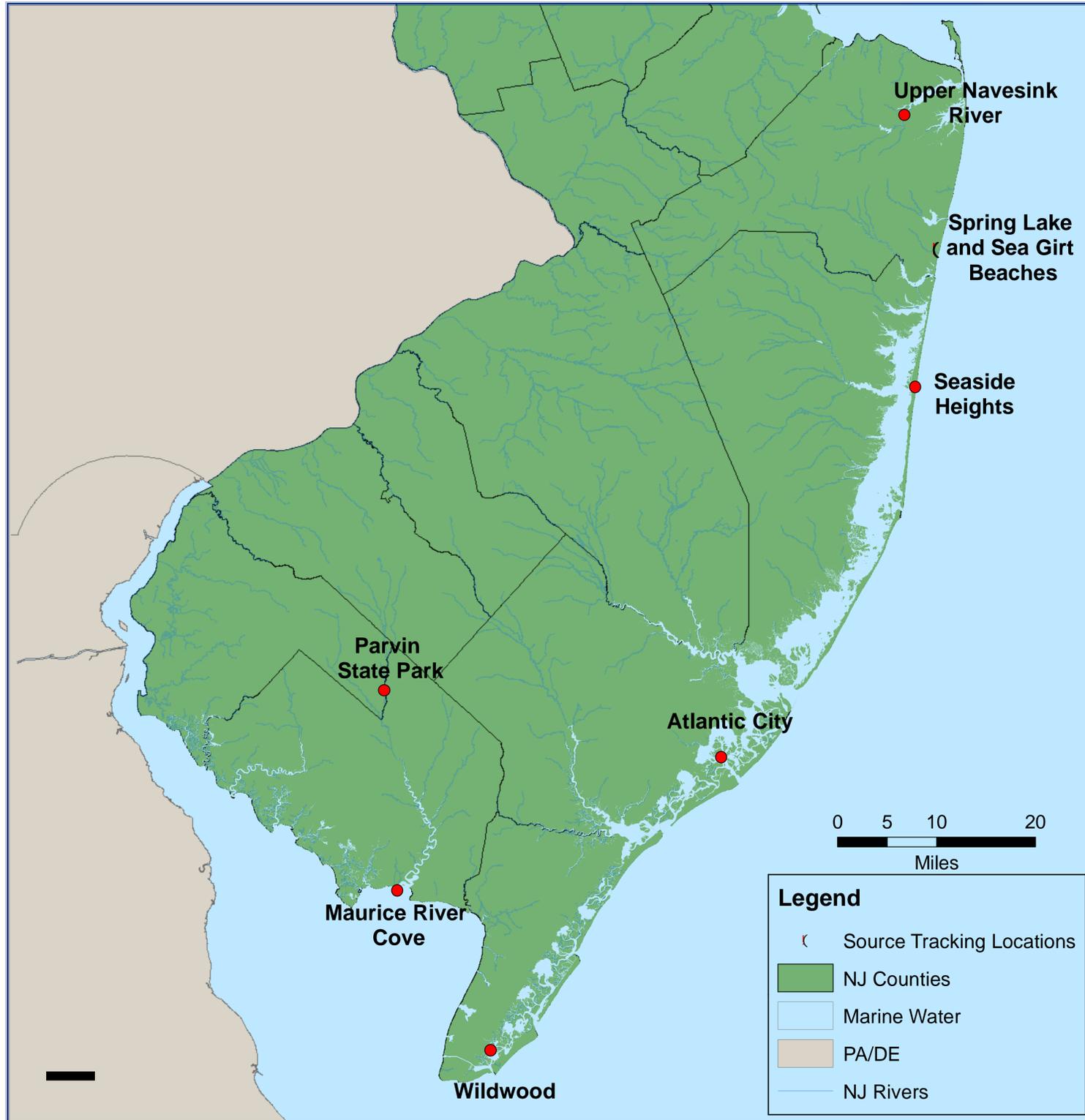




NJDEP Water Monitoring & Standards

Marine Water Monitoring

Finding the Sources of Microbial Pollution



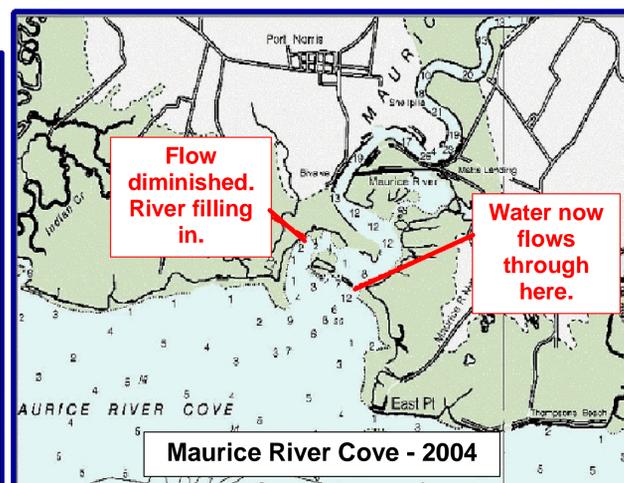
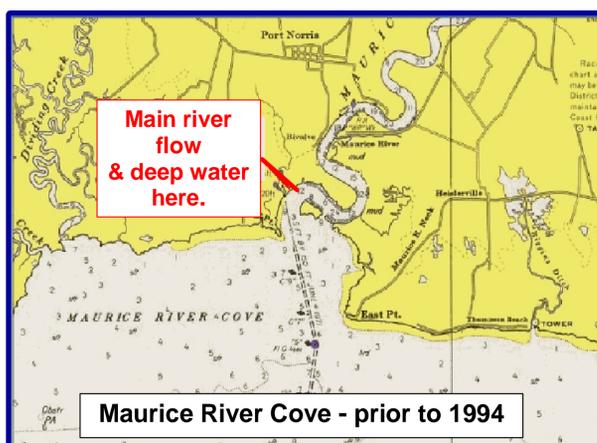
The Bureau of Marine Water Monitoring has been involved in assessing nonpoint source pollution since the 1980's. Nonpoint source pollution refers to contaminants that enter the water from sources such as stormwater runoff, boating wastes, and failing septic systems. The Bureau has developed methods for monitoring this type of pollution to better understand ways to reduce or eliminate impacts from nonpoint sources. One role of the NJDEP's Water Monitoring & Standards program is to use routine and specialized sampling to locate where pollution is coming from. This information is passed on to management and enforcement programs within and outside of NJDEP for their consideration of corrective actions to address the pollution sources.

Over the past 10 years, the Bureau has developed the methods and approach that the DEP now uses to identify pollution sources. Locations of recent source tracking efforts are shown on the adjacent map and summaries of the projects are listed below.

Rivers

Maurice River Cove

Shoreline erosion in the lower river has resulted in a change in the flow of the Maurice River into the Cove since 1994, when the decline in the water quality for this area first began. As a result, pollution is now being carried further into the bay. This effect has resulted in the closure of additional waters to shellfish harvest.



