways for people and other organisms and determination of the risks and hazards to health potentially experienced from contact with Newark Bay or eating fish/shellfish caught there over time, assuming no cleanup and other various cleanup scenarios.
Remedial Investigation Report	Analysis and interpretation of the data collected to characterize the Newark Bay watershed.
Feasibility Study	Identification and evaluation of alternatives for cleanup options.
Proposed Plan for Cleanup	Identification of preferred cleanup plan and alternatives evaluated, which undergoes public comment.
Draft Assessment Plan Preparation	Development of a plan to assess and quantify injury. The plan provides a generic framework to ensure the damage assessment is performed in a planned and systematic manner and the methodologies chosen demonstrate reason-able cost.
Injury Determination & Quantification Study	Additional studies needed to assess which resources are injured and to quantify the amount of the injury.
Damage Determination	A process to determine the amount of compensation required to restore injured natural resources.
Record of Decision	Final decision to address cleanup of the contamination of the Newark Bay watershed.
Report of Assessment	A report prepared near the end of the NRDAR process that pulls together many of the NRDAR elements, including injury and damages assessment and proposed restoration alternatives.
Draft Restoration and Compensation Deter-mination Plan / Environmental Assessment	Evaluation, selection, and justification of preferred restoration alternatives, combined with elements to satisfy NEPA requirements.
Final Restoration Plan	Preferred restoration actions following public comment.

1.4 Community Profile

A community profile helps the partner agencies gain a greater understanding of the people, communities, and quality of life issues within the project areas. It also indicates the varieties of ethnic groups and cultural and lingual diversities, which can be helpful in ascertaining **environmental justice** issues. This community profile pays specific attention to ethnic/racial makeup, age, income, and educational levels. It also takes into consideration land use, industries, employment sources, infrastructure, and transportation.

The communities within the project areas extend from Clifton and Garfield in the northern suburbs, to the southern urban centers of Newark and Elizabeth, and Staten Island. An inclusive listing of the communities can be found in call-out boxes on pages 22 and 23. Populations and demographics in the areas vary by community and county and reflect a significant growth in recent immigrant populations, especially in and around urban centers.

The community profile taken together with information gathered during community interviews has led the partner agencies to identify specific populations of concern with regard to fishing and shell fishing for sustenance in both the Passaic River and Newark Bay. Most of these populations fall into the category of recent immigrants from South and Central America and the Caribbean. There are also significant African-American populations in the areas for whom fishing is a cultural tradition, as well as a way of putting food on the table.

The Ironbound Section of Newark historically has been and is still home to a sizeable Portuguese and Brazilian population. Covering approximately 4 square miles, it is often referred to as the East Ward. Portuguese roots run deep in the community. The first Portuguese immigrants began arriving in the 1910s, and by the 1930s there were over twenty Portuguese social clubs in the Ironbound. After another influx of Portuguese in the 1970s, the area has become a destination for immigrants from Brazil and other countries in Latin America. Today, many of the Ironbound's residents speak Portuguese as a first language; and have a tradition of fishing for both sport and sustenance. To make certain that this Lusophone (Portuguese-speaking) community is aware of the shellfish advisories in Newark Bay, signs in Portuguese warning against taking or eating local shellfish have been posted in and around local waters.

Physical Characteristics of the Project Areas

The Passaic River begins near Mendham, NJ where small streams come together to form a brook widening into a river that eventually winds its way for 80 miles in varying directions through seven counties and 45 municipalities. The river flows over the Great Falls in Paterson and eventually discharges into Newark Bay. At Hawthorn, the river forms the boundary between Passaic and Bergen Counties, and farther south between Essex and Hudson Counties. Downstream of Great Falls the Dundee Dam forms the northernmost boundary of the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project areas. Below the Dundee Dam at Garfield, the Saddle River joins the Passaic as it flows through Bergen, Hudson, and Essex Counties. At Harrison, it makes an S-curve to the northeast and then turns due south and unites with the Hackensack River as it empties into Newark Bay.

FIGURE 7: Lower Passaic River Area Map

FIGURE 8: Newark Bay Area Map

The Lower Passaic River watershed covers approximately 173 square miles in highly developed suburban/urban areas of Bergen, Essex, Hudson, and Passaic Counties. The Passaic River is tidal from the mouth at Newark Bay to Dundee Dam.

Newark Bay is a tidal back bay of New York Harbor, formed at the confluence of the Passaic and Hackensack Rivers. On its south end it is connected to Upper New York Bay by the Kill Van Kull, and to Raritan Bay by the Arthur Kill. It is enclosed on the west by the cities of Newark and Elizabeth and on the east by Jersey City and Bayonne, N.J. It is enclosed on its south by Staten Island.

The sediments of the Lower Passaic River and Newark Bay watersheds are contaminated with a variety of **hazardous substances**, including **dioxin**, **PCBs**, **mercury**, **DDT**, **pesticides**, and **heavy metals**, among others. Therefore, the entire Newark Bay region is under a fish/shellfish **advisory**. The Newark Bay region is composed of Newark Bay, the Hackensack, Passaic, Elizabeth and Rahway Rivers and the Arthur Kill and Kill Van Kull. The NJDEP has found that blue claw crabs from the Newark Bay region are contaminated with harmful levels of dioxin and PCBs, and that eating blue claw crabs from this region may cause cancer and harm brain development in unborn and young children. There are multiple causes, both chemical and non-chemical, some historical, some on-going today, of environmental degradation in the Passaic River and Newark Bay. Sediment contamination in the Passaic River and Newark Bay, and other problems being addressed by the partner agencies, came from numerous parties and sources over the past 100 years, including direct discharges via spills, runoff, groundwater migration, and outfall pipes, as well as indirect discharges through sewers, to name a few. Population growth and development pressures have also contributed to the degradation of the Passaic River and Newark Bay.

Advisories in this region for blue claw crabs are DO NOT CATCH! AND DO NOT EAT! Newark Bay itself is under a DO NOT EAT advisory for most fish (the advisory recommends that the general population should eat no more than one meal per year of American Eel, White Perch and White Catfish from Newark Bay and **high risk individuals** should not eat any).

The tidal Passaic River, from Dundee Dam to Newark Bay, is under a DO NOT EAT advisory for all fish and shellfish and under a DO NOT CATCH! AND DO NOT EAT! advisory for blue claw crabs.

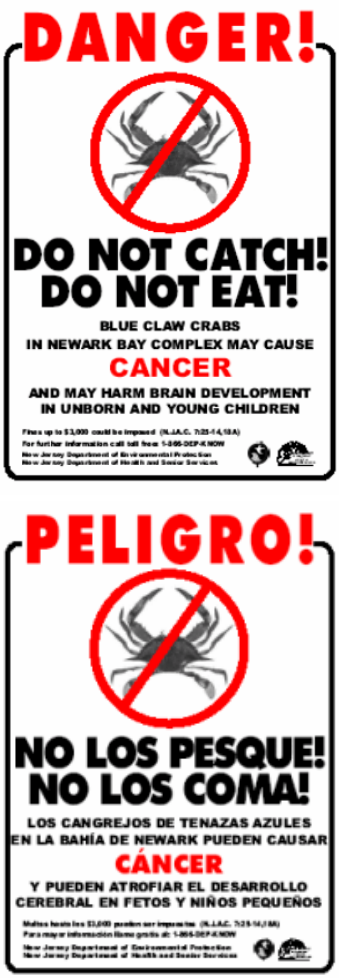


FIGURE 9: Fish/Shellfish Advisories

For more information on Fish/Shellfish Advisories call toll free 1-866-DEP-KNOW. Please refer to Appendix 15.

High risk individuals refer to women who are pregnant, or might become pregnant, breast-feeding women, and young children.

People found catching and eating crabs in this region are subject to a fine from the State of New Jersey. Fines range from $100 to $3,000 for the first offense. There are also fines for illegal fishing in these bodies of water.

Land Use Characteristics and Industry

Bergen County

Land use in Bergen County is 40 percent residential with 14 percent public and quasi-public open space and 12 percent undeveloped property. Commercial property accounts for only 3 percent of the total land use.

Bergen County holds the most private-sector jobs in the state of New Jersey, as well as the most manufacturing, wholesale/retail trade, and service industry jobs in the state. Service-producing industries dominate goods-producing industries by more than 335,000 employees. The area houses four major shopping malls and the Meadowlands Sports Complex.

In some sections land use is described on a county specific basis and thus, includes areas outside the Passaic watershed.

Bergen County land use applies to the following communities in the project areas: East Rutherford, Garfield, Lyndhurst, North Arlington, Rutherford, and Wallington.

Hudson County

Land use in Hudson County is evenly mixed between residential, industrial, vacant property, and streets/rights-of-way. Water occupies 9,840 acres or approximately one-fourth the total area of the county. Over the past several decades, Harrison and Kearny have suffered from factory closings and the decline of railroad use. Hudson County's top three service-producing industries are: (1) finance and insurance, (2) transportation and warehousing, and (3) retail trade. Manufacturing makes up a small declining sector of the labor market with 16,950 employees. The service sector has shown substantial growth in recent years and several Wall St. financial firms have relocated to the county.

Hudson County land use applies to the following communities in the project areas: Bayonne, Harrison, Jersey City, and Kearny.

Essex County

In Essex County the service sector dominates the goods-producing sector by more than 300,000 employees. Industries like construction and manufacturing once dominated its economy, but now represent a shrinking number of the county's labor force. The county houses two major transportation centers: Newark International Airport and the Port Newark/Elizabeth Marine Terminal. Several colleges and universities are located in Essex County, including: Montclair State University, Seton Hall University, Bloomfield College, the New Jersey In-

Essex County land use applies to the following communities in the project areas: Belleville, Bloomfield, Montclair, Newark, and Nutley.

stitute of Technology (NJIT), Essex County College, Rutgers, and the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey.

Passaic County

Land use in Passaic County is a combination of residential, commercial, and industrial properties. The communities of Passaic and Paterson are mixed-use urban areas with high population density. Similar to Essex, Bergen, and Hudson counties, service industries dominate goods-producing industries in Passaic County by more than 110,000 employees. Manufacturing accounts for 25,900 employees. Passaic County is home to William Paterson University and Passaic County Community College.

Passaic County land use applies to the following communities in the project areas: Clifton, Passaic, and Paterson.

Union County

The city of Elizabeth is located in Union County, NJ, a highly urban and densely populated area. The city, which occupies 11.7 square miles, is the county seat and the fourth largest city in the state. Both manufacturing and transportation sectors continue to fuel Elizabeth's economy today. The city features a deep-water port that can accommodate container vessels drawing up to 45 feet of water.

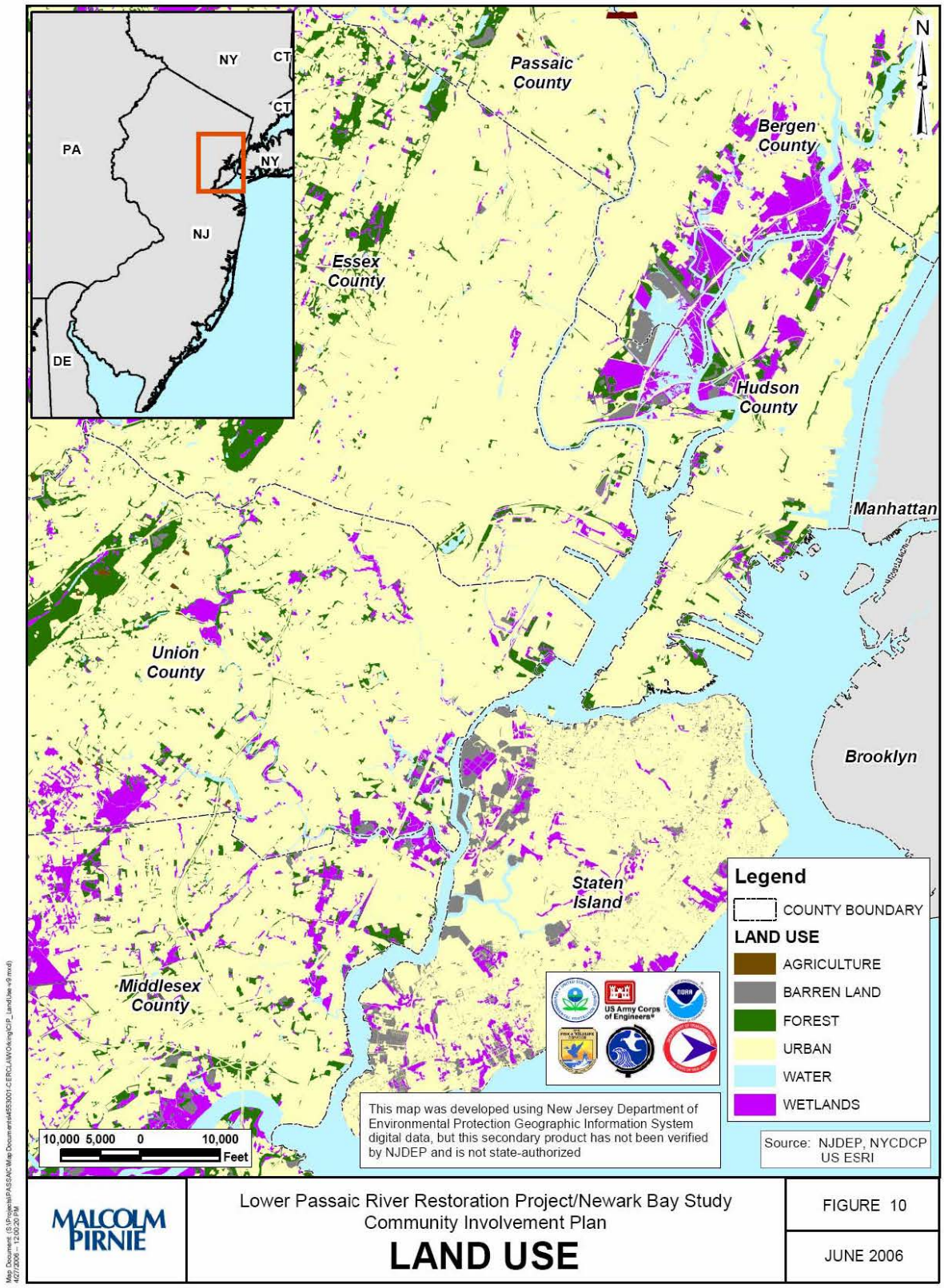
Union County land use applies to Elizabeth.

Staten Island

Staten Island is separated from New Jersey by the Kill Van Kull and Arthur Kill. The project areas include Staten Island's northern industrial communities located near the Goethals Bridge and the Bayonne Bridge. Dominant land use patterns in these communities include undeveloped land, manufacturing and industrial properties, and transportation and utility properties. Except for areas along the harbor, Staten Island remained relatively underdeveloped until the building of the Verrazzano Narrows Bridge in 1964.

Staten Island land use applies to the island's Northwestern communities.

FIGURE 10: Land Use Map



Public Infrastructure

Transportation Infrastructure

Cities and towns throughout the area are linked by a variety of major highways, including the New Jersey Turnpike and the Garden State Parkway. The entire area is well served by public transportation in the form of bus, train, and light rail service, and there is ferry service to and from New York City. In addition, Newark-Liberty International Airport, one of the nation's busiest international travel hubs, is located two miles south of downtown Newark.

Drinking Water, Sewers, and Power

The Lower Passaic River and Newark Bay are not used as sources of drinking water. Drinking water is supplied by a number of water companies including Passaic Valley Water Commission, United Water, and Newark Water. It is derived from a variety of reservoirs including, but not limited to the Oradell Reservoir, the Boonton Reservoir, and the Wanaque Reservoir. Power is provided by PSE&G. The sewer system is operated by the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commissioners (PVSC), in conjunction with the municipalities that may operate certain portions of the system.

PVSC: Passaic Valley Sewerage Commissioners operate one of the country's largest treatment plants for wastewater in northern NJ. The PVSC treatment plant is located on the banks of Newark Bay; its outfall flows into NY and NJ Harbor.

Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO)

Combined sewers are designed to carry sanitary sewage at all times and stormwater collected from streets and other sources. When it rains, however, combined sewer systems may not have the capacity to carry all of the stormwater and sanitary sewage, causing an overflow into the nearest water body. These untreated overflows can contain disease-causing organisms, floatable debris, toxic metals, chemicals, and solids, and can degrade water quality and adversely impact the environment. Combined sewer overflow (CSO) discharges have long been recognized as a significant source of water pollution. While much has been accomplished over the past 20 years in the area of wastewater treatment, CSOs continue to be a major environmental concern in the Passaic River and Newark Bay.

Recreation

Located in Rutherford, NJ near the project and study areas, the Meadowlands Complex is an important venue for sports, recreation, and entertainment for the states of New York and New Jersey. Bergen, Essex, and Hudson Counties are all home to numerous parks and

recreational facilities, many of which are attached to the universities and colleges throughout the area.

Rowing associations and boating groups use the Passaic River from the spring to the late fall, hosting and participating in regattas and races. Cultural arts flourish in the area and include the Montclair Museum and Williams Center for the Performing Arts in Rutherford, New Jersey. The city of Newark is home to the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC), located in the heart of downtown Newark.

Population and Demographics

Population

Population and demographics vary significantly throughout the **communities** located in the project areas. According to 2000 census data, the total population is 1,299,412 people with the largest populations in Newark (273,546), Jersey City (240,055), Paterson (149,222), and Clifton (78,642). The smallest populations exist in East Rutherford (8,716), Wallington (11,583), Harrison (14,424), and North Arlington (15,181). According to the U.S. Census, the population of Staten Island in 2003 was 459,737. A small percentage of this population resides within the project area.

Median: the middle value in a distribution, above and below which lie an equal number of values

Age

The **median** age of residents in the project areas is 37 years. Passaic (29 years) and Paterson (31 years), two communities in Passaic County, have the lowest median ages in the project areas. North Arlington (41 years) and Lyndhurst (40 years), two communities in Bergen County, have the highest median ages in the project areas. The median age of residents in Staten Island is 36 years.

When referring to median values for communities in the project areas, Staten Island is not included.

Household Income

The median household income of residents in the project areas is $47,757. The highest median household incomes are among residents in Montclair ($74,894), Rutherford ($63,820), and Nutley ($59,634). The lowest median household incomes are among residents in Newark ($26,913), Bayonne ($30,940), and Paterson ($32,778).

