



**New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site**

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PLAN**

**and**

**INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL PLAN for SEAFOOD CONSUMPTION**



## **INTRODUCTION**

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prepared this Community Involvement Plan and Institutional Control Plan for Seafood Consumption for the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site (Site) in New Bedford, Massachusetts, and the surrounding communities of Fairhaven, Acushnet and Dartmouth. Pursuant to CERCLA and the National Contingency Plan at 40 C.F.R. § 300.430(c)(2)(ii), EPA prepared this community relations plan based on community interviews and other relevant information, and specified the community relations activities that EPA expects to undertake during remedial response at this Superfund site.

This Community Involvement Plan (CIP) provides: 1) a brief description of the Site and the cleanup plan for the Site; 2) a summary of identified, current community concerns in New Bedford and its surrounding communities of Acushnet, Fairhaven and Dartmouth along with EPA's response; and 3) an outline of the efforts EPA is taking to keep the public and local officials informed about progress at the Site, and to encourage continued and expanded community involvement. The Institutional Control Plan for Seafood Consumption (Seafood IC Plan) provides: 1) a summary of identified, current community concerns relating to seafood consumption; 2) a brief description of the actions that have been taken to minimize consumption of local PCB-contaminated seafood; 3) a description of the specific steps EPA will take to implement the institutional controls for seafood consumption selected as part of the Record of Decision, as modified; and 4) the additional steps EPA will take to collaborate with others to reduce consumption of local PCB-contaminated seafood. To create plans that address community concerns, EPA conducted a series of interviews in March and April of 2014 with residents, community service providers, community advocacy groups, local governmental officials, business leaders and other stakeholders.

EPA's goals for community involvement at the Site are:

- To provide the public with accurate, timely, accessible, and understandable information about the project as it moves forward with sensitivity toward the cultural diversity of the community;
- To encourage the public to provide input when decisions about the cleanup are being made by providing adequate time and opportunity for meaningful input;
- To enlist the support and involvement of local officials and community leaders;
- To respect and fully consider and address community input as appropriate, as the project moves forward.

The CIP and Seafood IC Plan are living documents. If you are interested in suggesting changes to these plans or have questions about the CIP or the Seafood IC Plan, please contact:

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The CIP and Seafood IC Plan will be revised as community concern warrants or as otherwise considered necessary by EPA until the Site is removed from the National Priorities List. The revision process includes conducting additional community interviews, updating mailing lists, maintaining the files at the designated information repository, and updating the contacts and resources provided in the appendices of this document as necessary. The purpose of the revision process is to ensure that the CIP and Seafood IC Plan reflect significant Site developments and to acknowledge and address evolving community expectations and concerns as the Site activities progress toward completion.

# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PLAN ORGANIZATION

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## **New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site**

This section provides a brief description of the Site, the Cleanup Plan and how a recent change in funding will affect the cleanup.

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## **The Community**

This section contains a community profile, a summary of current community concerns and corresponding EPA responses, a brief history of prior community involvement, and recent views and ideas regarding EPA community involvement tools.

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Pages 6-12

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## **Community Involvement Action Plan**

Presented in this section is EPA's action plan for addressing the community involvement issues and concerns identified during the interviews conducted to develop this plan, except for those issues relating to seafood consumption, which are addressed in the next section.

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Pages 13-16

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## **Institutional Control Plan for Seafood Consumption**

Community concerns relating to seafood consumption and EPA responses are provided here, along with the steps EPA will take to minimize the ingestion of contaminated seafood at the Site, as required by the 1998 ROD.

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## **Appendices**

Contacts, Website, List of Acronyms, Glossary, List of Attachments

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## DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

The New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site (the Site) is located in Bristol County, Massachusetts. The 18,000-acre Site extends from the shallow northern reaches of the Acushnet River estuary, south through the commercial harbor of the City of New Bedford, and into 17,000 adjacent acres of Buzzards Bay. In addition to the City of New Bedford (City), the harbor is bordered by the Massachusetts towns of Acushnet, Fairhaven, and Dartmouth. EPA identified sediment and seafood contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in and around New Bedford Harbor in the mid-1970s, and began site-specific investigations in 1983 and 1984. The Site is contaminated with high concentrations of many hazardous substances, notably very high levels of PCBs and heavy metals, with contaminant levels generally decreasing from north to south. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts (Commonwealth) designated the New Bedford Harbor Site as its highest priority site, and EPA placed it on the National Priorities List (NPL) on September 8, 1983.

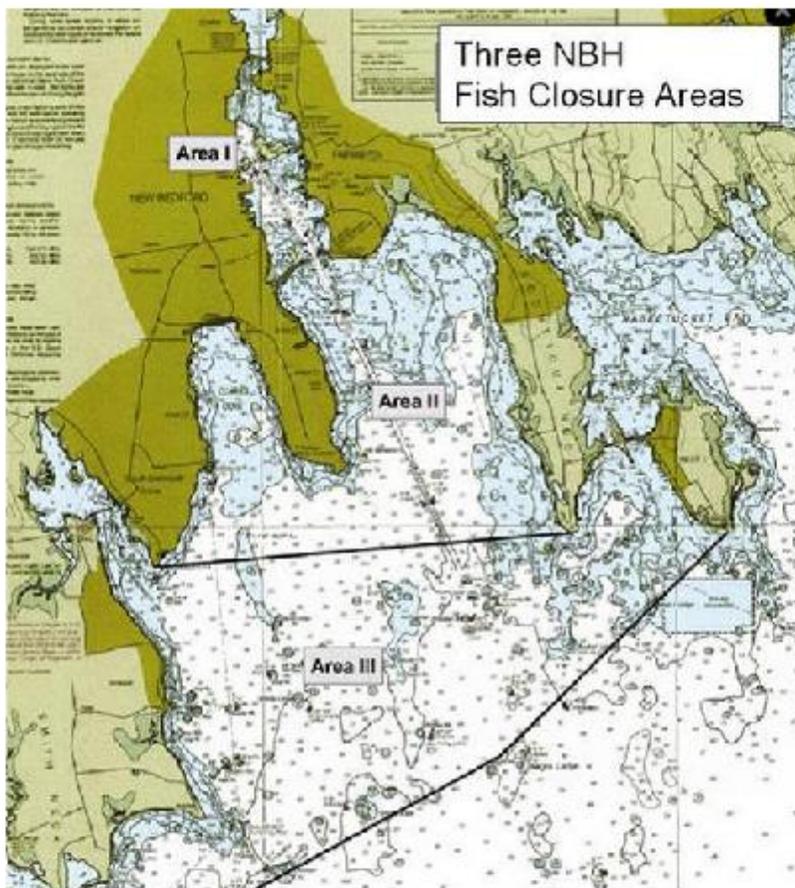


The Site includes three geographic areas of the Acushnet River estuary and Buzzards Bay—the Upper, Lower and Outer Harbors. The Upper Harbor comprises approximately 187 acres, with current sediment PCB levels ranging from below detection to approximately 4,000 ppm. Prior to the removal of the most contaminated hot spot sediments in 1994 and 1995 as part of EPA's first cleanup phase, sediment PCB levels were reported higher than 100,000 ppm in the Upper Harbor. The boundary between the Upper and Lower Harbor is the Coggeshall Street bridge where the width of the harbor narrows to approximately 100 feet. The Lower Harbor comprises approximately 750 acres, with sediment PCB levels ranging from below detection to over 100 ppm. The boundary between the Lower and Outer Harbor is the 150 foot wide opening of the New Bedford hurricane barrier. The Outer Harbor comprises roughly 17,000 acres and sediment PCB levels are generally low, with only localized areas of PCBs in the 50-100 ppm range near the Connell-Dublier plant and the City of New Bedford Wastewater treatment plant outfall pipes, but overall the Outer Harbor sediment averages less than 1 ppm.



Site Location Map

In and around the Site are three fishing closure areas, promulgated by the Commonwealth in 1979, extending approximately 6.8 miles north to south and encompassing roughly 18,000 acres in total. Area I includes the Upper and Lower Harbor portions of the Site while Areas II and III comprise the Outer Harbor portion of the Site. Note that EPA's seafood consumption restrictions do not apply to seafood caught beyond the boundaries of the Site by the New Bedford area commercial fishing fleet.



### **THE CLEANUP PLAN**

EPA divided the New Bedford Harbor Site into three phases, or operable units (OUs), of site cleanup: OU1 generally covers the Upper and Lower Harbors; OU2 (Hot Spot Operable Unit) is generally located in a five-acre area in the Upper Harbor near the Aerovox Corporation facility, the primary source of PCB contamination to the Harbor; and OU3 encompasses the Outer Harbor area.

#### **Operable Unit 1**

On September 25, 1998, EPA selected the remedy (ROD) for the Upper and Lower Harbor Operable Unit of the Site (OU1). Section 117(c) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) and Section 300.435(c)(2)(i) of the National Contingency Plan (NCP) require that, if any remedial action is taken after adoption of a final remedial action plan, and such action differs in any significant respect from the final plan, EPA shall publish an explanation of the significant differences (ESD) and the reasons such changes were made. The ROD for OU1 was

modified four times through ESDs. Approximately 900,000 cubic yards (cy) of contaminated sediment will be addressed. The major components of the OU1 Remedy include, but are not limited to:

- Hydraulic dredging of roughly 425,000 cy of sediment in the Upper Harbor, dewatering, and off-site disposal;
- Hydraulic or mechanical dredging of approximately 175,000 cy of sediment from areas of the Upper Harbor and disposal of that sediment into three confined disposal facilities (CDFs) to be built along the New Bedford shoreline of the Upper Harbor; **(This component is currently being reevaluated.)**
- Mechanical dredging of sediment from the Lower Harbor and a portion of the Upper Harbor and disposal of that sediment (approximately 300,000 cy) in a confined aquatic disposal (CAD) cell in the Lower Harbor;
- Completed capping of approximately 20 acres of sediment with PCB levels above 50 ppm located in the Outer Harbor just south of the hurricane barrier near the Cornell-Dubilier facility; and
- Long-term operation and maintenance of components of the harbor remedy, including a capped area of sediment in the Outer Harbor, the CAD cell, and CDFs.

The OU1 Remedy also includes long-term, site-wide monitoring and institutional controls (e.g., seafood monitoring, seafood advisories and land use restrictions.) This document includes an institutional control plan for seafood consumption only. The other institutional controls will be addressed at a later date in another document.

In addition to the selected remedy for OU1 described above, the Commonwealth petitioned EPA to allow the inclusion of navigational dredging in New Bedford Harbor as an enhancement of the remedy. The enhancement requested by the Commonwealth would link as appropriate the dredging and disposal of sediments dredged from the harbor's navigational channels (located in the lower and outer harbors) with the Superfund program. Although these navigational sediments fall below the level of contamination the Superfund program is addressing (and thus do not overlap with sediments slated for remedial dredging), they are nevertheless contaminated with heavy metals and lower levels of PCBs (<50 ppm). Thus these navigational sediments, approximately 1.7 million cy in volume, are most likely unsuitable for open water disposal, and alternative disposal approaches are required if shipping channels are to be maintained to their State and federally-approved depths. EPA accepted the Commonwealth's request to include navigational dredging as an enhancement of the selected remedy for OU1 and this work is currently ongoing.

### **Operable Unit 2**

On April 6, 1990, EPA selected a remedy for OU2 (Hot Spot Operable Unit), documented in a Record of Decision (ROD) which was later modified. The OU2 ROD, as modified, called for dredging of approximately 14,000 cy of sediment contaminated with over 4,000 ppm PCBs in a roughly 5-acre area in the Upper Harbor, followed by dewatering and off-site disposal at an appropriately licensed disposal facility. EPA completed this work in May 2000.

### **Operable Unit 3**

The Outer Harbor, which consists of approximately 17,000 acres outside of and adjacent to the New Bedford Hurricane Barrier, is currently undergoing a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study ("RI/FS"). The RI study includes field sampling to determine the nature and extent of contamination, and human health and ecological risk assessments. Completion of the RI for the Outer Harbor is scheduled for 2015. The RI will be followed by the FS which will include a review of technologies and evaluation of a range of response actions to address any risks that are found. EPA will continue to keep the public informed about the progress of the Outer Harbor/OU3 RI/FS study.

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF MAJOR ACTIVITIES FOR THE NEXT 5 YEARS (subject to change)

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| • Ongoing        | Planning, Contracting and Scheduling                                |
| • Present – 2020 | Upper Harbor Subtidal Hydraulic Dredging                            |
| • 2015           | Completion of Lower Harbor CAD Cell (LHCC) Construction             |
| • 2016 – 2018    | Mechanical Dredging of Lower and Upper Harbors for Disposal in LHCC |
| • 2015 – 2018    | Intertidal /Shoreline Sampling and Remediation Planning             |
| • 2016 – 2020    | Intertidal/Shoreline Remediation and Restoration                    |

## WHAT IS THE SOURCE OF FUNDING FOR THE WORK AT THE SITE?

### **Prior to September 2013**

EPA has been committed to the New Bedford Harbor cleanup since the 1980s. With designation on the NPL in 1983, the Site was eligible for funding from EPA's trust fund known as the "Hazardous Substance Superfund" (commonly known as "Superfund") and the statutory State 10% cost share of remedial action costs paid by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, as required by law. Superfund monies were used to initiate the response actions at the Site, including the investigation of the nature and extent of the contamination, and the search for those entities responsible for the contamination at the Site.

