

California State Lands Commission

- COASTAL SEDIMENT MANAGEMENT; RE-USE AND THE WORKING MARITIME ENVIRONMENT
- Session 1B, Salon C, September 27, 2016, 1530.
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- Division of Environmental Planning and Management
- California State Lands Commission



Dredging,

Why does it need to be done? What do we do with the Material?

Well,

- It keeps Federal Navigational Ship Channels Open; commerce.
- It keeps the many private marinas clear of sediment and allows the public to enjoy the water; recreation.
- **Bottom line, dredging is an activity consistent with the Public Trust Doctrine because it furthers public trust values of waterborne commerce and water-related recreation.**



Photo Courtesy of Port of Los Angeles

Dredging,

What is the Public Trust Doctrine?

Well,

- The common law Public Trust Doctrine protects sovereign lands, such as tide and submerged lands and the beds of navigable waterways, for the benefit, use and enjoyment of the public.
- These lands are held in trust by the State of California for the statewide public and for uses that further the purposes of the trust. The hallmark of the Public Trust Doctrine is that trust lands belong to the public and are to be used to promote publicly beneficial uses that connect the public to the water.



Photo courtesy of the US Army Corps

Dredging,

What has been done and what is being done to address these concerns?

Also,

- The State of California has entrusted the Commission with administering the principles of the Public Trust Doctrine.
- The state's title to its tide and submerged lands is a title held in trust for the people of the state so that those citizens may enjoy the navigation of the waters, carry on commerce over them, and have liberty of fishing free from obstruction or interference from private parties.
Illinois Central R.R. Co. v. Illinois (1892) 146 U.S. 387, 452
- The establishment of the Long Term Management Strategy (LTMS).



The Long Term Management Strategy (LTMS) in San Francisco Bay

Goals

- Maintain shipping channels in an economically and environmentally sound manner those necessary for navigation in SF Bay and Estuary and eliminate unnecessary dredging.
- Maximize the use of dredge material as a beneficial resource.
- Establish a cooperative permitting framework.



Photo courtesy of the US Army Corps

The LTMS in San Francisco Bay, continued

Objectives

- Multi-Agency dredging activities in SF Bay and Estuary.
- Identify an array of acceptable dredge material disposal sites.
- Promote beneficial reuse of dredge material.
- Describe Federal, State, and Local authority, criteria, policies and protocols for dredging and the disposal of dredge material.



Photo courtesy of the Port of Oakland

The LTMS in San Francisco Bay, cont.

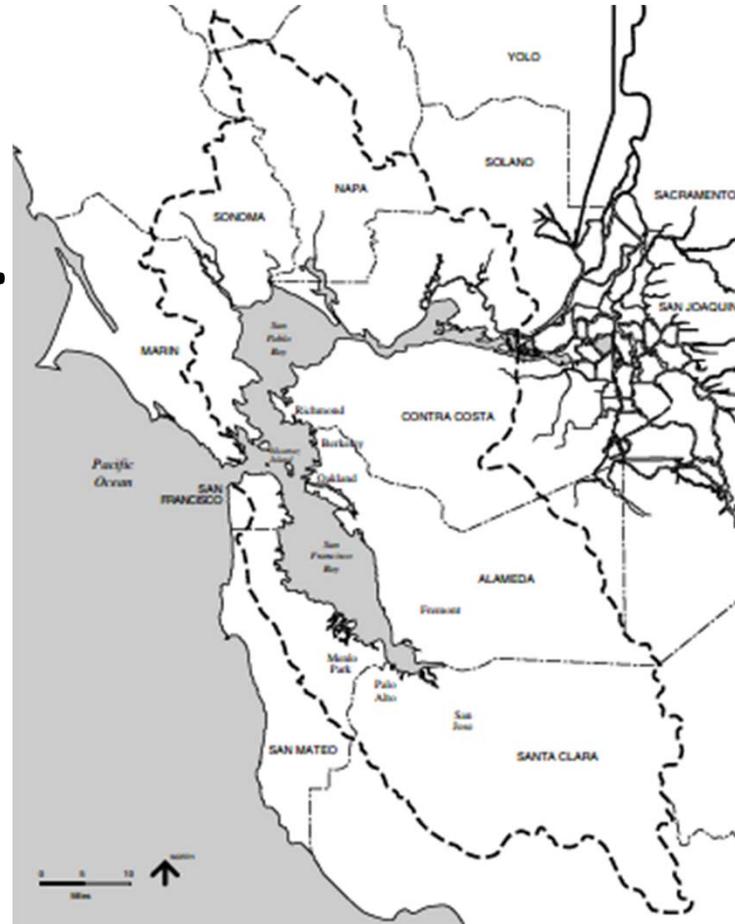
Background

- LTMS launched January 1990 and established 3 major work groups:
 - 1) Ocean Disposal;
 - 2) In-Bay Disposal;
 - 3) Upland/Reuse Disposal;
- Oversight provided by the US Army Corps of Engineers (COE) and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board).



