

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

16 September 2013

SUBJECT: DMMP FREQUENCY EXTENSION FOR PORT OF GRAYS HARBOR TERMINALS 2, 3, 4 AND VOLUME INCREASE FOR TERMINAL 3.

1. The most recent sampling for characterization of maintenance dredged material at the Port of Grays Harbor Terminals 1, 2, 3 and 4 occurred in September 2007. Dredged Material Management Program (DMMP) suitability determinations based on that sampling were issued November 14, 2007 for Terminals 1, 2 and 4; and August 13, 2008 for Terminal 3. Terminals 2, 3 and 4 are ranked low-moderate, while Terminal 1 is ranked low. The frequency period for low-moderate and low-ranked projects is six and seven years respectively. Therefore, the frequency period for Terminal 1 expires in September 2014, while the frequency period for Terminals 2, 3 and 4 expires in September 2013.
2. The Port of Grays Harbor notified the DMMP agencies on September 9, 2013 of their intention to conduct maintenance dredging at all four terminals, beginning in September 2013 and extending through February 15, 2014.
3. There have been no known spill events or changed conditions in the project area since the original suitability determinations were issued. The DMMP agencies were consulted and are in agreement that extension of the frequency period to the end of the dredging window in February 2014 is acceptable.
4. The Port of Grays Harbor also notified the Dredged Material Management Office of a minor increase in the required dredging volume at Terminal 3. The August 18, 2008 suitability determination included a volume of 40,000 cubic yards. However, a recent bathymetric survey indicated that 44,355 cubic yards of material needs to be removed from Terminal 3 during this dredging cycle. The DMMP agencies agree that this is a relatively small increase in volume and are of the consensus opinion that the previous testing adequately represents the sediment to be dredged. Therefore, the DMMP agencies approve an increase in the volume covered under the August 18, 2008 suitability determination to 45,000 cubic yards.
5. A pre-dredge meeting or conference call with the DMMP agencies is still required. A dredging quality control plan must be developed and submitted to the Seattle District Corps of Engineers Regulatory Branch project manager for dredging at Terminals 1, 2, 3 and 4 at least 7 days prior to the pre-dredge meeting. A DNR site-use authorization must also be acquired.
6. Full characterization will need to be conducted again at all four terminals in the summer of 2014, prior to the 2014/2015 dredging season.

7. References:

Determination Regarding the Suitability of Proposed Dredged Material from the Port of Grays Harbor Terminals 1, 2 and 4, Aberdeen, Grays Harbor County, for Open-Water Disposal at the South Jetty or Point Chehalis Dispersive Sites, or for Beneficial Use. Prepared by the Army Corps of Engineers for the DMMP agencies, November 14, 2007.

Determination Regarding the Suitability of Proposed Dredged Material from the Port of Grays Harbor Terminal 3, Hoquiam, Grays Harbor County, for Open-Water Disposal at the South Jetty or Point Chehalis Dispersive Sites, or for Beneficial Use. Prepared by the Army Corps of Engineers for the DMMP agencies, August 13, 2008.

8. Agency Signatures.

Concur:

The signed document is on file in the Dredged Material Management Office.

Date David Fox, P.E. - Seattle District Corps of Engineers

Date Justine Barton - Environmental Protection Agency

Date Laura Inouye, Ph.D. - Washington Department of Ecology

Date Celia Barton - Washington Department of Natural Resources

Copies furnished:

DMMP signatories
Ron Wilcox, Seattle District Regulatory
Mike Johnson, Port of Grays Harbor