Halifax Harbour Water Quality Monitoring Project Survey Summary #162

Survey Date: Nature of Survey: Report File (this document): Data File: Data Return:

 Chemical:
 100%

 Bacteria:
 100%

 Profile:
 100%

 Overall:
 100%

12 August 2008 Complete Survey HHWQMP_report162_080812.doc HHWQMP_data162_080812.xls

Sample Notes:

Connection of sewers to Dartmouth STP is ongoing (see data file cover sheet).

A supplementary CTD cast was taken at the LOBO buoy location (44.6291 $^{\rm O}$ N, 63.5915 $^{\rm O}$ W) at 15:35 local time.

To match the collected reference data the presented DO values should be scaled by a factor of 1.26 (see comparison in data file).

QA/QC samples:

Chemical Analysis		H2 – 10m	
Detectable Parameter	Units	Reference Sample	QA/QC
Ammonia (as N)	mg/L	0.09	0.07
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	8	3.9
Copper	ug/L	0.3	0.9
Iron	ug/L	22	14
Manganese	ug/L	3.0	6.0
Nickel	ug/L	< 0.5	0.5
Zinc	ug/L	2	2

Fecal Coliform (CFU/100ml)

Site	F1-1m	DYC-10m	PC-1m	H2-1m
Reference	9	9	4	5
QA/QC	1	3	2	0

Comments:

General: The Harbour water is very warm with surface temperatures of $> 21^{\circ}$ C in the Northern Basin, dropping slightly to 19° C in the Outer Harbour. There is a vertical temperature difference of only about 5° C in the top 20 m everywhere except station B2, where the difference is less than two degrees. In the Basin, there is a strong thermocline just above 20 m. Despite the recent dry weather, the Harbour inside of section EE remains quite salinity stratified. This is perhaps a remnant of the major rainfall/runoff event noted in the previous survey. There are fc concentrations > 200 cfu/100 mL at sites scattered throughout the Inner Harbour, in both 1 and 10 m samples. The highest values are in the 1 m samples in the Narrows (section E). The reason is not obvious except perhaps as a response to the steady up-harbour wind the day before the survey. Outside of the Inner Harbour, the only swimming guideline exceedence is in the 1 m sample at HP1, in the vicinity of the Hospital Point outfall.

Fluorescence: The fluorescence levels are moderately elevated throughout the Harbour. At the EE section and north, the profile peaks are quite broad extending over the top 6-7 m, with maximum values about 20 mg/m³. Further out of the Harbour the maximum values drop to approximately 5 mg/L at B2 at a depth of about 9 m.

TSS: The TSS levels are moderate to low, with an average value of 4.6 mg/L. The highest values occur in the southern Basin.

Ammonia: The ammonia levels were relatively high, with all samples having detectable levels (>0.05 mg/L), with an overall average of 0.08 mg/L. The highest concentration (0.22 mg/L) is in the southern Basin (F2).

Metals: There are no guideline exceedences. The closest to exceedence is the 1 m sample at B2 in the Outer Harbour. This sample had levels of copper and mercury that were both about 40% of the guideline.

Dissolved Oxygen: The dissolved oxygen data, scaled appropriately by a factor of 1.26, indicates that the DO in the surface water decreases monotonically from about 9.5 mg/L at the head of the Basin to about 7.6 mg/L (98% saturation at 19.2° C) at B2. This represents a guideline (8.0 mg/L) exceedence in the class SA areas of the Outer Harbour, an inevitability given the water temperature. The DO at 20 m throughout the Inner Harbour and Basin is about 6 mg/L. This represents an exceedence of the class SB guideline (7.0 mg/L) applicable to the Middle Harbour and Basin and approaches the 6 mg/L guideline applicable to the Inner Harbour. The DO in the Basin bottom water continues to drop and is now about 3.0 mg/L.



















