### Citizens Coordinating Council Meeting Silver Lake Pilot Study Results

December 5, 2007 Pittsfield, Massachusetts

### Silver Lake CCC Meeting Summary

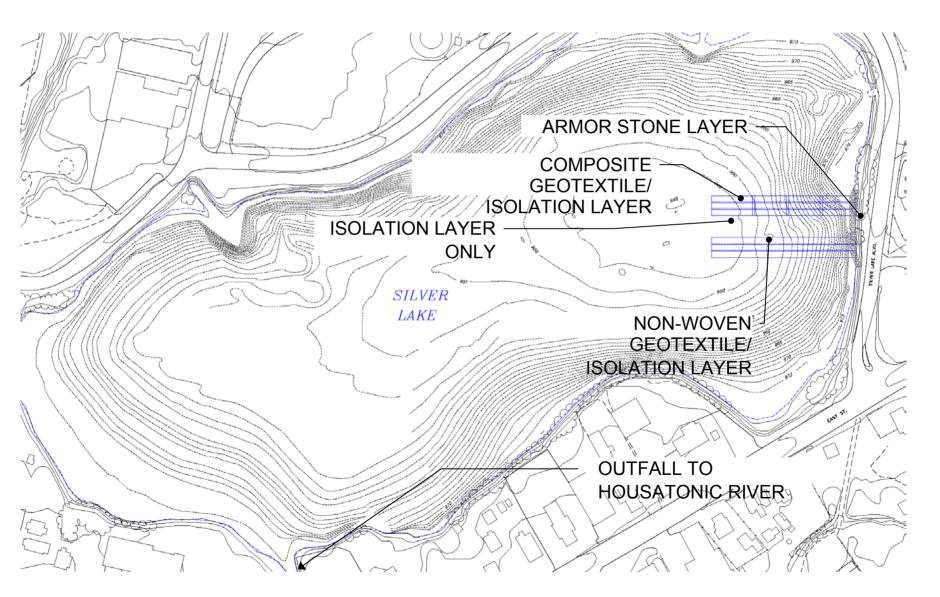
- December 1, 2004: Pre-Design Investigation Results
- March 30, 2006: Capping Bench-Scale Study Results
- September 13, 2006: Capping Pilot Study Work Plan
- Tonight: Capping Pilot Study Results

### **Pilot Study Objectives**

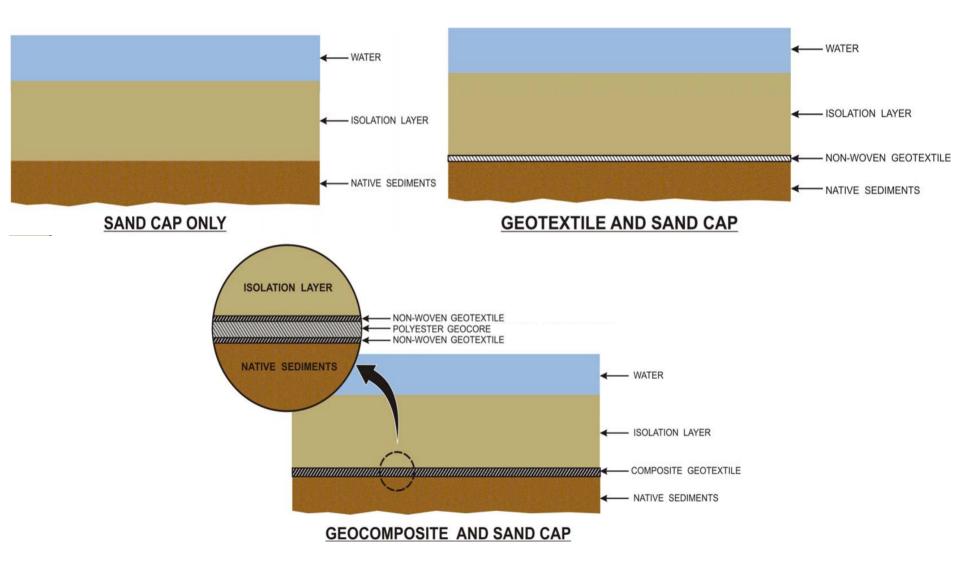
- Assess potential for physical mixing of sediments and isolation layer materials as a result of cap placement
- Evaluate constructability issues related to placement of isolation layer materials in thin lifts
- Evaluate effectiveness of employing geotextile in cap configuration
- Assess potential for water quality impacts during cap placement
- Evaluate physical response of soft sediments to cap and armor stone placement