From 1999 through 2004, EPA completed the work for OU2 and performed remedial design and remedial action activities for OU1 using funds received from settlements of lawsuits filed on behalf of EPA against Aerovox Corporation (predecessor to AVX Corporation (AVX)) and others responsible for the contamination. Those funds were depleted in 2004.

In 2004, EPA began full-scale dredging (hydraulic dredging, desanding, dewatering, wastewater treatment, and off-site disposal of PCB-contaminated sediment). From 2004 through 2013, EPA financed the work with the typical annual funding rate from Superfund of approximately \$15 million. The Commonwealth provided the statutory ten per cent State cost share of approximately \$1.5 million annually, pursuant to a State Superfund Contract with EPA. That funding level allowed EPA to perform full-scale dredging for only approximately two and a half to three months per year (or an average of about 40-45 days of dredging). At that rate, EPA estimated it would take approximately 40 years to complete the OU1 Remedy. However, in 2009 and 2010, EPA received a total of \$44.5 million in stimulus funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) which allowed for an additional 120 days of dredging over the 2009 and 2010 seasons.

### **Post September 2013**

Under the terms of the earlier 1992 settlement with AVX, the government reopened the lawsuit against AVX to negotiate a supplemental consent decree which was entered by the Court in September 2013. Under the supplemental settlement, AVX agreed to pay an additional \$366.25 million plus interest to settle its remaining CERCLA liabilities at the Site. The settlement is estimated to provide over 90% of the funds currently estimated to be needed to complete the OU1 remedy. If the settlement funds are insufficient to complete the cleanup, EPA will seek, through EPA Headquarters, additional Superfund funding from the federal budget. Once final federal contracting issues for the work are completed, EPA and the Commonwealth will be able to fund the cleanup at an accelerated rate and anticipate completion of the OU1 remedy in the next 5-7 years rather than the previously predicted timeline of 40 years.

## **COMMUNITY PROFILE**

The communities surrounding the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site include the City of New Bedford, the Town of Fairhaven, the Town of Acushnet, and the Town of Dartmouth. EPA appreciates that members of all four towns use the harbor, and EPA historically has, and will continue to engage all four towns as part of the community involvement activities developed for this Site. EPA considered the demographics of all of these communities, but because the City of New Bedford is the largest, has the highest number of persons living below the poverty level, the greatest number of non-English speaking community members, the lowest high school graduation rates, the greatest cultural diversity, the most places where members of the public can access the PCB-contaminated sediments, and because it is an Environmental Justice area, EPA chose to focus on New Bedford to describe the community profile for this section of the CIP.

The City of New Bedford is located in southeastern Massachusetts, approximately 50 miles south of Boston. It is bordered by Dartmouth on the west, Acushnet and Fairhaven on the east, Freetown on the north, and Buzzards Bay on the south with a total area of roughly 25 square miles. It was formed as a Town in 1787 and was incorporated as a City in 1847. The municipality operates under a mayor-council form of government.

The 2010 US Census Bureau and the 2009-2013 American Community Survey data show New Bedford's population is approximately 95,000. While predominantly white, the community includes many foreign-born immigrants (16.7% Hispanic or Latino). Approximately 8,000 immigrants in New Bedford are not US citizens and roughly 10,700 immigrants are naturalized citizens. More than 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the population speaks a language other than English at home. Additional statistical data about New Bedford is shown below.

Median Age: 37
"Family" households: 60%
Persons 25 + years old high school graduates: 70%
Median Household Income: \$36,000
Persons Living Below Poverty Level: 23.5%
Cost of Living Index: 133 in March 2012 (national average 100)

Local community service providers working with immigrants share another perspective on the immigrant communities. These groups describe a "new immigrant community" and an older, established immigrant population. The former is largely made up of Central Americans, particularly Guatemalans who have come to New Bedford relatively recently, in roughly the last decade. The latter includes mostly Portuguese Americans and Cape Verdean Americans who have resided in New Bedford for many years, most of whom have obtained legal status. These community organizations estimate that there are approximately 10,000 undocumented immigrants residing in New Bedford at this time (note that this is roughly 25% higher than estimated in survey data shown above). Common amongst both the "new" and the "old" immigrant populations are challenges of low literacy and limited or no understanding of English.

**CURRENT CONCERNS RAISED BY COMMUNITY MEMBERS**

A variety of concerns related to the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site were raised during the interview process. Below is a table summarizing those concerns along with a brief response. However, the concerns raised regarding seafood consumption and EPA’s corresponding responses are included in the Institutional Control Plan for Seafood Consumption at the end of this document rather than in this section.

CONCERN	RESPONSE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Recreation</b> At least one person interviewed feels that EPA is downplaying the risks associated with recreational use of the harbor and the surrounding shoreline, notably north of the hurricane barrier. A few others suggested that EPA send a positive, balanced message that would make community members comfortable using the area responsibly (walking, biking, kayaking, etc., but refraining from eating the seafood or contacting the sediments).</li> </ul> <p>Another believes that roughly 50% of Fairhaven residents from Huttleston Ave. may be unaware of potential exposure to PCBs from wading along the shoreline of the Lower Harbor or from allowing their pets to play in the water there, coming into contact with contaminated sediments and then bringing them into their homes.</p>	<p>EPA will neither downplay, nor exaggerate the risks presented at the Site. The OU1 risk assessment concluded that consumption of contaminated seafood, direct contact with contaminated shoreline sediment and incidental ingestion of contaminated shoreline sediment by children did present unacceptable risks, as noted in the ROD. Direct contact and incidental ingestion risks are the drivers for the intertidal/shoreline cleanup levels. EPA recognizes that some residents do not know where they should or should not go regarding sediment. EPA has posted signage in areas where there are direct contact risks and has worked with the City on installation and maintenance of fencing to prevent access to contaminated sediment at Riverside Park.</p> <p>-In order to minimize any potential exposure to PCB-contaminated sediments, EPA recommends that residents who wade or exercise their pets in the Lower Harbor areas rinse themselves, their pets, and anything that came into contact with sediment with clean water after the activity to avoid transfer of any PCB-contaminated sediment to vehicles and/or homes.</p> <p>- EPA has worked with the City of New Bedford to provide for the safe recreational use of the Site, including rowing activities in the Upper and Lower Harbor portions of the Site. EPA has also provided an informational flyer for rowers and has attended rowing events to discuss sediment risks and physical hazard risks in the Upper Harbor. See Attachment 6.</p> <p>-Regarding swimming, in the OU1 ROD, EPA explained that, “Exposure to PCBs and metals while swimming was not found to result in significant human health risk.” Hundreds of</p>

CONCERN	RESPONSE
	<p>people swim safely in the Outer Harbor every year.-</p> <p>- EPA will target the shoreline neighborhood areas to raise awareness of the residents. EPA will accomplish this through direct mailing, hand-delivery to the homes, and/or via the local newspapers in affected areas.</p> <p>-(Residents should also be aware that in addition to the PCB-contaminated sediments, the harbor has combined sewer overflows and bacterial issues that may pose risks.)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Economic Issues</b></li> </ul> <p>One of the community groups is very concerned that the portion of the \$366M settlement which will be spent on labor associated with the cleanup will not reach the local work force. They are frustrated that in the past, they have been told the work force is not qualified to do the work at the Site, and they worry that moving forward, they will receive the same message without enough notice to prepare themselves to meet the necessary qualifications.</p> <p>A different concern is the potential negative impact on tourism if EPA’s outreach, especially regarding the fish advisories, is not done in a way that avoids damaging the image of positive opportunities presented by the harbor.</p> <p>Additionally, a request was made for EPA to continue working collaboratively with other stakeholders on the development of a Riverwalk and other shoreline plans because the timing and progress of both affect each other.</p>	<p>EPA understands that unemployment is a major concern for New Bedford area residents and appreciates the commitment to involvement with this Site that many have shown for years. EPA is required to comply with laws pertaining to work at Superfund sites. The Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) is performing the work at the Site, with EPA oversight. EPA plans to partner with ACOE and local stakeholders to bring the Superfund Jobs Training Initiative to New Bedford. See Attachment 4 for information about this program.</p> <p>EPA is obligated to educate and inform the public about the risks present at the Site and will continue to meet this obligation. The Seafood IC Plan sets forth actions EPA has committed to perform to meet its obligations under the ROD regarding minimizing ingestion of local PCB-contaminated seafood. Outside of that, EPA will continue to collaborate with the City and Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MassDPH).</p> <p>EPA will continue to collaborate with stakeholders regarding EPA activities which may impact Riverwalk and shoreline plans.</p>

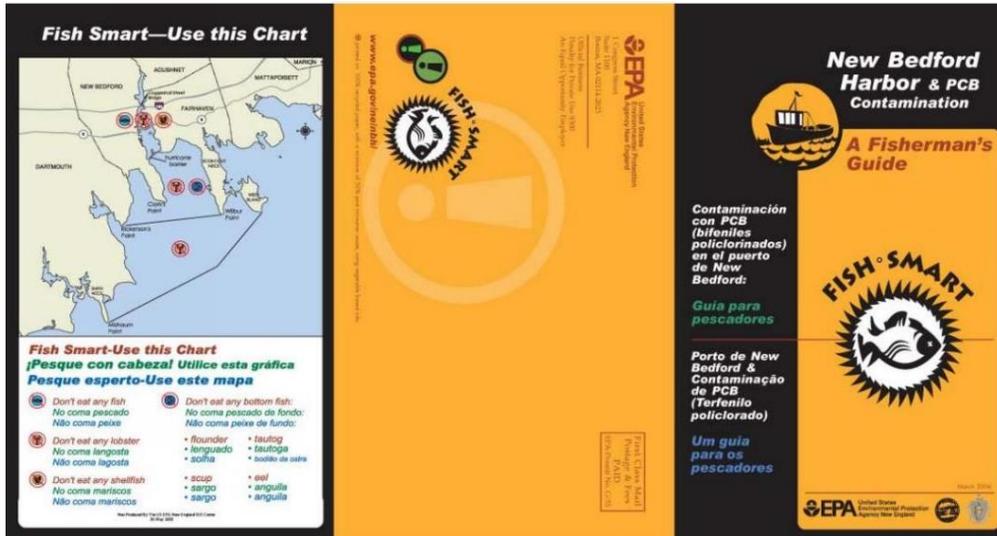
CONCERN	RESPONSE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <b>The Cleanup</b>            Some people expressed skepticism about the effectiveness of CAD cells and are especially concerned that they are being located near residential areas. One fear is that hundreds of years from now, the channel will be widened, causing the sediments to move and the CAD cells to fail. Another is the uncertainty of the ability of CAD cells to withstand earthquakes. One person expressed a belief that it would be better to have the CAD cell farther out into the harbor, away from residences and from the shipping channel.             Others indicated they are comfortable with the use of CAD cells and approve of their use to expedite remediation of the Site         </li> </ul>	<p>In the 2011 decision document called the Fourth Explanation of Significant Differences, EPA determined that the use of a Lower Harbor CAD cell as a component of the cleanup plan is protective of human health and the environment. EPA's Lower Harbor CAD cell is being constructed in an area of the Harbor approved for CAD cell construction by the State, in coordination with the City of New Bedford and Town of Fairhaven. The construction of CAD cells, including EPA's Lower Harbor CAD Cell, is a vital component of enabling shipping channels to remain open for servicing the commercial harbor.</p> <p>EPA agrees.</p>

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

Throughout the history of the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site, EPA has and will continue to employ a variety of tools to reach and engage the community; for example, public meetings, open house sessions, fact sheets, press releases, invitations for public comments on proposed plans for cleanup, a website, mailings, public information meetings, local information repositories, paid advertising, public access TV recordings, and videos of Site-related work, amongst others. In addition to these fairly typical means, EPA utilized other, less common means of public outreach for this community, such as:

- A professionally mediated Community Forum process, which included citizen group leaders, local and state elected officials, business representatives, and other federal and state agencies; while it commenced in late 1993 in an effort to build lasting consensus for the Site's cleanup and specifically to address public concerns raised by the plans to address contaminated sediments in the hot spot areas of the Site (OU2), eventually its purposes expanded to all Site-related issues and in 1996, culminated in a documented consensus on a proposed cleanup approach for OU1.
- As part of the EPA decision to design, construct, and fill a CAD cell as one component of OU1, a technical workgroup (TWG) open to individuals and organizations interested in the project was formed to review and discuss design and construction documents related to the CAD cell. The TWG began meeting in 2012 and may continue to meet until the construction of the CAD cell is completed.
- In Fall of 2011, a technical assistance grant (TAG) was awarded to a local nonprofit organization which used the funds to hire Dr. Frank Bohlen from the Department of Marine Sciences at the University of Connecticut. Dr. Bohlen has participated in and will continue to attend the TWG meetings to provide technical input to the group, address community questions about technical aspects of the project, and provide feedback to EPA.

- In 2006-2007, to raise people’s awareness of health risks associated with eating PCB-contaminated seafood, EPA launched a campaign, the “Fish Smart” Campaign, which included educational outreach in area schools and hospitals; colorful, eye-catching posters and materials were located in many publicly accessible locations throughout New Bedford. See Attachment 5.



- Environmental educational resources for teachers and students were developed in partnership between EPA, the Lloyd Center for the Environment, the New Bedford Public Schools' Sea Lab, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) and area educators; these materials were completed in 2003, are periodically still used, and are posted on EPA’s website.

