

The Upper Hudson River Dredging Project: 2013 Season



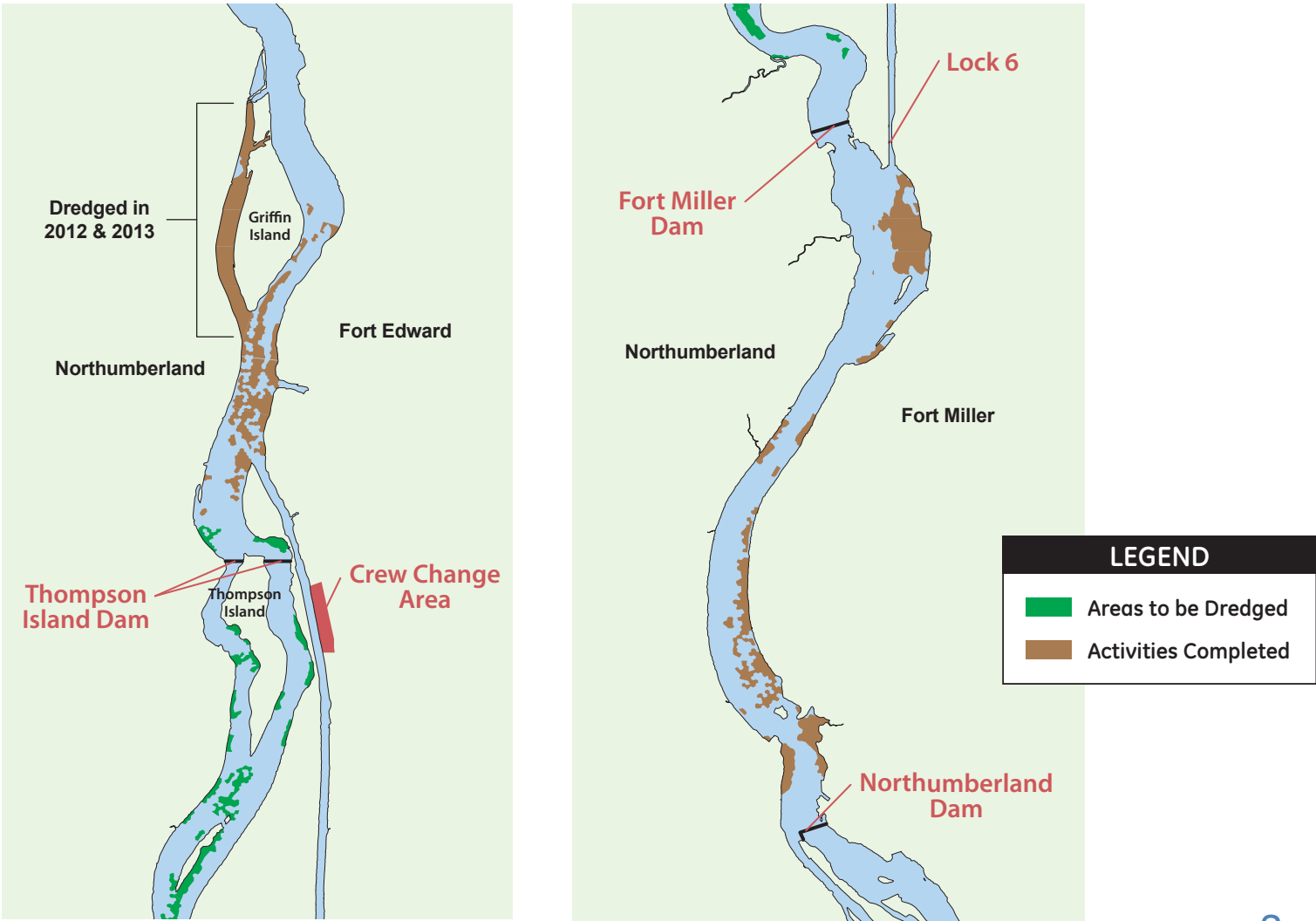
EPA Community Advisory Group

