

Memorandum for Record

SUBJECT: RECENCY DETERMINATION ON THE SUITABILITY OF DREDGED MATERIAL FOR THE RAYONIER MAINTENANCE DREDGING (OYB-2-010368) FOR DISPOSAL AT EITHER THE SOUTH JETTY OR POINT CHEHALIS ESTUARINE OPEN WATER DISPOSAL SITES.

1. Rayonier proposes to maintenance dredge 20,000 cubic yards of material near its dock at Hoquiam, Washington. The following summary reflects the consensus determination of the agencies (Corps of Engineers, Washington Department of Ecology, Washington Department of Natural Resources and the Environmental Protection Agency) with jurisdiction over dredging and disposal regarding the applicability of recency guidelines to the proposed project.
2. The ranking for the area is "low-moderate" based on the guidance provided in the "Interim Evaluation Guidelines for Testing Sediments Proposed for Dredging from Regulated Projects in Grays Harbor and Willapa Bay" for the ITT Rayonier project.
3. Sampling and testing for sediments at the ITT Rayonier Dock took place in 1989 and 1991. In both instances, the material was found suitable for open water disposal. Testing for dioxin was completed in 1991 and in 1993. Test results showed a reduction in concentrations of 2,3,7,8 TCDD (Tetrachloro-Dibenzo-p-Dioxin). This congener is regarded by EPA as the most toxic form of dioxin. In 1993 this congener was undetected at 0.66 parts per trillion.
4. Recency guidelines for existing information refer to the duration of time for which chemical and biological characterization for a given sediment remains valid and adequate for decision-making. Recency guidelines are based on project rank. For a low-moderate ranked project, the recency guideline is generally 5-7 years.
5. No known changed condition has occurred in the project area (e.g. accidental spills or new discharges). Therefore, the agencies have determined that the recency guidelines apply, and additional sediment testing is not required for DY95 dredging for the Rayonier project.



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