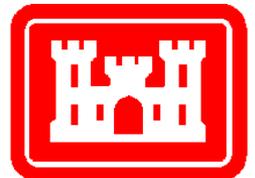


Sacramento River Deep Water Ship Channel Draft SEIS/SEIR

March 21, 2011

Public Hearing

West Sacramento City Hall



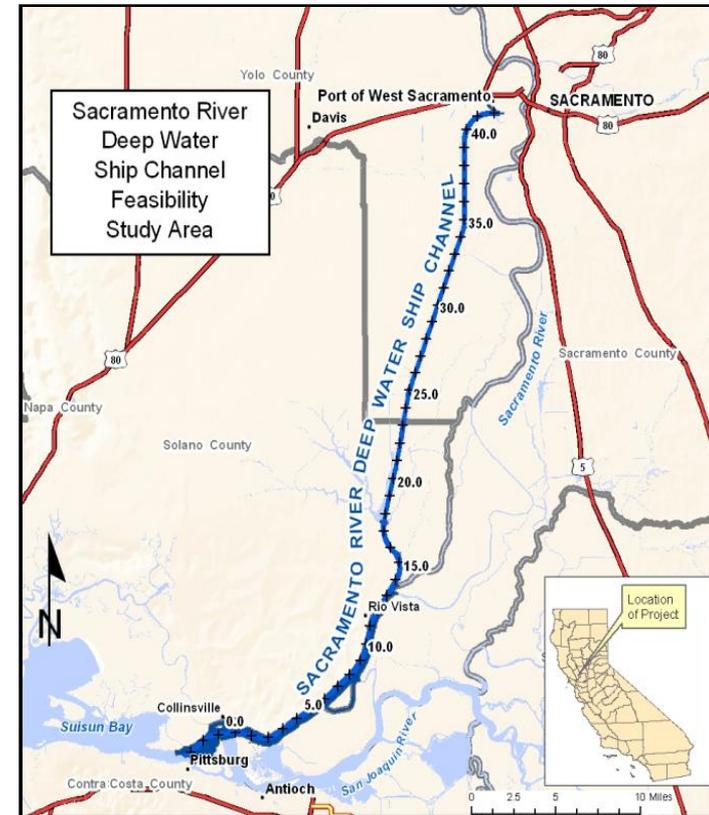
Presentation Introduction

- Project overview
- Project purpose and need, and objectives
- Alternatives
- Summary of impact evaluations
- Next steps



Project Background

- The 46.5 mile-long SRDWSC provides access from SF Bay to the Port of West Sacramento
- Lower bound is New York Slough
- Upper bound is locks just beyond Port
- Includes a constructed portion and channel within the Sacramento River
- Tidally influenced along entire length
- Salinity is low but varies with hydrology (tides/freshwater input)



Project Overview

- Complete construction of the Sacramento River Deep Water Ship Channel (SRDWSC) deepening project
- Volume of dredged material estimated to be approximately 10 million cy
- Dredged material placement proposed at 10 upland sites
- 6-month environmental work windows will be requested through consultation with resource agencies
- Approximately 4 years of construction based on current schedule and funding estimates
- Requires replacement of PG&E gas pipelines

Project Objectives

- Purpose is to increase economic benefits associated with a reduced transportation cost of moving goods to the Port, and provide safe navigation for commercial marine traffic
- Project objectives:
 - Effectively and efficiently accommodate vessel traffic to the Port
 - Reduce maneuvering access problems in the SRDWSC
 - Optimize cargo capacity for vessels calling at the Port
 - Maximize potential for beneficial reuse of dredged material

Alternatives Evaluated

- Future without Project Conditions (NEPA and CEQA Baseline)
- Deepening to -35 feet MLLW (Proposed Project)
- Deepening to -33 feet MLLW
- Additional alternatives were considered but not evaluated
- Broad placement site evaluation