**THOUGHTS AND IDEAS ABOUT COMMUNICATION TOOLS**

Community members were asked to give opinions about specific tools EPA has used in the past, and suggestions for tools to use in the future, to better inform and direct EPA’s plans for community involvement, outreach and education. Generally, there is agreement that different strategies must be employed for different people because the makeup of the community varies from those who are highly educated and well-informed to those who face challenges of illiteracy, do not speak English, and have very limited or no understanding of the environmental problems present in the harbor. Here is what community members said during interviews:

**Public meetings** are currently viewed as ineffective at this Site by some community members interviewed. Comments such as the following were made.

- Only people who oppose EPA’s decisions attend, and there is a need for a neutral representative, such as someone from the City Health Department, the Mayor’s Office, or members of the City Council to participate at these meetings to balance the discussion.
- By the time a public meeting is held, EPA’s decisions are made and there is no opportunity for meaningful public input.
- The purpose of each public meeting needs to be made clear. When EPA decisions are made, and the purpose is for EPA to share information and updates, rather than to solicit public input, that message needs to be clearly delivered prior to the meeting.

- People do not attend because others, such as Hands Across the River Coalition and Buzzards Bay Coalition, do a good job of representing and informing the public, so there is no need to attend.

Though nearly all who were interviewed felt that generally, public meetings are not effective, there were several components about public meetings that are appreciated by some. A few people liked the fact that the meetings are recorded and are available via public access TV, affording those who are unable to attend in person the opportunity to learn what is said at the meetings. However, one was skeptical that many viewers watch and suggested that EPA confer with Cable Access to learn whether viewership is tracked to know if the meetings are watched. Another person expressed appreciation of the public meeting format for the airing of various perspectives for all members of the public to hear. He was concerned that if EPA holds smaller meetings with targeted groups, only the EPA perspective will be shared and the audience will not have the benefit of other, perhaps contrary views.

**Signage** needs to be improved. Many of those interviewed recommended that in addition to English, Spanish and Portuguese, the signs should be written in K'iche. It was also recommended that pictures are more effective than words because of those most at risk of consuming fish, the majority are illiterate. In particular, a picture of a Mayan-styled (brightly colored) fish would catch the attention of the Guatemalans. All suggested that the signs be very clear and simple. It was suggested that EPA place signs at Riverside Park and on the bridges where folks have been seen fishing, including the Coggeshall St., Fairhaven, and Apponagansett Bay bridges and the bait cutting stations on the Apponagansett Bay bridge, as well as at the nearby boat ramp and park area.

**Fact sheets** need to be written in simple, clear, non-scientific language in Spanish, Portuguese and K'iche as well as English.

**Press releases** should be thorough and should disclose all pertinent facts, including dollar amounts where costs or settlements are mentioned.

**The EPA website** is difficult to navigate, according to most people interviewed. It was suggested that the website should reveal, from the average resident's point of view, how the cleanup at the Site relates to or may impact him or her. Some experienced an inability to obtain historical information through the website.

**The City of New Bedford Facebook** page was identified by one person as a good place to post information regarding dredging activities and other related work that may affect local residents.

**Community assistance** to EPA was offered. The following groups expressed a willingness to help distribute fish advisories, fact sheets and other EPA materials related to the Site: New Bedford Harbor Development Commission (HDC); City of New Bedford Dept. of Community Services; Town of Fairhaven Planning Dept; Sea Lab Marine Science Education Center; Community Economic Development Center (CEDC); Buzzards Bay Coalition (on their website, willing to include fish advisories and any related frequently asked questions (FAQs)); Centro Comunitario



de Trabajadores (CCT); Catholic Charities; Eastern Fisheries; Joseph Abboud; Old Bedford Village; and the Immigrants Assistance Center (IAC).

**Educational connections** were encouraged. Several community members raised the Fish Smart campaign as a tool that was very effective. Most people interviewed agreed that one of the best ways to educate parents is by educating their children, and recommended that EPA work with the New Bedford and Fairhaven public schools. Other programs were suggested as potential partners for educating children, including the Sea Lab Marine Science Education Center and Buzzards Bay Coalition. The English-as-a-Second-Language classes were mentioned by several groups as a good forum to reach people, particularly with respect to the fish advisories. These are held in the public schools and at the IAC. Another suggestion was to partner with UMASS Dartmouth, as there are several groups there working with nonprofits in the community and opportunities for outreach may exist.

**Community events**, such as the various ethnic festivals, National Night Out, Whaling City festival, and AHA(Art, History and Architecture, a monthly event in New Bedford) were suggested by several people as places for EPA to connect with residents and opportunities for providing information and answering questions. Several groups working with the “new immigrant” community, however, said that it is unlikely that EPA would reach this population through big, community-wide events, as most members of this community do not attend them.



**Neighborhood meetings** were identified by some groups as another way to reach residents. A related idea was generated, suggesting that a stipend be offered to neighborhood groups to create their own outreach, as was reportedly done for the 2010 Census. (EPA is unable to offer stipends as suggested, so this idea will not be carried into the action plan.) Again, those working with the “new immigrants” reported this population generally does not participate in the established neighborhood meetings, so for these people, other means of communicating are necessary.

**Face-to-Face/Word-of-Mouth** communication was identified by many as the best way to reach people who are consuming fish. There was a suggestion to hire people “who look like [the fishermen] and talk like [them]” to engage in conversation those who are actually fishing to inform them about the contamination in the fish. One business showed special interest in this idea and offered to match funds dedicated to this purpose. One community service provider offered to talk with small businesses in the area serving the “new immigrant” community to spread the word about the fish advisories. Another offered to go to soccer matches & hand out flyers explaining the fish advisories, and to go to local churches and laundromats to post the information.

**Media** outlets were identified by several people including newspapers, and both television and radio stations and programs; they are identified in the Community Involvement Action Plan.

**Other Ideas for EPA/Media Tools:** Several people suggested that EPA appear as a guest on some of the local cable TV shows. Another suggested that EPA produce its own show, giving residents an inside view of the EPA facilities in New Bedford and showing the actual fish that are the subjects of the fish advisories. Another suggested EPA host a call-in radio show with interpreters available to accommodate non-English speakers.

**Miscellaneous** ideas that were generated include: sending out information along with residents' water bills; expanding and updating information posted at the New Bedford Whaling Museum.



*New Bedford Whaling Museum*

## **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ACTION PLAN**

### **Information Repository**

At Superfund sites, EPA maintains a set of documents and information locally, where it can be easily accessed by the public. This is called the Information Repository. It may contain paper or electronic copies of technical or planning documents, fact sheets, informative videos, results of previous meetings, and other similar types of information. EPA will continue to maintain and update the Information Repositories for the Site. See Appendix A.

### **Website**

EPA maintains an extensive website dedicated to the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site which includes the administrative records for the Site, decision documents, and several fact sheets. EPA is currently reviewing the functionality of the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site website and will make changes to improve its usefulness to the community. EPA invites any user experiencing difficulty with the website to contact the Community Involvement Coordinator identified in Appendix A for assistance with obtaining the information sought.

### **Language Support**

EPA will translate key public outreach documents into K'iche, Spanish and Portuguese when feasible. When it is cost prohibitive to translate important information (for example, a Feasibility Study, Record of Decision or Explanation of Significant Difference), EPA will make arrangements for interpretation services and will reach out to the non-English speaking community members in person via informational gatherings. In addition, when EPA is making other presentations or otherwise sharing information at

public gatherings at which non-English speaking participants are expected, and at the request of the community, EPA will arrange for interpretation services.

### Invitations for Public Comment

As in the past, EPA will continue to comply with requirements for public comment when issuing cleanup decisions. For these milestones, EPA will hold public meetings, invite public comments, and consider all comments received prior to issuing a final decision document such as a ROD or ESD.

### Informational Gatherings

Interviewees expressed mostly negative feelings about attending large, public meetings. Public meetings are structured, formal meetings open to the public, featuring a presentation and interaction with the public. **Formal public meetings are required only for a proposed cleanup plan, or a proposed amendment to a cleanup plan.** At a minimum, EPA will hold formal public meetings to satisfy this requirement. EPA may hold additional public meetings when major milestones for the project occur, such as the commencement or completion of five-year reviews, or the consideration of an Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD).

Other styles of meetings may also be utilized during milestones, such as poster sessions or open houses, where EPA personnel would be available to present information and answer questions in a more relaxed, small group atmosphere. This may encourage more residents to participate.

Small venue meetings based on local affiliations may also be incorporated to meet particular neighborhood or ethnic group needs. Churches and social service organizations may be able to host meetings where EPA could present information, receive input, and discussion could occur. Several organizations offered to host gatherings at which EPA could share information and meet informally with residents. EPA accepts and will act upon one or more offers of community assistance, including: setting up a table at the company Joseph Abboud to talk with interested employees during their lunch break; meeting with residents attending English classes at the IAC; and presenting information to residents at CCT. EPA may also reach out to the established neighborhood groups in New Bedford.

In collaboration with the HDC, and local rowing organizations and universities, EPA has and will continue to meet with local recreational users of the harbor, such as rowers and boaters, to educate them about how best to safely enjoy the use of the harbor.

### Community Events

New Bedford hosts various events each Summer where EPA may be able to attend and set up a booth, or provide information to the event host for distribution. These events are seen as a good way of having informal communication with local residents. The following events were identified but others may be added as EPA gains knowledge of additional events:

- National Night Out
- Whaling City Festival
- Cape Verdean Festival
- Mexican Festival
- Portuguese Feast
- Day of Portugal
- Spanish Festival

### Communication via Media Outlets Serving Non-English Speaking Populations

EPA will reach out to one or more of the following entities for placement of press releases, meeting announcements, and potential interview opportunities:

- O' Jornal – Fall River
- The Portuguese Times
- “The Voice of the Immigrant” radio show
- WJFD, 97.3 FM

### Communication via Other Media Outlets

EPA will reach out to one or more of the following entities for placement of press releases, meeting announcements, paid advertisements, and potential interview or presentation opportunities:

- The Standard Times
- Fairhaven Free Press
- Neighborhood News – Fairhaven
- Acushnet Community News
- Dartmouth Community News
- WNBH TV
- WBSM TV
- Cable Access TV

### Communication through Educational Programs

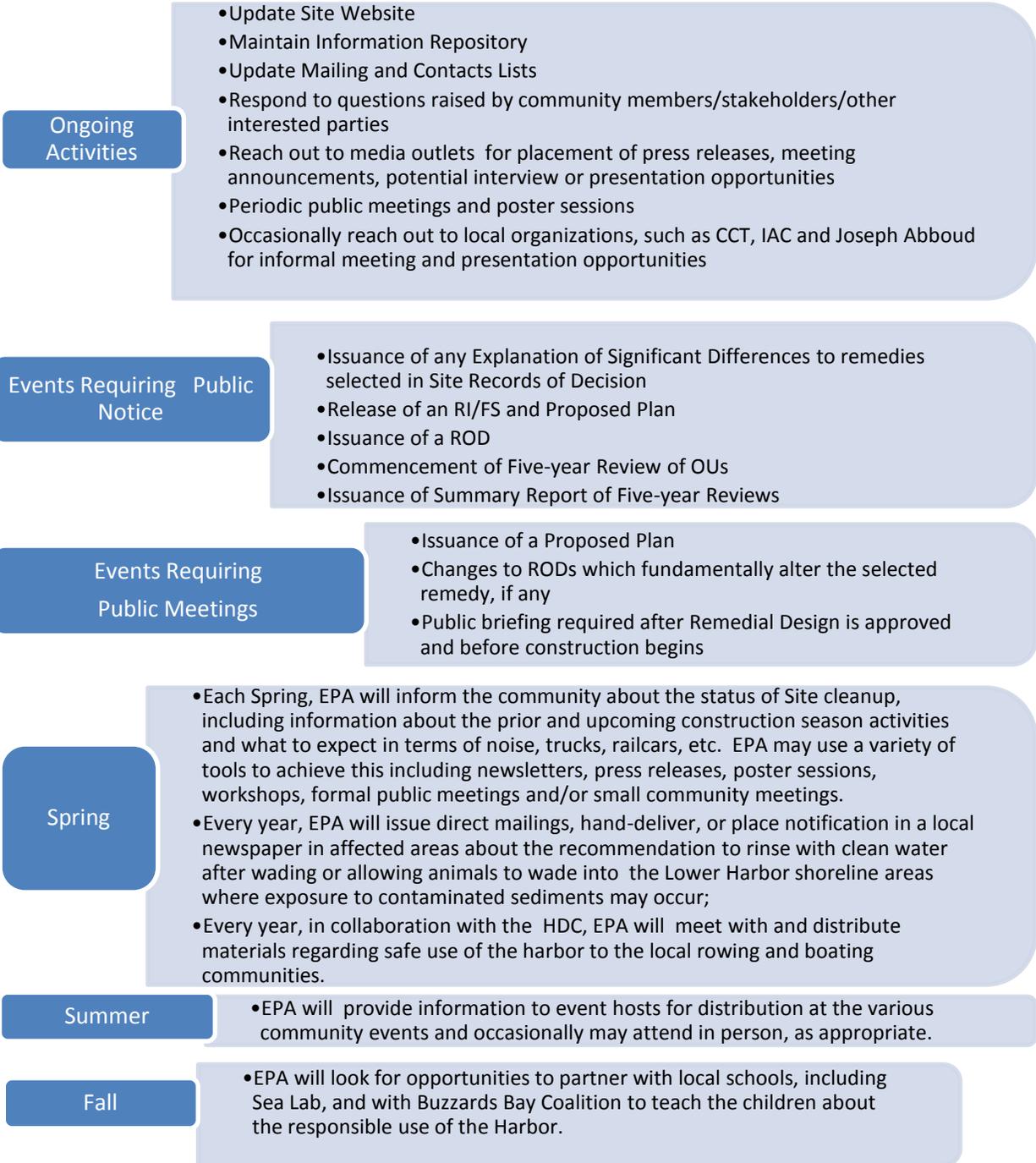
EPA will look for opportunities to partner with local schools, including Sea Lab, and with Buzzards Bay Coalition to teach the children about the responsible use of the Harbor, such as explaining that biking is acceptable, but that contacting sediment by wading in the water or sending pets into the water to fetch is not recommended. EPA will also make an effort to partner with the groups providing English-as-a-Second-Language classes to do the same.

