Contaminated Sediments Database for Long Island Sound and New York Bight, U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 03-241, 2003

Glossary

Abbreviation	Definition	Category
ABUNITS	**Abbreviation for units**	ABUNITS
µg/g, UG_G	concentration in micrograms per gram (equals parts per million); 106 of a measured parameter per grams of sample, usually in dry sediment	ABUNITS
C	Concentration	ABUNITS
cm	centimeters	ABUNITS
dpm/g	disintegrations per minute per gram	ABUNITS
DRY WT	"Dry Weight"- different criteria for dry weight are used by various data sources; the common and accepted definition refers to weight after drying raw sample overnight at 110° or under vaccuum to constant weight.	ABUNITS
ft	distance in feet	ABUNITS
g	mass in grams	ABUNITS
in	distance in inches	ABUNITS
m	distance in meters	ABUNITS
ng/g	concentration in nanograms per gram (1µg/g = 1000 ng/g) 109 grams per gram	ABUNITS
mg/g	concentration in milligrams per gram (1000µg/g = 1 mg/g) 103 grams per gram	ABUNITS
mg/kg	milligrams per kilogram = micrograms per gram, 106 grams per gram, or 103 grams per kilogram	ABUNITS
OU	Original Units- the units the sample was originally reported in	ABUNITS
ppb	concentration in parts per billion (equals ng/g)	ABUNITS
ppm	concentration in parts per million (equals µg/g)	ABUNITS
ppt	concentration in parts per thousand (equals mg/g)	ABUNITS
DMS	measurement for Latitude/ Longitude in Degrees, Minutes, Seconds	ABUNITS
NAVMODES	**Navigational modes**	NAVMODES

GPS	Global Positioning System, a satellite navigation system which uses pulses sent by satellites to determine geographical position to within 20-30 m.	NAVMODES
DGPS	Differential Global Positioning System; a satellite navigation system accurate to 5-10 m	NAVMODES
LORAN A, LORAN C	A system of LOng-RANge navigation (Version A or C) in which pulsed signals sent out by three radio stations and are used by a navigator to determine the geographical position of a ship (or an airplane). Accurate to 100 m	NAVMODES
DEV_LIST	**List of sampling devices**	DEV_LIST
0.1 m2 Smith Mcintyre bottom grab		DEV_LIST
0.1 square meter Smith-MacIntyre grab		DEV_LIST
0.1 square meter Young grab sampler		DEV_LIST
10 cm diameter sewer pipe core		DEV_LIST
10 x 25 cm box core		DEV_LIST
17.8 cm Diver core		DEV_LIST
20 x 10 cm box core		DEV_LIST
6.5-cm vibracorer		DEV_LIST
6-cm diameter gravity corer		DEV_LIST
6-m piston core		DEV_LIST
76 cm gravity core		DEV_LIST
Brige Eckman stainless steel bottom grab		DEV_LIST
core		DEV_LIST
corer		DEV_LIST
frame-mounted spade box corer		DEV_LIST
gravity box corer (0.1 square meters)		DEV_LIST
gravity core		DEV_LIST
gravity corer		DEV_LIST
hand drilling		DEV_LIST
Lamont dredge		DEV_LIST
not reported		DEV_LIST
orange peel dredge		DEV_LIST
petite Ponar grab sampler		DEV_LIST
Phleger core 8 1/2 inches long		DEV_LIST
portable Vibracoring device		DEV_LIST
PVC core barrels		DEV_LIST
shovel		DEV_LIST
Smith-MacIntyre grab		DEV_LIST
Smith-McIntyre bottom grab		DEV_LIST
Smith-McIntyre grab		DEV_LIST
specially constructed box corer or a standard Smith-MacIntyre bottom grab		DEV_LIST
Teflon-coated Van Veen grab sampler		DEV_LIST
unknown		DEV_LIST
Van Veen sampler		DEV_LIST