Populations in Poverty

Poverty data offers an important way to evaluate New Jersey's economic well being. Poverty is associated with poor health, decreased economic opportunity, and other factors that reduce the qual-

ity of life and inhibit economic growth. According to the New Jersey Sustainable State Institute, the percent of New Jersey residents living under the poverty line increased in the early 1990s to a high of 11 percent in 1994, and then decreased through the rest of the decade to eight percent in 2000. Poverty rates in New Jersey ran basically parallel to national rates, but were not as high.

The poverty line varies with the age and size of the household. In 2000, a family of four with one wage earner making $8.20/hour was considered to be at the poverty line. For comparison, New Jersey's minimum wage is $5.15/hour, so a family of four would have to have more than one minimum-wage worker to live above the poverty line. Because the poverty line is defined at the federal level (although the cost of living varies from state to state and is quite high in New Jersey), the national poverty level may underestimate the income required to live in New Jersey. In addition, there is considerable racial and ethnic imbalance in poverty levels. Blacks and Hispanics account for a disproportionate share of people living below the poverty line, despite the fact that this gap has decreased somewhat since the mid-1990s. This information is of particular concern, as related to urban communities within the project areas, where people may fish in local waters for sustenance and to supplement their diet with an inexpensive source of protein.

Refer to Appendix 17 for median household income data for communities in the project areas.

For more information on U.S. Poverty Guidelines, visit: http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/poverty.shtml

Race and Ethnicity

The racial composition of the project areas varies significantly by community and county. The racial composition of the project areas is 67 percent white, 12 percent black, 7 percent Asian, and 23 percent Hispanic. The communities in the project area portion of Bergen County have the highest percentage of white residents (at least 80 percent). These communities are: East Rutherford, Garfield, Lyndhurst, North Arlington, Rutherford, and Wallington. The communities of Newark (53%), Paterson (33%), Montclair (32%), and Jersey City (28%) have the highest percentage of black residents. The communities of Passaic (63%), Elizabeth (50%), Paterson (50%), and Harrison (37%) have the highest percentages of Hispanic residents. The communities of Jersey City (16%), Harrison (12%), Belleville (11%), East Rutherford (11%), and Rutherford (11%) have the highest percentage of Asian residents.

Staten Island is the most ethnically homogenous of the five boroughs with 68 percent of the population identified as white; 11 percent as black; 14 percent Hispanic; and 7 percent Asian. Approxi-

mately 27,000 people living on Staten Island speak a language other than English at home. The vast majority of the island's black and Hispanic residents live north of the Staten Island Expressway in the communities of Clifton; (which has become the center of an immigrant community from Liberia, and other West African countries); Mariners Harbor; New Brighton; and Port Richmond. The areas south of the Expressway are mostly white with much of the population of Italian descent.

Education

Among residents in the project areas aged 25 and older, approximately 75 percent graduated high school or achieved a high school equivalency or higher education. The communities of Montclair (92%), Rutherford (88%), and Nutley (87%) have the highest percentages of high school graduates/equivalency. The communities of

Passaic (56%), Paterson (59%), and Elizabeth (62%) have the lowest percentage of high school graduates/equivalency.

Among residents in the project areas aged 25 and older, approximately 24 percent achieved a bachelor's degree or higher. The communities of Montclair (57%), Rutherford (40%), and Nutley (33%) have the highest percentage of residents with bachelor's degrees or higher. The communities of Newark (11%), Elizabeth (12%), and Passaic (14%) have the lowest percentage of residents with bachelor's degrees or higher.

Immigrant and Minority Populations

As in other areas in the northeast, immigrant populations in the state of New Jersey have seen a marked increase in the past ten years. The Census Bureau estimated in July 2004 that New Jersey's population had increased by an annual average of about 66,000 residents since 2000. Of that number, 57,000 persons per year arrive via international migration.

The Census Bureau estimates that the foreign born population share in New Jersey was approximately 19 percent in 2003 and that about 42 percent of New Jersey's foreign born population has arrived since 1990. Most recent immigrants speak a language other than English at home. A significant proportion of these recent immigrants speak Spanish.

The Census Bureau estimated from its American Community Survey that in 2002 the foreign-born population of New Jersey was about

Universities and colleges in the project areas include: Montclair State University, Felician College, Bloomfield Community College, Rutgers University, New Jersey Institute of Technology, and Seton Hall.

Montclair University is home of the Passaic River Institute (PRI). Visit PRI at www.csam.montclair.edu/PRI/

FIGURE 11: Speakers of Foreign Languages at Home in NJ

Spanish	967,700
Italian	116,365
Polish	74,665
Portuguese	72,835
Tagalog	66,850
Chinese	66,415
Korean	55,340
Gujarathi	47,325
Arabic	47,050
French	45,675

(Source: Census Bureau report: Language Spoken at Home for the Population 5 Years and Over, April 2004)

1,585,200 people. The chart below shows the regions where these foreign residents originated.

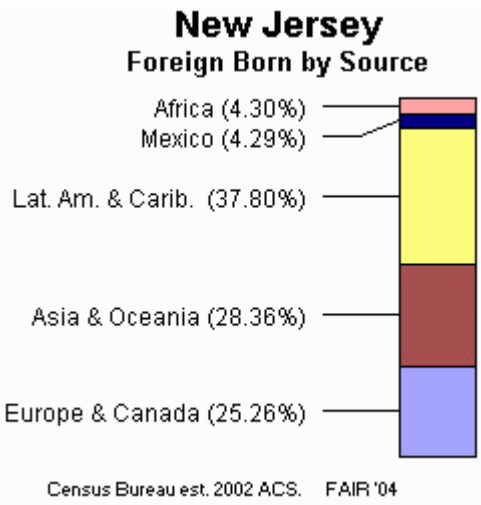
Immigrant Population Growth by County

Since 1990, the immigrant population of Hudson County grew by 70,000; Essex County grew by 54,000; Passaic County by 45,000; and Bergen County by 48,000. Most of these immigrants come from Spanish-speaking countries. As of April 1, 2000, municipalities with the largest Hispanic population were:

- Newark City, Essex County (80,622);
- Paterson City, Passaic County (74,774);
- Jersey City, Hudson County (67,952);
- Elizabeth City, Union County (59,627);
- Union City, Hudson County (55,226);
- Passaic City, Passaic County (42,387);
- West New York Town, Hudson County (36,038); and
- North Bergen Township, Hudson County (33,260).

Many immigrant groups from Spanish-speaking countries fish from local waters as part of their cultural legacy and are unaware or distrustful of warnings about the dangers of eating locally caught fish.

FIGURE 12: Foreign Born by Source



Populations in Poverty

According to the U.S. Census, many residents in the project areas live below the poverty line. In Bergen County five percent of residents live in poverty; in Essex County, 16 percent; in Hudson County, 15 percent; and in Passaic County, 12 percent. The City of Newark has the third highest unemployment rate among America's large urban centers. Approximately 28 percent of Newark's overall population lives in poverty and 45 percent of families with children live below or near the poverty line. Many of these populations encompass people in the black and Hispanic communities, including recent immigrants from South and Central America, the Caribbean, and Africa. Because many of these populations have a history and tradition of fishing for sustenance, they are populations of concern since fishing or shell fishing in the waters of the Passaic River and Newark Bay presents a significant health hazard.

Reaching the Entire Community

There are significant environmental justice issues in the project areas. These issues underscore the need to communicate project information to populations that lack an adequate working knowledge of English. This issue is most significant among Spanish speaking populations. The partner agencies will endeavor to provide English-Spanish translations of educational and informational materials wherever appropriate, including **public meetings** and **community** events.

Additional Populations of Concern

Homeless populations are living in several places along the Passaic River and around Newark Bay, as confirmed during many of the **community** interviews. Some of the homeless fish for sustenance. Areas where homeless populations congregate include: "Container City" near the Port of Newark, an area near Minish Park in Newark, and wooded areas near the Dundee Island in the northern project areas. The partner agencies – working with community organizations, faith-based groups, and municipalities – will seek to evaluate potential exposures to populations living in the area, including the homeless, and provide information regarding the risks associated with these exposures and how to reduce these exposures. Types of information that may be provided include the current Fish Consumption Advisories.

Part 2
Action Plan: Community Involvement Tools and Activities

2.1 History of Community Involvement

Involvement as a Local Process

The Lower Passaic River and Newark Bay communities have a long history of public involvement and interest in local environmental issues. Community concerns are voiced at regular meetings of county, municipal, and town boards, and as reflected in national trends, the public has become more aware and interested in environmental issues. A number of organizations in the project areas play an active role in a variety of environmental issues. Many of these efforts are centered on the Passaic River, the Hackensack River, the New Jersey Meadowlands, Newark Bay, and the New York/New Jersey Harbor Estuary. Environmental justice issues have also become prominent, particularly in urban communities such as the cities of Newark, Elizabeth, and Paterson. While many environmental organizations have historically been involved in environmental justice, local community development corporations and faith-based groups are increasingly more involved.

Some members of the community, particularly urban and immigrant populations, are distrustful of government agencies and are concerned that community involvement and outreach efforts will begin strongly, but fizzle out without closure. There are long-standing concerns that many residents are uninformed or misinformed regarding contaminants and health risks in the Passaic River and Newark Bay. The issue of fish and shellfish advisories has long been a major area of concern. Environmental justice issues have magnified with the growth of immigrant populations and the resounding note of

"study without end" and "it all takes too long" is prevalent among most community members.

County government has been an active participant in environmental issues within the project areas. The Essex County Environmental Center is one example of how local officials have been involved in outreach and education on the environment. There also exists a network of community groups that is in place; many local stakeholders are volunteers who organize and attend their organization's regular meetings.

Public Involvement at the Diamond Alkali Site

The 1983 discovery of dioxin at the 80 Lister Avenue property in Newark stimulated active community involvement at what would become the Diamond Alkali Superfund site, especially among residents of the Ironbound section of Newark. Figure 3, Project History, provides a glimpse of the nature of past community involvement with EPA and NJDEP at the Diamond Alkali Superfund site. The history of community involvement at the Diamond Alkali Superfund site is a significant part of the overall history of the Lower Passaic River Restoration and Newark Bay Study projects. The public has also been involved in addressing environmental issues at a number of other area sites which have contributed to the degradation of the Passaic River and Newark Bay. This CIP does not attempt to capture the complete history of community involvement at each site and source that has impacted the Lower Passaic River and Newark Bay.

In 1984, residents met with officials from EPA and NJDEP regarding local sampling and New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) brought a mobile van to the Ironbound section of Newark to provide residents with information about dioxin. Throughout this period, NJDOH and NJDEP distributed flyers and questionnaires in the community and answered questions regarding health concerns.

The community asked for easily accessible information on the Diamond Alkali site for both English and non-English speaking residents. In response, letters and flyers were printed in both English and Spanish and distributed throughout the community.

In 1987, EPA selected an interim remedy for the 80 and 120 Lister Avenue properties that included (1) construction of a slurry wall and flood wall around the properties; (2) installation of a cap over the properties; and (3) pumping and treating of groundwater to reduce the migration of contaminated groundwater. Prior to approving the

The Ironbound community is one of Newark's most highly industrialized and densely populated areas. Approximately two-thirds of its 50,000 inhabitants are foreign born and many speak Spanish and Portuguese.

design plans, EPA, at the request of the local community, explored the potential for implementing an alternative to the interim remedy selected in 1987. Innovative technologies as well as on and off-site thermal treatment were considered, but due to the nature of the contaminated materials, new technologies were judged to be inappropriate and no off-site option was available. While the alternative of on-site incineration was deemed technically feasible, the local community was strongly opposed to on-site incineration. Therefore, EPA approved the design plans for the interim remedy. Construction of the remedy began in April 2000 and was completed in December 2001.

A number of CIPs were developed for the site, including an initial CIP produced by NJDEP in 1987; and two (1992 and 1994) prepared by EPA. In 1994, EPA began publishing fact sheets in English, Spanish, and Portuguese in response to evolving community needs. Also in 1994, a **Community Advisory Group (CAG)**, the Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste, was established in order to provide a structured forum for public input and involvement.

In the early to mid-1990s, EPA awarded a total of $200,000 in grant monies to the states of New York and New Jersey to fund a program for community involvement, outreach, and education that focused on fish and shellfish advisories. In September 1994, an EPA **Technical Assistance Grant (TAG)** was awarded to the Ironbound Community Corporation (ICC) to assist the community in the interpretation of technical documents generated by the project. This TAG was closed out following the completion of the technical adviser's work, which focused primarily on the design and implementation of the interim remedy for the Diamond Alkali Superfund site. In 2003, concurrent with the formation of the partnership for the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project, EPA received an application for a TAG from the Passaic River Coalition (PRC). In 2004, EPA awarded a TAG to PRC in the amount of $50,000. This TAG will be used by PRC's technical adviser to review information, produce newsletters, and post reports on the Internet regarding EPA's periodic re-evaluation of the interim remedy for the Diamond Alkali Superfund site, the assessment of site contaminants, and the development of the remedial investigation/feasibility study for the Lower Passaic River and Newark Bay.

While more than 20 years have passed since attention was first focused on the Diamond Alkali site, many of the same community concerns, perceptions, and expectations remain. Concerns about human

health effects from dioxin are still present and are magnified when discussing local fish and shellfish advisories.

According to the 1987 NJDEP CIP, residents of the Ironbound community were generally distrustful of government with regard to cleanup capabilities and believed the government failed to effectively communicate and stay in touch with the community. There were also varying degrees of understanding regarding dioxin and other contaminants in the environment, and residents, local officials, and environmentalists felt that the public was largely unaware of the fish and shellfish advisories and continued to fish and crab in the Passaic River. During the community interviews conducted in 2004-2005 for this CIP, many of the same concerns that echoed throughout the 1980s and 1990s were raised again and again.

Public Involvement for Flood Control Projects

Flooding has long been a problem in the Passaic River Basin. Since colonial times, floods have claimed lives and damaged property. The most severe flood, the "flood of record," occurred in 1903, and more recent floods in 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, two in 1975, 1984, 1992, and 1999 were sufficiently devastating to warrant Federal disaster declarations. The flood of 1984 resulted in the loss of three lives and caused $562 million in damages (October 2001 dollars). Tropical Storm Floyd in September 1999 caused over $228 million in flood damages (October 2001 dollars).

For more than 70 years, the Corps has been involved in flood control projects in the Passaic Watershed. Public involvement has played a key role in the plan formulation and design process of the Corps Passaic River Flood Damage and Reduction Projects, including the Joseph G. Minish Passaic River Waterfront Park and Historic District, as well as the current Passaic River Basin Flood Management (Buyout) Project. As part of the Corps planning process during the study phase, public involvement and citizen participation have been incorporated into the open planning atmosphere. This is to include, but not be limited to: public meetings, correspondence with federal, state, local officials, and coordinating agencies, scoping meetings, formation of environmental advisory boards, site visits, media relations, and the development of materials such as fact sheets, newsletters, maps, and brochures.

In 1990, under the Passaic River Flood Damage Reduction Project, the Corps maintained an office in Hoboken, NJ to enhance communication and coordination between the Corps and the Passaic River Basin communities with regard to flood control initiatives. The Corps held a series of community meetings, created newsletters, project fact sheets, maps, and poster boards to illustrate the plans for a flood tunnel, as well as plans to create levees, flood walls, wetlands and to address environmental impacts. The Corps met with officials at the local, state, and federal levels in government to affirm support for the construction of the project.

The Corps also conducted a series of media interviews to maintain an open dialogue with the public to keep them informed of project status, potential buyouts in the floodplain, funding constraints and to address concerns regarding congressional authorization and project changes. The concept of the flood tunnel was the main source of concern with the general public and the Corps held several public meetings and met with several local interest groups over the years to specifically address their issues. Ultimately, due to lack of funding, the office closed in 1995 and the tunnel was never built.

However, the Corps still maintains several current flood control studies along the entire Passaic River Basin and has continued community involvement throughout all the projects.

2.2 Key Community Concerns

Overview of the Community Interview Process

Community interviews were conducted by the partner agencies from December 2004 through February 2005. Over 50 individuals were interviewed, many of which represented the views of thousands of local and regional individuals in their respective organizations, across a diversity of interests and geography at different locations in New Jersey including: Monmouth County, Keyport, Sandy Hook, Newark, Rutherford, Clifton, and New York City. The partner agencies sought input which reflected all points of view and carefully considered that input in developing this CIP. As the project and CIP evolve, more community interviews may take place. A series of questions were asked to ascertain community level of interest, knowledge, and concerns, while gathering public input on the development of a communications strategy and public involvement plan. (Community Interview Questions can be found in Appendix 16) The *Summary of*

The "Summary of Comments Heard During Community Interviews", April 2005, prepared by Malcolm Pirnie, is available on the project Websites at www.ourpassaic.org and www.ournewarkbay.org.

Comments Heard During Community Interviews, April 2005, prepared by Malcolm Pirnie, was used, in part, to develop this CIP, along with other information. The *Summary of Comments Heard* report contains summary information on the results of the interviews and who was interviewed. The following key community concerns capture the major points heard during the interviews, as captured in the report.

Key Community Concerns by Subject

Human Health and Quality of Life

Dispelling myths about the Lower Passaic and Newark Bay

- Concerns that the Lower Passaic River and Newark Bay are seen as "dead" and "not worth saving" by many in the community.
- Misunderstanding about the types of contamination present, their levels and pathways of exposure, and their immediate health risks.

Fish and Shellfish Advisories and Consumption of Contaminated Fish

- Confusion about the differences in fish and shellfish advisories between the states of New York and New Jersey. Many in the community believe that the advisories are not clear enough and that postings of the advisories are not numerous enough.

Environmental Justice Issues Pertaining to Health

- Fish and shellfish advisories not taken seriously by immigrant populations; many from Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean, living in the project areas, fish in their countries of origin without concern about contaminants and make the same assumption about waters here in the U.S.
- Distrust of government. Outreach to these communities must include agency spokespersons comfortable in Spanish language and culture.
- Concern for populations in urban communities within the project areas who fish for sustenance and have a strong cultural tradition of fishing for food and recreation.

Diamond Alkali Superfund Site and Other Sources of Contamination

- Concerns about the on-site encapsulation of contaminants at the Diamond Alkali site – the site is not really "clean", but is a "tomb".
- Concerns that dioxin and other contaminants from this site are still contributing to contamination in Newark Bay and the Lower Passaic River.
- Issues surrounding the public process at the Diamond Alkali site– it took too long, was not focused enough, and there were many unfulfilled promises.
- Some feel that those parties responsible for the contamination at the site have not really taken responsibility for the contamination.
- Redevelopment of the site is of interest and concern (e.g. Can the site be used? For what purposes?).
- Concerns that other Superfund sites (both federal and state) along the Passaic River and Newark Bay impact the contamination of both bodies of water. Are the impacts part of the studies? If so, how? If not, why?
- Important that PRPs acknowledge past mistakes that led to pollution of the river and bay. This is essential to public buy-in and trust of EPA. Stay away from adversarial situations.