### Distribution of Written Materials

EPA will accept the generous offers of assistance for distributing materials made by the City, the Town of Fairhaven, Sea Lab, Joseph Abboud, IAC, CCT, Old Bedford Village, Catholic Charities, and CEDC. EPA may also request help from other area businesses to display or otherwise make available some of the written materials, such as the fish advisories, FAQs, newsletters, and/or fact sheets. EPA will request assistance for distributing materials from the towns of Acushnet and Dartmouth.

### Timing

The timing for community involvement activities related to the fish consumption advisories are set forth in the Seafood IC Plan. For all other issues, the general framework for when certain outreach will take place is set forth below.



## INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL PLAN FOR SEAFOOD CONSUMPTION (“Seafood IC Plan”)

### Introduction

The presence of PCB-contaminated seafood in New Bedford Harbor was first identified by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in the mid-1970s. In 1979, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MassDPH) promulgated regulations prohibiting fishing and shellfishing throughout the Site. Since 1982, signs warning the public of the presence of PCBs in the Harbor have been in place, and maintenance and replacement of these continue as needed. In 1999, fencing was erected along the New Bedford shoreline in residential and public access areas where sampling results indicated high levels of PCBs, and “no fishing” signs were added throughout the Site. Since that time, in addition to maintaining signage and fencing, EPA has undertaken many outreach efforts to raise awareness of the health risks associated with consuming local PCB-contaminated seafood, such as: the issuance of Fish Advisories; placement of educational materials in schools, local community assistance centers, kiosks around the Site, and in City and Town offices; the Fish Smart campaign which included training of teachers; Grand Rounds in the medical community; inclusion of fish advisories in locally distributed shellfish licenses; office hours at the EPA site offices; and presentations at public meetings. Despite many years of outreach, information obtained from the interviews EPA conducted in Spring of 2014 to prepare the CIP and this Seafood IC Plan confirmed that people are continuing to eat fish caught in the Harbor. Some are choosing to do so even though they have been informed about the associated health risks; others are doing so with no knowledge or understanding of the risks presented. These findings were confirmed in a recent local newspaper article and video, as found in this link:

<http://www.southcoasttoday.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20140713/NEWS/407130312/0/SEARCH>.

The Seafood IC Plan sets forth the concerns raised by interviewees regarding fish consumption and EPA’s response to those concerns. It also documents the actions EPA will take to satisfy its obligations under the 1998 Record of Decision (ROD) to implement institutional controls to minimize ingestion of local PCB-contaminated seafood. Until such time as PCB levels in seafood reach EPA’s risk-based, Site-specific threshold of 0.02 ppm (or other level if this criteria is updated), institutional controls will remain in place. Institutional controls are necessary since it could take many years before PCB levels in seafood species reach safe levels for consumption. These institutional controls shall continue until protective levels for PCBs in edible biota are consistently achieved throughout the Site. These controls may also extend beyond the state fishing ban since EPA has calculated site-specific levels for fish consumption that are more stringent than the state levels.

<p>Eel</p> 	 <p>Flounder</p>
<p>Scup</p> 	 <p>Tautog</p>
<p>Black sea bass</p> 	 <p>Shellfish</p>

*Some samples of the seafood subject to the recommended consumption restrictions*

CONCERNS RAISED AND EPA RESPONSES

<u>CONCERN</u>	<u>RESPONSE</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <p>• <b>Fish Consumption</b>  Without exception, every person and group interviewed is concerned that people are eating PCB-contaminated fish taken from areas within the Site. This concern is particularly elevated regarding the “new immigrants” because many of them are illiterate and unable to understand the signage advising against eating any fish or shellfish from some areas, and limiting consumption from other areas. Many of the “new immigrants” speak K’iche and the signs and advisories are currently written only in English, Spanish and Portuguese. The general view is that most of this population has no idea there are any environmental problems associated with the harbor.</p> </li> <li> <p>• <b>Local Restaurants</b>  Some of those interviewed expressed concern that contaminated fish from the harbor may be being sold to local restaurants and/or stores.</p> </li> <li> <p>• <b>Locations</b>  Various interviewees identified locations at which fishing may be occurring, including: the South end – both inside and outside of the hurricane barrier; pedestrian access points from Riverside Park north along the shoreline through the former mill area of the Upper Harbor; off of the Coggeshall St. and Fairhaven bridges; off of the Apponagansett Bay bridge (specifically scup and sea bass here); Fort Phoenix State Reservation; and Marsh Island (here, fishermen reportedly cut the fence behind Moby Dick Marina and Riverside Cemetery to get to Marsh Island for quahogs).</p> </li> </ul>	<p>EPA included institutional controls such as Seafood Advisories as a component of the selected remedy for the Site because EPA shares this concern. The information provided by those interviewed was used to tailor the Seafood IC Plan action plan set forth below.</p> <p>EPA will share this concern with others when given opportunities to discuss the issues relating to risks associated with seafood consumption. The New Bedford Board of Health does regulate seafood at the point of sale, but recognizes the challenge of regulating every sale of seafood in the city.</p> <p>EPA compared these locations to the locations where signs currently exist to ensure that signs are erected at each of the identified locations. See the signage maps in Attachment 1. For the new locations indicated in Attachment 1, signs will be added in Spring 2015.</p>

## **ACTION PLAN**

Below are the steps that EPA will take to minimize the ingestion of local PCB-contaminated seafood as required by the 1998 ROD.

- **Signage and Kiosks**
  - Languages: Existing signs are written in English, Spanish and Portuguese. Future signs posted throughout the Site will be written in English, Spanish, Portuguese and K'iche. Additionally, instead of text, some future signs will show a picture of a fish with a line through it, a fork on one side of it, and a knife on the other, representing "do not eat fish."
  - Content: Signage will relate to the risk posed, whether due to seafood consumption or dermal contact with sediment. See Attachment 2.
  - Locations: Attachment 1 shows the locations where signs are currently posted as well as the locations at which new signs will be placed based on the community interviews and input from surrounding communities.
  - Timing: Signs will be placed at the newly identified locations during Spring – Summer of 2015. New signage depicting the message "do not eat fish", and signs including K'iche translations will be designed during 2015 and will be erected as soon as they are available.
  - Monitoring: Signs will be inspected at least once per year by EPA and/or the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) and will be replaced or repaired, as needed.
  
- **Fencing**
  - The existing fencing will be inspected at least once per year by EPA and/or ACOE and will be replaced and/or repaired, as needed.
  
- **Seafood Advisories**
  - EPA's seafood advisories are based on site-specific risk information and are reviewed as part of its site Five Year Review report; advisories will be revised when warranted based on site-specific risk information. While EPA does not expect the advisories (or seafood consumption recommendations) to change until the cleanup is complete and the PCB concentrations start decreasing, new outreach materials to raise awareness of the advisories will be written in English, Spanish, Portuguese and K'iche. The advisories will be placed on the EPA New Bedford Harbor Superfund website. The new materials will be created during 2015.
  - Each Spring, so long as welcomed by the organization, EPA will deliver current seafood advisories for distribution to the City, the towns of Fairhaven, Acushnet, and Dartmouth, Sea Lab, Joseph Abboud, Immigrants Assistance Center (IAC), Old Bedford Village, Catholic Charities, the Community Economic Development Commission (CEDC), the Centro Comunitario de Trabajadores (CCT), and Eastern Fisheries; additionally, EPA will send an electronic copy of current fish advisories to Buzzards Bay Coalition for placement on their website. EPA will expand this list of distribution points as additional opportunities arise.
  
- **Education**
  - EPA will arrange to have a video created displaying images of the contaminated fish, along with information related to the health risks associated with consumption of PCB-

contaminated seafood. EPA will seek to have this production aired on public access television and will place it on the EPA New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site website by the end of 2015.

- EPA will maintain and, when appropriate, update the educational resources relating to seafood consumption posted on EPA's New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site website.
- During the spring/summer of 2015 and periodically thereafter, EPA will offer to hold a workshop, poster session, or some other informal educational session at CCT in order to reach the "new immigrant" community, as interviewees indicated that not only are the majority of this group unaware of the presence of contaminants in the Harbor, but they have no idea that they may be exposing themselves and others to health risks associated with ingestion of local PCB-contaminated seafood.

#### **Collaborative Actions EPA Will Take to Supplement the Action Plan**

- EPA will continue to collaborate with the City, the towns of Fairhaven, Acushnet and Dartmouth, MassDPH and MassDEP to keep the community informed about the risks associated with eating the seafood from the Site.
- In the Fall of each school year, EPA will reach out to local schools to seek opportunities to work with students and/or teachers to educate them about the health risks associated with eating PCB-contaminated fish.
- Each Spring, EPA will seek to have the fish advisories included in the local shellfishing and state fin fishing licenses.
- Each Spring, so long as welcome, EPA will reach out to the community service providers who during interviews offered to help distribute and explain the fish advisories to the new immigrant community at local businesses, such as restaurants and laundromats, and to those out enjoying soccer matches. The community service organizations who offered include: the City, the Town of Fairhaven, Sea Lab, Joseph Abboud, IAC, CCT, Old Bedford Village, Catholic Charities, CEDC, and Eastern Fisheries. EPA will also reach out to the towns of Acushnet and Dartmouth to request distribution of the fish advisories and will continue to seek out additional outlets for distribution.
- Face to Face Individual Outreach: EPA heard from the community that the best way to reach those most at risk of eating contaminated fish may be by engaging culturally related peers to personally speak with the fishermen while they are fishing. EPA is searching for a way to execute this idea.
- When appropriate, EPA will include discussion of the fish advisories when conducting general community outreach, such as during the educational presentations referred to in the CIP.
- EPA will reach out to the New Bedford Whaling Museum and Buttonwood Park Zoo Emporium to request opportunities for distribution of materials. EPA will also ask the Zoo Emporium to set up the EPA exhibit which was formerly on display at the Ocean Explorium.
- In collaboration with MassDPH, EPA will assist in raising awareness of health risks associated with consumption of PCB-contaminated seafood through participation in Grand Rounds at local hospitals when MassDPH schedules such events.
- EPA will also seek distribution points of its fish advisories in the medical community through health clinics, hospitals, doctors' offices, and WIC centers, etc.

## TIMING

Ongoing Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Maintain and update resources regarding seafood consumption on the Website</li><li>• Maintain Information Repository</li><li>• Update Mailing and Contact Lists</li><li>• Respond to questions raised by community members/other interested parties</li><li>• Collaborate with City, the towns of Fairhaven, Acushnet and Dartmouth, MassDEP, and MassDPH to keep community informed about risks associated with consuming contaminated seafood</li></ul>
Spring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Inspect signs and fencing, then repair/replace, as needed</li><li>• Resupply identified community organizations with current seafood advisories for distribution</li><li>• Collaborate with Massachusetts Department of Marine Fisheries and MassDPH to have the fish advisories included in the state fishing licenses</li></ul>
Fall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reach out to local schools to seek opportunities to educate students about health risks associated with contaminated seafood consumption</li></ul>
Unique Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• By the end of 2015, arrange for production of a video showing actual fish and shellfish that are the subject of the advisories and explaining the health risks associated with consumption of the contaminated seafood, then seek to have it shown on public access TV</li><li>• By end of June 2015, work with CCT to conduct an information session at CCT to give background information about the Site, discuss the cleanup plan, and to raise awareness about the health risks associated with consumption of contaminated seafood</li><li>• If EPA succeeds in finding a way to engage culturally related peers to conduct face to face individual outreach to people actively fishing, EPA will implement this idea as soon as practical during Spring and/or Summer</li><li>• During Spring-Summer of 2015, place signs at newly identified locations.</li><li>• By end of 2015, design new signs depicting the message "do not eat fish" and have K'iche translations completed for future signs</li></ul>

**APPENDIX A  
SITE CONTACTS AND RESOURCES**

**Site Contacts**

<p><b>EPA Community Involvement Coordinator</b> Kelsey O'Neil EPA New England 5 Post Office Sq. Suite 100 Mail Code ORA 01-1 Boston, MA 02109 (617)918-1003 <a href="mailto:oneil.kelsey@epa.gov">oneil.kelsey@epa.gov</a></p> <p><b>Superfund Jobs Training Initiative Contact</b> Melissa Friedland (703)603-8864 <a href="mailto:Friedland.melissa@epa.gov">Friedland.melissa@epa.gov</a></p>	<p><b>EPA Site Team Leader</b> Ginny Lombardo (617)918-1754 <a href="mailto:lombardo.ginny@epa.gov">lombardo.ginny@epa.gov</a></p> <p><b>EPA Remedial Project Manager</b> Dave Lederer (617)918-1325 <a href="mailto:lederer.dave@epa.gov">lederer.dave@epa.gov</a></p> <p><b>EPA Remedial Project Manager</b> Elaine Stanley (617)918-1332 <a href="mailto:stanley.elainet@epa.gov">stanley.elainet@epa.gov</a></p>
<p><b>Massachusetts Dept. of Environmental Protection</b> <b>Project Managers</b> Paul Craffey (617)292-5591 <a href="mailto:paul.craffey@state.ma.us">paul.craffey@state.ma.us</a></p> <p>Joseph Coyne (617) 348-4066 <a href="mailto:joseph.coyne@state.ma.us">joseph.coyne@state.ma.us</a></p>	

**Information Repository and Website**

New Bedford Free Public Library  
613 Pleasant St.  
New Bedford, MA 20740  
(508) 991-6280

EPA Region 1  
OSRR Records and Information  
Center, 1<sup>st</sup> floor  
5 Post Office Square  
Suite 100 (HSC)  
Boston, MA 02109-3912  
(617) 918-1440

<http://www2.epa.gov/new-bedford-harbor>

**APPENDIX B  
LIST OF ACRONYMS**

ACOE:	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
CAD cell:	Confined Aquatic Disposal Cell
CCT:	Centro de Trabajadores
CDF:	Confined Disposal Facility
CEDC:	Community Economic Development Center
CERCLA:	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CIP:	Community Involvement Plan
EPA:	United States Environmental Protection Agency
ESD:	Explanation of Significant Differences
HDC:	New Bedford Harbor Development Commission
IAC:	Immigrants Assistance Center
IC:	Institutional Control
LHCC:	Lower Harbor CAD Cell
MassDEP:	Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Agency
MassDPH:	Massachusetts Department of Public Health
NPL:	National Priorities List
OU:	Operable Unit
PCB:	Polychlorinated Biphenyl
ppm:	parts per million
RI/FS:	Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study
ROD:	Record of Decision
TAG:	Technical Assistance Grant

TWG: Technical Working Group

## APPENDIX C GLOSSARY

**CERCLA:** Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (commonly known as Superfund). This law, enacted by Congress on December 11, 1980, created the Superfund program. Specifically, CERCLA (1) established prohibitions and requirements concerning closed and abandoned hazardous waste sites, (2) provided for liability of persons responsible for releases of hazardous waste at these sites, and (3) established a trust fund to provide for cleanup when no responsible party could be identified.

