Southern California Dredged Material Management Team (SC-DMMT)
April 27, 2011
Final Meeting Notes

I. Participating Agencies /Attendees:

a. Larry Simone† (CCC)
b. Mike Lyons† (RWQCB – Los Angeles)
c. Allan Ota† (EPA)
d. Leah Butler† (EPA)
e. Bryant Chesney (NMFS)
f. Dan Swenson (USACE- Regulatory)
g. Corice Farrar (USACE- Regulatory)
h. Jason Lambert (USACE- Regulatory)
i. Larry Smith (USACE-Planning)
j. Brian Lesley (Moffatt & Nichol)
k. Shannon Pankratz (USACE- Regulatory)
l. Jorine Campopiano (EPA)
m. Chris Webb (Moffatt & Nichol)
n. Greg Hearon (Coastal Frontiers)
o. Paul Wong† (LAC Dept. Beaches & Harbors)
p. Jack Gregg† (CCC)
q. Joe Ryan (USACE-Coastal Engineering)
r. Chris Miller (City of Newport Beach)
s. Bill Gardiner (Newfields)
t. John Madden (USACE-Planning)
u. Kirk Brus (USACE-Planning)
v. Jeffrey Devine (USACE-Geotech)
w. Jeffrey Cole (USACE-PPMD)
x. Ken Wong (USACE-Planning)

† participating via teleconference.

II. CSTF Meetings:

A. Broad Beach Restoration Project – SAP

a. Project proponent: Trancas Property Owner Association

b. Corps comments:

i. Offshore chemistry composite samples for all offshore investigation areas will be comprised of material from only the top 10 feet of the vibracores. The underlying material will be

retained as archives at the lab to be tested if hits are identified in the upper composite samples.

ii. Corral Canyon will be subdivided into three sub-areas, similar to the Trancas site, each representing volumes of approximately 2MCY. Five vibracores will be located within each of these subareas to characterize the material in this area. The five vibracores would be used to generate one composite sample to be tested for chemistry within each of these subareas. Each vibracore will be tested for grain size.

iii. Two chemistry composite samples will be collected from receiving beach. These samples will be composites of the individual transects and will be used to establish a chemistry baseline.

iv. Add Regional Screening Levels (RSLs) for public health. The EPA staff (Jorine C.) will provide those to M&N as soon as possible.

v. Some of the "old" figures were still showing up, on pages 13 and 25. Figures on page 4 and 23 had some problem with the figure labels not appearing.

III. Project Review and Determinations

A. Harbor Island and Linda Isle Tidelands Dredging – SAP

a. **Project Proponent**: City of Newport Bay

b. **Corps comments:**

i. City/County will move sample location HT-8 north and include it the City's area of responsibility, which is represented by sample locations HT 5-8.

ii. City/County will conduct physical and chemical analysis (bulk sediment chemistry and grain size analysis) on 2 composites representing the boundaries between the City (sample locations HT 5-8) and County (sample locations HT 1-4, 9-10) areas of responsibility.

iii. Pyrethroids, an emerging class of pollutants of concern will be added to the list of analytes. EPA/Corps will provide list of pyrethroids to be analyzed.

iv. Additionally, for Hg testing, three composites will be used: composite 1 is HT-1, -2, -3, -4; Composite 2 is HT-5, -6, -7, -8; and Composite 3 is HT-9, -10.

B. Santa Ana River Marsh – SAP Results

a. **Project Proponent**: Corps

b. **Corps notes/comments:**

i. Initial bioassay results of the Santa Ana River Marsh were presented and discussed (see attached). New data, including retest of the Neanthes Solid Phase Toxicity Test and significance analyses were not provided prior to the meeting. Results of the other tests (Eohaustorius Solid Phase and all three Suspended Phase) were unchanged from previous test reports distributed to members of the SC-DMMT.

ii. There were seven composite areas in the dredge footprint (A to G). Areas B and G were determined at an earlier SC-DMMT meeting to be suitable for nearshore disposal. These areas were physically and chemically suitable for nearshore disposal and so were not include in the Tier III test program.

iii. Bioacumulation tests have been completed, but tissue analyses have not been performed. Tissue analyses will be performed on composite areas passing the toxicity tests.

iv. Composite Areas D and E had Eohaustorius survival that were both significantly different from the reference and greater than 20% less than the reference. No Composite Area was significantly different from reference for the Neanthes Solid Phase Toxicity Test. No Composite Area failed Suspended Phase Test for any of the three species.

v. There was some discussion as to why there was toxicity in the Eohaustorius tests. The lab reported no problems with the test protocols or with quality control. The sediment chemistry has no elevated levels that would explain the toxicity. Since there is no contaminant of concern at elevated levels present, it was determined to maintain area boundaries as drawn, midway between the two bordering core locations.

vi. The Corps' initial determination is that Composite Areas A, C, and F are suitable for ocean disposal, pending completion of the bioaccumulation tests. Composite Areas D and E are not suitable for ocean disposal.