December 5, 2013

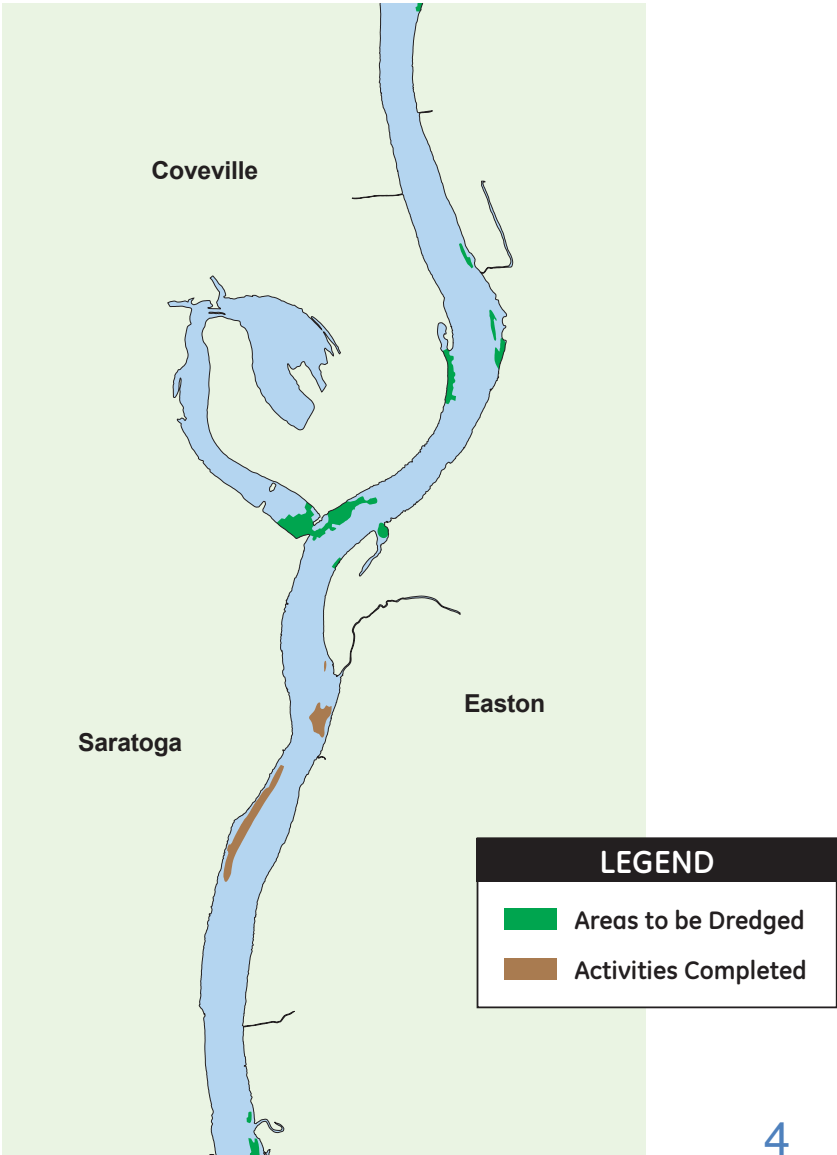
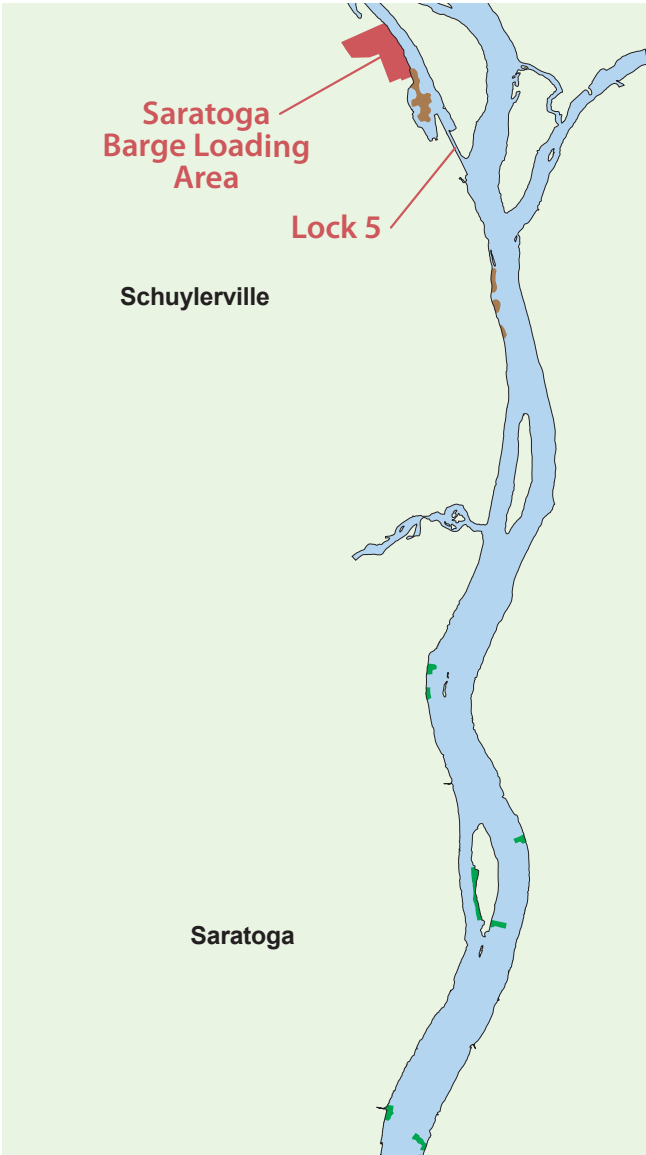
2013 Dredging Summary

