

# Memorandum

December 8, 2017

To: Kristen Keene, Maryland Environmental Service

From: Karin Olsen, P.G. Anchor QEA

**Re: Elk River Sampling – River Beach Samples**

## Program Overview

On behalf of the Maryland Department of Transportation Maryland Port Administration (MDOT MPA) and the Maryland Environmental Service (MES), sampling was conducted at two River Beach locations in the nearshore Elk River to assess the existing environmental conditions. The River Beach sampling efforts were initiated based on environmental concerns expressed by citizen members of the Pearce Creek Implementation Committee (PCIC). The purpose of this Memorandum is to summarize the results of the spring 2017 sediment quality characterization, water quality characterization, benthic community sample, and benthic bioassay sampling for each of the two locations (Figure 1).

## Technical Approach

The data collection and analytical approach for the River Beach locations was consistent with the Pearce Creek Dredged Material Containment Facility (DMCF) Exterior Monitoring Program (Anchor QEA 2016). The River Beach samples function as a discrete sample set and will be evaluated independently from the samples collected in conjunction with the Pearce Creek DMCF Exterior Monitoring Program. Data collected during previous sampling events in spring 2016 and fall 2016 are presented on the results tables for comparison to data collected during the spring 2017 sampling event.

## Sediment Quality Characterization

Undisturbed sediments were collected from the sediment-water interface to a depth of 6 inches using a Ponar grab sampler. Samples were submitted for metals, grain size, moisture content, specific gravity, total organic carbon (TOC), nitrate+nitrite, total Kjeldahl nitrogen (TKN), ammonia, total phosphorus, and sulfide. Chemical concentrations in bulk sediment samples were compared to sediment quality guidelines for freshwater samples (MacDonald et al. 2000).

## Water Quality Monitoring

Surface water samples were collected from the mid-depth of the water column. Samples were submitted for dissolved metals, total suspended solids, phosphorus, hardness, ammonia, nitrate, and

TKN analysis. Physical parameters, including temperature, dissolved oxygen (DO), pH, and salinity, were also recorded at each sampling location. Chemical concentrations in the surface water samples were compared to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) (2017) and the State of Maryland Code of Regulations (COMAR 26.08.02.03-2) freshwater acute water quality criteria for aquatic life.

## **Benthic Community Sampling**

Benthic community (bottom-dwelling organisms) samples were collected to determine community composition, abundance (number of benthic organisms), and diversity (number of different types of species). The results were used to calculate benthic community metrics, including the number of unique taxa, species abundance, Shannon-Wiener Species Diversity Index, abundance of pollution-indicative taxa, abundance of pollution-sensitive taxa, abundance of carnivore and omnivore taxa, tolerance, evenness, species richness, and Simpson's Dominance Index.

## **Benthic Bioassays**

Sediment from one location was submitted for benthic bioassay testing. Benthic bioassays were 10-day whole sediment tests using the freshwater amphipod *Hyalella azteca*. Testing was conducted according to the USEPA's *Methods for Measuring the Toxicity and Bioaccumulation of Sediment Associated Contaminants with Freshwater Invertebrates* (USEPA 2000). *Hyalella azteca* survival data for the whole sediment bioassays was statistically compared to the survival in control sediment. A control sediment is a non-impacted sediment sample that is used to evaluate the results of a test.

