SUMMARY OF MARSH ISLAND REMEDIATION BY USEPA

New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site - May 2017

WHAT: Marsh Island is actually a peninsula that juts out into New Bedford Harbor just south of the Rt. 195 bridge on the Fairhaven side. Soils and sediments between high and low tide in certain areas along the northern shore of this peninsula are contaminated with PCBs (poly-chlorinated biphenyls) above applicable EPA cleanup levels. The attached Figure 1 shows the twelve such areas where soil or sediment will be removed for offsite disposal. The total combined square footage of these 12 separate areas is approximately 42,000 sq. ft. (just under one acre). The total volume of PCB-contaminated soil and sediment to be removed from these twelve areas is approximately 1,730 cubic yards.

WHEN: This remediation work is currently planned to start in late summer or early fall 2017, and should take two to three months to finish. Intermittent access will be required after this time for occasional monitoring and maintenance activities.

HOW: EPA works hand in hand with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and its contractors and subcontractors to accomplish this work. First, a construction access road will be installed running from the southern end of River Avenue along the shore to enable construction vehicles to access the northern shore of Marsh Island. This road will have a locked gate at the end of River Avenue, to be locked at all times when not in use. The twelve removal areas shown on Figure 1 will then be excavated, and the removed material will be placed into sealed trucks for transport to EPA's Sawyer Street facility in New Bedford for staging and loading onto larger trucks for transport to an offsite licensed landfill.

Two rounds of soil and sediment sampling will be performed to demonstrate that the applicable PCB cleanup levels have been attained. Air and water quality monitoring will also be performed during the project to ensure it is being implemented safely. Once all the contaminated soil and sediment has been removed, clean backfill will be placed so that the removal areas can be restored with topsoil, saltmarsh plantings and native shrubs and trees.

OVERLAP WITH NOAA SALTMARSH RESTORATION: All of the twelve PCB removal areas are located outside of the boundaries of the NOAA saltmarsh restoration. However, the construction access road discussed above will be left in place for use during the upcoming NOAA saltmarsh restoration project. This will minimize impacts to abutters since two construction efforts will be avoided (one by EPA to remove the access road, and one by NOAA to rebuild it).

FOR MORE INFORMATION: contact EPA community involvement coordinator Kelsey O'Neil at 617-918-1003 (<u>oneil.kelsey@epa.gov</u>) or EPA project manager David Dickerson at 617-918-1329 (dickerson.dave@epa.gov).