**Confined Aquatic Disposal Cell (CAD cell):** A man-made, capped underwater containment cell.

**Confined Disposal Facility (CDF):** A facility built specifically for the disposal of dredged sediment.

**Environmental Justice** is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. EPA has this goal for all communities and persons across this Nation. It will be achieved when everyone enjoys the same degree of protection from environmental and health hazards and equal access to the decision-making process to have a healthy environment in which to live, learn, and work.

**Explanation of Significant Differences:** Section 117(c) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) and Section 300.435(c)(2)(i) of the National Contingency Plan require that, if any remedial action is taken after adoption of a final remedial action plan, and such action differs in any significant respect from the final plan, EPA shall publish an explanation of the significant differences (ESD) and the reasons such changes were made.

**Information Repository:** A collection of past and current project information, technical reports, and reference documents regarding a Superfund site. The information repository is usually located in a public building that is convenient for local residents, such as a public school, city hall, or library.

**Institutional Controls:** Institutional controls are non-engineered instruments, such as administrative and legal controls, that help minimize the potential for human exposure to contamination and/or protect the integrity of the remedy. Although it is EPA's expectation that treatment or engineering controls will be used to address principal threat wastes and that groundwater will be returned to its beneficial use whenever practicable, ICs play an important role in site remedies because they reduce exposure to contamination by limiting land or resource use and guide human behavior at a site. For instance, zoning restrictions prevent site land uses, like residential uses, that are not consistent with the level of cleanup.

**National Priorities List:** EPA's list (commonly known as the Superfund list) of the most serious uncontrolled or abandoned [hazardous waste](#) sites, identified as candidates for [long-term cleanup](#) using money from the [Superfund trust fund](#).

**Operable Unit (OU):** Term for each of a number of separate activities undertaken as part of a Superfund site cleanup. EPA designates separate OUs to help manage the cleanup process.

**Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs):** PCBs belong to a broad family of man-made organic chemicals known as chlorinated hydrocarbons. PCBs were domestically manufactured from 1929 until their manufacture was banned in 1979. They have a range of toxicity and vary in consistency from thin, light-colored liquids to yellow or black waxy solids. Due to their non-flammability, chemical stability, high boiling point, and electrical insulating properties, PCBs were used in hundreds of industrial and commercial applications including electrical, heat transfer, and hydraulic equipment; as plasticizers in paints, plastics, and rubber products; in pigments, dyes, and carbonless copy paper; building materials; and many other industrial applications.

**Proposed Plan:** A site cleanup plan that is available for public comment.

**Record of Decision (ROD):** A public document that explains which cleanup alternatives will be used to clean up a Superfund site. The ROD for sites listed on the [National Priorities List \(NPL\)](#) is created from information generated during the [Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study \(RI/FS\)](#).

**Remedial Action (RA):** The phase in Superfund site cleanup following the [Remedial Design \(RD\)](#) phase where the actual construction or implementation occurs. The RA is based on the specifications described in the [Record of Decision \(ROD\)](#).

**Remedial Design (RD):** The phase in Superfund site cleanup where the technical specifications for cleanup remedies and technologies are designed. The RD is based on the specifications described in the [Record of Decision \(ROD\)](#).

**Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS):** Performed at the site after a site is listed on the [National Priorities List \(NPL\)](#). The RI serves as the mechanism for collecting data. The FS is the mechanism for the development, screening, and detailed evaluation of alternative remedial actions. The RI and FS are conducted concurrently; data collected in the RI influence the development of remedial alternatives in the FS, which in turn affect the data needs and scope of treatability studies and additional field investigations.

**Remedy:** The method selected to clean up a Superfund site.

**Risk Assessment:** Qualitative and quantitative evaluation of the risk posed to human health and/or the environment by the actual or potential presence and/or use of specific pollutants.

**Superfund:** 1. The program operated under the legislative authority of CERCLA and SARA that funds and carries out EPA solid waste emergency and long-term removal and remedial activities. These activities include establishing the National Priorities List, investigating sites for inclusion on the list, determining their priority, and conducting and/or supervising cleanup and other remedial actions.

2. A fund set up under CERCLA to help pay for cleanup of hazardous waste sites and to take legal action to force those responsible for the sites to clean them up (*also known as* Trust Fund, *and* Hazardous Waste Superfund). A combination of special taxes on industry and general taxpayer revenues originally financed the Superfund Trust Fund, but the authority to collect the industry taxes expired on December 31, 1995. Over time, Congress increased the contribution of general revenues to make up for the shortfall from the expired industry taxes. General revenues now provide most of the funding for the trust fund, but other monies continue to contribute some revenues (i.e., cost-recoveries from

responsible parties, fines and penalties for violations of cleanup requirements, and interest on the trust fund balance).

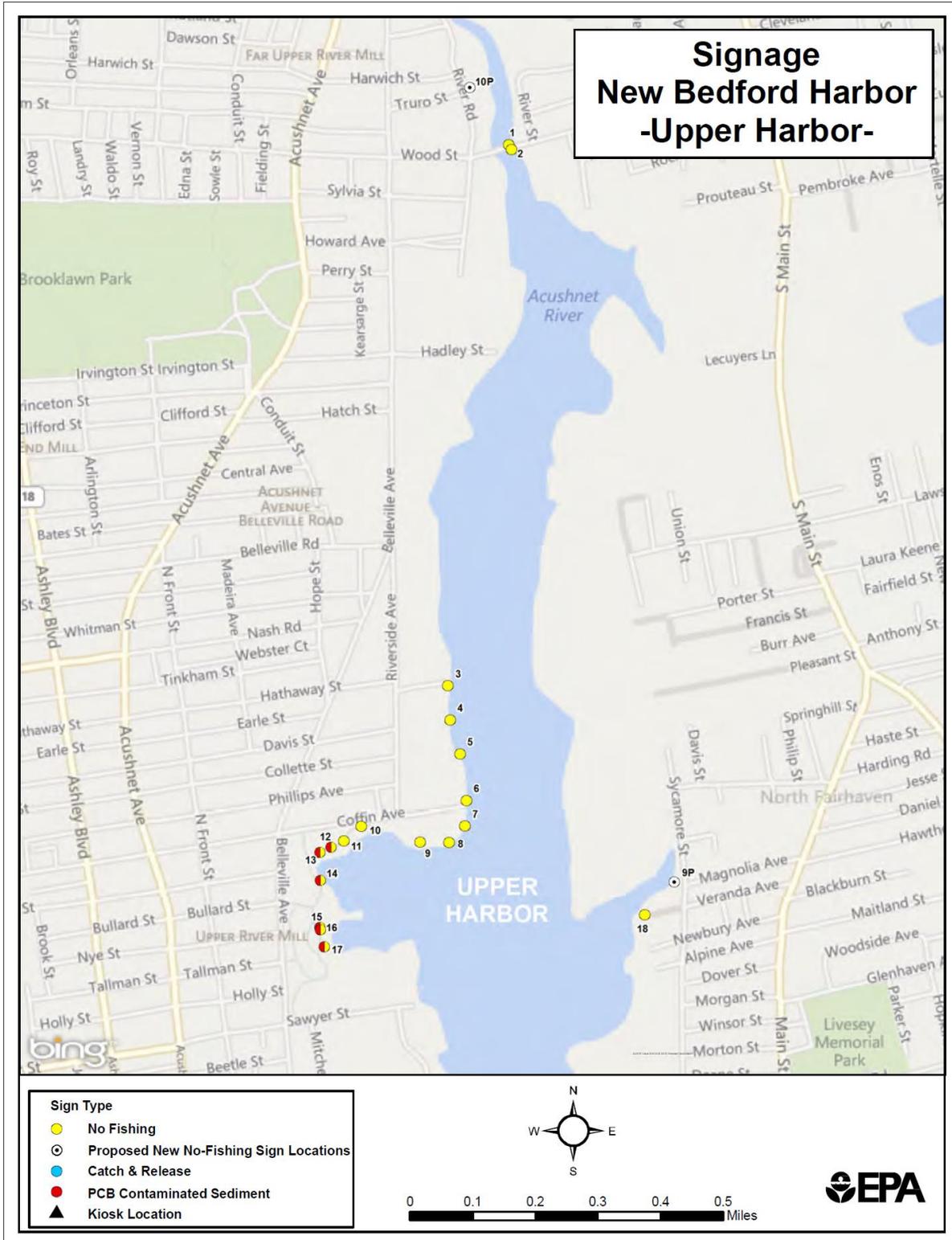
**Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA):** Legislation that amended the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) on October 17, 1986. SARA reflected EPA's experience in administering the complex Superfund program during its first six years and made several important changes and additions to the program. SARA stressed the importance of permanent remedies and innovative treatment technologies; required Superfund actions to consider the standards and requirements found in other State and Federal environmental laws and regulations; provided new enforcement authorities and settlement tools; increased State involvement; increased the focus on human health problems; encouraged greater citizen participation; and increased the size of the Trust Fund to \$8.5 billion.

**Toxic:** Poisonous

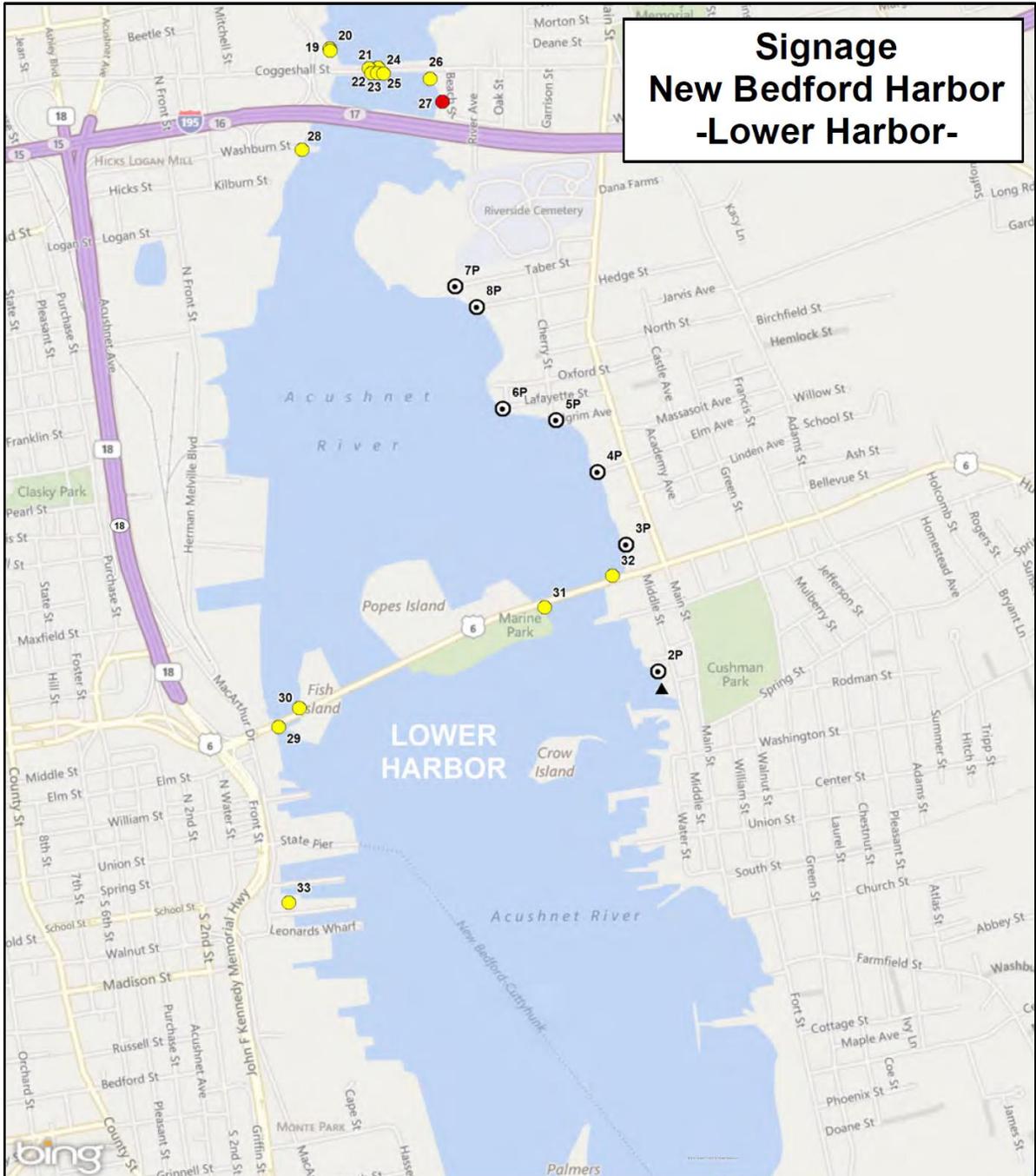
**APPENDIX D  
LIST OF ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1	Maps of Signage and Kiosks
Attachment 2	Photos of Signage
Attachment 3	Fact Sheet Regarding Fish Advisories
Attachment 4	Superfund Jobs Training Initiative Materials
Attachment 5	“FishSmart” Materials
Attachment 6	Informational Flyer Provided to Rowing Community

