



LONG TERM MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

SHORT TERM SOLUTIONS WORK GROUP

BCDC
50 California Street, Suite 2600
San Francisco, CA

Thursday, February 24, 2011
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

MEETING NOTES

MEETING ATTENDEES

Carolynn Box – BCDC	Sandra Hamlet – BCDC
Nina Cavett – USACE	James M. Haussener – CMANC
Gilbert Conn – TranSystems Corporation	Kristen Joseph – Cooper Crane (phone)
Jeff Cotsifas – Pacific EcoRisk	Samantha Leskie – Weston Solutions (phone)
Mark D’Avignon – USACE	Debra O’Leary – USACE
Jack Fink – Moffatt & Nichol (phone)	Ashley Otherson – Anchor QEA, L.P.
Darren Gewant – EDS Consulting	Anne Whittington – Port of Oakland
Brenda Goeden – BCDC	

2010 DREDGING SEASON

Brenda noted that 50 projects were proposed last year, of which 29 are completed, 9 are not yet complete, and 5 are on hold. Projects that are currently using Hamilton are desperately trying to finish and should be complete in March, after which Hamilton will likely close for the remainder of this year.

2011 DREDGING PROJECT CHART

Please see the updated dredging project chart included as Attachment A to these meeting notes.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT PROGRAMMATIC CONSULTATION

In 2009, the LTMS [initiated through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)] and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) submitted a biological assessment regarding essential fish habitat (EFH) in the San Francisco Bay to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). NMFS responded with a draft EFH consultation in mid-2010. The LTMS and NMFS have held several meetings since to discuss areas of disagreement. The definition of the Bay’s baseline

conditions have remained an unresolved issue between NMFS and the LTMS. Additional topic-specific updates include:

- Eelgrass: The LTMS agreed to the possibility of an eelgrass mitigation bank but does not have a plan/legal understanding of how to create one at this time. Meanwhile, the LTMS will continue mitigation on project-specific basis, as needed.
- Subaquatic vegetation (beyond eelgrass): A survey should be released in 2012 to determine where important subaquatic vegetation is located in the Bay.
- Invasive species: The LTMS agreed to move forward on a benthic recovery study to assist NMFS in determining if the assumed recovery period is appropriate for the San Francisco Bay.
- Funding an additional NMFS staff person: The LTMS did not agree to fund an additional NMFS staff person to participate in the LTMS; however, they did agree to additional reporting as well as early and regular notification of projects with eelgrass issues.
- Contaminants issue: NMFS had concerns over ambient conditions and the potential for certain constituents to be placed back into the Bay, specifically PCBs, mercury, and PAHs. The LTMS and NMFS have met to discuss this issue. The DMMO will require bioaccumulation testing for projects exceeding ambient levels for mercury, PCBs and PAHs. The LTMS and NMFS will meet again on this topic on March 10, 2011.

OTHER ITEMS OF CONCERN

Brenda noted that the results of the fish tracking study have shown that salmonids do not linger in shoreline areas, and that when they move out of the San Francisco Bay, they tend to move quickly. As a result, there is a possibility that NMFS could expand the salmonid work window in the Bay.