

NOAA Hazardous Waste Site Report

Horseshoe Road Dump (II-52)
 Sayreville, Middlesex County, New Jersey
 April 13, 1984

Location and Nature of the Site:

This two acre dump is located on the Raritan River. It is located between the river and an operational chemical/solvent reprocessor. (Figure 1). The outfall from this reprocessor empties into a stream that passes through the dump site. Fifty to seventy drums in various conditions were reported visible on the surface of the site in August 1982. Hazardous levels of cadmium, lead and N-Nitro-Sodiphenylamine were reported in runoff from the site. Less than ten pieces of rusted and crushed drums were visible during a site visit in April 1984. Some of the site was covered and planted with trees.

Proximity of Chemical Hazard to Marine Resources:

The dump site is mostly covered with sandy soil and construction debris. Leachate from the site would directly enter the Raritan River during every rain. The extent and level of leachate contamination by chemicals is unknown.

Marine Resources at Risk

The Raritan River and nearby estuaries support commercial and recreational fisheries, and are spawning and nursery areas for many marine organisms.

Table 1. Fishery Resources of the Raritan River (1,2,3,4)

Finfish Species	Adult Habitat	Spawning Area	Nursery Area	Commer. Fish	Rec. Fish	Migr. Route
<u>Anadramous</u>						
Alewife		x	x	x	x	
Blueback herring		x	x	x	x	x
American shad						x
Striped bass				x	x	
<u>Non-anadramous</u>						
White perch		x	x	x	x	x
Weakfish					x	
Bluefish					x	
Bay Anchovy		x	x			
<u>Shellfish</u>						
Eastern oyster	x	x	x	x	x	
Hard clam	x	x	x	x	x	
Blue crab	x	x	x	x	x	

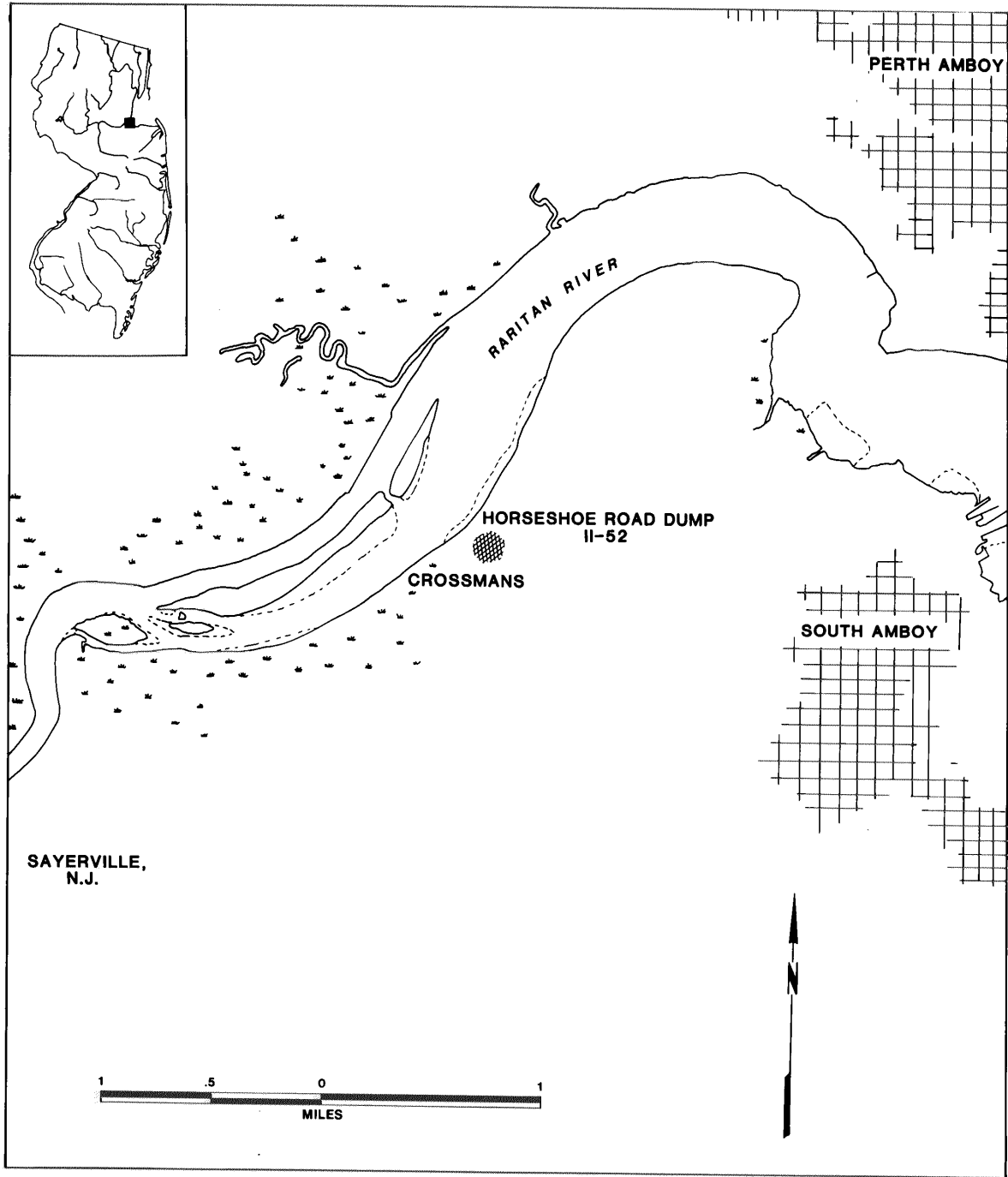


FIGURE 1. Site location.

The southern shore of Raritan Bay and Sandy Hook Bay are important commercial and recreation harvesting areas for shellfish and finfish.

The Raritan River is a spawning area for alewife and blueback herring and at one time was also a striped bass and American shad spawning area (6). The Raritan Bay area is a nursery area for many fish and shellfish.

Tidal wetlands are present throughout the lower parts of Raritan River and in some areas of the southern shore of Raritan Bay.

Great blue heron and osprey nest at Gateway National Recreation Area.

Summary of Site-Related Actions:

As of August 1983, New Jersey was planning a feasibility study for the site.

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References:

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2. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1980. Atlantic Coast Ecological Inventory.
3. Berg, D.L., and J. S. Levinton, 1984, The Biology of the Hudson-Raritan Estuary, with Emphasis on Fishes, Department of Ecological Evolution, SUNY.
4. Breder, C.M., and D. E. Rosen, 1966, Modes of Reproduction in Fishes, TFH Publications.
5. Research Planning Institute. Environmental Sensitivity Index - New Jersey. Unpublished.
6. Zich, H.E., 1977, The Collection of Existing Information and Field Investigation of Anadromous Clupeid Spawning in New Jersey. New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Miscellaneous Reproductions Number 41.