Newtown Creek CAG Discussion: Supplemental Data Collection to Support Feasibility Study

Presented by Anchor QEA, LLC

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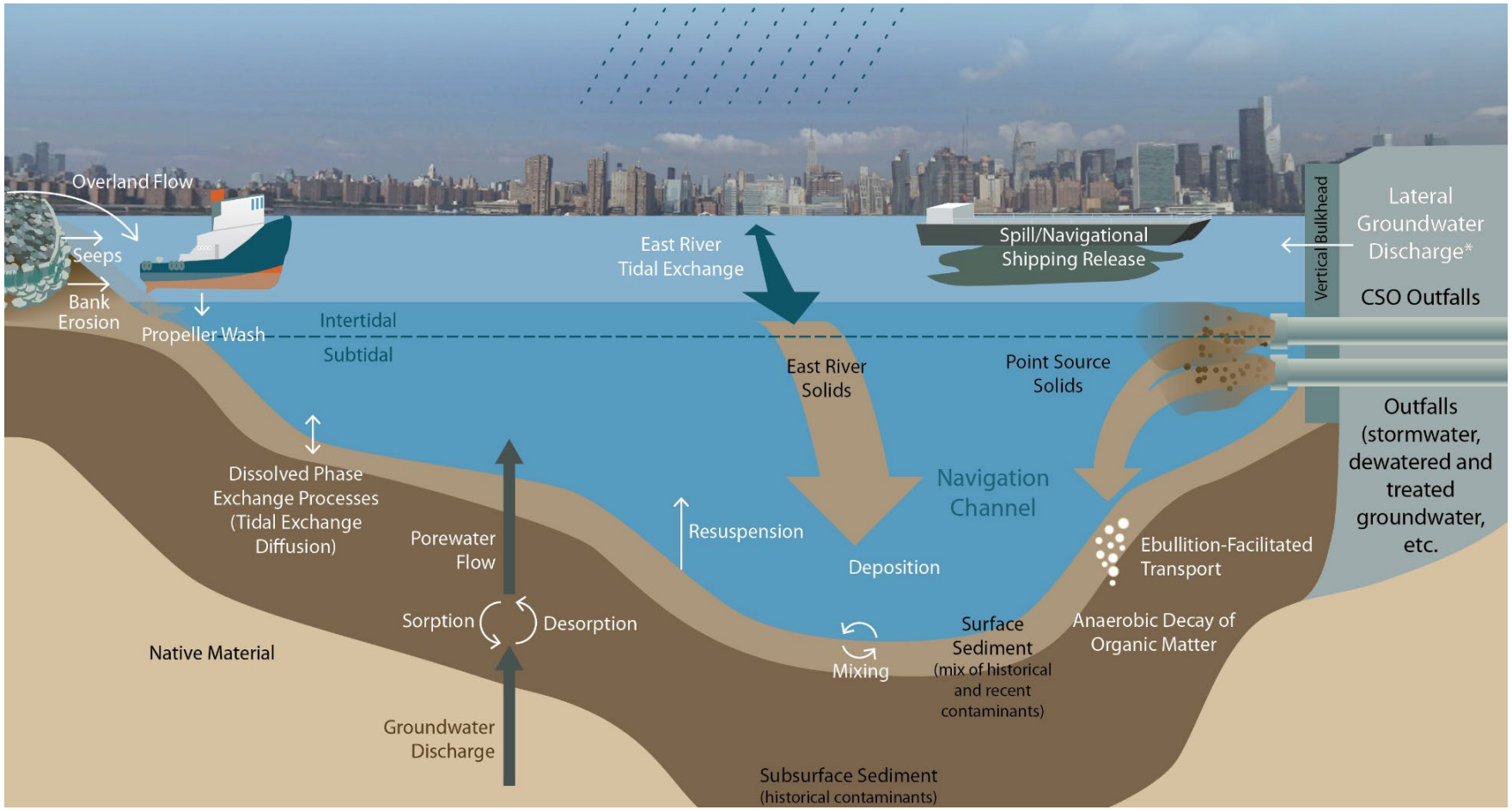
Photo by Bill Rhodes

Newtown Creek Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study Status

- Remedial Investigation (RI) phase is now complete
  - USEPA approved the RI Report on 4/7/2023
- Feasibility Study (FS) phase in progress
- Focus of the FS is to use learnings from the RI (conceptual site model) to identify and evaluate remedial options
- Two actions identified to advance this evaluation
  - East Branch Early Action – collect site-specific information regarding remedial options through the implementation of an early action in an upstream portion of the creek
  - FS Supplemental Data Collection – as suggested by USEPA, collect additional information to better understand the role of natural recovery in the lower part of the creek

Newtown Creek Conceptual Site Model – Lower Two Miles (CM 0-2)

