

Agenda for December 8, 2021
Southern California Dredged Material Management Team (SC-DMMT) Meeting
US Army Corps of Engineers - Los Angeles District

Roll Call and Announcements: 10:00 – 10:10 AM

Attendees:

Kirk Brus, Corps CESPL Planning Division
Bruce Hamamoto- LA County Public Works
Andrew Jirik --Port of Los Angeles
Lia Protopapadakis F. (USACE-Regulatory) Project Manager
Tiffany Armenta, Biologist in Army Corps Planning Division
Jerry Hidalgo, USACE, Regulatory Division
Gabrielle Dodson, Los Angeles USACE Planning Division
Deanna L. Cummings USACE Regulatory Division
Ashley Olmeda, LA Waterboard, 401 Certifications Unit
Amanda Wagner, USACE Regulatory Division
Emily Duncan Los Angeles Water Board
Toni Nino, USACE, Regulatory Division
Lily Schaffer, geologist, Los Angeles USACE Engineering Division
Melissa Scianni, USEPA, Los Angeles
Barry Snyder, Amec
Carol Roberts - USFWS
Doland Cheung – Project Manager, USACE
Joe Ryan - USACE
John Goertz, USACE
Jorge Tomas, pacdredge
Kymberly Howo – Kym Lyons, Biologist, USACE Los Angeles
Maher Zaher, Santa Ana Water Board
Natalie Martinez-Takeshita – USACE Biologist
Robert Smith – USACE Regulatory Division
Shelly Anghera – Moffatt and Nichol
Ken Kronschnabl – Kinnetic Environmental
Larry Smith – USACE Planning
Luis Sepulveda – CESPL-EDG-G
Theresa Stevens – USACE Regulatory
Victor Andreas - USACE

Project #1: 10:10 – 10:40 AM

- 1) Project name: Dominguez Channel Odor Remediation Dredging Project
- 2) Applicant's name & affiliation: Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (Attn: Mark Lombos); POC is Bruce Hamamoto (LACDPW)
- 3) Project type (Regulatory/Navigation): Regulatory
- 4) Corps project manager who will attend: Lia Protopapadakis F.
- 5) Purpose/topic (draft SAP, revised SAP, SAPR): Advise on developing draft SAP
- 6) Request for suitability determination? (y/n): y
- 7) Documents provided (emailed, or FTP link): PPT

8) Time needed (15, 30, 45 min?): 30 min

Bruce Hamamoto: Provided overview of the project. Anaerobic digestion occurring in the channel, as there was no dissolved oxygen and hydrogen sulfide gas was being released. Nanobubblers helped. They've been below 10 ppb for over two weeks.

Lia: If there was a similar problem in the future, where might sampling in the future be recommended? Since we have the SC-DMMT here, is there any advice for developing a SAP in case we want to do it in the future?

Bruce: We did a bathymetry study in 2017. About 9 inches on average of sediment, some higher on the bends and curves. Just recently another bathymetry study was done. We discovered some rock piles, several feet high and peaking out of the water surface at low tide. We suspect construction materials from a long time ago. We did some grab samples of soils as well to analyze what is in it. Thoughts on a future sampling plan?

Carol Roberts: Is there still no definitive cause identified?

Bruce: My team was focused on the solution. There is another team investigating the causes.

Allan Ota (EPA): provided initial advice on type of sampling that could happen if they wanted to consider aquatic disposal. Downstream end in consolidated slip is under a cleanup order. Upstream end and Montrose, sampling would have to consider potential for DDT products, that could preclude it from aquatic disposal. Given how shallow sediment is, advise that dredging wouldn't be best way: rather, coffer dams and removing with equipment would be most efficient method.

Bruce: Possibly with suction type dredging, rather than equipment. Our plan would have been to take it to a toxic waste or hazardous waste landfill site in uplands.

Andrew Jirik: Do you think a large rainfall event will have any effect one way or another?

Bruce: very low oxygen levels, rainfall increased DO from 7-8 mg/ml but returned to 0 within 8 hours. Expect rainfall events to restore DO levels unless organics are coming in from the watershed.

