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**WATERSHED
INVENTORY REPORT
PHASE 1 OF THE WATERSHED
IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

BOROUGH OF EDGEWATER
BERGEN COUNTY

May 2, 2025

Permit #NJG0150134



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III. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Borough of Edgewater’s Watershed Inventory Report has been prepared by Neglia Group.

Neglia Group would like to thank the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Edgewater for their continued work on making the Borough of Edgewater a safe and healthy community for all of its residents and businesses.

Neglia Group also wishes to acknowledge the following resources which were compiled by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) to help with the preparation of this report:

- New Jersey Watershed Evaluation Tool (NJ-WET)
- NJDEP Open Data
- MS4 WIP Guidance Webpage
- TMDL Lookup Tool
- New Jersey’s Integrated Water Quality Assessment Reports – 303 (d) List
- New Jersey Environmental Justice Mapping, Assessment, and Protection Tool (EJMAP)
- New Jersey Hydrologic Modeling Database (H&H Database)

IV. INTRODUCTION

The Borough of Edgewater (Borough) is located in Bergen County covering 1.03 square miles along the Hudson River bordered by Fort Lee at this and stretches to the State Border between New Jersey and New York. The Borough has a population of 14,336 (2020 United States Census) and is a majority urban use land with the highest land use being Residential (45.46%). The Residential land use consists of 90.5% as High Density or Multiple Dwelling and 9.5% as Single Unit, Medium Density. Table 1 below depicts the land use breakdown of the Borough (Land Cover 2020).

The Borough of Edgewater is located within the Hudson River (lower) subwatershed of the Watershed Management Area 5 (Hackensack, Hudson, and Pascack), as shown in Figure 1. A portion of the Borough is located in a Zone AE flood zone as shown in Figure 2.

This watershed improvement report provides a comprehensive understanding of the key defining features of water flow paths throughout and into the Borough of Edgewater. This report presents information of the existing conditions and infrastructure within the Borough of Edgewater and aims to serve as a tool for informed decision-making, for planning, and for implementing of sustainable watershed management strategies to improve the community, watershed, the Hudson River, and the associated ecosystems.

The figures and tables provided in this report were prepared by geographic information systems (GIS) to provide a full graphical understanding of the stormwater infrastructure owned and operated by the Borough of Edgewater. The Borough’s infrastructure was mapped by Neglia Group staff between 2023 – 2024 using survey-grade global positioning system (GPS) collection methods and professional GIS drafting methods.

Table 1: Land Use Acreage & Percentage Breakdown		
Type	Acreage	Percentage
Recreational Land	36.25	5.85%
Cemetery / Transportation Utilities	26.57	4.29%
Forest	70.86	11.43%
Commercial / Industrial	145.69	23.49%
Urban Land	13.40	2.16%
Wetlands	0.87	0.14%
Residential	281.90	45.46%
Water	3.55	0.57%
Barren Land	40.99	6.61%
Total	620.10	100.00%
Source: Anderson Classification Land Use / Land Cover 2020		

V. ACRONYMS & DEFINITIONS

ACRONYMS

- "BMP" – Best Management Practice
- "DO" – Dissolved Oxygen
- "EPA" – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- "GIS" – Geographic Information System
- "GPS" – Global Positioning System
- "HUC 14" – Hydrologic Unit Code 14
- "LIDAR" – Light Detection and Ranging
- "MS4" – Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System
- "MTD" – Manufactured Treatment Device
- "NJPDES" – New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
- "NJDEP" – New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
- "NJDOT" – New Jersey Department of Transportation
- "NJ-WET" – New Jersey Watershed Evaluation Tool
- "TDS" – Total Dissolved Solids
- "TMDL" – Total Maximum Daily Load
- "TSS" – Total Suspended Solids
- "WIP" – Watershed Improvement Plan

DEFINITIONS

- "HUC 14" or "hydrologic unit code 14" means an area within which water drains to a particular receiving surface water body, also known as a subwatershed, which is identified by a 14-digit hydrologic unit boundary designation, delineated within New Jersey by the United States Geological Survey. (N.J.A.C. 7:9B)
- "Municipal separate storm sewer" (or MS4 conveyance) means a conveyance or system of conveyances (including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, manmade channels, or storm drains) as defined in more detail at N.J.A.C. 7:14A-1.2.
- "Outfall" means any point source which discharges directly to waters of the United States and does not include open conveyances connecting two municipal separate storm sewers, or pipes, tunnels or other conveyances which connect segments of the same stream or other waters of the United States and are used to convey waters of the United States.

- "Overburdened community" means a block group with at least 35 percent low-income households; or at least 40 percent of the residents identify as minority or as members of a State recognized tribal community; or at least 40 percent of the households have limited English proficiency.
- "Storm drain inlet" means the point of entry into the storm sewer system.
- "Stormwater" means water resulting from precipitation (including rain and snow) that runs off the land's surface, is transmitted to the subsurface, is captured by separate storm sewers or other sewerage or drainage facilities or is conveyed by snow removal equipment.
- "Stormwater facility" means stormwater infrastructure including, but not limited to, catch basins, infiltration basins, detention basins, green infrastructure (GI), filter strips, riparian buffers, infiltration trenches, sand filters, constructed wetlands, wet basins, bioretention systems, low flow bypasses, Manufactured Treatment Devices (MTDs), and stormwater conveyances.
- "Stormwater interconnections" means the location in which water flows from one MS4 system into another MS4 system that is owned by another entity.
- "Stormwater management basin" means a stormwater management basin as defined in N.J.A.C. 7:8.
- "Stormwater management measure" means a stormwater management measure as defined in N.J.A.C. 7:8.
- "Stormwater runoff" means water flow on the surface of the ground or in storm sewers, resulting from precipitation.
- "Total maximum daily load" or "TMDL" means a total maximum daily load formally established pursuant to Section 7 of the Water Quality Planning Act (N.J.S.A. 58:11A-7) and Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. §§12512 et seq. A TMDL is the sum of individual wasteload allocations for point sources, load allocations for nonpoint sources of pollution, other sources such as tributaries or adjacent segments, and allocations to a reserve or margin of safety for an individual pollutant.
- "Waters of the State" means the ocean and its estuaries, all springs, streams and bodies of surface or ground water, whether natural or artificial, within the boundaries of the State of New Jersey or subject to its jurisdiction" (see N.J.A.C. 7:9B-1.4).
- "Water quality impairments" means that the water body is contaminated by pollutants which prevents the water body from meeting its designated use.

VI. STORMWATER OUTFALLS

The Borough of Edgewater contains thirty (30) outfalls within the Borough limits, as shown in Figure 3. The Borough owns and operates ten (10) of these outfalls. All storm water within the Borough is discharged into the Hudson River.

All outfalls owned and operated by the Borough of Edgewater are required to be inspected once every five years per the NJDEP MS4 permit. The Borough continuously maintains and inspects these outfalls in accordance with the NJDEP requirements.

RECEIVING SURFACE WATERS

Twenty-five (25) of the thirty (30) outfalls, or ninety percent (90%), located within the Borough of Edgewater discharge directly into the Hudson River. Two (2) of the outfalls, seven (7%), each discharge into a Hudson River tributary located within the Borough and the remaining one (1) outfall, three percent (3%), discharge into an unnamed open channel. All outfalls owned by the Borough discharge directly into the Hudson River, as shown in Figure 4.

WATER QUALITY CLASSIFICATIONS

The Borough of Edgewater contains two classified waterways, which are both tributaries to the Hudson River. The water courses are classified as non-trout freshwaters (FW2-NT). The tributaries are classified as saline estuarine waters within the second sub classification. The water course's ability to support recreation, shellfish harvesting, and warm water fish species justify this classification, as shown on Figure 5.

VII. STORMWATER INTERCONNECTIONS

The Borough of Edgewater contains MS4 systems owned by Bergen County, New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT). Additionally, Edgewater's stormwater infrastructure is interconnected to the surrounding municipalities of the Borough of Fort Lee, and the Borough of Cliffside Park. The interconnection point locations were found using the municipality boundary and right-of-way for county and state roadways utilizing information from the NJ Office of GIS, NJDEP.

The Borough or Edgewater's MS4 infrastructure interconnects into the NJDOT MS4 System at one (1) location along New Jersey Route 5. The Borough of Edgewater's MS4 infrastructure interconnects into the Bergen County MS4 system at forty-two (42) separate points throughout the Borough. The Borough of Edgewater's MS4 infrastructure system interconnections into the varying systems detailed above are illustrated on Figure 6.