River Access and Use (Boating)

- Lack of access to the Lower Passaic River is an issue contributing to apathy towards its cleanup and restoration.
- Desire to increase river access to encourage use of the river for recreation, sport, and pleasure boats. This includes usable boat ramps, docks, and piers for visiting craft of all sizes. This would help the public see the river as a living thing worthy of improvement.
- Access to the river needed to encourage communities to assume stewardship of it and work toward its restoration.
- Concerns that potential health issues such as skin contact with river sediment, mud, and water have not been fully explained by the authorities, especially for divers and rowers.

Recreation and Sport Fishing

- Overall concerns about eating locally caught fish and shellfish.
- Concerns by the sport fishing community that dredging will stir up contaminants in Newark Bay and interest in types of dredges used.
- Suggestions that fish sampling be geared to better understanding of migration patterns.
- Need for an agreement between state (New Jersey and New York) fish/shellfish advisories.

Economic Development and Green Spaces

- Interest in waterfront development to return businesses to depressed areas.
- Since most businesses do not face the river, the river becomes unimportant.
- Use of project monies for community restoration and revitalization projects urged.
- Concern that if redevelopment happens before remediation, recontamination of properties can occur.
- Partner agencies need to learn how to dovetail **remediation** with development, restoration, and revitalization projects.
- Lack of green spaces is seen as an environmental justice issue, especially in Newark.

Public Perception and Expectations

- Government agencies have a credibility problem with the public.
- Information provided by potentially responsible parties (PRPs) likely will be greeted with skepticism.
- Partner agencies must clarify to the public who the players are, what their jurisdictions and roles are.
- Concerns that this will be "yet another study without end."
- Interim action must be taken in the river or bay to win public confidence.

- Partner agencies need to be clear and honest if delays in the project arise.
- Agencies must keep things moving or public interest and support will decline or never develop.

Mechanics of Cleanup

- Partner agencies must communicate realistic scenarios about cleanup actions and goals. Is it truly realistic to believe that the Passaic will ever be fishable and swimable?
- Partner agencies must be up front about the mechanics of remediation – dredging will necessitate treatment, a treatment facility may be necessary, public must be made aware of this from the beginning, recruit the public in finding a sustainable suitable site.
- There are concerns and mistrust regarding interim remediation measures that may involve consolidating contaminants in one area on a permanent basis, as well as additional concerns about the process, cost, and the time required to implement interim consolidation measures.

Public Participation and Communication

Public Education

- Partner agencies must develop a strong program of public education about the Passaic River and Newark Bay with outreach to local schools and municipalities.
- Partner agencies should work closely with the academic institutions in the area.
- Urgency in the need for communicating the dangers of eating locally caught fish and shellfish.

Communication Tools and Methods

Community members recommended that the partner agencies:

- Develop an easy-to-read pamphlet or brochure about the Passaic River and Newark Bay.
- Provide Spanish translations for outreach materials.
- Discuss the project in terms of installments; don't let the project appear static.

- Use the Internet to provide information, but recognize its limitations (i.e. not all stakeholders use it or have access).
- Keep public meetings informal and to the point, lots of time for questions and answers.
- Do not do long drawn-out presentations; they lose people.
- Provide information in different formats to keep relationships alive.
- Make meeting presentations and materials available prior to public forums.
- Make meeting presentations and materials available to public on CDs. Make the project website fun.
- Hold public meetings at night or have double sessions – one in the afternoon, one in the evening.
- Create a CAG.
- Conduct **focus groups** and workshops.
- Create a project newsletter.
- Produce public service announcements (PSAs) for play on local radio and cable stations.
- Develop articles on the project for fishing and sports columns and magazines.

Networking

Interviews elicited recommendations to:

- Partner with existing programs of public education, such as local schools, community organizations, and youth organizations.
- Network with municipalities; participate in regularly held municipal meetings.
- Partner with already established watershed and regional authorities in education and outreach vehicles.
- Partner with environmental and civic organizations to announce project updates, meetings, and involvement opportunities.
- Participate in local events, cultural festivals, river clean-ups, etc.

- Partner with faith-based and immigrant organizations to reach low-income and minority populations.
- Sponsor/participate in boating regattas, rowing events, fishing tournaments.
- Participate in boat and sporting shows and exhibitions.
- Sponsor/participate in boat rides on the Passaic River and Newark Bay as a tool for educating the public.

Response to Community Concerns

Prior to and during the preparation of the CIP, the partner agencies responded to public concerns and interests in a variety of ways in order to keep the public informed about project issues and maintain a meaningful public dialogue. These activities represent ongoing efforts to keep the community engaged, involved and interested. Examples include:

- Developing this CIP as a comprehensive plan outlining one overall outreach and involvement program covering both the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project and the Newark Bay Study in response to public requests to do so.
- Opening the monthly Project Delivery Team (PDT) meetings for the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project to the public.
- Initiating dialogue with municipalities within the project areas to provide updates and ensure an open line of communication on project activities and plans.
- Starting the identification of and participation in community events, such as a recent "Environmental Justice Tour" of Newark, NJ, sponsored by Green Faith, a faith-based community organization.
- Activating a listserv, an electronic information distribution system to quickly provide the public with timely information on project developments and news.
- Creating project websites – www.ourpassaic.org and www.ournewarkbay.org – containing project background information, frequently asked questions, project updates and news, as well as a digital library of project documents and links to the partner agencies.

2.3 Communication Goals

The partner agencies are committed to involving the public in all stages of the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project and Newark Bay Study. Four major goals will guide the community involvement and outreach process:

Goal 1: Be Appropriate

Partner agencies endeavor to use the most appropriate communication methods and tools for each segment of the public because one size does not fit all.

Goal 2: Be Understandable

Partner agencies endeavor to use clear, consistent language when communicating with the public. Technical aspects and decision-making processes will be explained using everyday language.

Goal 3: Be Responsive

Partner agencies endeavor to respond to community questions and concerns by soliciting feedback from the audiences throughout the community involvement and outreach process. Every effort will be made to respond in a timely manner.

Goal 4: Be Accurate

Partner agencies endeavor to provide the public with accurate information. When new information is available, it will be relayed through the stakeholder network.

To attain these goals, the partner agencies will reach out to and seek to involve the public in the broadest sense – those community members, interest groups, and other organizations or institutions located in the project areas that are potentially affected by the project or problems being addressed through the project, or who closely identify with the cleanup or restoration efforts associated with the Lower Passaic River and Newark Bay. The stakeholders that constitute the "public" within the project areas include:

- Community members, including homeless populations
- Elected officials
- Environmental organizations
- Academia

- Science foundations
- Business/Economic development organizations
- Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs) / Cooperating Parties
- Local, state, and federal agencies
- Civic/community groups
- Local media
- Sports/recreational clubs

The partner agencies will seek to use state and local officials to assist in community outreach and involvement in order to increase the frequency and consistency of communications. Partner agencies also will routinely coordinate with and brief local officials to ensure they are informed about all major aspects of the project and opportunities for input into decision-making.

2.4 Community Involvement Tools and Outreach Activities

FIGURE 13: Public Involvement Commitments

	Commitment
1	Provide the public with accurate, timely, and understandable information and/or access to the information needed to understand the project as it moves forward.
2	Provide the public with the opportunity to give informed and meaningful input.
3	Ensure adequate time and opportunity for the public to provide input and for that input to be considered.
4	Respect and give full consideration to community input.
5	Assist the public in understanding the project decision-making process and the community's role in that process throughout all phases of the project from start to finish.

Outreach efforts will place a strong emphasis on collaborating with a network of information disseminating partners, including community groups, environmental organizations, local government, and other local and regional stakeholder groups that are interested in sharing project information with their constituents. The tools and activities in this CIP potentially apply both to the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project and to the Newark Bay Study, where it makes sense to do so. Some materials and activities may address one project, while others address both. The CIP does not attempt to prescribe how or when each tool and activity will be used. Flexibility is needed. That level of detail will be provided in the Roadmap, fact sheets, and websites, to name a few.

The partner agencies have identified a wide variety of community involvement and outreach tools and activities based on input given during the community interview process and previous experience with similar projects. The objectives of these tools and activities generally fall into one or both of the two following categories:

- **Involvement and Input** – How the partner agencies encourage public participation in the project and how they receive information from the public**.**
- **Outreach** – How the partner agencies share information with the public and how they promote awareness and education about the project.

FIGURE 14: Examples of Involvement, Input, and Outreach Tools

	INVOLVEMENT & INPUT	OUTREACH	INVOLVEMENT,INPUT, & OUTREACH
PURPOSE	To encourage public participation in the project and solicit feedback	To share information with the public and promote awareness and education	To encourage public participation, solicit feedback, share information, and promote awareness and education
EXAMPLES	▪ Public comment period ▪ Public input ▪ Surveys / focus groups ▪ Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) ▪ Technical Outreach Services for Communities (TOSC) ▪ Toll-free hotline	▪ Fact sheets ▪ Field notifications ▪ Information repositories ▪ Mailing list updates and maintenance ▪ Maps and visual aids ▪ Media notification / media events ▪ Newsletters ▪ Public notices ▪ Public service announcements (PSAs) ▪ Project site visits / tours ▪ Public TV / public access TV ▪ Project Websites ▪ Project roadmap ▪ School / educational outreach ▪ Speakers' bureau ▪ Video production	▪ Community Advisory Group (CAG) ▪ Community events ▪ Coordination with local government and other agencies ▪ Email ▪ Environmental justice activities ▪ Public availability sessions & forums ▪ Public meetings ▪ Stakeholder group interaction ▪ Workshops / seminars / symposia

Involvement and Input

Public Comment Period

Description: This is a formal opportunity for community members to review and comment on various agency documents or actions. Comment periods are legally required for, among other things, proposed plans, **consent decrees**, and the addition to or deletion of a site on the **National Priorities List (NPL).**

Goal: Provides an opportunity for the public to give meaningful input in the decision-making process.

Method: The partner agencies will announce each comment period through one or more of the following methods: public notices in local newspapers, listserv notifications, and fact sheets to ensure that the public has sufficient opportunity to understand what is being presented, when comments will be accepted, how long the comment period will be open, and how to submit comments.

Public Input

Description: Written communications and informal discussions with agency staff are just some ways the public and the partner agencies can communicate about the project. This open line of communication is important to gain better understanding of the public's concerns and needs, so that they can be addressed efficiently and effectively.

Goal: Verbal comments and letters provide continued opportunity for the public to give input and allow the partner agencies to recognize trends in issues of public concern and identify areas that require information and clarification.

Method: Informal comments can be offered at any time, such as during availability sessions, open houses, community visits, and workshops. See Appendix 3 for partner agency contact information. Written comments may be submitted via mail or email.

Surveys/Focus Groups

Description: The partner agencies will consider conducting print or telephone surveys to solicit public feedback. They will also consider conducting focus groups to "tap into" public concerns, issues, and feedback regarding the project or specific issues within the project (i.e., fish/shellfish advisories).

Goal: Surveys and focus groups allow the partner agencies to continue to identify and address community concerns and issues pursuant to the project and also serve as a "snapshot in time" of the effectiveness of agency communication with the public and the establishment of meaningful dialogue. The partner agencies may also use this tool to gauge public concern/opinions about various key issues that have been raised, such as communications and the relationship between the public, agencies, and the PRPs, as well as land use and redevelopment issues.

Method: Random surveys may be used as necessary, particularly in communities that have questions and concerns about the project, but may not have had much access to other community involvement and outreach activities. Focus groups may be helpful in assisting the agencies in ascertaining public awareness and feelings about specific issues within the project scope, such as fish advisories, environmental justice issues, and specific populations of concern.

Technical Assistance Grant (TAG)

Description: A TAG provides money to community groups so they can pay for technical advisors to interpret and explain technical reports, site conditions, and EPA's proposed cleanup proposals and decisions at Superfund sites. An initial TAG of up to $50,000 is available for any Superfund site that is on the EPA's NPL or proposed for listing on the NPL where a response action has begun. As specified in Superfund Section 117(e), there can be only one TAG for each Superfund site. When the grant recipient changes, however, (e.g. when EPA or the recipient terminates the original TAG), the process of applying for a TAG starts over.

In 2004 EPA awarded a TAG to the Passaic River Coalition (PRC) in the amount of $50,000. This TAG will be used by PRC's technical adviser to: review information, produce newsletters, and post reports on the Internet. These reports will address the re-evaluation of the interim remedy for the land portion of the Diamond Alkali Superfund site (conducted every two years), the assessment of site contaminants, and the development of the RI/FS for the Lower Passaic River and Newark Bay.

The Passaic River Coalition formed in 1969 to seek positive results and improvements in land-water resource management, and in public health organizations, governments, and businesses in the Passaic Watershed. To learn more about the Passaic River Coalition, visit www.passaicriver.org.

Goal: The goal of a TAG is to help improve a community's understanding of the environmental conditions and cleanup activities at Superfund sites and to address community concerns about the future of the Diamond Alkali site, as well as its relationship to the contamination of the Lower Passaic River and Newark Bay.

Method: The TAG recipient, PRC, is responsible for providing technical assistance regarding the entire Diamond Alkali Superfund site, which includes the 17-mile tidal reach of the Lower Passaic River, as well as Newark Bay. EPA will monitor the TAG work and will assist PRC in identifying as broad a cross-section of communities in the project areas to benefit from assistance under the TAG as is feasible.

Technical Outreach Services for Communities (TOSC)

Description: Communities in the project areas may request additional technical assistance through the Technical Outreach Services for Communities (TOSC) program. TOSC is a university-based outreach program that provides independent technical information and education based on science and engineering to communities that are affected by hazardous substances, but that are not eligible for the TAG program. Services are provided through Hazardous Substance Re-

search Centers (HSRCs). TOSC does not provide community groups with funds to hire technical advisers; rather, it provides the services of technical experts on staff at universities that are part of the HSRCs. The TOSC program:

- Assists community members in becoming active participants in cleanup and environmental development activities.
- Provides independent and credible technical assistance to communities affected by hazardous waste contamination.
- Reviews and interprets technical documents and other materials.
- Sponsors workshops, short courses, and other learning experiences to explain basic science and environmental policy.
- Informs community members about existing technical assistance materials, such as publications, videos, and websites.
- Offers training to community leaders in facilitation and conflict resolution among stakeholders.
- Creates technical assistance materials tailored to the identified needs of a community.

Goal: Empower communities with an independent understanding of the underlying technical issues related to hazardous substance contamination so that they may participate substantively in the decision-making process. This results in decisions that address public values and concerns, are technically and economically feasible, and are environmentally sound. Engagement in the TOSC program also assists in addressing the community's continuing concerns about the contamination at the Diamond Alkali site and how this may impact the Lower Passaic River and Newark Bay.

Method: Communities are encouraged to work with others in their community to coordinate requests. Communities in the project areas may contact the TOSC program by telephoning or sending an e-mail note to the below number and email address for the HSRC that serves the Northeast U.S., which is led by Johns Hopkins University.

Dr. Hedy Alavi, Associate Director
Email: hedy.alavi@jhu.edu
Phone: 410-516-7091
Fax: 410-516-8996

TOSC information line: 410-516-6224

Requests are evaluated against a number of criteria to determine if technical assistance can be provided. More information on the TOSC program and the criteria used to evaluate requests are available at www.toscprogram.org/tosc-overview.html

Toll-free Hotline

Description: The partner agencies will establish a toll-free hotline available to the public. It will provide recorded project information in both English and Spanish and will provide connection to the appropriate partner agency representative.

In the interim, until the project toll-free hotline is established, the public can call the following toll-free number, which is maintained by EPA: 1-800-346-5009.

Goal: To provide the public with a direct method of communication between the community and the partner agencies, particularly for those who do not use the Internet or have access to it.

Method: The public can phone the toll-free number (which will be posted in all outreach publications, signs, posters, and on the www.ourpassaic.org and www.ournewarkbay.org websites) to find out about upcoming meetings, where to get information about the project, and to speak with a partner agency representative or leave a voicemail message.

Outreach

Fact Sheets

Description: Fact sheets, also called project updates, are brief documents written in plain language, often containing user-friendly graphics, to help the public understand highly technical reports, concepts, and information.

Goal: Provide information about the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project and Newark Bay Study in an easy-to-understand format. The use of fact sheets will also serve to address the concerns communicated by the public about the influence of the Diamond Alkali site on the Lower Passaic River and Newark Bay, as well as the future of the Diamond Alkali site, and the role played by the PRPs. Additionally, fact sheets will clarify the roles and jurisdictions of the partner agencies and also provide vital information to the public regarding health issues surrounding both the Lower Passaic River and Newark Bay.

Method: Fact sheets will be produced throughout the life of the project to keep the public informed and educated on it and the decision-making process. Fact sheets are provided to the public through direct mailings, Web postings, and at public forums. As needed, the

partner agencies will provide translation of fact sheets and project updates into Spanish and/or Portuguese if indicated.

Field Notifications

Description: This type of information consists of advisories, restrictions, and explanatory signs posted to clearly mark for the public any project work areas and access restrictions.

Goal: These notifications are intended to keep the public informed of project field activities and maintain public safety. They will address the specific key public concern of the potential health issues related to the Lower Passaic River and Newark Bay, such as skin contact with water and mud, especially for swimmers, divers, and rowers.

Method: All advisories, signs, and restrictions to access or project work areas will be clearly posted and may be translated into languages other than English should that need arise. Health and Safety Plans will also be used to inform and maintain a safe environment for both the public and project workers.

Information Repositories

Description: Information repositories are located in local public buildings such as libraries, universities, or government offices where site-related and supporting documents are available for public review. Information repositories for the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project and Newark Bay Study are located at EPA Records Center, Newark Public Library, and Elizabeth Public Library (see Appendix 11).

Goal: Provide accessible public locations at which residents can read and copy official documents.

Method: The partner agencies will maintain the information repositories, adding documents and information as they become available.

Mailing List Updates and Maintenance

Description: The partner agencies have a large mailing list of individuals, organizations, and elected officials who may have an interest in the project. Through a variety of methods, additional mailing addresses will be solicited from community members interested in receiving information about the project through the mail.

Goal: Keep contact information current and expand community and stakeholder access to project information to the widest audience.