**ATTACHMENT 1  
MAPS OF SIGNAGE AND KIOSKS**



# Signage New Bedford Harbor -Lower Harbor-



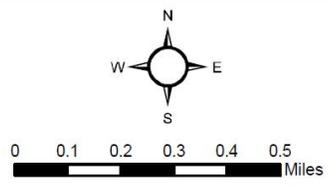
- Sign Type**
- No Fishing
  - ⊙ Proposed New No-Fishing Sign Locations
  - Catch & Release
  - PCB Contaminated Sediment
  - ▲ Kiosk Location



# Signage New Bedford Harbor -Outer Harbor-



- Sign Type**
- No Fishing
  - ⊙ Proposed New No-Fishing Sign Locations
  - Catch & Release
  - PCB Contaminated Sediment
  - ▲ Kiosk Location



ATTACHMENT 2  
PHOTOS OF SIGNAGE

**WARNING!**  
**PCB- CONTAMINATED  
SEDIMENTS**

This shoreline has not yet been cleaned of PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls - a probable human carcinogen). Contact with these sediments can cause adverse health effects.



**NO TRESPASSING  
U.S. GOVERNMENT PROPERTY**

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**NÃO ENTRAR  
PROPRIEDADE DO GOVERNO  
DOS ESTADOS UNIDOS**

---

**NO ENTRE  
PROPIEDAD DEL GOBIERNO  
DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS**



**NO FISHING!**  
**PCB-Contaminated Fish**

Eating PCB-contaminated fish or shellfish can harm you and your family. Until the ongoing harbor PCB cleanup is complete, no fish or shellfish shall be taken from these waters.

Mass. regulation 105 CMR 260.005. Also see [www.epa.gov/ne/nbh](http://www.epa.gov/ne/nbh)

**PROIBIDO  
PESCAR!**

**Peixes contaminados por PCB**

Comer peixes ou frutos do mar contaminados por PCBs (bifenilos policlorados) pode ser perigoso a si e à sua família. Até o término das obras de descontaminação de PCB no porto, é proibido retirar peixes ou frutos do mar dessas águas.

Regulamento de Mass. 105 CMR 260.005. Consulte também [www.epa.gov/ne/nbh](http://www.epa.gov/ne/nbh).

**¡NO PESCAR!**

**Peces contaminados con PCB**

El comer pescado o mariscos contaminados con PCB le puede hacer daño a usted y su familia. Hasta completar la labor de limpieza de PCB de la bahía, no se deben tomar pescados o mariscos de estas aguas.

Norma Mass. 105 CMR 260.005. Ver también [www.epa.gov/ne/nbh](http://www.epa.gov/ne/nbh)

**NO TRESPASSING**  
PCB CONTAMINATED  
SEDIMENTS  
(Poly-chlorinated Biphenyls)

**NÃO ENTRAR**  
PCB SEDIMENTOS  
CONTAMINADOS  
(Policlorinato Bifenilos)

**NO ENTRE**  
CONTAMINADOS CON PCB  
SEDIMENTOS  
(Bifenilos policlorados)



**Warning!**  
**Catch and Release**

**PCB-Contaminated Fish**

Until the ongoing cleanup of PCBs (poly-chlorinated biphenyls) in New Bedford Harbor is complete, fish caught in these waters should be immediately released.

For more information go to [www.epa.gov/ne/nbh](http://www.epa.gov/ne/nbh)

**Aviso!**  
**Captura e Libertação**

**PCB-Peixe Contaminado**

Até a presente limpeza de PCBs (Policlorinato Bifenilos) no Porto de New Bedford estar completa, o peixe capturado nestas águas deverá ser imediatamente lançado à água.

Para mais informações visite a Internet [www.epa.gov/ne/nbh](http://www.epa.gov/ne/nbh)

**¡Aviso!**  
**Sólo se permite la pesca  
si se devuelven los peces  
al agua. Los peces están  
contaminados con PCB.**

Toda la pesca de estas aguas debe devolverse inmediatamente al agua mientras se lleva a cabo la limpieza de los PCBs (Bifenilos policlorados) en el puerto de New Bedford.

Para más información visite [www.epa.gov/ne/nbh](http://www.epa.gov/ne/nbh)

ATTACHMENT 3  
FACT SHEET – SEAFOOD ADVISORIES  
SEAFOOD CONSUMPTION REGULATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

## Important Information about Eating Seafood from New Bedford Harbor



### Why should I worry about eating fish out of New Bedford Harbor?

As a result of historic dumping in the harbor, there are levels of a contaminant called PCBs (Polychlorinated Biphenyls) in fish and shellfish that pose a risk to human health.

### What are PCBs and why do I care?

PCBs are a known cancer causing agent. Accumulation of PCBs in an individual's body over a number of years can lead to cancer and a number of other health effects. Fish and Shellfish in New Bedford Harbor have been sampled by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection since 1979 when state regulations put a prohibition on fishing/shellfishing in certain areas of the harbor.

PCBs belong to a broad family of man-made organic chemicals and were manufactured from 1929 until they were banned in 1979.

### What has been done to inform people?

EPA has been working with the State and City of New Bedford to clean up the PCB contamination in New Bedford Harbor since the early 1980's. EPA coordinates regularly with the city and state and makes efforts to reach community members in a variety of ways. A Community Involvement Plan, finalized in 2015, outlines EPA's most recent efforts at outreach and can be found here <http://www2.epa.gov/new-bedford-harbor>

### How Can I Learn More?

Please visit our website

<http://www2.epa.gov/new-bedford-harbor> or contact

Kelsey O'Neil, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator at

617-918-1003 or [oneil.kelsey@epa.gov](mailto:oneil.kelsey@epa.gov)

### Can I eat any fish out of New Bedford Harbor?

EPA has recommendations on how much seafood should be consumed for different ages and populations. To see those recommendations please contact the individuals below or visit our website at <http://www2.epa.gov/new-bedford-harbor/fish-consumption-regulations-and-recommendations>

\*\*\*Please also see maps on back page.

### Will I be safe from PCBs if I follow the EPA recommendations?

Yes. The only way to avoid PCB contamination from New Bedford harbor is to avoid catching and eating fish out of the harbor. PCBs will not be removed from fish or shellfish through any cooking process. PCB's build up in your body over time and can lead to long term health effects.

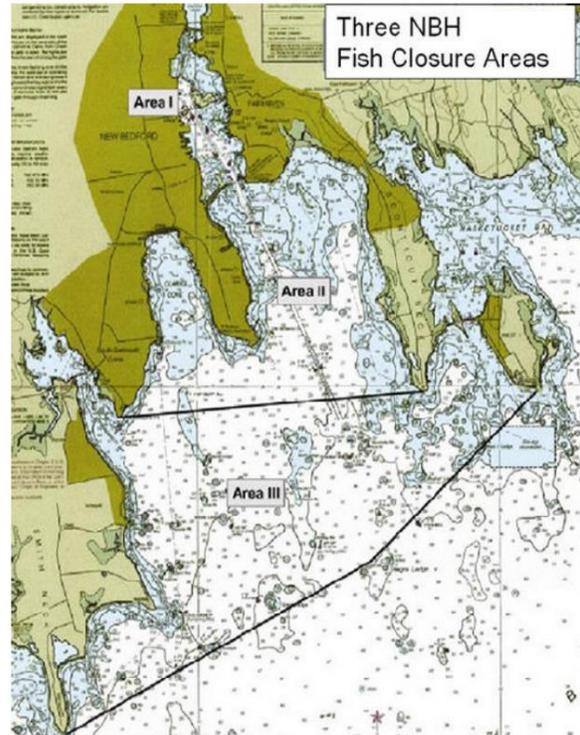
### Can I fish if I throw the fish back?

Yes. Catch and release is a welcome activity in New Bedford Harbor.



Since 1979, Massachusetts regulations have prohibited eating fish and/or shellfish caught in certain areas of New Bedford Harbor. The tables on this page show Massachusetts regulations and U.S. EPA recommendations for eating fish, shellfish and lobster caught in three fish closure areas around New Bedford Harbor.

EPA's seafood consumption restrictions do not apply to seafood caught beyond the boundaries of the Site by the New Bedford area commercial fishing fleet. Exposure to PCBs is linked to infant development problems in children whose mothers were exposed to PCBs before becoming pregnant. Meal advice for PCB-contaminated fish is intended to protect children from developmental problems. PCBs also cause changes in human blood, liver, and immune function of adults. In addition, PCBs cause cancer in laboratory animals and may cause cancer in humans.



### CLOSURE AREA 1\*

If you catch...	then...
Any shellfish, lobster, or fish, including bottom feeders	Do not eat it

### CLOSURE AREA 2\*

If you catch...	then...
Fish:	
Black sea bass 	Eat no more than one meal per month
All bottom-feeding fish including:	
Eel 	Do not eat it
Flounder 	Do not eat it
Scup 	Do not eat it
Tautog 	Do not eat it
All other fish	U.S. EPA has no data yet so we cannot make a recommendation
Lobster	Do not eat it
Shellfish (clams, quahogs, mussels etc.)	Eat no more than one meal per month. <b>Exception</b> -- Shellfish caught in Clarks Cove: eat no more than one meal per week

\*More stringent recommendations for pregnant woman, nursing mothers, children under 12 or woman who may become pregnant can be found on EPA's website at <http://www2.epa.gov/new-bedford-harbor/fish-consumption-regulations-and-recommendations#Recommendations> and also included in this attachment.

### CLOSURE AREA 3\*

If you catch...	then...
Fish:	
Black sea bass 	Eat no more than one meal per month
Bottom-feeding fish:	
Eel 	There are no eating restrictions
Flounder 	There are no eating restrictions
Scup 	Do not eat it
Tautog 	There are no eating restrictions
All other fish, including all other bottom-feeders	U.S. EPA has no data yet so we cannot make a recommendation
Lobster	Do not eat it
Shellfish (clams, quahogs, mussels etc.)	There are no eating restrictions

# Fish Consumption Regulations and Recommendations

Massachusetts Regulations / U.S. EPA Recommendations for Eating Fish, Shellfish and Lobster Caught in Three Fish Closure Areas Around New Bedford Harbor

## Closure Area 1

Inner Harbor:

North of the hurricane barrier and Ft. Phoenix Beach State Reservation — Includes Palmer Island

If you catch...	then...
Any shellfish, lobster, or fish, including bottom feeders	Do not eat it

## Closure Area 2

Outer Harbor:

South of the hurricane barrier to Ricketsons Point and tip of Sconticut Neck (Wilbur Point) — Includes Clarks Cove

If you catch...	then...
Fish:	
Black sea bass 	Eat no more than one meal per month
All bottom-feeding fish including: Eel  Flounder  Scup  Tautog 	Do not eat it
All other fish	U.S. EPA has no data yet so we cannot make a recommendation
Lobster 	Do not eat it
Shellfish (clams, quahogs, mussels etc.)	Eat no more than one meal per month. Exception – Shellfish caught in Clarks Cove: eat no more than one meal per week

**NOTE: Pregnant women, nursing mothers, children under age 12, and women who may become pregnant** should not eat fish, shellfish or lobster caught in Closure Area 2, except they can safely eat one, and only one, meal per month of shellfish caught in Clarks Cove.

## Closure Area 3

Buzzards Bay:

South of Ricketsons Point and the tip of Sconticut Neck (Wilbur Point) To Mishaum Point in Dartmouth and West Island South Point in Fairhaven — Includes area south of the West Island Causeway

If you catch...	then...
Fish:	
Black sea bass 	Eat no more than one meal per month
All bottom-feeding fish including: Eel  Flounder  Scup  Tautog 	There are no eating restrictions There are no eating restrictions Do not eat it There are no eating restrictions
All other fish, including all other bottom-feeders	U.S. EPA has no data yet so we cannot make a recommendation
Lobster 	Do not eat it
Shellfish (clams, quahogs, mussels etc.)	There are no eating restrictions

**NOTE: Pregnant women, nursing mothers, children under age 12, and women who may become pregnant** should not eat fish or lobster caught in Closure Area 3. They can safely eat one, and only one, meal per month of shellfish caught in Area 3.