The Borough of Fort Lee's MS4 infrastructure discharges into Edgewater's MS4 infrastructure at two (2) separate points. The Borough of Cliffside Park's MS4 infrastructure discharges into the Borough of Edgewater's MS4 infrastructure at twelve (12) separate points. Bergen County flows interconnects the Edgewater's MS4 infrastructure at thirteen (13) points along River Road (County Road 505). The interconnections of stormwater infrastructure into the Borough of Edgewater's MS4 infrastructure is illustrated on Figure 7.

VIII. DRAINAGE AREA(S) FOR STORMWATER OUTFALLS AND STORMWATER INTERCONNECTIONS

This report delineates the drainage areas that are conveying stormwater runoff to outfalls and upstream connections to the Borough's MS4 infrastructure. The drainage area delineations can identify the quantity of stormwater runoff conveyed into the Borough's system and aid in identifying capacity issues and illicit connections in the stormwater piping network.

STORM DRAIN INLETS AND MANHOLES

The Borough of Edgewater owns and operates five hundred and seventy-five (575) stormwater inlets and catch basins and two hundred eighty-two (282) manholes that discharge stormwater runoff into waterways throughout the Borough. Edgewater uses ArcGIS to manage and visualize the MS4 infrastructure. Figure 8 illustrate the stormwater structures owned and operated by the Borough of Edgewater and all stormwater interconnections that convey stormwater runoff into the Borough's MS4 system.

The stormwater inlets and catch basins owned and operated by the Borough of Edgewater are required to be inspected once every five years per the NJDEP MS4 permit. The Borough maintains a list of inlets that require cleaning and repair. The Borough cleans and implements repairs on stormwater infrastructure on a regular basis, in accordance with the MS4 permit.

OUTFALL AND UPSTREAM CONNECTIONS DRAINAGE AREA METHODOLOGY

The Neglia Group utilized AUTOCAD Civil 3D software and LIDAR aerial information to model/delineate the drainage areas for the outfalls, upstream interconnection points, manholes, stormwater inlets, and catch basins. The stormwater collection infrastructure, in conjunction with the existing stormwater pipe network linework, and one-foot contour information, from LIDAR, were used to cumulatively delineate both overland flow and pipe flow for each drainage area.

The delineation procedure outlined above is approximate due to survey limitations and insufficient data for manholes and inlets owned by other entities within the Borough. Future procedures can be refined to improve the drainage area delineation process by incorporating county and state data, upon mapping completion of their respective infrastructure.

The Watershed Delineation Map is provided on Figure 9.

IX. WATER QUALITY IMPAIRMENTS AND TMDLS

As per the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, a TMDL is the calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant allowed to enter a waterbody so that the waterbody will meet and continue to meet water quality standards for that particular pollutant. A TMDL determines a pollutant reduction target and allocates load reductions necessary to the source(s) of the pollutant.

Pollutant sources are characterized as either point sources that receive a wasteload allocation (WLA), or nonpoint sources that receive a load allocation (LA). For purposes of assigning WLAs, point sources include all sources subject to regulation under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program, e.g. wastewater treatment facilities, some stormwater discharges and concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs). For purposes of assigning LAs, nonpoint sources include all remaining sources of the pollutant as well as natural background sources. TMDLs must also account for seasonal variations in water quality, and include a margin of safety (MOS) to account for uncertainty in predicting how well pollutant reductions will result in meeting water quality standards. Each pollutant causing a waterbody to be impaired or threatened is referred to as a waterbody/pollutant combination, and typically a TMDL is developed for each waterbody/pollutant combination.

The objective of a TMDL is to determine the loading capacity of the waterbody and to allocate that load among different pollutant sources so that the appropriate control actions can be taken and water quality standards achieved. The TMDL process is important for improving water quality because it serves as a link in the chain between water quality standards and implementation of control actions designed to attain those standards.

All contributing sources of the pollutants (point and nonpoint sources) are identified, and they are allocated a portion of the allowable load that usually contemplates a reduction in their pollution discharge in order to help solve the problem. Natural background sources, seasonal variations and a margin of safety are all taken into account in the allocations.

The approach normally used to develop a TMDL for a particular waterbody or watershed consists of five activities:

- Selection of the pollutant(s) to consider.
- Estimation of the waterbody's assimilative capacity (i.e., loading capacity).
- Estimation of the pollutant loading from all sources to the waterbody.
- Analysis of current pollutant load and determination of needed reductions to meet assimilative capacity.

- Allocation (with a margin of safety) of the allowable pollutant load among the different pollutant sources in a manner such that water quality standards are achieved.

Based on an inquiry to the NJDEP's TMDL Look-Up Tool, provided by the Bureau of Nonpoint Pollution, there are no TMDLs in the Borough of Edgewater, as shown in Figure 10.

The Hudson River (lower) subwatershed of the Watershed Management Area 5 (Hackensack, Hudson, and Pascack) has three (3) water quality impairments, as shown in Figure 11. The impairments are benzo(a) pyrene (PAHs), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in fish tissue, and total phosphorus (TP).

X. NON-MUNICIPALLY OWNED OR OPERATED STORMWATER FACILITIES

The non-municipally owned or operated stormwater facilities were identified utilizing the New Jersey Hydrologic Modeling Database (H&H Database). The Borough has three (3) detention basins that were included in the H & H Database, as shown in Table 2 below. Additionally, the Borough has four (4) privately owned outfalls along with commercial and residential properties with on-site conveyance systems.

Table 2: Edgewater Privately Owned Detention Basins		
Project Name	Project Address	Project Block & Lot
Crown View Terrace	Legend Drive	B: 88 L: 5, 6, 7
Residential Retail Building	340 – 342 Old River Road	B: 86 & 88 L: 22, 23, 24, 25, & 10
St. Moritz	Gorge Road	B: 88 L: 23 & 29
Source: Jersey Hydrologic Modeling Database (H&H Database)		

Additionally, Bergen County has MS4 systems that convey stormwater runoff through the Borough of Edgewater on River Road (CR505) and Gorge Road (S25). The County systems includes thirteen (13) outfalls within the Borough. The Borough of Fort Lee owns two (2) of the outfalls. The ownership of these outfalls was determined by the NJDEP GIS database and a sewer easement to the Borough of Fort Lee on the Borough of Edgewater Tax Map. Finally, the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) has an MS4 system that traverses through the Borough along New Jersey State Route 5 with one (1) outfall.

XI. OVERBURDENED COMMUNITIES

As per the New Jersey Watershed Evaluation Tool (NJ-WET), the Borough of Edgewater contains over ninety-nine percent overburdened communities, as shown in Table 3 below and Figure 12. Municipalities with large numbers of overburdened communities often struggle with limited financial resources to maintain and expand the stormwater infrastructure in that area. Furthermore, these communities are susceptible to disproportionately high environmental and public health stressors, therefore, these areas are more susceptible to health disparities during national disasters such as flooding.

Edgewater works tirelessly to ensure that the disparities caused by the high percentage of overburdened communities are mitigated to the highest extent possible. The Borough regularly does activities to promote the wellness of the residents by hosting community wellness days and wellness programs for adults and seniors. Edgewater additionally has many clean-ups throughout the year which include a clean-up of the Hudson River done by the sixth grade students in the summer, a town wide clean-up, and another clean-up of the Hudson River done in the fall. The Borough further enforces the importance of stormwater through the department of public works (DPW) organizing school assemblies and a clean / green community event for the students.

Table 3: Overburdened Communities Percentage		
Type	Acreage	Percentage
Low Income and Minority	41.59	6.71%
Minority	578.12	93.23%
Non-Overburdened	0.39	0.06%
Total	620.10	100.00%
Source: NJDEP Open Data		

XII. IMPERVIOUS COVER

The impervious area occupies approximately seventy-one percent (71%) of the Borough's footprint. Figure 13 and Table 4 below shows the impervious coverage of the Borough of Edgewater.

Class	Acreage	Percentage
Building	120.36	19.41%
Other	231.98	37.41%
Road	86.29	13.92%
Total Impervious	438.64	70.74%
Non-Impervious	181.46	29.26%
Total	620.10	100.00%

Source: NJDEP Open Data

As early as 1976, scientific literature suggested a link between the impervious cover within a watershed and the stream ecosystem impairments. Schueler first proposed a model in 2004 using the impervious coverage to diagnose the severity of future streams issues within the urban watersheds. The impervious cover model designates urban streams into four (4) categories; sensitive, impacted, non-supporting, and urban drainage. Scheler expanded upon this model in a paper published in 2009 after nearly 250 research studies were undertaken.