Break: 10:40 – 11:00 AM

Oil Spill Discussion: 11:00 – 11:10 AM

An update on the recent oil spill off of Huntington Beach on ongoing maintenance activities. (POC: Larry Smith and Eric Sweeney, Corps).

Eric: Berms are covered with pre-certified NWP with general conditions. The pipeline repair is a separate thing, that is in planning right now. They are working with other agencies to get the design approved. That is mostly engineering work in coordination with them. They do not have a federal action but they are involved with reviewing the plans for

the repair. That work is occurring about 5 miles off shore of Orange County, outside of the territorial seas, measure 3 nautical miles which define section 404 of our CWA jurisdiction. Section 10 of the RHA jurisdiction extends farther. Some of this work would be regulated by the Corps under Section 10. Removing damaged pipeline, temporary 100 foot long pipe, will involve cranes along the surface. Corps will be lead federal agency. ESA, EFH and other coordination. Corps has informed them that this qualifies for RGP63, emergency repair activities. They are in the process right now and are in the process of preparing a submittal for that, ahead of completing the repair work. Corps has discussed with NFMS, there is not much expected, but we are making sure we have the proper documentation, we've requested that they provide information from our EFH Standard Operating Procedures. Any potential effects to federally listed species in the area. This may include whale species. Corps has emphasized that we are processing this on an emergency basis, so minimally readily available information is acceptable for us to process this expeditiously. We're expecting that application very soon. We will send out an agency notification.

Allan Ota: The pipeline repair, the pipe itself is still on the surface? Since the accident occurred with an anchor? Have they considered trying to put it a little lower so it's a lower profile relative to the sea surface.

Eric Sweeney: Bury the pipeline? I don't know the full design, we're waiting on those details but they will be sent with the agency notification. But I have been told they are repairing it in-kind. The land along the ocean bottom is leased from BSEE so they may be limited in what they can do.

Theresa Stevens: Some of the parameters, trying to address Allan's question, would have to comply with the existing lease. It seems like these particular pipelines are pretty shallow.

Eric Sweeney: I believe it's 100 feet deep in this location, 5 miles off the coast.

Theresa: I mean shallow sediment.

Eric: We issued a permit for it in 1978. We don't have immediate access to the original permit, it's in archives. It's not a buried pipeline. It just sits on the bottom. But the plan is for them to re-align it as part of the repair.

Larry Smith: We thought it had been encased in concrete. So more protective than lying exposed on the bottom.

Eric: Right, and it will be restored to that.

Carol Roberts: Is there any timeframe that they are working towards with a replacement?

Eric: As soon as possible. They have to work through the Pipeline hazardous material safety administration, from an engineering standpoint. So, I think that once they get that

then they will run through us, which will be on an emergency basis. They are working as fast as they can. No response back from the pipeline operator as of a few days ago. But as far as I know it's ASAP.

Project #2: 11:10 – 12:00 PM

- 1) Project name: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Marina Del Rey (MDR) Harbor Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP)
- 2) Applicant's name & affiliation: Kirk Brus (presenter), USACE CESPL Planning Division.
- 3) Project type (Regulatory/Navigation): Navigation
- 4) Corps project manager who will attend: Victor Andreas
- 5) Purpose/topic (draft SAP, revised SAP, SAPR): Draft SAP
- 6) Request for suitability determination? (y/n): n
- 7) Documents provided (emailed, or FTP link): See attached one pdf file approximate size 7 MB
- 8) Time needed (15, 30, 45 min?): 45 min

Note: The MDR Harbor SAP presentation is to the SC-DMMT and the Contaminated Sediment Task Force (CSTF) and Heal The Bay. The CSTF and Heal The Bay were invited to the December 8 2021 SCDMMT presentation via a Corps Regulatory, SPL SCDMMT email dated December 1, 2021.

Overview:

Kirk Brus (Corps Planning) Presenting

Marina Del Rey Harbor Background:

-Dredged approximately every five years.

-The Dockweiler State Beach placement site has been used before as a placement site and the Dockweiler Nearshore Placement area has been used most recently. The LA2 Ocean Dredged Material Disposal site would be used for ocean disposal of unsuitable sediments, if necessary.