**Q: Why are health officials reminding the public to avoid eating fish and other seafood from Area 1 of New Bedford Harbor?**

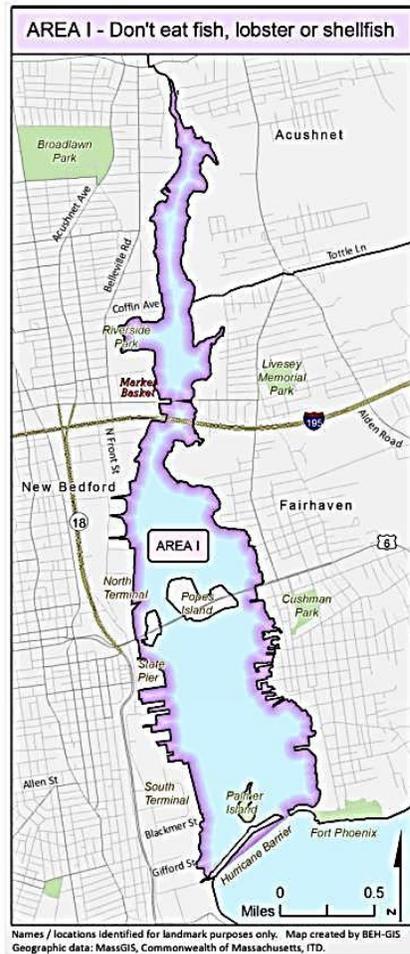
A: In 1979 the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) promulgated regulations to close Area 1 to all fishing activities due to significant polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) contamination. Recent reports of individuals fishing in that area are prompting health and environmental officials to raise public awareness regarding the health risks associated with consumption of fish, lobster, and shellfish taken from Area 1 and regulatory bans.

**Q: Where is Area 1 located and what are the boundaries?**

A: Area 1 is bounded by the communities of New Bedford and Fairhaven and includes all areas of the Acushnet River and New Bedford Harbor north of the Hurricane Barrier as shown on the map. The Hurricane Barrier is located near Gifford Street in New Bedford and Fort Phoenix Beach State Reservation in Fairhaven.

**Q: What is the concern about Area 1?**

A: The Acushnet River estuary, New Bedford Harbor, and parts of Buzzards Bay sediments are contaminated with PCBs. The highest levels of PCBs in seafood are found in fish, lobster, and shellfish in Area 1. **Fish, lobster or shellfish caught from Area 1 should not be consumed.**



**Q: What are PCBs and where do they come from?**

A: PCBs are a group of manmade chemicals that are highly stable, heat resistant, and non-flammable and they do not evaporate or dissolve easily in water. Historically, PCBs have been used as industrial chemicals and insulating material in electrical equipment, and were added to paint, pesticides, carbonless copy paper, printing inks and dyes. The manufacture of PCBs was banned in 1979. Industries that once operated in New Bedford primarily used PCBs in the manufacture of electrical capacitors and transformers. Researchers have found that exposure to PCBs from consuming contaminated fish can pose a risk to human health. The seriousness of the effect varies.

**Q: How are people exposed to PCBs?**

A: In general, consumption of contaminated fish and shellfish is the major source of human exposure to PCBs. PCBs concentrate (accumulate) in the tissue and internal organs of fish. As big fish eat little fish, they accumulate all the PCBs that have been eaten by smaller fish that are below them in the food chain. This process is known as bioaccumulation. Bottom feeding and high fat containing fish tend to accumulate higher PCB levels than other varieties.

**Q: Where can I find fish that are safe to eat?**

A: Local restaurants, fish markets, and other food establishments are a safe source. They are inspected at least annually by the local Board of Health in accordance with 105 CMR 590.000: State Sanitary

Code Chapter X – Minimum Sanitation Standards for Food Establishments, also known as the Food Code. Routine inspections help ensure all consumers can safely enjoy the many benefits of our local fishing industry. New Bedford's commercial fishing fleet travels many miles outside of the harbor to fishing grounds hundreds of miles out to sea, and well beyond the area impacted by PCB contamination so their catch is safe to eat.

**Q: Does MDPH have other advice regarding fish and shellfish consumption?**

A: Yes. Massachusetts public health officials promote a varied diet, including eating a variety of fish and shellfish from a variety of sources. MDPH has general statewide fish consumption advice for sensitive populations (pregnant women, nursing mothers, children under age 12, and women who may become pregnant). These sensitive individuals should limit consumption of all fish and shellfish (including those from the non-restricted areas) to two meals per week. In addition, the MDPH statewide Safe Eating Guidelines recommends that sensitive populations should not eat bluefish caught off the Massachusetts coast, swordfish, shark, king mackerel, tilefish, and tuna steak. Sensitive populations should also avoid consumption of recreationally caught freshwater fish.

**Q: The advice in this pamphlet is specific to the area inside of the hurricane barrier in New Bedford Harbor. Are fish outside of the hurricane barrier in the harbor safe to eat?**

A: Although the most contaminated fish are generally found inside the hurricane barrier, MDPH still advises against eating bottom feeding fish and lobster within

the outer portions of New Bedford Harbor. As with all other marine areas, the statewide fish consumption advice referenced above is also in effect.

**Q: What is the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) doing to address PCB contamination issues in New Bedford Harbor?**

A: The U.S. EPA has been involved with the New Bedford Harbor cleanup since the 1980s, following discovery of PCBs in sediment and fish and designation to the NPL in 1983. In 1998, EPA proposed a dredging remedy for the Upper and Lower Harbors, and full scale dredging started in 2004. From 2004 to 2013 EPA operated with \$15 million on the harbor for approximately 45 days a year to address contaminated material. On September 19, 2013 EPA finalized a Settlement with the responsible party, AVX, for \$366.25 million. This settlement will accelerate the cleanup of PCB's in the harbor to be complete in an estimated 5 to 7 years. For more information on the EPA clean-up, or for other site-related questions, please contact the EPA at 617-918-1003 or visit [www.epa.gov/nbh](http://www.epa.gov/nbh).

**Q: Who should I contact if I have health questions about seafood consumption restrictions for Area 1 or other fish consumption advice?**

A: For health-related questions, Area 1 restrictions on fish, lobster, and shellfish, or to learn more about how to choose fish that are safe to eat, please contact the MDPH Bureau of Environmental Health at 617-624-5757 or the New Bedford Health Department at 508-991-6199.

December 2014

**Health Officials**  
**Remind Consumers**  
**Not to Eat Fish,**  
**Lobster and Shellfish**  
**from Area 1/Inside the**  
**Hurricane Barrier of**  
**New Bedford Harbor**



**Bureau of Environmental Health**  
Massachusetts Department of Public Health  
[www.state.ma.us/dph/environmental\\_health](http://www.state.ma.us/dph/environmental_health)



This brochure was developed by MDPH in partnership with the City of New Bedford and the U.S. EPA.

105 CMR: DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

105 CMR 260.000: PROHIBITION AGAINST CERTAIN FISHING IN NEW BEDFORD HARBOR

Section

- 260.001: Findings and Purpose
- 260.002: Emergency Promulgation
- 260.003: Authority
- 260.004: Adulterated Fish
- 260.005: Taking and/or Sale of Lobsters, and Certain Fish Prohibited

260.001: Findings and Purpose

The chemical substances known as polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) have been discharged into the Acushnet River and are present in that river and in the New Bedford Harbor. Laboratory analyses of lobster and bottom-feeding fish caught in this area have revealed that PCBs are present in these food sources in levels that exceed the current maximum allowable levels (or "temporary tolerance") established by the Federal Food and Drug Administration under the Food and Drug Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. 301, § 346. Consumption of PCBs causes diseases deemed dangerous to the public health, namely PCB intoxication and carcinogenesis. 105 CMR 260.000 are promulgated to prevent and control the incidence of such diseases among members of the general public, and to prevent the sale of adulterated food to the public.

260.002: Emergency Promulgation

PCBs settle to the floor of the body of water into which they are discharged; they may remain there for decades. Because lobsters and certain fish are bottom-feeders, they take in PCBs which remain in their bodies in unacceptably high concentrations. These food sources are currently being taken from contaminated areas (as described in 105 CMR 260.005) for primarily recreational and other noncommercial purposes and are being consumed by the public. Consumption of these food sources by humans poses an immediate and lasting threat to health. Further public consumption of these overly-contaminated food sources must be avoided by immediately preventing the taking, sale, and thereby the eating of such food sources caught in the contaminated area. Immediate adoption of 105 CMR 260.000 is necessary for the preservation of the public health; observance of the requirements of notice and public hearing, generally required under the first paragraph of M.G.L. c. 30A, § 2 prior to the promulgation of regulations, would be, in this situation, contrary to the public interest.

260.003: Authority

105 CMR 260.000 is promulgated under authority of M.G.L. c. 111, § 5 and 6, M.G.L. c. 94, § 186 and 192, M.G.L. c. 30A, § 2.

260.004: Adulterated Fish

Fish, containing levels of PCBs exceeding the maximum allowable level (or "temporary tolerance") of PCBs established by the Federal Food and Drug Administration for the edible portion of such food sources are adulterated within the meaning of M.G.L. c. 94, § 186, first paragraph under food. Such food sources caught in the contaminated area are presumed to be contaminated.

260.005: Taking and/or Sale of Lobsters and Certain Fish Prohibited

(1) No person shall take and/or sell any fish (except bait fish), lobster or shellfish from the area of New Bedford Harbor (Area I) described below:

The waters north of the Hurricane Dyke in New Bedford Harbor.

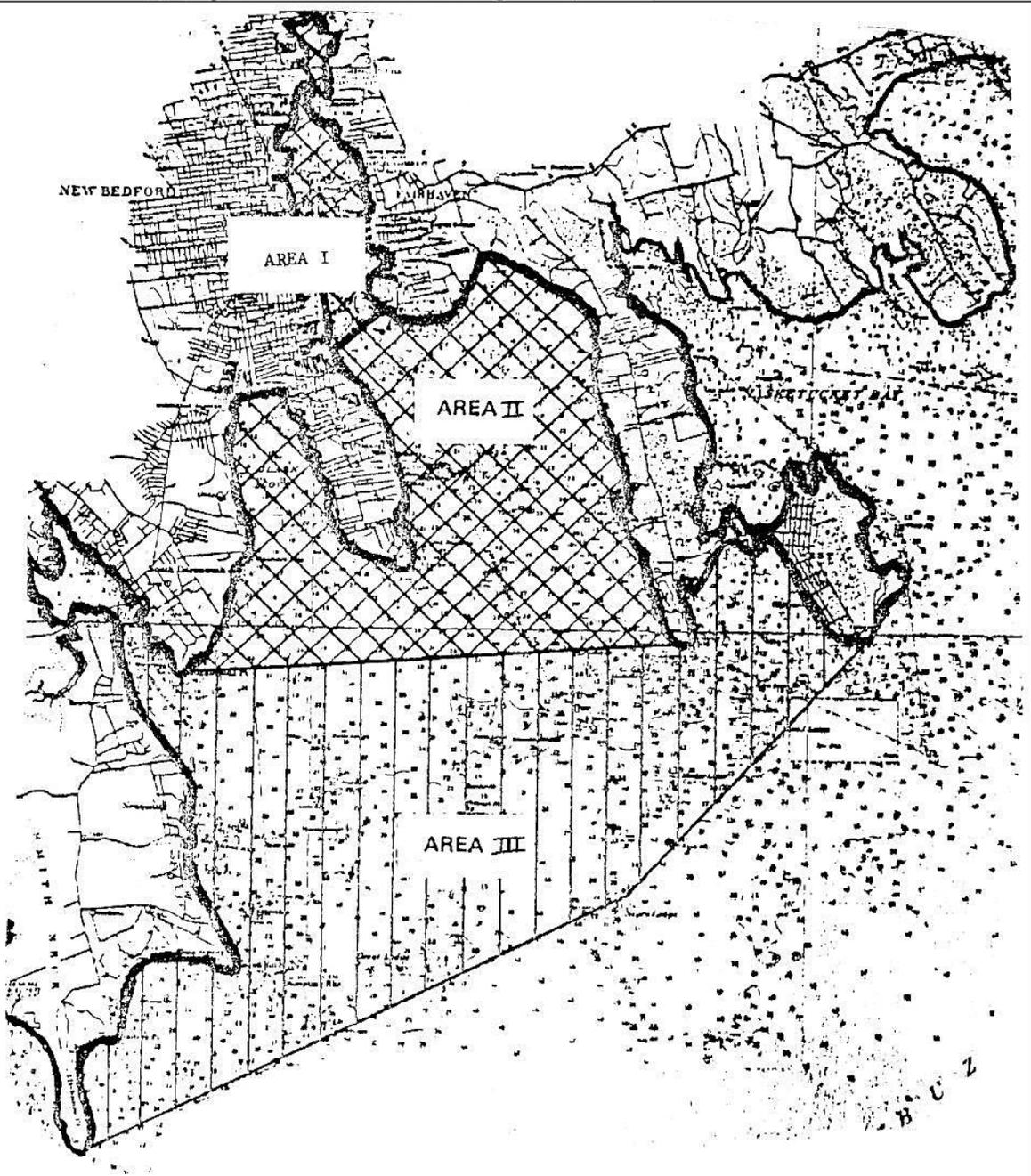
105 CMR: DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

260.005: continued

(2) No person shall take and/or sell any lobster or bottom feeding fish (including eels, scup, flounder and tautog) from the area of New Bedford Harbor (Area II) described in 105 CMR 260.005(4):  
The waters generally south of area I and north of a line extending from Ricketson's Point in South Dartmouth westerly to Wilbur Point on Sconticut Neck.

