

2 February 1998

SUBJECT: DETERMINATION ON THE SUITABILITY OF DREDGED MATERIAL FROM UNION BAY, LAKE WASHINGTON (#97-2-01380) EVALUATED UNDER SECTION 404 OF THE CLEAN WATER ACT (CWA) FOR OPEN-WATER DISPOSAL AT THE ELLIOTT BAY NONDISPERSIVE PSSDA SITE.

1. The project applicant (Mr. Ralph Swanson) proposes to dredge 990 cy of dredged material from a private boat moorage to maintain adequate water depths. The proposed dredged material would be disposed at the Elliott Bay nondispersive PSSDA site.
2. The DMMP agencies (Corps, EPA, Ecology, DNR) ranked the project area "moderate" for testing purposes according to the PSSDA Users Manual (Table 3-2, page 18). Under the requirements specified by the DMMP program for Puget Sound and Lake Washington (Table 3-5, page 23, and text on pages 22-23), a "moderate" ranked project may qualify for "No Testing", if the proposed dredging volumes are less than 1,000 cy, and there is no specific, conclusive evidence that this would be unacceptable material.
3. The agencies concluded that material from this project meets the intent specified in the PSSDA Users Manual (referenced above) and therefore, would qualify for "No Testing". The agencies concluded that all 990 cy of material is suitable for placement at the Elliott Bay nondispersive PSSDA site without testing.
4. This memorandum documents the suitability of proposed dredged sediments for disposal at the Elliott Bay open-water site. However, this suitability determination does not constitute final agency approval of the project. A dredging plan for this project must be completed as part of the final project approval process. A final decision will be made after full consideration of agency input, and after an alternative analysis is done under Section 404(b)(1) of the Clean Water Act.

Concur:

5 Feb 98

Date



David Kendall, Ph.D., Seattle District Corps of Engineers

5 February 1998

Date



Justine Barton, Environmental Protection Agency

9 FEB '98

Date



Tom Luster, Washington Department of Ecology

05 FEB 98

Date



Ted Benson, Washington Department of Natural Resources

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DMMO file