## **Field Investigation**

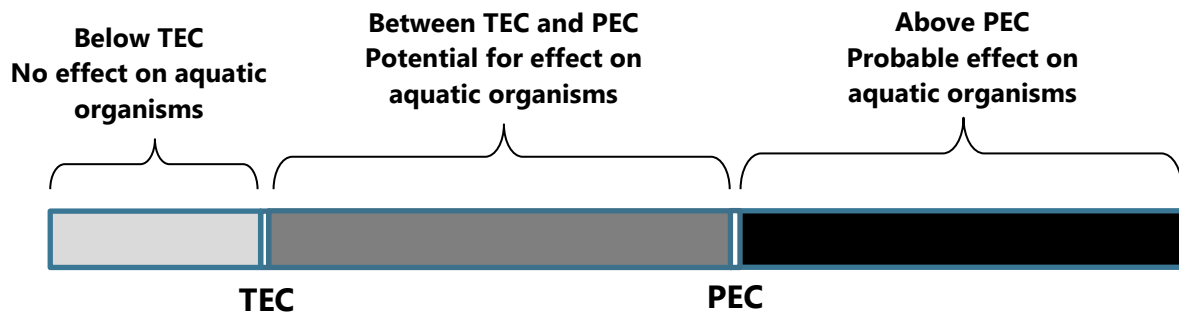
The methods and procedures for the collection of field samples, sampling schedule, rationale for the sampling design, and design assumptions for locating and selecting environmental samples were carried out in accordance with the Sampling and Analysis Plan (Anchor QEA 2015) and the methods used for the Pearce Creek DMCF Exterior Monitoring Program (Anchor QEA 2016a,b, c). Sampling procedures were consistent with USEPA protocols or other approved sample collection standards. A complete list of analytes, target detection limits, and analytical methodologies is provided in the Sampling and Analysis Plan (Anchor QEA 2015).

Two River Beach (RB) sampling locations were included in this investigation. One location was near the future dredged material inflow location for the Pearce Creek DMCF (location RB-01), and one location (location RB-02) was near the area where Stemmers Run discharges into the Elk River. Sampling locations were determined in the field using a Trimble ProXRS Differential Global Positioning System (DGPS) with an accuracy of 1 to 3 meters (m). Northing and easting coordinates for the sampling locations are provided in Table 1 and are shown in Figure 2.

## Sediment Quality Characterization

Concentrations of detected analytes in sediment samples were compared to consensus-based sediment quality guidelines for freshwater sediment, where available (MacDonald et al. 2000). Threshold effect concentrations (TECs) and probable effect concentrations (PECs) are derived based on empirical data from laboratory and field studies (MacDonald et al. 2000). The TEC values represent concentrations below which adverse biological effects are unlikely, and PEC values represent concentrations above which adverse biological effects are probable (MacDonald et al. 2000). Concentrations that are between the TEC and PEC represent the concentrations at which adverse biological effects might occur, as shown below.

### Data Evaluation Using Sediment Quality Guidelines



Results of the sediment quality characterization are summarized in Table 2. Sample RB-01 was composed of 1.4% gravel, 97% sand and about 1.6% silts and clays. Sample RB-02 was composed of 9.6% gravel and 87% sand and about 3.3% silts and clays. TOC and nutrient concentrations were low at both locations. TOC was detected at concentrations of 0.62% at RB-01 and it was not-detected at location RB-02. Nitrate + nitrite was detected at an estimated concentration of 1.3 mg/kg at RB-01 and was not detected at RB-02. Ammonia was detected at RB-01 (20 mg/kg) and at RB-02 (10 mg/kg). Total phosphorus was 78 mg/kg at RB-01 and 30 mg/kg at RB-02. TKN concentration and sulfide were not detected in the sediment samples from either location.

Eleven of the 13 tested metals were detected in both sediment samples. Mercury and silver were the only metals not detected, and neither metal was detected at either location. Metal concentrations at both locations were low, and well below the TECs.

Sediment concentrations for the spring 2017 samples were generally comparable to previous years. For RB-01, concentrations were much lower compared to spring 2016 (Table 2), but were consistent with concentrations observed in fall 2016. For RB-02, concentrations were consistent with the data collected in the spring and fall 2016 sampling events (Table 2).

## Water Quality Characterization

Analytes detected in the surface water were compared to the USEPA and the State of Maryland freshwater acute and chronic water quality criteria. Criteria were derived from the USEPA *National Recommended Water Quality Criteria* (USEPA 2017) and the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR 26.08.02.03-2). For dissolved metals, the State of Maryland freshwater water quality criteria for the protection of aquatic life are the same as the USEPA criteria (Table 3) and are directly comparable to the results.