- East River is the predominant source of settling solids and contaminants of concern (COCs) to sediment bed
- Sediments are net depositional and stable, but localized areas are subject to scour due to vessel operations
- Measured COC concentrations in surface sediment in the majority of CM 0–2 are lower than other areas of the creek and are at or below risk levels and background concentrations



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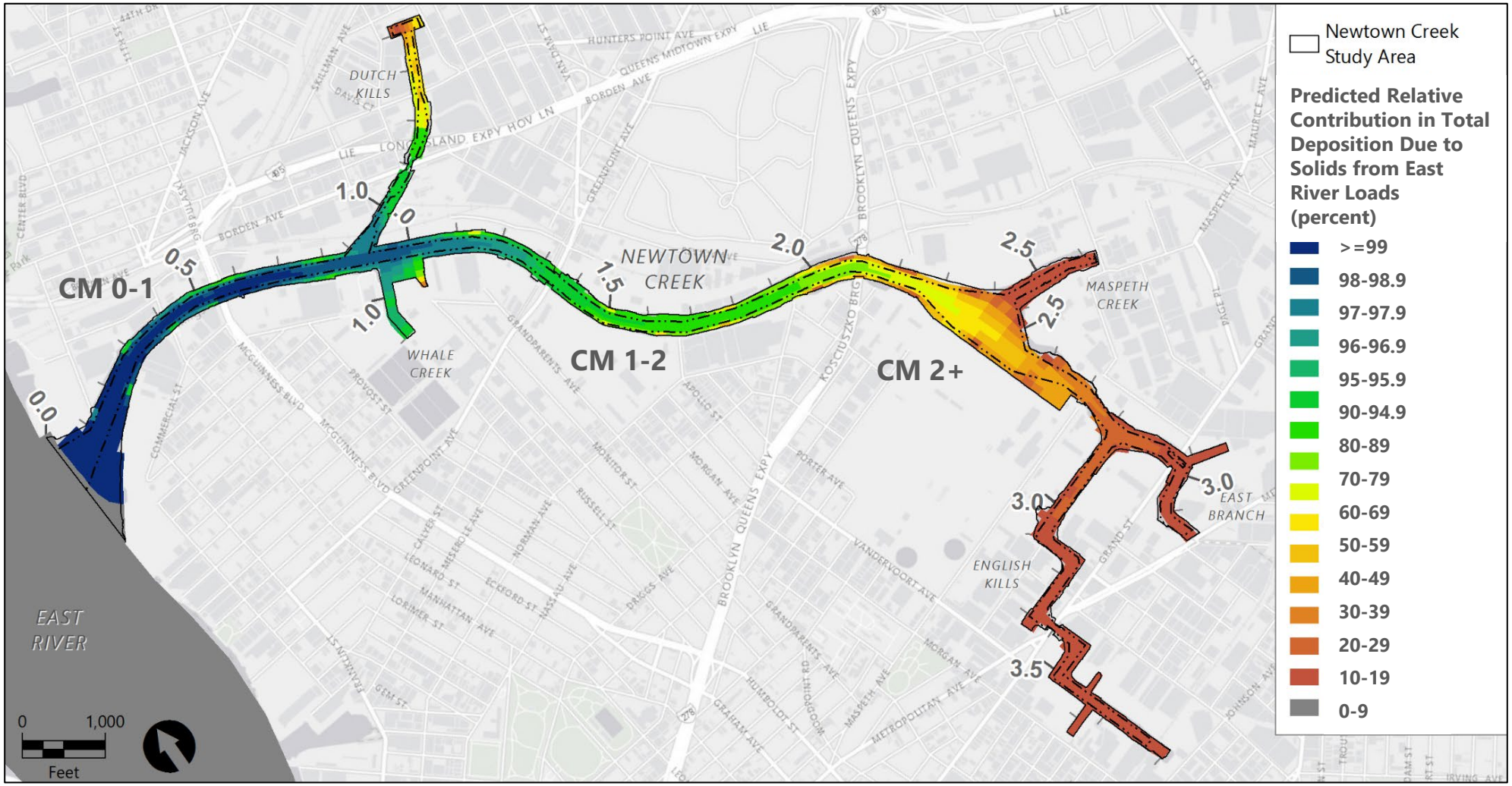
Predicted Contribution of East River Solids to Total Solids Deposited on Sediment Bed



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Additional Data Collection for FS

