

# LONG TERM MANAGEMENT STRATEGY



**TO:** LTMS Interested Parties  
**FROM:** LTMS Management Committee  
**SUBJECT:** LTMS Management Plan Workshops

May 13, 1999

We are responding to the invitation made by participants at the April 8, 1999 Long Term Management Strategy (LTMS) Management Plan workshop for the members of the LTMS Management Committee to attend future workshops. We would also like to take this opportunity to clarify the current structure and process of the LTMS for dredging and disposal in the San Francisco Bay region, particularly in regards to the role of the interested parties and the workshops in preparation of the Management Plan. We believe that the Management Plan workshops provide an important mechanism to exchange information and build consensus and are pleased with the high level of interest in and attendance of the workshops. Members of the Management Committee plan to attend future workshops as our schedules allow. However, we do not feel that our attendance is critical in that the staff drafting the Management Plan are attending the meetings and keeping us informed of issues and ideas addressed in that forum. We will also be reviewing the workshop summaries and other materials related to the workshop process, and you are welcome to transmit directly your interests and concerns on the LTMS to us by letter.

## **LTMS and Decision-making Framework**

As you know, the LTMS was initiated in 1991 by the primary agencies regulating dredging and disposal in the Bay: the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board, the State Water Resources Control Board, the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC), and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Last year, the Final Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report for the LTMS program was issued that defines the long-term dredging and disposal management strategy chosen by the LTMS agencies:

**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

changing current disposal patterns over time to take 80 percent of dredged material to beneficial reuse and ocean sites, and disposing the remaining 20 percent to sites in the Bay. A Record of Decision (ROD) on the EIS and a Notice of Certification of the EIR are planned for mid-1999. To implement the chosen strategy, the LTMS agencies are currently preparing a management plan containing specific guidance and policies on dredging and disposal in the region. During this period of transition from plan preparation to implementation, the LTMS structure remains in place and the Management Committee is responsible for preparation of the LTMS Management Plan.

#### **Management Plan Workshops**

The Management Plan workshops were established by the agencies to provide for public input into preparation of the draft Management Plan. These workshops quickly became a spirited forum on LTMS issues and, at the request of the participating parties, the Management Committee expanded the workshops into a facilitated process for collaborating on resolution of LTMS issues. We welcome these efforts and plan to reflect in the draft Management Plan the progress made through the workshops to achieve consensus. The draft Management Plan was originally scheduled for release in late summer, 1999. However, in order to allow more time for the workshop participants to work towards resolution of the issues, we are extending the schedule so that the draft Management Plan will be released this November. However, preparation of the Management Plan cannot be an open-ended process, and we believe that this schedule will allow us to proceed expeditiously towards developing a plan, which will provide a sound basis for regional decision-making on dredging and disposal activities, for example, the Port of Oakland's proposed 50 foot deepening and middle harbor disposal projects.

The opportunity for comment and input will not end with the release of the draft Management Plan. The document will then go through a public review process including a joint public hearing and comment period before the Regional Board and BCDC pursuant to the San Francisco Basin and Bay Plan amendment processes. The Management Plan will also be a "living document" that will be reviewed and revised at regular intervals. We understand that participants have agreed to attend additional workshops following the release of the draft Management Plan. The outcome of these additional workshops can be reflected in preparation of the final Management Plan, the Bay/Basin Plans, and subsequent review processes.

The workshop attendees indicated at the April 8th meeting that they would like to use the workshops as a forum to present and discuss their positions, and that while regulatory agency staff should be able to participate, they would primarily act as a resource. The LTMS Management Committee is supportive of this structure, as long as the discussions and information-sharing are

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productive, continue to focus on building consensus on issues that staff will address in the Management Plan, and result in recommendations that are implementable and are consistent with the LTMS EIS/EIR and ROD. We will continue to provide meeting space, a facilitator, and mail out workshop notices and summaries. However, the workshop attendees should provide information to staff to focus meeting agendas and presentations.

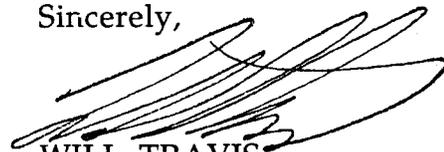
In order to facilitate the participants discussions, staff will provide information on each of the topics in advance of the meeting. Agency staff plan to use a portion of the workshops to request comment on aspects of the workshop topics for incorporation into the Management Plan. In addition, we encourage the workshop attendees to provide written comments and questions to the LTMS agency staffs, which can be addressed during the workshops, by written response, or in more focused subgroup meetings.

We understand that the interested parties have prepared a list of topics for the workshops and that beneficial reuse has received a high level of interest. We have taken this information and prepared the attached proposed schedule for workshop topics. We believe that the June workshop, after the upcoming one on testing, should focus on beneficial reuse and we request that it include: (1) a presentation by the various parties and agencies of actions they are taking to foster and implement beneficial reuse projects in the region; and (2) discussion of actions needed to implement beneficial reuse projects throughout the region.

#### **Conclusion**

We hope that this letter has provided you with the clarification requested regarding the roles of the LTMS Management Committee and interested parties relative to the workshop process. We understand that your time is limited and being a part of this process can be time-consuming. However, we believe that your on-going participation is integral to the development of the LTMS Management Plan. In closing, we appreciate the time you have devoted to this process to date and look forward to working with you to implement the LTMS.

Sincerely,



WILL TRAVIS  
Executive Director  
On behalf of the LTMS  
Management Committee

Enclosure

cc: LTMS Management Committee Members

**Proposed Workshop Schedule**  
**May 13, 1999**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>
May, 1999	Sediment testing
June, 1999	Process for implementation of upland/wetland/reuse (UWR) sites
July, 1999	Sediment testing follow-up UWR issues follow-up Use of dredged material at landfills
August, 1999	Eliminate and/or reduction of unnecessary dredging Funding issues (e.g. for DMMO, staff during LTMS implementation, monitoring disposal & reuse sites, etc.)
September, 1999	Disposal & reuse allocations Phasing/timing of transition towards 40/40/20 disposal & reuse distribution
October, 1999	Public participation (e.g. in DMMO) CEQA review for individual projects
November, 1999	Draft LTMS Management Plan review
December, 1999	TBD, if needed