# **Pilot Study Location and Components**

One acre study area split into contiguous cells with three cap configurations

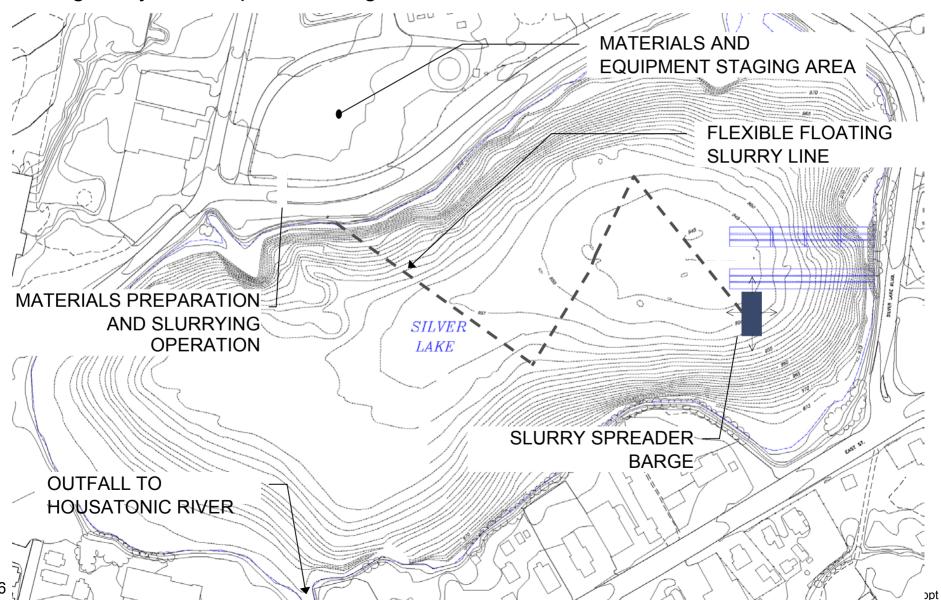


# **Pilot Study Cap Configurations**



# **Pilot Study Operations**

Isolation layer materials slurried on shore w/ lake water, and pumped via floating slurry line to spreader barge



# **Geofabric Placement**

- Non-woven geotextile and geocomposite fabrics installed from barge
  - adjacent full length rolls sewn together and loaded onto barge mounted rollers
  - anchored to shore and barge moved away from shore
  - sand bags and rebar used to weight fabric and secure to lake bottom



### **Isolation Layer Material Placement**

- Spreader-box distributes slurried isolation layer material over 20-ft span
- Barge speed and slurry delivery rate monitored/adjusted to achieve approximate 1-inch lifts
- Placement rate later increased for 2to 3-inch/day trials
- Side discharge used in near shore areas (approx. 2- to 4-ft water depths)



# **Cap Construction Along Bank**

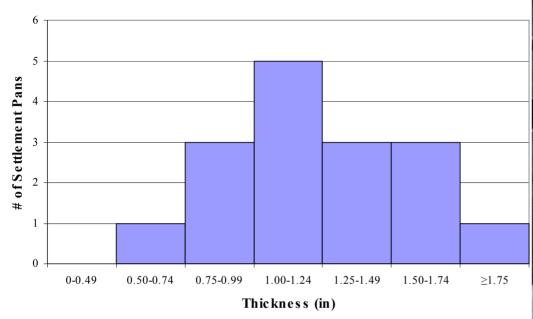
- Bank soils excavated in anticipation of finished cap elevations
- Isolation layer and armor layer placed
- Armor stone layer extends to elevations approximately 2.5 ft above and below the apparent mean water line
- Gravel habitat layer placed on top of armor below water surface
- Remaining bank areas graded and seeded/mulched



