Southern California Dredged Material Management Team (SC-DMMT) December 1, 2010 **FINAL** Meeting Notes

I. SC-DMMT Participating Agencies^{*}

- A. Bill Paznokas^{\dagger} CDFG
- B. Leah Butler^{\dagger} EPA
- C. Jorine Campopiano[†] EPA
- D. Allan Ota^{\dagger} EPA
- E. Peter von Langen^{\dagger} CCRWQCB
- F. Michael Lyons LARWQCB
 G. Wanda Cross[†] SARWQCB
- H. Larry Smith USACE
- I. Ken Wong USACE

See December 1, 2010 meeting sign-in sheet attached.

II. Project Review and Determinations

- A. Machado Lake/Wilmington Drain, City of LA
 - 1. POC: Ken Wong, Regulatory
 - 2. Purpose of Discussion: General permitting concerns
 - 3. Discussion
 - a. Machado Lake Ecosystem Rehabilitation Project and Wilmington Drain Multiuse Project are two separate projects
 - b. The City is assuming all material from the drain will be dried and trucked to a landfill
 - c. Material from the lake may be able to be used for LA School District project, Gibson Interchange, or Port of LA waterfront project (depending on timing)
 - d. For both projects, if all dredged material would be disposed of or reused in the uplands, the primary concern from CSTF would be return water during dredging
 - e. When using NWP 16, the quality of the return water is controlled by the state through the section 401 certification procedures
 - f. LARWOCB would prefer evaporation; however, City would prefer to return water due to concerns with depleting lake
 - g. LARWQCB indicated that the proposal would likely be reviewed under 401 certification procedures as opposed to WDR procedures
 - h. When dealing with Port projects previously, LARWQCB focused on turbidity and leaching of contaminants

[†] Agency representatives participating via teleconference.

^{*} Participating agencies are composed of (1) core members that have regulatory authority over dredging-related projects; (2) stakeholder agencies such as California State Lands Commission, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Game, and National Marine Fisheries Service.

 $[\]Delta$ Decisions of the California Coastal Commission (CCC) are partly based on recommendations provided by its staff. Therefore, SC-DMMT determinations reflect the views of the CCC staff but not necessarily of the CCC.

- i. LARWQCB recommended comparing elutriate results with California Toxics Rule objectives, Machado Lake TMDLs, and the turbidity standard for settleable solids; however, additional discussion with 401 certification unit is recommended
- j. If any standards are exceeded prior to dilution, treatment would be recommended to decrease contaminant levels
- k. Dewatering plan would result in a discharge of fill material, requiring section 404 authorization
- 1. Permit applications to be submitted the following week
- 4. Determination: None
- B. Morro Bay, City of Morro Bay
 - 1. POC: John Markham, Regulatory
 - 2. Purpose of Discussion: Draft SAP
 - 3. Discussion
 - a. Areas of thickest cuts proposed determined sampling locations
 - b. Recommended to place one additional core on the south shoal in Dredge Unit 1
 - c. Based on data from previous sediment characterization, sediment anticipated to consist of approximately 50% sands and 50% fines
 - d. The City prefers to place material at an existing nearshore placement site used for Corps dredging
 - e. EPA expressed concerns about the content of fines and clarified that the existing nearshore placement site is used to place sediment from the Federal channel, which is sandier
 - f. As sediment may not be suitable for nearshore placement based on grain size, SC-DMMT recommended to characterize grain size and chemistry by individual cores to determine which areas may be used for nearshore placement, phasing bioassays for later
 - g. EPA stated that dredged sediment may not be used for beach nourishment if the sediment contains greater than 50% fines, which it considers as the regulatory threshold not to be exceeded
 - h. The project proponent discussed the possibility of placing dredged sediment in a nearby mine as an alternative sediment management option
 - 4. Determination: None. Revise SAP to include additional core and phased analysis and submit the revised SAP
- C. Lower Newport Bay, USACE
 - 1. POC: Larry Smith, Planning
 - 2. Purpose of Discussion: Placement alternatives
 - 3. Discussion
 - a. Corps agreed to incorporate EPA's recommendations from previous meeting
 - b. As a result, cores 20, 21, and 22 would be considered suitable and cores 16, 16A, 17, 18, and 19 would be considered unsuitable