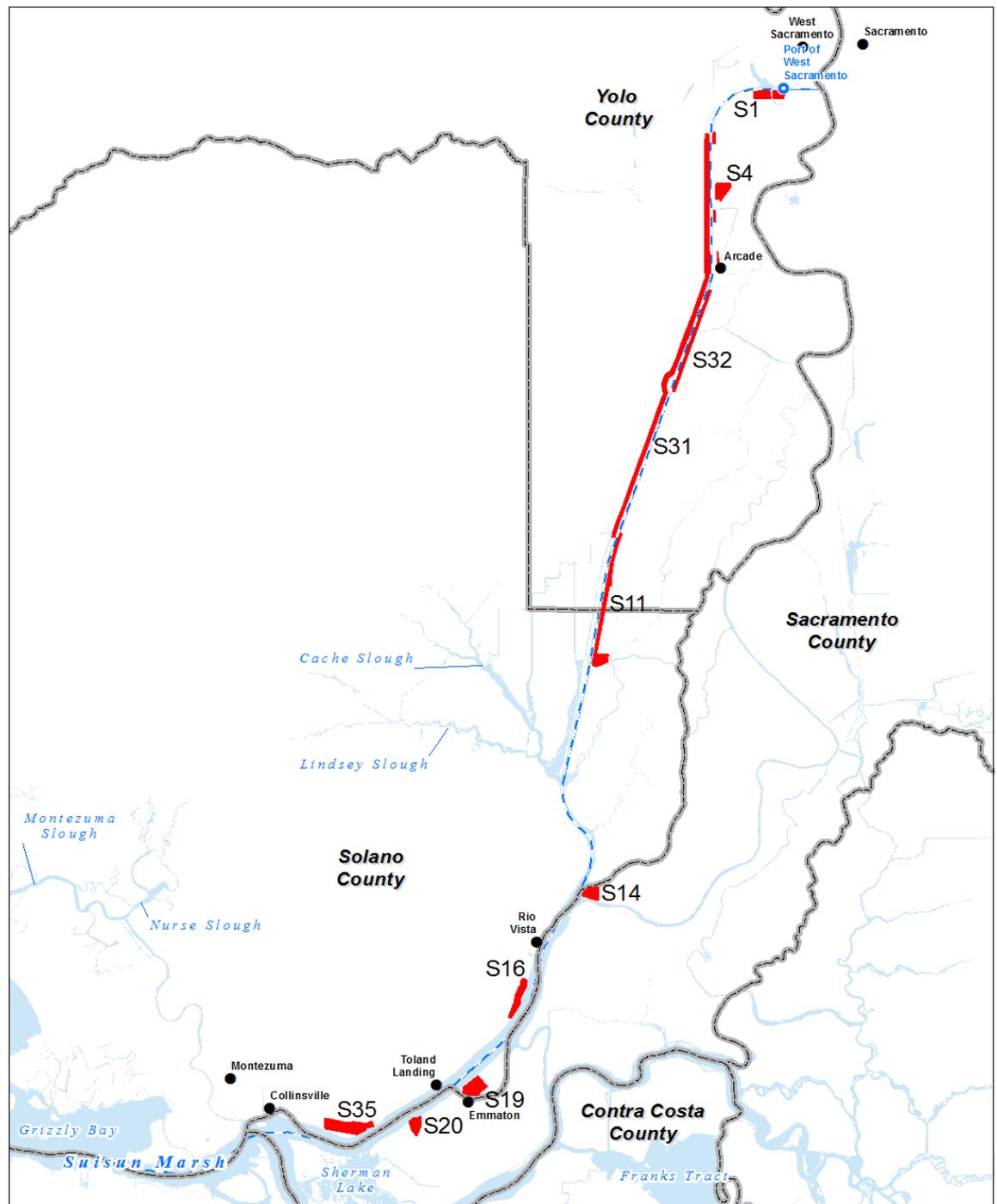
Anticipated Vessel Calls on the Port Under Each Alternative

Year	Future without Project Conditions	Proposed Project	-33 Feet MLLW Alternative
2011	58	58	58
2018	108	76	87
2028	128	90	103
2053	143	100	114

Placement Site Alternatives and Screening Summary

- Intent of study is to identify all potential placement sites in the Delta and study area
- 124 potential placement sites identified
- Screening criteria excluded sites that would:
 - Impact adjacent land uses from hydraulic pipeline placement
 - Impact prime farmland
 - Require the use of a booster pump
 - Require use of clamshell dredging equipment
- Ten selected sites further refined to avoid wetland, riparian, and valley oak woodland habitat to the maximum extent feasible
- Material from at least three of the ten sites has been harvested for beneficial reuse

Proposed Placement Sites



Additional Recently Identified Beneficial Reuse Opportunities

- Recently, additional beneficial reuse opportunities have surfaced:
 - Asta site: Approximately 43 acres in size; potential capacity of between 1,000,000 and 3,000,000 cy; would not require construction of containment berms
 - Industry representatives (Jerico Products and The Dutra Group) in need of dredged sediment
- If feasible for use by the Proposed Project, these opportunities will be fully analyzed in the Final SEIS/SEIR
 - Coordination with stakeholders ongoing on this issue