A sensitive stream is when its watershed has an impervious cover of less than ten percent (10%) and is able to generally retain the hydrologic function and support good to excellent aquatic diversity. Impacted streams have an impervious coverage of ten percent (10%) to twenty-five (25%). These watercourse exhibit signs of stream health decline have fair aquatic diversity. Non-supporting streams have an impervious coverage between twenty-five percent (25%) and sixty percent (60%) and no longer support their hydraulic function, channel stability, habitat, water quality of biological diversity. Non-supporting streams often are so degraded that it is difficult for the stream to make a full recovery. Urban drainage streams have an impervious coverage of sixty percent (60%) or higher and have become so degraded that they generally only function as a conduit for flood waters. Urban drainage streams consistently have poor water quality, highly unstable channels and poor habitat and biodiversity scores. Many of these streams are beyond repair that they disappear altogether by becoming earthworks and / or being enclosed into storm drain enclosures.

The high percentage of impervious cover within the Borough of Edgewater would suggest that the waterways within its border are impaired as urban drainage streams.

XIII. CONCLUSION

The Watershed Inventory Report serves as a record for the stormwater infrastructure, water quality data, stream classifications, and additional relevant information for a complete understanding of the MS4 information within the Borough of Edgewater.

All the data compiled for this report has been compiled by GIS experts through the preparation of digital mapping techniques. The prepared maps can be utilized as a continued reference, as detailed this report. As phase one of the watershed improvement plan, this report will be used to create the Watershed Assessment Report which will identify areas of potential concern along with water quality improvement projects could potentially be implemented.

XIV. REFERENCES

DATA SOURCES

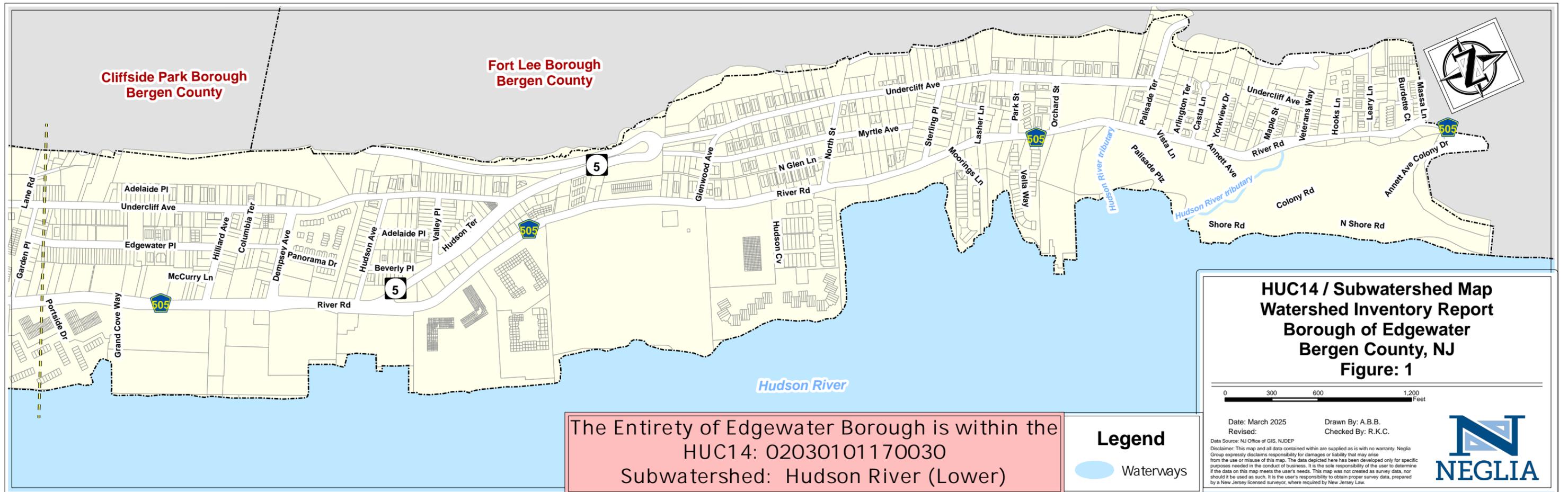
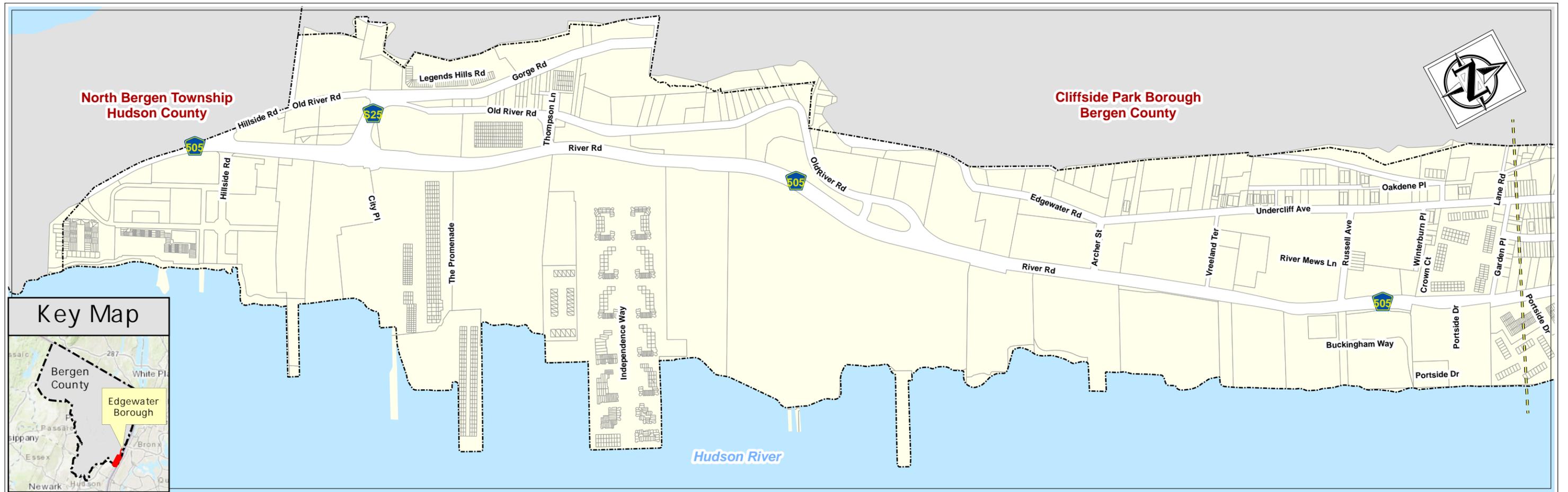
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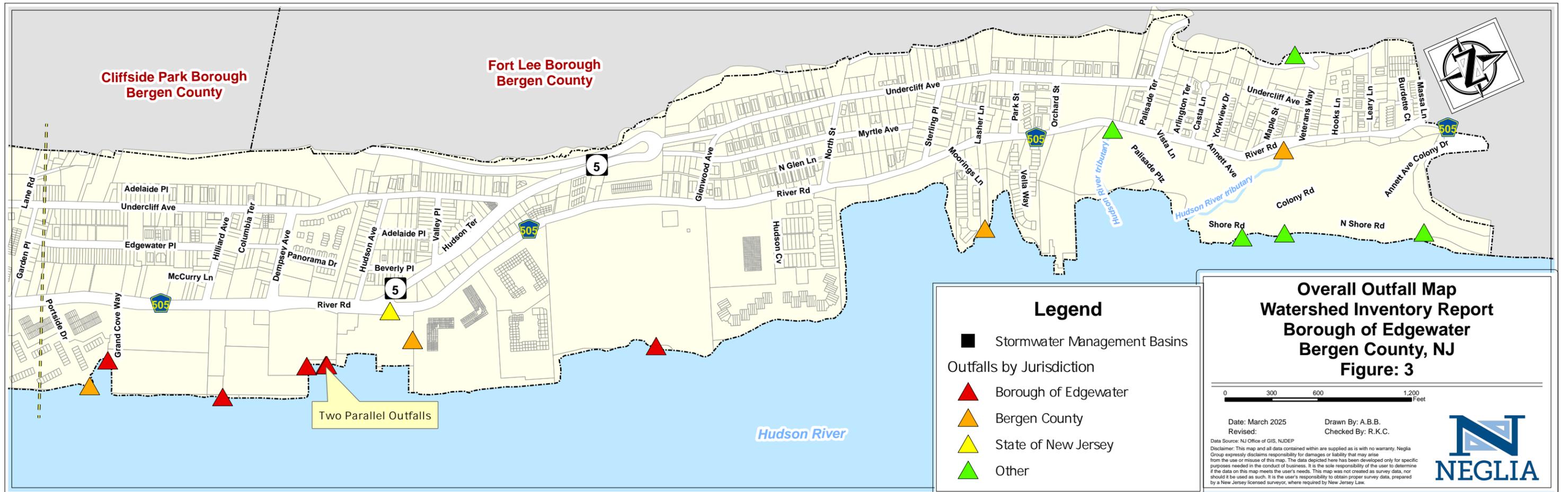
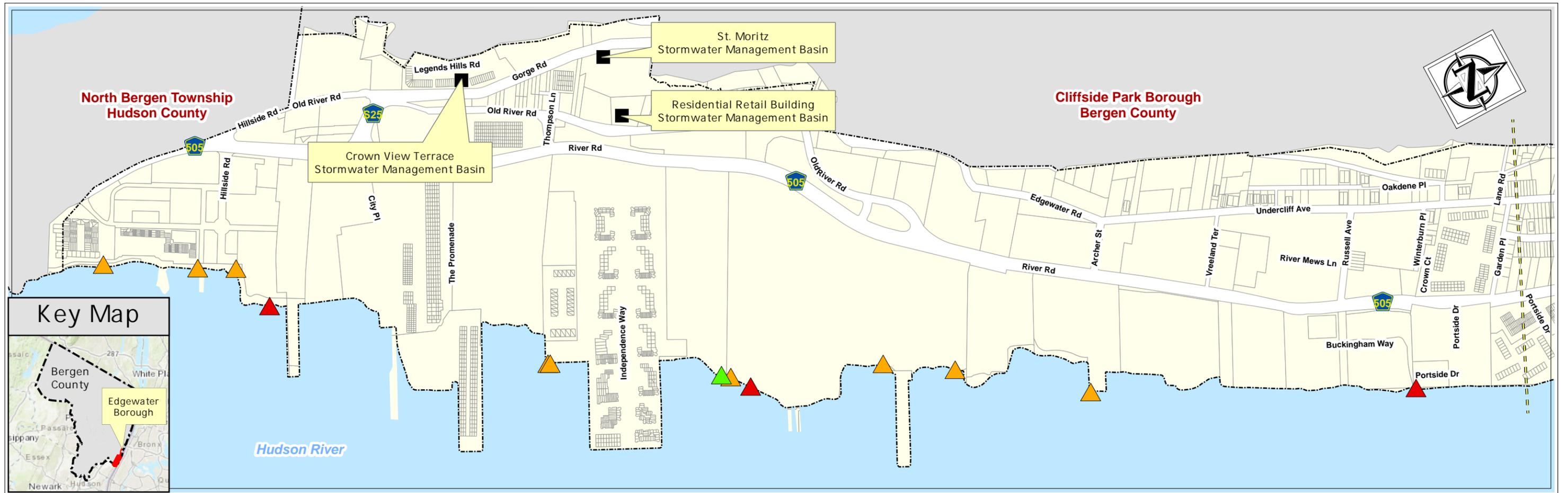
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APPENDIX A: FIGURES







