



US Army Corps
of Engineers

San Francisco District PUBLIC NOTICE



US Environmental
Protection Agency

NUMBER: 00-1

DATE: November 1, 2000

Operations and Readiness Division
333 Market Street
San Francisco CA 94105-2197

DMMO Contact: David Dwinell

e-mail: ddwinell@spd.usace.army.mil

Water Division, WTR-8
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco CA 94105-3919

Phone: (415) 977-8471

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA DREDGED MATERIAL MANAGEMENT OFFICE (DMMO)

GUIDANCE FOR REQUESTS FOR TIER I DECISIONS

The Clean Water Act and the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act provide for tiered evaluation of sediment proposed for dredging and disposal in aquatic environments. The initial evaluation tier (Tier I) uses readily available existing information as the basis for the factual determination required for authorization of aquatic disposal of dredged material. For certain dredged materials with clear potential for environmental impact (or lack thereof), information collected in Tier I may be sufficient for making factual determinations (Tier I decisions). However, more extensive evaluation (Tiers II, III, and IV) may be needed for other materials with less clear potential for impact or for which Tier I information is inadequate.

The Dredged Material Management Office (DMMO) encourages applicants to apply for Tier I decisions in appropriate cases. A Tier I decision limits the amount of testing necessary for a suitability decision, while still ensuring appropriate environmental protection. Projects that have a long history of frequent dredging and a record of decisions that deem the material acceptable for unconfined aquatic disposal are prime candidates for Tier I decisions.

The attached guidance is intended to assist dredging project applicants in preparing adequate Tier I requests, and includes a list of required items for a complete request. Incomplete requests will be returned to applicants and may result in project delays.

Requests for Tier I decisions should be submitted to the DMMO at least one week prior to a scheduled meeting.

Questions regarding this guidance may be directed to the DMMO contact listed on the header of this Public Notice.

Additional information may be found on the DMMO webpage at: <http://www.spn.usace.army.mil/dmmo.htm>.

**DMMO GUIDANCE
FOR REQUESTS FOR A TIER I DECISION**