Method: Direct solicitation via community poster or postcard mailing, coordination with elected officials and community organizations using constituent mailing lists, sign-in sheets from public meetings and availability sessions, and by contacting the memberships of local organizations asking them to have their members sign up. The partner agencies (with contractual assistance from Malcolm Pirnie, Inc.) will maintain the mailing list to ensure accuracy. Community members who would like to be on the mailing list should notify the Public Affairs representatives for the Corps and EPA listed in Appendix 3 and in the Preface of this plan.

Maps and Visual Aids

Description: Maps and visual aids help people understand the geography of the site and locations of activities and resources, especially in relation to where they live, work, and attend school.

Goal: To communicate complex issues simply and effectively.

Method: Inclusion of maps, photographs, and other visual aids in documents and fact sheets, at public sessions, and on the website.

Media Notification/Media Events

Description: The partner agencies will provide updates and information to local newspapers, radio, and television outlets.

Goal: To reach a large audience quickly and reinforce important messages and information related to the project.

Method: The partner agencies will coordinate with key stakeholders to ascertain the best media outlets to reach the optimum audience, make certain that the entire project areas are covered by those outlets, and that the information presented is concise and understandable.

Newsletters

Description: Newsletters are less technical, more community-oriented, and may include articles, columns, and photographs.

Goal: To meet community information needs by keeping the public informed and up to date, and regularly providing information to people who do not have computer and Internet access. Newsletters

will serve to enhance the public knowledge base on issues regarding project status and information.

Method: Distribution via listserv (email distribution system) and posted on www.ourpassaic.org and www.ournewarkbay.org websites. Print copies also will be made available at public meetings and forums on the project and will be provided to stakeholder organizations, which will help achieve a broader reach. Newsletters also will be mailed, on a limited basis, to those on the mailing list. The partner agencies will review the efficiency and effectiveness of mailing newsletters on this project and will consult with stakeholders in deciding how this tool will be implemented. Mail recipients will periodically receive a note with the mailing asking if they prefer to receive newsletters via listserv or the website. Recipients may contact the partner agencies and ask to be removed the mailing list.

Public Notices

Description: Widely distributed announcements of public comment periods, public meetings, and major project milestones.

Goal: Communicate an important announcement to as many people as possible.

Method: Public notices will be used to announce public comment periods and public meetings using a wide variety of places and methods, such as: listserv notices, project website announcements, press releases, and newspaper display ads. The partner agencies will also reach out to stakeholder and community groups to request their assistance in getting out the word.

Public Service Announcements (PSAs)

Description: Radio PSAs will be used to announce project news and provide basic information about upcoming public meetings and forums being held by the partner agencies on the project. Local public access television is also a medium that will be used as appropriate.

Goal: To distribute project information to a broad audience, including non-English speakers.

Method: The partner agencies will produce PSAs, and working with appropriate local media, ensure that the announcements are delivered to as wide an audience as possible. PSAs will incorporate a reminder message, where feasible and appropriate, regarding fish/shellfish advisories in effect for the Newark Bay and Lower Passaic River study areas.

Project Site Visits/Tours

Description: Small groups can be given guided tours to view project activities (such as sampling) when such tours are appropriate, feasible, and safe.

Goal: Site visits and demonstrations provide the public with a good, working understanding of project work and conditions. Bringing the public to the project areas and demonstrating and/or discussing project activities in the field will provide project updates and address community concerns and myths that surround the Lower Passaic River and Newark Bay.

Method: Partner agency staff will conduct tours within the project areas to explain field activities and why they are important to the project. There may be activity or location-specific circumstances, however, where the partner agencies have to limit activities or areas visited, due to health and safety requirements.

Public Television/Public Access Television

Description: The partner agencies will consider using public access and public television programs to provide project information and public interaction via shows focused on the community, quality of life, health issues, sport fishing, and various ethnic groups.

Goal: Increase awareness and understanding of the project among a broad audience. Specifically useful in dispelling myths about the Lower Passaic River and Newark Bay and also in raising awareness of health advisories, environmental justice issues, and in encouraging community stewardship of the river and bay.

Method: The partner agencies will explore relevant program venues and contact the producers of those shows to promote interest in the project.

Project Websites

www.ourpassaic.org and www.ournewarkbay.org

Description: Internet access to technical reports, progress reports, and updates on the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project and Newark Bay Study are available on the partner agencies' websites: www.ourpassaic.org and www.ournewarkbay.org . The sites also provide links to the websites of the partner agencies and to other related sources of information.

Goal: The www.ourpassaic.org website and www.ournewarkbay.org website provide key resources for accessing both general and specific information about the projects, the partner agencies, and public outreach activities. Access to the websites is available through home and public computers at libraries throughout the project areas.

Method: The partner agencies will post project updates, notices, and technical documents in as timely a manner as practicable. Notice of all public meetings and forums and announcements related to the project will be posted immediately. The website will be updated and enhanced regularly. The partner agencies will periodically solicit input from the public at **public forums** and workgroup meetings on how to make the website more fun, interesting and useful. Feedback to the website contacts will also be encouraged.

Visit: www.epa.gov/espanol, www.epa.gov/superfund, and www.gov/kids for more information.

Project Roadmap

Description: Over the course of the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project and Newark Bay Study, a significant amount of technical work will be performed and many technical documents will be developed, providing a basis for cleanup and restoration decisions. The roadmap will describe the major project activities in each of the three project components – cleanup, injury assessment, and restoration. It will include a listing of the reports that will be prepared during the study phase of both the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project and Newark Bay Study. The roadmap will contain a description of the major issues addressed in each report and highlight some of the planned public involvement activities.

Goal: The intent of the roadmap is to illustrate the general sequence of events that take place over the period of time leading up to and including the decision-making process for the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project and Newark Bay Study. The roadmap functions as an important tool to assist the public in understanding the flow of the project, as well as the various types of documents that are part of the process, such as documents that are informational, reference materials, or open to public comment. By illustrating the project in "installments", the roadmap aids in addressing the public concern of how to best communicate the project over time.

Method: The partner agencies will create the project roadmap as a stand-alone document that will be periodically updated as work progresses.

School/Educational Outreach

Description: The partner agencies will provide project information to local schools and academic institutions and will work with existing educational programs to "piggyback" project information and identify additional opportunities for environmental education.

Goal: Educational outreach helps bring project awareness to new audiences and builds bridges between the agencies and various constituencies within the community. Engaging students and teachers will assist in addressing a number of community concerns such as: countering the negative myths about the Passaic River and Newark Bay, sharing important information about fish and shellfish advisories with populations of concern, raising awareness of environmental justice issues, and encouraging environmental stewardship.

Method: Educators and students can request a visit to their school by partner agency staff. Agency staff will also maintain an open line of communication with groups that provide environmental education to local schools and partner with them when appropriate.

Speakers' Bureau

Description: A speakers' bureau will provide the public with a roster of experienced professionals from the partner agencies who will make themselves available as speakers on the various aspects of the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project and Newark Bay Study.

Goal: To provide another avenue of information about the projects to the public by having members of the partner agencies speak and/or give presentations to audiences outside the venue of the public meeting or public forum. Additionally, having speakers address the community will produce positive outcomes. First, it will enhance communication about key public concerns like the future of the Diamond Alkali site and its influence on the Lower Passaic River and Newark Bay. Next, it will clarify the roles of the various agencies and parties involved. It will also raise awareness about health advisories and encourage public involvement and interest over the life of the project.

Method: The partner agencies will: identify professionals fluent in the various aspects of the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project and Newark Bay Study, create a roster of speakers from this list, and make them available by request, to business groups, civic organizations, schools, and municipalities, among others, who want to know more

about the work that is being performed and how it affects them and their community.

Video Production

Description: The partner agencies will inventory and compile a listing of existing, relevant videos and will also consider producing informational and educational videos regarding the project and issues of public concern to the extent that existing videos do not sufficiently achieve the goal of this tool. Examples of subjects addressed in videos would be cleanup technology demonstrations, restoration work examples, before and after, etc. The inventory of videos will be posted on the project websites.

Goal: Educational videos provide the community with an excellent audio-visual tool to aid their understanding of the project, especially with regard to technical and scientific issues. Videos can explain more complex issues using a variety of effects including computer generated animation to provide information that is easily understood and digested by a broad audience comfortable with the medium.

Method: Educational videos can be used at public forums and meetings, as well as be distributed to schools, universities, and civic organizations to communicate a broad picture of the project and the individual issues contained within it. Videos can also be made available at public libraries and distributed to the media.

Involvement and Input Integrated with Outreach

Community Advisory Group (CAG)

Description: A CAG is made up of representatives of diverse community interests who serve as liaisons for their communities and constituents. A CAG can assist the partner agencies in making better decisions on how to clean up a site. It offers a unique opportunity to hear—and seriously consider—community preferences for site cleanup and restoration. The existence of a CAG, however, does not eliminate the need for the partner agencies to keep the community informed about plans and decisions throughout the cleanup and restoration process.

There is a wealth of information on EPA's Superfund Website about forming a CAG. Please visit http://www.epa.gov/superfund/tools/cag/index.htm

Whether, and when, to form a CAG is the community's decision. The partner agencies will periodically gauge the community's interest level in forming a CAG for this project. Should the community ex-

press a high level of interest and choose to form one; the partner agencies will provide assistance in forming and maintaining the CAG.

There are a number of factors that go into consideration of CAG formation (e.g. level of interest, presence of many competing interests, time period the CAG would be in existence, and whether any existing broad-based group might function as a CAG). Currently, non-agency stakeholder groups representing a wide variety of community and project-related interests attend regular meetings of the Lower Passaic & Saddle River Alliance and the Project Delivery Team (PDT). The Lower Passaic & Saddle River Alliance meets regularly in the project areas to discuss watershed issues, as well as issues pertaining to the Passaic River and Newark Bay. The PDT meets on a regular basis and is made up of partner agency representatives. The meetings are open to the public. The partner agencies will further cultivate and encourage public involvement in them as vehicles for meaningful public participation and dialogue.

Goal: Provide a public forum for community members to present and discuss their needs and concerns related to the decision-making process. This tool will also provide the community with an arena to raise issues already voiced as key concerns. These concerns include land use and redevelopment and coordination with local municipalities and officials.

Method: The partner agencies will initially utilize regular group meetings, such as those of the Lower Passaic & Saddle River Alliance and the PDT meetings to further interaction between the agencies and the public by announcing meetings and forums via project websites and emails. If a CAG is formed, the partner agencies will assist the CAG, if requested, with administrative support on issues relevant to cleanup and restoration activities. This may include support for: arranging and documenting meetings, preparing and distributing meeting notices and agendas, duplicating project-related documents for CAG review, maintaining CAG mailing/distribution lists, and providing translation and meeting facilitation services when needed and deemed feasible by the partner agencies.

Community Events

Description: The partner agencies will attend community events such as fairs, festivals, boating regattas and races, and cultural festivities to distribute information and answer questions.

Goal: Build and maintain good relationships with residents. These events also allow the partner agencies to understand the variety of cultures that populate the project areas. Community events also serve to enhance awareness about environmental justice issues and allow the partner agencies to interact with populations of concern.

Method: The partner agencies will supply, staff, and provide information at a booth or table at appropriate events.

Coordination with Local Government and Other Agencies

Description: The partner agencies will coordinate with local government and other state and federal agencies to keep them informed of project activities and obtain feedback on their concerns. Communication with these representatives will continue through the life of the project.

Goal: To ensure that local government officials and other state and federal agencies are kept informed of project activities and issues that may impact their constituencies. Ongoing coordination with local governments and other agencies will address communities' concerns regarding green spaces, land use, restoration, and redevelopment issues that may be associated with the projects. Coordination will also foster agreement among local health advisories and clarify the roles played by various governmental entities.

Method: Partner agency representatives will keep an open line of communication with local officials and agency staff via meetings and regular dialogue.

Email

Description: Electronic mail can be used to contact agency representatives for information or to ask questions and receive answers about the projects.

Goal: This provides another method to assist the public in providing input or requesting information.

Method: Email addresses and links are provided on the project websites at www.ourpassaic.org and www.ournewarkbay.org and email contact information for the partner agency technical and public affairs contacts will be included in the outreach materials.

Environmental Justice Activities

Description: Environmental justice activities encourage participation from communities that may have been disproportionately im-

pacted by polluting facilities. This is especially important because members of low income and non-English speaking communities in and around the project areas continue to catch and eat fish and shellfish from the Lower Passaic River and Newark Bay.

Goal: To raise awareness of the dangers of eating locally caught fish, explore the issue of development and green spaces, and to bring populations of varying ethnic, racial, and economic backgrounds into the public process.

Method: By studying the demographics presented in the Community Profile, the partner agencies will ascertain ways to reach low-income and minority populations. Examples include printing public notices and fact sheets in languages other than English, working with agencies and community organizations that serve these populations, and enlisting their help at public forums and meetings. To address issues of trust between immigrant communities and governmental agencies, the partner agencies will endeavor to utilize representatives that speak Spanish, are of Hispanic heritage or who strongly identify with Hispanic culture and tradition. The partner agencies will network with cultural, faith-based, and social organizations to act as a conduit of information from the project to the populations of concern and to host agency personnel at local events.

For more information on demographics, visit Appendix 17.

Public Availability Sessions and Forums

Description: Public availability sessions and forums are informal sessions open to the general public that may feature: posters, displays, presentations, question-and-answer sessions, and interaction between agency staff and the public. No court reporters or meeting transcripts are required, although meeting summaries may be made available to the public via newsletters and progress reports. Because of the high level of public interest in the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project and Newark Bay Study, the partner agencies will go beyond minimum requirements by holding public availability sessions and forums on key project decisions or issues.

Goal: To create an atmosphere of education, inquiry, and dialogue between the community and agency representatives in a comfortable setting that can provide public feedback to the partner agencies and may reveal issues of public confusion or misunderstanding.

Method: The sessions will be conducted as needed and will be held at convenient locations and times. Whenever possible, public notice will be given at least two weeks before scheduled public availabil-

ity sessions. These notices will be posted on www.ourpassaic.org and www.ournewarkbay.org websites and may also be featured in local print, radio, television, and Internet media.

Public Meetings

Description: Public meetings are structured, formal meetings, often required by law, that are open to the general public, featuring a presentation and interaction with the public. Public meetings may feature the use of a court reporter and the issuance of meeting transcripts.

Goal: To provide personal contact with agency representatives, update the community on site developments and address community concerns, ideas, questions, and comments.

Method: The partner agencies will schedule, prepare for, and attend all announced meetings. Whenever possible, public notice will be given at least two weeks before scheduled public meetings.

Stakeholder Group Interaction

Description: The partner agencies will coordinate with and upon request, attend meetings of stakeholder groups.

Goal: This interaction helps ensure that members of these organizations receive the information that they need and that the partner agencies receive their input and understand their concerns. Interaction with stakeholder groups builds bridges of communication across various constituencies and can extend the outreach capabilities of the partner agencies. It also serves to address community concerns about reaching populations who may fish for recreation and sustenance in local waters. In addition, stakeholder group interaction will enhance communication between the public and the partner agencies; keep the public involved on issues of area redevelopment, technical, and scientific research; and serve as an overall tool to keep the projects moving forward.

Method: The partner agencies will regularly coordinate with and upon request, attend meetings of stakeholder groups, based on agency availability.

Workshops/Seminars/Symposia

Description: Workshops, seminars, and symposia are classroom, lecture-hall, and round-table venues that can be used to bring technical information to a wide audience ranging from academia to the gen-

eral public. These venues can be used to explore project-specific topics such as human health and ecological risk or dredging. Workshops are also useful when gathering community input on a CIP or the formation of a CAG.

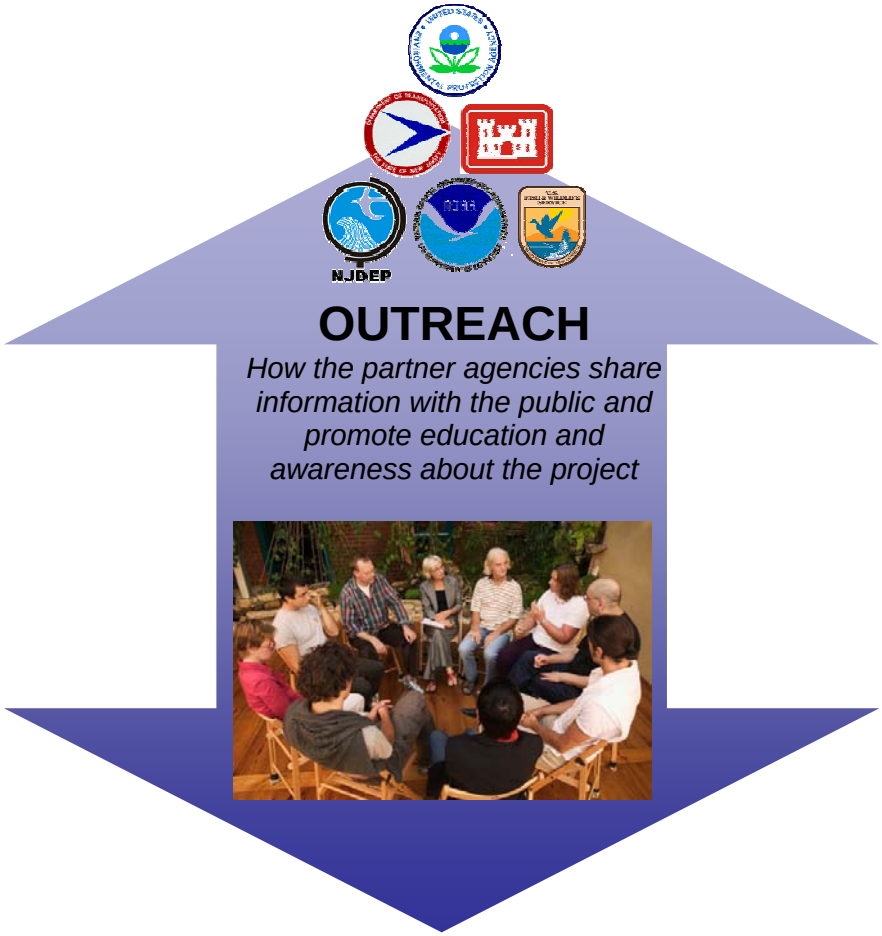
Goal: These formats can be used to educate groups of people on specific topics or address issues in the CIP.

Method: Partner agency staff will conduct workshops on targeted topics if there is sufficient public interest in that subject and will participate in symposia hosted by local academic institutions (i.e., Passaic River Institute at Montclair State University) as appropriate.