Legend

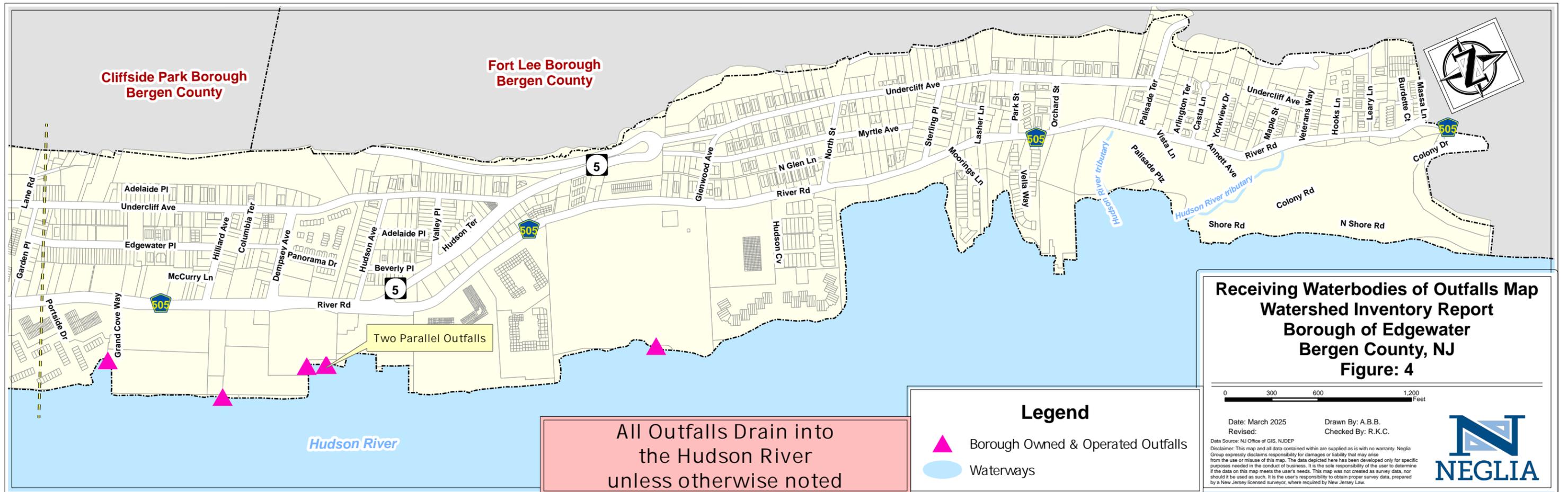
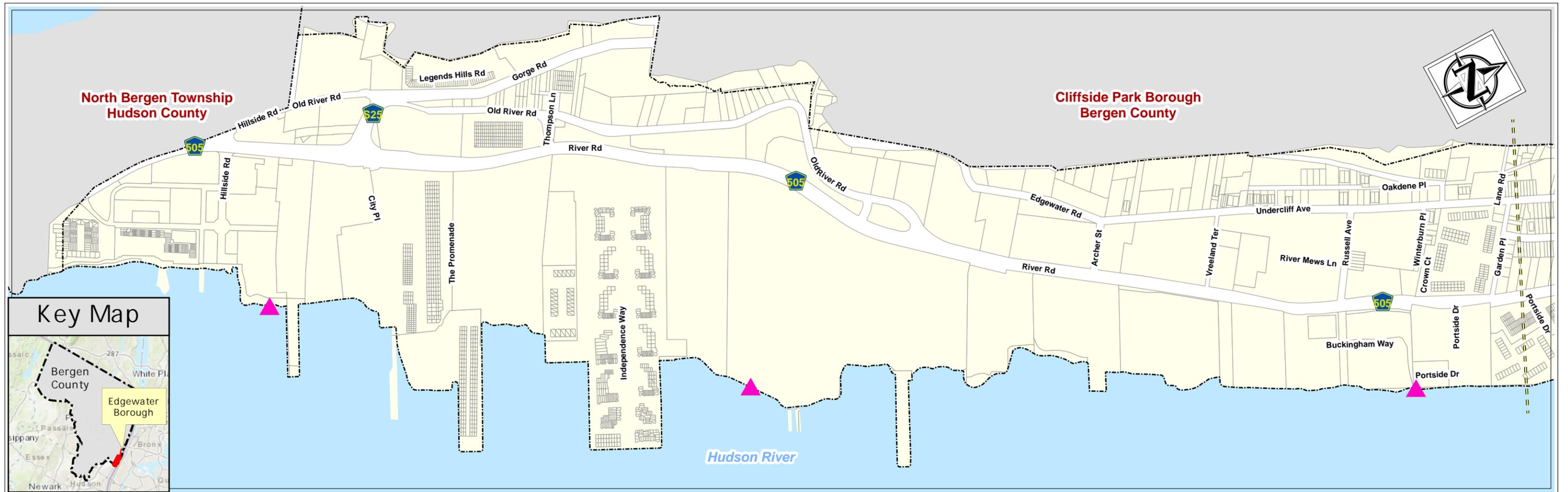
- Stormwater Management Basins
- Outfalls by Jurisdiction
- ▲ Borough of Edgewater
- ▲ Bergen County
- ▲ State of New Jersey
- ▲ Other

Overall Outfall Map Watershed Inventory Report Borough of Edgewater Bergen County, NJ Figure: 3

