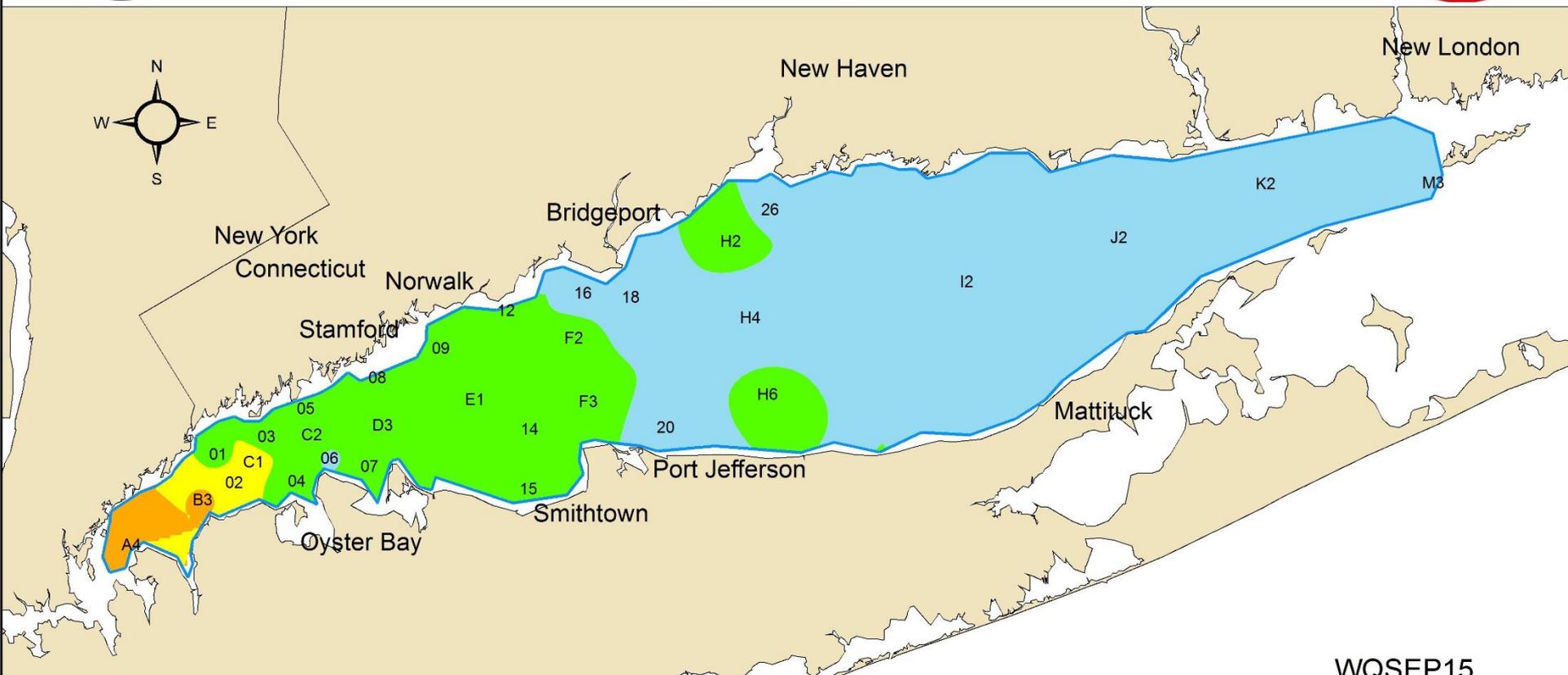




# Dissolved Oxygen in Long Island Sound Bottom Waters

31 August - 2 September 2015



WQSEP15

The **2015 September Water Quality Survey** was conducted August 31 - September 2<sup>nd</sup>. Thirty-one stations were sampled using the R/V John Dempsey. Bottom water dissolved oxygen concentrations were below 4.8 mg/L at 19 stations and below 3.0 mg/L at two stations. The lowest concentration (2.52 mg/L) was observed at Station A4. The area of bottom waters affected by hypoxia ( $DO < 3.0$  mg/L) was estimated at 56.3 km<sup>2</sup> (21.7 mi<sup>2</sup>). This is a slightly larger area than in 2014 when only 34.3 km<sup>2</sup> were affected but smaller than the hypoxic area in 2013 and 2012 when 100 and 132 km<sup>2</sup> were below 3.0 mg/L.

Dissolved Oxygen	Severity of impact
0.0 - 0.99	Severe
1.0 - 1.99	Moderately severe
2.0 - 2.99	Moderate
3.0 - 3.49	Marginal
3.5 - 4.79	Interim management goal
4.8+	Excellent - Supportive of marine life