

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

June 23, 2014

SUBJECT: DETERMINATION REGARDING THE TIER 1 EVALUATION OF DREDGED MATERIAL, CONSISTING PRIMARILY OF SHELL HASH, FROM THE ENTRANCE TO THE SMALL LOCKS AT HIRAM CHITTENDEN LOCKS, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON.

1. Introduction. This memorandum reflects the consensus determination of the Dredged Material Management Program (DMMP) agencies (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Washington Departments of Ecology and Natural Resources, and the Environmental Protection Agency) regarding the Tier 1 evaluation of dredged material from the entrance to the small locks at Hiram Chittenden Locks.
2. Background. The Corps of Engineers dewateres both the large and small lock chambers at Hiram Chittenden Locks for maintenance on an annual basis. As part of the routine maintenance, barnacles and mussels are scraped from the inner walls of the locks, removed from the chambers and hauled to a commercial composting facility (Figure 1).

The Corps of Engineers was notified in March 2014 that tugs were sometimes scraping bottom at the east entrance to the small lock chamber (Figure 2). A hydrographic survey revealed the presence of shell hash that had accumulated just outside the small locks at its east entrance (Figure 3). The Corps proposes to excavate this material and send it to the same commercial composting facility as the shell hash removed from the lock chambers.

3. No-Test Determination. The DMMP agencies reviewed the information provided by the Corps and determined that chemical testing will not be required for the material excavated from the entrance to the small locks. There is no reason to believe that this material is substantially different from the shell hash that is removed from the lock chambers on an annual basis. The volume proposed for removal is small and will be taken to the same composting facility as the shell hash from the lock chambers. The sediment surface that will be exposed by excavation is limited in area and had already been exposed for many decades prior to accumulation of the shell hash. In summary, there is little risk that removal of the shell hash will have an adverse environmental effect. Therefore, no testing is required.

This determination was coordinated by the undersigned with Laura Inouye (Ecology), Justine Barton (EPA) and Celia Barton (DNR).

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

Date

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

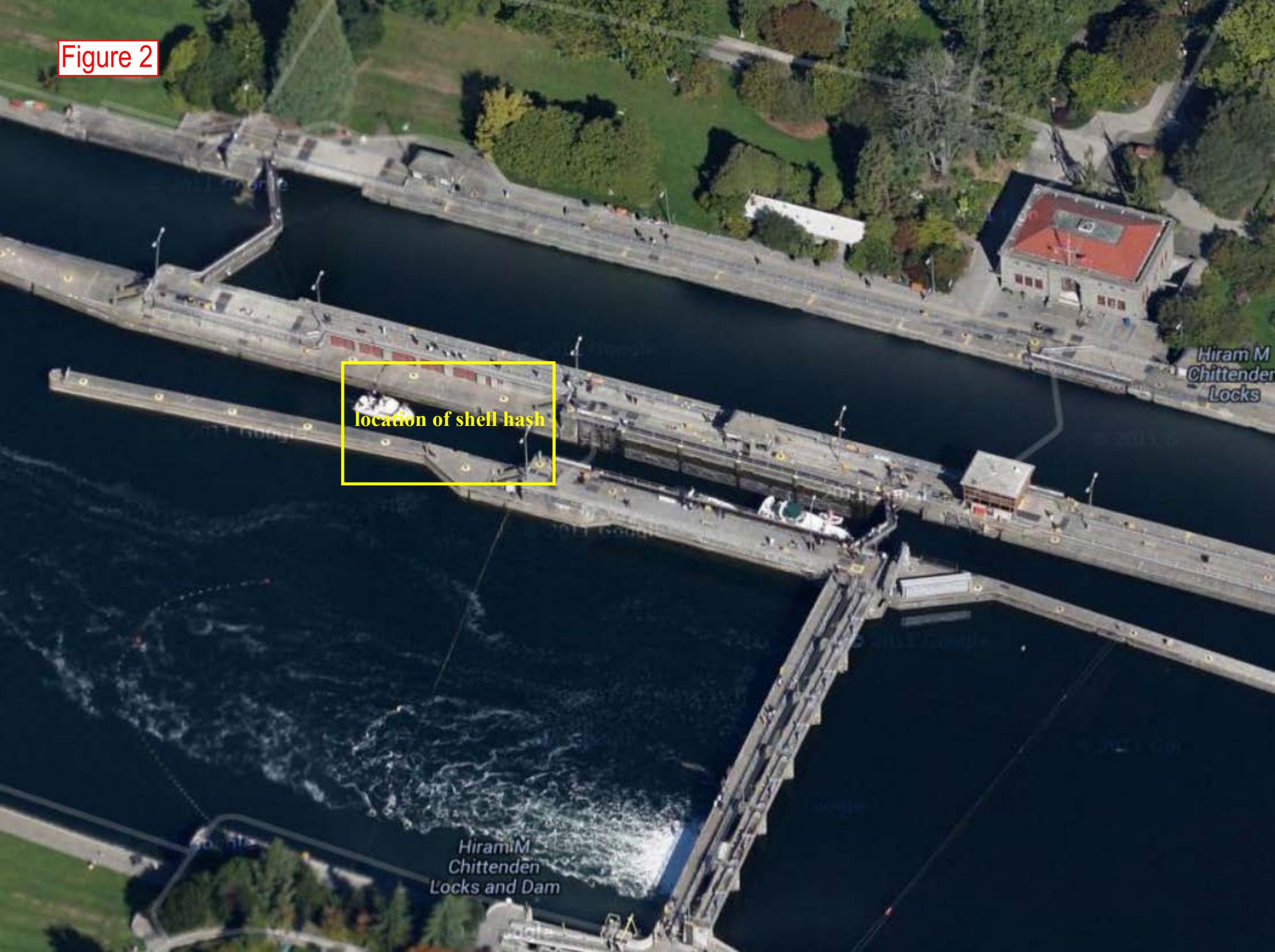
Copies furnished:

DMMP agencies
Craig Morton, CENWS-OD-TS-NS
David Carpenter, CENWS-OD-LW

Figure 1



Figure 2



location of shell hash

Hiram M
Chittenden
Locks

Hiram M
Chittenden
Locks and Dam

