Final Notes for July 25, 2018
Southern California Dredged Material Management Team (SC-DMMT) Meeting
US Army Corps of Engineers - Los Angeles District

Attendees (*phone):
Bonnie Rogers (Corps Regulatory)
Joe Ryan (Corps)
Jim Fields (Corps Chief of Navigation)
Mark Cooke (Corps)
Larry Smith* (Corps)
Robert Smith* (Corps Regulatory)
Melissa Scianni (USEPA)
Allan Ota* (USEPA)
Larry Simone (California Coastal Commission)
Marc Brown (Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board)
Jason Freshwater (Water Quality Control Board)
John Zhu (Los Angeles Water Quality Control Board)
Chris Osuch (Anchor QEA)
Chris Miller (City of Newport)
Adam Gale (Anchor QEA)
Steve Capellino (Anchor QEA)
Shelly Anghera (Latitude Environmental)

Announcements: 10:00 – 10:05 AM
DMMT Tracking sheet is continuing to be maintained by Corps and EPA.

Project #1: 10:05 – 10:50 AM
1) Project name: Lower Newport Bay Federal Channel Dredging
2) Applicant NAME & Applicant affiliation: Chris Miller, City of Newport Beach
3) Project type (Regulatory/Navigation): Navigation
4) Corps Project Manager name(s): Mark Cooke
5) Meeting type (DMMT/CSTF): DMMT
6) Purpose/topic (e.g., SAP, SAPR, and/or suitability determination): SAR

Notes:
Jim Fields: No funding yet received so will be partnering with City of Newport. Mark Cooke will serve as the Project Manager on this project.
Chris Osuch: 11 Dredge Units total volume 885K CY ranging from -15 to -20 MLLW depths. Composite sediment consisted primarily of fines except Entrance Channel (98% sand). Certain values exceeded ERM for mercury, DDTs, PCBs and Dibutyltin. Solid Phase biological testing met LPC requirements for ocean disposal using LA-3 references. Grain size envelopes indicated

sediment from Entrance Channel is compatible for nearshore placement and not acutely toxic to benthic organisms.
Melissa (EPA):
-Do not agree all material is suitable for LA-3. Do not need to exclude material based on DDT concentrations because tissue concentrations were low (below any TRVs) and therefore okay. Have approved concentrations of sediment to LA-3 at these concentrations (200). Concerned about Turning Basin mercury concentrations above 1 ppm and PCB concentrationgs about 100 ppb and therefore request that all Turning Basin material be excluded from placement at LA-3.
-The Main Federal Channel and other cores with concentrations of mercury above 1 ppm or PCBs above 100 ppb should be treated the same.

Allan Ota (EPA): Over 200 and 400 for Turning Basin for PCBs are high. EPA has typically excluded sediment over 100 ppb from placement at ocean disposal sites.

Larry Smith: Turning Basin was 195 but passed effects based testing, so 100 may be too low of a threshold.

Allan Ota (EPA): Do not understand why high levels of PCBs did not cause mortality in the biological effects testing.

Larry Smith: Suggest the threshold for mercury be 3.64 and PCBs 195, apply these values to Newport at this time and not necessarily other sites.

Allan Ota (EPA): For some reason sediments in Newport may be different than other sites, so a Risk Assessment could be completed for certain sites regarding toxic conditions and bioavailability of the contaminants. In future may want to collect higher resolution sampling instead of composites which may not show toxicity in biological effects testing. Composites could be preventing visible effects.

Melissa: EPA may require higher resolution testing for PCBs in the Turning Basin and Main Channel for determining if material from these areas would qualify for ocean disposal. RGP-54 has requirements for Z-layer testing.

Jason Freshwater: Wants material to be consistent with Anti-degradation Policy for surface material (in Z-layer) remaining following removal of dredged material and agrees with USEPA and USFWS. A meeting was held yesterday to discuss Z-layer exposed sediments remaining which are contaminated.

Larry Smith: Have regulations regarding maintenance dredging, testing the z-layer could not result in any action, with funding limitations we cannot afford to test for the sake of testing. However would consult with Waterboard on WQC for Environment Assessment.

Jim Fields: Corps would not likely be applying for WQC this year or next year for Newport Project.

Adam Gale: RGP-54 results are usually valid for 5 years so why would materials need to be tested at 3 years again. 5 year schedule for RGP-54 has been in place for over 30 years.

Chris Miller: Want allowance for beyond 3 years.

Melissa EPA: We would look to determine if shoaling had occurred at 3 years for extending beyond 3 or 5 years.

Chris Miller: Does not anticipate much shoaling.

Bonnie Rogers: The three year limit is not just a rule of thumb, it is discussed in the Testing Manuals, but case-by-case considerations are always applied. Any other information you would like to hear from agencies?

Melissa EPA: Will go back and discuss how concentrations may or may not be appropriate for Ocean Disposal based on Newport's proposal. Working coming up with a list of TRVs they would suggest folks use from ERED list for EPA Region 9 specific.

Chris Miller: Often offline discussions with agencies take place.

Allan Ota: Must occur when there is new information during the meeting agencies are not prepared for.

Larry Simone: The options for unsuitable ocean disposal material do not exist, so there is concern regarding where that contaminated material can go. The agencies and local entities should start to identity where unsuitable materials can go. Port CAD sites are filled.

Adam Gale: Would like definitive suitability determinations at the end of each meeting from each agency.

Melissa: Can discuss the suitability offline regarding Ocean Disposal, but project may need to come back to DMMT.

Updates:

Mark Cooke: Ventura has draft SAP report.