Los Angeles Contaminated Sediments Task Force
Sediment Subcommittee — January 15, 2002

Attendees: Steve Cappellino (Anchor); Shannon Snider (Anchor); Paul Johansen (POLA); Jessica Morton (CCC); Steve Bay (SCCWRP); Leo Rebele (Hart Crowser); David Moore (MEC); Josh Burnam (USACE); Doris Vidal (SCCWRP); Michael Lyons (LARWQCB); Nick Buhbe (AMEC); Cynthia Erickson (URS); Phillip Hogan (URS); George Piantka (URS); Kathy Anderson (USACE); Steven John (EPA).

1. Sediment quality database.
   - Version 1.0 of the database has been distributed to CSTF members for internal review, with an anticipated review period of 6 months. The intention is to complete the database (e.g., dredge fate data) and identify any major bugs within 1 month, and issue Version 2 in mid-February.
   - Next sediment subcommittee meeting will focus on discussion of the database.
   - Dredged material fate data is most significant gap in the database. A table of the studies included in the database was circulated to Port of Los Aneles, Port of Long Beach and Corps of Engineers. These agencies will provide fate data from their files (or as accessed through Corps Regulatory files) to Steve Bay within 2-3 weeks.
   - Documentation of database. Recirculated for final comment a proposal prepared by EVS (August 24, 2001) for documenting the database. Two manuals will be issued: a User's Manual and a Technical Reference Manual (five hardcopies and as *.pdf files).
   - Database includes a few basic queries, with the opportunity for these to be expanded as desired. Recommendations for queries will be discussed at the next sediment meeting.

2. Sediment quality guidance project – sediment screening value development.
   - A handout describing the development project was recirculated to the subcommittee. This handout reflects minor changes as a result of comments received from the subcommittee.
   - Phase 1: Refine CSTF database for SQG analysis. Standardizing and filtering of the database, and acquiring of missing data to support the statistical analysis required for the SQG project. Creation of four validation data sets, each with a different subset of the CSTF database: (1) Southern California sediment toxicity database of all applicable amphipod toxicity test data; to be used in Phase 2; (2) Los Angeles sediment toxicity dataset of all applicable amphipod data from within the CSTF region; to be used in Phase 3; (3) dredged materials analysis dataset of applicable amphipod toxicity test data from dredged material characterization studies. To be used in Phases 4 and 5. (4) guideline validation dataset of a small (10%) subset of the dredged material toxicity data (provided dataset is large enough for statistical analysis).
   - Species other than amphipods can be brought back into the analysis in Phase 4.
   - Phase 2: Review candidate SQGs and selection of candidate guidelines. This phase will involve reviewing available methodologies, selection of a short list for further evaluation, measuring performance against southern California toxicity dataset, and provide recommendations for CSTF application. A small technical advisory committee will be assembled (Steve Bay will handle coordination, with recommended committee members

being Ed Long, Linda Porebski, Chris Ingersoll, USEPA representative (Walter Berry, Dave Mount, Rob Burgess) USACE representative (Wes – Todd Bridges, Jeff Stevens) and a PSDDA representative.

- Phase 3: Identify and examine regional differences in LA contaminated sediments. Statistical analysis to compare characteristics of sediment contamination and toxicity patterns in the CSTF region with national patterns. Work to be conducted in collaboration with NOAA (Jay Field).
- Phase 4: Develop Level I and II Los Angeles SQGs using "best" available guidelines (with determination of "best" to be facilitated by the TAC). This phase results in a summary report evaluating the performance of the best available guidelines for dredged material evaluation and recommendation for establishment of Level I and II LASQGs.
-Phase 5: Derive and evaluate improved candidate LASQGs using alternative methods. Solicit proposals for developing SQGs using alternative methodologies (e.g., logistic regression modeling approach, tissue residue approach, modified AET or ERM approaches, alternative SQG quotient approaches, assessment of bioaccumulative chemicals).
- Phase 6: Recommendations and report: preparation of a technical report summarizing all phases of the development project, including recommendations for SQGs that best meet the CSTF objectives.

Next Meeting: February 19, 2002, 1 - 3pm, at the Port of Los Angeles, Main Building, Room 403