- > Dredging performed from April 29 to November 6, 2013
 - 28-week season
- > Dredged approximately 100 acres of river bottom
- > Dredging performed in 28 Certification Units (CUs)
 - Thompson Island Pool
 - Between Locks 6 in Fort Miller and Lock 5 at Schuylerville
 - South of Schuylerville
 - Green Island/Schaghticoke area
- > Removed more than 628,000 cubic yards of sediment
- > Backfilling and capping ongoing (to be completed this week)

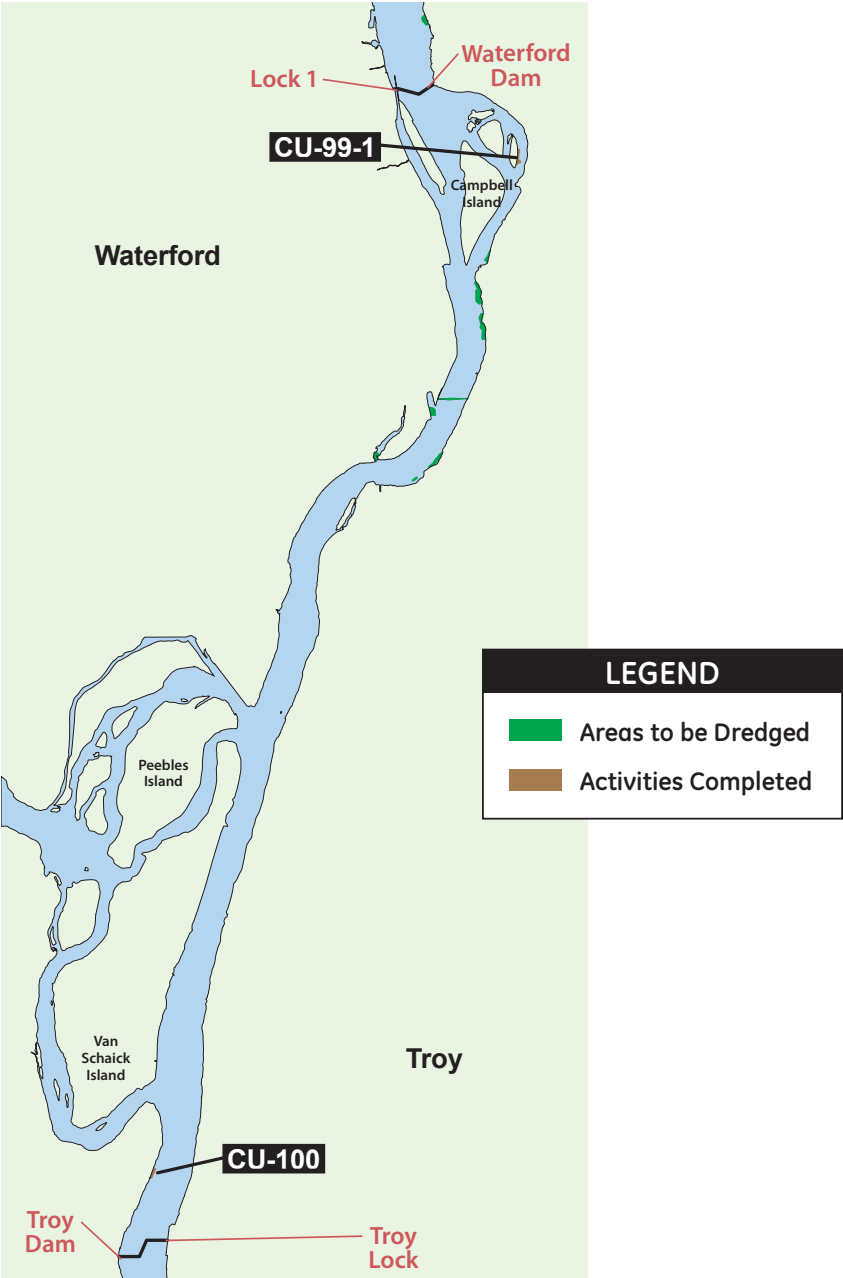
Areas Dredged: Northumberland and Fort Edward



