**City of Newport Beach**
**Public Works**

# Dredging, Transport, and Discharge Operations Plan

## Open Ocean Disposal ONLY

**Corps File No. SPL-2013-00020-GS**
**Coastal Commission CDP 5-19-1296 and CC-0007-21**
**Clean Water Act Section 401 Certification No. 302019-21**

This plan is intended to address Special Condition 6 of the Department of the Army Regional General Permit 54 and Special Condition 5 of the Coastal Development Permit No. 5-19-1296 and Federal Consistency Certification No. CC-0007-21. Attach additional sheets if required for complete responses.

## GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

**Project number**

**Project location**

**Applicant name**

**Authorized agent/contractor name**

**Additional contractors (if any)**

## CONTRACTOR REPRESENTATIVES CONTACT INFORMATION

| Title | Name | Address | Phone number |
|---|---|---|---|
| Project Manager | | | |
| Dredging Operations Inspector | | | |
| Disposal Operations Inspector | | | |
| Tug Boat Captain | | | |
| Dredge Vessel Captain | | | |

## EQUIPMENT LIST

The following vessels and dredging equipment will be used during dredging, transport, and discharge operations:

| Vessel/equipment name | Type | Size | Load level | Scow capacity |
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See Attachment A for equipment specifications, including acceptable operating sea conditions for each hopper dredge or disposal barge or scow to assure compliance with special conditions.

No maintenance, storage, or fueling of heavy tracked equipment or vehicles shall occur within 500 feet of the high tide line of waters of the United States.

## EQUIPMENT POSITIONING AND VERIFICATION PLAN

Vertical and horizontal positioning will be accomplished using the following Control Points:

**Vertical datum**

**Horizontal datum**

**Plane and Grid coordinates based on:**

**Tidal control/monitoring:**

**Tidal datum**

**Tidal gauge locations**

The following electronic positioning systems or navigation equipment will be used during dredging, transport, and discharge operations:

| Equipment | Position control | Vertical control | Tidal control | Azimuth control | Software/ hardware |
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To ensure navigational safety, the applicant shall provide appropriate notifications to the U.S. Coast Guard and local mariners at least 15 calendar days prior to commencing work.

## DREDGING OPERATIONS PLAN

**Anticipated volume (cubic yards) to be dredged, including design and overdredge volumes**

**Dredge site latitude/longitude coordinates (center of dredge footprint)**

**Dredge footprint area (in square feet)**

**Dredge depth (feet)** | **Overdredge (feet)** | **Total depth (feet)**

**Dredge method (e.g., hydraulic, clamshell)**

**Will water quality monitoring be required?** ☐ Yes ☐ No

**Project start-up and dredging sequence/schedule**

**Dredging design/layout**
See Attachment C for dredging design.

**Method of verifying utility locations**

**Protection of eelgrass**
Prior to commencement of any activity authorized under RGP 54, the boundaries of any eelgrass to be avoided shall be marked with buoys so that equipment and vessel operators avoid impacting these areas. Barges and other vessels shall be anchored to avoid encroachment into avoided eelgrass beds. Barges and other vessels shall avoid transit over any eelgrass beds to the maximum extent practicable. Where transit over eelgrass beds is unavoidable, such transit shall only occur during high tides when grounding and potential damage to eelgrass can be avoided.

## DREDGED MATERIAL CHARACTERIZATION

**Prior sediment characterization**
In August 2022 and January 2023, a dredged material evaluation was performed in accordance with an approved Sampling and Analysis Plan to evaluate suitability for disposal alternatives (Anchor QEA 2023). Sediment from resulting authorized areas within the RGP 54 boundary with 1) 80% or less sand content; or 2) less than 75% sand and without 10% of the sand content of the receiver beach are suitable for open-ocean disposal at the LA-3 Disposal Site, unless otherwise approved by the Corps Regulatory Division. No use of sediments from areas identified as containing elevated mercury or PCB levels are authorized for disposal at the LA- 3 Disposal Site unless individual stations were to be retested and found by the Corps Regulatory Division to be suitable for offshore placement.

