

**Prepared by:**

Dredged Material Management Office  
Seattle District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

**MEMORANDUM FOR: RECORD**

**June 19, 2020**

**SUBJECT:** TIER 1 ANTIDegradation EVALUATION FOR THE PEACH BEACH BOAT RAMPS AND BASINS (PROJECT #NWS-2020-269) DREDGING PROJECT ON THE COLUMBIA RIVER, WASHINGTON, WITH UPLAND DISPOSAL.

**1. Introduction.** This memorandum documents the Tier 1 anti-degradation evaluation by the Dredged Material Management Program (DMMP) agencies (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Washington State Department of Ecology, Washington State Department of Natural Resources, and the Environmental Protection Agency) of the Peach Beach Boat Ramps maintenance dredging project on the Columbia River in Goldendale, WA. This evaluation resulted in a no-test anti-degradation determination, and the DMMP does not require further testing.

**2. Project.** This project is located on the Washington side of the Columbia River at rivermile 209.5 near Goldendale, WA, which is upstream of The Dalles Dam. The project involves removing up to 2,000 CY of accumulated sediment from two boat ramps and associated basins, the East boat ramp and West boat ramp, see Figure 1. Both basins and boat ramps were constructed in the 1950's and have not been dredged since construction. Sediment from the Columbia River has accumulated to the extent that the boat ramps can no longer be used safely. The applicant estimates that up to two feet of silt has accumulated on both the east and west boat ramps, with the applicant proposing to dredge 1 to 4 feet of sediment from the boat ramps and associated basins.

The proposed dredging will occur from the boat ramps and basin banks during low water, using an excavator with lidded bucket. All dredged material will be deposited in dump trucks and taken to a nearby upland location on an adjacent property, see Figure 2.

**3. Evaluation.** The volume proposed for dredging is 2,000 CY. There is no project-specific ranking for this area, so a low-moderate ranking is assumed given the relatively rural/remote nature of the project location, with few or no known sources of contamination, and insufficient data to confirm the ranking. Because the proposed dredging volume exceeds the "no-test" small project volume of less than 1000 CY, the DMMP small project exclusionary guidelines based on volume do not apply.

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 do require evaluation under the Department of Ecology's antidegradation standard (DMMP, 2008).

There are no known sources in the area, which is primarily rural with some agriculture and a commercial campground (Peach Beach Campground). To the west of the site is Maryhill State Park and to the east of the site are orchards. An EIM query showed that there are no data within a ¼ mile radius of either boat ramp, see Figures 3a and 3b. A query of Ecology's What's In My Neighborhood cleanup site database revealed that there are no cleanups within a ¼ mile radius of either boat ramp, see Figures 4a and 4b.

**4. Tier 1 Anti-degradation Determination.** The project is located in a relatively remote area with no cleanup sites nearby. Based on the site evaluation, the potential for contamination to be present is low. Based on this information, 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, the 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, 2019. *Dredged Material Evaluation and Disposal Procedures (Users Manual)*. Prepared by the Seattle District Dredged Material Management Office for the Dredged Material Management Program, December 2018.

DMMP, 2008. *Quality of Post-Dredge Sediment Surfaces (Updated)*. A Clarification Paper Prepared by David Fox (USACE), Erika Hoffman (EPA) and Tom Gries (Ecology) for the Dredged Material Management Program, June 20

EPA, 1980. *40 CFR Part 230 Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines for Specification of Disposal Sites for Dredged or Fill Material*, Environmental Protection Agency, December 1980.

**6. Agency Signatures.**

The signed copy is on file in the Dredged Material Management Office, USACE Seattle District.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date                      Kelsey van der Elst - Seattle District Corps of Engineers

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date                      Justine Barton - Environmental Protection Agency

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date                      Shannon Soto - Washington Department of Natural Resources

Copies furnished:

DMMP signatories

Evan Carnes, USACE Regulatory PM

Stephen Head, Authorized Agent

Daniel Gunkel, Applicant and Property Owner

# Daniel Gunkel: Peach Beach Boat Ramp Dredge Project

Vicinity Map

Maryhill, WA



## Legend

County Boundary

Towns (Points)

City Limits

Roads

City

County

Other Govt

Private

State

Parcels



USACE Ref. No.: NWS-2020-269

Date: 5/6/2020

Sheet 1 of 11

Vicinity Map

← 300' →



Created by Klickitat County. Klickitat County provides no warranty, expressed or implied, as to the accuracy, reliability or completeness of this data.



Legend

- |                 |            |         |
|-----------------|------------|---------|
| County Boundary | Roads      | Parcels |
| Towns (Points)  | City       | □       |
| City Limits     | County     |         |
|                 | Other Govt |         |
|                 | Private    |         |
|                 | State      |         |



Created by Klickitat County. Klickitat County provides no warranty, expressed or implied, as to the accuracy, reliability or completeness of this data.

Figure3a. EIM query results for the Peach Beach West boat ramp and basin.