The LTMS in San Francisco Bay, cont.

Background, Area;



The LTMS in San Francisco Bay and Beyond, cont.

Background

- Need for a Streamlined approach for the regulatory agency permit process.
- Improve the goal of simplifying the permit process of maintenance dredging in the San Francisco Bay area.
- Create a local program to achieve this goal.
 - The Dredge Material Maintenance Office (DMMO) Pilot Program was developed in 1995.



The Dredge Material Maintenance Office (DMMO)

Background

- Provide and foster a comprehensive and consolidated approach to handle dredge material management issues;
- Patterned after the Puget Sound Dredge Disposal Analysis (PSDDA) Group.
- US EPA, COE, SF BCDC, SFBRWQCB, and the CSLC.
 - Participating non-member agencies U.S. FWS, NMFS and CDFW.



The DMMO, cont.

Purpose and Goals

- **Purpose:** Cooperatively review sediment sampling plans, analyze the results of sampling and make determinations for material.
- **Goal:** To increase efficiency and coordination between the member agencies.
- The group assures that:
 - Laws and policies will be fully implemented;
 - Full public review and input of decision making process; and
 - Projects will be managed in an environmentally and economically sound manner.



The DMMO, cont.

Objectives

- Combined application form (One stop Shop).
- Coordinated staff review and application processing.
- Preparation of joint staff recommendations;
 - Sediment sampling and analysis plans;
 - Suitability calls for disposal;
 - Approval or denial of permits
 - (disposal location, timing, or other conditions)
- Increased beneficial use/re-use of dredged material.
- Creation of a shared database for dredge project and disposal site monitoring.



Photo courtesy of the Port of San Diego

The DMMO, cont. Jurisdiction Area



Dredging in Central and Southern California, Is It a Northern California Exclusive?

No, They Need It Too!

- History:
 - August 2008;
 - Modeled after San Francisco DMMO;
 - Coordination principles & procedures in place since January 2010.
- Rationale:
 - Permitting for dredging and disposal timely;
 - Increased coordination among agencies.
- Original goal:
 - Establish interagency team for coordinated review of dredging projects and dredging policy issues within the Southern California area (San Diego, Orange, Los Angeles, Ventura, Santa Barbara, and parts of San Luis Obispo Counties).

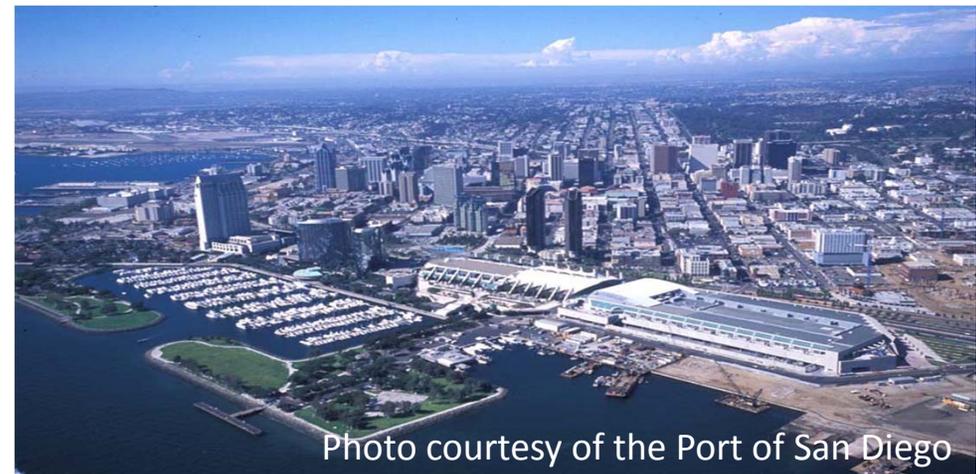


Photo courtesy of the Port of San Diego

SC-DMMT Participants

Who is involved?

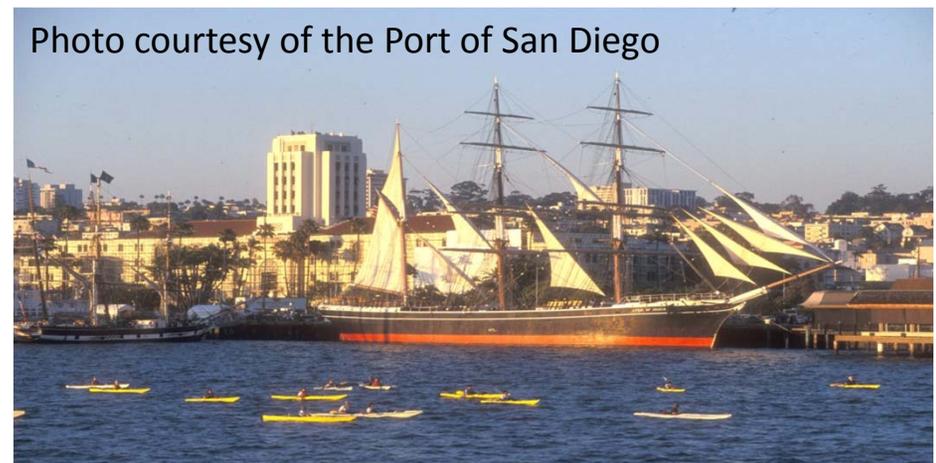
- Core membership: US Army Corps (Civil Works and Regulatory programs), California Coastal Commission, RWQCB (Central Coast, LA, Santa Ana, and San Diego Regions), US EPA.
- Other regulatory agencies: CDFW, USFWS, and NMFS.
- Non-member Involvement:
 - Participation in SC-DMMT meetings limited to agencies, applicants and applicant representatives;
 - SC-DMMT meetings not currently open to public.



