

# Historic Chesapeake Bay Studies: Benthic Surveys from the Lower Chesapeake Bay Mainstem, James, York and Potomac Rivers.

## Metadata:

- [Identification Information](#)
  - [Data Quality Information](#)
  - [Spatial Data Organization Information](#)
  - [Spatial Reference Information](#)
  - [Distribution Information](#)
  - [Metadata Reference Information](#)
- 

### *Identification\_Information:*

#### *Citation:*

#### *Citation\_Information:*

*Originator:* Robert J. Diaz, School of Marine Science, College of William and Mary

*Publication\_Date:* 15 JULY 2004

#### *Title:*

Historic Chesapeake Bay Studies: Benthic Surveys from the Lower Chesapeake Bay Mainstem, James, York and Potomac Rivers.

*Geospatial\_Data\_Presentation\_Form:* Database

#### *Other\_Citation\_Details:*

Original Principle Investigators: Byrne, R.J., Boesch, D.F., Diaz, R.J., Gammisch, R.A., Hobbs, C.H., Larsen, I.L., Olsen, C.R., Orth, R.J., Schaffner, L.C. Virnstein, R. at Virginia Institute of Marine Science; Ecological Analysts, Inc. ; Hinde, P. College of William and Mary

*Online\_Linkage:* [www.chesapeakebay.net](http://www.chesapeakebay.net)

### *Description:*

#### *Abstract:*

This project was intended to demonstrate the feasibility and usefulness of adding historical benthic data to the EPA Chesapeake Bay Program Monitoring Data Base. A set of seven studies were selected, and compiled for use with the existing Data Base. The addition of these historic data sets is hoped to aid the review of the major habitat and water quality goals of the Chesapeake Bay Program in respect to living resource issues. Benthic community data for Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries extend back to the late 1950's. Since then the Chesapeake has become the best studied estuarine system in North America for all aspects of estuarine ecology and modeling. The importance of benthos as an indicator and integrator of habitat quality has remained high through time, collimating in the development of the Benthic Restoration Goals document. The current long-term benthic community monitoring programs initiated in the mid 1980's and run by the states of Maryland and Virginia were instrumental in development of the Benthic Restoration Goals. However, there exist a large number of smaller effort benthic studies from around the Bay that could be very useful in establishing the direction of longer-term benthic trends. These

smaller data sets range from published accounts on the dynamics of benthic communities, to student thesis and dissertations, to applied studies. In all cases the actual data used for these studies are kept by the authors and are generally not accessible for further analysis.

The studies selected for this pilot effort were:

Location Date Reference

Piney Point, Potomac River 1975 Virnstein & Boesch, 1975

Possum Point, Potomac River 1977-78 EA, 1979

Tangier Island, Chesapeake Bay 1975 Orth & Boesch, 1975

Amoco Refinery, Lower York River 1977 Hinde, 1981

Thimble Shoals, Chesapeake Bay 1981 Hobbs et al., 1985

Warwick River, James River 1975-76 Diaz & Boesch, 1976

James River 1981 Schaffner et al., 1987

These data sets are representative of the types of small studies that have been conducted throughout the Chesapeake and its tributaries.

*Purpose:*

The current long-term benthic community monitoring programs initiated in the mid 1980's and run by the states of Maryland and Virginia were instrumental in development of the Chesapeake Bay Program Benthic Restoration Goals. However, there exists a large number of smaller effort benthic studies from around the Bay that would be very useful in establishing the direction of longer-term benthic trends.

These smaller data sets range from published accounts on the dynamics of benthic communities, to student thesis and dissertations, to applied studies. In all cases the actual data used for these studies are kept by the authors and are generally not accessible for further analysis. This project was intended to demonstrate the feasibility and usefulness of adding historical benthic data to the EPA Chesapeake Bay Program Monitoring Data Base. A set of seven studies were selected, and compiled for use with the existing database.

