Gowanus Canal Study Area



Remedial Investigation (RI)

An assessment of the nature and extent of contamination and the associated health and environmental risks

Feasibility Study (FS)

Development and analysis of the range of cleanup alternatives for the site, according to the nine evaluation criteria; usually undertaken concurrently with the RI

Selection of Remedy

Selection of the remedial alternative for the site. This step includes:

Proposed Plan

Identifies a preferred remedial alternative for a Superfund site and explains why it is the preferred alternative, and allows for public comment

Record of Decision (ROD)

The official report documenting the background information on the site and describing the chosen remedy and why it was selected

Remedial Design (RD)

Preparation of technical plans and specifications for implementing the chosen remedial alternative

Remedial Action (RA)

Construction or other work necessary to implement the remedial alternative

Operation & Maintenance (O&M)

Activities conducted at a site after a response action occurs to ensure that the cleanup methods are working properly and to ensure site remedy continues to be effective

RI/FS Field Activities

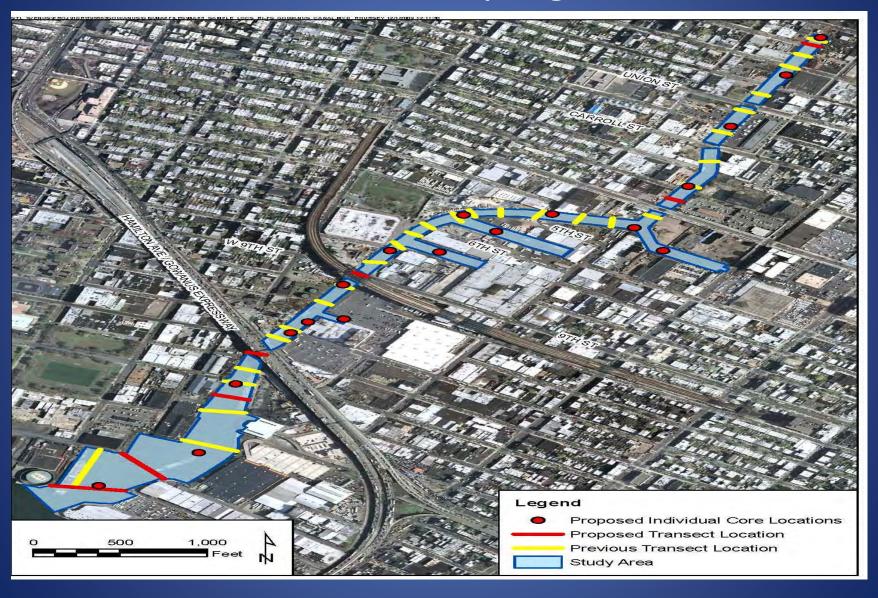
- Bathymetric survey
- Surface sediment sampling (top 6 inches)
- Surface water sampling
- Air sampling
- Fish and crab sampling
- Sediment core sampling
- Sampling at CSOs and other outfalls
- Groundwater sampling and water level measurements

Bathymetry (2003)

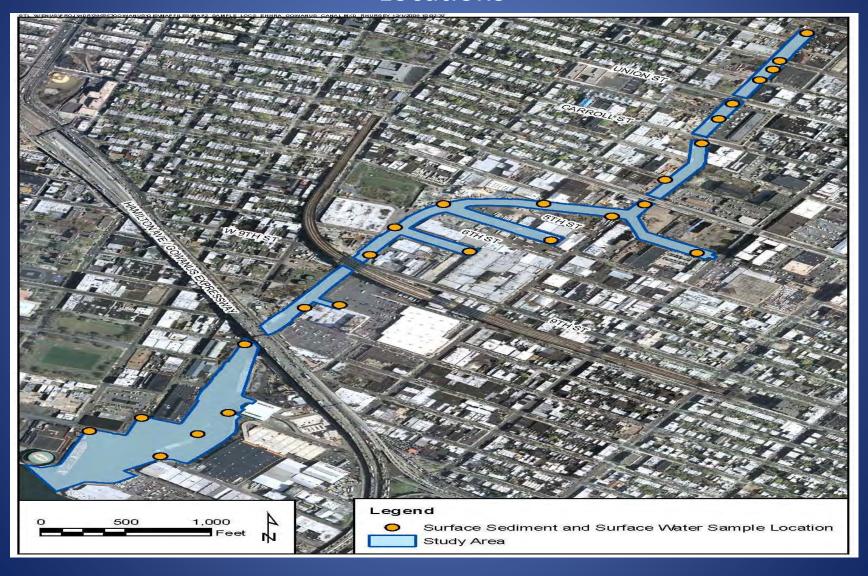


Bathymetric survey data provided by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Engineer Research and Development Center

