

Army Corps issues notice of violation to Port of Seattle

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SEATTLE - The Seattle District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, today issued a notice of violation to the Port of Seattle for their Terminal 30 and 91 projects.

The Port of Seattle applied for and was granted a permit to conduct dredging at Terminals 30 and 91 as part of a project that included relocating cruise ships.

A comprehensive pre-construction meeting was held with the Port, the agencies and the contractor Jan. 10, 2008, prior to February dredging.

Last week the Port notified the Corps of Engineers that its dredging contractor, General Construction, had dredged beyond the scope of the permit. At T-30, dredging was done deeper than the permitted depth. At T-91, 1,368 cubic yards, or 14.5 percent, was dredged beyond the scope of the permit.

On April 4, the Corps issued a notice of violation to the Port requesting information about the causes and circumstances of the violation. The Port has 30 days to respond. After a response is received, the Corps will work with the Port and other regulatory agencies to resolve the violation.

"The Corps appreciates that the Port notified us about the situation, and the Corps will be working with the Port to resolve the violation," said Muffy Walker, Seattle District Regulatory Branch Chief. "It is important that applicants limit their work to the permitted scope, and we are disappointed that the Port and General Construction have exceeded the permitted limits."