*Time\_Period\_of\_Content:*

*Time\_Period\_Information:*

*Range\_of\_Dates/Times:*

*Beginning\_Date:* 01/01/1973

*Ending\_Date:* 12/31/1981

*Currentness\_Reference:*

ground condition

*Status:*

*Progress:* Complete

*Maintenance\_and\_Update\_Frequency:* None planned

*Spatial\_Domain:*

*Bounding\_Coordinates:*

*West\_Bounding\_Coordinate:* -77.2936

*East\_Bounding\_Coordinate:* -75.9222

*North\_Bounding\_Coordinate:* 39.4794

*South\_Bounding\_Coordinate:* 37.9947

*Keywords:*

*Theme:*

*Theme\_Keyword\_Thesaurus:* None

*Theme\_Keyword:* Benthos

*Theme\_Keyword:* sediment

*Theme\_Keyword:* sediment characterization

*Theme\_Keyword:* benthic habitat

*Place:*

*Place\_Keyword\_Thesaurus:* None

*Place\_Keyword:* Chesapeake Bay

*Place\_Keyword:* James River

*Place\_Keyword:* York River

*Place\_Keyword:* Potomac River

*Place\_Keyword:* Virginia

*Stratum:*

*Stratum\_Keyword\_Thesaurus:* None

*Stratum\_Keyword:* sediment

*Stratum\_Keyword:* bottom

*Temporal:*

*Temporal\_Keyword\_Thesaurus:* None

*Temporal\_Keyword:* historic

*Access\_Constraints:* None

*Use\_Constraints:*

Data Set Credit Required

*Point\_of\_Contact:*

*Contact\_Information:*

*Contact\_Person\_Primary:*

*Contact\_Person:* Jacqueline Johnson

*Contact\_Organization:* Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin

*Contact\_Position:* Living Resources Data Manager/Analyst

*Contact\_Voice\_Telephone:* 410-267-5729

*Contact\_Voice\_Telephone:* 1-800-968-7229 ext 729

*Contact\_Facsimile\_Telephone:* 410-267-5777

*Contact\_Electronic\_Mail\_Address:* jjohnson@chesapeakebay.net

*Hours\_of\_Service:* 7:30 AM-2:30 PM Monday Through Friday Eastern Standard Time

*Data\_Set\_Credit:*

Data Originators

*Security\_Information:*

*Security\_Classification\_System:* None

*Security\_Classification:* Unclassified

*Security\_Handling\_Description:* None

*Native\_Data\_Set\_Environment:*

unknown

*Cross\_Reference:*

*Citation\_Information:*

*Originator:* Jacqueline Johnson

*Publication\_Date:* 12-31/2001

*Title:*

Chesapeake Bay Program Benthic Data Base

*Geospatial\_Data\_Presentation\_Form:* Database

*Publication\_Information:*

*Publication\_Place:* Annapolis MD 21403

*Publisher:* US EPA Chesapeake Bay Program Office

*Online\_Linkage:* [www.chesapeakebay.net](http://www.chesapeakebay.net)

*Cross\_Reference:*

*Citation\_Information:**Originator:* Jacqueline Johnson*Publication\_Date:* 01/01/2001*Title:*

2000 Users Guide to Chesapeake Bay Program Biological and Living Resources Data

*Geospatial\_Data\_Presentation\_Form:* document*Online\_Linkage:* [https://archive.chesapeakebay.net/pub/Living\\_Resources/guide2000.pdf](https://archive.chesapeakebay.net/pub/Living_Resources/guide2000.pdf)[Back to Top](#)

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*Data\_Quality\_Information:**Logical\_Consistency\_Report:*

Please see the following document for details:

HISTORIC CHESAPEAKE BAY DATA ASSORTED BENTHIC SURVEYS FROM THE LOWER BAY, JAMES, YORK AND POTOMAC RIVERS DATA DICTIONARY

[https://archive.chesapeakebay.net/pub/Living\\_Resources/benth/VAHIBEDOC.pdf](https://archive.chesapeakebay.net/pub/Living_Resources/benth/VAHIBEDOC.pdf) *Positional\_Accuracy:**Horizontal\_Positional\_Accuracy:**Horizontal\_Positional\_Accuracy\_Report:*

Positions determined by DEAD MEAN RECKONING, LORAN-C, NAD27. Station positions in data set are approximations of actual positions in the field. Some data sets determined position-using Loran-C. Loran-C is accurate to +/- 1500 ft. Position on other data sets were determined by plotting stations on maps and estimating Latitude and Longitude by mean reckoning. Station coordinates for all data were converted to NAD83 coordinates in 2000

*Vertical\_Positional\_Accuracy:**Vertical\_Positional\_Accuracy\_Report:*

Undetermined

*Lineage:**Process\_Step:**Process\_Description:*

Please see the following document for details:

HISTORIC CHESAPEAKE BAY DATA ASSORTED BENTHIC SURVEYS FROM THE LOWER BAY, JAMES, YORK AND POTOMAC RIVERS DATA DICTIONARY

[https://archive.chesapeakebay.net/pub/Living\\_Resources/benth/VAHIBEDOC.pdf](https://archive.chesapeakebay.net/pub/Living_Resources/benth/VAHIBEDOC.pdf) *Process\_Step:**Process\_Description:*

Metadata imported.

*Source\_Used\_Citation\_Abbreviation:*

C:\DOCUME~1\jjohnson\LOCALS~1\Temp\xml9B.tmp

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*Spatial\_Data\_Organization\_Information:*

*Indirect\_Spatial\_Reference\_Method:*

Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries

*Direct\_Spatial\_Reference\_Method:* Point*Point\_and\_Vector\_Object\_Information:**SDTS\_Terms\_Description:**SDTS\_Point\_and\_Vector\_Object\_Type:* Area point[Back to Top](#)