vibracorer		DEV_LIST
METHODS	**List of analytical methods**	METHODS
AA/AAS	Atomic Absorption spectrometry: analytic technique used for trace element analysis, for determining elements at concentration levels to about 1 µg/g.	METHODS
CHN	CHN analyzer, CHN = Carbon, Hydrogen, Nitrogen Instrument	METHODS
CVAA	Cold-vapor atomic absorption	METHODS
DICHROMATE OXIDATION AND TITRATION	analytical technique for organic carbon (oxidizable) analysis	METHODS
GC	gas chromatography, used for measuring organics parameters	METHODS
GC/ECD	gas chromatography; electron capture detector; used for measuring organics parameters	METHODS
GC/FID	gas chromatography; flame ionization detector; used for measuring organics parameters	METHODS
GC/FPD	gas chromatography; flame photometric detector	METHODS
GC/MS	gas chromatography, mass spectrometry; used for measuring organics parameters	METHODS
GFAAS	graphite furnace atomic absorption spectroscopy	METHODS
FAAS	flame atomic absorption spectroscopy	METHODS
HPLC	Hewlett Packard liquid chromatography	METHODS
ICP, ICP-AES	Inductively coupled plasma - atomic emission spectrometry: instrument used for trace element determination	METHODS
ICP-MS	Inductively coupled plasma - mass spectrometry:	METHODS
Method Code EC182	Details of this method can be found in the Benthic QAPP (Blake and Hilbig, 1995)	METHODS
Instrument Code MICR	Details of this instrument code can be found in the Benthic QAPP (Blake and Hilbig, 1995)	METHODS
MS	Mass spectroscopy	METHODS
KJELDAHL EXTRACTION	an extraction procedure for measuring % nitrogen in sediments	METHODS
LOI	Loss on ignition, used for measuring volatile carbon by oven/furnace methods	METHODS

STANDARD SCREEN	grain size analysis by variable mesh screens for coarser fractions to sand and part of silt fraction	METHODS
PIPETTE	pipette analysis (time required to settle) for silt and clay fractions	METHODS
UCM	Unresolved Complex Mixture signal (gas chromatographic analysis)	METHODS
VOLUMETRIC AFTER ACID ADDITION	Analytical technique for carbonate analysis	METHODS
XRF	X-ray fluorescence	METHODS
FREQITEM	**Additional frequently cited items**	FREQITEM
ANAL	analysis, analyses, analyzed by	FREQITEM
BHC	hexachlorocyclohexane (also HCH)	FREQITEM
BHDMF	Boston Harbor Data Management File	FREQITEM
C:N	Carbon to Nitrogen ratio	FREQITEM
CAS NUMBER	Chemical Abstract Number	FREQITEM
CAT	categories I, II, or III for EPA and ACE levels of contamination in sediment	FREQITEM
CEC	Cation Exchange Capacity	FREQITEM
COD	Chemical Oxygen Demand (i.e. properties of oxidized material)	FREQITEM
CSO	Combined Sewage Overflow	FREQITEM
DAMOS	Disposal Area Monitoring System	FREQITEM
DATA DICTIONARY	document that defines field names of the database	FREQITEM
DB	database	FREQITEM
DDD	Dichloro-diphenyl-dichloro-ethane; an insectiside closely related chemically and similar in properties to DDT	FREQITEM
DDE	A metabolic breakdown product by transformation of DDT in natural environment	FREQITEM
DDT	Dichloro-diphenyl-trichloro-ethane; a colorless odorless water-insoluble crystalline insecticide that is long-lived and tends to accumulate in ecosystems and has toxic effects on many invertebrates	FREQITEM
FIELD NAME	categories under which various pieces of data of a certain sample belong	FREQITEM

FINES	Sum of silt and clay content; also called mud	FREQITEM
HCB	hydrocarbons (also hexochlorobenzene)	FREQITEM
HCH	hexachlorocyclohexane (also BHC)	FREQITEM
IUPAC	International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry	FREQITEM
KURTOSIS	A measure of the peakedness of a grain size frequency distribution; e.g. a measure of concentration of sediment particles about the median diameter	FREQITEM
LAT	latitude	FREQITEM
LON (LONG)	longitude	FREQITEM
MEAN	The arithmetic average of a series of values.	FREQITEM
MEDIAN	The value of the middle item in a set of data arranged in rank order.	FREQITEM
MET	metal(s) (inorganics)	FREQITEM
MHW	Mean high water	FREQITEM
MLW	Mean low water	FREQITEM
O & G	oil and grease	FREQITEM
O, P	Ortho locant or position, Para locant or position in a benzene ring	FREQITEM
PAH	Polyaromatic Hydrocarbon	FREQITEM
PCB	Polychlorinated Biphenyl	FREQITEM
PHC	Petroleum Hydrocarbon	FREQITEM
PHI	unit of particle-size; value is the particle diameter in units of the negative logarithm to the base 2 of the diameter in millimeters. The negative values of phi are the values coarser than 1 millimeter, and as the phi unit incr. the particle size decr	FREQITEM
PLASMA	Any luminous volume of gas having a fraction of its atoms or molecules ionized	FREQITEM
REPLICATE, REPS	One of several identical experiments, procedures, or samples	FREQITEM
RSD	relative standard deviation (a statistics parameter)	FREQITEM

