

LONG TERM MANAGEMENT STRATEGY



San Francisco Bay Dredged Material Management Office (DMMO)

FACT SHEET

May, 1999

DMMO was established through the LTMS process to foster a comprehensive and consolidated approach to permitting dredging and dredged material disposal projects for the San Francisco Bay Area. The DMMO is comprised of personnel from the federal and state agencies responsible for management of dredged material in the Bay: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, San Francisco District, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IX, San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board, State Lands Commission, and San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission. Resource agencies that provide DMMO with input include the Department of Fish and Game, State Water Resources Control Board, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and National Marine Fisheries Service.

DMMO provides a forum wherein the agencies jointly review and discuss permit documents and make consensus recommendations regarding them. Coordination within DMMO results in consistent reviews, reductions in redundancy and unnecessary delays, and provides applicants with a single point of entry into the permitting process. It should be noted however, that DMMO's facilitation of the dredging permitting process occurs *within existing laws, regulations and policies*. No new regulatory statutes have been initiated as a result of the creation or operation of the DMMO. Participation in the DMMO does not alter the legal statutory or regulatory authority of the member agencies.

DMMO makes joint staff recommendations on approval, denial or modification of:

- Sediment Sampling and Analysis Plans (SAP)
- Results of testing pursuant to approved SAPs
- Consolidated permit applications (for completeness)
- Suitability of dredged material proposed for in-Bay, ocean, and upland disposal/reuse

DMMO staff may also recommend that certain conditions be included in permits or approvals.

Decisions are made on the basis of consensus. If consensus cannot be reached at the staff level, the DMMO Memorandum of Understanding provides for a process of elevating the issue to the Dredging Management Committee (DMC) for resolution. The DMC, made up of management executives from each of the DMMO member agencies, oversees the DMMO and is responsible for policy-level decisions.

The DMMO also has an ongoing responsibility for providing the regulated public with up-to-date guidance on topics associated with dredged material management. For example, DMMO will be issuing guidance on Inland Testing Manual protocols for public comment in 1999. Pertinent local, regional and national guidance, policies and other information related to dredging and dredged material disposal can be found on the DMMO web site (www.spn.usace.army.mil/conops/dmmo). DMMO also works with permit applicants and others on an informal basis to improve public understanding of the dredged material management process.

DMMO meetings are generally held twice each month. All meeting agendas, times and locations are posted on the DMMO web site. Members of the public may address the DMMO on pending applications; please call or e-mail the DMMO Coordinator David Dwinell at least five days prior to a scheduled meeting if you would like to be added to the agenda.

U.S. Environmental Protection
Agency, Region IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

San Francisco Bay Conservation
and Development Commission
30 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 2011
San Francisco, CA 94102

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
South Pacific Division
&
San Francisco District
333 Market Street, 8th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105

San Francisco Bay Regional
Water Quality Control Board
1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400
Oakland, CA 94612

California State Water
Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100