Long-Term Management Plan for Maintenance of a Deepened SRDWSC

- USACE is currently developing a 20-year Plan for ongoing navigational maintenance of the SRDWSC and long-term management of the upland dredged material placement sites
- Plan would reflect conditions after deepening the SRDWSC to a depth of 35 feet MLLW
- Likely to include additional beneficial reuse opportunities currently under consideration
- Plan will be included with Final SEIS/SEIR

Summary of Impact Evaluations

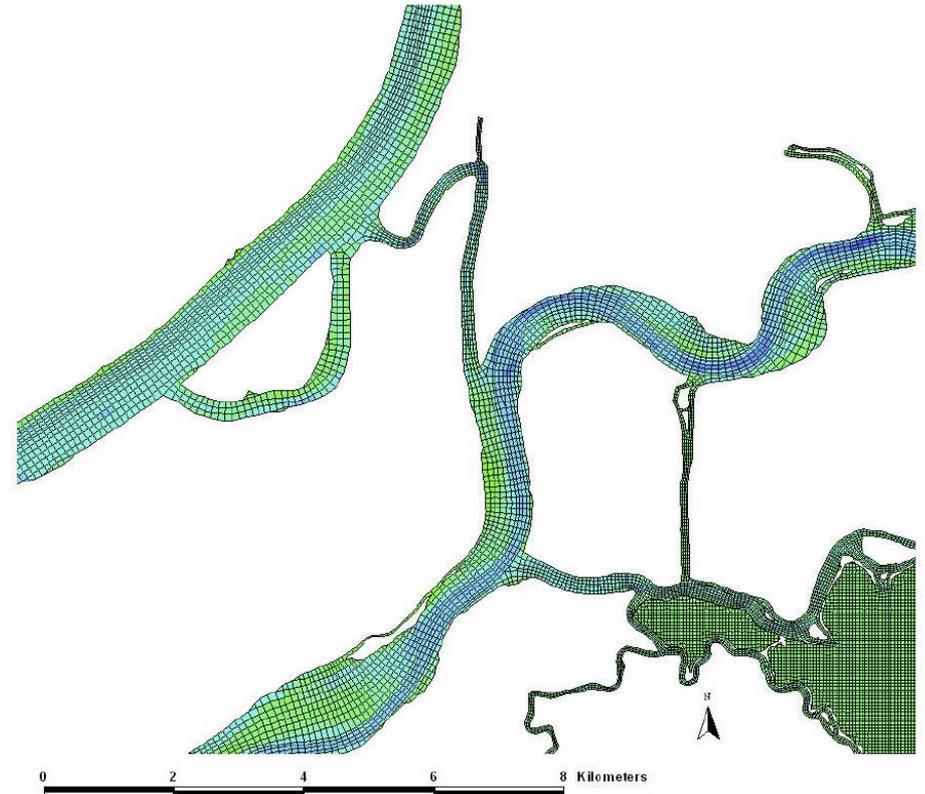
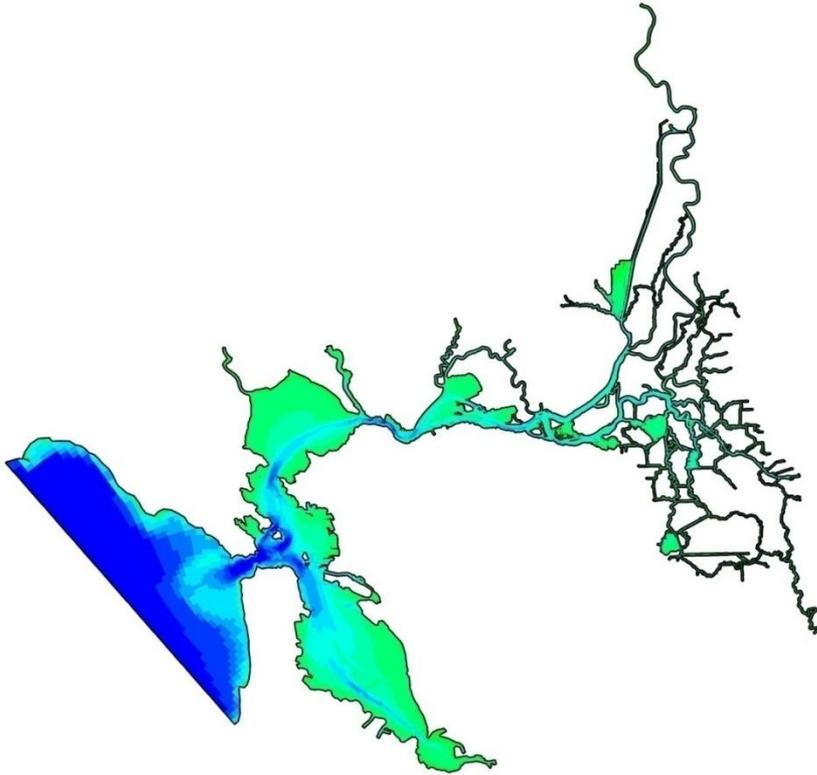
- All CEQA/NEPA and 404 elements analyzed
- With mitigation, no significant impacts resulting from the Proposed Project with exception of delta smelt critical habitat
- Proposed Project could increase maintenance dredging volumes by approximately 10%
- The following slides detail key areas of emphasis including salinity, aquatic and terrestrial species, habitat, air, and noise



