

MODIFICATION TO STUDY PLAN FOR AVIAN INVESTIGATIONS FOR THE HUDSON RIVER

USGS STUDY PLAN AMENDMENT FOR 2006

HUDSON RIVER NATURAL RESOURCE DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

HUDSON RIVER NATURAL RESOURCE TRUSTEES

STATE OF NEW YORK

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

FINAL

MAY 9, 2006

Available from:

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Hudson River NRDA, Lead Administrative Trustee

Damage Assessment Center, N/ORR31

1305 East-West Highway, Rm 10219

Silver Spring, MD 20910-3281



INTRODUCTION

Past and continuing discharges of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) have contaminated the natural resources of the Hudson River. The Hudson River Natural Resource Trustees - New York State, the U.S. Department of Commerce, and the U.S. Department of the Interior - are conducting a natural resource damage assessment (NRDA) to assess and restore those natural resources injured by PCBs (Hudson River Natural Resource Trustees 2002).

Pursuant to the Hudson River NRDA Plan, the Trustees developed a Study Plan for Year 2004 Avian Investigations for the Hudson River (Hudson River Natural Resource Trustees 2004).

That Study Plan described the activities that constitute the Trustees' planned approach to conducting investigations of avian species, particularly belted kingfisher, spotted sandpiper, and tree swallow, beginning in Spring 2004, as part of the Hudson River NRDA. The Study Plan for Year 2004 Avian Investigations for the Hudson River was subject to peer and public review. That Study Plan for Year 2004 noted that the work would continue in the year 2005 and that such work would be pursuant to a Study Plan Amendment for Year 2005. The Trustees subsequently released a Study Plan Amendment for 2005 (Hudson River Natural Resource Trustees 2005). That Study Plan Amendment noted that additional work on one or more of the three species might occur in 2006. This document notes the additional work planned for 2006.

The Trustees have evaluated the changes to the study described in the Study Plan Amendment for 2006 and determined that the changes are not sufficiently substantive to necessitate peer and public review of the Study Plan Amendment for Year 2006.

The Study Plan Amendment for Year 2006, prepared by the U.S. Geological Survey Principal Investigator and approved by the Hudson River Natural Resource Trustees, follows.

LITERATURE CITED

- Hudson River Natural Resource Trustees. 2002. Hudson River Natural Resource Damage Assessment Plan. September 2002. U.S. Department of Commerce, Silver Spring, MD.
- Hudson River Natural Resource Trustees. 2004. Study Plan for Year 2004 Avian Investigations. Public Release Version. Final. June 15, 2004. U.S. Department of Commerce, Silver Spring, MD.
- Hudson River Natural Resource Trustees. 2005. Modification to Study Plan for Avian Investigations for the Hudson River - USGS Study Plan Amendment for 2005. Hudson River Natural Resource Damage Assessment. Final. Public Release Version. May 4, 2005. U.S. Department of Commerce, Silver Spring, MD.

2006 Amendment to UMESC Study Number TS-04-2282-9RZ38-01

Background: Eggs and nestlings (belted kingfisher only) of belted kingfishers, spotted sandpipers, and tree swallows were collected in 2004 as outlined in study plan TS-04-2282-9RZ38-01. The Hudson River Natural Resource Trustees (Trustees) decided to continue with work on tree swallows in 2005 (2005 Amendment to UMESC Study Number TS-04-2282-9RZ38-01) but not on belted kingfishers and spotted sandpipers. The purpose of this amendment is to propose work for 2006.

Add or substitute the following to Study Number TS-04-2282-9RZ38-01

1) Add to 'D. Objectives:' the following:

- 1- For the 2004 egg data, assess congener pattern differences within and among sites and rivers, and among species.
- 2- Collect tree swallow eggs in support of egg injection studies.

2) Add to 'E Methods:' the following:

For the 2004 tree swallow, belted kingfisher, and spotted sandpiper egg data, a multivariate statistical approach (e.g. Custer and Read, In press) will be used to evaluate PCB and dioxin congener patterns among sites and rivers, and among species.

In support of egg injection studies, tree swallow eggs will be collected and processed using protocols provided by the Trustees.

3) Add to 'N. Literature Cited' the following:

Custer, C.M., and L.B. Read. In press. Polychlorinated biphenyl congener patterns in tree swallows (*Tachycineta bicolor*) nesting in the Housatonic River watershed, western Massachusetts, USA, using a novel statistical approach. Environ. Pollut.

BUDGET

		Funding requested in \$1000s		
		Objective		
		1	2	1 + 2
Personnel salaries				
PI's				
Support staff				
Administration				
Travel & Per Diem				
April travel and supplies (open boxes)				
Airline/train				
Vehicle - fuel/maintenance				
Per Diem				
Transport of samples to UMD				
Other				
Statistical Contract				
Storage rental				
Miscellaneous supplies				
UMESC Direct Costs				
USGS overhead (5%)				
Total				

* Statistical contract will be funded directly from the Hudson River Trustees. It is not included in the total budget.

Financial information removed as legally privileged.