- c. EPA and LARWQCB are amenable to providing written concurrence that bioassays would not be required for this dredging episode, while bioassays would be discussed for future dredging episodes
- D. Ventura Harbor, USACE
 - 1. POC: Kirk Brus, Planning
 - 2. Purpose of Discussion: Revised SAP
 - 3. Discussion
 - a. EPA stated that reference sites are important to have scientifically; however, the issue was resolved through agreeing to disagree
 - b. Supplemental table, dated November 29, 2010, contained 0 cubic yards of overdepth; for consistency, SC-DMMT recommended to adjust design depths for Areas B, C, D, E, G, H, and I to allow for overdepth, and to calculate overdepths for those areas
 - c. Corps clarified that although Area G contains a larger available dredging quantity, it is a sand trap with the greatest amount of sand based on historical data
 - d. Due to discrepancies, SC-DMMT recommended that Table 1 in the SAP be revised to reflect recalculated depths in supplemental table
 - e. Corps clarified that the range of core lengths provided in Table 1 applied to the entire dredge area and are adjustable to field depths achieved during sampling
 - f. As only a narrative of grain sizes was included in the SAP on pages 3 and 4, SC-DMMT recommended that tables from the 2009 Ventura Port District SAP be included
 - g. Management options were briefly discussed for areas with 61% fines; see discussion from previous item regarding 50% fines
 - h. Fines would be left in place if they cannot be used for beach nourishment
 - 4. Determination: With the incorporation of recommended amendments, the SAP may be finalized and submitted to the agencies
- E. Newport Beach/Semeniuk Slough, City of Newport Beach
 - 1. POC: Jason Lambert in the interim, Regulatory
 - 2. Purpose of Discussion: Draft SAP
 - 3. Discussion
 - a. Draft SAP was prepared using the Corps' scope for the Santa Ana River Marsh
 - b. Approximately 22,000 cubic yards of material would be dredged from the slough, which has never been dredged
 - c. Sediment characterization from 2002 were included as part of the SAP; however, testing locations were in Santa Ana River Marsh and not in Semeniuk Slough
 - d. Results from 2002 indicated that average grain sizes are approximately 40% fines in the Santa Ana River Marsh, while material becomes progressively finer towards slough
 - e. SC-DMMT recommended that the revised SAP include locations of previous testing locations in the Santa Ana River Marsh

- f. SC-DMMT recommended inclusion of a summary table describing previous results of sediment chemistry
- g. SC-DMMT recommended archiving subsamples of individual cores until the end of the project
- h. Rationale of proposed testing locations was through geographic coverage, SC-DMMT had no objections to proposed sample locations or core depths
- i. The City prefers to use the dredged material for beach nourishment
- j. As dredged material may contain greater than 50% fines, alternatives discussed included least tern island and ocean disposal; see previous section for discussion regarding 50% fines
- k. Corps indicated that the least tern island would only accommodate 5,000 cubic yards and least tern would prefer sandier habitat
- 1. The City indicated that Tier 3 analysis for ocean disposal would occur if grain size analysis indicates material is unsuitable for beach nourishment
- m. Suitability would be addressed during review of SAP results
- 4. Determination: SAP approved with recommended amendments incorporated; submit revised SAPs for Corps project and City project
- F. SAP Template
 - 1. POC: Ken Wong, Regulatory
 - 2. Discussion
 - a. Ken requested that while he is on temporary reassignment to Planning that EPA and LARWQCB develop nomenclature instructions and a standard analytes list
 - b. EPA to provide comments to Ken by track changes
 - c. EPA recommended to include reference SAPs with correct formatting
 - d. Larry recommended to limit page sizes to 11" x 17"

SC-DMMT Sign-In Sheet, December 1, 2010

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