Upper Navesink River



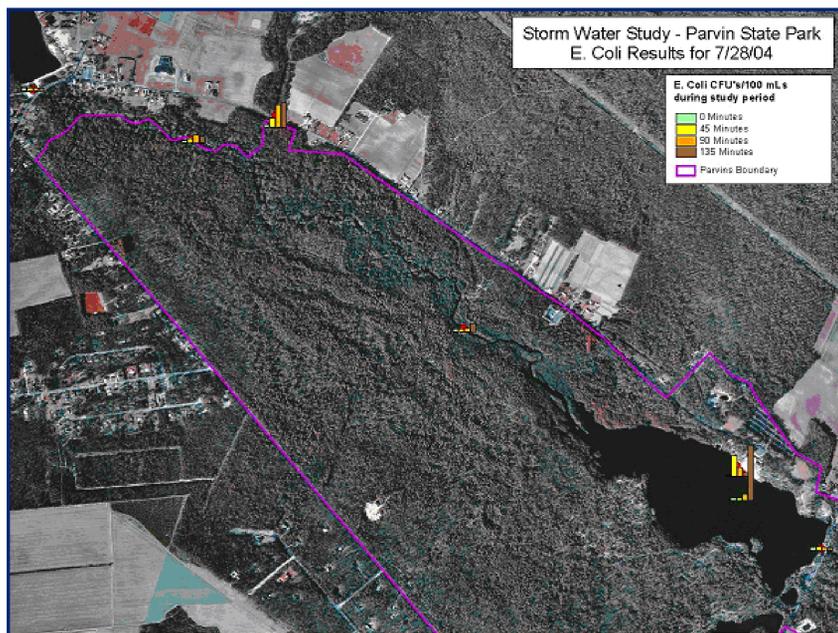
A stormwater study began in 2005 for the upper Navesink River / Swimming River; the sampling stations are located on the adjacent map. This study is designed to restore water quality in the upper Navesink River.

Finding the Sources of Microbial Pollution

Lakes

Parvin State Park

Results showed at least one source for the bathing beach closures was from near the Park office complex. At this location, a broken septic line was discovered. A new septic system was installed and follow-up water quality monitoring is planned.



Ocean Beaches

Spring Lake and Sea Girt Beaches

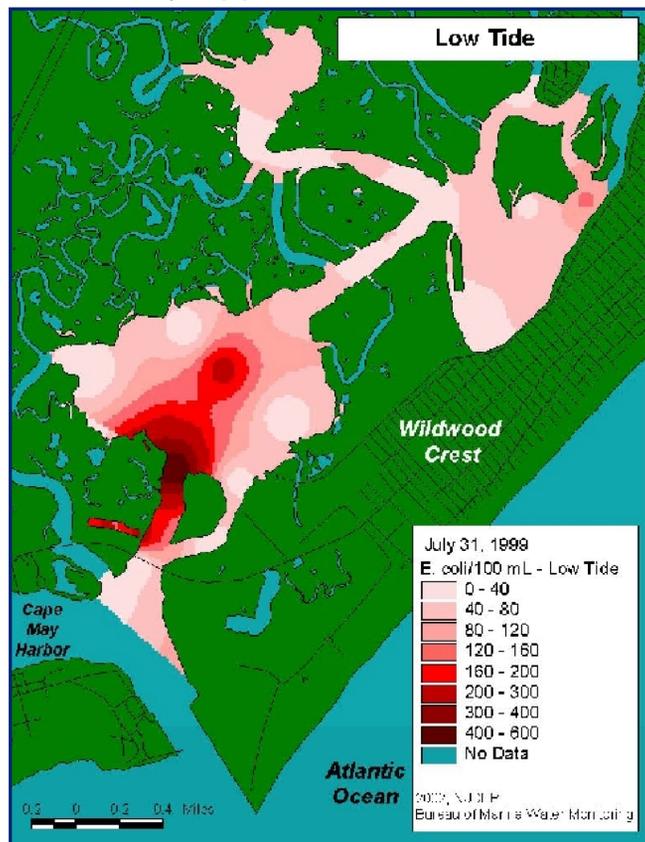


The Bureau plans to perform an intense stormwater project in 2007 in the Wreck Pond vicinity to track the sources of pollution causing beach closures.