-Sample Breakwater & Jetty Area (federal channels)- Subsurface sediment samples (grain size analysis), 21 separate sub surface sediment core samples for areas 1-6 using an electric vibracore.

-Sample North Jetty Shoal. Subsurface sediment core samples (grain size analysis), 3 separate sub surface sediment core samples using an electric vibracore.

-Toxicity testing proposed if necessary based on sediment chemistry results.

-Sampling proposing: State beach transects and nearshore placement area sampling.

Discussion & Questions:

Melissa Scianni, (USEPA)- It looks like two of the sampling areas are below -20ft.

Luis Sepulveda (Corps Engineering)- Area 1 is a sand trap, it will be dredged to -30 ft.

Melissa Scianni, (USEPA)-That's the only area that will be dredged to -30ft?

Luis Sepulveda (Corps Engineering)- Areas 1 and 6 will be dredged to -30 ft.

Kirk Brus (Corps Planning) Table 1 shows the dredge elevations.

Melissa Scianni, (USEPA)- How will the Army Corps decide if the results of the sediment core chemistry make the sediment not suitable for beach placement without doing biological testing? How would you make the determination to do the amphipod benthic toxicity test if chemistry warranted it?

Larry Smith (Corps Planning)- Propose to do a preliminary determination and then discuss at another SC-DMMT meeting to discuss.

Melissa Scianni, (USEPA)- I didn't see anything in the SAP about talking to SC-DMMT about Chemistry. I also didn't see the standard paragraph on interpretation of biological results data. We request a bioassay data analysis section be added in case OTM testing is needed

Kirk Brus (Corps Planning)-We can do that.

Allan Ota (USEPA)- Table 5. I think you need an additional column that shows archiving singular cores.

Larry Smith (Corps Planning)- Should we add a footnote? "Subsamples from all cores archived for chemical analysis" that kind of thing?

Allan Ota (USEPA)- Yea, the footnote would be fine, easier than re-doing the table.

Kirk Brus (Corps Planning)- Great, thank you.

Allan Ota (USEPA)- No other questions.

Emily Duncan (RWQCB)- Nothing to add.

Ashley Olmeda (RWQCB)- Look forward to future meetings.

Larry Smith (Corps Planning)- Kirk needs to reach out to CCC since they are not on the call.

Carol Roberts (USFWS)- There were trash issues in 2016. The SAP doesn't address trash in any way. Knowing that there are over 5,000 boats in Marina del Rey, there will be trash issues. Are there any measures in place to help us to do a better job this time around in that regard (trash)? I know it's not an official part of the update, dredge material disposal process. It caused bad press. I'd like some confidence, that trash won't be a problem this time around.

Larry Smith (Corps Planning)- In 2016 we weren't able to identify where the trash came from. The likely source would be trash coming from Ballona Creek rather than Marina Del Rey itself. The sampling program won't help with trash characterization, but we could require that contractor remove trash that comes from the beach, difficult at nearshore placement site, not sure what we can do about that. Areas at creek may be easier, only a portion of the dredge sites (1 & 2). Nothing we can really do besides monitoring beach placement.

Carol Roberts (USFWS)- Is there something you can do in regard to preconstruction surveys for trash? Grab samples, send in divers to check for trash? It seems problematic for nearshore and trash showing up on the beach.

Larry Smith (Corps Planning)- It would be better to survey nearshore to see if there is trash in the areas.

Carol Roberts (USFWS)- How about both areas?

Larry Smith (Corps Planning)-We'll take that into consideration. Video survey of surface of both areas is possible. We may be doing surveys for eelgrass (Kirk correct if wrong) in North Jetty, we could possibly survey for trash as well.

Tiffany Armenta (Corps Planning)- Hadn't thought about trash issue in terms of Sampling Analysis Plan, but I was thinking about the types of things we could do to prevent trash from ending up in the sediment. The type of dredged used (clam shell, hydraulic) dictates possibilities of equipment to pull trash out.

