COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DIVISION OF SHELLFISH SAFETY

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JAMES RIVER: NEWPORT NEWS POINT TO DEEP CREEK
Growing Area # 057
Cities of Hampton and Newport News
Shoreline Sanitary Survey

Date: 18 August 2022
Survey Period: October 28, 2021 – April 22, 2022
Total Number of Samples Taken and Properties Inspected: 195
Surveyed By: C. Turner, J. Dickerson, I. Geeson, F. Monis, L. Sakach, E. Yeargan, & T. Egerton

SECTION A: GENERAL

This survey area extends from Reference Point 57 at Newport News Point to Reference Point 58 at Blunt Point, including the James River shoreline between these points, Newport News Creek (Small Boat Harbor), Lake Maury, Kettle Pond, Country Club Creek, Indigo Lake and all of their tributaries.

The topography is characterized by an immediate rise in elevation along the shoreline to moderate heights and then leveling out to form a broad plateau. In the southeastern portion, the shoreline rises abruptly from 10' to 15', leveling out at approximately 20'. The relief increases in the upstream portions, with shoreline elevations reaching 25' to 30'.

The population is very dense throughout the survey area. The area economy depends upon general metropolitan commerce, seafood, tourism, various military installations, and large industrial operations including Huntington Ingalls Newport News Shipbuilding, Dominion Terminal Associates, Fairlead Boat Works, Kinder Morgan Pier IX Terminal (coal storage and shipment) and Boat Harbor Sewage Treatment Plant.

Meteorological data indicated that 21.24" of rain fell during the survey period. A monthly breakdown follows:

Oct. 28-31, 2021	0.9"	November	2.19"	December	2.02"
January 2022	6.6"	February	1.81"	March	4.66"
April 1-22	3.06"				

The area is serviced by a public sewerage system operated by the Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD) and is connected to either the Boat Harbor Sewage Treatment facility, which discharges into the James River at Newport News Point; or the James River Sewage Treatment facility which discharges into the Warwick River. HRSD has announced on their website plans to transfer waste from the Boat Harbor Treatment plant to the

Nansemond Treatment facility via a 32” pipe that will traverse the James River. Construction is scheduled for 2023-2024.

Sanitary wastes generated by the Monitor-Merrimac Memorial Bridge Tunnel offices located on the south island are held in a 1500 gallon tank with a high-water alarm, and are pumped at least three times a week by an approved sewage disposal company. Wastes generated from the north service island go directly to the public sewerage system in Newport News. The James River Bridge tender station utilizes a 500 gallon holding tank for sanitary waste. This tank is pumped once every three weeks and disposed of at the HRSD Boat Harbor Treatment Plant.

Boating activity involves a full range of vessel types, sizes, and associated support activities. Several industrial facilities along the Newport News waterfront have moorings for large military, shipping or service vessels. These facilities are not regulated by the VDH Marina Program, however these facilities are included in this survey as marinas as they present a large portion of the boating activity in the survey area. The Newport News Seafood Industrial Park encompasses all of the shoreline around the small boat harbor. A number of seafood processing facilities are located within the boundary of this survey. Seafood products landed and processed include scallops, shellstock clams and crabs.

Of the seafood processing establishments located within the survey area, one has direct permitted discharge to shellfish waters; South Bay Fishmonger (VA 1641 RS).

Nearshore seawater stations were established to survey the full extent of waters beyond routine classification stations. Stations were created in closer proximity to the shoreline and farther upstream than routine stations and are intended to evaluate drainage entry points of potential point and nonpoint source pollution. Station data were analyzed to compare relative concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria within the waterway to identify potential onshore sources of contamination. An interactive map of sewer, stormwater and drainage basins is available on the City of Newport News’ internet web page at https://maps.nnva.gov/viewer/

Elevated levels of enterococcus were detected during wet weather sampling at several locations that feed into the James River and Small Boat Harbor inlet. Further investigation in cooperation with HRSD has detected the human-associated molecular marker gene HF183 which may indicate the presence of human-source fecal pollution. A three year review of the sewage spill reporting database references several spills associated with periods of heavy rains in the Newport News vicinity, including two >100,000 gallon spills into Government Ditch during that time frame.

