



**Bulletin #02**

**May 2006**

**PARTNERS:** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the County of Orange, the California Department of Fish & Game and the California Coastal Conservancy are serving as the federal, state and local partners to restore and enhance Upper Newport Bay's ecosystem.

**CONSTRUCTION STATUS:** The Corps of Engineers' construction contractor, DD-M Crane & Rigging commenced dredging the access channel nearby Dover Shores on April 6, 2006. DD-M is continuing dredge operations, to include dredging the access channel approximately 1000-ft upstream of the Newport Aquatic Center, at a point adjacent to Galaxy Park. Restoration of the side channels around Middle Island and Shellmaker Island will occur in May by dredging these side channels to a depth of minus 2.23-ft MLLW, which is a depth that will provide at least two feet of water in the side channels during low tide. The disposal site for sediments dredged from the access channel and the side channels is the LA-3 ocean disposal site, which is located approximately 5-miles southwest of the entrance to Newport harbor. At the end of April 2006, approximately 14,000 cubic yards of material has been removed from the Upper Bay and placed at the LA-3 disposal site.

**FEATURE PURPOSE:** The purpose of dredging the access channel is to provide access for the dredge platform and disposal barges to allow for excavating the Unit II and Unit I/III sediment control basins, for wetland restoration at 23<sup>rd</sup> Street and for excavation of the New Least Tern Island pit. The purpose of dredging the side channels around Middle Island and Shellmaker Island is to increase habitat for aquatic species, improve tidal circulation and to isolate the islands from terrestrial predators such as dogs, cats and coyotes.

**QUESTION OF THE MONTH:** Q: Why is the disposal barge moored at Harbor Island? A: This location was chosen by the Harbor Department and the Coast Guard as the safest location in the project vicinity, with careful consideration given to channel width, predominant winds, current and ability to safely moor the disposal barge in unfavorable conditions. Other frequently asked questions on the project can be found by going to the web site as shown in the following paragraph.

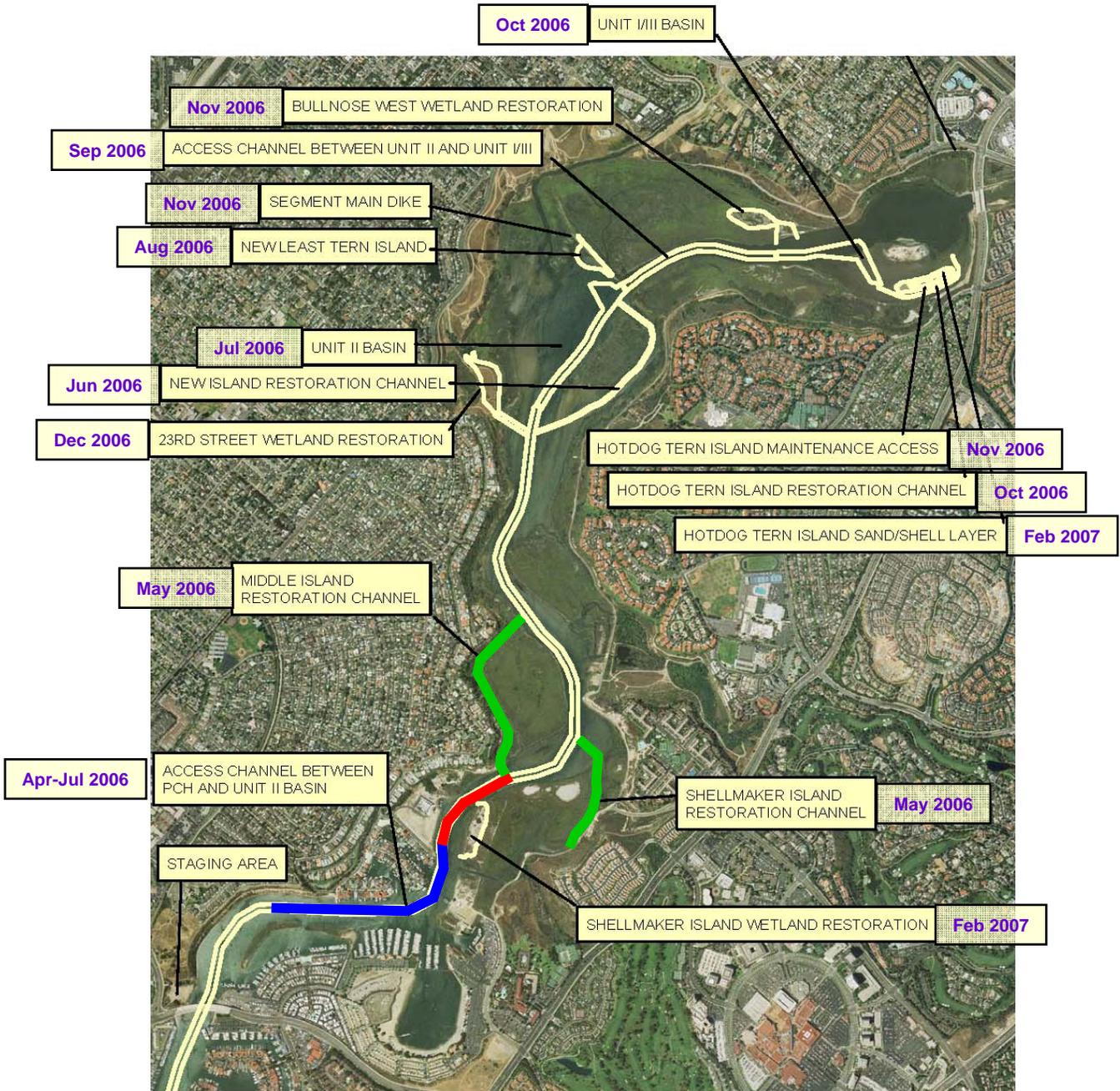
**WEB SITE:** For additional information on the Upper Newport Bay Ecosystem Restoration project please go to one of the following web sites:

<http://www.city.newport-beach.ca.us/UpperBayProject.html>  
<http://www.spl.usace.army.mil/uppernewport.htm>

**POINTS OF CONTACT:**

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# UPPER NEWPORT BAY Ecosystem Restoration



## Phase I Features

<http://www.city.newport-beach.ca.us/UpperBayProject.html>

<http://www.spl.usace.army.mil/uppernewport.htm>

- Dredging Complete
- Dredging Ongoing
- Dredging in May 2006

**Note: Construction Dates Subject to Change**