

**Final Notes for Wednesday August 26, 2015**  
**Southern California Dredged Material Management Team (SC-DMMT) Meeting**  
US Army Corps of Engineers - Los Angeles District

**Project #1: 10:15 – 10:45**

Project name: Camp Pendleton Boat Ramp.

This was an informational item to report back to the SC-DMMT out of cycle consultation between the Corps and USEPA regarding recommended changes made by USEPA to the SAP during the July SC-DMMT meeting. The Corps and EPA resolved the comments and the EPA concurred with the SAP as modified. Modifications made include increased geotechnical sampling to ensure that any layering present in the deeper cores would be detected. If layering were detected, additional samples would be collected and archived for chemical analysis. Analysis would be completed after consultation with the SC-DMMT and after a contract mod would be worked out with the consultant. USFWS requested that z-layer samples be taken and archived as well. It was determined that this was not necessary and the reasons shared with USFWS in separate correspondence. Maintenance dredging projects are neither funded nor authorized to go beyond authorized channel dimensions. Sampling the z-layer is essentially a technical exercise since no action is possible based on the outcome.

**Project #2: 10:45-11:15**

Project name: San Diego County Shoreline Feasibility Study.

This was an informational item concerning an upcoming Corps' Feasibility Study to provide shoreline protection in the city of Oceanside, San Diego County, California. The Corps is initiating surveys to determine what conditions exist in the nearshore off of the potential beach nourishment areas. Additionally, preliminary samples will be taken from beach transects and the potential offshore borrow site to determine if the borrow site sediments are suitable for beach nourishment. Results of these surveys will be shared with members of the SC-DMMT.

**Project #3: 11:15-12:00**

Project name: Sampling and Analysis Report for Berths 226-232 in Support of the Everport Container Terminal Improvement Project, Los Angeles Harbor.

Cores from DMMU-1 were collected March 2015, DMMU-2 cores were collected later in 2015. DMMU-1 was sandier than DMMU-2 on composited tests, maybe due to greater depth. Grain size on individual cores was not measured initially. Two LA-2 reference samples were taken concurrent with DMMU sampling. EPA asked if values for lowest observable effects could be

found and is concerned about food chain multipliers. FWS commented about ecological risks, in particular, scavengers or fish eating birds and asked about whether this accumulation was tested. This was not tested as there is no test for this in existing protocols. EPA was concerned about short cores and potentially inadequate characterization of cores B1-5. Environ indicated multiple attempts were made to sample full cores and if the cores were short, they were not included in the composite; cores that reached refusal may have been included in the composites. EPA asked if refusal occurred at B-5 (this was the shortest core) and wanted to know the Z-layer depth. Environ indicated the cores do not include the Z-layer in 2 of the 5 cores. RWQCB noted 79% sand in DMMU-1 and asked about the potential for beach nourishment. POLA indicated beach nourishment (BN) has not been considered due to small volume of sandy material (at most 7,000 cy). RWQCB wants an explanation of why BN can't occur, use the CSTF decision tree; also called for grain size test on individual cores. Joe Ryan (USACE navigation section) said clamshell and scow method presents logistical problems and suggested nearshore nourishment, rather than BN. EPA asked about opportunities for on-site re-use and wants to be sure there aren't other feasible alternatives to ocean disposal. POLA indicated alternative disposal sites will be discussed in the EIS/EIR. RWQCB asked about construction timing (estimated start of construction is December 2016). CCC indicated DMMU-2 was suitable for ocean disposal but additional work needed on DMMU-1 before suitability is determined. EPA indicated they would make a suitability determination with clarification and additional grain size testing for DMMU-1. EPA and POLA indicated that a suitability determination should be separate from BN potential. RWQCB indicated that POLA must submit final EPA concurrence and site use conditions for LA-2 to bring to Board. CCC indicated EPA email correspondence was sufficient; RWQCB will check with counsel to determine if email correspondence is adequate; EPA indicated when concurrence is granted it is usually done via email correspondence, not a letter on letterhead. EPA indicated both DMMUs are suitable for LA-2, but wanted clarification on refusal, short cores (email correspondence okay); FWS doesn't vote on suitability for ocean disposal but recommended analysis of bioaccumulation in birds if such tests are available (they currently are not available) and indicated ecological risk assessment may require more attention in the future; CCC indicated both DMMUs were suitable for ocean disposal for bioaccumulation and chemical perspective, but wanted additional info on DMMU-1 for potential BN disposal option; RWQCB had the same comments as CCC-that both DMMUs were suitable for ocean disposal and that additional grain size analysis on DMMU-1 is warranted to evaluate BN potential and recommended POLA use the CSTF decision tree.

September 23, 2015

In response to additional data requests from the DMMT following the August 26, 2015 meeting, three additional items were forwarded to the DMMT prior to the meeting and included lab results for amphipod (*Ampelisca*) benthic tests, and grain size analysis for DMMU-1. Environ reevaluated the A-cores and surmised that A-5 core (which had the highest sand content of the A-cores) may have been over represented. DMMT agencies didn't disagree with this explanation. POLA indicated a high sand content was unusual b/c berths usually collect fines. The conclusion is that there is not enough sand to warrant BN. Also, core B-5 was 80-90% of the target core length and it was determined that although this was a short core, the DMMU was adequately sampled. The Corps will check back with EPA in a couple of weeks to obtain their final suitability determination as EPA was unavailable for today's meeting. As for other agency suitability determinations, CCC, RWQCB and Corps agreed the material was suitable for disposal at LA-2.

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- SC-DMMT final agenda and minutes are available at:  
<http://www.spl.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/ProjectsPrograms.aspx>.
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