Areas Dredged: Schuylerville and Easton



Areas Dredged: Green Island and Schaghticoke



Backfill and Capping

- > 127 acres of river bottom covered with restoration backfill or cap material
 - Includes portions of West Griffin Island channel dredged last year
 - 1 foot layer backfill placed in all dredged areas
- > Nodal Capping Index: 6.09% (11% allowable)
- > “Inventory” Nodes Capped: 0.34% (3% allowable)

Habitat Reconstruction

- > Harvested wild celery from Feeder Canal; plants purchased from New York State Canal Corp.
 - Contractor performs harvesting in late spring/early summer
- > Planted in 12 CUs
 - 10.5 acres of SAV (21 acres planted to date)
 - Approximately 150,000 units planted this season
- > Plants placed by divers and waders using dive platform with support vessels
- > Seeding approximately 7 acres of wild rice
- > 2013 dredge area habitat design submitted to EPA

Performance Standards

- > Continued compliance with EPA's engineering and quality-of-life standards
- > Water Quality:
 - No exceedances of 500 ng/L PCB concentration standard (5 of 7 days criteria)
 - PCB levels rose above 500 ng/L PCB concentration during two non-consecutive 24-hour periods in June (Stillwater); neither were confirmed by subsequent sampling
 - No exceedances of Tri+ PCB daily net load standard
 - Mass loading for 2011-2013 below EPA's allowable criteria

Performance Standards

- > Air Quality:
 - 97.5% of the 2,500 samples collected during dredging below EPA's standard
 - At processing facility, 21 samples above standard (4.07%)
 - In river, 41 samples above standard (2.07%)

- > Noise, odor, light and navigation standards
 - Two 1-hour noise exceedances of residential standard; no other QoL exceedances
 - Continuous outreach to shoreline residents and facility neighbors
 - Concerns evaluated by GE and EPA
 - 54 complaints received during 2013 season
 - Approximately half related to noise
 - Decrease from last year (65 complaints received)

Processing, Transportation Facility

- > 1,127 barges unloaded
- > 9,124 filter press drops
- > More than 662,000 tons shipped off-site
 - Shipping began May 18
 - Total of 66 trains
 - Last train released yesterday
 - No sediments remaining on-site through winter
- > More than 264 million gallons of water treated

Off-Season Activities

- > Equipment demobilization; secure for winter season
- > Clean processing site and winterize equipment (completed)
- > Disassemble and repair/rebuild processing equipment
- > Perform maintenance on river equipment
- > Submit design documents for 2014 season
- > Update Community Health and Safety Plan
- > Submit 2014 Remedial Action Work Plan

Look-Ahead to 2014 Season

- > Dredging to begin in May depending on weather and spring flood conditions
- > Resume dredging south of Schuylerville
- > Evaluation on-going for CU 60, immediately north of Thompson Island Dam
- > Evaluations on-going for land-locked section between Thompson Island and Fort Miller dams
 - Presence of dams requires innovative approach to dredging and backfilling
 - GE and EPA discussing proposed approaches
 - GE to select contractor by mid-January

Questions