Salinity/Hydrodynamic Modeling

- Intent of modeling is to predict changes in salinity and hydrodynamics under predicted future, worst case scenarios
- UnTRIM three-dimensional hydrodynamic model considered sea level rise
 - Selected and supported by DWR, Contra Costa Water District, and EPA
- Model assumed extreme drought conditions (worst case scenario); impacts would be reduced during a typical year

Model Domain and Grid



Extends from the Pacific Ocean
through the entire Sacramento-
San Joaquin Delta

Results

- No significant changes in water surface elevation and flow for Year-0 and Year-50 conditions
- Some changes in salinity for year-0 and year-50 conditions
- Proposed Project results include:
 - Median change in X2 from baseline conditions for Year 0 is 0.13 km and for Year 50 is 0.24 km
 - Overall, less than significant impact on the upstream shift of X2 above modeled baseline conditions

Sediment Quality

- Project-specific sampling effort conducted in 2009
- Proposed Project's estimated post-dredge surface suggest two discrete areas where metals may exceed sediment quality criteria:
 - Lead concentration at RM 23.0
 - Mercury concentration at RM 31.0
- Literature review indicates:
 - Bioaccumulation levels of lead and mercury in organisms exposed to project sediment measured well below levels shown to cause detrimental effects on aquatic organisms

Aquatic Species and Habitats

- Proposed Project could result in potentially significant residual impact to delta smelt critical habitat
 - USACE and the Port are in early coordination with USFWS and CDFG regarding potential effects to delta smelt critical habitat
 - Additional mitigation and compensation measures will be developed and incorporated into the Proposed Project
- Impacts to all other species and critical habitat reduced to less than significant through implementation of mitigation measures, such as controls on dredging

