

Welcome to the June 2003 SedWeb E-Mail Update, a monthly summary of recent developments about contaminated sediments remediation. This update is a service the Sediments Web Community (<http://www.sediments.org>), an online resource for researchers, regulatory officials, and environmental managers created by the U.S. EPA-sponsored Hazardous Substance Research Centers/South & Southwest (HSRC/SSW).

We invite your submissions for future updates. Contact Mark Hodges at mark.hodges@gtri.gatech.edu to make submissions or suggestions, or to add or remove your name from this list.

Previous SedWeb E-Mail Updates are archived at <http://www.sediments.org/email-update.html>.

Publication of news items in this report does not constitute an endorsement of their contents by either the HSRCs or EPA. We present them because of their potential relevance to sediments researchers and managers.

Conferences/Meetings/Workshops

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING TECHNICAL CONFERENCES/MEETINGS:

- June 22-26: International Association for Great Lakes Research Conference on "Global Threats to Large Lakes: Managing in an Environment of Instability and Unpredictability," DePaul University, Chicago. <http://www.iaglr.org/conference/conference.html>
- June 25-26: Conference on "Moving Toward a Sustainable Great Lakes," Lake Superior State University at Saulte Ste. Marie, Michigan. <http://www.glc.org/sustainable/>
- June 23-26: 2003 World Water and Environmental Resources Congress, Philadelphia, PA. <http://www.asce.org/conferences/ewri2003/>
- July 13-17: Coastal Zone 03 Conference, Baltimore, Maryland. Conference theme: "Management through time: Port and harbor, regional land, management response to coastal hazards (erosion), and management of aquatic resources." <http://www.csc.noaa.gov/cz2003/information.html>

CALL FOR PAPERS MADE TO SOILS, SEDIMENTS AND WATER CONFERENCE. Proposals for papers are due July 11 for the 14th Annual West Coast Conference on Soils, Sediments, and Water to be held March 15-18, 2004, in San Diego, California. <http://www.aehs.com/conferences/westcoast/paper.htm>

SYMPOSIUM PLANNED IN MOSCOW IN 2004. The International Symposium on Sediment Transfer through the Fluvial System will take place August 2-6, 2004 in Moscow, Russia, under the sponsorship of the International Association of Hydrological Sciences and the International Commission of Continental Erosion, with co-sponsorship by Moscow State University. The deadline for submission of abstracts was April 30, and papers are due November 30. For further information, contact: Valentin Golosov or Vladimir Belyaev at Telephone 007-095-9395044 , FAX 007-095-9395044.

APPLIED ENVIRONMENTAL GEOLOGY CONFERENCE SET. The First Conference on Applied Environmental Geology will take place October 7-10 in Vienna, Austria. <http://www.univie.ac.at/Geologie/aeg03.htm>

Regulatory Updates

DATA NEEDED FOR NATIONAL SEDIMENTS INVENTORY. The U.S. EPA is updating its report on "The Incidence and Severity of Sediment Contamination in Surface Waters of the United States" for the first time since 1997. Part of that effort involves an updating of the National Sediments Inventory (NSI), a database that compiles 1980-1999 information from more than 4.6 million analytical observations and 50,000 stations throughout the United States. EPA is seeking any available geo-referenced sediment quality data collected after 1990 that is not already supplied to the EPA's STORET water quality

database, or that is not currently in the NSI database. To submit geo-referenced sediment quality data to the updated NSI, contact either Kevin Charles (charles.kevin@epa.gov), Scott Ireland (Ireland.scott@epa.gov), or Richard Healy (healy.richard@epa.gov)

Reports/Publications

SEDNET PUBLISHES SEDIMENTS VIABILITY ASSESSMENT. The European Sediment Research Network (SedNet) has published a report on the conditions for sediments management that is environmentally, socially and economically viable. Download it at http://www.sednet.org/materiale/SedNet_SP.pdf.

COMMENTS SOUGHT ON CALCASIEU ESTUARY REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION REPORT. The U.S. EPA has extended the period until July 8 for submission of public comments on the Calcasieu Estuary Remedial Investigation Report, which presents the results of the site characterization study conducted from late 1999 to 2002. Send comments to: John Meyer, EPA Region 6 (6SF-LP), 1445 Ross Avenue, Dallas, TX 75202 (E-mail: meyer.john@epa.gov). The Calcasieu report can be viewed at the following web site: <http://www.epa.gov/earth1r6/6sf/sfsites/calcri.htm>.

INDEPENDENT OCEANS COMMISSION CALLS FOR REFORMS. The Pew Oceans Commission has released the recommendations of an independent study commission for reform of U.S. ocean laws and policies in a report called *America's Living Oceans: Charting a Course for Sea Change*. It is available online or in paper format at the following web address: <http://www.pewoceans.org/>

Remediation Projects

RECENT HUDSON RIVER PCB REMEDIATION PROJECT UPDATES:

- The U.S. EPA, as part of the Hudson River PCB cleanup project, has released a list of preliminary candidate sites for sediment processing/transfer facilities. These facilities will transfer and remove water from the dredged sediment and will be chosen after a public review period. Siting documents and factsheets can be reviewed at www.epa.gov/hudson.
- General Electric has agreed to develop detailed approaches for removal of sediment from the river bottom, transport and disposal of the material, and replacement of the habitat in dredged areas. The company is also agreeing to pay up to \$28 million as a partial reimbursement of EPA's past and future costs associated with the dredging project. More information is available from Dave Kluesner (Kluesner.Dave@epamail.epa.gov).
- On May 14, 2003, EPA released draft engineering performance standards that help to ensure that the cleanup of the Hudson River PCBs site meets objectives for protecting people's health and the environment established in the February 2002 site Record of Decision (ROD). The public can submit comments electronically during the public comment period by visiting the Hudson River project Web site at www.epa.gov/hudson and clicking on "Public comment on the draft Engineering Performance Standards" in the Hudson Activities box on the right-hand side of the top page.
- On May 14, 2003, EPA announced that it has reached a draft agreement with General Electric to perform the project design work required before dredging can begin. The tentative agreement incorporates draft work plans for the design of the dredging work, baseline monitoring, a cultural and archaeological resources assessment, and a habitat delineation and assessment program. Public comments of the document will be accepted through July 2. Copies are available at the web site, www.epa.gov/hudson and in print and on CD-ROM by calling the Hudson River Field Office at (518) 747-4389 or (866) 615-6490 toll-free. Public input on the draft work plans can be made by e-mail to hrfo@capital.net.