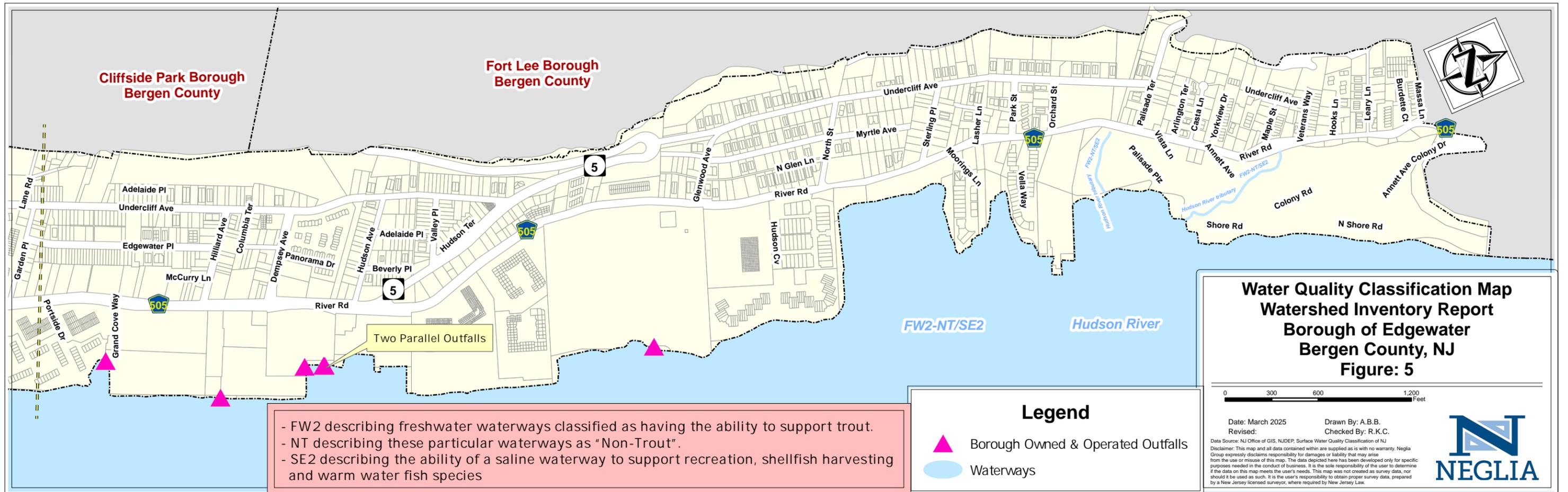
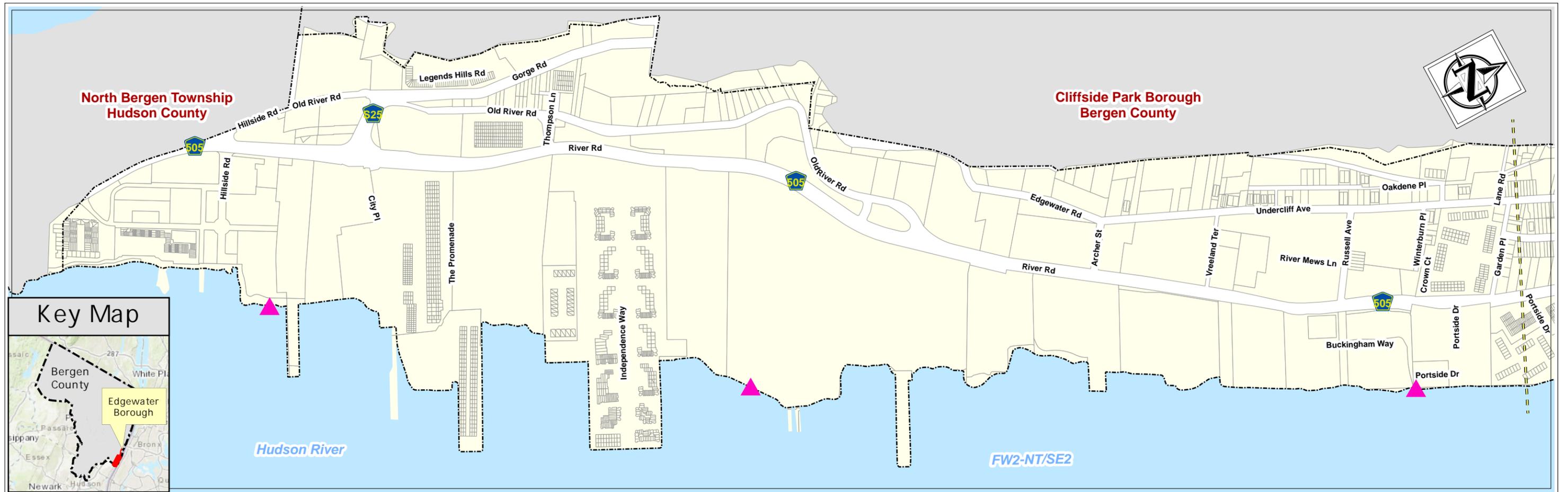
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Date: March 2025
Revised: _____
Drawn By: A.B.B.
Checked By: R.K.C.

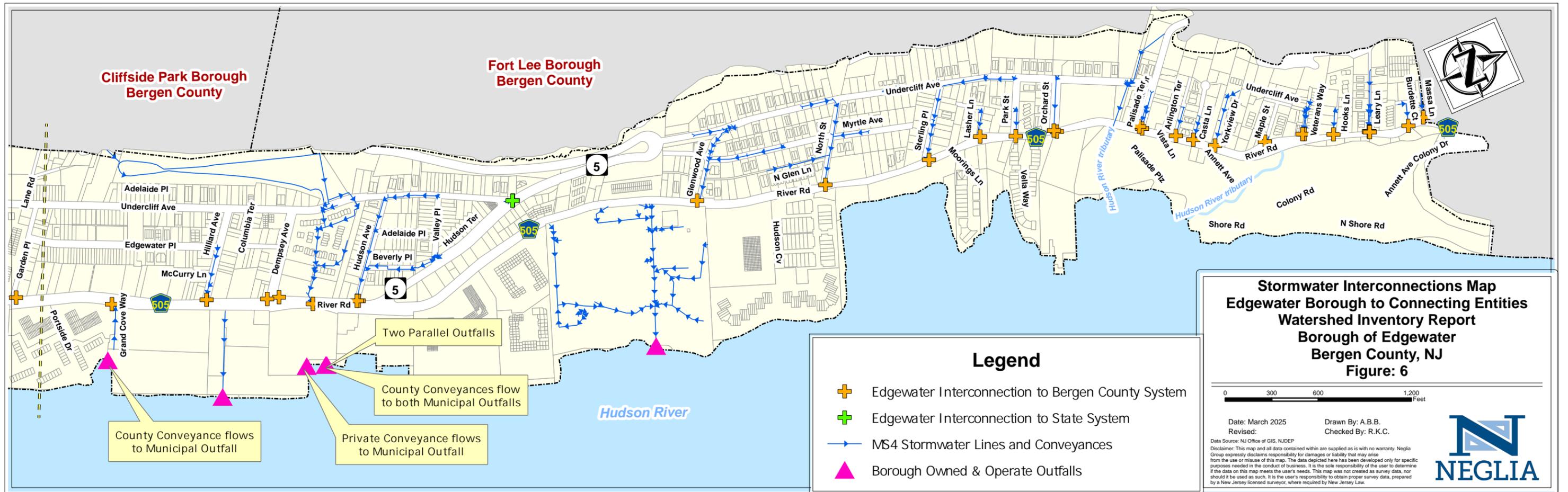
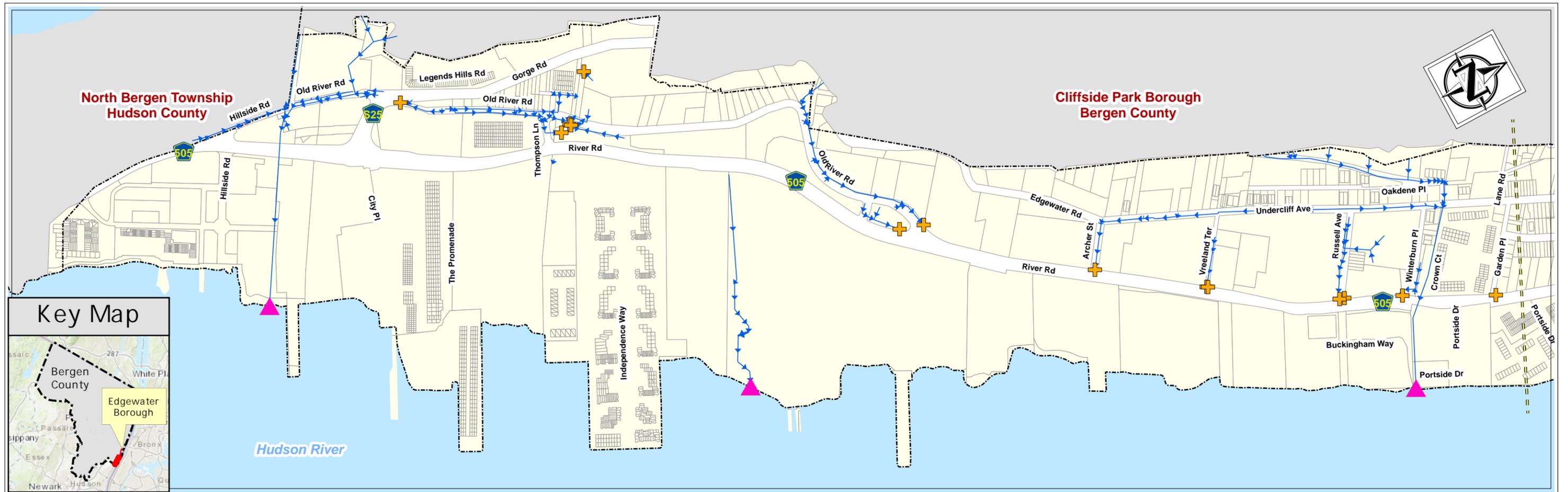
Data Source: NJ Office of GIS, NJDEP
Disclaimer: This map and all data contained within are supplied as is with no warranty. Neglia Group expressly disclaims responsibility for damages or liability that may arise from the use or misuse of this map. The data depicted here has been developed only for specific purposes needed in the conduct of business. It is the sole responsibility of the user to determine if the data on this map meets the user's needs. This map was not created as survey data, nor should it be used as such. It is the user's responsibility to obtain proper survey data, prepared by a New Jersey licensed surveyor, where required by New Jersey Law.