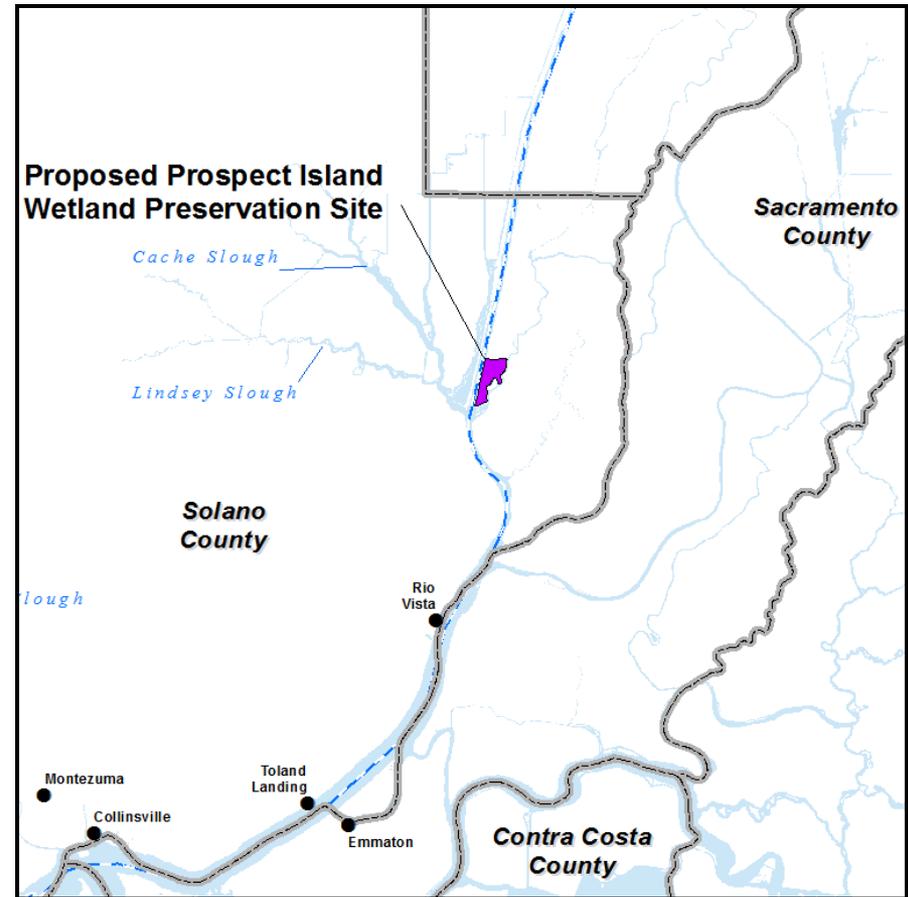
Terrestrial Species and Habitats

- Impacts of Proposed Project include loss of minimal amounts of wetlands, valley oak woodland, and riparian habitat
- All impacts reduced to less than significant through implementation of mitigation measures:
 - Complete pre-construction sensitive species surveys
 - Construct outside breeding seasons as feasible for listed bird species
 - Implement wetland preservation on Prospect Island



Prospect Island Wetland Preservation Site

- Mitigation for wetlands and riparian impacts proposed at Prospect Island on land owned by the Port
- Approximately 300-acre site would remain in its current flooded condition
- Site to be protected in perpetuity as a wetland preservation site, offsetting impacts of the Proposed Project



Air Quality

- Proposed Project emissions were compared to Future without Project Conditions levels, not current levels
- All impacts reduced to less than significant (i.e., under applicable emissions thresholds) through implementation of selected mitigation measures
- Examples include:
 - Use of diesel particulate filters (DPF) on land-side off-road construction equipment
 - Utilize selective catalytic reduction (SCR) on dredging equipment

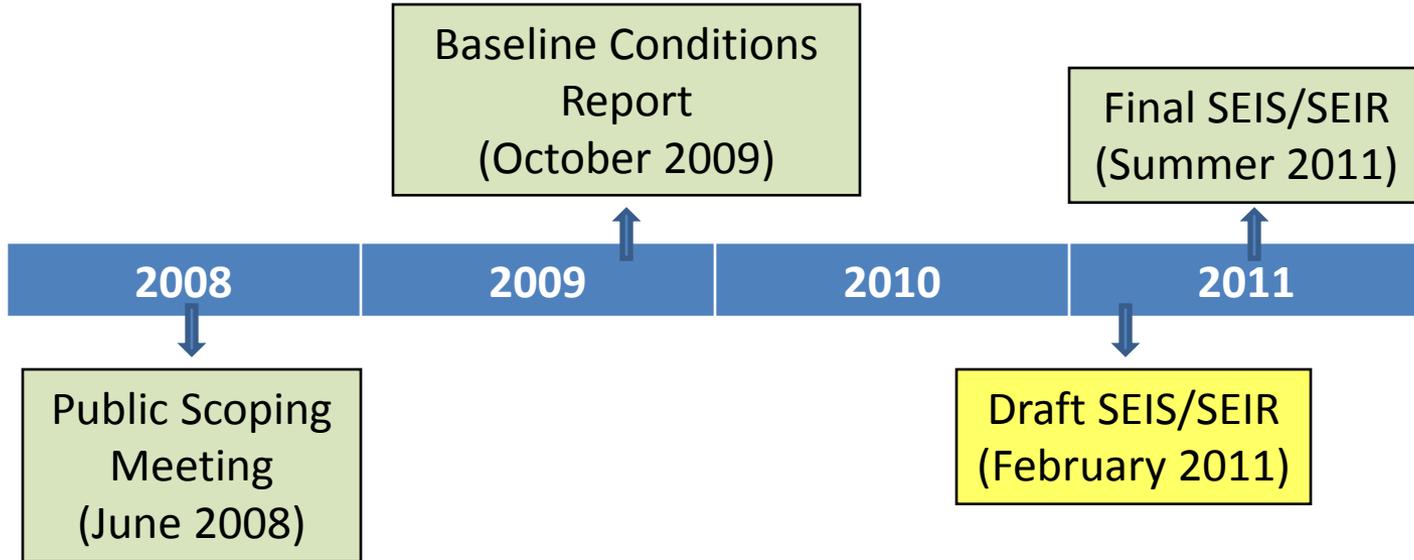
Noise

- All impacts would be reduced to less than significant (comply with noise regulations) through implementation of standard noise minimization measures
- Dredging in the area of Rio Vista requires a variance from the City due to noncompliance with a local noise ordinance (prism crosses through City boundaries)



Next Steps

- Public review period: February 25 – April 18



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