Sediment Core Sampling Locations



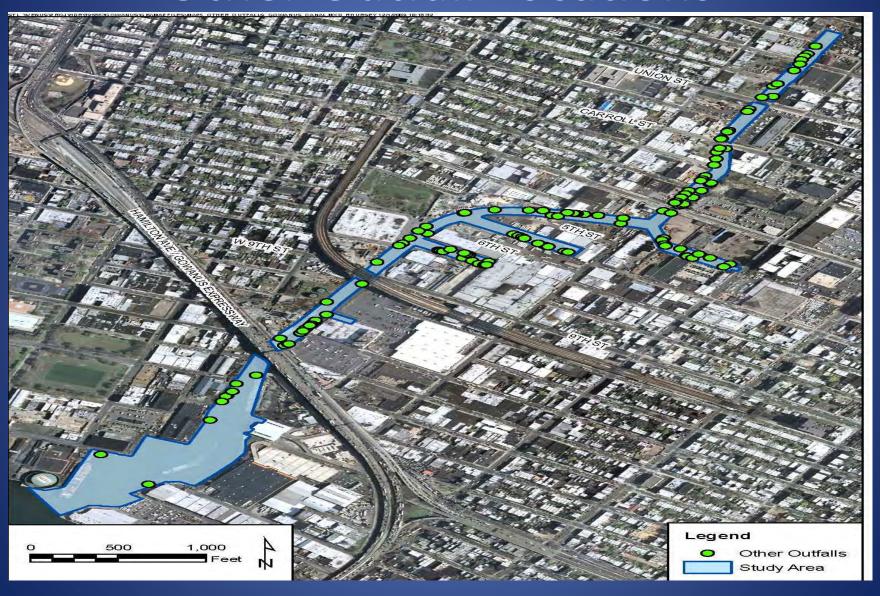
Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment Sampling Locations



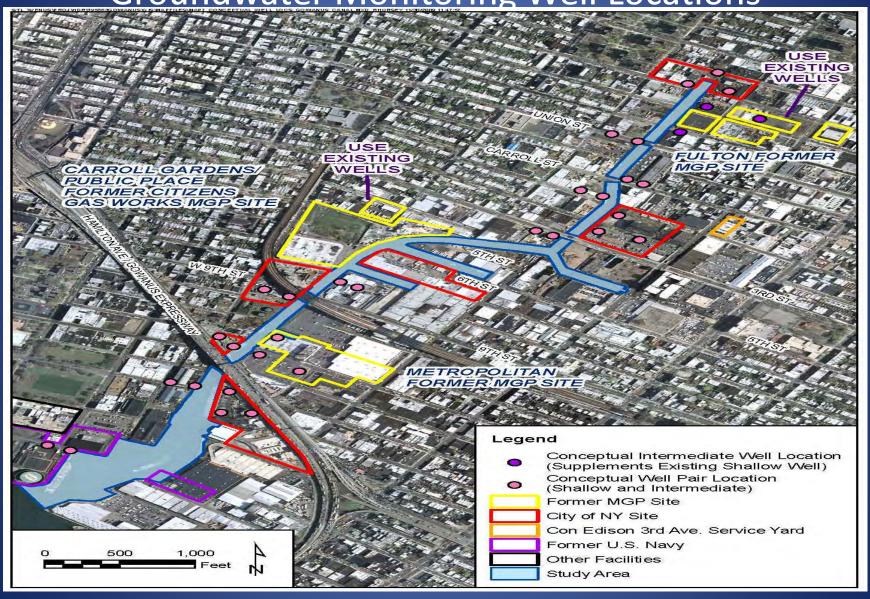
CSO and Storm Outfall Locations



Other Outfall Locations



Groundwater Monitoring Well Locations



Feasibility Study: Development and Screening of Alternatives

- Identify remedial action objectives (RAOs)
- Identify potential technologies that may satisfy these objectives
- Screen the technologies based on their effectiveness, implementability, and cost
- Assemble technologies into alternatives
- Evaluate based on 9 Criteria (in NCP -- National Contingency Plan)

Feasibility Study: Detailed Analysis of Alternatives

Nine evaluation criteria:

- 1. Overall protection of human health & the environment
- 2. Compliance with Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Standards (ARARs)
- 3. Long-term effectiveness and permanence
- 4. Reduction of toxicity, mobility, or volume
- 5. Short-term effectiveness
- 6. Implementability
- 7. Cost
- 8. State acceptance
- 9. Community acceptance