

# Long-Term Management Strategy for Dredged Material in the Delta (Delta LTMS)

## Protocols TWG Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 26 - 10:30 am – 2:30 pm  
DWR Resource Building – Room 1603

### Attendees

Brian Ross, USEPA

Sue McConnell, CVRWB

Jessica Burton Evans, USACE-SPN

John Headlee, USACE-SPK

Darryl Foreman, Land Planning/Entitlements

Calvin Fong, Port of Stockton

Larry Kolb, Contra Costa County

G. Fred Lee, GFL & Associates

*Primary Meeting Objectives: The **Protocols TWG** will review relevant contaminant exposure pathways for placement of dredge material in the Delta, identify how current testing protocols address those pathways, and begin to identify gaps or pathways/tests on which to focus future efforts or studies.*

- **Introductions and Announcements** (see website for meeting announcements)
- **Summary of August 28<sup>th</sup> Action Items Identified** (see previous 8/28/07 notes)

### **Groundwater data inquiries:**

- Brian will follow up with Doug Lipton re data for Montezuma
- Brian will follow up with Robert Northup and Steve Michelson re data for Rough and Ready Island
- Bob Yeadon will follow up in house at DWR re data for Sherman Island

### **PROTOCOLS MATRIX DISCUSSION**

- Sediment test protocols matrix was presented (see website for handout).
  - John noted need to add the Dredge Elutriate Test (DRET) for the dredging site, to matrix.
  - A revised table will be placed on the website
  - Based on previous meetings the group focused on tests associated with contained placement sites spending most of the discussion on the leachate to groundwater pathway.
  - However, it was noted that testing focused on the effluent to surface water pathway is often also controlling, if dredgers are unable to discharge decant water immediately.
- Presented Oregon Department of Environmental Quality Draft Guidelines for the Upland Disposal of Dredge Sediment as an example of how other regions on the

west coast are managing placement of sediment in an upland environment. This handout will be placed on the website.

## **REVIEW OF SEDIMENT CHARACTERIZATION REQUIREMENTS**

- Focused on the Central Valley Water Board's (CVWB) pre-dredge (or sediment characterization) requirements for upland placement
- Sediment proposed for upland placement CVWB requirements were reviewed. Sue McConnell will be presenting a more comprehensive outline for the next meeting.

### *Discussion Points:*

- Large variability in terms of methods used by each person analyzing data.
- Need to standardize concepts and methods.
- Need to develop pre-dredge testing that addresses not only initial placement site (e.g., disposal pond) but also the final placement site (e.g., levee).
- To do this, there is a need to develop appropriate reference or background locations/conditions, either on a project-specific or regional basis.
- Also a need to conduct monitoring studies and extend current monitoring, to provide a better understanding of the behavior of contaminants vis a vis the leachate to groundwater pathway in real-world placement conditions (to help evaluate the accuracy/predictiveness of existing pre-dredge test methods):
  1. Surveying existing stockpile areas from sediment standpoint – choose “new” sediment placement site and monitor placement effects.
  2. Third party review of groundwater at existing stockpile site such as further validation of Robert's Island
  3. Pilot study of clamshell from adjacent water body directly to levee placement – Need to test sediment and then monitor groundwater and surface water before and after placement. Potential pilot project locations suggested in South Delta
  4. Monitoring parameters identified were: temperature, turbidity, pH, DO surface water at dredging site for water quality criteria. At placement site they are required to do ongoing monitoring of groundwater and ditch water.

### **Additional Concerns Identified during discussion:**

- Revisit effluent testing Criteria and interpretation
- As a lower priority evaluation the need to assess and revise the analyte list proposed for sediment and water quality characterization was identified. Water quality objective in the basin plan has a list of priority items and RWQCB must have these tested to be in compliance with their basin plan. Action Item was identified to develop appropriate and adequate analyte list for characterization.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

- 1) Based on discussion Brian Ross and C. Boudreau will revise the TWG Directive and distribute draft before the next meeting**
- 2) Sue McConnell will forward website location or tables with all water quality criteria used for determining sediment suitability from WET results. She will also develop characterization requirements for presentation at next meeting.**
- 3) The water criteria tables will be posted on the Delta LTMS website**
- 4) Conceptual pilot study descriptions will be developed and distributed**
- 5) Bob will provide a summary description of how to apply for DWR study funding: what level of information is needed, format, etc.**

*To be added to the website:*

- Oregon Department of Environmental Quality Draft Guidelines for the Upland Disposal of Dredge Sediment
- Subsidized Island Restoration Design in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta: A solution for Levee Fragility and Water Supply Vulnerability in the Delta. Prepared by the Natural Heritage institute. Berkeley, CA February 2002.
- Water Quality criteria

**NEXT MEETING Monday NOVEMBER 5<sup>th</sup> 2007 protocols in the afternoon.**