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*Spatial\_Reference\_Information:**Horizontal\_Coordinate\_System\_Definition:**Geographic:**Latitude\_Resolution:* 30*Longitude\_Resolution:* 30*Geographic\_Coordinate\_Units:* Decimal degrees*Geodetic\_Model:**Horizontal\_Datum\_Name:* North American Datum of 1983*Ellipsoid\_Name:* Geodetic Reference System 80*Semi-major\_Axis:* 6378206.4*Denominator\_of\_Flattening\_Ratio:* 294.98*Vertical\_Coordinate\_System\_Definition:**Altitude\_System\_Definition:**Altitude\_Datum\_Name:* North American Vertical Datum of 1988*Altitude\_Resolution:* 0.1 meters*Altitude\_Distance\_Units:* meters*Altitude\_Encoding\_Method:* Attribute values*Depth\_System\_Definition:**Depth\_Datum\_Name:* Local surface*Depth\_Resolution:* 0.1 meter*Depth\_Distance\_Units:* meters*Depth\_Encoding\_Method:* Attribute values[Back to Top](#)

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*Distribution\_Information:**Distributor:**Contact\_Information:**Contact\_Person\_Primary:**Contact\_Person:* Jacqueline Johnson*Contact\_Organization:* Interstate Commission on Potomac River Basin*Contact\_Position:* Chesapeake Bay Program Living Resources Data  
Manager/Analyst 1-800-968-7229*Contact\_Address:**Address\_Type:* mailing and physical address*Address:*

US EPA Chesapeake Bay Program Office

*Address:*

410 Severn Avenue, Suite 109

*City:* Annapolis

*State\_or\_Province:* Maryland

*Postal\_Code:* 21403

*Country:* USA

*Contact\_Voice\_Telephone:* 1-800-968-7229 ext 729

*Contact\_Voice\_Telephone:* 410-267-5729

*Contact\_Facsimile\_Telephone:* 410-267-5777

*Contact\_Electronic\_Mail\_Address:* jjohnson@chesapeakebay.net

*Hours\_of\_Service:* 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday Through Friday Eastern Standard Time

*Distribution\_Liability:*

I, the data requestor, agree to acknowledge the Chesapeake Bay Program and any other agencies and institutions as specified by the Chesapeake Bay Program Office as data providers. I agree to credit the data originators in any publications, reports or presentations generated from this data. I also accept that, although these data have been processed successfully on a computer system at the Chesapeake Bay Program, no warranty expressed or implied is made regarding the accuracy or utility of the data on any other system or for general or scientific purposes, nor shall the act of distribution constitute any such warranty. This disclaimer applies both to individual use of the data and aggregate use with other data. It is strongly recommended that careful attention be paid to the contents of the data documentation file associated with these data. The Chesapeake Bay Program shall not be held liable for improper or incorrect use of the data described and/or contained herein.

*Standard\_Order\_Process:*

*Digital\_Form:*

*Digital\_Transfer\_Information:*

*Format\_Name:* ASCII

*Digital\_Transfer\_Option:*

*Online\_Option:*

*Computer\_Contact\_Information:*

*Network\_Address:*

*Network\_Resource\_Name:* [www.chesapeakebay.net](http://www.chesapeakebay.net)

*Offline\_Option:*

*Offline\_Media:* CD-ROM

*Recording\_Capacity:*

*Recording\_Density:* 650

*Recording\_Density\_Units:* Megabytes

*Recording\_Format:* ISO 9660

*Compatibility\_Information:*

none

*Fees:* None

*Ordering\_Instructions:*

All requests for data on media must be made in writing to the Living Resources Data manager, all data available on line at [www.chesapeakebay.net](http://www.chesapeakebay.net)

*Turnaround:* 5 Working Day

*Custom\_Order\_Process:*

none

*Available\_Time\_Period:*

*Time\_Period\_Information:*

*Range\_of\_Dates/Times:*

*Beginning\_Date:* 01/01/1973

*Ending\_Time:* 12/31/1981

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*Metadata\_Reference\_Information:*

*Metadata\_Date:* 07/08/2008

*Metadata\_Contact:*

*Contact\_Information:*

*Contact\_Person\_Primary:*

*Contact\_Person:* Jacqueline Johnson

*Contact\_Organization:* Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin

*Contact\_Position:* Living Resources Data Manager/Analyst

*Contact\_Address:*

*Address\_Type:* mailing and physical address

*Address:*

US EPA Chesapeake Bay Program

*Address:*

410 Severn Avenue, Suite 109

*City:* Annapolis

*State\_or\_Province:* Maryland

*Postal\_Code:* 21403

*Country:* USA

*Contact\_Voice\_Telephone:* 1-800-968-7229, X729

*Contact\_Voice\_Telephone:* 1-410-267-5729

*Contact\_Facsimile\_Telephone:* 410-267-5777

*Contact\_Electronic\_Mail\_Address:* JJOHNSON@CHESAPEAKEBAY.NET

*Metadata\_Standard\_Name:* NBII Content Standard for National Biological Information Infrastructure Metadata

*Metadata\_Standard\_Version:* FGDC-STD-001-1998

*Metadata\_Time\_Convention:* local time

*Metadata\_Access\_Constraints:* None

*Metadata\_Use\_Constraints:*

None

*Metadata\_Security\_Information:*

*Metadata\_Security\_Classification\_System:* None

*Metadata\_Security\_Classification:* Unclassified

*Metadata\_Security\_Handling\_Description:*

None

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