The State of Maryland allows, but does not require, that freshwater criteria be adjusted based on water hardness. The freshwater water quality criteria for the protection of aquatic life for cadmium, chromium, copper, lead, nickel, and zinc were calculated using the minimum hardness value (70 mg/L) and was applied to both samples as a conservative evaluation of water quality. The hardness-adjusted criteria were more conservative than the non-adjusted values for the surface water samples.

Results of the water quality characterization are summarized in Table 3. Hardness and nutrients were reported at similar concentrations between both surface water samples. Total phosphorus concentration was not detected at RB-01 and 0.037 mg/L at RB-02. The total suspended solid concentration was 8.9 mg/L at RB-01 and 7.1 mg/L at RB-02, and ammonia was 0.18 mg/L at RB-01 and 0.16 mg/L at RB-02. TKN was estimated to be 11 mg/L at RB-01 and 3.4 mg/L at RB-02. Nitrate was 0.66 mg/L at RB-01 and 0.65 mg/L at RB-02.

Seven of the 16 tested metals were detected in one or both surface water samples (aluminum, antimony, arsenic, iron, manganese, nickel, and thallium). Metals were detected at similar concentrations at RB-01 and RB-02. None of the metals exceeded the acute or chronic freshwater criteria for the protection of aquatic life in either sample.

Concentrations for the spring 2017 surface water samples were generally comparable to the data collected in the spring and fall 2016 sampling events for both RB-01 and RB-02 (Table 3). For a few metals – aluminum, iron, and manganese – the results for spring 2016 and spring 2017 were lower than concentrations in fall 2016, but this is likely attributed to higher total suspended solid concentrations for the fall 2016 surface water samples.

## Benthic Community

Benthic (or bottom-dwelling) organisms are important indicators of stress in aquatic systems because they can integrate the effects of environmental conditions during long periods of time. Benthic organisms are also important food for many fish, providing an important link to higher trophic levels. Most benthic organisms tend to thrive only in some habitats (for example, sandy versus muddy sediments), and groups of benthic organisms collected at sampling locations are generally comprised of species that are adapted to a specific habitat. Sampling locations are

considered “normal” or “healthy” when the benthic organisms collected from that location are primarily the species that are specifically adapted to live in that particular habitat.

Results of the benthic community sampling are summarized in Tables 4 and 5. The bottom salinity was 0.01 parts per thousand (Table 1); therefore, both locations were classified as freshwater habitats (bottom salinity ranging from 0 to 0.5 parts per thousand). A taxonomic list and mean abundance of the benthic fauna collected are presented in Table 4. A list of the benthic fauna collected in individual replicates collected at each location is provided in Table 5. Benthic metrics are summarized in Table 6.

Total benthic abundance (total number of organisms per m<sup>2</sup>) was 2,250 organisms/m<sup>2</sup> at RB-01 and 2,981 organisms/m<sup>2</sup> at RB-02 (Table 6). Twelve benthic taxa were collected from the River Beach locations (Table 5). Twelve taxa were collected at RB-01 —Diptera (4 taxa), Isopoda (1 taxa), Polychaete (1 taxa), Oligochaeta (1 taxa), Tubificida (1 taxa), Bivalves (2 taxa), and Crustacea (2 taxa). Eleven taxa were collected at RB-02—Diptera (4 taxa), Crustacea (2 taxa), Bivalves (2 taxa), Polychaete (1 taxa), and Oligochaeta (2 taxa). Chronomids (*Cladotanytarsus spp.*) were the dominant taxa at RB-01 and RB-02 (Table 4).

Species richness is a comparison of how many taxa are in a sample compared to how many individuals are in a sample. Lower values indicate that the total benthic abundance at a location is dominated by a few taxa and does not represent a diverse benthic community. Locations RB-01 and RB-02 had slightly different values for species richness, 2.3 and 2.0, respectively (Table 6).

