

Quick Facts

Long Term Management Strategy

GOALS

- Maintain in an economically and environmentally sound manner those channels necessary for navigation in SF Bay and Estuary and eliminate unnecessary dredging.
- Maximize the use of dredge material as a beneficial resource.
- Establish a cooperative permitting framework.

OBJECTIVES

- Multi-Agency dredging activities in SF Bay and Estuary.
- Identify an array of acceptable dredge material disposal sites.
- Promote beneficial reuse of dredge material.
- Describe Federal, State, and Local authority, criteria, policies and protocols for dredging and the disposal of dredge material.

BACKGROUND

- LTMS launched January 1990 and established 3 major work groups:
1) Ocean Disposal led by EPA; 2) In-Bay Disposal led by SF Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board; 3) Upland/Reuse Disposal led
By the Bay Conservation and Development Commission; with oversight provided by the COE and the State Water Resources Control Board.
- EIR/EIS was initiated in 1993; draft submitted for public review in April 1996.

STATUS

- Final EIR/EIS was completed in December 1998.
 - Record of Decision was signed on 16 July 1999.
- LTMS Management Plan was completed in August 2000 and adopted by BCDC in December 2000.

SUMMARY

The EIR/EIS presented and evaluated three alternative long-term approaches that would achieve the LTMS goals to various extents. Each represents a substantial long-term decrease in disposal within the Estuary and a long-term increase in beneficial reuse of dredge material. The LTMS agencies identified a preferred alternative in the final EIR/EIS document.

Alternative 3 was selected as the preferred alternative.

Alternative 3 includes low disposal volumes at in-Bay sites (~ 20%), medium disposal volumes in the Ocean (~ 40%) and medium volumes of upland/wetland reuse placement (~ 40%). This alternative combines the maximum environmental benefit of any of the action alternatives, with minimum risks to the Estuary and negligible risks to the Ocean.

Presently, the Management Plan for the preferred Alternative has been developed. Transition will include a ramping-down of in-Bay disposal as upland beneficial reuse sites are made available.