

DEBRIS SCREENING REQUIREMENTS (CLARIFICATION)

SMARM 2015

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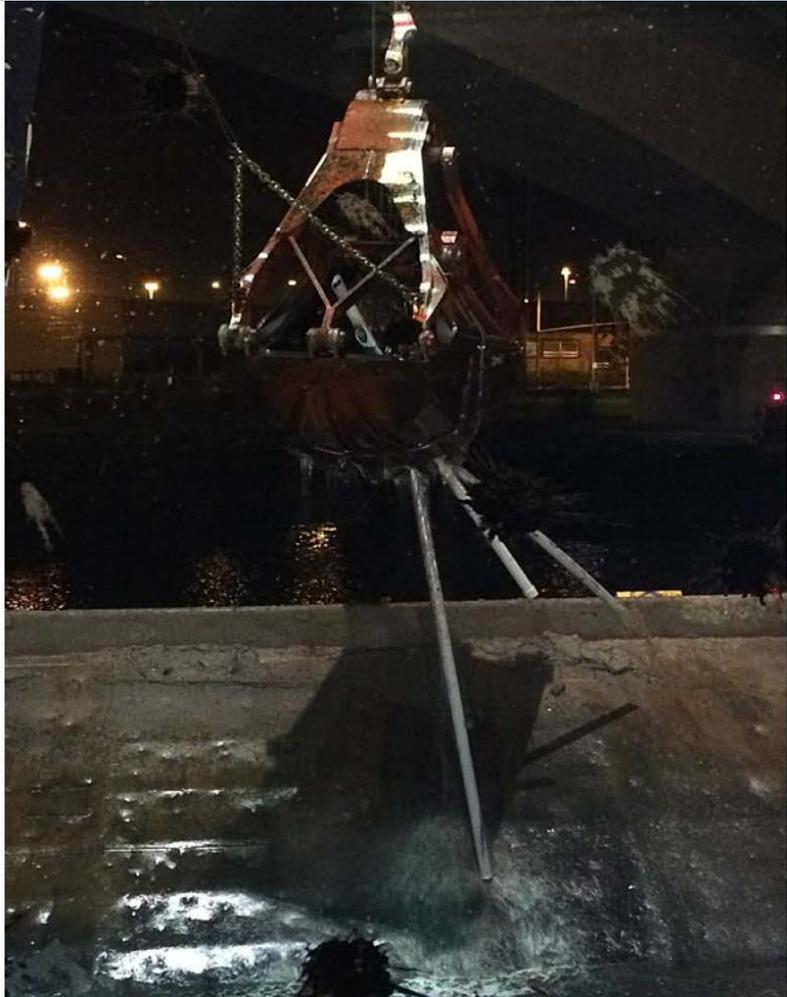
DEBRIS IN DREDGED MATERIAL: CURRENT RESTRICTIONS

- Only approved dredged material allowed for disposal at open water sites.
- Debris allowed if natural material and less than 2-ft in any dimension (wood, rock) = **small debris**
- All other anthropogenically-derived debris of any size (e.g., rebar, tires, plastic trash) prohibited for open water disposal = **anthropogenic debris**
- PSDDA MPR and UM discuss clamshell and screening methods to remove debris but no specific method required.

DEBRIS REMOVAL USING CLAMSHELL

- In Washington State – debris removal typically triggered based on visual observation of dredging process
- Debris greater than 2' x 2' removed from dredge barge using bucket and segregated for upland disposal

DEBRIS REMOVAL USING CLAMSHELL



DEBRIS REMOVAL BY SCREENING

- Steel mesh (“grizzly”) recommended in COE national guidance
- Covers part or all of scow. Can be (re)movable
- Heavy-duty chain or inflexible steel construction
- 1’ x 1’ mesh grizzly required for most projects in California
- Grizzlies rarely used in Puget Sound and Grays Harbor projects

DEBRIS REMOVAL BY GRIZZLY



DEBRIS REMOVAL USING SCREENING



RETAINED DEBRIS



DEBRIS IN DREDGED MATERIAL PROBLEM STATEMENTS

- **Large debris observed at Puget Sound disposal sites**
 - May change habitat quality at sites
 - Interferes with site monitoring equipment
- **Anthropogenic debris of all sizes seen at sites**
 - May change habitat quality at sites
 - May introduce contamination into the aquatic environment

DEBRIS AT ELLIOTT BAY SITE (2014)



DEBRIS IN DREDGED MATERIAL PROBLEM STATEMENTS (CONT.)

- **UM definition of “debris” doesn’t distinguish between allowable and prohibited types of debris**
 - Creates confusion on what is allowed and what isn’t
 - Could erode public acceptance of open water disposal
- **Inconsistent debris screening requirement between West Coast EPA Regions**

PROPOSED CLARIFICATION

1. All projects must use a screen to remove debris unless they meet one of exemption criteria:

- Dredging most native sediments
- Dredging of frequently maintained navigation channels, away from berths and shorelines
- Dredging in non-urban areas removed from marina/industrial/shipping activities
- Evidence from previous rounds of dredging with screen shows no debris

PROPOSED CLARIFICATION (CONT.)

2. Maximum size of size of wood and rock debris allowable for open water disposal is reduced to 1-ft in any dimension

- Material must be screened using 1'x1' grid
- Provides for more effective removal of both anthropogenic debris (e.g. tires) and large woody/rock debris
- Aligns DMMP debris management guidelines with those in place in California

IMPLEMENTATION

- Screening and 1-ft size limitation requirement begins 2017 dredging year (June 2016)
- Requirement for grizzly will be documented in DMMP Suitability Determination
- Applicable to all areas covered by DMMP: Puget Sound, Grays Harbor, Willapa

IMPLEMENTATION

Costs associated with new requirements:

- Additional scow and offloading equipment for debris
- Offloading & disposal of debris
- Cleaning and repairing the grizzlies
- Moving the grizzlies
- Potential reductions in production rate

Many dredging companies working in Washington State have been successfully using 1'x1' grizzlies for dredging projects in California for over a decade

COMPLIANCE ENFORCEMENT

- Site inspections
- Fines for failure to use grid when required
- Disposal site monitoring may be required (costs borne by dredging contractor)

Questions?