

investigations in the outer harbor. As explained below, however, pilot testing of underwater capping is currently underway as part of the OU3 RI/FS.

#### 4.1 Operable Unit 1 Remedy Selection

The ROD for OU1 was signed on September 25, 1998. The remedial action objectives developed for the OU1 remedy are:

1. To reduce risks to human health by reducing PCB concentrations in seafood, by lowering PCB concentrations in sediment and in the water column;
2. To ensure that contact with shoreline sediments does not present excessive risks to human health as a result of dermal contact with or accidental ingestion of PCB-contaminated sediment in shoreline residential or public access areas; and
3. To improve the quality of the seriously degraded marine ecosystem by:
  - a.) reducing marine organisms' exposure to PCB contaminated sediment while minimizing consequent harm to the environment, and;
  - b.) reducing surface water PCB concentrations to comply with chronic ambient water quality criteria (AWQC) by reducing PCB sediment concentrations.

The cleanup plan selected in the 1998 OU1 ROD consists of the following components:

1. construction of four shoreline CDFs and water treatment facilities;
2. dredging of sediments and shoreline soils with PCB concentrations above the selected cleanup goals, as listed below:
  - upper harbor subtidal and unvegetated intertidal zone: 10 ppm PCBs
  - lower harbor subtidal and unvegetated intertidal zone: 50 ppm PCBs
  - intertidal areas with abutting residential land use: 1 ppm PCBs
  - intertidal areas with public access or abutting recreational land use: 25 ppm PCBs
  - saltmarsh areas with little to no public access: 50 ppm PCBs
3. operation of the CDFs and water treatment facilities;
4. saltmarsh excavation, restoration and monitoring;
5. preliminary capping and sediment consolidation within the filled CDFs;
6. final capping, long-term monitoring and maintenance, and beneficial reuse of the CDFs;
7. long-term site wide monitoring, and;
8. seafood advisories and other institutional controls.

# Five-Year Review Report



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First Five-Year Review Report  
for the

**New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site**

Bristol County, Massachusetts

September 2005

Prepared by the  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
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