

Notes for February 26, 2020
Southern California Dredged Material Management Team (SC-DMMT) Meeting
US Army Corps of Engineers - Los Angeles District (2 Pages)

Attendance (*phone):

Stephen Estes (Corps Regulatory)
Chris Chabot (Corps Planning)
Victoria Jurado (Corps Engineering)
Lisa Mangione* (Corps Regulatory)
Robert Smith* (Corps Regulatory)
Melissa Scianni* (USEPA)
Allan Ota* (USEPA)
Larry Simon* (CCC)
Carol Roberts* (USFWS)
Matt Taylor* (Moffatt & Nichol)
Shelly Anghera* (Moffatt & Nichol)
Hervie Rak* (Eagle Rock Aggregate)
Keven Wasylyshyn* (Eagle Rock Aggregate)

Announcements: None

Eagle Rock Facility Berth D44 Maintenance Dredging Project

Shelly Anghera, Moffatt & Nichol, provided a PowerPoint presentation to attendees regarding the Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP) for the Eagle Rock Facility Berth D44 Maintenance Dredging Project.

The USEPA wanted to ensure that material dredged from the knockdown dredge area would be placed in an area that has been characterized and tested. Shelly responded that the area around the dredge footprint is homogenous and can verify that.

The USEPA had no comment on the sampling locations but mentioned that perhaps one water column test with bioassay would be sufficient for this project, and that the inland testing manual could be used. In addition, the LA-2 ODMDS would not need to be included as a reference site. USEPA would discuss this internally and may ask the DMMO for guidance.

The USEPA also mentioned that using ERMs as an indicator is generally too high and that ERLs are preferred. They typically do not require bioaccumulation tests unless contaminants are very high.

The CCC stated that Table 8 shows potentially high levels of contaminants. Shelly responded that she expects lower levels to be found.

The USFWS asked about the WASSS site and whether there was a sense of how long sediment would remain there. If the sediment would remain for some time, impacts may be considered permanent in this location. Shelly responded that it depends on the Port of Long Beach's requirements.

Shelly asked whether one composite sample would be acceptable for both the dredge and advance maintenance area. The USEPA said one set of bioassays can be done if the chemistry is the same between the two sites.

In a follow up email on March 2, 2020, Shelly submitted a final SAP to the agencies with the following recommended revisions:

1. “Inclusion of bioaccumulation potential testing for placement at WASSS. This was recommended by Carol because we could not determine the length of time this material would be temporarily stored at the WASSS. SPP tests was reduced to 1 species, Mysid. Finally, it includes the discussion of exceedance of the ERL, as requested by Melissa. Discussion regarding biological testing is provided in Tables 2, 7, and 8. Section 3.10.
2. Sample compositing – we will evaluate the individual chemistry samples for the two areas (DA and AMA, Table 3 and 4), once we confirm the analytes are similar concentrations (with agreement from USEPA), one composite sample will be evaluated for biological test, as discussed in Section 3.10.
3. Two surface sediment grabs will be collected to characterize area that may receive knockdown dredged material. SAP notes the two sample are “To Be Determined”. It is our plan to confirm the potential area with the Port prior to field sampling.
4. We have run into an issue with both the chemistry lab and the toxicity lab. Analytical lab is heavily impacted by backlog. I am working to find an alternative lab that will allow us to have chemistry data in time to inform biological tests. In addition, the toxicity lab says there is a shortage of Macoma for bioaccumulation through June. I have an email into Melissa and Allan for potential alternative species. Without an alternative, we will be ordering the animals and keeping them in the lab for 6 weeks before testing. This is not ideal. I will keep the group updated if I see potential issues with holding times.”

The USEPA found these revisions acceptable and had no additional comments. Shelly responded that they will be implementing a phased approach and returning to the SC-DMMT with chemistry data and the amphipod toxicity results prior to proceeding with additional testing.