

FACT SHEET

HUDSON RIVER

ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2014



In 2014, the Hudson River Natural Resource Trustees – the [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration](#), the [U.S. Department of the Interior](#), and [New York State](#) (the Trustees) – continued to assess how releases of PCBs from the General Electric Company (GE) plants at Fort Edward and Hudson Falls, New York harm the Hudson River’s natural resources.

Accomplishments this year include the following:

Restoration Planning:

- [Presentation to the Historic Hudson-Hoosic Rivers Partnership](#) on March 31, 2014 on the Hudson River Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration project. This presentation focused on injury assessment and restoration planning.
- Restoration Planning Outreach: Hudson River Natural Resource Trustees continue to follow up on a letter sent December 2013 to all persons/groups who had submitted restoration project proposals. The [December 2013 letter](#) references the Trustees' [September 2013 Hudson River Restoration Planning Fact Sheet](#), containing a list of all restoration project proposals submitted by the public.

Coordination with the Public:

- Fact Sheet: [Fast Facts on Hudson River PCBs](#), dated October 2014;
- Fact Sheet: [PCB Pollution: Who's Going to Clean this Up](#), dated October 2014;
- [Response from](#) Authorized Official for the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI), dated November 17, 2014, to Board of Supervisors, County of Saratoga, regarding a letter sent to Ms. Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior, on Resolution 149-2014 (regarding floodplains and backwater areas of the Upper Hudson River, and navigational dredging);
- The Albany Times Union published an op-ed submitted by the Federal Trustees on April 19, 2014. This piece, ["GE's Responsibility for PCBs isn't Over"](#) responds to an op-ed written by GE in which the company claims "the long debate over what to do about PCBs in the Hudson River ended 12 years ago."
- Federal Hudson River Natural Resource Trustees sent a [letter to GE](#), dated January 30, 2014, addressing misinformation and correcting the public record about a report GE released to the New York State Comptroller’s Office regarding GE’s Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration (NRDAR) liability for the Hudson River. FWS also issued a [Press Release](#).

Freshwater Mussel/Remedial Injury Assessment:

- [2013 Remedial Injury Pilot Study Plan](#): Population Assessment and Potential Functional Roles of Native Mussels in Select Reaches of the Upper Hudson River (dated September 10, 2014);
- [Responsiveness Summary for the Study Plan for Freshwater Mussel Injury Determination](#)- Population Assessment and Potential Functional Roles of



Native Mussels in Multiple Sections of the Upper Hudson River- 2014 Remedial Injury Study (dated September 2, 2014);

- Study Plan for Freshwater Mussel Injury Determination Study: ([Draft for public comment dated June 2, 2014](#) and [Final dated August 15, 2014](#)) Population Assessment and Potential Functional Roles of Native Mussels in Multiple Sections of the Upper Hudson River 2014 Remedial Injury Study. The study will collect information about freshwater mussel communities and habitats affected by the dredging and subsequent capping/backfilling of the Upper Hudson River. Work is expected to occur Summer 2015.

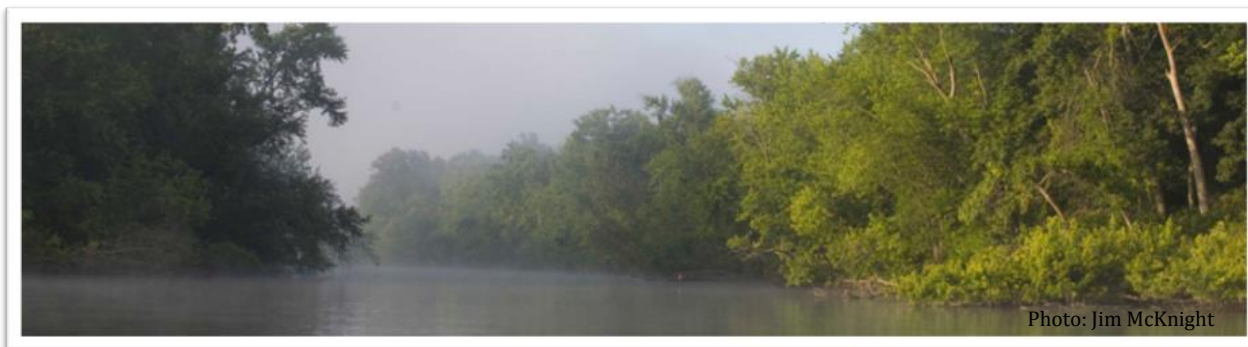
Injury to Birds:

- Injury determination work on birds supported by the Hudson River Natural Resource Trustees presented by the Trustees' Principal Investigators at the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry meeting, November 9-13, 2014 in Vancouver, British Columbia. [Abstract](#) and [Presentation](#) for: Dean et al. 2014. Developmental Uptake of Radiolabeled 3,3',4,4'-Tetrachlorobiphenyl (PCB 77) into Japanese Quail Egg Compartments and Embryos.

Mink Injury:

- [Modification to the Mink Study Plan for 2014](#); and,
- [Fact Sheet for Mink Study, 2014](#).

In addition to the work noted above to determine injury to birds, mink and other natural resources, Trustees continue to determine the injuries related to the remedial actions (such as dredging) and the effects of PCBs on Hudson River fish, sediment-dwelling organisms, amphibians, reptiles, and waterfowl, and habitats such as water, sediment, and floodplains.



The goal of the Hudson River NRDA is to restore injured natural resources. Our assessment and restoration planning actions focus on ensuring the fullest restoration of those injured natural resources. In conducting restoration activities, we will be engaging with local partners, as we believe an informed and educated public is essential to successful conservation and restoration.