Evenness is a measure of how evenly the individuals collected at a location are distributed among the taxa collected at that location, with a value of 1 indicating that the individuals are distributed as evenly as possible. Evenness values were similar between locations RB-01 and RB-02, 0.689 and 0.760, respectively (Table 6).

The Shannon-Wiener Species Diversity Index takes into account both species richness and species evenness, with higher values indicating a more diverse benthic community. Location RB-01 had a Shannon-Wiener Species Diversity Index of 2.5 and the value at RB-02 was 2.6, indicating that these locations have diverse benthic communities (Table 6).

Simpson’s Dominance Index measures the diversity of a sample, with a lower value indicating a more diverse community. Simpson’s Dominance Index was 0.24 at RB-01 and 0.20 RB-02 (Table 6). The low Simpson’s Dominance Index value is indicative of high species diversity.

Results for the benthic community evaluation for spring 2017 were generally consistent with the results for spring 2016 and fall 2017 (Table 6). There was a slight decrease in the percent abundance of pollution indicative species for the spring 2017 samples from both locations, but the majority of the other benthic metrics were similar (Table 6). This indicates that while the species composition of

the benthic community changes seasonally in response to temperature, salinity, and dissolved oxygen fluctuations, the overall health of the benthic community is stable.

## **Benthic Bioassays**

Benthic bioassays with whole sediment are designed to determine whether the sediment from each sampling location is likely to produce unacceptable adverse effects on benthic organisms by exposing the organisms to the whole sediment for 10 days. A freshwater amphipod (*Hyalella azteca*) was used in the whole-sediment bioassay.

*Hyalella azteca* is adapted to live in silty environments, so the toxicity tests are only applicable for fine-grained sediments comprised mostly of silts and clays. For the spring 2017 sampling event, both locations were primarily comprised of coarse grained sands and gravel. Bioassay testing was only conducted at one River Beach location (RB-01), because location RB-02 was comprised almost entirely of sand and gravel (96%). Even though the RB-01 location was also composed primarily of coarse-grained sands (97%) the bioassay was still run for consistency with data from previous sampling events.

Results of the benthic bioassays were compared to the results in the control (Table 7). A control sediment is a non-impacted sediment sample that is used to evaluate the results of a test. Mean survival of *Hyalella azteca* exposed for 10 days to the River Beach sediment was 90%. The survival result was not statistically different ( $p=0.05$ ) from the mean survival in the control sediment (94%). Therefore, the sediment sample collected from location RB-01 was not acutely toxic to *Hyalella azteca*.

Benthic bioassay results for the spring 2017 samples were comparable with the results for spring 2016 and fall 2017 (Table 7), which samples from each event indicating that the sediment sample collected from location RB-01 was not acutely toxic to *Hyalella azteca*.

## **Summary**

Sampling was conducted for two River Beach locations in the nearshore Elk River to evaluate existing conditions for sediment quality, surface water quality, benthic community, and benthic toxicity. Data collected during this investigation will be compared to data collected in future events to identify trends. Additional sampling will be conducted after the start of dredged material placement in the Pearce Creek DMCF.

## References

- Anchor QEA (Anchor QEA, LLC), 2015. *Sampling and Analysis Plan, Pearce Creek Dredged Material Containment Facility Exterior Monitoring Program*. Prepared for Maryland Environmental Service. September.
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- Anchor QEA, 2016b. *Pearce Creek Dredged Material Containment Facility Exterior Monitoring Program: Monitoring Report – Spring 2016*. Prepared for Maryland Port Administration and Maryland Environmental Service. October.
- Anchor QEA, 2016c. *Pearce Creek Dredged Material Containment Facility Exterior Monitoring Program: Monitoring Report – Spring 2016*. Prepared for Maryland Port Administration and Maryland Environmental Service. February.
- MacDonald, D.D., C.G. Ingersoll, and T.A. Berger, 2000. Development and Evaluation of Consensus-Based Sediment Quality Guidelines for Freshwater Ecosystems. *Archives of Environmental Contamination and Toxicology* 39:20-31.
- USEPA, 2000. *Methods for Measuring the Toxicity and Bioaccumulation of Sediment Associated Contaminants with Freshwater Invertebrates, Second Edition*. EPA 600/R-99/064. March 2000.
- USEPA, 2017. National Recommended Water Quality Criteria. Cited: September 7, 2016. Available from: <http://water.epa.gov/scitech/swguidance/standards/criteria/current/index.cfm>.