# **Monitoring Program**

Monitoring Event	Time Relative to Pilot Study Construction Activities				
	Before	During	Immediately After	6-Months After	
Lake Bottom Imagery					
Bathymetric Survey	Х		Х	Х	
Sub-Bottom Profiling			Х	Х	
Sediment Profile Imaging	Х	Х			
Geophysical/Consolidation Monitoring					
Vibrating Wire Settlement Cells		Х	Х	х	
Physical Settling Plates		Х	Х	Х	
Surface Water Quality Monitoring					
Weekly Water Sampling	Х	Х	X	Х	
Continuous Turbidity		Х	Х		
Sediment/Cap Material Collection					
Chemical/Physical Coring			Х	Х	

### **Collection Pan Data**



- Collection pans placed in path of barge travel to represent thickness of one 1inch/day "pass"
- Data suggests success in placement of approximate 1-inch lifts

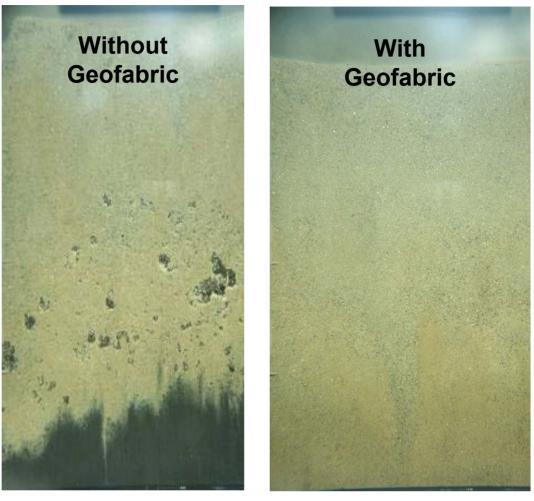


# **Sediment Profile Imaging**

 Collected prior to and at approximate midway point of cap placement (after 7 lifts)



## **During-Construction SPI**



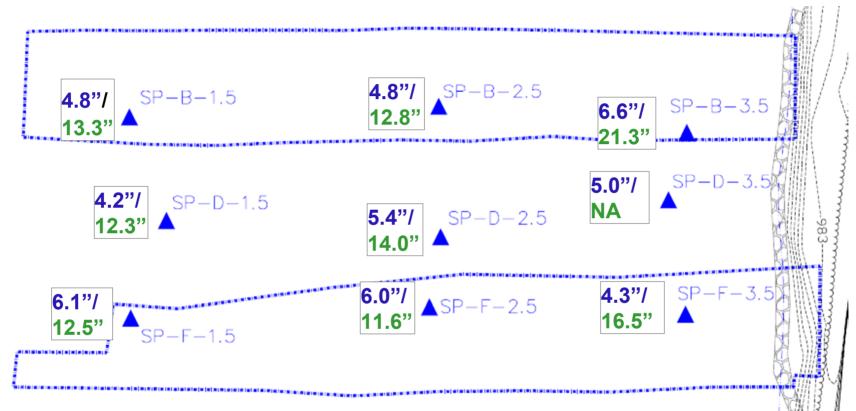
- Isolation layer materials appear fairly homogenous
- Mixing appears limited to the first inch of isolation layer materials in nongeofabric areas