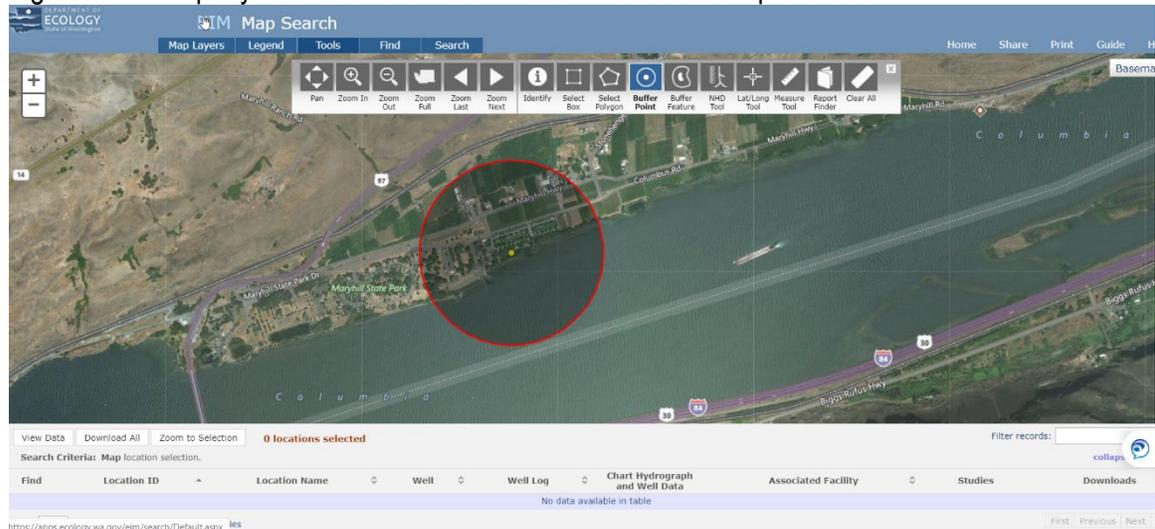


Figure3b. EIM query results for the Peach Beach East boat ramp and basin.

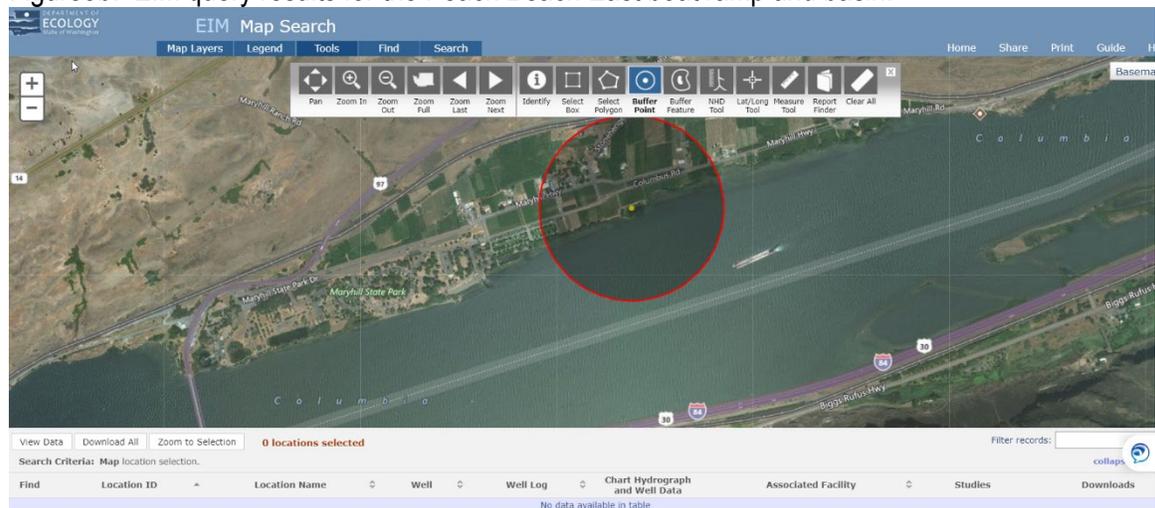


Figure 4a. What's In My Neighborhood query results for Peach Beach West boat ramp and basin.

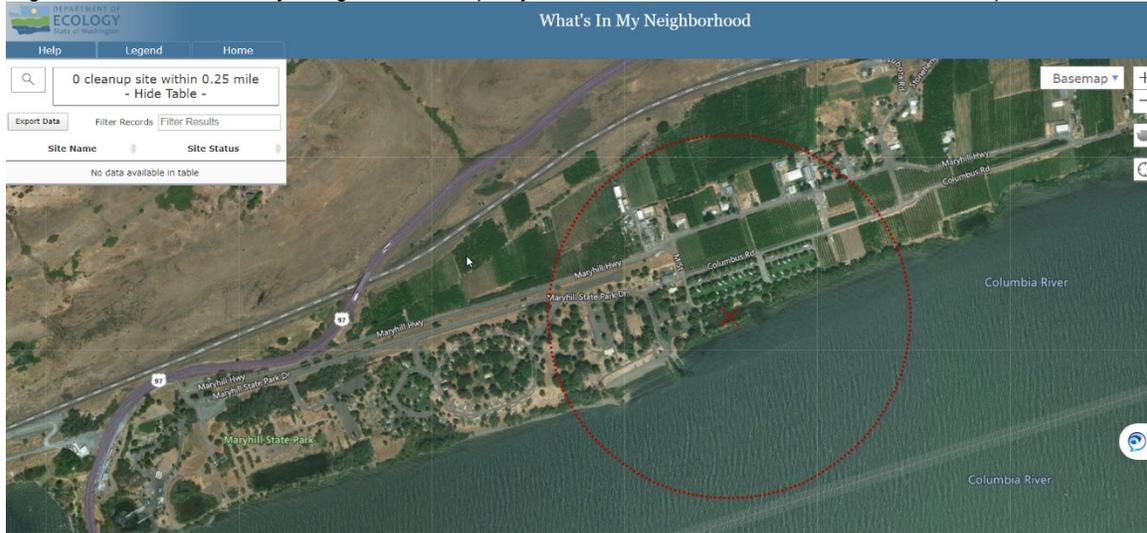


Figure 4b. What's In My Neighborhood query results for Peach Beach East boat ramp and basin.