## Figures

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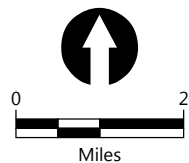


**LEGEND:**

-  Exterior Monitoring Area
-  Pearce Creek DMCF

**NOTE:**

1. Base map courtesy of ESRI and its data suppliers (2017).



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**Figure 1**  
**Site Location Map**  
 Spring 2017 Baseline Sampling Report  
 Pearce Creek DMCF Exterior Monitoring Program

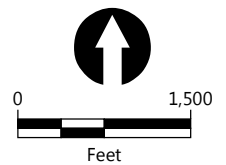


**LEGEND:**

- Sample Locations
- Pearce Creek Dredged Material Containment Facility

**NOTE:**

1. Aerial image courtesy of ESRI and its data suppliers (2017).



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## Tables

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**Table 1**  
**Sample Collection and Water Quality Parameters**  
**Elk River River Beach Locations - Spring 2017**

Location	Date	Time (EST)	Northing <sup>a</sup>	Easting <sup>a</sup>	Water Depth (feet)	Temperature (°C)	Salinity (ppt)	Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)	Turbidity (NTU)	pH
RB-01	5/24/2017	12:20	645690.03	1599598.60	2.8	19.6	0.01	8.90	9.6	7.18
RB-02	5/24/2017	13:00	645028.21	1597935.64	6.7	18.2	0.01	8.85	7.7	7.53

Notes:

a Coordinates are in Maryland State Plane, North American Datum of 1983.

EST = Eastern Standard Time

mg/L = milligrams per liter

NTU = nephelometric turbidity unit

ppt = parts per thousand

**Table 2**  
**Analytical Results for Sediment Samples**  
**Elk River River Beach Locations**

Analyte	Units	Threshold Effect Concentration (TEC)	Probable Effect Concentration (PEC)	River Beach Location 1			River Beach Location 2		
				Spring 2016	Fall 2016	Spring 2017	Spring 2016	Fall 2016	Spring 2017
<b>Physical Characteristics</b>									
Gravel	%	--	--	9.4	40.4	1.4	7.8	17.0	9.6
Sand	%	--	--	20.7	59	97	91	81.5	87.1
Silt	%	--	--	37	0.4	0.02	0.4	0.9	1.7
Clay	%	--	--	32.9	0.2	1.6	0.8	0.6	1.6
Specific Gravity	--	--	--	2.64	2.67	2.68	2.69	2.66	2.67
<b>Nutrients</b>									
Total Organic Carbon	%	--	--	2.9	0.17	0.62	0.15	0.15	0.13 U
Nitrate+Nitrite	mg/kg	--	--	4.2	1.3 U	1.3 J	1.6	0.58 J	1.2 U
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	mg/kg	--	--	2,200	140 J	390 U	210	96 J	200 U
Ammonia	mg/kg	--	--	150	10	20	12 U	8.2	10.0
Total Phosphorus	mg/kg	--	--	620	31	78	42	31	30
Sulfide	mg/kg	--	--	460	38 U	73 U	9.8 J	9.1 J	38 U
<b>Metals</b>									
Antimony	mg/kg	--	--	0.29	0.11 J	0.11 J	0.077 J	0.05 J	0.029 J
Arsenic	mg/kg	9.79	33	7.1	1.9	1.3	0.82	0.50	0.47
Beryllium	mg/kg	--	--	1.3	0.4	0.21	0.08	0.059 J	0.054 J
Cadmium	mg/kg	0.99	4.98	0.31	0.21	0.043 J	0.013 J	0.21	0.017 J
Chromium	mg/kg	43.4	111	29	7.4	8.6	4.3	4.7	3.5
Copper	mg/kg	31.6	149	21	1.8	2.3	1.6	1.1	0.93
Lead	mg/kg	35.8	128	32	1.5	5.1	2	1.6	1.6
Mercury	mg/kg	0.18	1.06	0.08	0.019 U	0.041 U	0.0042 J	0.02 U	0.02 U
Nickel	mg/kg	22.7	48.6	33	3.1	4.1	1.4	1.1	1.2
Selenium	mg/kg	--	--	1.6	0.5	0.25 J	0.091 J	0.19 J	0.12 J
Silver	mg/kg	--	--	0.25	0.008 J	0.12 U	0.0053 J	0.008 J	0.063 U
Thallium	mg/kg	--	--	0.15	0.0049 J	0.012 J	0.0063 J	0.0036 J	0.0036 J
Zinc	mg/kg	121	459	120	13	19	5.1	5.2	5.1

