
Diaz Chemical

Holley, New York

EPA Facility ID: NYD067532580

Basin: Oak Orchard-Twelvemile

HUC: 04130001

The [Diaz Chemical](#) site is a 2.2 ha (5.5-acre) site in Holley, Orleans County, New York. From 1974 to 2003, the site was used to manufacture and store organic chemicals for use in several industries including pharmaceuticals, agriculture, and photography. Diaz Chemical specialized in the production of halogenated aromatic compounds. While the facility was in operation contaminants were spilled on the ground, into the storm sewers and East Branch Sandy Creek, and were released into the air. Runoff and wastewater from the facility flows to a collection pit through a system of drains, trenches, sewers, and open/grated ditches running throughout the property. A remedial investigation conducted under the guidance of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation found elevated levels of VOCs and SVOCs in soil and groundwater samples taken from the site and nearby properties.

East Branch Sandy Creek is 0.8 km (0.5 mi) east of the site and flows approximately 0.5 mi (0.8 km) before intersecting the Erie Canal. East Branch Sandy Creek resumes on the north side of the Erie Canal as a manmade waterfall known as Holley Canal Falls. From Holley Canal Falls, East Branch Sandy Creek flows approximately 6 km (4 mi) where it intersects the West Branch Sandy Creek to form Sandy Creek. Sandy Creek flows approximately 16 km (10 mi) before discharging into Lake Ontario.

The NOAA trust habitats of concern are East Branch Sandy Creek, Sandy Creek, and Lake Ontario. Lake Ontario and its tributaries provide significant nursery, spawning, adult forage, refuge, and migration habitat to a number of fish species. NOAA trust resources present in Lake Ontario include salmon, trout, alewife, rainbow smelt, lake sturgeon, and American eel (NOAA 2003). During periods of high water these fish species are also able to migrate upstream of the Holley Canal Falls and into East Branch Sandy Creek near the site (F. Angold, personal communication April 6, 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.

April 2004

References

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). 2003. Great Lakes. Seattle, WA. NOAA/NOS Coastal Protection and Restoration Division. Available: http://response.restoration.noaa.gov/cpr/summary/Gr_Lakes_summary.pdf.