VDH Division of Shellfish Safety will take into consideration the ongoing status and mitigation of these sources of pollution in any decision to reclassify these currently-restricted waters. Updated information on the collaborative efforts between VDH, HRSD and the municipalities can be made available upon request.

Hydrographic data, sampling times and range of enterococcus concentrations measured are shown in the table below. Maps of the enterococcus sampling are shown at the conclusion of this report.

Growing Area 57 Nearshore Sampling					Rainfall in Inches		
Sample Dates	High Tide*	Ebb Current**	Sampling Times	Enterococcus range (MPN/100ml)	Day of	Previous 24 hours	Previous 7 days
2/24/22	3:21	4:27	12:43	<10-565	0.27	0.08	0.18
3/1/22	8:44	10:06	9:27	<10-12,033	0	0	0.35
3/2/22	9:23	10:49	9:20	<10-1607	0	0	0.35
3/9/22	2:17	2:53	9:13	<10-5172	1.33	0.08	0.08
Total Rainfall for sampling period (2/24-3/9): 1.68”							

* High tide estimated from Hampton Roads, Newport News
** Ebb current estimated from Hampton Roads, Newport News

Information in this report is gathered by and primarily for use by the Division of Shellfish Safety, Virginia Department of Health, in order to fulfill its responsibilities of shellfish growing area supervision and classification. However, the data are made available to various agencies participating in shellfish program coordinated activities or other interested parties.

Copies of VPDES permits and inspections are available at the Department of Environmental Quality. A directory and interactive map are available via the internet at https://www.deq.virginia.gov/permits-regulations/permits/water/surface-water-virginiapollutant-discharge-elimination-system

Copies of the current condemnation notices and maps are available via the Internet at https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/shellfish/.

SECTION B: SEWAGE POLLUTION SOURCES

	GA #	Field #	Inspection Date	Deficiency or Pollution Type	Latitude	Longitude	Pollutant Remarks	Septic System Type	Structure Type	Contact	Overall Site Remarks	Locality	DSS Staff	Date of Correction	Correction Notes
1699	57	41	3/31/2022	SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITY, indirect	36.965991	-76.414426	25 MGD design flow 14 MGD average 52 MGD max.		Business		Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD) Small Boat Harbor Treatment Plant. VPDES VA0081256 Secondary Treatment.	Newport News	IG		
5007	57	41A	8/3/2022	SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITY, direct	36.957034	-76.411990	VPDES Permit # VA0081256002.				Outfall for HRSD Small Boat Harbor Plant		IG		

SECTION C: NONSEWAGE WASTE SITES

	GA #	Field #	Inspection Date	Deficiency or Pollution Type	Latitude	Longitude	Pollutant Remarks	Septic System Type	Structure Type	Contact	Overall Site Remarks	Locality	DSS Staff
1694	57	CT1	3/31/2022	INDUSTRIAL WASTES, direct	36.990930	-76.440831	VPDES permit # VA0004804 covers 184 outfalls.	NA		Y	Newport News Shipbuilding	Newport News	CT
1697	57	CT2A	3/31/2022	INDUSTRIAL WASTES, direct	36.965081	-76.415377	VPDES permit # VAR052209.	NA	Business	Y	Blueknight Energy Partners	Newport News	IG
1704	57	CT3	3/31/2022	INDUSTRIAL WASTES, indirect	36.966728	-76.412817	Several large commercial fuel tanks behind berm.	NA	Business		World Fuel Services. Wholesale fuel depot.	Newport News	CT
1705	57	F3	3/31/2022	INDUSTRIAL WASTES, indirect	36.964628	-76.411893	3/10/22-Met with Safety Manager. All waste from sandblasting and spray paint operations are fully contained and hauled off-site to a permitted waste disposal facility. No VPDES permit needed.		Business	Y	Fairlead Boatworks	Newport News	FM
4957	57	F4	4/25/2022	INDUSTRIAL WASTES, direct	36.970054	-76.426364	VPDES permit # VA0057142.			N	Kinder Morgan Bulk Terminals Pier IX	Newport News	FM
1700	57	F5	3/31/2022	INDUSTRIAL WASTES, direct	36.944986	-76.403731	Storm water in tunnels are collected with sump pump and discharged to outfalls (#001, 002) VPDES permit # VA0080179.				Monitor Merrimac Bridge Tunnel	Newport News	FM
4971	57	L1	5/17/2022	INDUSTRIAL WASTES, direct	36.966231	-76.421449	VPDES permit # VA0058254.	NA	Business	N	Dominion Terminal Associates. Bulk coal distribution terminal.	Newport News	LS
1702	57	L2	3/31/2022	INDUSTRIAL WASTES, direct	36.970100	-76.414528	DEQ permit under Wanchese, # VAG523065.	NA	Business	N	Southbay Seafood	Newport News	LS