### **SPI Based Cap Thickness Estimate**



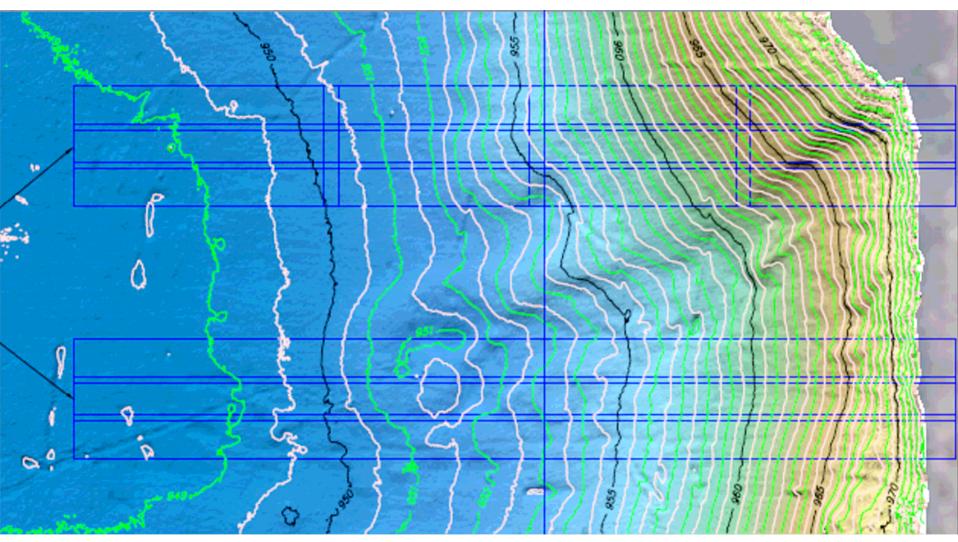
- SPI images collected at 20 locations
  - suggests achievement of cap thickness goals at mid-point of construction (after 7 lifts)

### Cap Thickness Probing Results at Settlement Plates



- 9 physical settlement plate locations probed by divers to confirm cap thickness and placement rates at interim/immediately after events
- Cap material well distributed using thin lift placement technique

### **Bathymetric Surveying**



• Performed prior to; immediately after; and 6-months after construction for comparative purposes

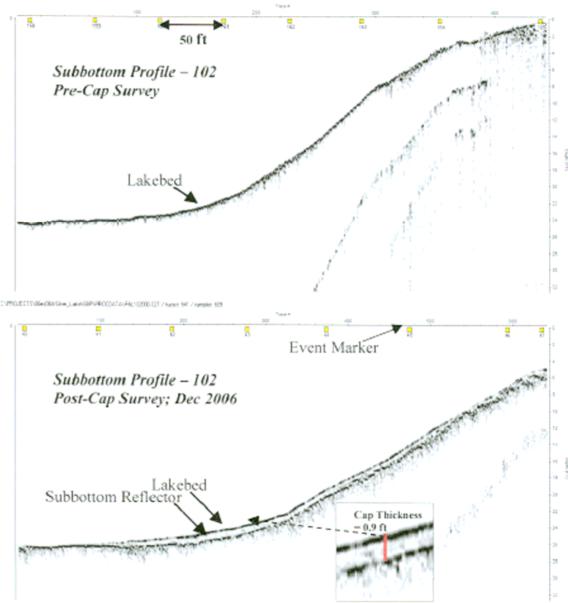
# **Pre- & 6-Mo Post-Construction Bathymetry** – Net Comparison of Surface Elevations

ELEVATION DIFFERENCE

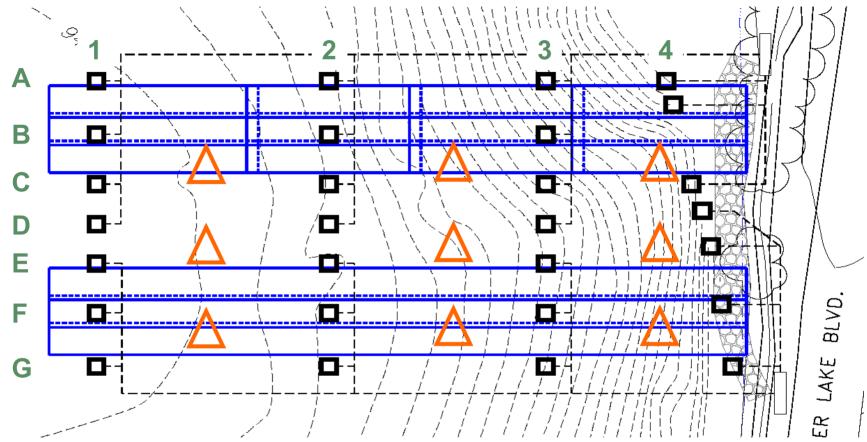
- In general, data suggests final surface is near pre-construction elevations
- No indications of significant movement of underlying materials
- No apparent difference related to presence/absence of geofabric

