CENWS-OD-TS **10 May 2000**
Dredged Material Management Office

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: DETERMINATION OF THE SUITABILITY OF DREDGED MATERIAL TESTED UNDER DMMP EVALUATION PROCEDURES FOR THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS BAY CENTER ENTRANCE CHANNEL PROJECT (CENWS-OD-TS-NS-8) FOR DISPOSAL AT THE CAPE SHOALWATER OPEN WATER DISPOSAL SITE OR FOR BENEFICIAL RE-USE.

1. The Corps of Engineers proposes to dredge approximately 165,000 cubic yards of material from the Bay Center Entrance Channel, Willapa Bay. The following summary reflects the DMMP agencies (Corps of Engineers, Department of Ecology, Department of Natural Resources and the Environmental Protection Agency) consensus decision on the acceptability of sampling and all relevant data to make a determination of suitability for the disposal of the material at a DMMP open-water disposal site.

2. The ranking for this area is "low" based on guidance provided in the Dredged Material Evaluation Procedures for Grays Harbor/Willapa Bay (1995), page 47.

3. The Bay Center Entrance Channel is located in a high-energy area, and is far removed from any known sources of contamination or historical sources of pollution. In such cases, Material that is predominantly sand can be excluded from further chemical testing (40 CFR 230.6(a).

4. Confirmatory grain-size sampling was conducted on 7 March 2000. Five grab samples were taken from the proposed dredge prism and composited for two grain-size analyses. Results of the analyses showed the samples to be greater than 99 percent sand.

5. Based upon the above information, no further chemical testing of the material was required. However, the Shoalwater Indian Tribe expressed concern regarding the presence of Carbaryl (Sevin), glyphosate (Rodeo), organomercury and organopesticides in the sediment. Since some of the material may be used for beach nourishment in the vicinity of tribal lands, the Corps agreed to supplemental chemical sampling for these chemicals of concern.

6. Four grab samples were taken from the proposed dredge prism on 24 April 2000. These samples were analyzed using EPA methods 8081 for organochlorine pesticides, EPA method 8141 for organophosphate pesticides, Monsanto method for glyphosate analysis, and modified EPA 632 for Carbaryl analysis. Analysis for mercury and methylmercury was conducted by Frontier Geosciences in accordance with EPA Method 7471 (SW-846).

7. No chemicals of concern were found above detection limits (DMMP SLs for those chemicals having a screening level). All analyses met DMMP quality assurance/quality control standards.

8. The chemical analytical data were also compared to the State Sediment Management Standards. No chemicals exceeded SMS criteria. Based on this information, the DMMP agencies determined that the sediments from the Bay Center Entrance Channel are suitable for use in beneficial re-use projects.

9. In summary, the data gathered were deemed sufficient and acceptable for regulatory decision-making under the DMMP program. Based on the reason –to-believe analysis of the material, the grain-size analysis, and the supplemental results of the chemical testing, the consensus determination of the DMMP agencies is that all 165,000 cubic yards from the Bay Center Entrance Channel are suitable for open-water disposal.

10. This memorandum documents the suitability of proposed dredged sediments for disposal at an approved open water disposal site or for beneficial re-use. It 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 and public input, and after an alternatives analysis is done under section 404 (b) 1 of the Clean Water Act.

BAY CENTER ENTRANCE CHANNEL PROJECT

Concur:

7/20/00
Date

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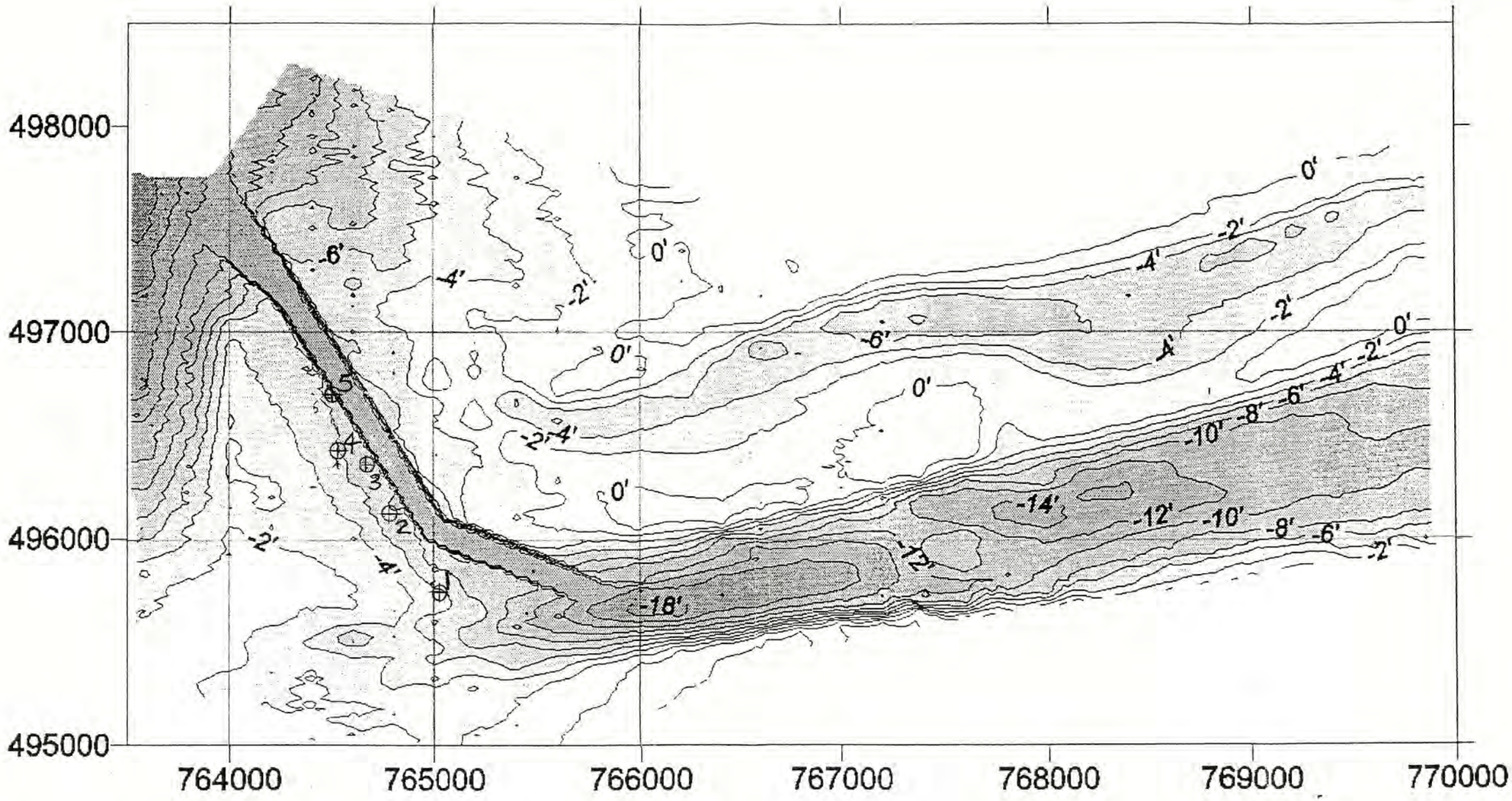

Figure 9. Flared Northwest Channel (background bathymetry September 1999)

Locations of five surface grab samples.