



Los Angeles Region Contaminated Sediments Task Force, Sediment Thresholds
Subcommittee. April 23, 2002.

Attendees: Barry Synder (AMEC), Nick Buhbe (AMEC), Michael Lyons (LARWQCB), Jessica Morton (CCC), Peggy Myre (Exa D&M), Cynthia Erickson (URS), Mary Ann Irwin (MEC), Paul Johansen (POLA), George Piantka (URS), Steve Bay (SCCWRP), Tom Johnson (POLB), Doris Vidal (SCCWRP), Steve Cappellino (Anchor), Steven John, (EPA).

Agenda:

(1) Update on Database (Peggy Myre)

Continuing work on dredged materials fate data with new table design, detailing exact location information (station and composite IDs), clarifying “suitability recommendation” to differentiate official suitability determination from a suitability recommendation included in the sediment characterization report.

Key information still needed from POLB and Corps, including official suitability determinations, toxicity data (statistical information), project IDs.

May 31 as target date for release of version 1.0 of the database (new studies, updated toxicity data with new statistics, EQTs, draft documentation manuals). Version 1.0 to be distributed only to CSTF for review. Version 2.0, including stormwater data will be distributed in August/September 2002

Toxicity Summary Data: Add fields for original and standardized significance, to store statistical tests, threshold values, comparisons to reference or controls. Verify Greenbook (comparison of reference with threshold values), add LC50 /IC50 values. Continue to fill data gaps (NSI, etc.). Standardize significance as comparison to controls for all tests, use t-test or equivalent non-parametric pair wise test comparison against negative control.

Proposed Enhanced Query Tool (EQT) design: Set up to save queries. EQT: Select Data – Type of data (sediment or monitoring); Data group (sediment chemistry). Preferences – Detection (DL, 0.5DL, 0, exclude ...); Normalize (TOC); Chem replicate (average, 1st, highest ...). Filter – Chemical by value; SQG or min/max values; Biological data or species; Toxicity classification (statistical significance, suitability); Region (need to

provide regional delineations .. state, county, port/marina boundaries, watersheds, RWQCB 4, 8 or 9). Output files – select from list of related files; result files to excel spreadsheet, save query name.

New and Updated data: New (Port of Los Angeles) and updated (Bight '98 and Bight '98 monitoring data, West EMAP toxicity data) data continued to be incorporated into the database.

Documentation: User Manual – description of database, user guidance for entering dredged materials characteristics data, brief document for EQTs. Technical Manual – database dictionary, ERD's. Linked "bug" reporting tool.

(2) Sediment Quality Value Project (Steve Bay)

Summary of Sediment Quality Guideline Approaches: Prepared by Steven Bay and distributed to the CSTF sediment subcommittee for review/comments. Summary is identified in phase 2 as a work product and will serve as the base document for the CSTF SQV project. Comments to SCCWRP by May 6. A short list of approaches for the CSTF SQV project will be identified from this summary. Performance evaluation strategy is to use the CSTF database, apply guidance/approaches, determine how well they work, and revise/refine for regional differences.

Next steps – finalize TAC; after release of database version 1.0, prepare RFP for phase 5 (SQV performance evaluation).

(3) Next CSTF Sediment Thresholds Subcommittee meeting – June 18, 2002, 1-3pm at the Port of Los Angeles.