SECTION D: BOATING ACTIVITY

	GA #	Field #	Inspection Date	Deficiency or Pollution Type	Latitude	Longitude	Pollutant Remarks	Septic System Type	Structure Type	Contact	Overall Site Remarks	Locality	Boating Activity Type	Number of Wet Slips	NUM BOATS <26'	NUM BOATS >26'	Evidence of Live-Aboards	DSS Staff
4973	57	CT1A	5/17/2022	BOATING ACTIVITY	36.990164	-76.442456		NA	Business	Y	Newport News Shipbuilding	Newport News	Marina	300	0	6	Y	IG
4974	57	CT2	5/17/2022	BOATING ACTIVITY	36.965016	-76.415377		NA	Marine		Blueknight Energy Partners	Newport News	Marina	60	0	1	N	CT
1698	57	CT4	3/31/2022	BOATING ACTIVITY	36.971572	-76.429067	Newport News Marine Terminal	NA			Newport News Marine Terminals	Newport News	Marina	40	0	0	N	CT
1701	57	F2	3/31/2022	BOATING ACTIVITY	36.964618	-76.410813			Marine	N	City of Newport News Seafood Industrial Park	Newport News	Marina	75	0	0	N	FM
4983	57	GM1	6/14/2022	BOATING ACTIVITY	36.964365	-76.418256	Has triple-wide bathroom trailer/sanitary facility connected to sewer.	NA	Marine	Y	Piers 14 and 15. Provides Electricity and Water, has connection for ships to discharge to HRSD, pumps are on vessel.	Newport News	Marina	60	0	0		IG
4972	57	L1A	5/17/2022	BOATING ACTIVITY	36.966092	-76.422004		NA	Business	N	Dominion Terminal Associates	Newport News	Marina	40	0	1	NA	LS
1693	57	L3	3/31/2022	BOATING ACTIVITY	37.012901	-76.453707	Leeward Marina	NA	Marine	N	Leeward Marina	Newport News	Marina	194	0	0	Y	LS
4978	57	L4	5/20/2022	BOATING ACTIVITY	36.974234	-76.433774			Marine	N	Ready Reserve Force	Newport News	Marina	12	0	0	N	IG
5001	57	CT3A	7/15/2022	BOATING ACTIVITY	36.966755	-76.413037					World Fuel Services. Wholesale fuel depot.	Newport News	Under Surveillance	5	0	0	N	
1692	57	CT5	3/31/2022	BOATING ACTIVITY	37.017031	-76.455682	Huntington Park Boat Launch	NA	Marine	N	Huntington Park Boat Launch. Public Boat Ramp with restrooms.	Newport News	Under Surveillance	0	0	0	N	CT
4977	57	F4A	5/20/2022	BOATING ACTIVITY	36.969838	-76.426213			Marine	Y	Kinder Morgan Bulk Terminals Pier IX	Newport News	Under Surveillance	2	1	0	N	FM

SECTION E: CONTRIBUTES ANIMAL POLLUTION

	GA #	Field #	Inspection Date	Deficiency or Pollution Type	Latitude	Longitude	Pollutant Remarks	Septic System Type	Structure Type	Contact	Overall Site Remarks	Locality	DSS Staff

SUMMARY

Growing Area # 057
James River: Newport News Point to Deep Creek
18 August 2022

SECTION B: SEWAGE POLLUTION SOURCES

1. SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITIES

1 – DIRECT – # 41
1 – INDIRECT – # 41A
2 – TOTAL

2. ON-SITE SEWAGE DEFICIENCIES – Correction of deficiencies in this section is the responsibility of the local health department.