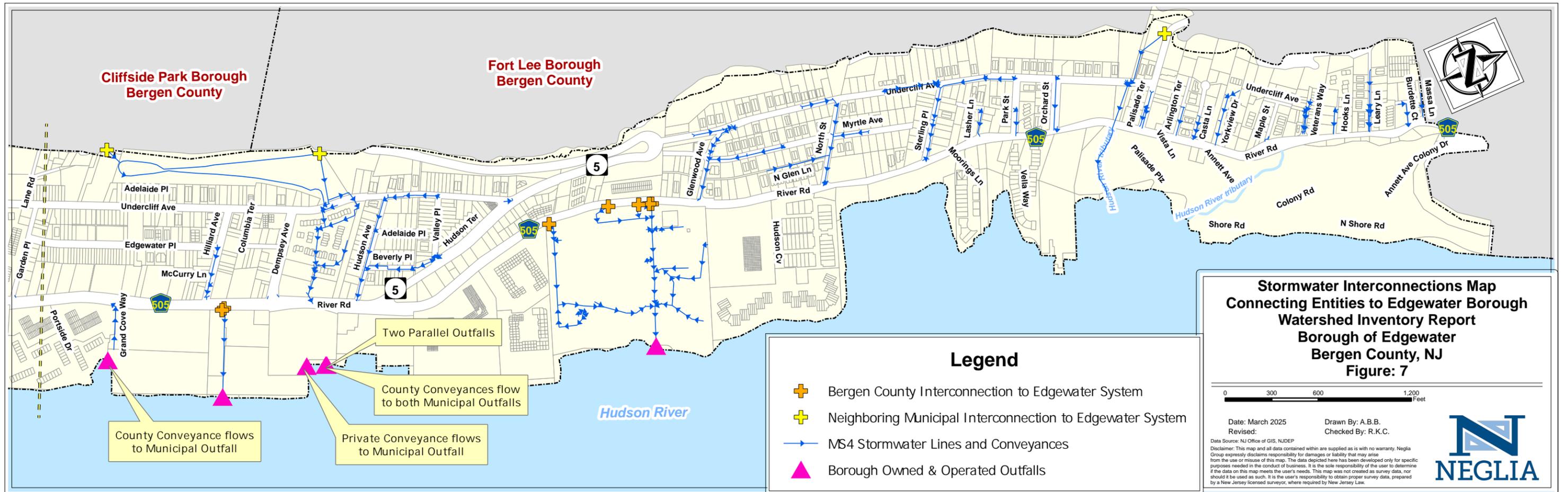


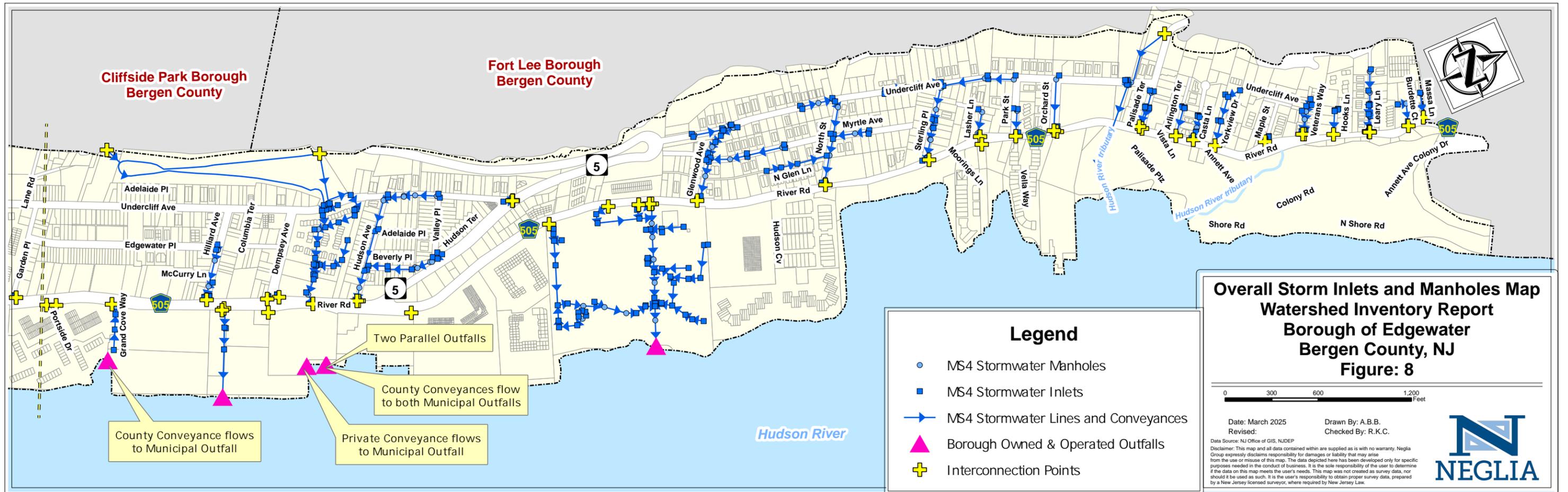
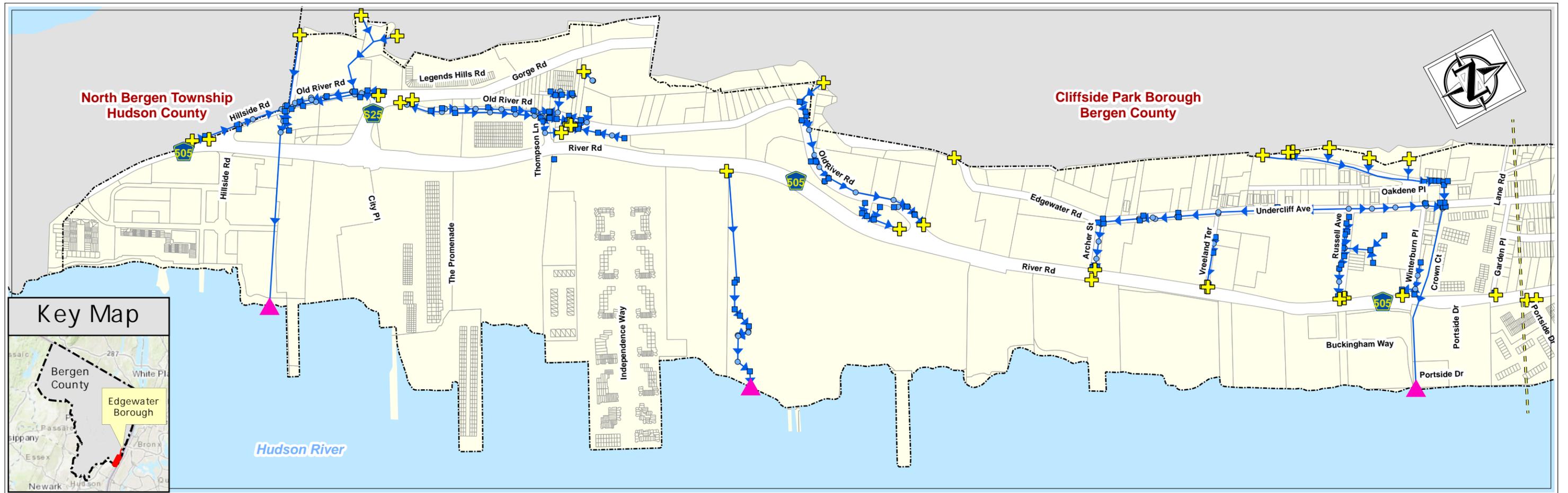
All Outfalls Drain into the Hudson River unless otherwise noted

