

**Participating Organizations**

- Alliance for a Living Ocean*
- American Littoral Society
- Arthur Kill Coalition
- Asbury Park Fishing Club
- Bayberry Garden Club
- Bayshore Saltwater Flyrodders
- Belford Seafood Co-op
- Belmar Fishing Club
- Beneath The Sea
- Bergen Save the Watershed Action Network
- Berkeley Shores Homeowners Civic Association
- Cape May Environmental Commission
- Central Jersey Anglers
- Citizens Conservation Council of Ocean County
- Clean Air Campaign
- Coalition Against Toxics
- Coalition for Peace & Justice
- Coastal Jersey Parrot Head Club
- Coast Alliance
- Communication Workers of America, Local 1034
- Concerned Businesses of COA
- Concerned Citizens of Bensonhurst
- Concerned Citizens of COA
- Concerned Citizens of Montauk
- Dosil's Sea Roamers
- Eastern Monmouth Chamber of Commerce
- Environmental Response Network
- Explorers Dive Club
- Fisheries Defense Fund
- Fishermen's Dock Cooperative
- Fisher's Island Conservancy
- Friends of Island Beach State Park
- Friends of Liberty State Park
- Friends of Long Island Sound
- Friends of the Boardwalk
- Garden Club of Englewood
- Garden Club of Fair Haven
- Garden Club of Long Beach Island
- Garden Club of Morristown
- Garden Club of Navesink
- Garden Club of New Jersey
- Garden Club of New Vernon
- Garden Club of Oceanport
- Garden Club of Princeton
- Garden Club of Ridgewood
- Garden Club of Rumson
- Garden Club of Short Hills
- Garden Club of Shrewsbury
- Garden Club of Spring Lake
- Garden Club of Washington Valley
- Great Egg Harbor Watershed Association
- Highlands Business Partnership
- Highlands Chamber of Commerce
- Hudson River Fishermen's Association/NJ
- Interact Clubs of Rotary International
- Jersey Coast Shark Anglers
- Jersey Shore Audubon Society
- Jersey Shore Captains Association
- Jersey Shore Running Club
- Junior League of Monmouth County
- Junior League of Summit
- Kiwanis Club of Manasquan
- Kiwanis Club of Shadow Lake Village
- Leonardo Party & Pleasure Boat Association
- Leonardo Tax Payers Association
- Main Street Wildwood
- Marine Trades Association of NJ
- Monmouth Conservation Foundation
- Monmouth County Association of Realtors
- Monmouth County Audubon Society
- Monmouth County Friends of Clearwater
- Montauk Fisherman's Emergency Fund
- National Coalition for Marine Conservation
- Natural Resources Protective Association
- Navesink River Municipalities Committee
- Newcomers Club of Monmouth County
- NJ Beach Buggy Association
- NJ Commercial Fishermen's Association
- NJ Council of Dive Clubs
- NJ Environmental Federation
- NJ Environmental Lobby
- NJ Marine Educators Association
- NJ Marine Educators Association
- NJ PIRG Citizen Lobby
- NJ Sierra Club
- NJ Windsurfing Association
- Nottingham Hunting & Fishing Club
- NYC Sea Gypsies
- NY/NJ Baykeeper
- NY Marine Educators Association
- Ocean Advocates
- Ocean Conservancy
- Ocean County Citizens for Clean Water
- Ocean Divas
- Ocean Wreck Divers
- Outreach/First Presbyterian Church of Rumson
- Picatinny Saltwater Sportsmen Club
- Raritan Riverkeeper
- Riverside Drive Association
- Rotary Club of Long Branch
- Saint George's by the River Church, Rumson
- Saltwater Anglers of Bergen County
- Sandy Hook Bay Catamaran Club
- Save Barnegat Bay
- Save the Bay
- SEAS Monmouth
- Seaweeders Garden Club
- Shark River Cleanup Coalition
- Shark River Surf Anglers
- Sheepshead Bay Fishing Fleet Association
- Shore Adventure Club
- Shore Surf Club
- Sicera Club, Shore Chapter
- Soroptimist Club of Cape May County
- South Monmouth Board of Realtors
- Staten Island Friends of Clearwater
- Strathmore Fishing & Environmental Club
- Surfers' Environmental Alliance
- Surfrider Foundation, Jersey Shore Chapter
- TACK I
- Terra Nova Garden Club
- Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Mon. County
- United Boatmen of NY/NJ
- United Bowhunters of NJ
- Volunteer Friends of Boaters
- Waterspirit
- Women's Club of Brick Township
- Women's Club of Keyport
- Women's Club of Long Branch
- Women's Club of Merchantville
- Zen Society

# Clean Ocean Action



*Ocean Advocacy  
Since 1984*

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March 9, 2006

Mr. Thomas Shea, Project Manager  
New York and New Jersey Harbor Deepening  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
New York District  
26 Federal Plaza, Room 2119  
New York, NY 10278-0900

Suzanne Dietrick, Chief  
NJ Department of Environmental Protection  
Office of Dredging and Sediment Technology  
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Trenton, NJ 08625-0028

**VIA FACSIMILE**

**RE: Supplemental PN # FP64-SNB1-2005A2; New York and New Jersey Harbor Deepening Project, Newark Bay Channel, Contract Area S-NB-1**

Dear Ms. Dietrick;

Clean Ocean Action submits comments on the supplemental Public Notice for the New York and New Jersey Harbor Deepening Project, Newark Bay Channel, Contract Area S-NB-1 (PN # FP64-SNB1-2005A2).

The Newark Bay Channel dredging project has been modified to increase the volume from 1,816,000 cubic yards (CY) to 2,240,000 CY of dredged material including 1,549,000 CY to be disposed of at HARS (an increase of 204,000 CY) (Table 1)

| Newark Bay Contract SNB-1 | HARS Suitable Pleistocene Age Sediments |                     | Upland Sediments | Rock (CY) | Total Material Volume (CY) |
|---------------------------|---|---------------------|------------------|-----------|----------------------------|
|                           | Glacial Till (CY)                       | Red-Brown Clay (CY) | Black Silt (CY)  |           |                            |
| Original Estimates        | 288,000                                 | 1,057,000           | 362,000          | 109,000   | 1,816,000                  |
| Current Estimates         | 310,000                                 | 1,239,000           | 577,000          | 114,000   | 2,240,000                  |

Table 1. Areas to be dredged, proposed volumes, types of dredged material, and proposed management options. From the Army Corps of Engineers Public Notice #FP64-SNB1-2005A2.

COA's comments are as follows:

- The PN states an additional 275,000 CY of black silt has accumulated in the channel in the past 15 months.
  - This number is not accurately reflected in the black silt estimate provided (see Table 1 of PN, reproduced above) as the new volume estimate has only increased by 215,000 CY.
  - A doubling of the volume of black silt in the channel indicates a significant sedimentation rate of 18,333 CY/month. What accounts for the accumulation? Is this the average sedimentation rate for the region? Considering the significant environmental and economic implications of increasing sedimentation rates in the Newark Bay, COA urges the ACOE to conduct an investigation into possible causes.
  
- COA requests copies of the results of “*additional geotechnical sampling*”<sup>1</sup> that occurred since the original estimate was made.

A written response to these comments is requested.

Sincerely,



Cindy Zipf  
Executive Director



Jennifer Samson, PhD  
Principal Scientist

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<sup>1</sup> Supplemental PN # FP64-SNB1-2005A2; New York and New Jersey Harbor Deepening Project, Newark Bay Channel, Contract Area S-NB-1