(3) No person shall take and/or sell lobsters from the area of New Bedford Harbor (Area III) described in 105 CMR 260.005(4):  
The waters generally south of area II and north of a line extending from Misham Point on Smith Neck in the town of Dartmouth north and west to Gong "3" on Hursett Rock off New Bedford Harbor and continuous north and west to Rocky Point on West Island in the town of Fairhaven.

(4) Map of New Bedford Harbor Outlining Areas I, II and III



105 CMR: DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

105 CMR 260.000: M.G.L. c. 30A, § 2; M.G.L. c. 111, §§ 5 and 6; M.G.L. c. 94, § 186 and 192.

# ATTACHMENT 4 SUPERFUND JOBS TRAINING INITIATIVE

## Where Can I Learn More About The SuperJTI Program?

For more detailed information, please visit the SuperJTI website at:

[www.epa.gov/superfund/community/sfjti](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/community/sfjti)

Or contact the SuperJTI Program Managers:

<b>EPA Regions 1-5</b> Melissa Friedland (703) 603-8864 <a href="mailto:friedland.melissa@epa.gov">friedland.melissa@epa.gov</a>	<b>EPA Regions 6-10</b> Viola Cooper (415) 972-3243 <a href="mailto:cooper.viola@epa.gov">cooper.viola@epa.gov</a>
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## Additional EPA Resources



**EPA Home:**  
[www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov)

**EPA Community Involvement Program:**  
[www.epa.gov/superfund/community](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/community)

**EPA Community Advisory Groups (CAGs):**  
[www.epa.gov/superfund/community/cag](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/community/cag)

**EPA Technical Assistance Grants (TAGs):**  
[www.epa.gov/superfund/community/tag](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/community/tag)

**EPA Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC) Contract:**  
[www.epa.gov/superfund/community/tasc](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/community/tasc)

Successful SuperJTI Sites

ABEX Corp., Portsmouth, VA  
Agriculture Street Landfill, New Orleans, LA  
Douglas Roads, Mishawaka, MO  
Dutch Boy, Chicago, IL  
Fort Ord, Monterey, CA  
Jacksonville AFB, Jacksonville, FL  
Kerr-McGee, Chicago, IL  
Many Diversified Interests, Inc., Houston, TX  
North Denver, Denver, CO  
RSK Smelter, Dallas, TX  
Savannah River Site, Aiken and Milledale, SC  
Tar Creek, Miami, OK  
Tarcorp, Granite City, MO  
Tennessee Products, Chattanooga, TN  
Washington Navy Yard, Washington D.C.  
Young Community Developers, Inc., San Francisco, CA



EPA 540-FS-09-00

## The Superfund Job Training Initiative



Does your community need jobs and job training?

If so, the Environmental Protection Agency's Superfund Job Training Initiative can help!

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Superfund Job Training Initiative



[www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov)

## THE SUPERFUND JOB TRAINING INITIATIVE

Making a *Difference* in Communities



### What Is The Superfund Job Training Initiative?

The Superfund Job Training Initiative (SuperJTI) is an environmental remediation job readiness program that provides free training and employment opportunities for citizens living in communities affected by Superfund sites.

The Superfund program uses its experience working with communities to create partnerships with local businesses, universities, labor unions, community and social service organizations, and other federal agencies to address local workforce issues. EPA's goal is to help communities develop job opportunities and partnerships that remain long after a Superfund site is cleaned up.

EPA offers SuperJTI training through its Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC) contract, which provides independent educational and technical assistance to communities affected by Superfund sites.

### How Can SuperJTI Benefit My Community?

Through the SuperJTI program, EPA and its partners can make the most of resources and expertise to help citizens living in communities affected by Superfund sites.

SuperJTI benefits communities by:

- Increasing understanding of site conditions and cleanup efforts.
- Providing individuals with marketable skills that enhance employment potential.
- Enabling community members to play active roles in the protection and restoration of their neighborhoods.
- Providing assistance with job placement.

SuperJTI combines classroom instruction with hands-on training exercises for each participant. SuperJTI graduates have the technical skills to work on a broad range of projects in environmental remediation and construction as well as the cleanup of Superfund sites.

### What Are SuperJTI's Accomplishments?

Approximately 400 trainees nationwide have participated in SuperJTI. Graduates of SuperJTI have been placed in a variety of jobs.

- Dump truck drivers
- Environmental technicians
- General production operators
- Heavy equipment operators
- Material handlers
- Radiological control inspectors

Approximately 80 percent of trainees from previous SuperJTI programs have been placed into jobs.



Visit the SuperJTI website at: [www.epa.gov/superfund/community/sfjti](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/community/sfjti)

**ATTACHMENT 5  
FISH SMART MATERIALS**

**Fish Smart—Use this Chart**

**Fish Smart—Use this Chart**  
**¡Pesque con cabeza! Utilice esta gráfica**  
**Pesque esperto—Use este mapa**

<p> <b>Don't eat any fish</b> No coma pescado Não coma peixe</p> <p> <b>Don't eat any lobster</b> No coma langosta Não coma lagosta</p> <p> <b>Don't eat any shellfish</b> No coma mariscos Não coma mariscos</p>	<p> <b>Don't eat any bottom fish:</b> No coma pescado de fondo: Não coma peixe de fundo:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• flounder • tautog</li> <li>• lenguado • tautoga</li> <li>• scilla • bacalão de costa</li> <li>• scup • eel</li> <li>• sargo • anguila</li> <li>• sargo • anguila</li> </ul>
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New Bedford Harbor PCB Risk Assessment Report  
© EPA, 2003

**FISH-SMART**

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**New Bedford Harbor & PCB Contamination**

**A Fisherman's Guide**

**Contaminación con PCB (bifenilos policlorinados) en el puerto de New Bedford:**

**Guía para pescadores**

**Porto de New Bedford & Contaminação de PCB (Terenílio policlorado)**

**Um guia para os pescadores**

© EPA, 2003

**Fish Smart—Use this Chart**

- Don't eat any fish**
- Don't eat any lobster**
- Don't eat any shellfish**
- Don't eat any bottom fish:**
  - flounder • tautog
  - scup • eel

Printed on 100% recycled paper, with a minimum of 50% post consumer waste, using vegetable based inks.

© printed on 100% recycled paper, with a minimum of 50% post consumer waste, using vegetable based inks. August 2003

**ATTACHMENT 5  
FISH SMART MATERIALS**

English

## For Mothers and Mothers-to-Be!



**Fish Fact**

Most fish are safe and healthy for you and your family to eat, but some are not. Some fish have chemicals that can harm you, your baby or young children.

**Tips for Healthy Eating**

- When fishing, DO NOT EAT the fish, shellfish or lobster caught in the areas shown on the map. They have harmful chemicals called PCBs in them.
- DO NOT FEED it to your young children; the chemicals could harm them.
- When you buy seafood or if someone gives it to you, ask where it came from.

### Fish Smart—Use this Chart



**CAUTION:**  
Do not eat fish, shellfish or lobster caught in the closed areas of New Bedford Harbor:

they have chemicals in them that can harm you, your baby and young children.

If you have any questions about what fish are safe to eat, you should ask your doctor, nurse, a VFC provider, the local Health Department or 208-991-6284, or the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency toll free at 1-888-372-7341.



**Don't eat any fish**

**Don't eat any bottom fish:**

- flounder
- tautog
- scup
- eel

**Don't eat any lobster**

**Don't eat any shellfish**

Map Produced by The U.S. EPA New England/US Coast in May 2005

Printed on 100% recycled paper with minimum of 30% post consumer waste, vegetable based ink.

**EPA** United States Environmental Protection Agency New England

**BELLA**

August 2005

## Are your patients at risk from eating fish?



**PCB Facts**

New Bedford Harbor is heavily contaminated with PCBs.

Eating large amounts of fish or shellfish containing PCBs may cause adverse health effects including: liver and immune system damage; neurological, developmental and reproductive effects; and cancer.

**Tips for Patients**

- Advise pregnant women, those who may become pregnant, nursing mothers and young children **not to eat** seafood caught from New Bedford Harbor (see closed areas map on reverse).
- Advise women of child bearing age that they can safely eat 12 ounces of cooked fish per day from a store or restaurant.

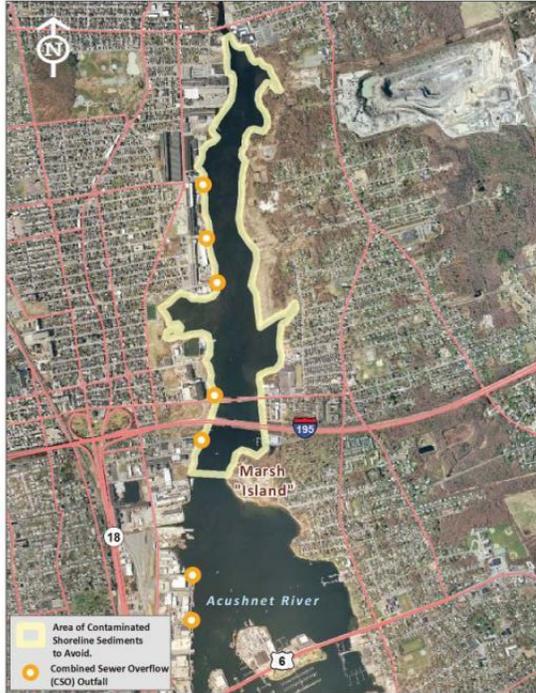
For more information, call the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency at 1-888-372-7341 ext. 81403



**EPA** United States Environmental Protection Agency New England

ATTACHMENT 6  
INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS FOR ROWERS

Please refer to this map of the  
Upper Harbor for your safety



 United States  
Environmental Protection  
Agency New England

## Welcome to Rowing on New Bedford Harbor!

EPA Superfund Division



**New Bedford Harbor** is one of the newest and more scenic rowing sites in New England, but as is the case with urban waterways, there are some environmental conditions to be aware of.

For your safety and enjoyment of recreational boating here on the Acushnet River, please follow this guide.

## PCBs and EPA's Superfund Cleanup

PCBs along with some heavy metals have been found in harbor sediment, shoreline soil and marine life in New Bedford Harbor from decades of industrial activity along its shore. Since the mid 1990s, the EPA has been dredging the most highly contaminated areas of the harbor. While the worst may be gone, it may be a few more decades before the harbor cleanup is complete.

With the following simple common sense precautions, rowing on the harbor can be a safe and enjoyable activity.

- Avoid contact with contaminated shoreline soil and sediment north of Marsh Island (see map) while launching.
- Wash off any sediment on your oars (with river water) before leaving your boat; avoid skin contact with the sediment while washing.
- If you should fall in the water, shower as soon as possible and launder your clothes separately.

The major exposure risks from PCBs in the harbor involve ingesting contaminated seafood from the harbor, or from repeated contact with contaminated shoreline soil.

For More Information on the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site visit:

[www.epa.gov/region1/nbh](http://www.epa.gov/region1/nbh)



## CSO's What You Should Know

CSO's (Combined sewer overflows) are sewer systems that were designed to carry sewage and storm water in the same pipe to a sewage treatment plant. After heavy rainfall or snowmelt events, the wastewater volume is often more than the sewer system or treatment plant can handle. In these situations, combined sewer systems were originally designed to overflow to prevent plant backups. Unfortunately this means that dilute, raw wastewater flows directly into rivers, lakes and coastal areas. This wastewater can carry human waste, as well as storm water from roadways and parking lots which can include oil, hazardous materials and floating debris. The biggest concern following a heavy rain event is high levels of bacteria in nearby waterways.

Exposure to viruses, bacteria, pathogens and other CSO-related pollutants or toxics is an obvious public health concern. Swimmers, canoeists, and others exposed are vulnerable to gastroenteritis, respiratory infections, eye or ear infections, skin rashes, hepatitis and other diseases.

New Bedford Harbor is not alone in this regard, as sewage discharges from combined sewer overflow pipes are a major concern in many of our urban waterways and are one reason why many of the nation's rivers still remain unsafe for swimming and fishing. Wildlife and aquatic habitat are also adversely affected by CSO pollutants which lead to higher water temperatures, increased turbidity, toxins and reduced oxygen levels in the water.

The City of New Bedford has initiated a bacterial monitoring program in the harbor before and after heavy rain events. While bacteria levels spike after heavy rainfall, most days are safe enough to row.

The best thing you can do is watch the weather and be mindful of water splashing from oars. In the unlikely event that you should fall in the water, shower as soon as you can and launder your wet clothes separately.

For More Information on CSO's visit:

[www.epa.gov/region1/eco/cso](http://www.epa.gov/region1/eco/cso)

# ATTENTION COACHES, COXSWAINS & ROWERS!

**ACTIVE EPA CLEANUP  
AND PHYSICAL HAZARDS  
IN THE WATER!**

**FOR YOUR SAFETY WHILE  
ROWING IN THE ACUSHNET RIVER  
AND NEW BEDFORD HARBOR:**

Please avoid the heavy equipment and vessels supporting the EPA cleanup and do not contact the contaminated shoreline soil and harbor sediment exposed during low tide.

**WATCH FOR THESE  
PHYSICAL HAZARDS:**



**Vertical steel beams (sheet piles) in the upper harbor  
DO NOT ROW BEYOND THESE**



**Floating and  
submerged pipelines**



**Steel cables that span  
the sheet piles**