



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
New York District

Dredged Material Management Plan for the Port of NY & NJ

FACT SHEET

DESCRIPTION: The Port of New York and New Jersey must be dredged to maintain navigation and commerce estimated to generate about \$20 billion annually in direct and indirect benefits. Due to past and present pollution, managing dredged material from many areas of the Port in recent years has posed both challenges and opportunities. To address either a lack of management options or the higher cost of the limited number of management options available, the New York District prepared a Dredged Material Management Plan (DMMP) for the Port of New York and New Jersey and an accompanying draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) in September 1999. It identified a wide array of both primary and contingency management options needed to meet the dredging requirements of the Port through the year 2040. A key element for success of the DMMP was giving special emphasis to beneficial uses of the material needing to be dredged to maintain efficient waterborne transportation into and out of the Port. Since then, the Corps has been working with the lead agencies in the region to update the DMMP and PEIS.

AUTHORIZATION/PROJECT DESCRIPTION: New York Harbor encompasses approximately two-dozen separately authorized and maintained Federal navigation channels. These projects, whose authorized depths vary from 8 feet to 50 feet, along with the privately operated berthing areas, generate approximately 2 to 4 million cubic yards of sedimentary material annually from maintenance dredging alone. Further, several of these channels are either under construction or in plans for deepening in the upcoming years to accommodate larger vessels calling at the port. The construction of these deeper channels will also generate substantial amounts of dredged material. The DMMP process seeks to identify and implement options to manage the material generated from both the federal and non-federal maintenance and deepening of the Port through the year 2040.

STATUS: A newly updated DMMP and the final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement are in development for release to the public in early 2007. Together, the DMMP and final EIS will respond to comments on the previous 1999 version as well as update the plan to take into account the changes in testing and placement sites that have occurred since its release. The DMMP will continue to utilize a wide variety of preferred and contingency management options for dredged material. These options include:

- **Contaminant Reduction** – With the states lead and Corps support, a multi-million dollar, multi-year data collection and analysis program is now underway to identify and track down the sources of pollution that are contaminating dredged material.
- **Remediation of the Historic Area Remediation Site** – Dredged material is being used beneficially to remediate the HARS (an impacted ocean site) and will likely require decades to complete.
- **Habitat Creation/Restoration** – Several different habitat applications are included in the DMMP (*e.g.*, restoring habitat by filling existing degraded pits, creating fish reefs, and creating shellfish & bird habitats).
- **Land Remediation** – Using amended (or treated) dredged material, several landfills and brownfields in the region are being remediated. Plans and demonstrations are also underway to remediate abandoned mines.
- **Decontamination Technologies** – The USEPA, the Corps, and New Jersey are now demonstrating several innovative dredged material treatment methods. The products of the treatment have a wide array of potential uses (*e.g.*, construction material, or clean fill).
- **Containment Options** – While currently included only for potential contingency use, several containment options were considered in the initially developed DMMP, however with the success of the beneficial use management options described above, the disposal options have largely been unnecessary to develop further.

CONTACT: Mr. Bryce Wisemiller, Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New York District, Programs and Project Management Division, Harbor Programs Branch
26 Federal Plaza, Room 2119, New York, NY 10278-0090
Congressional Districts: NY-07, NY-08, NY-09, NY-12, NY-13, NY-14
NJ-06, NJ-07, NJ-08, NJ-09, NJ-10, NJ-11, NJ 13

Phone:(917) 790 –8307
FAX: (212) 264- 2924

[mailto: Bryce.W.Wisemiller@usace.army.mil](mailto:Bryce.W.Wisemiller@usace.army.mil)