



# Coastal Science Team

Office of Monitoring & Assessment  
Environmental Assessment & Innovation Division  
EPA Region 3, Philadelphia, PA

## Mission Statement

- To assess the health of the region's coasts and oceans through the application of sound science
- To collect robust data and use that scientific information to effect the protection of these marine habitats by informing regulatory and non-regulatory decision-making

## Expertise

- Water quality sampling
- Sediment Sampling
- Diving
- Ocean Disposal Monitoring
- Dredging
- Artificial Reef Monitoring



Photo of R. V. Lear at Ft. Mifflin

## Resources

- 35-ft. Bertram twin diesel boat
- 25-ft. Parker twin outboard boat
- 20-ft. Carolina skiff single engine boat
- Two 14-ft. Semi V boats
- Access to EPA's 224-ft Ocean Survey Vessel (OSV) *Bold*
- Remote operated vehicle (ROV)
- YSI Water Quality monitoring instrumentation
- Sediment sampling equipment (young dredge, sieves, etc.)
- Idexx portable microbiological capabilities

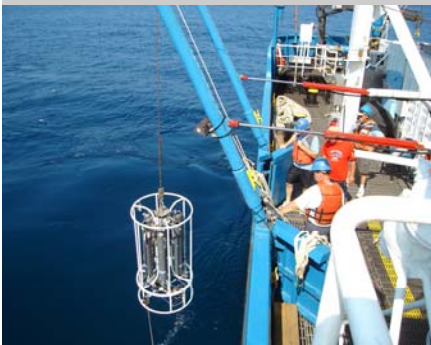
# Coastal Science Team Partnerships and Projects



Diving for Shuttle Recovery Mission



Coastal Benthic Sampling



Water Quality Testing

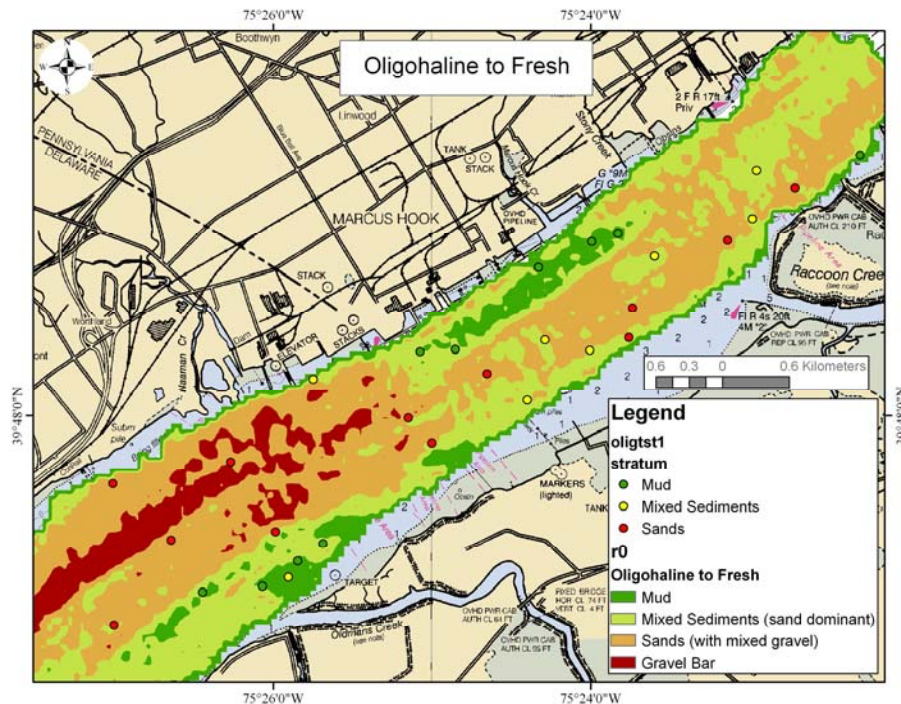
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## Delaware Estuary Benthic Community Characterization: An Example of a Coastal Science Team Partnership



The Coastal Science Team supports the Partnership for a Delaware Estuary, which received funding through a RARE Cooperative Agreement from EPA Regions II and III. Approximately 200 benthic grab samples were collected throughout the estuary from July through September, 2008. The Coastal Science Team provided the resources (boats, sampling equipment, and dive team) and expertise as part of this collaboration. These data will be added to the sediment characterization data that the State of Delaware continues to collect. The data will be displayed in a usable GIS format and will provide the ability to track the health of the estuary, identify biologically sensitive areas, and better understand the Delaware Estuary as a whole.

### Partnerships

- Partnership For Delaware Estuary
- MDE
- EPA Estuary Programs
- NOAA
- EPA Superfund Program
- EPA Ft. Meade Laboratory

