

**Day in the Life of the Hudson River 10/4/12 Data  
RIVER MILE 115**

**Cohotate Preserve, Athens, Greene Co.**

**Liz LoGuidice, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Greene County**

**Tony Loughran, Cossackie Athens High School, AP Bio - 20 students, 11-12<sup>th</sup>**

**Donna Trunzo & Sue Boyle, Cairo Durham HS/MS – 20 students, 9<sup>th</sup>**

**(adults – 3 teachers, 3 chaperones, 4 instructors)**



**Location:** Cohotate preserve – Ice house site –

**Area:** The ice house is a flat, grassy area on the river with several cotton wood trees. It is situated at the bottom of a forested hill. Large waterfront vegetation. The artificial shoreline of the bulkhead dominates the eastern shore. Shoreline is characterized by tidal mudflats. Area is used recreationally for picnicking, hiking and fishing. Ice house is approximately ½ miles walk from the parking area.

**Surrounding Land Use:** Forested 70%, Beach 5%; Urban/residential 15%; Industrial Commercial 5%; wetland 5%

**Sampling Site:** Beach area, Shoreline includes tidal mud flats in the southeast, with a rocky shore further south. To the north of the tidal mud flat there is an old bulkhead, with another tidal flat to the north of the bulkhead, rip rap in sections.

The banks have been altered at the bulkhead (entire ice house area is likely dredge spoil), wood and debris are collected in the southern mudflat, there is lots of vegetation and no pipes entering the water. Brick pieces on shoreline

**Water Depth:** We fish at the southern mud flat, which has a muddy bottom and a variable depth, depending on tide.

**River Bottom:** Muddy, rocky, weedy

**Plants in area:** 25% of water covered in plants – Arrow Arum, Arrowhead, Bur-reed, Pickerelweed, Spatterdock, Yellow Flag, Jewelweed,

<i>ITEM</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Reading 1</i>	<i>Reading 2</i>	<i>Comments</i>
<i>Physical</i>				
Air Temperature	AM	20 °C	68°F	

	AM	°C	66°F	
Wind Speed	none			
Cloud Cover	Foggy, cloudy			
Weather today	Fog, drizzle, precip.			
Weather recently	lovely			
<b>Water Temperature</b>	9:10 AM	66.5°F 66.3 66.5		Average 66.4°F
<b>Water</b>	calm			
<b>Turbidity Long site tube</b>	10:00 AM	110 123 123		119 cm
<b>Chlorophyll</b>				
<b>Chemical</b>				
DO (drop count kit)	AM	7 ppm	°C	
pH – color match kit	AM	7		
Salinity - Test strips	AM	44-45 ppm Chloride		79 Total Salinity
<b>Fish Catch 40 ft. X 30 ft.</b>	<b>Total #</b>	<b>Species –</b>	<b>Macros</b>	<b>Totals</b>
2 pulls	5	Striped Bass	Scuds	hundreds
<b>FISH</b>	5	Pumpkinseed	Damselfly nymph	
<b>Diversity 9</b>	2	White Perch	Leeches	
<b>Total Catch 136</b>	18	Blue Gill	snails	
	19	Banded Killi	Zebra Mussels	
	52	Herring		
	12	Spottail Shiner		
	3	Mummichog		
	8	Tesselated Darter		
	12	Blue Crab		
<b>Currents</b>	<b>Cm/60 sec</b>	<b>Cm/sec</b>	<b>Kts</b>	<b>flow</b>
<b>9-noon sampling</b>	96 cm	1.6/sec	0.0313	South/ebb
	130 cm	2.17	0.04	South/ebb
	400 cm	6.67	0.14	South/ebb
	160 cm	2.67		South/ebb

	95 cm	1.53	0.031	South/ebb
<i>Shipping</i>	9:40 AM	Motorboat		South
	10:17AM	Motorboat		North
	11:57AM	Motorboat		South
<p><b>October 4, Cohotate Preserve – The fog was so thick that we could not differentiate between the water and the sky when the students arrived at 8:45 am. Our spirits were not dampened by the drizzly rain that fell upon us as we gazed out into the gray abyss of the river. The fog gradually cleared as the morning progressed and the students were able to describe the physical characteristics of the shoreline that had been hidden from view. A brilliant, fall landscape was revealed by the end of the day.</b></p>				