

# RAP REPORT

St. Louis River System Remedial Action Plan

 Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

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## Five barrel dump sites found in Lake Superior

Intensive scanning with underwater sonar has defined five drum disposal sites on Lake Superior's floor, the objects of a search that began 25 years ago when a Duluth-area commercial fisherman snagged a 55-gallon barrel instead of a net of herring.

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) commissioned a mid-September search for 1,437 drums of classified wastes from the Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant dumped in Lake Superior between 1959 and 1962 by the U.S. Army. The U.S. EPA provided the \$125,000 in funding for the project, and

Oceaneering Technologies, the technical expertise.

Three of the five sites have been confirmed by video: one offshore from the Talmadge River, one southeast of the Lester River, and a third south of Stony Point. Two additional sites, revealed by sonar but not confirmed by video, are offshore of Stony Point and the Knife River.

A video detailing all of the findings will be available in mid-December. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers plans to follow up on the MPCA's work with further assessment and sampling of the disposal sites in 1994.