**Was additional sediment characterization required based on the location?** ☐ Yes ☐ No

- If yes, include laboratory results as an attachment

**Physical characteristic (grain size) testing**
Prior to each dredging episode at each individual dredging location, the permittee shall sample the material to be dredged for the purpose of determining the physical characteristics of the material. Testing shall be performed consistent with procedures defined in "Procedures for Handling and Chemical Analysis of Sediment and Water Samples" by Russell H. Plumb (1981), Corps Technical Report EPA/CE-81-1, pages 3-28 to 3-47.

The grain size test shall be conducted on a composite of at least one core per 0.25-acre area to be dredged and/or at least one core per site for each project. Note that if multiple adjacent properties are applying under a single application, the limitations for a single project will apply. The core depth shall be equivalent to the proposed dredging depth plus any overdredging. Grain size data shall be reported to the nearest 1% for sand, silt, and clay, consistent with procedures defined in "Procedures for Handling and Chemical Analysis of Sediment and Water Samples," by Russell H. Plumb (1981), Corps Technical Report EPA/CE-81-1, pages 3-28 to 3-47.

See Attachment D for the results of sediment grain size analyses of the proposed dredge sites.

## PRE-DREDGE BATHYMETRIC CONDITION SURVEY

**Date of most recent bathymetric condition survey**
Include results in Attachment B.

**Date of planned pre-dredging bathymetric condition survey**
Note that the survey must be performed within 30 days of the dredge start date.

## TRANSPORT AND DISPOSAL OPERATIONS PLAN

The approved ocean disposal site is LA-3, effective October 2005: 33 degrees 31.00 minutes North Latitude, 117 degrees 53.30 minutes West Longitude (NAD 1983), circular site with radius of 3,000 feet. Disposal vessels shall be entirely within the Surface Disposal Zone (1,000-foot-radius circle at the center of the overall disposal site) when discharging dredged material. No portion of the vessel from which the materials are released (e.g., hopper dredge or towed barge) may be farther than 1,000 feet from the center of the disposal site. No more than one disposal vessel may be present within the Surface Disposal Zone at any time.

**Transport and disposal schedule**

**Disposal method/equipment**

**Anticipated volume (cubic yards) to be discharged at the LA-3 Disposal Site**

**Transport and disposal procedures for all material, including material unsuitable for ocean disposal**

**Prohibition on leaking or spilling during transport**

Dredged material shall not be leaked or spilled from disposal vessels during transit to the LA-3 Disposal Site. Transportation of dredged material shall only be allowed when weather and sea state conditions will not interfere with safe transportation and will not create risk of spillage, leak, or other loss of dredged material during transit. Disposal vessels shall not be loaded

beyond a level at which dredged material would be expected to be spilled in transit under anticipated sea state conditions. No disposal vessel trips shall be initiated when the National Weather Service has issued a gale warning for local waters during the time period necessary to complete dumping operations or when wave heights are 16 feet or greater.

**Independent inspector and scow certification checklist**
Before any disposal vessel departs for the LA-3 Disposal Site, an independent quality control inspector ("independent" means not a direct employee of the permittee or dredging contractor) shall certify in writing that the vessel is not overloaded, and otherwise meets the conditions and requirements of a Scow Certification Checklist that contains all of the substantive elements found in the example contained in the most current Site Management and Monitoring Plan Implementation Manual. The Corps Regulatory Division and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) shall approve the proposed Scow Certification Checklist prior to the commencement of ocean disposal operations. No ocean disposal trip may be initiated until both the towing vessel captain and the independent inspector have signed all relevant entries on the Scow Certification Checklist. The inspector shall provide a summary of any discrepancies or inaccuracies on the Checklist in the permittee's report to the Corps Regulatory Division and the USEPA for the relevant month.