Notes:

**Bold** = detected constituents

-- = no value

B = compound detected in the blank and in the sample

J = estimated value; result is less than the reporting limit but greater than the method detection limit

mg/kg = milligrams per kilogram

U = compound not detected



**Table 3**  
**Analytical Results for Surface Water Samples**  
**Elk River River Beach Locations**

Analyte	Unit	Acute	Chronic	River Beach Location 1			River Beach Location 2		
				Spring 2016	Fall 2016	Spring 2017	Spring 2016	Fall 2016	Spring 2017
Hardness	mg/L	--	--	<b>86</b>	<b>880</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>940</b>	<b>70</b>
Total Phosphorus	mg/L	--	--	<b>0.049 J</b>	<b>0.14</b>	0.1 U	0.1 U	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.037 J</b>
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	--	--	<b>11</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>7.1</b>
Ammonia	mg/L	--	--	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.21</b>	<b>0.18</b>	<b>0.15</b>	<b>0.16</b>	<b>0.16</b>
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	mg/L	--	--	5 U	<b>2.2 J</b>	<b>11</b>	5 U	<b>2.2 J</b>	<b>3.4 J</b>
Nitrate	mg/L	--	--	<b>0.85</b>	<b>0.41</b>	<b>0.66</b>	<b>0.83</b>	<b>0.25</b>	<b>0.65</b>
<b>Metals</b>									
Aluminum	µg/L	750	87	<b>19 J</b>	<b>33</b>	30 U	<b>16</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>16 J</b>
Antimony	µg/L	--	--	<b>0.27 J</b>	<b>0.61 J</b>	<b>1.5 J</b>	<b>0.26 J</b>	<b>0.93 J</b>	<b>0.98 J</b>
Arsenic	µg/L	340	150	<b>0.83 J</b>	<b>0.77 J</b>	<b>0.34 J</b>	<b>0.77 J</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>0.41 J</b>
Beryllium	µg/L	--	--	1 U	1 U	1 U	1 U	1 U	1 U
Cadmium <sup>a</sup>	µg/L	1.4	0.19	1 U	1 U	1 U	1 U	1 U	1 U
Chromium <sup>a</sup>	µg/L	425	55.3	<b>1.3 J</b>	<b>0.39 J</b>	2 U	<b>1.2 J</b>	<b>0.55 J</b>	2 U
Copper <sup>a</sup>	µg/L	10	6.6	<b>1.2 J</b>	<b>1.9 J</b>	2 U	<b>1.3 J</b>	<b>2.4</b>	2 U
Iron	µg/L	--	1,000	<b>31 J</b>	<b>88</b>	50 U	<b>28 J</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>23 J</b>
Lead <sup>a</sup>	µg/L	44	1.70	1 U	<b>0.25 J</b>	1 U	1 U	<b>0.35 J</b>	1 U
Manganese	µg/L	--	--	<b>3.9 J</b>	<b>810</b>	5 U	<b>4 J</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>3.2 J</b>
Mercury	µg/L	1.40	0.77	0.2 U	0.2 U	0.2 U	0.2 U	0.2 U	0.2 U
Nickel <sup>a</sup>	µg/L	346	39	<b>1.2</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>0.69 J</b>
Selenium	µg/L	20	5	5 U	<b>0.57 J</b>	5 U	5 U	<b>0.96 J</b>	5 U
Silver <sup>a</sup>	µg/L	1.74	--	1 U	1 U	1 U	1 U	<b>0.3 J</b>	1 U
Thallium	µg/L	--	--	1 U	1 U	<b>0.054 J</b>	1 U	1 U	1 U
Zinc <sup>a</sup>	µg/L	86.6	87.3	<b>4.2 J</b>	<b>4.2 J</b>	5 U	<b>3.4 J</b>	<b>3.5 J</b>	5 U