FIGURE 15: Input and Involvement

- Community Advisory Group (CAG)
- Coordination with Local Government and Other Agencies
- Email
- Public Availability Sessions
- Public Comment Period
- Public Forums
- Public Input
- Public Meetings
- Stakeholder Group Interaction
- Surveys / Focus Groups
- Technical Assistance Grant (TAG)
- Technical Outreach Services for Communities (TOSC)
- Toll-free Hotline

FIGURE 16: Outreach



- Community Advisory Group (CAG)
- Community Events
- Environmental Justice Activities
- Fact Sheets
- Field Notifications
- Information Repositories
- Listserv
- Mailing List Updates and Maintenance
- Maps and Visual Aids
- Media Notification / Media Events
- Newsletters
- Project Roadmap
- Project Site Visits / Tours
- Public Availability Sessions
- Public Forums
- Public Meetings
- Public Notices
- Public Service Announcements (PSAs)
- Public Television / Public Access Television Shows
- School / Educational Out-reach Activities
- Speakers' Bureau
- Toll-free Hotline
- Video Productions
- Workshops / Seminars / Symposia
- www.ournewarkbay.org
- www.ourpassaic.org

2.5 Evaluation of Community Involvement and Outreach

In order to assess the effectiveness of the community involvement and outreach efforts, the partner agencies may employ several tools to periodically evaluate our messages, modes of communication, tools and outreach activities. Evaluations allow understanding of successes and weaknesses and enable the partner agencies to retool the strategies to better serve the public. The CIP will be reviewed annually. It will be revised to reflect project progress and changes to community needs, concerns, issues, and contacts. The CIP will be revised:

- prior to the start of long-term cleanup and restoration work;
- at a minimum every three years; and/or
- at other points as necessary based on the annual reviews.

Basic Internal Analysis

Following interactive activities like public forums and poster sessions, the partner agencies may conduct a basic internal analysis, which involves asking the following questions:

- Logistics:
  - Was the location easy to find?
  - Were there enough seats for attendees and presenters?
  - Were there enough written materials (e.g., fact sheets, pamphlets) for attendees to take with them?
  - Did the audio and audio visual equipment work properly?
  - Was the activity appropriately timed (i.e., too long, too short)?
- Attendees:
  - Did the number of attendees meet the partner agencies' expectations for this activity?
  - Did any unforeseen circumstances affect attendance (e.g., weather)?
  - If applicable, did presenters effectively deal with hostile attendees?

- Did presenters provide their messages in clear, concise, and understandable ways?

- Information:
  - Did attendees appear to understand the information being conveyed?
  - Did the speakers adequately respond to attendee questions and concerns?
  - Did presentations employ visual aids?

Website Hits

The partner agencies may measure the effectiveness of their activities by analyzing website hits to www.ourpassaic.org and www.ournewarkbay.org. Email inquiries and comments may also be tracked by the partner agencies for the purpose of measuring public interest and understanding of the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project and Newark Bay Study.

Focus Groups

The partner agencies may conduct several small focus groups throughout the community involvement and outreach process to solicit feedback from the public. These groups will be asked basic questions, as well as more specific questions pertaining to certain activities or communication tools. During this process, the partner agencies and the focus groups engage in an active dialogue. Following the focus groups, the partner agencies may adjust their community involvement and outreach activities based on the common themes that emerge from these groups.

Surveys and Interviews

Surveys and interviews are more flexible and informal evaluation methods than focus groups. They may be conducted in person, via the Internet, or over the phone. Surveys and interviews may feature multiple choice questions or open ended questions. Responses will be evaluated for common themes which may be applied to the future community involvement and outreach activities.

Media Coverage

The partner agencies will read local news publications to gauge coverage of partner agencies' activities and events. Websites of local environmental groups will also be periodically observed. In doing

this, the partner agencies can determine if "they got the message right". If publications and websites reflect inaccurate information, then the partner agencies will endeavor to provide clearer communications in the future.

Appendix 1 – Abbreviations and Acronyms

AOC	Administrative Order on Consent
CAG	Community Advisory Group
CARP	Contaminant Assessment and Reduction Program
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) of 1986
CIP	Community Involvement Plan
Corps	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District
CRIP	Comprehensive Restoration Implementation Plan
CSO	Combined Sewer Outfall
DDT	Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EPA	(US) Environmental Protection Agency
FS	Feasibility Study
HEP	Harbor Estuary Program
HRE	Hudson-Raritan Estuary Ecosystem Study
HSRC	Hazardous Substance Research Centers
ICC	Ironbound Community Corporation
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding

NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NJDEP	New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
NJDOH&HS	New Jersey Department of Health and Human Services
NJDOT	New Jersey Department of Transportation
NJIT	New Jersey Institute of Technology
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NPL	National Priorities List
NRDAR	Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration
OCC	Occidental Chemical Corporation
OMR	Office of Maritime Resources
PAH	Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons
PCB	Polychlorinated Biphenyl
PDT	Project Delivery Team
PRP	Potentially Responsible Party
PSA	Public Service Announcement
PSE&G	Public Service Electric & Gas Co.
RI/FS	Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study
ROD	Record of Decision
TAG	Technical Assistance Grant
TOSC	Technical Outreach Services for Communities

USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
WMA4	Watershed Management Area 4 Group
WRDA	Water Resources Development Act

Appendix 2 – Glossary

Administrative Order on Consent: A legal agreement signed by EPA and an individual, business, or other entity through which the entity agrees to take an action, refrain from an activity, or pay certain costs. It describes the actions to be taken, applies to civil actions, and can be enforced in court. In limited instances it may be subject to a public comment period.

Administrative Record: The body of documents that "forms the basis" for the selection of a particular response at a site. For example, the Administrative Record for remedy selection includes all documents that were "considered or relied upon" to select the remedy through the record of decision.

Advisory: State-generated health warning regarding the consumption of contaminated animals (*e.g.,* fish, waterfowl). These advisories include advice on how to reduce exposures to chemical contaminants in fish and game by avoiding or reducing consumption and by the use of filleting/trimming and cooking techniques to further reduce contaminant levels. NJDEP issues the fish consumption advisories in NJ. NY State Department of Health (NYSDOH) issues the fish consumption advisories in NY.

Benthic: Pertaining to the organisms living on or at the bottom of a body of water.

Cleanup: Actions taken to deal with a release or threat of release of a hazardous substance that could affect humans and/or the environment. The term "cleanup" is sometimes used interchangeably with the terms "remedial action," "remediation," "removal action," "response action," or "corrective action."

Community: An interacting population of various types of individuals (or species) in a common location; a neighborhood or specific area where people live.

Community Advisory Group (CAG): A committee, task force, or board made up of residents affected by a Superfund or other hazardous waste site. A CAG provides a way for representatives of diverse community interests to present and discuss their needs and concerns related to the site and the site cleanup process. CAGs are a community initiative and responsibility. They function independently of EPA and the other partner agencies.

Community Involvement and Outreach: The term used to identify the process for engaging in dialogue and collaboration with communities. Community involvement is founded on the belief that people have a right to know what the government is doing in their community and to have a say in it. Its purpose is to give people the opportunity to become involved in the government's activities and to help shape the decisions that are made.

Community Involvement Plan (CIP): A management and planning tool outlining the specific community involvement activities to be undertaken during the course of a project. It is designed to 1) provide for two-way communication between the affected

community and state and federal agencies, and 2) ensure public input into the decision-making process related to the affected communities.

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA): Commonly known as Superfund, CERCLA is intended to protect human health and the environment by investigating and cleaning up abandoned or uncontrolled hazardous waste sites. Under the program, EPA either can pay for a site cleanup when parties responsible for the contamination cannot be located or are unwilling or unable to perform the work, or take legal action to force parties responsible for site contamination to clean up the site or repay the federal government for the cleanup cost.

Consent Decree: A legal document, approved by a judge, that formalizes an agreement reached between parties. For example, EPA and potentially responsible parties (PRPs) may sign a consent decree through which PRPs will conduct all or part of a cleanup action at a Superfund site; cease or correct actions or processes that are polluting the environment; reimburse EPA for monies expended in the course of an EPA-performed cleanup or otherwise comply with EPA-initiated regulatory enforcement actions to resolve the contamination at the Superfund site involved. The trustees may sign a consent decree with the PRPs regarding natural resource damages at a site. Or, the trustees and EPA may sign one consent decree with the PRPs to resolve all the issues at the site. The consent decree describes the actions PRPs will take, is subject to a public comment period prior to its approval by a judge, and is enforceable as a final judgment by a court.

DDT: Dichloro-Diphenyl-Trichloroethane. A chlorinated hydrocarbon insecticide. It has a half-life of 15 years and can collect in fatty tissues of certain animals. EPA banned registration and interstate sale of DDT for virtually all but emergency uses in the United States in 1972 because of its persistence in the environment and accumulation in the food chain.

Dioxins: Refers to a group of chemical compounds that share certain chemical structures and biological characteristics and are known chemically as dibenzo-p-dioxins. Several hundred of these compounds exist. Sometimes the term dioxin is used to refer to the most studied and the most toxic dioxins, 2,3,7,8-tetrachlorodibenzo-*p*-dioxin (TCDD). Concern about dioxins arises from their potential toxicity as contaminants in commercial products. Tests on laboratory animals indicate that it is one of the more toxic anthropogenic (man-made) compounds. EPA has classified dioxins as probable human carcinogens.

Ecosystem: The complex of a community and its environment functioning as an ecological unit in nature.

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): A detailed statement assessing the environmental impact of and alternatives to major federal actions significantly affecting the environment. An EIS includes: discussions of the purpose of and need for the action, alternatives, the affected environment, the environmental consequences of the proposed

action, lists of preparers, agencies, organizations, and persons to whom the statement is sent, an index, and an appendix (if any).

Environmental Justice: The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, culture, education, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. Implies that no population of people should be forced to shoulder a disproportionate share of negative environmental impacts of pollution or environmental hazard due to a lack of political or economic strength levels.

Feasibility Study (FS): Evaluation of alternatives for cleanup and restoration, including overall protection of human health and the environment, ability to be implemented, and cost effectiveness, among others.

Floodplain: Low-lying lands near rivers that are submerged when the river overflows its banks.

Focus Groups: Focus groups are facilitated discussions about the site and the community's concerns voiced by small groups of stakeholders.

Habitat: A place where a plant or animal species naturally exists

Harbor Estuary Program (HEP): A multi-year effort to develop and implement a plan to protect, conserve, and restore the NY/NJ Harbor Estuary. The NY/NJ Harbor Estuary includes the waters of New York Harbor and the tidally influenced portions of all rivers and streams that empty into the Harbor, including the Passaic River and Newark Bay. Participants in the program include representatives from local, state, and federal environmental agencies, scientists, citizens, business interests, environmentalists, and others. EPA is coordinating with HEP participants to ensure that actions taken at the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project and Newark Bay Study consider the broader ecosystem and consider the results of HEP's modeling/monitoring efforts when selecting cleanup plans. For more information on HEP, please visit www.harborestuary.org

Hazardous Substance: (1) Any material that poses a threat to human health and/or the environment. Typical hazardous substances are toxic, corrosive, ignitable, explosive or chemically reactive. (2) Any substance designated by EPA to be reported if a designated quantity of the substance is spilled into the waters of the United States or is otherwise released into the environment.

Heavy Metals: Metallic elements with high atomic weights; (*e.g.*, mercury, chromium, cadmium, arsenic, and lead); can damage living things at low concentrations and tend to accumulate in the food chain.

Hudson-Raritan Estuary Ecosystem Study (HRE): A feasibility study for ecosystem restoration in the Hudson-Raritan Estuary which aims to restore and enhance aquatic and nearshore terrestrial habitats that have been compromised by human activities. The study, which is authorized under the Water Resources Development Act, consists of both a Comprehensive Restoration Implementation Plan (CRIP) and the implementation

of restorations and enhancements throughout the estuary. Information on the Hudson-Raritan Estuary Study can be found at www.nan.usace.army.mil/harbor/envt.htm

Information Repository: A file containing current information, technical reports, and reference documents regarding a site. The information repository usually is located in a public building convenient for local residents such as a public school, town hall, or library. See Appendix 11 for locations.

Mercury: Heavy metal that can accumulate in the environment and is highly toxic if breathed or swallowed.

Mitigation: Measures taken to reduce adverse impacts on the environment.

Monitoring: Periodic or continuous surveillance or testing to determine the level of compliance with statutory requirements and/or pollutant levels in various media or in humans, plants, and animals.

National Priorities List (NPL): EPA's list of serious uncontrolled or abandoned hazardous waste sites identified for possible long-term cleanup under Superfund. The list is based primarily on the score a site receives from the Hazard Ranking System. EPA is required to update the NPL at least once a year.

National Response Center: The federal operations center that receives notifications of all releases of oil and hazardous substances.

Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration (NRDAR): The process of collecting, compiling, and analyzing information, statistics or data to determine damages for injuries to and restoration of natural resources.

Natural Resources: Land, fish, wildlife, air, water, groundwater, drinking water supplies, and other such resources belonging to, managed by, or controlled by the United States, a state or local government, any foreign government, any Indian tribe, or any member of an Indian tribe.

Natural Resource Trustee: CERCLA and the Oil Pollution Act (OPA) authorize the United States, states, and Indian Tribes to act on behalf of the public as Natural Resource Trustees for natural resources under their respective trusteeship. Injuries to natural resources may occur at sites as a result of releases of hazardous substances or oil. Natural Resource Trustees use NRDAs (see below) to assess injury to natural resources held in the public trust. An NRDA is an initial step toward restoring injured resources and services and toward compensating the public for their loss.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA): Requires federal agencies to integrate environmental values into their decision making processes by considering the environmental impacts of their proposed actions and reasonable alternatives to those actions. To meet this requirement, federal agencies prepare a detailed statement known as an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). EPA reviews and comments on EISs prepared by other federal agencies, maintains a national filing system for all EISs, and assures that its own actions comply with NEPA.

Pesticide: Substances or mixture there of intended for preventing, destroying, repelling or mitigating any pest. Also, any substance or mixture for use as a plant regulator, defoliant or desiccant.

Pollutant: Generally, any substance introduced into the environment that adversely affects the usefulness of a resource or the health of humans, animals, or ecosystems.

Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs): A group of toxic, persistent chemicals used in electrical transformers and capacitors for insulating purposes, and in gas pipeline systems as lubricant. The sale and new use of these chemicals, also known as PCBs, were banned by law in 1979.

Potentially Responsible Party (PRP): An individual, company, or other entity (*i.e.*, owners, operators, transporters, or generators of hazardous waste) potentially responsible for, or contributing to, the contamination problems at a Superfund site. When possible, EPA requires a PRP, through administrative and legal actions, to clean up hazardous waste sites that it has contaminated.

Proposed Plan: A plan for a site cleanup that is available to the public for comment.

Public: The community or people in general or a part or section of the community grouped because of a common interest or activity.

Public Availability Session: Informal public sessions that often use poster displays and fact sheets and that include state and federal agency personnel and contractors who are available to discuss issues and answer questions. Public availability sessions offer the public the opportunity to learn about project-related issues and to interact with state and federal agency personnel on a one-to-one basis. Public availability sessions do not require the use of court reporters and transcripts, although meeting summaries may be issued through newsletters and progress reports.

Public Comment Period: A formal opportunity for community members to review and contribute written comments on various documents or actions.

Public Forum: Semi-formal public sessions that are characterized by a presentation, question-and-answer session, and a less formal poster/display session. This format allows members of the public to participate in both large and small group settings. Public forums do not require the use of court reporters and transcripts, although meeting summaries may be issued through newsletters and progress reports.

Public Meeting: Formal public sessions that are characterized by a presentation to the public followed by a question-and-answer session. Public meetings may involve the use of a court reporter and the issuance of transcripts. As examples, public meetings are required for the Proposed Plan, Record of Decision (ROD) amendments, and NEPA Scoping.

Record of Decision (ROD): A decision document through which a cleanup is selected. It is often referred to in the context of Superfund sites, however, records of decision are also used at restoration sites under WRDA.

Remedial Action: The actual construction or implementation phase that follows the remedial design. Also referred to as site clean-up.

Remedial Design: The phase that follows the remedial investigation/feasibility study (RI/FS) and the Record of Decision and includes development of engineering drawings and specifications for a site cleanup.

Remedial Investigation (RI): An in-depth study designed to gather data needed to determine the nature and extent of contamination at a Superfund site, identify human health and ecological risks, and establish preliminary site cleanup criteria. The remedial investigation is usually concurrent with the feasibility study. Together they are usually referred to as the "RI/FS."

Remediation: Cleanup or other methods used to remove or contain a toxic spill or hazardous materials from a Superfund site.

Restoration: Actions undertaken to return an injured resource to its baseline condition, that is the condition of the resource had the release not occurred. Restoration consists of two types of activities: primary and compensatory. Primary restoration encompasses actions taken by trustees to accelerate the recovery of an injured resource to its baseline. Natural recovery is considered in the analysis of options for primary restoration. Compensatory restoration compensates for the interim loss of resources from the time the injury occurs until restoration is complete.

Risk Assessment: Provides a mechanism for evaluating the current and future human health and ecological risks from exposure to contaminants. The assessments evaluate contaminants of potential concern, their toxicity, and routes of exposure, and characterize the risks.

Stakeholder: People, interest groups, and other organizations or institutions that live in the project areas or closely identify with the issues associated with the project.

Superfund: The program operated under the legislative authority of CERCLA that funds, oversees, and carries out EPA solid waste emergency and long-term cleanup activities. These activities include establishing the National Priorities List, investigating sites for inclusion on the list, determining their priority for evaluation, and conducting and/or supervising a remedial investigation/feasibility study, cleanup, and other remedial actions.

Technical Assistance Grant (TAG): A TAG provides money for activities that help communities participate in decision-making at eligible Superfund sites. An initial grant up to $50,000 is available for any Superfund site that is on the EPA's NPL or proposed for listing on the NPL and where a response action has begun. An additional $50,000 may be provided by EPA at complex sites.

Technical Outreach Services for Communities (TOSC): The TOSC program helps citizens better understand the hazardous contamination issues in or near their communities by providing free, independent, non-advocate, and technical assistance about contaminated sites. TOSC is part of the Hazardous Substance Research Centers

(HSRCs), university consortiums that conduct research on hazardous contamination issues. As part of the HSRCs, TOSC can tap into the technical expertise of the university environmental researchers that will best meet the community's needs.

