

Hopewell Precision

Hopewell Junction, New York

EPA Facility ID: NYD066813064

Basin: Hudson-Wappinger Watershed

HUC: 02020008

The [Hopewell Precision](#) site is a groundwater plume in a primarily residential area of Hopewell Junction, Dutchess County, New York. The source of the contaminated groundwater plume is two adjacent properties owned by Hopewell Precision. Since 1977, sheet metal parts and assemblies have been manufactured at the properties. From 1977 to 1980, liquid wastes such as paints, thinners, and degreasing solvents were dumped directly onto the ground at the properties. Improper disposal practices and other activities have resulted in a contaminated groundwater plume below and down-gradient of the site as well as contamination of soil within the boundary of the properties. Elevated concentrations of 1,1,1-trichloroethane (1,1,1-TCA) and TCE have been detected in groundwater, surface water, sediment, and soil. During an investigation conducted by the U.S. EPA in 2003, sediment and surface water samples taken from small ponds approximately 91 m (300 ft) southwest and down-gradient of the site detected elevated levels of TCE. It is not known if there is a groundwater connection from the small ponds to Whortlekill Creek (R. Pierce, personal communication November 12, 2004).

Whortlekill Creek is approximately 0.8 km (0.5 mi) west of the site. Whortlekill Creek flows southwest approximately 8 km (5 mi) before converging with Fishkill Creek, which then continues to flow to the southwest approximately 27 km (17 mi) before discharging into the Hudson River.

The habitats of concern to NOAA are Fishkill Creek and Whortlekill Creek. Fishkill Creek is a major tributary to the Hudson River. A stretch of Fishkill Creek, approximately 0.8 km (0.5 mi) from the mouth to the first dam, is tidally influenced by the Hudson River. This stretch of Fishkill Creek provides important spawning habitat for anadromous species such as alewife, blueback herring, white perch, tomcod, and striped bass. This section of Fishkill Creek is the northern extent of the blue crab and provides habitat for marine species such as bluefish, anchovy, silversides, and hogchoker. Fishkill Creek also provides habitat for the catadromous American eel. Electoshocking surveys conducted by the NYSDEC in 1993 observed American eel inhabiting Fishkill Creek approximately 16 km (10 mi) upstream of the confluence of Whortlekill Creek. Because of this survey it is assumed that American eel inhabit Whortlekill Creek as well (R. Pierce, personal communication November 12, 2004).

This screening-level site review is based on resource and contaminant information available in the USEPA site narrative and the hazard ranking score

documentation record at the time the site was proposed for placement on the USEPA National Priorities List. It does not represent a review of all the information available for the site. At this time, NOAA's Office of Response and Restoration, Assessment and Restoration Division, Northeast Branch is not actively working on this site. However, should new information become available to this office that indicates there is potential harm to NOAA Trust resources associated with this site, this office will activate its role as Trustee.

January 2005