SKEWNESS	A measure of asymmetry of a particle size frequency distribution; specifically the quotient of the difference between the arithmetic mean and the mode divided by the standard deviation	FREQITEM
SORT, SORTING COEFFICIENT	A numerical expression of the geometric spread of the central half of the particle-size distribution of a sediment.	FREQITEM
SORTING	The dynamic process by which sedimentary particles having some particular characteristic (such as similarity of size, shape, or specific gravity) are naturally selected and separated from associated but dissimilar particles by the agents of transportation	FREQITEM
SRM	standard reference material	FREQITEM
STD. DEV.	standard deviation	FREQITEM
TCDD	tetrachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin	FREQITEM
TCDF	tetrachlorodibenzofuran	FREQITEM
TRACE ELEMENT	An element that is not essential in a mineral but that is found in small quantities in its structure or adsorbed on its surfaces; conventionally assumed to be less than 1.0%	FREQITEM
US STD	U.S. Standard (ASTM) sieve sizes	FREQITEM
VOL SOL, VS	volatile solids	FREQITEM
WWW	World Wide Web	FREQITEM
INITIALS	**Data entry initials**	
MC	Maria Calisto, Rutgers University, student	INITIALS
ES, EMS	Elizabeth Stover, Rutgers University, student	INITIALS
EP	Eben Perry, science aide, USGS	INITIALS
SN	Sandra Nichols, Wesleyan University, student	INITIALS
VL	Vanessa Lawrence, science aide, USGS	INITIALS
MD	Mimi Divjak, Queens College, student	INITIALS
ELM	Ellen L. Mecray, (USGS)	INITIALS
JMR, JMC	Jamey M. Reid (USGS)	INITIALS
MEH, MES	Polly Hastings (fka Shoukimas), (USGS)	INITIALS
AREA_CODE	**Codes for sample location and/or disposal area codes**	AREA_CODE

CLIS	Central Long Island Sound	AREA_CODE
CORN	Cornfield Shoals Disposal Site, see also CSDS	AREA_CODE
CSDS	Cornfield Shoals Disposal Site, see also CORN	AREA_CODE
ELIS	Eastern Long Island Sound	AREA_CODE
HARS	Historic Area Remediation Site	AREA_CODE
LIS	Long Island Sound	AREA_CODE
NLON	New London	AREA_CODE
NYB	New York Bight	AREA_CODE
SE	southeast	AREA_CODE
SW	southwest	AREA_CODE
UPLD	upland	AREA_CODE
WLIS	Western Long Island Sound	AREA_CODE
DEPT_CODE	**Codes for sample depth**	DEPT_CODE
SURFACE, SURFSEDS	surface sediments, greater than or equal to 75% of sample is for 0-6 cm range below sediment/water interface	DEPT_CODE
DEPTH	Depth in sediment, measured from the sediment/water interface down the sediment column to the sample. Depth in water, measured from the air/sea interface through the water column to the sample.	DEPT_CODE
UNKNOWN	depth data was not reported	DEPT_CODE
AGENCIES	**Agency abbreviations**	AGENCIES
ACE, ACOE, U.S. ACOE, COE, USACOE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	AGENCIES
ACE_NED, USACOE_NED	United States Army Corps of Engineers, New England Division	AGENCIES
BS	NOAA's Mussel Watch Project	AGENCIES
COSED	NOAA's Coastal Sediment Inventory	AGENCIES
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection	AGENCIES
ECDMS	Environmental Contaminant Data Management Systems	AGENCIES
EMAP	EPA's (Regional) Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program, see also REMAP and R-EMAP	AGENCIES
EPA, ERL/N	U.S. EPA, Environmental Research Lab / Narragansett RI	AGENCIES
EPA, USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency	AGENCIES
ERL	Environment Research Laboratory (EPA)	AGENCIES
GERG	Geochemical and Environmental Research Group at Texas A&M	AGENCIES

LISRC	Long Island Sound Research Center	AGENCIES
MESA Project	Marine EcoSystems Analysis Project	AGENCIES
MMS	Mineral's Management Service	AGENCIES
MW	NOAA's Benthic Surveillance Project	AGENCIES
NED	New England Division, NED Environmental Laboratory, see also ACE-NED	AGENCIES
NEFC	Northeast Fisheries Center	AGENCIES
NET	National Environmental Testing, Inc.	AGENCIES
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA)	AGENCIES
NMFS/NEC/SANDY HOOK	National Marine Fisheries Service/Northeast Coast/Sandy Hook Laboratory	AGENCIES
NMFS/NWFSC/SEATTLE	National Marine Fisheries Service/Northwest Fisheries Science Seattle Laboratory	AGENCIES
NMFS/SEFSC/BEAUFORT	National Marine Fisheries Service/Southeast Fisheries Science Center/Beaufort Laboratory	AGENCIES
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	AGENCIES
NOS	National Ocean Service (NOAA)	AGENCIES
NS&T	National Status and Trends (NOAA)	AGENCIES
NSF	National Science Foundation	AGENCIES
NWFSC	Northwest Fisheries Science Center	AGENCIES
NYD	New York District	AGENCIES
ODES	EPA's Ocean Data Evaluation System	AGENCIES
ORCA	Ocean Resources Conservation and Assessment (NOAA)	AGENCIES
REMAP	EPA's (Regional) Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program, see also EMAP and R-EMAP	AGENCIES
R-EMAP	EPA's (Regional) Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program, see also EMAP and REMAP	AGENCIES
SAIC	Science Applications International Corporation	AGENCIES
SEFSC	Southeast Fisheries Science Center	AGENCIES
STORET	EPA's Storage and Retrieval System	AGENCIES