vii. The SC-DMMT concurred with these determinations. The Corps will discuss internally how to proceed from this point. This includes completion of bioaccumulation tests, determining what to do with unsuitable sediments, and preparation and submittal of a final SAPR report. One option for the unsuitable sediments is to dispose on the California least tern nest site locate within the marsh. No other disposal site has been identified.

c. **Note**: see e-mail attachment (AMEC Geo SARM Statistical Summary.pdf)

C. Ventura Harbor Maintenance Dredging – SAP Results, suitability

a. **Project Proponent**: Corps

b. **Corps notes/comments:**

i. Item 1. Went over handout of four different slides/PowerPoint presentation on the Ventura Harbor Entrance Maintenance Dredging. Corps requested feedback on draft SAPR to finalize chemistry in the AMEC Geomatrix April 6, 2011 report and also request a follow up w/SC-DMMT offline teleconference on the grain size analysis report produced by the Los Angeles District (LAD) Corps Geology Section. The AMEC Geomatrix April 6, 2011 report was distributed to the SC-DMMT prior to the April 27, 2011 SC-DMMT monthly meeting.

1. Corps asked the SC-DMMT if there were any comments on the draft test results on the chemistry, and if the SC-DMMT concurred with the draft test results on the chemistry in the AMEC April 6, 2011 report.
    a. Response: The SC-DMMT did not have comments on the draft test results on the chemistry and concurred with the draft test results on the chemistry, as summarized in Section 6.3.6 (Chemical Compatibility Results) of the AMEC Geomatrix April 16, 2011 reference document, that based on the chemical analysis of composite sediment samples and comparison to sediment screening values for the protection of benthic organism, the Ventura Harbor sediments from all areas (all the Federal maintenance dredging areas) are deemed to be compatible for beach replenishment/nourishment action(s) [for the placement of dredged (disposal) material area(s), South Beach, McGrath State Beach, and McGrath State Beach Nearshore].

ii. Item 2. Table 13 (Grain Size Data For Sediment Samples. AMEC report) question on how the vertical layers were determined, from Leah Butler (USEPA).

1. Corps Response: Jeffrey Devine (Corps Geology Section) stated that the vertical layer(s), number of layers, were determined out in the field from their observations, as supported by the approved 2010 SAP. Jeffrey stated that an “A” designation next to the

sample ID meant “archived,” that “GA” designation meant “geotechnical archive,” and that “CA” designation meant “chemistry archived.” Jeffrey also mentioned that a couple of samples were taken from Area F (sill location) for sediment samples and archive samples but no chemistry samples were taken because Area F was below project depths. There was also a discussion clarifying on the PowerPoint Federal Maintenance Dredging Area(s) Area F did not have a quantity of 50K (50,000) of cubic yards (cy) but contained a very small amount of material, around 1K (1,000) cy.

iii. Item 3. Corps Ventura Harbor grain size analysis report.

1. Jeffrey Devine also brought up that in his report Ventura Harbor grain size analysis report that 2 of 5 individual vibratory cores (A2 and A5) in Area A, and 1 of 3 individual core (C1) in Area C were borderline for grain size for beach nourishment, and that it was due to fines. Dan Swenson (Corps Regulatory) asked about the type of dredging operations that occur in Ventura Harbor. Jeff Cole (Corps Project Manager) responded that with the type of dredge of dredging that typically occurs in Ventura Harbor, that sediment can be placed in the surf zone. Allan Ota (USEPA) stated that placing dredged sediment material in the surf zone from the cores A2 and A5 in Area A and the core C1 in Area C could be a solution that could be amenable. Jeff Cole (Corps Project Manager) responded that the Corps can accommodate surf zone discharge for the fines in vibratory cores A2 and A5 in Area A and core C1 in Area C that are in question if the SC-DMMT concludes that the composite is not acceptable for placement as is, or with natural mixing as the cutter-head dredge sweeps through multiple areas. The Corps also stated that it can make the case that because these fines (in cores A2 and A5 in Area A and in core C1 in Area C) are small quantities, they do not need to be deposited in a special way. Jeffrey Devine responded that the overall composite(s) for Area A and Area C are within the percentage for beach compatibility.
2. Leah Butler (USEPA) requested that volumes (put in a table) of fine layers be calculated for those cores A2 and A5 in Area A and core C1 in Area C that were borderline, and a request to see this information visually in graphics. Jeffrey Devine stated that he already had some of the information that Leah was

requesting, and would provide the additional information into the LAD Corps Geology Section Ventura Harbor grain size analysis report.

iv. Item 4. Followup discussion w/SC-DMMT offline teleconference for grain size.
    1. Ken Wong (Corps Regional Planning Section Chief) stated that the Corps was requesting and would schedule soon with the SC-DMMT primary point of contacts (POC) an offline teleconference followup discussion on the LAD Corps Geology Section Ventura Harbor grain size analysis report that would be distributed soon to the SC-DMMT for review and discussion, and for the SC-DMMT concurrence.