**Posting disposal vessel tracking data on the Internet**
Within 24 hours of the completion of each disposal trip, data recorded from the primary disposal tracking system shall be posted by a third-party contractor to a website accessible by the Corps Regulatory Division and the USEPA Region 9. The website shall be searchable by disposal trip number and date, and at a minimum for each disposal trip it shall provide a visual display of: the disposal vessel transit route to the LA-3 Disposal Site, the beginning and ending locations of the disposal event, and the disposal vessel draft and load level in the bin throughout the transit. The requirement for posting this information on the website is independent from the hard-copy reporting requirements listed below.

**E-mail alerts**
The third-party system shall also generate and distribute "e-mail alerts" regarding any degree of apparent dumping outside the surface disposal zone of the LA-3 Disposal Site ("misdumping") and regarding any apparent substantial leakage/spillage or other loss of material in transit to these sites. Substantial leakage/spillage or other loss shall be defined as an apparent loss of draft of 1 foot or more between the time that the disposal vessel begins the trip to the LA-3 Disposal Site and the time of actual disposal. E-mail alerts for any disposal trip shall be sent within 24 hours of the end of that trip to the Corps Regulatory Division and the USEPA Region 9.

**Recordkeeping and monthly reporting**
In addition to the requirement for posting data on the website, the permittee shall maintain daily records (including using the approved Scow Certification Checklist) of: the amount of material dredged and loaded into barges for disposal; the location from which the material in each barge was dredged; the weather report for and sea-state conditions anticipated during the transit period; the time that each disposal vessel departs for, arrives at, and returns from the LA-3 Disposal Site; the exact location and time of each disposal; and the volume of material disposed

at these sites during each disposal trip. The permittee shall also maintain, for each ocean disposal trip, both electronic data and printouts from the GPS-based primary disposal tracking system (or the backup navigation tracking system when appropriate) showing transit routes, disposal vessel draft readings, disposal coordinates, and the time and position of the disposal vessel when dumping was commenced and completed. These daily records shall be compiled at a minimum for each month during which ocean disposal operations occur, and provided in reports, certified accurate by the independent quality control inspector, to both the Corps Regulatory Program and the USEPA. For each ocean disposal trip, these reports shall include the electronic tracking and disposal vessel draft data on CD-ROM (or other media approved by the Corps Regulatory Division and the USEPA), as well as hard copy reproductions of the Scow Certification Checklists and printouts listed above. The monthly reports shall include a cover letter describing any problems complying with the Ocean Disposal Special Conditions, the cause(s) of the problems, any steps taken to rectify the problems, and whether the problems occurred on subsequent disposal trips. Include the Scow Certification Checklist in Attachment A.

**24-hour notification requirement for potential leaks or misdumps**

The permittee shall report any anticipated, potential, or actual variances from compliance with these ocean disposal site conditions, and any additional project-specific Special Conditions, to the Corps Regulatory Division and the USEPA, within 24 hours of discovering such a situation. A message from an operational "e-mail alert" system will be considered as fulfilling this 24- hour notification requirement. In addition, the permittee shall prepare and submit a detailed report of any such compliance problems on a weekly basis by noon on Monday, to the Corps Regulatory Division and the USEPA. These reports shall describe the cause(s) of the problems, any steps taken to rectify the problems, and whether the problems occurred on subsequent disposal trips.

## DEBRIS MANAGEMENT PLAN

**Sources and expected types of debris**

**Debris separation and retrieval methods**

In order to exclude large trash and debris (including rocks) from being disposed at the sites, all excavated dredged material loads shall be placed into scows through a steel mesh or chain "grizzly" with openings of no more than 12 inches by 12 inches. Material retained on the grizzly shall be removed and disposed of separately. The Corps Regulatory Division and the USEPA may, on a case-by-case basis, waive the requirement to use a grizzly if they determine that trash and debris are unlikely to be present in the area to be dredged.

**Debris disposal methods**

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## ATTACHMENT REQUIREMENTS

***Attachment A***

- ☐ Equipment specifications
- ☐ Scow Certification Checklist

***Attachment B***

- ☐ Most recent bathymetric condition survey

***Attachment C***

- ☐ Dredging design

***Attachment D***

- ☐ Results of any additional sediment characterization that may have been performed and proof of U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers approval
- ☐ Results of physical characteristic (grain size) testing performed at dredging location