SC-DMMT Scope

What, Where, Why, etc.

- **Projects typically reviewed:** Corps navigation dredging projects, Dredging projects regulated by the Corps, Other projects requiring the Inland Testing Manual and/or Ocean Testing Manual, and Excluding projects selected for Contaminated Sediment Task Force (CSTF) review. Dredging projects in the Los Angeles area.
- **Scope:** Technical issues associated with dredging projects, Dredging sampling and analysis plans, sampling results based on approved plans, and suitability determinations, Policy issues associated with dredging project development, evaluation, suitability determinations, and approval and with dredged material disposal and beneficial reuse.
- Meets at Corps office in LA on fourth Wednesdays.



SC-DMMT Authority

Authority:

- Individual agency's permit decisions consistent with each agency's authority;
- Agency permit decisions and project review for NEPA/CEQA compliance are not restricted by SC-DMMT decisions;
- SC-DMMT has no decision-making authority in and of itself.



Coastal Sediment Management Workgroup (CSMW)

What is it?

- The **Coastal Sediment Management Workgroup (CSMW)** is a collaborative taskforce of state, federal and local/regional entities. Implement Regional Sediment Management (RSM) plans to augment or restore natural processes.
- **Focus on:** Natural sediment supply and transport patterns (dams, channelized rivers, seawalls, etc.), reduced sediment and excess sediment supplies.
 - Facilitate the beneficial use and re-use of clean sediment.



CSMW, cont.

How many are there?

- Currently there are 11 **Coastal Regional Sediment Management Plans (Coastal RSM Plans)** as part of the Master CSMW for the coastal environments.
- They are: Southern Monterey Bay Littoral Cell, Santa Barbara Littoral Cell, San Diego County, Orange County, Santa Cruz Littoral Cell, San Francisco Littoral Cell, San Luis Obispo County, Los Angeles County, Eureka Littoral Cell, San Francisco Central Bay and Marin and Sonoma County.



CSMW, continued

Mission:

- CSMW's mission is to facilitate regional approaches to protecting, enhancing and restoring California's coastal beaches and watersheds through federal, state and local cooperative efforts.



CSMW, cont.

Goals:

- Coordinate California's coastal beach and watershed restoration, protection and enhancement efforts;
- Coordinate coastal sediment management and beach nourishment activities;
- Increase awareness of state and federal coastal beach and watershed protection, restoration and enhancement policies; and
- Prioritize sediment needs and opportunities.



CSMW, The Problem: Human Modifications Have Altered Processes and Impacted Uses

- Beaches undergoing accelerated erosion, reducing recreational opportunities and coastal access;
- Coastal stream water quality becomes impaired.
- Coastal wetlands and lagoons experience accelerated erosion or excessive sedimentation.
- Sediment being removed, trapped, redirected, modified, and polluted;
- Sand dredged from harbor channels being misplaced;
- Sediment supply to the coast continuing to be reduced.



The Road to Solutions – The California Coastal Sediment Master Plan

- Identifying sediment-related problems along the California coast;
- Defining the causes of sediment-related problems;
- Providing a solid scientific framework and database on technical issues within the coastal environment;
- Providing a framework, through collaboration with federal, state, regional, and local governments;
- Develop and export new and existing analytical tools to assist in managing coastal resources.
- Provide a programmatic road map to plan, prioritize, and program future projects.
- Foster a collaborative approach among agencies to provide a consistent framework for project proponents.
- Establish a streamlined process for coastal resources-related project approvals.



Photo courtesy of Lone Mountain RV



The Bottom Line: Coordination and Collaboration, Always and Often

- This approach is intended to identify and prioritize regional sediment management needs and opportunities along the California coast;
- Provide this information to resource managers and the general public;
- Streamline sediment management activities.

When these issues are addressed such as coastal erosion, recreational opportunities, environmental impacts, dredging and sediment flow through coastal watersheds, then the goals and objectives of economic and environmental activities can be achieved.



Thank You & Questions

■ For more information:

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