

Attachment 10

August 10, 2009

Standard Operation Procedures (SOP) for Cleaning of Research Vessel (R/V) Mudpuppy between Sediment surveys to Prevent Transport of Contaminants, Invasive Species, and Waterborne Pathogens

U.S. EPA's sediment sampling vessel, the *R/V Mudpuppy*, is utilized by U.S. EPA and our Great Lakes partners to sample water and sediments at a large variety of lakes, streams, and rivers within the Great Lakes basin. Surveys have been conducted in all of the Great Lakes, numerous rivers and direct tributaries to the Great Lakes, and various inland lakes within the Great Lakes watershed. In an effort to prevent the transport of contaminants, invasive plant and animal species, and/or waterborne pathogens between these various water bodies, the U.S. EPA Great Lakes National Program Office has adopted the following standard operating procedures for decontamination of the vessel and sampling equipment between sediment surveys.

1. Remove all visible vegetation from boat and trailer prior to leaving launch site.
2. Remove drain plug and allow bilge to drain prior to leaving launch site.
3. Empty wash-down tank by opening sprayers prior to leaving launch site.
4. Open generator and wash-down pump sea-cocks prior to leaving launch site.
5. Wash exterior of boat with water, non-alkaline soap and power sprayer prior to next deployment.
6. Wash deck of boat with water, non-alkaline soap, and stiff bristled brush or broom prior to next deployment.
7. Wash down all sampling equipment with water to remove all visible dirt and mud prior to next deployment.
8. Attach potable water hose to wash down-pump pickup and allow pump to cycle five times.
9. Attach potable water source to generator pickup and run generator for ten minutes.
10. Attach potable water source to outboards and run for ten minutes
11. Remove vegetation from anchor rode locker, if any.
12. Remove sea strainers and wash them out by spraying them with a hose attached to potable water supply.
13. Store vessel with bilge hatches open to allow them to dry, if time allows