Kirk Brus (Corps Planning)- Larry was asking about pre-construction surveys. Figure out how to tie in nearshore placement area pre-construction survey for preliminary core

sampling for trash. If we're doing something for eelgrass for nearshore, possibly consider adding a preconstruction survey for trash in the nearshore and on the beach.

Larry Smith (Corps Planning)- If we were doing other surveys while the vessel is there, it would be easy for them to survey nearshore area with camera for trash levels there on surface. Or we could require the use of a screen if using clam shell dredging so material passes through first. Method used for ocean disposal. It may not catch all plastic, but it will let us know if it's a problem.

Carol Roberts (USFWS)- Definitely recommend this. I realize it is not traditionally part of Sampling and Analysis Plan but, I wanted to bring it up now. This area has a very active dive community. Divers brought this to our attention and the media's attention. In an unofficial capacity, they might be willing to assist in this capacity. Get divers to address issues and assess situation. Trash screening seems like a no brainer.

Larry Smith (Corps Planning)- Diving community could be good. However, the nearshore placement site isn't an area that gets a lot of attention from diving, since it is just an open coast.

Carol Roberts (USFWS)- Surveyors on the boat may be better for surveys.

Larry Smith (Corps Planning)- Trash coming from creek, down the coast. We can say where the trash is coming in from in surveys.

Carol Roberts (USFWS)- Surveying dredge footprint will at least let us know what is on surface before dredging starts, documentation.

Larry Smith (Corps Planning)- I think it's a good idea. It will just add a few days of surveying for trash in the area, I think it's a good idea. Add screen on clamshell. Add monitor on beach to look for/remove trash as it comes from pipeline if using hydraulic dredge.

Carol Roberts (USFWS)- When will Corps know if it's going on the beach? Noise level, critical habitat, we want to make sure appropriate conservation measures are in place. Snowy plover.

Larry Smith (Corps Planning)- Once grain size analysis is complete, they will know where they need to place sediment. Concerned some sediment may not be sandy enough. Identification of equipment won't take place until later in the process. Mechanical and clam shell dredging may occur. Will be discussed in NEPA guidance. We would work with FWS and CDFW to coordinate suitable monitor and avoidance measures for snowy plover.

Allan Ota (USEPA)- Adding a grate or screen for clamshell good idea. It's a regular condition for ocean disposal. Screens can be applied to hydraulic dredging. In early 2000's, Navy used hydraulic dredges with screens to feed beaches. Seems that screens can be used.

Larry Smith (Corps Planning)- We will be taking that into consideration. We wouldn't want to have a problem that requires removing the screen and having to get fixed. Coastal Engineers will take a look at it.

Kirk Brus (Corps Planning)- 2016 EA for Marina Del Rey discussed about debris and additional measures in place to minimize debris in dredge sediment. That dredge isn't a source of debris, it was also Redondo dredging. Measures were proposed to reduce debris if encountered. Preconstruction surveys in the nearshore or on the beach or a discussion in the EA are probably the documents we should possibly be discussing minimizing debris/trash, not really applicable to include in the SAP.

Larry Smith (Corps Planning)- Corps planning to consult for least terns since nest site is there.

Carol Roberts (USFWS)- More terns have been using nest site.

Tiffany Armenta (Corps Planning)- We are planning for least tern consult and pre-construction surveys for eelgrass and caulerpa.

Carol Roberts (USFWS)- Sounds good.

Melissa Scianni, (USEPA)- Add a sentence about coordinating with SC- DMMT and add sentence on data interpretation about bioassays. Fine with resubmitting SAP via email.

Kirk Brus (Corps Planning)- I'll reach out to Cassidy with CCC.

Larry Smith (Corps Planning)- Thank you. Deanna back to you.

Update – January 31, 2022

Following a revision to the SAP, the following agencies approved the Sampling and Analysis Plan: Marina del Rey Harbor 2021 Environmental and Geotechnical Investigation Project (December 20, 2021):

1. EPA (Melissa Scianni) email dated January 7, 2022;
2. Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Dr. Emily Duncan) email dated January 18, 2022;
3. California Coastal Commission (Cassidy Teufel) email dated email dated January 26, 2022.

The SAP is now considered approved.