

## **New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site Community Update on Site Activities – October 2018**

### **Lower Harbor CAD Cell Disposal:**

Dredging of lower-level PCB contaminated sediments in the lower harbor below low tide elevations (subtidal) is now substantially complete. In total, approximately 319,000 cubic yards of dredge materials have been removed and placed in the Lower Harbor CAD Cell (LHCC).



(Lower Harbor CAD Cell Mechanical Dredging and Filling After Action Photos, 2017-2018)

### **Shoreline Cleanups (Fairhaven):**

In the summer of 2018, remediation and restoration of the North Street Salt Marsh and “Between the Bridges” shoreline areas, both in Fairhaven were completed.

Approximately 2,000 cubic yards (cy) of contaminated sediment were excavated from the North Street Saltmarsh area, followed by topsoil placement and replanting of native saltmarsh grasses. The removed material was transported to EPA’s Sawyer Street facility in New Bedford for dewatering, and then loaded onto larger trucks for transport to an offsite licensed landfill.

Approximately 600 cy of contaminated shoreline sediment were removed from the “Between the Bridges” (I-195 and Rt 6) area, with excavated material also disposed at an offsite licensed landfill. Topsoil backfill and saltmarsh replanting has been completed in this area. Restoration of the Town-owned staging area remains to be completed this fall. Soil and sediment sampling at both areas demonstrate that PCB cleanup levels were met. Air and water quality monitoring was also performed during the two projects, demonstrating that they were implemented safely.

Replanting of salt marsh and an abutting upland meadow area was also completed at Riverside Park in New Bedford.



(Restoration of shoreline after contaminated sediment removal between I-195 and Coggeshall Street Bridges, Summer 2018, Fairhaven, Massachusetts)

#### **Shoreline Cleanup (Acushnet and New Bedford):**

EPA anticipates that remediation and restoration of shoreline areas in the northern part of the upper harbor in Acushnet and New Bedford could begin as early as winter 2019. The approach for this work would be similar to that used to date for other shoreline areas (e.g., excavation to meet cleanup levels, placement of clean backfill, saltmarsh replanting, and offsite disposal of excavated soil material).

#### **Interim Sediment Cap Near the Aerovox Site:**

The capping of approximately 3 acres of highly contaminated shoreline and river sediment near the former Aerovox Mill Site is underway. The “Aerovox Interim Cap” (marked in grey on attached map) will allow the dredging of adjacent river sediments to proceed in sequence with EPA’s cleanup and will remain in place until the source of contamination from the Aerovox Site is eliminated under separate State and Federal cleanup programs. The Aerovox Interim Cap construction is expected to be complete early in 2019.

#### **Dredging and Disposal of Highly Contaminated Subtidal Sediment from the Upper Harbor:**

The final pass cleanup of Upper Harbor subtidal sediments has been proceeding throughout the spring and fall. About one-half of the area of the Upper Harbor remains to be dredged to reach cleanup goals between now and the end of 2019.

#### **Cable Crossing:**

Dredging of the Cable Crossing area in the Upper Harbor which began in October 2017 is substantially complete. Average PCB levels in sediment in this area have been lowered from approximately 545 ppm to less than 5 ppm.





(Loading contaminated sediment for processing from precision dredging of Cable Crossing segment of the Acushnet River performed Fall 2017 to Spring 2018)

#### **North of the Cable Crossing:**

Approximately 60,000 cubic yards of highly contaminated sediment commenced in June of 2018 (marked in yellow on the attached map) and will be wrapped up in late 2018. Sediment from this area is dewatered and disposed of at a licensed landfill off-site.



