Prepared by:
Dredged Material Management Office
Seattle District, US Army Corps of Engineers

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD **June 22, 2020**

SUBJECT: TIER 1 ANTIDEGRADATION EVALUATION FOR THE LEGROW WATER COMPANY INTAKE PIPE MAINTENANCE (NWS-2020-522) ON THE COLUMBIA RIVER IN WALLULA, WASHINGTON.

1. Introduction. This memorandum documents the Tier 1 antidegradation evaluation by the Dredged Material Management Program (DMMP) agencies (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Washington Departments of Ecology and Natural Resources, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency) of LeGrow Water Company maintenance dredge project. This evaluation resulted in a no-test antidegradation determination, and the DMMP does not require further testing.

2. Project. This project is located on the Columbia River near Wallula, Walla Walla County, Washington State (Figure 1). The LeGrow Water Company pumps water from the river for crop irrigation. An intake pipe and screens were originally installed in 1978 and the screens upgraded in 2013. Over the last few years, sediment has been depositing at the site at almost 0.5 ft. per year, largely due to sediments moving during wind events from the mouth of the Walla Walla River.

Approximately 3,200 CY of material will be removed around the existing intake screens during the initial work window. A hydraulic dredge will be used to remove the material and pump it to shore using an existing HDPE pipe located between the shoreline and the intake screens. On shore the material will be spilled into a sump where another pump and discharge pipe will convey it approximately 3,300 ft. east to an on-shore sedimentation basin for dewatering. When the project is completed the sediment will be placed on upland property adjacent to the sedimentation basin.

Subsequent year dredging will occur if the intake screens again become adversely impacted by sediment deposition. Subsequent year dredging would occur on the same site and likely involve lesser quantities for removal. Dredging depth would continue to extend only to the original river bottom.

3. Evaluation. The volume proposed for dredging is 3,200 CY. There is no project-specific ranking for this area, so low-moderate is assumed given the relatively rural/remote nature of the project location with few or no known sources of concern but insufficient data to confirm the ranking. Under DMMP guidelines, projects for which upland disposal is planned do not ordinarily require testing of the dredged material if they are ranked moderate or less, but they do require evaluation under the Department of Ecology's antidegradation standard.

An Environmental Information Management (EIM) query revealed no data within a 0.5 mile radius. The Boise White Paper barge channel, sampled under DMMP guidelines in 2017, is downstream about 0.8 miles. That characterization found that no DMMP chemicals were detected above screening levels, and all material was suitable for in-water disposal. A review of Ecology's "What's in My Neighborhood" database also found no cleanups within a 0.5 mile radius (Figures 2 and 3).

4. Tier 1 Antidegradation Determination. The project is located in a remote area with no cleanup sites nearby. Based on the site evaluation, the potential for contamination to be present is low. The DMMP

agencies have determined that the sediment exposed by dredging will likely meet the State of Washington antidegradation standard, and therefore, no DMMP testing of the leave surface is required for this project.

Since all dredged material will be going to an upland disposal location, a suitability determination for open-water disposal is not needed for this project.

This antidegradation determination does ***not*** constitute final agency approval of the project. During the public comment period that follows a public notice, resource agencies will provide input on the overall project. A final decision will be made after full consideration of agency input, and after an alternatives analysis is done under section 404(b)(1) of the Clean Water Act.

5. References.

DMMP 2018a. *Determination regarding the suitability of proposed dredged material from the Boise White Paper barge channel, turning basin and slip, Wallula, Washington, evaluated under section 404 of the clean water act for unconfined in-water disposal.* Prepared by the Dredged Material Management Program, July 16, 2018.

DMMP 2018b. *Dredged Material Evaluation and Disposal Procedures (User Manual)*. Dredged Material Management Program, updated December 2018.

6. Agency Signatures.

signed copy on file in Seattle District DMMO

Date	Lauran Warner – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District
Date	Erika Hoffman – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10
Date	Laura Inouye, PhD. – Washington State Department of Ecology
Date	Shannon Soto – Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Copies Furnished:

DMMP agencies

David Moore, USACE Regulatory Project Manager

DMMO File

Figure 1. Project Location

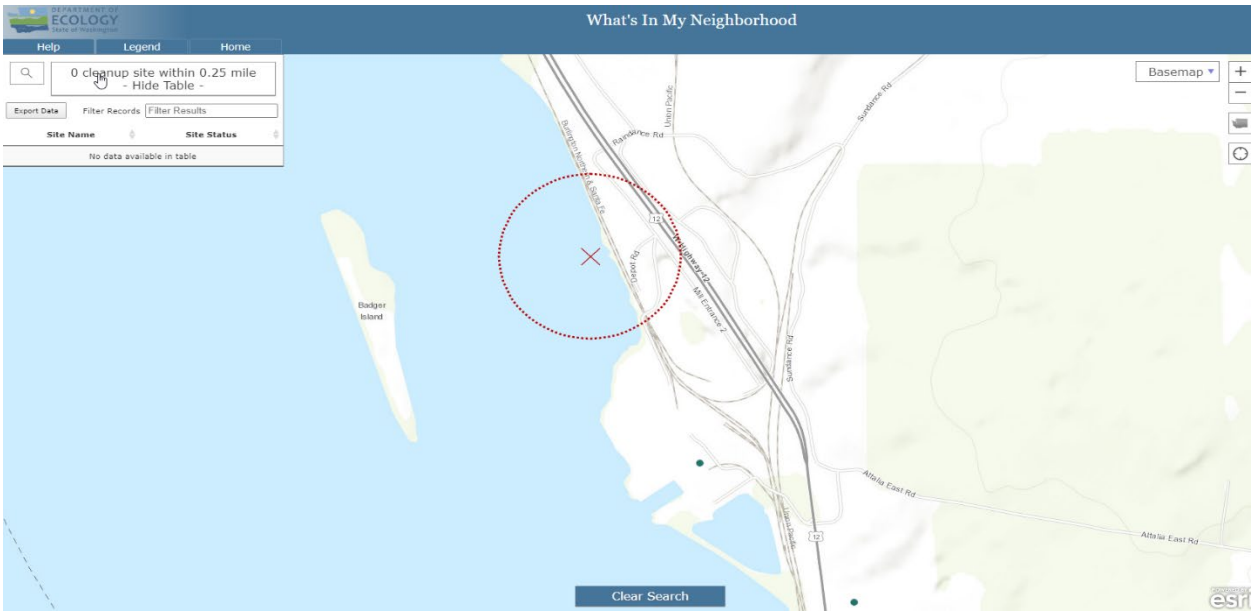

Figure 2. From Ecology Database. Circle shows 1.5 mile radius from project location.

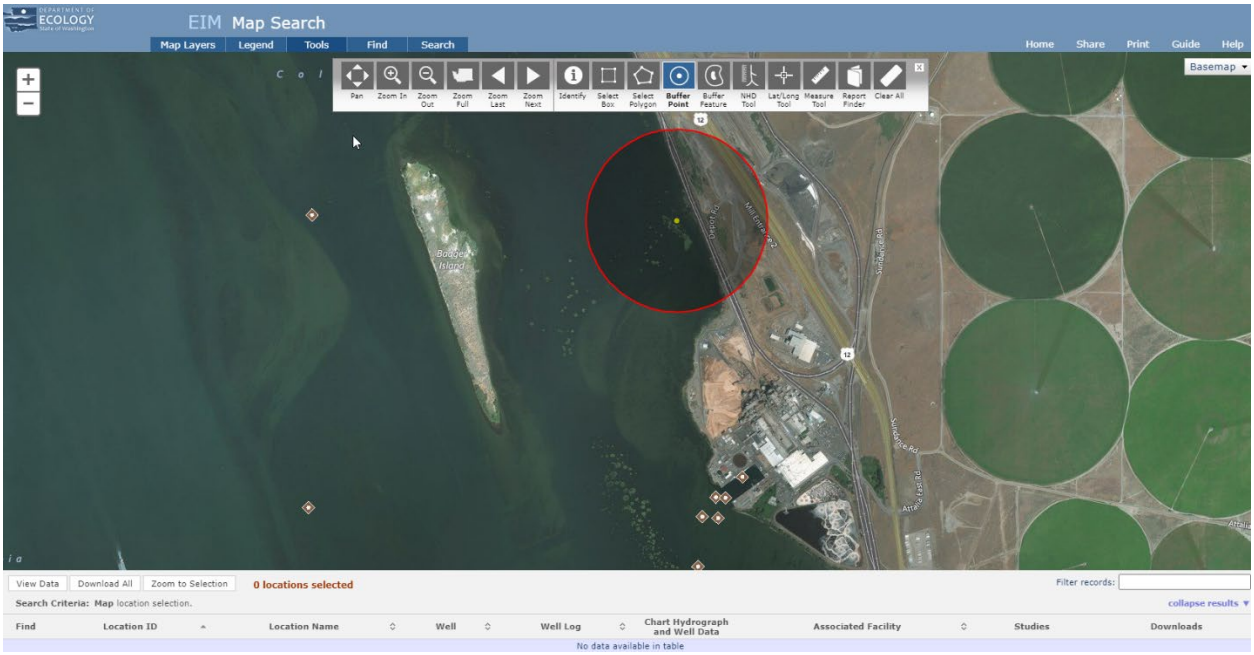

Figure 3. From EIM query. Circle shows 0.5 mile radius from project location.