### **Post-Construction Sub-Bottom Profile**

- Acoustic survey capable of identifying unique layers and material interfaces
- Images provide visual information related to cap surface consistency/relief
- Suggests no apparent difference in performance related to presence/ absence of geofabric

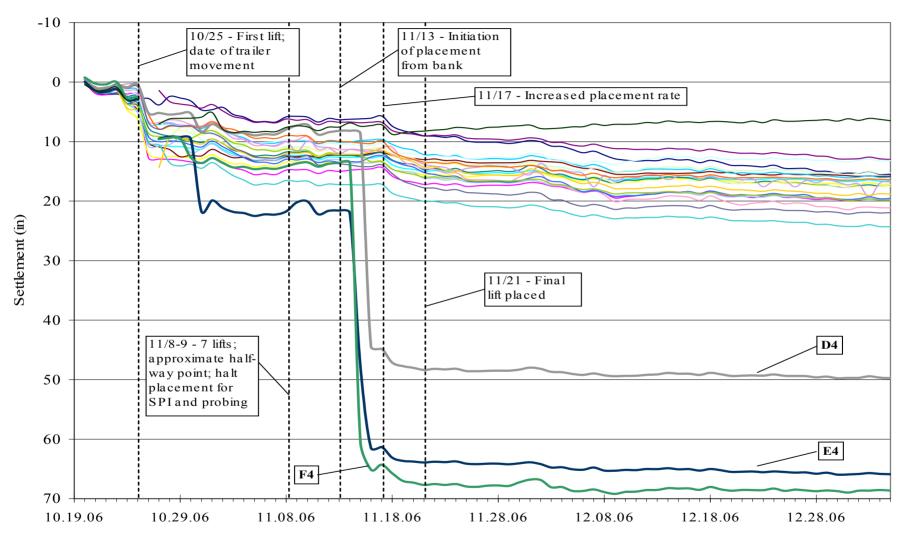


### **Geophysical/Consolidation Monitoring**



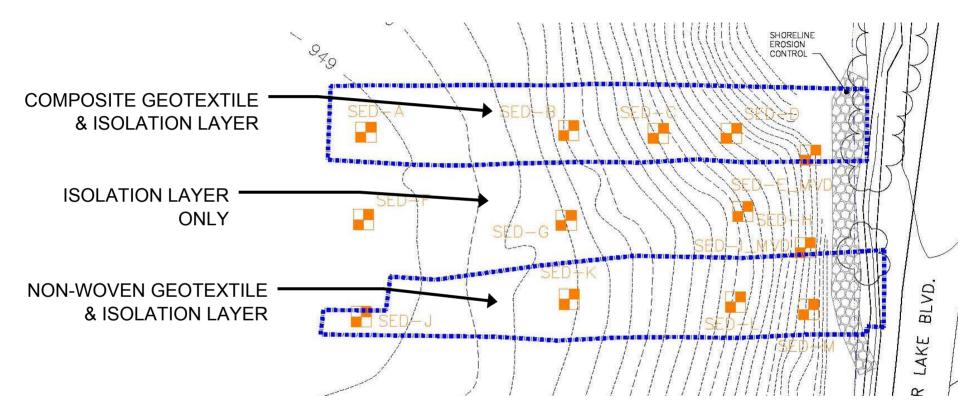
- 28 individual vibrating wire settlement cells and 9 physical settlement plates installed on top of sediment (above geofabric)
- Monitored during and after construction to assess sediment response (i.e., consolidation) to cap placement