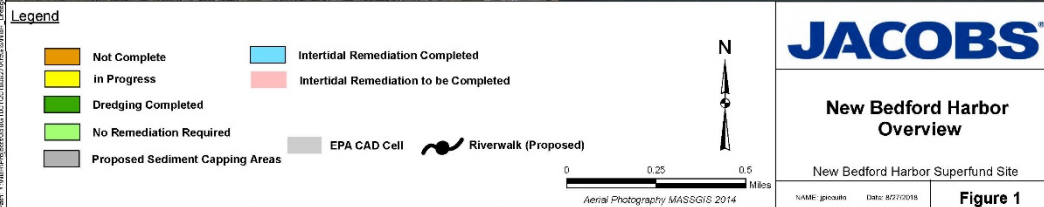
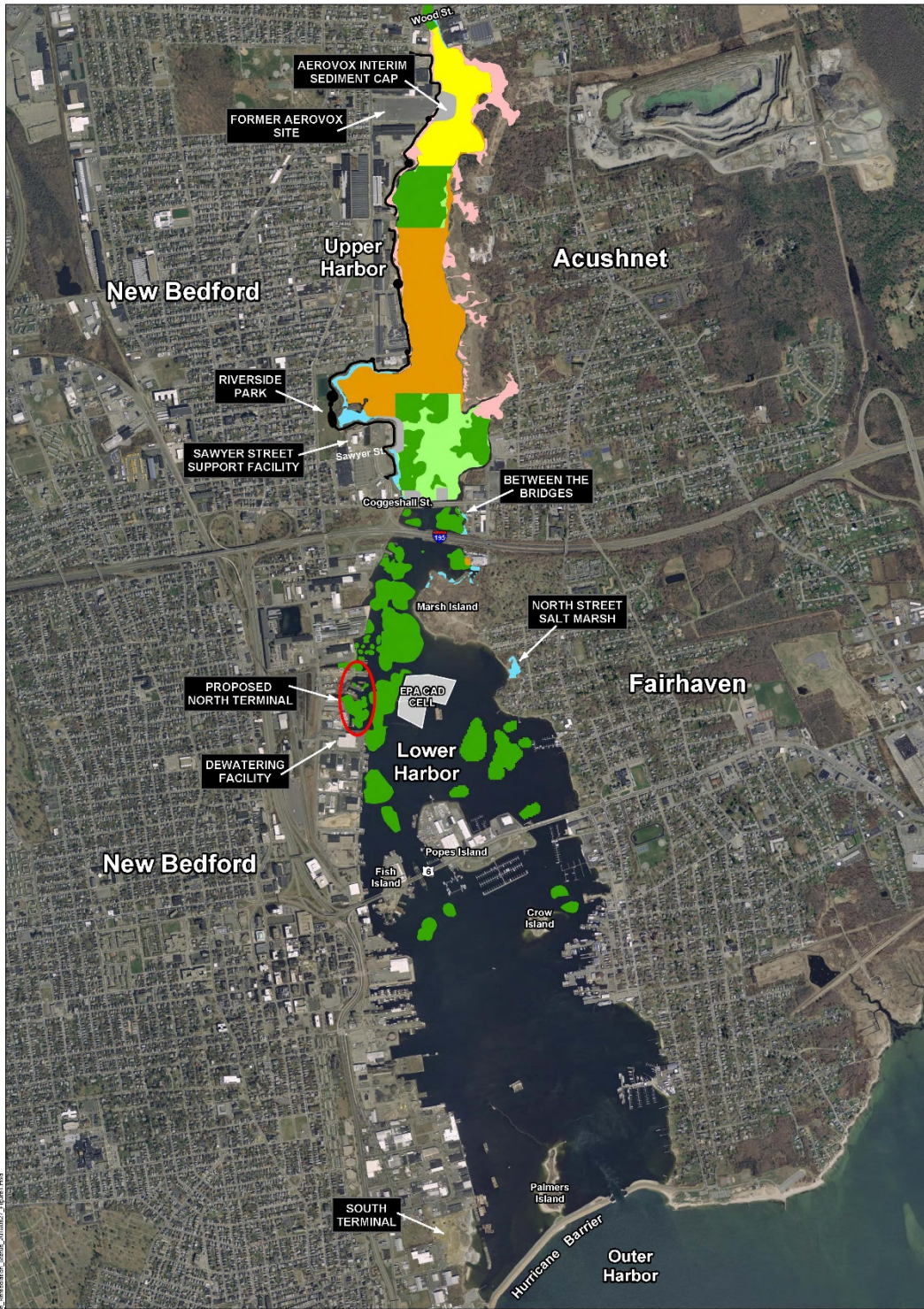
(Precision dredging of northern segment of the Acushnet River performed Spring 2018 through Fall 2018)

**Remaining Subtidal Dredging in the Upper Harbor:**

Once the area “North of the Cable Crossing” has been completed, the remainder of the subtidal dredging (marked in brown on the attached map) will be completed by the end of calendar year 2019. Thereafter, it is anticipated that demobilization of the subtidal dredging equipment will commence.

For more information, contact EPA community involvement coordinator Kelsey Dumville at 617-918-1003 ([dumville.kelsey@epa.gov](mailto:dumville.kelsey@epa.gov))





Path: Y:\188-Environmental\GIS\10216027\Figures\CHB\...\_20180827\_Figures.mxd