0 – CONTRIBUTES POLLUTION, DIRECT – None.
0 – CONTRIBUTES POLLUTION, INDIRECT – None.
0 – CP (Kitchen or Laundry Wastes), DIRECT – None.
0 – CP (Kitchen or Laundry Wastes), INDIRECT – None.
0 – NO FACILITIES, DIRECT – None.
0 – NO FACILITIES, INDIRECT – None.
0 – TOTAL

3. POTENTIAL POLLUTION – Periodic surveillance of these properties will be maintained.

0 – POTENTIAL POLLUTION – None.

SECTION C: NON-SEWAGE WASTE SITES

1. INDUSTRIAL WASTE SITES

6 – DIRECT – # CT1, CT2A, F4, F5, L1, L2
2 – INDIRECT – # CT3, F3
8 – TOTAL

2. SOLID WASTE DUMPSITES

0 – DIRECT – None.
0 – INDIRECT – None.
0 – TOTAL

3. STORMWATER OUTFALLS

Division staff worked with Newport News Utilities Department to review stormwater outfalls and data is available through the City's web page.

SECTION D: BOATING ACTIVITY

8 – MARINAS – # CT1A, CT2, CT4, F2, GM1, L1A, L3, L4
3 – UNDER SURVIELLENCE – # CT3A, CT5, F4A
11 – TOTAL

SECTION E: CONTRIBUTES ANIMAL POLLUTION

0 – DIRECT – None.
0 – INDIRECT – None.
0 – TOTAL

Virginia Department of Health
Division of Shellfish Sanitation

James River:
Newport News Point to Deep Creek
Growing Area # 057
Shoreline Sanitary Survey

Cities of Hampton and Newport News

Date: 18 August 2022
Survey By: C. Turner, J. Dickerson,
I. Geeson, F. Monis, L. Sakach,
E. Yeargan, & T. Egerton
Number of Properties Surveyed: 195

0 3000 6000 Feet

N

76°30'0"W
76°27'30"W
76°25'0"W
37°2'30"N
37°0'0"N
36°57'30"N

Insert 1

0 500 1000 Feet

Virginia Geographic Information Network (VGIN)

Legend

Seawater Sampling Stations

- Active
- Inactive

Sewered Areas

Boat Ramps (DGIF)

Shoreline Survey Deficiencies

- Sewage Treatment Facility - Direct
- Sewage Treatment Facility - Indirect
- Contributes Pollution - Direct
- Contributes Pollution - Indirect
- Contributes Pollution (Kitchen or Laundry wastes) - Direct
- Contributes Pollution (Kitchen or Laundry wastes) - Indirect
- No Facilities - Direct
- No Facilities - Indirect
- Potential Pollution
- Industrial Wastes, Direct
- Industrial Wastes, Indirect
- Solid Waste Dumpsite - Direct
- Solid Waste Dumpsite - Indirect
- S Stormwater, Direct
- S Stormwater, Indirect
- Boating Activity
- A Contributes Animal Pollution - Direct
- A Contributes Animal Pollution - Indirect