Urban Rivers Restoration Initiative (URRI): A national initiative to foster cooperation between EPA and the Corps on environmental remediation and restoration of degraded urban rivers. The URRI is memorialized in a Memorandum of Understanding between the two agencies that was signed in 2002 and renewed in 2005. Eight urban waterways have been designated as pilot projects to demonstrate the planning and implementation of urban river cleanups and restoration (www.epa.gov/swerrims/landrevitalization/urbanrivers/).

Wetlands: Those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions (*e.g.,* swamps, bogs, fens, marshes, and estuaries).

Appendix 3 – Partner Agency Contacts

AGENCY PARTNERSHIP CONTACTS

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
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Public Affairs
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New York, NY 10007-1866
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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
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Edison, NJ 08837
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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
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New Jersey Department of Transportation – Office of Maritime Resources
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New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Site Remediation Program – Office of the Assistant Commissioner
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New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection – Site Remediation Program
Mark Herzberg
Office of Community Relations
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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Eli Reinharz
Damage Assessment Center, N/ORR31
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Silver Spring, MD 20910-3281
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U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Tim Kubiak
New Jersey Ecological Services Field Office
Pleasantville, NJ 08232
Phone: (609) 646-9310 ext. 26
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New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection – Natural & Historic Resources Program
John Sacco
Office of Natural Resource Restoration
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Appendix 4 – Elected Officials: Federal

U.S. Senate

Senator Robert Menendez

Washington, D.C. Office
502 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
Phone: (202) 224-4744
Fax: (202) 228-2197
Web: www.menendez.senate.gov

Newark District Office
One Gateway Center
11th Floor
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: (973) 645-3030
Fax: (973) 645-0502

Senator Frank R. Lautenberg

Washington, D.C. Office
324 Hart Senate Office Building
Suite 825-A
Washington, D.C. 20510
Phone: (202) 224-3224
Fax: (202) 228-4054
Web: www.lautenberg.senate.gov

Newark District Office
One Gateway Center
23rd Floor
Newark, NJ 07102
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Fax: (973) 639-8723

Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton

Washington, D.C. Office
476 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
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Fax: (202) 228-0282
Web: www.clinton.senate.gov

New York City Office

780 Third Ave.
Suite 2601
New York, NY 10017
Phone: (212) 688-6262
Fax: (212) 688-7444

Senator Charles E. Schumer

Washington, D.C. Office
313 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
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New York City Office
757 Third Ave.
Room 17-02
New York, NY 10017
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U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen

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Washington, D.C. 20515
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Fax: (202) 225-3186
Web: www.house.gov/frelinghuysen

Morristown Office
30 Schuyler Place
Morristown, NJ 07960
Phone: (973) 292-1569
Fax: (973) 292-1568

13th Congressional District
Presently Vacant

Rep. Bill Pascrell

Washington, D.C. Office
2464 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
Phone: (202) 225-5751
Fax: (202) 225-5782
Web: www.house.gov/pascrell

Paterson District Office
Robert A. Roe Federal Building
200 Federal Plaza, Suite 500
Paterson, NJ 07505
Phone: (973) 523-5152
Fax: (973) 523-0637

Rep. Donald M. Payne

Washington, D.C. Office
209 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
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Newark District Office
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Newark, NJ 07102
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Fax: (973) 645-5902

Rep. Steve Rothman

Washington, D.C. Office
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Hackensack District Office
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Hackensack, NJ 07601
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Fax: (201) 646-1944

Rep. Vito Fossella

Washington, D.C. Office
1239 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-0005
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Fax: (202) 226-1272
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Staten Island Office
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Staten Island, NY 10312
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Fax: (718) 356-1928

Appendix 5 – Elected Officials: State

NJ STATE SENATE

District 27:
Sen. Richard J. Codey
449 Mount Pleasant Ave.
West Orange, NJ 07052
Phone: (973) 731-6770
Fax: (973) 731-0647
Email: SenCodey@njleg.state.nj.us

District 28:
Sen. Ronald L. Rice
1044 South Orange Ave.
Newark, NJ 07106
Phone: (973) 371-5665
Fax: (973) 371-6738
Email: SenRice@njleg.state.nj.us

District 29:
Sen. Sharpe James
50 Park Pl., Suite 1535
Newark NJ 07102
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Fax: (973) 622-5157
Email: SenJames@njleg.state.nj.us
Parts of Essex & Union Counties

District 31:
Joseph V. Doria
1738 Kennedy Blvd.
Jersey City, NJ 07305
Phone: (201) 451-5100
Email: SenDoria@njleg.state.nj.us

District 32:
Sen. Nicholas J. Sacco
9060 Palisade Ave.
North Bergen, NJ 07047
Phone: (201) 295-0200
Fax: (201) 295-8294
Email: SenSacco@njleg.state.nj.us

District 33:
Sen. Bernard. F. Kenny, Jr.
235 Hudson St., Suite 1
Hoboken, NJ 07030
Phone: (201) 653-1466
Email: SenKenny@njleg.state.nj.us

District 34:
Sen. Nia H. Gill
425 Bloomfield Ave.
2nd Floor
Montclair, NJ 07042
Phone: (973) 509-0388
Fax: (973) 509-9241
Email: SenGill@njleg.state.nj.us

District 35:
Sen. John A. Girgenti
507 Lafayette Ave.
Hawthorne, NJ 07506
Phone: (973) 427-1229
Fax: (973) 423-5895
Email: SenGirgenti@njleg.state.nj.us

District 36:
Sen. Paul A. Sarlo
Fleet Bank Bldg.
2nd Floor
207 Hackensack St.
Wood-Ridge, NJ 07075
Phone: (201) 804-8118
Fax: (201) 804-8644
Email: SenSarlo@njleg.state.nj.us

District 38:
Sen. Joseph Coniglio
205 Robin Rd., Suite 216
Paramus, NJ 07652
Phone: (201) 576-9199
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NJ STATE ASSEMBLY

District 27:
Assemblyman Mims Hackett
15 Village Plaza
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South Orange, NJ 07079
Phone: (973) 762-1886

Assemblyman John F. Mckeon
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South Orange, NJ 07079
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District 28:
Assemblyman Craig A. Stanley
1200 Clinton Ave.
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Irvington, NJ 07111
Phone: (973) 399-1000

Assemblywoman Oadline D. Truitt
1065 Clinton Ave.
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Phone: (973) 371-2066
Fax: (973) 371-1769

District 29:
Assemblyman Wilfredo Caraballo
371 Bloomfield Ave.
2nd Floor
Newark, NJ 07107
Phone: (973) 350-0048

Assemblyman William D. Payne
40 Clinton St.
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Phone: (973) 621-1400

District 31:
Assemblyman Charles T. Epps
1738 Kennedy Blvd.
Jersey City, NJ 07305
Phone: (201) 451-5100

Assemblyman Louis Manzo
107 West Side Ave.
Jersey City, NJ 07305
Phone: (201) 309-0770

District 32:
Assemblyman Vincent Prieto
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Secaucus, NJ 07094
Phone: (201) 770-1303

Assemblywoman Joan M. Quigley
The Hamilton Park Foundry
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Jersey City, NJ 07302
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District 33:
Assemblyman Albio Sires
303 58th St.
West New York, NJ 07093
Phone: (201) 854-0900

Assemblyman Brian P. Stack
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District 34:
Assemblyman Thomas P. Giblin
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Clifton, NJ 07042
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Assemblywoman Sheila Y. Oliver
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District 35:
Assemblywoman Nellie Pou
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Paterson, NJ 07505
Phone: (973) 247-1555

Assemblyman Alfred E. Steele
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Phone: (973) 247-1521

District 36:
Assemblyman Gary S. Schaer
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Passaic, NJ 07055
Phone: (973) 249-3665

Assemblyman Frederick Scalera
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Lower Level
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District 38:
Assemblyman Robert M. Gordon
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Assemblywoman Joan M. Voss
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NY STATE SENATE

State Senator John J. Marchi
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State Senator Diane J. Savino
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James S. Oddo, Member
New York City Council
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NY STATE ASSEMBLY

Assemblyman John W. Lavelle
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Staten Island, NY 10301
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Assemblyman Michael Cusick
1911 Richmond Ave.
Staten Island, NY 10314
Phone: (718) 370-1384

CITY OF NEW YORK

James P. Molinaro, Borough President
120 Borough Hall
Staten Island, NY 10301
Phone: (718) 816-2000
Web: www.statenislandusa.com

Michael E. McMahon, Member,
New York City Council
130 Stuyvesant Pl.
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Staten Island, NY 10301
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Appendix 6 – Elected Officials: Local

COUNTY CONTACTS

Bergen County
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Essex County
Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr., County Executive
Hall of Records Room 405
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Tara M. Casella
Essex County Environmental Center
Office of Environmental Affairs
621-B Eagle Rock Ave.
Roseland, NJ 07068
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Hudson County
Thomas DeGise, County Executive
Brennan Court House Building
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Jersey City, NJ 07306
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Passaic County
Anthony DeNova, County Administrator
Administration Building
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Paterson, NJ 07505
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MUNICIPAL CONTACTS

Bayonne
Joseph Doria, Jr., Mayor
City of Bayonne
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Bayonne, NJ 07002
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Belleville
Gerald DiGori, Mayor
Township of Belleville
Belleville Town Hall
152 Washington Ave.
Belleville, NJ 07109
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Fax: (973) 759-1631

Bloomfield
Raymond McCarthy, Mayor
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Law Enforcement Bldg.
Bloomfield, NJ
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Clifton
James Anzaldi, Mayor
City of Clifton
Municipal Building
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John E. Biegel, III
Acting Health Officer
Department of Health
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East Newark
Joseph Smith, Mayor
Borough of East Newark
Borough Hall
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East Newark, NJ 07029
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East Rutherford
James Cassella, Mayor
Borough of East Rutherford
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East Rutherford, NJ 07073
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Elizabeth
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Elizabeth, NJ 07201
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Elmwood Park
Richard Mola, Mayor
Borough of Elmwood Park
Municipal Building
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Elmwood Park, NJ 07407
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Garfield
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City of Garfield
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Harrison
Raymond McDonough, Mayor
Town of Harrison
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Harrison, NJ 07029
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Jersey City
Jerramiah Healy, Mayor
City of Jersey City
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Jersey City, NJ 07302
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Kearny
Alberto G. Santos, Mayor
Town of Kearny
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Kearny, NJ 07032
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Lyndhurst
James Guida, Mayor
Township of Lyndhurst
Town Hall
367 Valley Brook Avenue
Lyndhurst, NJ 07071
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Newark
Cory Booker, Mayor
City of Newark
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Newark, NJ
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North Arlington
Russell Pitman, Mayor
Borough of North Arlington
Borough Hall
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North Arlington, NJ 07032
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Nutley
Peter Scarpelli, Mayor
Township of Nutley
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Nutley, NJ 07110
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Fax: (973) 661-9411

Department of Public Affairs
149 Chestnut St.
Nutley, NJ 07110
Attn: Maryanne Cioffi

Passaic
Samuel Rivera, Mayor
City of Passaic
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Passaic, NJ 07055
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Fax: (973) 472-2639

Paterson
Jose Torres, Mayor
City of Paterson
City Hall
155 Market Street
Paterson, NJ 07505
Phone: (973) 321-1500
Fax: (973) 321-1311

Rutherford
Bernadette McPherson, Mayor
Borough of Rutherford
Municipal Building
176 Park Ave.
Rutherford, NJ 07070
Phone: (201) 460-3022

Wallington
Walter Wargacki, Mayor
Borough of Wallington
Municipal Building
24 Union Boulevard
Wallington, NJ 07057
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Fax: (973) 779-4879

Appendix 7 – Cooperating Parties Contacts

Contact for Newark Bay Study
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Group VP, Public Affairs
MWW Group
One Meadowlands Plaza
6th Floor
East Rutherford, NJ 07073-2137
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Technical Contact for Lower Passaic River Restoration Project
De Maximis, Inc.
Bill Potter
186 Center Street, Suite 290
Clinton, NJ 08809
Phone: (908) 735-9315
Fax: (908) 735-2132

Liaison Counsel Contact for Lower Passaic River Restoration Project
William H. Hyatt, Jr., Esquire
Kirkpatrick & Lockhart, LLP
One Newark Center
Tenth Floor
Newark, New Jersey 07102
Phone: (973) 848-4000
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Public Relations Contact for Lower Passaic River Restoration Project
Jaffe Communications, Inc.
Jonathan Jaffe
2 North Union Ave.
Suite 2B
Cranford, NJ 07016
Phone: (908) 276-6500
Fax: (908) 292-1177

Cooperating Parties – Lower Passaic River Restoration Project
- Alcan Company
- Alliance Chemical, Inc.
- Amerada Hess, on its own behalf and on behalf of Atlantic Richfield Company American Ref-Fuel Company of Essex County
- Ashland, Inc.
- BASF Corporation
- Benjamin Moore & Co.
- Celanese L TD
- Chemical Leaman Corp., including Quality Carriers Inc. and Quala Systems Inc.
- Chevron Environmental Management Company, for itself and on behalf of Texaco, Inc.
- Coltec Industries Inc.
- Curtiss-Wright Corp.
- DiLorenzo Properties Company on behalf of itself and the Goldman/Goldman/DiLorenzo partnerships
- E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company
- Elan Chemical Company
- Essex Chemical Corp
- Franklin-Burlington Plastics, Inc.
- Givaudan Fragrances Corporation
- Goody Products, Inc.
- Hexcel Corporation
- Leemilt's Petroleum, Inc. (successor to Power Test of New Jersey, Inc.), on its behalf and on behalf of Power Test Realty Company Limited Partnership and Getty Properties Corp., the General Partner of Power Test Realty Company Limited Partnership
- Lucent Technologies, Inc.
- Mallinckrodt, Inc.

- News America Incorporated
- NPEC, Inc.
- Occidental Chemical Corporation (as successor to Diamond Shamrock Chemicals Company)
- Otis Elevator Company
- Pfizer Inc.
- Pharmacia Corporation (f/k/a Monsanto Company) and Monsanto Company, by Monsanto Company, for itself and as attorney-in-fact for Pharmacia Corporation
PPG Industries, Inc.
- PSE&G Co.
- Purdue Pharma Technologies, Inc.
- Reichhold Chemicals, Inc. (n/k/a Reichhold, Inc.)
- Reilly Industries, Inc
- RSR Corporation
- Safety-Kleen Envirosystems Company
- Teva Pharmaceuticals USA, Inc.
- The Andrew Jergens Co.
- The Sherwin Williams Company
- The Stanley Works
- Three County Volkswagen
- Viacom, Inc
- Vulcan Materials Company

Appendix 8 – Regional Authorities Contacts

Passaic Valley Sewerage Commissioners (PVSC)
Robert DeVita, River Restoration Program Manager
600 Wilson Avenue
Newark, NJ 07105
Phone: (973) 466-2710
Fax: (973) 344-7114

Sheldon Lipke, Superintendent of Plant Operations
Phone: (973) 817-5782
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Port Authority of NY & NJ
Tom Wakeman
225 Park Avenue South
New York, NY 10003
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Harbor Estuary Program (HEP)
Bob Nyman
U.S. EPA - Region 2
Division of Environmental Planning and Protection
290 Broadway, 24th Floor
New York, NY 10007
Phone: (212) 637-3809
Fax: (212) 637-3887

Appendix 9 – Stakeholder Groups

The following is only a partial listing of stakeholders.

American Littoral Society
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Broad Channel, NY 11693
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Email: driepe@NYc.rr.com

Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissioners (ANJEC)
Abby Fair
PO Box 157
Mendham, NJ 07945
Phone: (973) 539-7547
Email: afair@anjec.org

Bloomfield Third Riverbank Association
Mary Shaughnessy
41 Lowell Terrace
Bloomfield, NJ 07003
Phone: (973)338-5127
Email: ellanora@comcast.net

Brookhaven National Laboratory
Keith Jones, Ph.D.
Environmental Sciences Department
Building 901A
Upton, N.Y. 11973-5000
Phone: (631) 344-4588
Fax: (631) 344-5271

Clean Ocean Action
Cindy Zipf, Executive Director
18 Hartshorne Dr.
P.O. BOX 509
Sandy Hook, NJ 07732
Phone: (732) 872-0111

Environmental Defense Fund
Jim Tripp
New York Headquarters
257 Park Avenue South
New York, NY 10010
Phone: (212) 505-2100
Fax: (212) 505-2375

Essex County Environmental Center
Tara M Casella
Environmental Coordinator
621-B Eagle Rock Avenue
Roseland, NJ 07068
Phone: (973) 228-8776
Email:
tcasella@parks.essexcountynj.org

Future City
Michele McBean, Executive Director
1139 East Jersey St.
Elizabeth, NJ 07201
Phone: (908) 659-0688
Email: fcinj@optonline.net

Green Faith
Rev. Fletcher Harper
46 Bayard Street, Suite 401
New Brunswick, NJ 08901
Phone: (732) 565-7740
Fax: (732) 565-7790
Email: Info@greenfaith.org
revfharper@greenfaith.org

Greater Newark Conservancy
Steve Weisner
303-9 Washington St.
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: (973) 642-4646

Hackensack Riverkeeper
Bill Sheehan
231 Main St.
Hackensack, NJ 07601
Phone: (201) 968-0808

Hudson River Foundation
Dennis Suszkowski, Jim Lodge
17 Battery Pl.
NY, NY 10004

Immigration & American Citizenship Organization (IACO)
Sondra Barguero, Anita Ghanooni
Communications Coordinator
647 Main Ave.
Suite 205
Passaic, NJ 07024
Phone: (973) 472-4648
Email: IACOimmigration@msn.com

Ironbound Community Corporation (ICC)
Carol Johnston
179 Van Buren St.
Newark, NJ 07105
Phone: (973) 589-3353

Jersey Coast Anglers
Tom Fote
New Jersey State Federation of Sportsman's Clubs
22 Cruiser Ct.
Toms River NJ 08753
Phone: (732) 270-9102
Email: tfote@JCAA.org

Lower Passaic & Saddle River Alliance
Thomas Pietrykoski, Chair
Education and Outreach Committee
Passaic Valley Sewerage Commissioners
600 Wilson Ave.
Newark, NJ 07105
Phone: (973) 817-5784
Email: TPietrykoski@PVSC.com

Michele Bakacs
Area Manager, WMA 4, 5, 7
NJDEP Division of Water Mgt.
401 E. State St.
BOX 418
Trenton, NJ
Phone: (609) 292-9247

Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)
Brad Sewell, Larry Levine
40 W. 20 St.
New York, NY 10011
Phone: (212) 727-2700
Fax: (212) 727-1773