Notes:

a Acute and chronic water quality criteria are adjusted for a hardness of 70 mg/L.

**Bold** = detected constituents

-- = no value

B = compound detected in the blank and in the sample

J = estimated value; result is less than the reporting limit but greater than the method detection limit

U = compound not detected

mg/L = milligrams per liter

µg/L = micrograms per liter

**Table 4**  
**Mean Abundance of Benthic Macroinvertebrates**  
**Elk River River Beach Locations**

Species	River Beach Location 1			River Beach Location 2		
	Spring 2016	Fall 2016	Spring 2017	Spring 2016	Fall 2016	Spring 2017
<i>Ameroculodes</i> spp.	0	0	0	25.4	<b>0</b>	0
<i>Anthuridae</i> spp.	0	38	0	0	0	0
<i>Apocorophium lacustre</i>	178	108	6.36	0	229	114
<i>Boccardiella ligerica</i>	0	6.36	0.00	0	12.7	0
<i>Chaoborus punctipennis</i>	0	0	6.36	0	0.00	0
<i>Chirodotea almyra</i>	0	0	12.7	19.1	0.0	0
<i>Chironomus</i> spp.	0	0	25.4	12.7	0.0	25.4
<i>Cladotanytarsus</i> spp.	0	0	<b>915</b>	69.9	0	<b>1,068</b>
<i>Coelotanypus</i> spp.	31.8	0	0	63.9	6	0
<i>Corbicula fluminea</i>	210	31.8	229	267	375	477
<i>Cricotopus</i> spp.	0	12.7	0	0	12.7	6.36
<i>Cryptochironomus</i> spp.	12.7	12.7	6.36	19.1	0.0	0
<i>Cyathura polita</i>	12.7	534	191	31.8	782	292
<i>Dicrotendipes</i> spp.	6.36	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Ilyodrilus templetoni</i>	0	0	267	0	0	0
<i>Leptocheirus plumulosus</i>	127	0	0	6.36	0	0
<i>Limnodrilus hoffmeisteri</i>	82.6	0	0	63.6	0	0
<i>Marenzelleria viridis</i>	0	0	63.6	292	114	254
<i>Microtendipes</i> spp.	0	0	0	6.36	0	0
<i>Naididae</i> spp.	0	6.36	0	0	0	0
<i>Orthocladinae</i> spp.	0	19.1	0	0	0	0
<i>Penaidea</i> spp.	0	6.36	0	0	0	0
<i>Polydora cornuta</i>	0	12.7	0	0	25.4	0
<i>Polypedilum</i> spp.	12.7	0	0	63.6	0	0
<i>Procladius</i> spp.	44.5	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Rangia cuneata</i>	483	0	57.2	0	57.2	12.7
<i>Rheotanytarsus</i> spp.	0	108	0.0	0	0	0
<i>Rhithropanopeus harrisii</i>	0	44	0.0	0	6.36	0
<i>Saetheria</i> spp.	6.36	0	0.0	0	0	0
<i>Streblospio benedicti</i>	0.00	<b>667</b>	0.0	0	559	0
<i>Tanypus</i> spp.	0	0	0	0	0	6.36
Tubificidae with capilliform	0	0	0	<b>706</b>	6.36	305
Tubificidae without capilliform	<b>642</b>	57	470	686	<b>1,328</b>	420

Notes:

Bold values represent the dominant species at each location.