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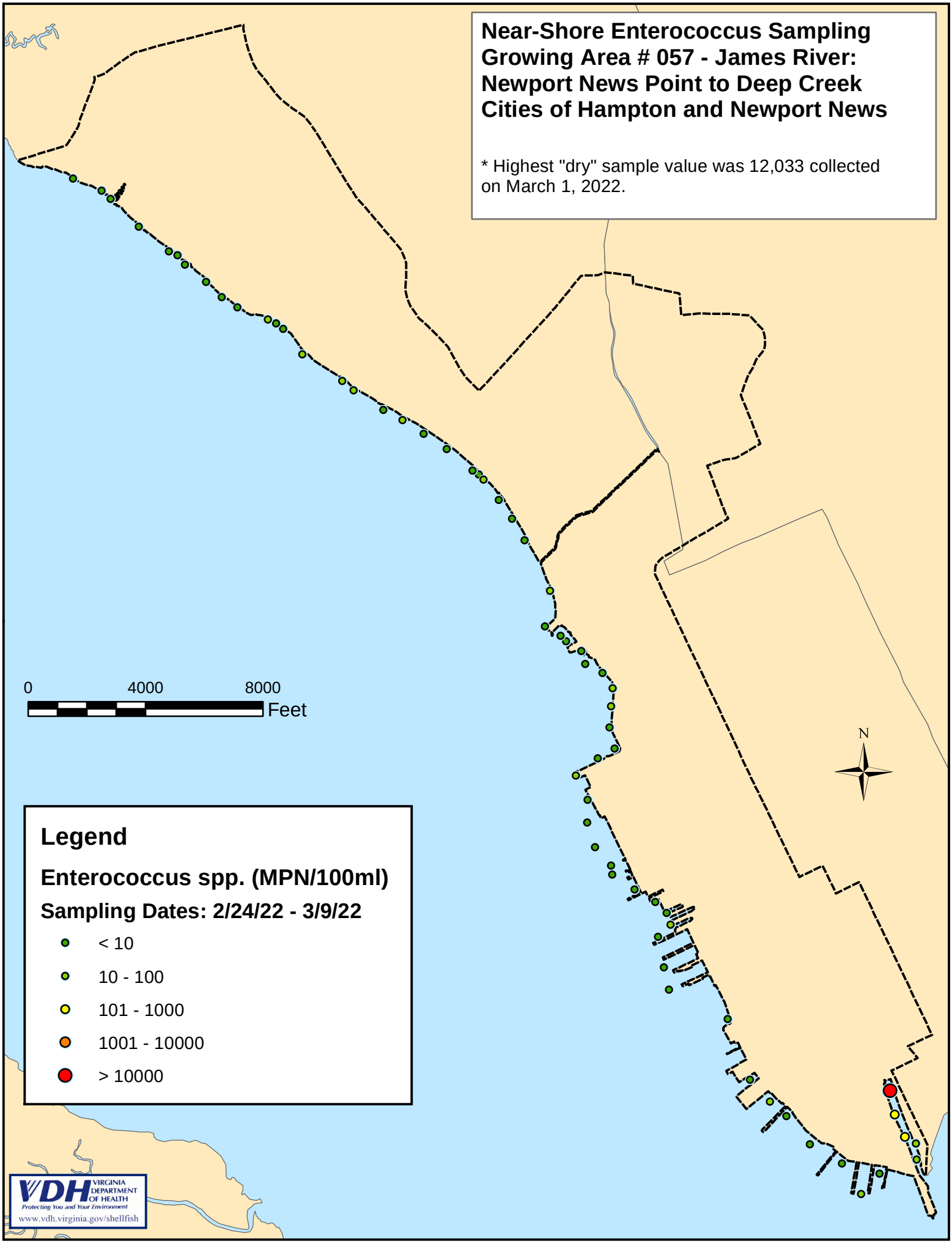
Geographic coordinates in NAD83 datum; shown in degrees, minutes & seconds.


