

Los Angeles Region Contaminated Sediments Task Force, Sediments Threshold Subcommittee, March 7, 2002.

Attendees: David Moore (MEC), Michael Lyons (RWQCB), Cynthia Erickson (URS), Barry Synder (AMEC), Steve Cappellino (Anchor), Kathy Anderson (Corps), Steve Bay (SCCWRP), Alex Hernandez (Corps), Jack Word (MEC), Cassandra Rutherford (LACoB&H), Nicole Apel (MEC), Jessica Morton (CCC), Doris Vidal (SCCWRP), Peggy Myre (ExaD&M), Kathryn Curtis (POLA), Steven John (EPA).

Agenda:

(1) Peggy Myre: EVS has closed its Seattle office (consolidating to the N. Vancouver B.C. office). Peggy will continue on the CSTF database project as an independent contract (Exa Data & Mapping Services), using other ex-EVS staff as subcontractors. The CSTF database project should be unaffected by the shift.

Database status: beta version delivered in January 2002; work continuing on documentation (user manual and technical reference manual); continued work on QA of database and metadata. Remaining work: dredge material fate table (pending receiving all the dredge material fate data from POLA, POLB, Corps); conversion of stations to GIS files; remaining QA issues include metadata text file export, relational issues; complete population of toxicity summary data.

Summary of feedback received on database to date: some issues regarding current query forms, missing metadata, start-up problems (next version of database to include both Access '97 and 2000), significance figures, station nomenclature, and contact information.

The database has a "comment" form for submitting comments to SCCWRP. There is the opportunity for significant revision of the database before release of the next version, however, revisions will be in keeping with the primary goal of the CSTF for the database to be an information delivery system. Two recommended revisions are to provide for enhanced, design-your-own queries, and to create a link (pre-loaded) tables of existing sediment quality values. Additionally, it was recommended that there be a logging/tracking of the revisions.

Additional comments should be sent to Peggy Myre (peggy.myre@verizon.net) or SCCWRP (steveb@sccwrp.org).

(2) Steve Bay reviewed the amphipod toxicity data in the CSTF database as these data would be used for the CSTF sediment quality value project. Handout.

Amphipod Toxicity Data in the CSTF database can be classified into three categories: (1) from all of southern California (monitoring and dredging data, 1350 records, 766 of amphipod toxicity); (2) Los Angeles (monitoring data only, 514 records, 296 of amphipod toxicity), and (3) Los Angeles) dredging data only, 114 records, 57 of amphipod toxicity).

Amphipod species in the records: Rhepoxynius, Eohaustorius, Ampelisca, Grandidierella.

Statistical Methods: comparison with control or with reference; utilized t-test or Dunnett's; with no threshold level for significance, to 5%, 10% or 20% threshold. It was suggested that the statistical methodology requirements of the disposal manuals (OTM and ITM) be utilized (statistically significant and exceeds mortality in reference sediments by at least 20%).

Disposal Suitability Evaluation (recommendations recorded in the data files): no information (62 areas, 18 studies); suitable (43 areas, 20 studies); not suitable (19 areas, 12 studies); suitable for landfill (10 areas, 4 studies); top suitable/bottom unsuitable (4 areas, 1 study).

Official Corps determination on suitability should be incorporated into database (Corps Regulatory needs to provide this information).

Comments on database, and remaining data (including dredge fate data) should be provided to Peggy Myre and Steve Bay by April 8.

Next Sediment Thresholds meeting: April 23, 1-3pm at Port of Los Angeles (following CSTF Management Committee meeting).