



# Hudson River Estuary Public Fishing & Boating Access



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USE CD

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## How to Use the CD

### Interactive Maps and Pages:

Each page contains interactive buttons to help navigate through the CD. Just click on a button.

You can also click the labeled buttons on the "Title Page" (Home) to jump to a specific section.

The "Table of Contents" is interactive, click on where you want to go and the CD will take you there.

The "Main Map" is linked to the more detailed maps, Map A to Map R. On the "Main Map", click anywhere on the labeled box surrounding the area of interest and you will be taken to the detail map of that area. Once you arrive at a detailed map, click on the number of the fishing and boating access site for more information about the site.

**Printing:** All detail maps, text pages, and site information sheets are standard 8.5" X 11". Click on the printer icon to print selected pages.

**Exiting:** To exit the CD, go to the "Title Page" (Home) and click the "Exit" button.



The Hudson River Estuary stretches 153 miles from Troy to New York Harbor, nearly half the river's 315 mile course between Lake Tear of the Clouds, its source in the Adirondacks, and the Battery at the tip of Manhattan. "Estuaries" are bodies of water in which salty ocean water mixes with fresh water from the land.

The Hudson River Estuary feels the ocean's rising and falling tides and shifting tidal currents all the way to Troy. Salty seawater pushes up the estuary, diluted by freshwater runoff as it moves north. Eventually the estuary becomes fresh, even though it is still tidal. In years with average amounts of rainfall, spring runoff holds the leading edge of dilute sea water—the *salt front*—downriver between the Tappan Zee and Yonkers. As runoff slackens in summer, the salt front pushes northward to Newburgh Bay (river mile 55) and further to Poughkeepsie (river mile 75) in droughts. Rarely does brackish water extend north of Poughkeepsie. From Poughkeepsie to Troy it is still fresh water.

Estuaries are among the most productive of earth's ecosystems. Native Americans discovered the Hudson's bounty thousands of years ago; evidence of their repasts remains in heaps of oyster shells on its shores. Henry Hudson and Dutch traders wrote of a river teeming with striped bass, herring and giant sturgeon. More than 200 species of fish are found in the Hudson and its tributaries. The estuary's productivity is ecologically and economically valuable to much of the Atlantic Coast; key commercial and recreational species like shad, striped bass, bluefish and blue crab depend on nursery habitat here. Bald eagles, herons, waterfowl and other birds feed from the river's bounty. Tidal marshes, mudflats and other significant habitats in and along the estuary support a great diversity of life, including endangered species like the shortnose sturgeon.

After over 30 years of environmental initiatives to reverse generations of pollution and neglect, the Hudson River Estuary, with its rich history and abundant natural resources, is again attracting sportsmen and women, naturalists and artists to its shores. Whether it's to fish, hunt, bird watch, or just to get out on the water, kayakers, canoeists, sail and power boaters are increasingly looking to launch their craft from the banks of the Hudson. The locations of all the public places to access the river along the length of the estuary are contained on this disk.

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The Hudson River Estuary



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Today the Hudson River is one of the healthiest estuaries on the Atlantic Coast. Its rich history and striking environmental recovery have made it one of the nation's fourteen American Heritage Rivers. NYS DEC's Hudson River Estuary Program partners with citizen groups, local municipalities, and government agencies to restore and protect the estuary's natural resources.

For more information about the Hudson River Estuary, contact:

*Hudson River Estuary Program*

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC)

21 S. Putt Corners Road

New Paltz, NY 12561

(845) 256-3016 phone

[www.dec.ny.gov/lands/4920.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/4920.html)

For more information about tidal ranges and predictions, contact the *National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services (CO-OPS)* at (301) 713-2813 ext. 123, or: [www.tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/tides07](http://www.tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/tides07)

The *U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)* in New York State operates real-time monitoring stations on the Hudson and its tributaries to track the salt front, tides, and water temperature. Check the following *USGS* website to view these data:

[http://ny.water.usgs.gov/projects/dialer\\_plots/saltfront.html](http://ny.water.usgs.gov/projects/dialer_plots/saltfront.html)