Near-Shore Enterococcus Sampling
Growing Area # 057 - James River:
Newport News Point to Deep Creek
Cities of Hampton and Newport News
* Highest "dry" sample value was 12,033 collected on March 1, 2022.
0
4000
8000
Feet
N
Legend
Enterococcus spp. (MPN/100ml)
Sampling Dates: 2/24/22 - 3/9/22
< 10
10 - 100
101 - 1000
1001 - 10000
> 10000
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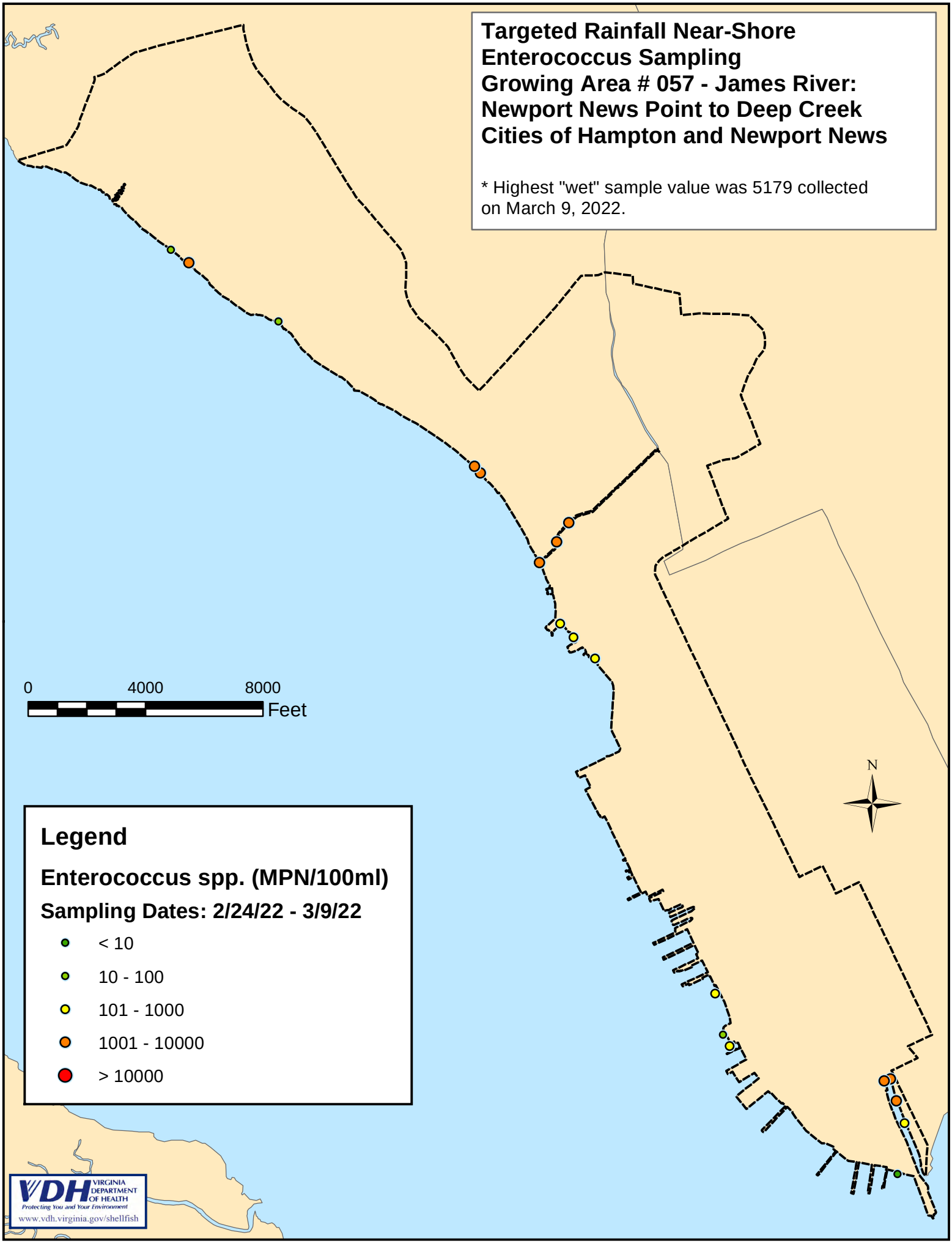
Targeted Rainfall Near-Shore Enterococcus Sampling
Growing Area # 057 - James River: Newport News Point to Deep Creek
Cities of Hampton and Newport News
* Highest "wet" sample value was 5179 collected on March 9, 2022.
0
4000
8000
Feet
N
Legend
Enterococcus spp. (MPN/100ml)
Sampling Dates: 2/24/22 - 3/9/22
< 10
10 - 100
101 - 1000
1001 - 10000
> 10000
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