TAMU	Texas A&M University	AGENCIES
UCONN	University of Connecticut	AGENCIES
USCG	United States Coast Guard	AGENCIES
USGS	United States Geological Survey	AGENCIES
WHFC	Woods Hole Field Center, USGS	AGENCIES
WHOI (WH)	Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution	AGENCIES
PCB LIST *(IUPAC Names/Numbers)*	**List of PCBs** *(Individual PCB Congeners)*	PCB LIST
PCB 8	2,4'-DICHLOROBIPHENYL	PCB LIST
PCB 18	2,2',5-TRICHLOROBIPHENYL	PCB LIST
PCB 28	2,4,4'-TRICHLOROBIPHENYL	PCB LIST
PCB 44	2,2',3,5'-TETRACHLOROBIPHENYL	PCB LIST
PCB 52	2,2',5,5'-TETRACHLOROBIPHENYL	PCB LIST
PCB 66	2,3',4,4'-TETRACHLOROBIPHENYL	PCB LIST
PCB 77	3,3',4,4'-TETRACHLOROBIPHENYL	PCB LIST
PCB 101	2,2',4,5,5'-PENTACHLOROBIPHENYL	PCB LIST
PCB 105	2,3,3',4,4'-PENTACHLOROBIPHENYL	PCB LIST
PCB 118	2,3',4,4',5-PENTACHLOROBIPHENYL	PCB LIST
PCB 126	3,3',4,4',5-PENTACHLOROBIPHENYL	PCB LIST
PCB 128	2,2',3,3',4,4'-HEXACHLOROBIPHENYL	PCB LIST
PCB 138	2,2',3,4,4',5'-HEXACHLOROBIPHENYL	PCB LIST
PCB 153	2,2',4,4',5,5'-HEXACHLOROBIPHENYL	PCB LIST
PCB 170	2,2',3,3',4,4',5-HEPTACHLOROBIPHENYL	PCB LIST
PCB 180	2,2',3,4,4',5,5'-HEPTACHLOROBIPHENYL	PCB LIST
PCB 187	2,2',3,4',5,5',6-HEPTACHLOROBIPHENYL	PCB LIST
PCB 195	2,2',3,3',4,4',5,6-OCTACHLOROBIPHENYL	PCB LIST
PCB 206	2,2',3,3',4,4',5,5',6-NONACHLOROBIPHENYL	PCB LIST
PCB 209	2,2',3,3',4,4',5,5',6,6'-DECACHLOROBIPHENYL	PCB LIST
QUAL	**Qualifiers**	QUAL
BDL	below detection limit	QUAL
BMDL	below method detection limit	QUAL
<DL	less than the detection limit	QUAL

<LQD=ND	less than the limit of quantitative detection which equals "not detected"	QUAL
DL, DET LIM, D	Detection Limit	QUAL
HIGH value	concentation reported is greater than that of most of the samples in the GOM database	QUAL
IDL	Instrument Detection Limit	QUAL
IN HARD COPY	reported data is an outlier relative to VALIDS criteria for that parameter, but is confirmed for that in original	QUAL
LDF	limited degrees of freedom; used for statistial evaluation	QUAL
LOD	Limit of detection	QUAL
LOQ	Limit of quantification	QUAL
LOW value	concentration reported is less than that of most of the samples in the GOM database	QUAL
LQD	Limit of quantitative detection (less than DL)	QUAL
MDL	Method detection limit	QUAL
MLQ	method limit of quantitation; detection limit corrected for mass and volume of each sample	QUAL
NA	Not applicable, not available, not analyzed	QUAL
ND	Not detected	QUAL
NQ	not quantitated	QUAL
TR	trace amount; tr signifies at LOD	QUAL
Q	Qualifier	QUAL
QA/QC	Quality Assurance/Quality Control	QUAL