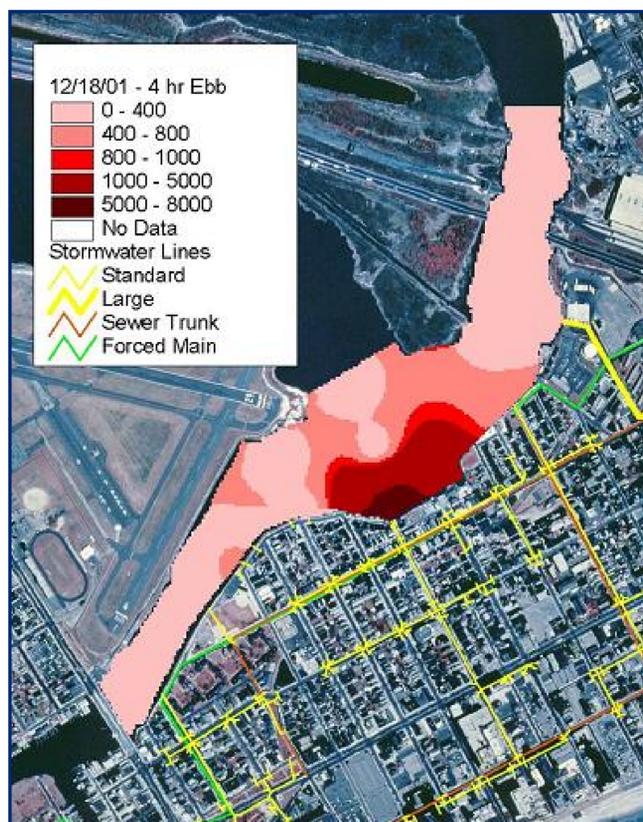
Back Bay Waters

Wildwood

Results from the intensive monitoring showed the source was near Bascual Bridge, where a broken sewer line was found. After the repair of the broken sewer line, subsequent sampling confirmed this was the source of the pollution. Due to the improvement in water quality, the shellfish waters of Jarvis Sound were reclassified from their Special Restricted status and opened as Seasonally Approved waters.



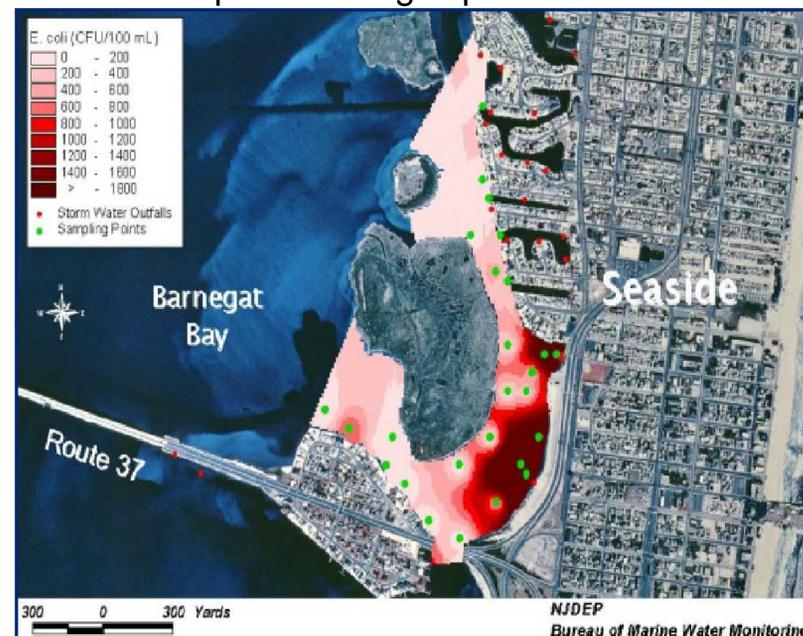
Atlantic City



The storm drain at Brighton Avenue, had the greatest impact on the study area. Problems were observed under both dry and wet weather conditions. Since the sanitary sewer lines follow the stormwater discharge lines, one possible source could be a cross connection between the stormwater and sanitary sewer lines. Further sampling is planned.

Seaside Heights

Primary sources were found to be two stormwater discharges. One of the two was found to be discharging wastes that were primarily of human origin. This source was targeted for further study and the municipality found sewer line and stormwater line cross-connections. Repairs to these lines are complete and follow-up monitoring is planned.



For further information please contact:

NJDEP Water Monitoring & Standards
Bureau of Marine Water Monitoring
P.O. Box 405
Leeds Point, NJ 08220
609-748-2000
<http://www.nj.gov/dep/wms/bmw>