Nereid Boat Club
PO Box 1678
350 Riverside Ave.
Rutherford, NJ 07070
Phone: (201) 438-3995
Email: nereidsec@hotmail.com

NJDEP Division of Watershed Mgt.
Michele Bakacs
Area Manager, WMA 4,5,7
401 E. State St—Box 418
Trenton, NJ 08625
Phone: (609) 292-9247

New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT)
Jay N. Meegoda, Ph.D., P.E.
Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: (973) 596-2464
Fax: (973) 596-5790

NY/NJ Baykeeper
Andy Willner, Executive Director
52 Front St.
Keyport, NJ 07735
Phone: (732) 888-9870
Fax: (732) 888-9873
Email: mail@nynjbaykeeper.org

Passaic River Coalition
Ella Filippone, Executive Director
94 Mt. Bethel Rd.
Warren, NJ 07059
Phone: (908) 222-0315
Fax: (908) 222-0357
Email: prcwater@aol.com

Passaic River Institute (PRI) – Montclair State University
Kirk Barrett, Director
Montclair State University
Montclair, NJ
Phone: (973) 655-7117
Fax: (973) 655-4390
Email: kirk.barrett@montclair.edu

Passaic River Rowing Association
Jeff Lahm, President
P.O. Box 440
Lyndhurst, NJ 07071-0440
Email: prra.row3@verizon.net

Rutgers University
Bob Chant
71 Dudley Road
Room 111C
Marine Sciences Building
New Brunswick, NJ 08901
Phone: (732) 932-7120

Stevens Institute of Technology
Dr. K. Nadia Dimou
Research Assistant Professor
Hoboken, NJ 07030
Phone: (201) 216-8551

Appendix 10 – Potential Meeting Locations

Bloomfield, NJ

Boys & Girls Club of Bloomfield
John F. Kennedy Drive
Bloomfield, NJ 07003
Phone: 973) 748-0805

Elks B P O Lodge No 788
296 Bloomfield Ave.
Bloomfield, NJ 07003
Phone: (973) 429-1827

Clifton, NJ

Library Free Public - Clifton, Main
292 Piaget Ave.
Clifton, NJ 07011
Phone: (973) 772-5500

Elizabeth, NJ

Boys & Girls Clubs of Elizabeth
513 Richmond St. # 515
Elizabeth, NJ 07202
Phone: (908) 351-3344

St. Anthony's Youth Center
227 Center St.
Elizabeth, NJ 07202
Phone: (908) 353-0177

Knights of Columbus
328 Union Ave.
Elizabeth, NJ 07208
Phone: (908) 355-2253

Jersey City, NJ

Boys Club of Jersey City
1 Canal St.
Jersey City, NJ 07302
Phone: (201) 333-4100

Friendship Masonic Lodge
78 Summit Ave.
Jersey City, NJ 07304
Phone: (201) 451-4604

Knights of Columbus Jersey City Conception 137
342 Saint Paul's Ave.
Jersey City, NJ 07306
Phone: (201) 798-2942

Kearny, NJ

Presbyterian Boy's & Girl's Club
663 Kearny Ave.
Kearny, NJ 07032
Phone: (201) 991-9841

YMCA of Kearny
728 Kearny Ave.
Kearny, NJ 07032
Phone: (201) 997-4651

American Legion Kearny Frobisher Post No 99
314 Belgrove Drive
Kearny, NJ 07032
Phone: (201) 991-9699

Elks BPO Lodge 1050 Kearny
601 Elm St.
Kearny, NJ 07032
Phone: (201) 991-6360

Montclair, NJ

American Legion Post 251
210 Bloomfield Ave.
Montclair, NJ 07042
Phone: (973) 746-6055

Montclair Women's Club
82 Union St.
Montclair, NJ 07042
Phone: (973) 744-9552

Woman's Club of Upper Montclair
200 Cooper Ave.
Montclair, NJ 07043
Phone: (973) 744-9138

Newark, NJ

Barringer High School
90 Parker St.
Newark, NJ 07104
Phone: (973) 268-5125

East Newark Public
501-11 N. Third St.
E. Newark, NJ 07029
Phone: (201) 481-6800

East Side High School
238 Van Buren St.
Newark, NJ 07105-2512
Phone: (973) 465-4900

Elizabeth Ave. Community Center
54 Elizabeth Ave.
Newark, NJ 07108
Phone: (973) 242-0531

Ironbound Community Center
179 Van Buren St.
Newark, NJ 07105
Phone: (973) 465-0555

North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA)
One Newark Center
17th floor
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: (973) 639-8400
Fax: (973) 639-1953

Society Hill Community Center I
1 Cornerstone Lane
Newark, NJ 07103
Phone: (973) 622-0256

St. Lucy's Community Center
106 South St.
Newark, NJ 07107
Phone: (973) 483-9003

West Side Community Center
West Side Park and 13th
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: (973) 642-2015

New York City, NY

Beacon Community Center J H S 45
2351 1st Ave.
New York, NY 10035
Phone: (212) 410-4227

The Chelsea Shul
236 West 23rd St.
New York, NY 10011
Phone: (212) 242-9882
(212) 675-2819
Fax: (646) 336-1644

Dyckman Community Center
3782 10th Ave.
New York, NY 10034
Phone: (212) 569-9040

Goddard Riverside Community Center
577 Columbus Ave.
New York, NY 10024
Phone: (646) 505-1088

Helping Hands Community Center
20 Cumming St.
New York, NY 10034
Phone: (212) 569-7780

James Weldon Johnson Community Center Inc.
2201 1st Ave.
New York, NY 10029
Phone: (212) 860-7250

Jewish Community Center in Manhattan
334 Amsterdam Ave.
New York, NY 10023
Phone: (646) 505-4444

West Side Association of Community Centers
441 West 26th St.
New York, NY 10001
Phone: (212) 760-9805

Trenton, NJ

Boys & Girls Club of Trenton-Mercer County
212 Centre St.
Trenton, NJ 08611
Phone: (609) 392-3191

Jewish Community Center
999 Lower Ferry Rd
Trenton, NJ 08628
Phone: (215) 750-6676

Trenton Public Library
120 Academy St.
Trenton, NJ 08608
Phone: (609) 392-7188
Fax: (609) 695-8631

Rutherford, NJ

American Legion Post 109
424 Carmita Ave.
Rutherford, NJ 07070
Phone: (201) 939-9895

Elks B P O No 547
48 Ames Ave.
Rutherford, NJ 07070
Phone: (201) 939-9755

Rutherford Public Library
150 Park Ave.
Rutherford, NJ 07070
Phone: (201) 939-8600

South Bergen Activities Center
2 E. Passaic Ave.
Rutherford, NJ 07070
Phone: (201) 460-9488

Staten Island, NY

Jewish Community Center Of Staten Island
1297 Arthur Kill Rd
Staten Island, NY 10312
Phone: (718) 981-1500
(718) 356-8113
Fax: (718) 720-5085

St. George Library Center
5 Central Ave.
Staten Island, NY 10301
Phone: (718) 442-8560

Appendix 11 – Information Repositories

U.S. EPA Records Center
290 Broadway, 18th Floor
New York, NY 10007
Hours: Mon – Fri.: 9AM – 4PM
Phone: (212) 637-3000

Newark Public Library
NJ Reference Section
5 Washington Street
Newark, NJ 07101
Hours: Mon., Fri., Sat.: 9AM – 5:30PM
Tues., Wed., Thurs.:
9AM – 8:30 PM
Phone: (201) 733-7775

Elizabeth Public Library
11 South Broad Street
Elizabeth, NJ 07202
Hours: Mon. – Fri.: 9AM – 9PM
Sat.: 9AM – 5PM
Phone: (908) 354-6060

Appendix 12– Media List

NEWSPAPERS

Associated Press (Trenton)
Phone: (609) 392-3622
Email: aptrenton@ap.org

El Nuevo Coqui **(Spanish)**
258 Clifton Ave.
Newark, NJ 07104
Phone: (973) 481-3233
Fax: (973) 481-6807

Herald-News
1 Garrett Mountain Plaza
West Paterson, NJ 07424
Phone: (973) 569-7000
Fax: (973) 569-7129

Home News and Tribune
Phone: (732) 565-7270

Ironbound Voices
Ironbound Community Corporation
95 Fleming Avenue
Newark, NJ 07105
Phone: (973) 344-7008
Contact: Michelle Garcia

Jersey Journal
30 Journal Square
Jersey City, NJ 07306
Phone: (201) 653-1000
Assignment Editor: Jeff Theodore – (201) 217-2419
Email: jeff.theodore@jjournal.com

Jersey Journal **(Spanish)**
El Nuevo Group
(covers Hudson, Passaic, Essex counties and Newark)
30 Journal Square
Jersey City, NJ 07306
Phone: (201) 217-2425
Editor: Armando Bermudez
Email:
armando.bermudez@elnuevo.com

La Guia Del Immigrante (a monthly Spanish-language magazine)
Immigration and American Citizenship Organization
647 Main Avenue, Suite 205
P.O. Box 1541
Passaic, N.J. 07055
Phone: (973) 472-4648
Fax: (973) 472-4889
Email: info@iaco.us

Luso Americano **(Portuguese)**
88 Ferry Street
Newark, NJ 07105
Phone: (973) 344-3200
Fax: (973) 344-4201
Antonio Matinho, Editor in Chief
Email: amatinho@lusoamericano.com

New York Times (Newark Bureau)
11 Mulberry Street
Newark, N.J. 07102-4008
Phone: (973) 623-1368
Fax: (973) 802-1872
Reporter: Tina Kelley

The Extra Newspaper (weekly paper with Spanish focus)
EXTRA Communications
76 Prospect Street
Newark, NJ 07105
Phone: (973) 344-1888
Fax: (973) 344-7575
Reporter: Vanessa Mael

The Record
150 River Street
Hackensack, NJ 07601
Phone: (201)646-4100
Fax: (201) 646-4135

South Bergenite
33 Lincoln Avenue
Rutherford, NJ 07070
Phone: (201) 933-1166
Fax: (201) 933-5496

The Star Ledger
One Star Ledger Plaza
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: (973) 392-4040
Fax: (973) 392-5845

Staten Island Advance
950 Fingerboard Rd.
Staten Island, NY 10305
Phone: (718) 981-12324
Fax: (718) 981-5679

TELEVISION STATIONS

News 12 New Jersey
(Channel 12 News)
Phone: (732) 346-3270
Email: news12nj@news12.com

WCBS – TV (NJ Bureau Chief)
Phone: (201) 319-8638

WMBC-TV
Mountain Broadcasting Corp.
(Licensed to Newton, NJ)
99 Clinton Road
West Caldwell, NJ 07006
Phone: (973) 852-0300
Fax: (973) 808-5516

WNBC News 4
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York City, NY 10012
Phone: (212) 664-4444
Tips: (212) 664-2731

NJN Newark (Public)
50 Park Place
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: (973) 648-3630
Fax: (973) 643-4004

NJN Assignment Desk
Phone: (609) 633-2927

WNET-TV (Public)
One Gateway Center
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: (973) 643-3315

WNJU (Spanish)
47 Industrial Ave.
Teterboro, NJ 07608
Phone: (201) 288-5550
Fax: (201) 288-0219

WWOR-TV
9 Broadcast Plaza
Secaucus, NJ 07096
Phone: (201) 348-0009
Fax: (201) 330-2488

WXTV (Spanish)
500 Frank W. Burr Blvd.
Teaneck, NJ 0766
Phone: (201) 287-4141
Fax: (201) 287-9423

RADIO

WABC-AM (770.0)
2 Penn Plaza
New York, NY 10121
Phone: (212) 268-5730

WADO-AM (1280.0) – (Spanish)
485 Madison Ave.
New York, NY 10022
Phone: (212) 310-6000
Fax: (212) 888-3694

WBGO (88.3)
54 Park Place
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: (973) 624-8880
Fax: (973) 824-8888

WINS-AM (1010.0)
888 7th Ave.
New York, NY 10016
Phone: (212) 397-1010
Fax: (212) 247-7918

WLIB-AM (1190.0)
3 Park Ave.
New York, NY 10016
Phone: (212) 447-1000
Fax: (212) 447-5193

WPAT-AM (930.0)
449 Broadway
New York, NY 10013
Phone: (212) 966-1059
Fax: (212) 966-9580

WWRL-AM (1600)
333 7th Ave.
New York, NY 10001
Phone: (212) 631-0800
Fax: (212) 239-7203

Appendix 13 – Seasonal Events

SPRING

Passaic River Patrol Cruise – various dates throughout the spring – sponsored by NY/NJ Baykeeper and Hackensack Riverkeeper – contact: www.nynjbaykeeper.org

Eco-Walks – sponsored by Hackensack Riverkeeper – contact: www.hackensackriverkeeper.org

Eco-cruises – sponsored by Hackensack Riverkeeper – contact: www.hackensackriverkeeper.org

Guided river tours by canoe and kayak – sponsored by Hackensack Riverkeeper – contact: www.hackensackriverkeeper.org

River Cleanups – sponsored by Hackensack Riverkeeper – contact: www.hackensackriverkeeper.org

National Learn to Row Day – sponsored by the Passaic River Rowing Association – contact: www.prra.org

Fluke Tournament – sponsored by Jersey Coast Anglers- contact: www.jcca.org

Jersey Coast Anglers – Youth Education – Hooked On Fishing Not On Drugs – contact: www.jcca.org

The CCA Manhattan Cup Tournament. Contact David Fallon at (917) 256-1805 , Fax: (917) 468-4817 , or website: www.manhattancup.com

Passaic Valley Sewerage Commissioners (PVSC) Seasonal Events – various dates – events include skimmer vessel cleanups and educational outreach – contact: www.pvsc.com

Passaic River Paddle Relay –sponsored by Lower Passaic & Saddle River Alliance
contact: tpietrykoski@PVSC.com

SUMMER

Passaic River Patrol Cruise – various dates throughout the spring – sponsored by NY/NJ Baykeeper and Hackensack Riverkeeper – contact: www.mail@nynjbaykeeper.org

COAST program (Clean Ocean Action Coast Tips) – educational programs at various beaches in NJ – contact: www.coa.org

Eco-cruises – sponsored by Hackensack Riverkeeper – contact: www.hackensackriverkeeper.org

Guided river tours by canoe and kayak – sponsored by Hackensack Riverkeeper – contact: www.hackensackriverkeeper.org

River Cleanups – sponsored by Hackensack Riverkeeper – contact: www.hackensackriverkeeper.org

Nereid Boat Club – Carnegie Lake Regatta – contact: www.clra.com

Nereid Boat Club – NYRA Summer Club Classic, Harlem River, NY. Contact: www.nyrowing.org/

Nereid Boat Club – Head of the Passaic, Rutherford – contact: www.hopr.org

Barnegat Bay Festival – Jersey Coast Anglers – contact: www.jcaa.org

Youth Outreach Programs at Jersey Coast Angler – National Fishing and Boating Week – contact: www.nationalfishingandboatingweek.org

Jersey Coast Anglers – Annual Fish Derby - Cheesequake State Park, contact: 732-566-3208

FALL

Passaic River Patrol Cruise – various Dates throughout the spring – sponsored by NY/NJ Baykeeper and Hackensack Riverkeeper – contact: www.mail@nynjbaykeeper.org

Sunset at Sandy Hook – sponsored by Clean Ocean Action – contact: www.coa.org

Fall Beach Sweeps – sponsored by Clean Ocean Action – contact: www.coa.org

Eco-Walks – sponsored by Hackensack Riverkeeper – contact: www.hackensackriverkeeper.org

Eco-Cruises – sponsored by Hackensack Riverkeeper – contact: www.hackensackriverkeeper.org

Guided river tours by canoe and kayak – sponsored by Hackensack Riverkeeper – contact: www.hackensackriverkeeper.org

River Cleanups – sponsored by Hackensack Riverkeeper – contact: www.hackensackriverkeeper.org

International Beach Cleanup – Sponsored by American Littoral Society – various locations – contact: www.alsbeach@aol.org

Appendix 14 – Legal Authorities

SUPERFUND CLEANUPS – CERCLA

Sites on EPA's NPL, such as the Diamond Alkali site, fall under the jurisdiction of the federal CERCLA of 1980, as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) of 1986. CERCLA sets forth site investigation and cleanup requirements for NPL sites. It enables the federal government to respond directly to releases or threatened releases of hazardous substances that may adversely affect human health and the environment and provides for liability of parties that are responsible for releases or potential releases of hazardous substances at NPL sites.

For the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project, a federal-state agency partnership is performing a joint CERCLA-WRDA study with the Superfund portion of the project being funded by 43 PRPs. EPA has lead responsibility and decision making authority for the Superfund portion of the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project and for all of the Newark Bay Study.

Once the partner agencies determine, with public input, the best cleanup and restoration alternatives, they will seek the best authorities for cleanup and restoration activities. The partner agencies expect that the cleanup and restoration activities will be pursuant to the authority of the Superfund program, which includes a polluter-pays principle, as well as the project authority the Corps will seek under WRDA, which involves matching federal and local issues.

EPA has responsibility for all of the Newark Bay Study. The Newark Bay Study is being conducted under an AOC with Occidental Chemical Corporation with EPA's oversight under the Superfund program and in coordination with the trustee agencies.

CERCLA Public Involvement Requirements:
For the Superfund portion of the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project and the Newark Bay Study:

Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study and Proposed Plan:
Upon completion of the Feasibility Study (FS) and Proposed Plan, publish a notice of the availability of the RI/FS and Proposed Plan, including a brief analysis of the Proposed Plan, in a major local newspaper of general circulation. The notice also must announce a comment period.

Public Comment Period on RI/FS and Proposed Plan:
Provide at least 30 days for the submission of written and oral Proposed Plan comments on the Proposed Plan and supporting information located in the information repository, including the RI/FS. This comment period will be extended by a minimum of 30 additional days upon timely request.

Public Meeting on Proposed Plan:
Provide an opportunity for a public meeting regarding the Proposed Plan and supporting information to be held at or near the site during the comment period.

Proposed Plan Meeting Transcript:
Have a court reporter prepare a meeting transcript [of the Public Meeting on the Proposed Plan] that is made available to the public.

Settlement Agreements:
A notice of a proposed settlement must be published in the *Federal Register* at least 30 days before the agreement becomes final. This notice must state the name of the facility and the parties to the proposed agreement. Those persons who are not parties to the agreement must be provided an opportunity to file written comments for a period of 30 days.

Record of Decision (ROD):

Responsiveness Summary:
Prepare a response to significant comments and new data submitted on the Proposed Plan and RI/FS, and ensure that this response document accompanies the Record of Decision.

