The Impact of Eutrophication and the Level of Nutrients in the Hudson River

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Abstract

Our project this summer was to measure nutrient concentrations at the end of Piermont Pier. We measured concentrations of Phosphate, Nitrate, Nitrite and Ammonia at three depths (top, bottom and middle) at two locations--the Eastern end and the Northern side--at the end of the pier.

The Pier is at the Southern end of Tappan Bay, between the town of Piermont and the Piermont Marsh. It is situated a short distance (less than 500 meters) from a processed sewage outfall serving the portion of the surrounding highlands.

Initial results demonstrate no correlation between tidal cycle and nutrient levels. Concentrations varied with depth, but no simple vertical pattern could be discerned.