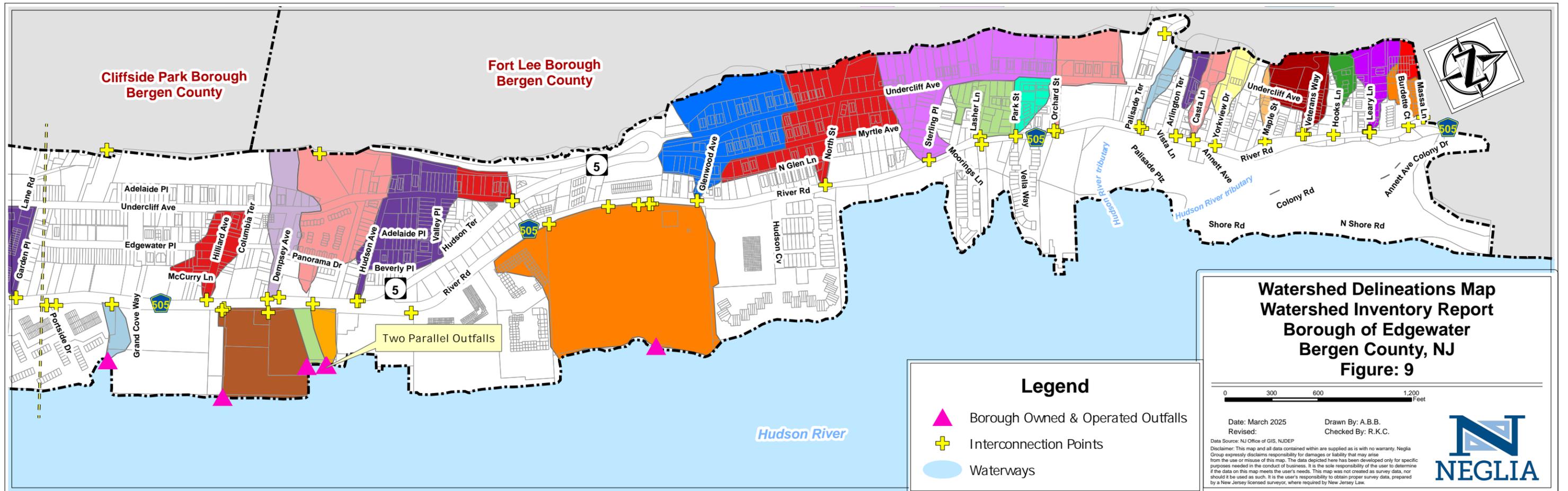
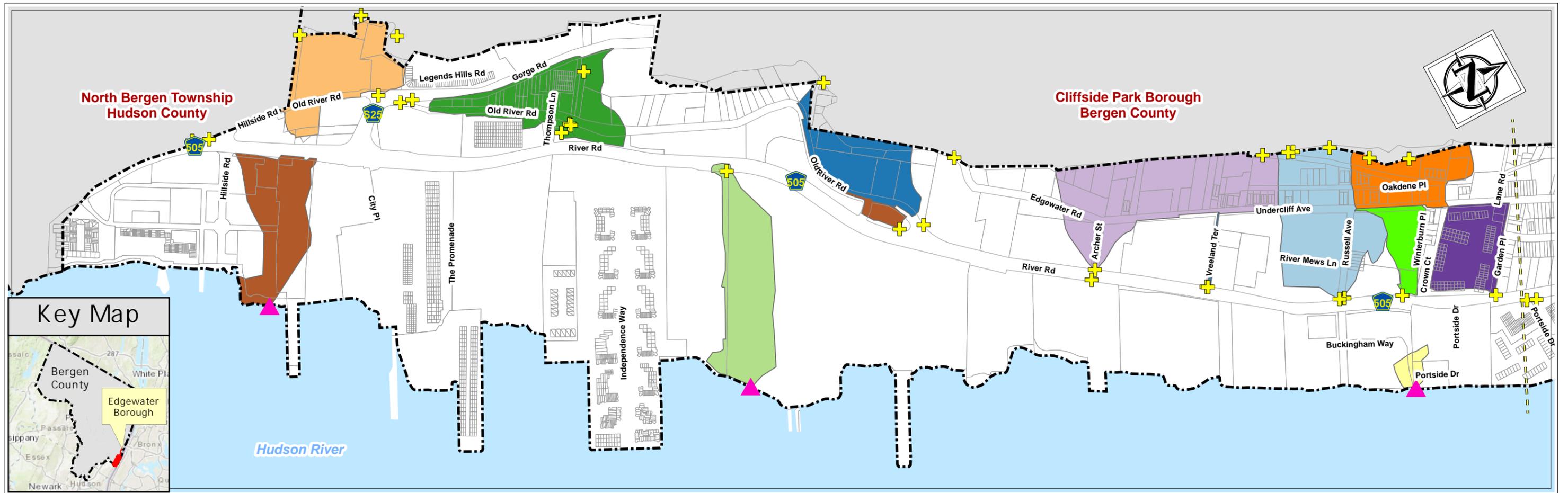


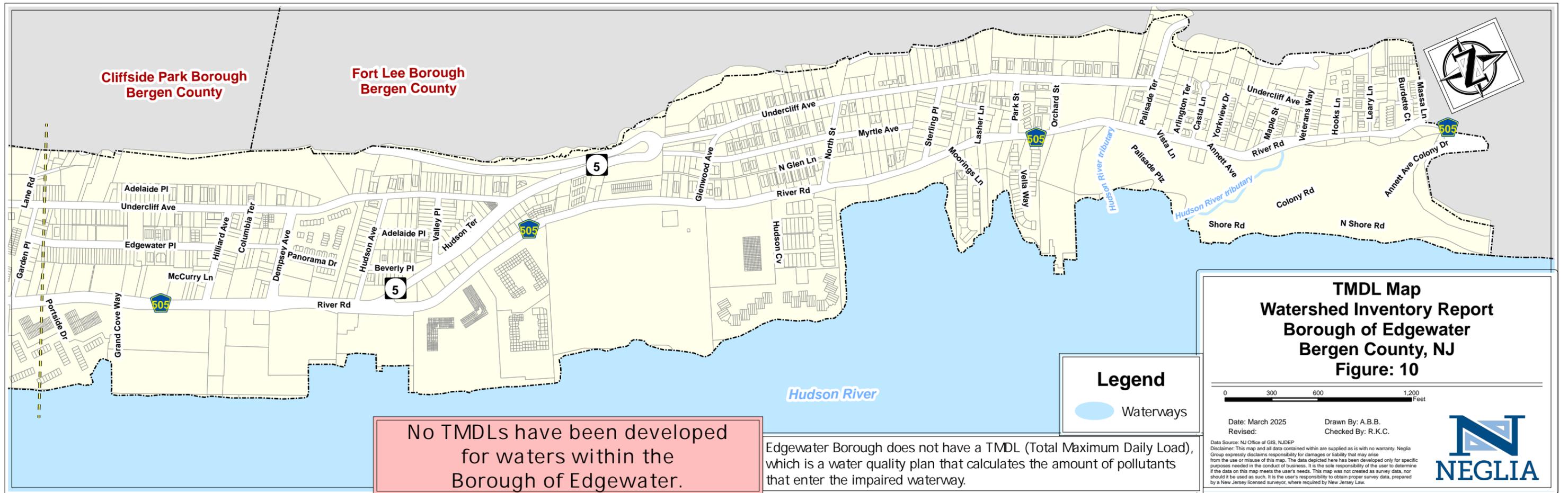
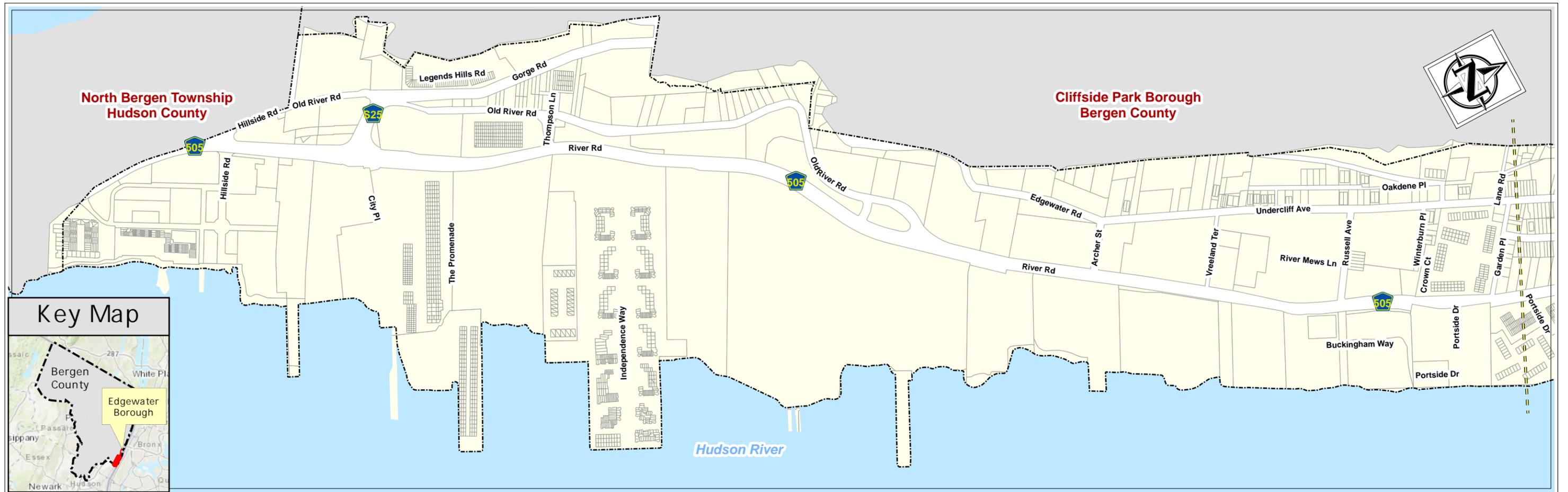
- FW2 describing freshwater waterways classified as having the ability to support trout.
 - NT describing these particular waterways as "Non-Trout".
 - SE2 describing the ability of a saline waterway to support recreation, shellfish harvesting and warm water fish species