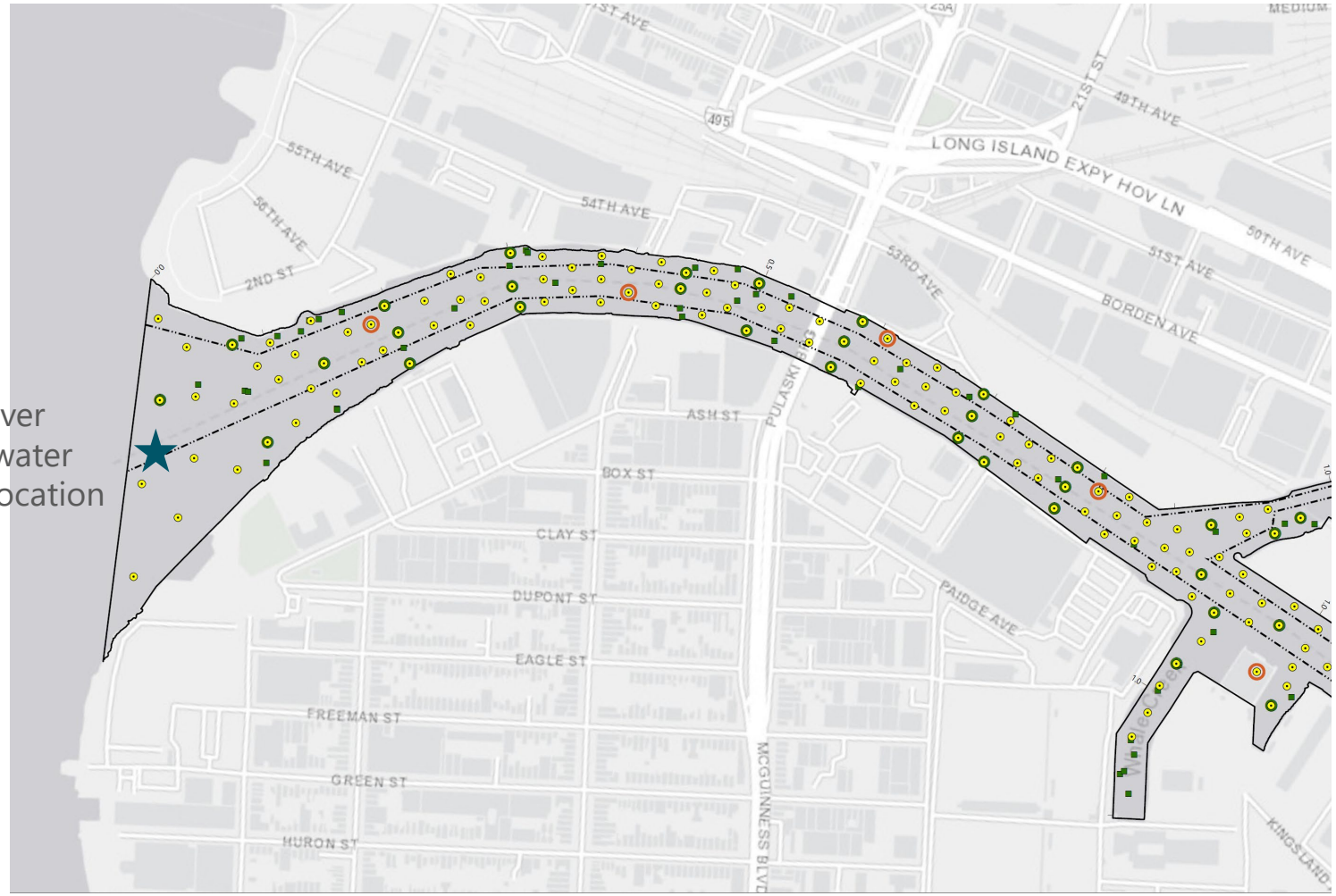
- Data for some COCs (i.e., dioxins/furans and C19–C36 hydrocarbons) are not as comprehensive as for other COCs in surface sediments and East River solids
- Additional data for all COCs
  - 2012 RI Phase 1 samples along transects on 500-foot spacing
  - 2014 RI Phase 2 samples focused on risk-assessment related locations (e.g., human exposure areas)
  - 2018 OU3 Supplemental Data Collection sampling focused on CM 1–2
- Will allow for further evaluation of COC concentration changes over time, including post-remedy

Supplemental Data Collection Program

- Bathymetry – completed in 2022 for entire Study Area
  - Compare 2022 bathymetry with bathymetry collected during prior surveys to assess sediment elevation changes over time
- East River – anticipate starting in summer 2023 through spring 2024
  - Measure COCs on solids entering the creek during flood tide—every other month for 1 year
- Surface sediment – anticipate starting in summer 2023
  - Measure COCs in approximately 240 additional surface sediment samples in CM 0–2
  - 61 samples co-located with Phase 1 RI samples to assess changes since 2012
  - Set a new baseline to compare with future sampling to continue monitoring changes

Proposed Surface Sediment Sampling Locations for Supplemental Data Collection CM 0–1

East River surface water sampling location



LEGEND:

- Navigation Channel
- Newtown Creek Study Area
- Proposed Surface Sediment Sample
- Composite Individually Analyzed

Existing Surface Sediment Sampling Station

Study Programs

- Phase 1 Remedial Investigation
- Phase 2 Remedial Investigation

0 600

Feet

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Proposed Surface Sediment Sampling Locations for Supplemental Data Collection CM 1–2

LEGEND:

- Navigation Channel
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What questions do you have?