**Table 5**  
**Benthic Community Counts for Locations RB-01 and RB-02**  
**Elk River River Beach Locations - Spring 2017**

	River Beach Location 1			River Beach Location 2		
	Replicate A	Replicate B	Replicate C	Replicate A	Replicate B	Replicate C
	RB-01A	RB-01B	RB-01C	RB-02A	RB-02B	RB-02C
<i>Apocorophium lacustre</i>	1	0	0	3	7	8
<i>Chaoborus punctipennis</i>	1	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Chironomus almyra</i>	2	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Chironomus</i> spp.	3	1	0	4	0	0
<i>Cladotanytarsus</i> spp.	42	59	43	50	42	76
<i>Corbicula fluminea</i>	7	10	19	21	40	14
<i>Cricotopus</i> spp.	0	0	0	1	0	0
<i>Cryptochironomus</i> spp.	1	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Cyathura polita</i>	25	1	4	14	13	19
<i>Ilyodrilus templetoni</i>	9	14	19	0	0	0
<i>Marenzelleria viridis</i>	3	2	5	3	23	14
<i>Rangia cuneata</i>	2	3	4	0	0	2
<i>Tanytus</i> spp.	0	0	0	0	1	0
Tubificidae with capilliform	0	0	0	13	30	5
Tubificidae without capilliform	25	23	26	12	41	13



**Table 6**  
**Benthic Community Metrics**  
**Elk River River Beach Locations**

Metric	River Beach Location 1			River Beach Location 2		
	Spring 2016	Fall 2016	Spring 2017	Spring 2016	Fall 2016	Spring 2017
Total Abundance/m <sup>2</sup>	1,907	1,773	2,250	2,333	3,502	2,981
Infaunal Taxa	14	15	12	15	12	11
Species Richness (Ludwig-Reynolds)	2.6	3.1	2.3	2.5	2.1	2.0
Evenness	0.739	0.67	0.689	0.732	0.68	0.760
Shannon-Wiener H' (log base 2)	2.7	2.6	2.5	2.7	2.4	2.6
Simpson's Dominance Index	0.21	0.25	0.24	0.21	0.24	0.20
Percent Abundance Pollution Indicative Species	38	43	21	32	66	14
Percent Abundance Deep Deposit Feeders	38	0	33	62	0	24
Tolerance Score	5.05	1.30	5.6	8.04	4.52	4.8

Note:

m<sup>2</sup> = square meters

**Table 7**

**Summary of Test Acceptability Endpoints for Whole Sediment Acute Bioassay for Freshwater Amphipod (*Hyalella azteca*)  
Elk River River Beach Locations**

Endpoint/ Measurement	Protocol Criteria	Units	River Beach Location 1		
			Spring 2016	Fall 2016	Spring 2017
Survival	Mean Laboratory Control	Mean Survival %	94%	94%	94%
	≥ 80%	Protocol Met	Yes	Yes	Yes
Growth	Measure Positive Growth	Start Dry Weight (mg)	0.024	0.017	0.018
	End vs. Start of Assay	End Dry Weight (mg)	0.143	0.124	0.147
		Protocol Met	Yes	Yes	Yes
Temperature	Mean: 23 °C ± 1 °C	Daily/Hourly	22.8/22.8	21.3/21.6 <sup>a</sup>	23.3/23.4 <sup>a</sup>
	Minimum: 20 °C	Daily/Hourly	22.1/21.7	20.2/20.1	22.9/22.9
	Maximum: 26 °C	Daily/Hourly	23.4/23.4	22.4/22.5	23.6/23.9
		Protocol Met	Yes/Yes	No/Yes	Yes/Yes

Note:

mg = milligram