No TMDLs have been developed for waters within the Borough of Edgewater.

Edgewater Borough does not have a TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load), which is a water quality plan that calculates the amount of pollutants that enter the impaired waterway.

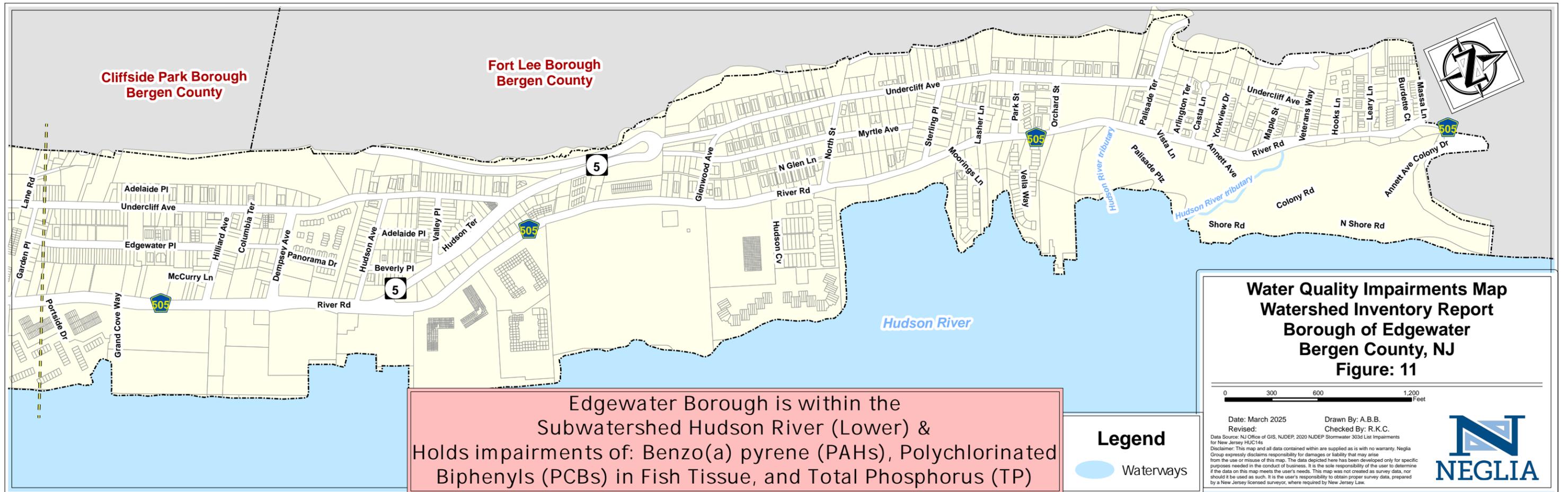
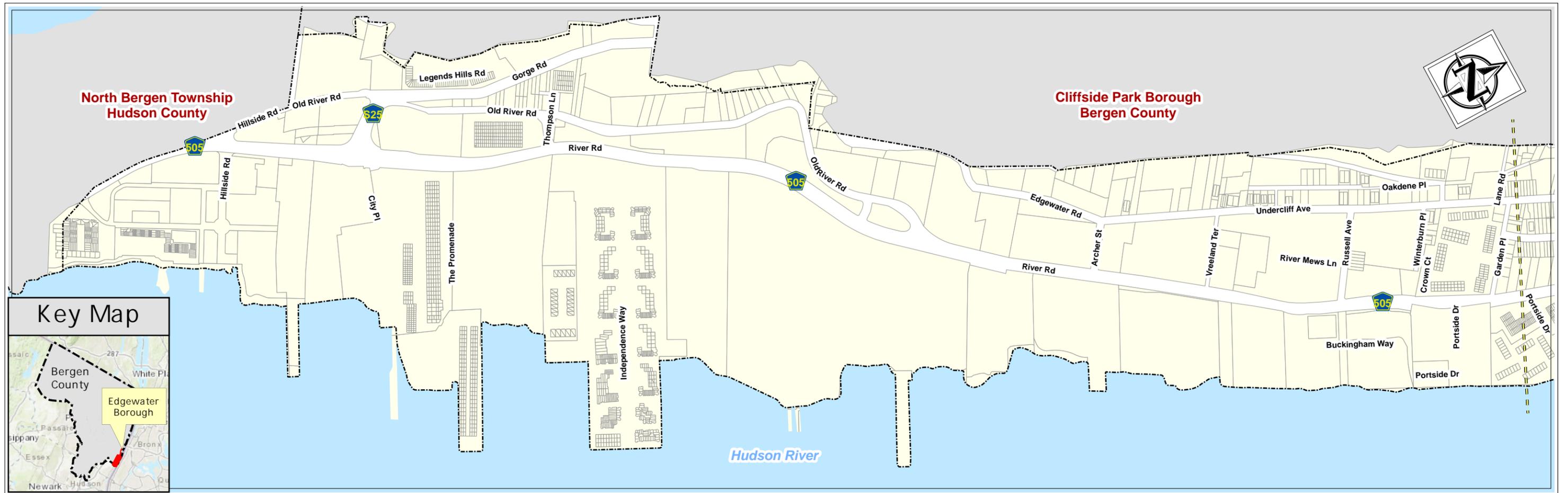
**TMDL Map
Watershed Inventory Report
Borough of Edgewater
Bergen County, NJ
Figure: 10**

0 300 600 1,200 Feet

Date: March 2025
Revised:
Drawn By: A.B.B.
Checked By: R.K.C.

NEGLIA

Data Source: NJ Office of GIS, NJDEP
Disclaimer: This map and all data contained within are supplied as is with no warranty. Neglia Group expressly disclaims responsibility for damages or liability that may arise from the use or misuse of this map. The data depicted here has been developed only for specific purposes needed in the conduct of business. It is the sole responsibility of the user to determine if the data on this map meets the user's needs. This map was not created as survey data, nor should it be used as such. It is the user's responsibility to obtain proper survey data, prepared by a New Jersey licensed surveyor, where required by New Jersey Law.



Edgewater Borough is within the Subwatershed Hudson River (Lower) & Holds impairments of: Benzo(a) pyrene (PAHs), Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) in Fish Tissue, and Total Phosphorus (TP)