Discussion of Significant Changes to the Remedy:
Include in the ROD a discussion of significant changes to the remedy and the reasons for such changes, if new information is made available that significantly changes the basic features of the remedy and the lead agency determines that the changes could be reasonably anticipated by the public.

Revised Proposed Plan and Public Comment:
Upon the lead agency's determination that such changes to the remedy could not have been reasonably anticipated by the public, the Agency must issue a revised Proposed Plan that includes a discussion of the significant changes and the reasons for such changes. The Agency must seek additional public comment on the revised Proposed Plan.

Record of Decision (ROD) Availability and Notification:
Make the ROD available for public inspection and copying at or near the site prior to the commencement of any remedial action. Also, the lead agency must publish a notice of the ROD's availability in a major local newspaper of general circulation. The notice must state the basis and purpose of the selected action.

Revision of the CIP:
Prior to remedial design, the lead agency should revise the CIP, if necessary, to reflect community concern, as discovered during interviews and other activities, that pertain to the remedial design and construction phase.

Post-Record of Decision Significant Changes:
When the remedial or enforcement action, or the settlement or consent decree, differs significantly from the remedy selected in the ROD with respect to scope, performance, or cost, the lead agency must publish a notice that briefly summarizes the explanation of significant differences (ESD) and the reasons for such differences in a major local newspaper, and make the explanation of significant differences and supporting information available to the public in the administrative record and information repository.

CERCLA Reviews:

Five-Year Remedy Reviews:
EPA is required to perform a review of the interim remedy for the 80 and 120 Lister Avenue portion of the Diamond Alkali Superfund Site at least every five years. By law, where EPA selects a remedy that involves leaving hazardous substances at the site, EPA must review the remedial action at least every five years after initiation of such remedial action to ensure that it is protective of human health and the environment, and that it functions as intended by the site decision documents. At a minimum, community involvement activities during the five-year review will include notifying the community that the five-year review will be conducted and notifying the community when the five-year review is completed.

Two-Year Remedy Reviews:
In addition to the five-year remedy review that evaluates the protectiveness and performance of the remedy, a review will be performed every two years, pursuant to the 1987 Consent Decree relating to the 80 and 120 Lister Avenue portion of the Diamond Alkali Superfund Site, to assure the protectiveness of the remedial alternative in place and to develop, screen, and assess the viability of implementing remedial alternatives that are more protective of human health and the environment. At a minimum, community involvement activities during the two-year review will include notifying the community that the two-year review will be conducted and notifying the community when the two-year review is completed.

RESTORATION ACTIVITES – WRDA

WRDA outlines the restoration selection process. It requires a FS that contains a cost-benefit analysis of potential remedies. For the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project, restoration goals may include benthic habitat restoration, tidal wetland restoration, vegetative buffer creation, shoreline stabilization, and aquatic habitat improvement. The Corps has lead responsibility for the WRDA portion of the feasibility study.

WRDA of 1986 requires that the Corps cost-share equally all of its feasibility study with a non-federal sponsor. NJDOT has assumed this role. Congress provides the Corps with its share of funds on an annual basis in the Energy and Water Appropriations Act. NJDOT is funding its share from the NY/NJ Joint Dredging Plan Fund and the Transportation Trust Fund.

If there is a favorable recommendation from the feasibility study, the Corps will seek project construction authority in WRDA for its restoration project(s) and complementary aspects of the remediation under WRDA Section 312 – Environmental Dredging. (Under Section 312, congressional funds may be sought for the removal activities that are beyond the liability of the potentially responsible parties or may cover orphan shares.)

NATURAL RESOURCES DAMAGE ASSESSMENT AND RESTORATION (NRDAR)

CERCLA also authorizes the designated state and federal Natural Resource Trustees to assess injuries and related damages to natural resources associated with releases of hazardous substances. The partner agencies are coordinating with the state and federal natural resource trustees to include information useful to them for their NRDA. The Natural Resource Trustees are the NOAA, USFWS, and NJDEP.

The responsibility for restoring natural resources that have been injured by hazardous substances belongs to federal, state, and tribal trustees for fish, wildlife, other living resources, water, lands, and protected areas. Trusteeship is derived from federal and tribal treaties, federal and state statutes, other laws, and regulations. The U.S. Congress enacted the Superfund law to assign responsibility for the cost of cleaning up hazardous substances that threaten human health and the environment, and for restoring or replacing any public natural resources that are harmed by hazardous substance releases. It is the trustees' responsibility to use recoveries from NRDAs to restore or replace the natural resources that are harmed.

The trustees act on behalf of the public to assess and restore natural resources injured by hazardous substances. The process by which the trustees evaluate the injuries

associated with hazardous substance contamination in natural resources is known as a NRDA. The ultimate objective of an NRDA is to restore natural resources that have been injured by hazardous substance contamination to baseline, or the condition that would have existed if the hazardous substances were not released. In addition, the trustees may obtain compensation for natural resource injuries and the loss of the services they provide between the onset of the injury and full restoration. Compensation for natural resource damages provides a means to restore the injured public resources to the condition they would have been in but for the release, and to compensate the public for lost services provided by those resources.

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA)

NEPA public involvement is a critical part of the NEPA compliance process. At a minimum, NEPA requires federal agencies to conduct scoping meetings to facilitate and encourage public participation with regard to decisions that affect the quality of the human environment. As part of the scoping process (which may include public meetings or formal public hearings), agencies solicit input and information from the public. NEPA also identifies methods by which federal agencies can notify the public of these scoping meetings:

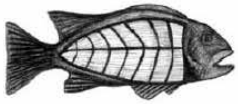
- Mail
- Public notice in Federal Register
- Publication in local newspaper
- Notice through other local media
- Notice to potentially interested community organizations
- Publications in newsletters that may be expected to reach potentially interested persons
- Direct Mail

Appendix 15 – Fish and Shellfish Advisories

Fish Smart – Eat Smart Brochure: Page 1

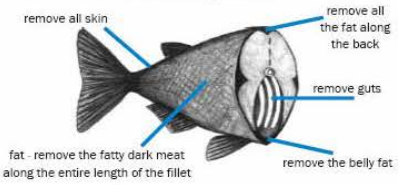
Reduce Exposure to Dioxin and PCBs

Eat only the fillet!



Do not eat the whole fish or steak portions.

Cleaning Fish:



Remove and throw away the head, guts, kidneys, and the liver. Remove the "backstrap meat" along with the skin, lateral line and belly meat.

Cut away the fat, skin and belly area before cooking.

Cooking Fish:

Bake, broil, steam, fry or grill fish, and *throw away the cooking juices.*

Use only fish fillets when preparing soups, stews and chowders.

American Lobster
Remove the green gland

www.FishSmartEatSmartNJ.org

WARNING!

Dioxin, PCBs and mercury may pose greater risk to babies and young children. For this reason it is important for women who are pregnant, or might become pregnant, breastfeeding women, and young children to follow the recommendations found in this flyer to reduce exposure.

Where to get more information:

New Jersey Department of
Environmental Protection
Division of Science, Research and Technology
Additional copies of this brochure
can be printed from the web site:
www.FishSmartEatSmartNJ.org
(609) 984-6070

New Jersey Department of
Health and Senior Services
www.state.nj.us/health/eoh/foodweb
(609) 588-3123

Environmental Protection Agency
Fish and Wildlife Contamination Program
www.epa.gov/ost/fish

For Information on Commercial Fish:
Food and Drug Administration
www.cfsan.fda.gov/seafood1.html
1-888-SAFEFOOD

Development of this brochure was a cooperative project of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services

Cover photo of Ed Stevenson taken by Bruce Ruppel
Inside fish illustration by Ted Walke

April 2006

Fish Smart Eat Smart

Eating fish is good for you, but some fish and crustacea caught in New Jersey are contaminated with chemicals such as Dioxin, PCBs and Mercury.

www.FishSmartEatSmartNJ.org

Jon S. Corzine, Governor
State of New Jersey

Fish Smart – Eat Smart Brochure: Page 2

Statewide & Regional Fish Consumption Recommendations to Reduce Exposure to Dioxin, PCBs and Mercury*

Fish / Crustacea Under Advisory	General Population	High Risk**
Blue Claw Crab	Do Not Catch, Do Not Eat!	Do Not Catch, Do Not Eat!
American Eel; Bluefish greater than 6lbs. / 24"	4 meals / year	Do Not Eat!
Bluefish less than 6lbs. / 24"; Striped Bass	1 meal / month	Do Not Eat!
American Lobster	Do Not Eat Green Gland (tomalley or hepatopancreas)	
Largemouth Bass; Chain Pickerel; Smallmouth Bass	1 meal / week	1 meal / month
Sunfish (includes bluegill, pumpkinseed and redbreast sunfish); Yellow Bullhead	No Restrictions	1 meal / month
Brown Bullhead	No Restrictions	1 meal / week
Largemouth Bass; Chain Pickerel	1 meal / month	Do Not Eat!
Brown Bullhead; Yellow Bullhead	1 meal / week	Do Not Eat!
Sunfish (includes bluegill, pumpkinseed and redbreast sunfish)	1 meal / week	1 meal / month

*There are additional warnings for these and other fish in specific waterbodies. Check the contact information on the back of this flyer or visit www.FishSmartEatSmartNJ.org

For **all freshwater fish** without specific advisories, eat no more than:

General Population	High Risk**
1 meal / week	1 meal / month

***High Risk is defined as infants, children, pregnant women, nursing mothers and women of childbearing age.*

NOTE: To reduce your exposure, eat those fish with the lowest meal restrictions. Do not combine meal restrictions. (For example, if you eat multiple fish species or catch fish from more than one area, the recommended guidelines for different species and different locations should not be combined.)

If you would like further information, please contact one of the agencies below.

NJ Department of Environmental Protection

- **Division of Science, Research and Technology (609) 984- 6070**
  http://www.state.nj.us/dep/dsr/njmainfish.htm
- **Division of Fish and Wildlife (609) 748-2020**
  http://www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw

NJ Department of Health and Senior Services

- **Consumer & Environmental Health Services (609) 588-3123**
  http://www.state.nj.us/health/eoh

For background information contact: State and Local libraries for Administrative Code 7:25-14,18A

For information on other advisories:

DE Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (302) 739-4506

Division of Fish & Wildlife
http://www.dnrec.state.de.us/fw/fwwel.htm

NY Department of Health 1-800-458-1158 ext. 27815
http://www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/environ/fish.htm or e-mail BTSA@health.state.ny.us

PA Department of Environmental Protection (717) 787-9637
http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/watermgt/wqp/wqstandards/fishadvis/fishadvisory.htm

US Food and Drug Administration, 1-888-SAFEFOOD or Seafood Hotline @ 1-800-FDA-4010 or http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/seafood1.html

US Environmental Protection Agency
http://www.epa.gov/ost/fish

Detailed information on fish and shellfish consumption patterns in the Newark Bay area and Lower Passaic can be found in NJDEP's April 25, 2002 report 'Estimate of Cancer Risk to Consumers of Crabs Caught in the Area of the Diamond Alkali Site and Other Areas of the Newark Bay Complex From 2,3,7,8-TCDD and 2,3,7,8-TCDD Equivalents', which is available at www.state.nj.us/dep/dsr/crab-outreach/crabsra.pdf

Appendix 16 – Community Interview Questions

1. Are you aware of any environmental cleanup or restoration efforts on the Lower Passaic River and Newark Bay?
   - If yes, do you know of any federal or state agencies involved in these efforts and their roles and how they coordinate with each other? For example:
     - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
     - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps)
     - NJ Department of Transportation (NJDOT)
     - NJ Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP)
   - If aware of the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project: Do you know about the natural resource damage assessment and its role in the project?
   - If aware of the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project: Are you aware of the major activities and schedule associated with the project?
   - What areas of the Lower Passaic River and Newark Bay would benefit the most from restoration and cleanup?

2. Are you familiar with the Diamond Alkali Superfund Site? If yes, please summarize your knowledge.
   - In the past, have you received any information regarding the site?
   - Are there aspects of past public participation that worked well?
   - What were its weaknesses or which aspects of past public participation should be changed in the future?

3. IF APPLICABLE: Has your group/organization ever conducted research on the Passaic River? If yes, please explain.
   - Have statistical data/findings been made available to any state or federal agencies? If yes, please explain. If no, could this information be made available in the future?

4. Do you have specific concerns, information or ideas regarding the Newark Bay Study or the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project? If yes, please explain.
   - Is there a particular human health or environmental issue that is most important to you? (*i.e.,* water quality, contaminated sediments, fish and shellfish consumption advisories, wetlands, degraded ecological habitats.)
   - Are you aware of future economic development plans along the Lower Passaic River or around Newark Bay?
   - How do you feel about?
     - environmental dredging?
     - capping of contaminated sediments?

- monitored natural recovery?

5. How do you think federal and state agencies should inform the general public about environmental issues like the Newark Bay Study or the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project?
   - In your opinion, what strategies/tactics are effective to inform the general public?
   - What strategies/tactics seem ineffective or stand in the way of progress?
   - Are there local TV/radio talk shows EPA could use? Are there any existing local government councils, civic, or property owners associations with which we can partner in our outreach and involvement efforts? If so, which do you recommend?
   - Do you want more information about the Newark Bay Study or Lower Passaic River Restoration Project? If yes, on what do you want the most information?
   - Do you know where to get project documents?
   - Do you know who to contact to ask questions or provide comments?
   - What sources of information about the project do you/would you rely on the most? Is EPA, the Corps or New Jersey viewed as credible, trustworthy sources of information?
   - Which type of meeting format do you think is most productive – "formal" public meetings, or "informal" information sessions?
   - Are there interests or organizations or individuals whom you feel are important to include in the decision-making process?

6. In your opinion, does your local community understand the scientific information it is receiving about the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project?
   - Does the local community have access to information sources (in particular, the Internet)?
   - Are you aware of communities along the Lower Passaic River or Newark Bay that speak a language other than English and for whom translation of materials may be needed?
   - Are you aware of homeless populations that live along and/or use the river?
   - What types of technical assistance is most needed to understand the various studies involved in the project?

7. In your opinion, what role (if any) should the general public play in the cleanup and restoration process?

8. How do you typically receive information about your community (*e.g.*, word of mouth, local newspapers, local radio stations, etc.)?

9. Do you have any suggestions for places to hold meetings?

10. Is there anything else you would like to tell us regarding public participation for this project? Do you have any questions or concerns?

Appendix 17– Demographic Data

The city information in the charts below was taken from the 2000 Census.

Race totals may be greater than 100 percent because Hispanic/Latin may also be counted in multiple categories.

City	State	County	Population	Median Age	Median Household Income
Bayonne	NJ	Hudson	61,842	38.1	$30,940
Belleville	NJ	Essex	35,928	36.2	$48,576
Bloomfield	NJ	Essex	47,683	37.1	$53,289
Clifton	NJ	Passaic	78,672	38.8	$50,619
East Rutherford	NJ	Bergen	8,716	37.9	$50,163
Elizabeth	NJ	Union	120,568	32.6	$35,175
Garfield	NJ	Bergen	29,786	35.6	$42,748
Harrison	NJ	Hudson	14,424	34.1	$41,350
Jersey City	NJ	Hudson	240,055	32.4	$37,862
Kearny	NJ	Hudson	40,513	34.7	$47,757
Lyndhurst	NJ	Bergen	19,383	39.5	$53,375
Montclair	NJ	Essex	38,977	37.5	$74,894
Newark	NJ	Essex	273,546	30.8	$26,913
North Arlington	NJ	Bergen	15,181	40.9	$51,787
Nutley	NJ	Essex	27,362	39.3	$59,634
Passaic	NJ	Passaic	67,861	28.6	$33,594
Paterson	NJ	Passaic	149,222	30.5	$32,778
Rutherford	NJ	Bergen	18,110	38.8	$63,820
Wallington	NJ	Bergen	11,583	38.2	$45,656
AVERAGE			68,390	36	46,365
MEDIAN			38,977	37	47,757
TOTAL			1,299,412		

City	Race: White	Race: Blk/African Am.	Race: Hispanic/Latin	Race: Asian	RACE TOTALS**
Bayonne	79%	6%	18%	4%	107%
Belleville	69%	5%	24%	11%	109%
Bloomfield	70%	12%	14%	8%	104%
Clifton	76%	3%	20%	6%	105%
East Rutherford	80%	4%	11%	11%	106%
Elizabeth	56%	20%	50%	2%	128%
Garfield	82%	3%	20%	3%	108%
Harrison	66%	1%	37%	12%	116%
Jersey City	34%	28%	28%	16%	106%
Kearny	76%	4%	27%	6%	113%
Lyndhurst	90%	1%	9%	5%	105%
Montclair	60%	32%	5%	3%	100%
Newark	27%	53%	30%	1%	111%
North Arlington	90%	1%	11%	6%	108%
Nutley	88%	2%	7%	7%	104%
Passaic	35%	14%	63%	6%	118%
Paterson	31%	33%	50%	2%	116%
Rutherford	82%	3%	9%	11%	105%
Wallington	88%	3%	7%	5%	103%
AVERAGE	67.34%	12.00%	23.13%	6.58%	
MEDIAN	76.00%	4.00%	20.00%	6.00%	
TOTAL					

City	Edu: High School +	Edu: Bachelors +
Bayonne	78.80%	20.90%
Belleville	78.20%	21.70%
Bloomfield	83.50%	31.80%
Clifton	78.60%	23.60%
East Rutherford	78.50%	25.50%
Elizabeth	61.70%	12.10%
Garfield	70.30%	14%
Harrison	69.30%	20.90%
Jersey City	72.60%	27.50%
Kearny	70.90%	17.40%
Lyndhurst	81.40%	21.90%
Montclair	92%	57.40%
Newark	64.30%	11.40%
North Arlington	82.10%	19.50%
Nutley	86.50%	32.90%
Passaic	55.50%	13.70%
Paterson	58.50%	18.20%
Rutherford	88.30%	40.30%
Wallington	72.40%	17%
AVERAGE	74.92%	23.56%
MEDIAN	78.20%	20.90%
TOTAL		

Appendix 18 – Bibliography

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Ironbound Community Corporation, Newark, NJ

National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration Website, www.noaa.gov

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Website, www.state.nj.state/us/dep/

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Geographic Information System

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Revised Community Relations Plan, Passaic River Study Area, Diamond Alkali Superfund Site, Essex and Hudson Counties, New Jersey; May 1994; ICF Technology Incorporated, under EPA Contract No. 68-W8-0124

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Website, www.epa.gov

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, NJDOT, Project Management Plan for the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project