### **Vibrating Wire Settlement Cells**

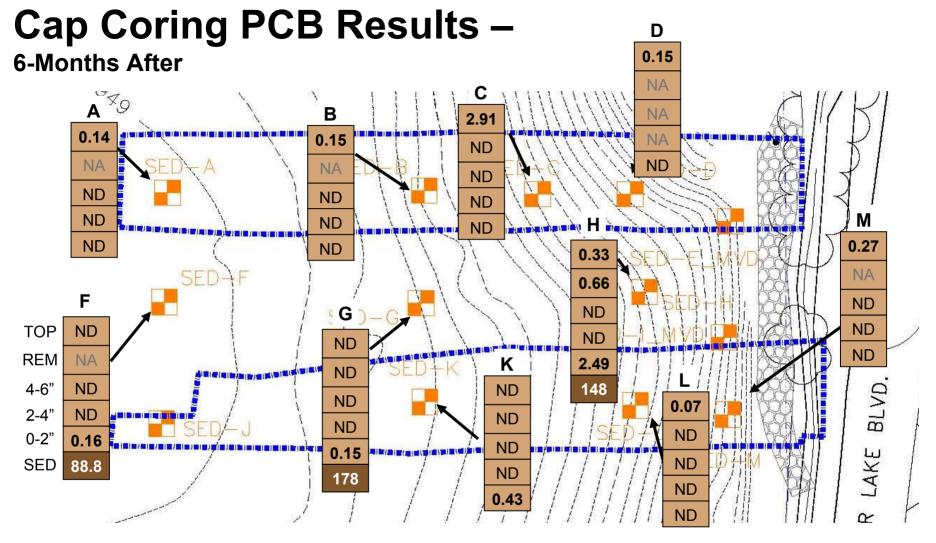


- Confirms general patterns of settlement as indicated by bathymetric mapping and conventional survey at physical settlement plates
- Provided insight into sediment response to initial shoreline capping approach
- 20 No apparent difference related to presence/absence of geofabric

### Cap Coring and Sample Collection Program



- Performed immediately after, and 6 months after construction
- Cores visually observed to evaluate cap thickness and extent of mixing
- Cap materials analyzed for PCBs and TOC



- 43 of 55 total samples contained no detectable PCBs
- 9 of 13 cores have no detectable PCBs below the surface increment
- Excluding TOP and 0-2" sample intervals, only one core has a detection in the remaining interior intervals

# **Cap Coring TOC Results**

#### Average TOC

0.58%	ТОР	
0.51%	REMAINDER	
0.47%	4- to 6-inch	
0.44%	2- to 4-inch	
0.44%	0- to 2-inch	

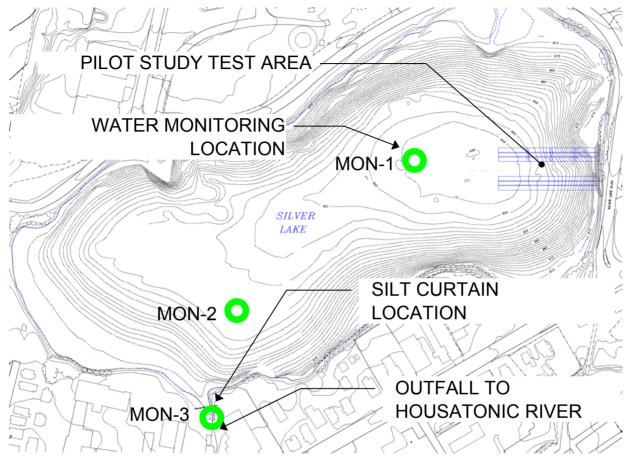
• Dry isolation layer material samples precharacterized for TOC:

– Average: 1.1%

- Sedimentation pans collected outside study area:
  - -Average TOC ~ 4.0%
- Depth weighted average TOC ~ 0.5 %

