Los Angeles Region
CONTAMINATED
SEDIMENTS
TASK FORCE

CSTF AQUATIC SUBCOMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
4/22/02, 10-12, POLA

Attendees: In attendance where the following: Steve Cappellino, Jim Fields, Ying Poon, Barry Snyder, Lawrence Honma, Jessica Morton, Michael Lyons, and Kathryn Curtis

Long-Term Monitoring Program (LTMP) Work Plan: Steve Cappellino from Anchor Environmental presented a status report on efforts to finalize the work plan for the LTMP. Comments on the draft Work Plan were reviewed at the last subcommittee meeting and summarized (with responses) in a table that was distributed to all. There were two outstanding issues that needed resolving after the last meeting: (1) what size storm event was used in the WES model that predicted 30 cm of erosion of the cap, and (2) what is the most appropriate sized mesh for screening benthic organism samples.

(1) According to Joe Galiani of WES, who ran the erosion model, the storm used was worse that a worst-case storm. Essentially they started with the worst storms on record since 1905 and then added more conservative assumptions like no net input of sediment (only erosion) and no effects from the sidewalls of the pit. This resulted in an absolute worst-case prediction of 30 cm of erosion with an average of 12 cm. It was decided that this was too liberal for use as a trigger in the event-related monitoring section of the work plan. Therefore, the text was modified to state that a 25-year storm (either by rainfall or wave action) would be the trigger for monitoring. If several of these events occur over a relatively short period of time and no adverse effects are observed after each, then the trigger level may be raised to a less conservatively sized event.
(2) The Bight surveys in the area used a 1-mm mesh screen for benthic invertebrate sample collection. Larry Smith from the Corps recommended a smaller sized screen (0.5-mm) to ensure that juvenile bioturbators are captured. The group agreed that it would be good to be both consistent with other programs as well as ensure that juvenile organisms are captured. The decision was made to use the same size screen as the Port of LA's harbor-wide benthic monitoring study for consistency. If this value is greater than 0.5-mm, then duplicate samples will be added at select stations to use the smaller screen for evaluation.

All in attendance agreed that these were suitable resolutions and the monitoring plan can now be finalized and included in the RFP for contractor selection. Michael Lyons stated

that Steve Bay should have the RFP sent out by mid-May. Allowing 30 days for proposal submittal (mid June) and 30 days for consultant selection and contracting (mid-July), the program should be initiated sometime in early August. **Action Items** - Kathryn Curtis will check on the mesh size for the POLA monitoring program and Steve Cappellino will finalize the work plan for submittal to SCCWRP. (This item has been resolved subsequent to the meeting)

Resuspension White Paper Update: Steve Cappellino reported that Anchor and SCCWRP were in the process of setting up a work order that would allow Anchor to revise the white paper according to the group's comments so that it could be sent to Heal the Bay for review. The revised white paper would include all local monitoring data from the Ports, Corps, etc. as well as any toxicological data associated with dredging (e.g., WES bioaccumulation studies, CSTF sediment elutriate data) not yet included in the paper. Anchor is working with Steve Bay to develop a revised outline for the report to show the new data and text sections to be added. Steve Cappellino will work with the Ports to prepare a list of available monitoring data for inclusion.

Update on Pilot Reports: Steve Cappellino reported that there was a delay in preparing the pilot reports because of a problem with portions of the lab data. There are a few data sets where the dissolved metals numbers are higher than the total recoverable values. The Corps technical support group (DOTS) is working with Jim Fields to resolve the issue so that report preparation can move forward. Current estimates are for the draft reports to be submitted to the Corps for review on June 30th. After Corps reviews the reports, they can be submitted to the rest of the CSTF. Michael Lyons voiced a concern with the delay because there are several studies that are relying on the monitoring data such as the white paper and the beneficial reuse work conducted by GeoSyntec. The Corps and Anchor agreed to work with the group to ensure that portions of the results get extracted where possible to be used in the other studies.

Rhode Island Monitoring Study: Jim Fields discussed a large dredge monitoring project that is being conducted by the Corps later this summer in Narragansett Bay. There is an opportunity for the CSTF to provide funds for this project and have additional items added to the program that might be useful to resolve regional CSTF issues. After a bit of discussion, the group agreed that while the data would be nice to have, it was not worth spending money to obtain additional information. The thought was that the site conditions (estuarine) and dredge material (98% silt) for the Rhode Island project were not typical for LA Region and thus would not be directly applicable.

Potential Items for Additional Funding: Some potential items to keep in mind for additional funding within the CSTF are:

- Additional cement stabilization bench scale tests using Consolidated Slip material;
- Additional leach tests for the beneficial reuse classification study;
- Additional tests for dredging BMPs if the white paper is not definitive enough for all reviewers.

Next Meeting: The next meeting was set for May 21, 2002 from 10-12 at the POLA administrative offices.