

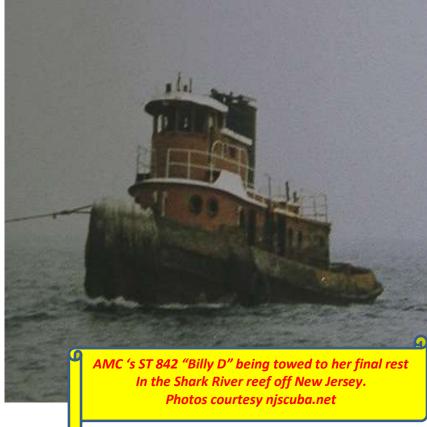
Tug Tales #2 AUGUST 2013 DeLand's ST 842 sleeps with the New Jersey fishes.

By Dan Friend dfriend001@cfl.rr.com US Army tugboat Billy D, built early in 1945 at the Beresford boat works as ST 842, had a 50 year career before being abandoned in the mid-1990's on the Shrewsbury River in New Jersey. There she sat; abandoned and

neglected until the winter of 1997. She then sank not once, but twice, leaving a great deal of diesel fuel and other pollutants. When she was raised the second time, it was determined that even after cleaning she would be too contaminated to sink in inshore waters so she was selected by the Artificial Reef

Association to become an artificial home for sea life.

Clearly, Billy D was not pleased with her fate as she sank once more on the way to the Shark River artificial reef! She was picked up for a third time and sent to her permanent home about 100 feet down on the reef with several other ships. The wreck has begun to become encrusted with sea life. Her upper superstructure shows evidence of ice damage from the cold winters and she has become fouled with fishing ropes and netting, but she still can be safely visited today.





known Deland boat to us at this time is the Billy D!

The

Billy D in happier working times.