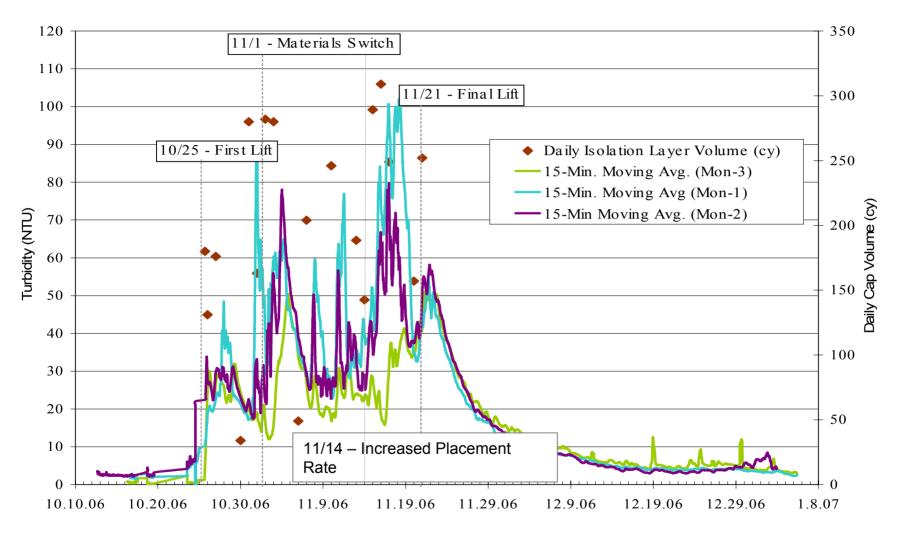


### Water Quality Monitoring Program



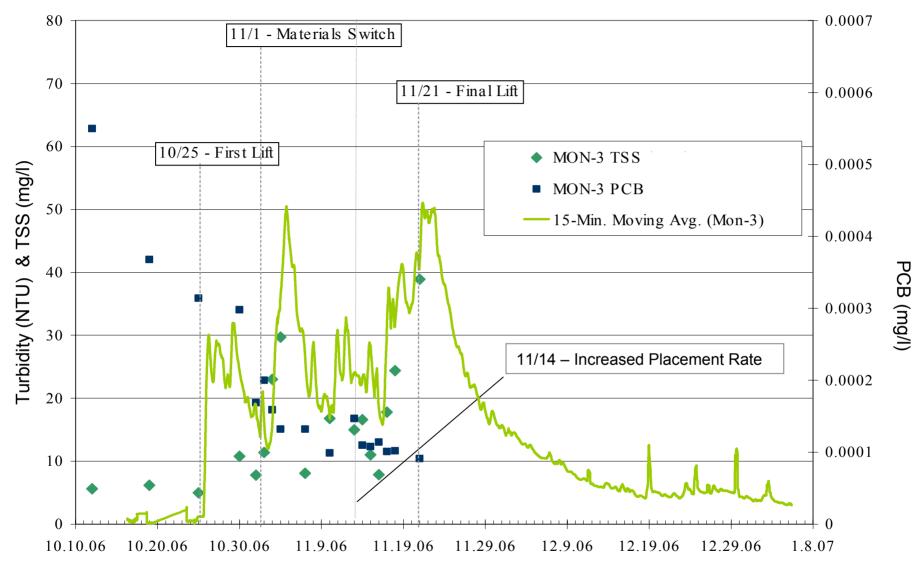
- Weekly collection at all three locations (PCBs, TSS)
- Continuous turbidity monitoring performed
- Turbidity >50 NTU at MON-2 or MON-3 triggered sample collection at all three locations (PCB, TSS)

# **Turbidity Results**



- Few exceedances of 50 NTUs observed at outfall location
- Turbidity appears to approach pre-construction levels within 1 month of completion of placement activities

### Surface Water PCB, TSS Results



• PCBs concentrations in surface water were lower during the pilot study than PCB concentrations found before the study.

### **Pilot Study Objectives & Conclusions**

- Assess potential for physical mixing of sediments and isolation layer materials as a result of cap placement
  - Minimal mixing observed at the sediment/cap interface only
    - appears limited to the first 1- to 2-inches of isolation layer material
    - where detected, PCB concentrations 1 to 3 orders of magnitude below that of underlying sediment
- Evaluate effectiveness of employing geotextile in cap configuration
  - No significant differences noted between geofabric and nongeofabric areas based on physical or analytical data

### Pilot Study Objectives & Conclusions (cont'd)

- Evaluate constructability issues related to placement of isolation layer materials in thin lifts
  - Generally successful from barge with fabricated spreader-box
  - Important to use appropriate near-shore placement methods
- Evaluate physical response of soft sediments to cap and armor stone placement
  - With exception of near-shore areas, settling observed to be fairly uniform in time and space
  - Majority of locations exhibited settlement within 1- to 2-ft range

### Pilot Study Objectives & Conclusions (cont'd)

- Assess potential for water quality impacts during cap placement
  - Short-term increased turbidity observations related to isolation layer placement
  - No increase in surface water PCB concentrations observed

### **Questions ?**



