

**Coastal Sediment Master Plan
Coastal Sediment Management Workgroup
Policies, Procedures, and Regulations Analysis (PPR Analysis)**

Proposal (Revised Draft)

March 4, 2004

Purpose

The purpose of the PPR Analysis is to identify specific problems within the regional sediment management permitting process throughout California and make recommendations on how best to resolve the problems in order to streamline the permitting process.

Objectives

The following objectives were identified to achieve the purpose of the PPR Analysis.

1. Summarize the federal, state, local, county, and regional PPRs relevant to regional sediment management in open coastal watersheds and littoral cells along the coast of California.
2. Prepare a document that clarifies the permitting process related to regional sediment management activities in open coastal watershed and littoral cells along the coast of California, primarily focusing on beach nourishment.
3. Develop recommendations for changes to existing PPRs and/or suggestions for the creation of new PPRs that would facilitate regional sediment management activities in open coastal watersheds and littoral cells along the coast of California.
4. Disseminate the information developed to achieve the first four objectives above to regional sediment management activity proponents and interested members of the public.
5. Link the information developed to achieve the first five objectives above to the California Coastal Sediment Management Master Plan GIS.

Scope of Work

The Everest Team will complete the following scope of work to achieve the purpose and objectives described above.

1. Analyze federal and state PPRs relevant to regional sediment management in open coastal watersheds and littoral cells along the California coast.
 - a. Identify, obtain, and review federal and state PPRs relevant to regional sediment management in open coastal watersheds and littoral cells along the California coast.
 - b. Prepare a description of the federal and state PPRs relevant to regional sediment management in open coastal watersheds and littoral cells along the California coast. The description will include the legislative intent of the PPRs as available as well as information on the conditions that might affect which PPRs are used to regulate beach nourishment-related activities and any standards that are not being consistently applied statewide. The description will include specific information for the PPRs related to the permitting of beach nourishment activities and general information related to the role of CEQA and NEPA during the environmental review process.
 - c. Develop a database of the federal and state PPRs.
 - d. Identify and prepare a list of the federal and state agencies with jurisdiction over regional sediment management in open coastal watersheds and littoral cells, including those that typically review and provide comment on permits issues by others.
 - e. Define the appropriate jurisdictional boundaries of the federal and state agencies identified under Task 1d. This task will cover the coastal zone of the state established in the current Sediment Master Plan GIS. In addition, the effort for this task is based on the assumption that the data will be available in a variety of formats, including electronic data (e.g., MS Word and PDF files), hard copy (e.g., memos and maps), and GIS files. Depending on how much data are only available in hard copy format, additional effort and funds may be needed to complete this task or the task will be truncated to fit within the available funding level.
 - f. Compile a comprehensive list of permits and regulatory approvals that have been issued for beach nourishment for those agencies identified in Task 1d between 1990 and 2004.
 - g. Compile a comprehensive list of information that has been requested by federal and state agencies during the permitting process for historical beach nourishment projects based on the information obtained from Task 1f.

- h. Analyze the permits and regulatory approvals obtained under Task 1f for project descriptions and permit conditions as well as for indications of the critical concerns of various regulatory agencies. Discuss how turbidity and sand compatibility issues were addressed during the permitting process for those permits and regulatory approvals.
- i. Compile digital copies of all relevant PPRs already available in digital format (PDF file format). This will not include conversion of non-digital PPR information to digital format (e.g., scanning or typing of hard copy PPRs).
- j. Summarize how other coastal states are proceeding with beach nourishment. Identify stumbling blocks and innovative methods being used by other coastal states to facilitate beach nourishment. This effort will focus on the application of federal PPRs for other coastal states to see if the federal PPRs are being applied consistently since state PPRs are specific to each state. State PPRs from other coastal states that are relevant will be identified but an assessment of the application of those PPRs in other coastal states to identify inconsistencies in application will not be conducted as part of this task.
- k. Identify those federal and state PPRs that are supportive of increasing, either artificially or naturally, the supply of sand to the state's coastal beaches, including any specific conditions that apply to those PPRs.
- l. Identify those federal and state PPRs that are impediments to supplying sand to the state's coastal beaches, through either artificial or natural means, including those that may be in conflict with each other, are not being consistently applied, limit the time beach nourishment can occur, or limit the amount and/or type of sand that can be used.

Deliverables:

- *List of federal and state PPRs relevant to regional sediment management in open coastal watersheds and littoral cells along the California coast (draft and final).*
- *Database of federal and state PPRs relevant to regional sediment management in open coastal watersheds and littoral cells along the California coast (draft and final).*
- *Digital copies of federal and state PPRs relevant to regional sediment management in open coastal watersheds and littoral cells along the California coast as available (draft and final).*
- *List of permits and regulatory approvals PPRs relevant to regional sediment management in open coastal watersheds and littoral cells along the California coast.*

2. Develop a regulatory process reference guide for project proponents, regulatory agencies, consulting community, and interested members of the public that clearly defines the permitting process related to implementation of beach nourishment. The reference guide will include the following sections: (i) background, (ii) relevant regulations, (iii) regulatory agencies, (iv) permitting process, and agency contact information, and (v) references. The guide will include information for the federal and state permitting process with references to the general types of information that might be required from local agencies. The permitting process will be described in the text and it will be summarized in a flow chart format.

Deliverables:

- *Document titled, “Beach Nourishment Reference Guide: The Federal and State Permitting Process” (draft and final).*
3. Analyze local, county, and regional PPRs relevant to regional sediment management in open coastal watersheds and littoral cells along the California coast.
 - a. Identify local, county, and regional areas along the California coast with problems and opportunities related to coastal erosion and sedimentation. This effort will be coordinated with Chris Higgins at the California Geological Survey who is working on identifying erosion hot spots and potential opportunities beach nourishment.
 - b. Identify, obtain, and review local, county, and regional PPRs relevant to regional sediment management in open coastal watersheds and littoral cells along the California coast.
 - c. Prepare a description of the local, county, and regional PPRs relevant to regional sediment management in open coastal watersheds and littoral cells along the California coast. The description will include specific information for the PPRs related to the permitting of beach nourishment activities and general information related to the role of CEQA and NEPA during the environmental review process.
 - d. Identify the local, county, and regional agencies with jurisdiction over sediment transport, disposal, dredging/excavation, turbidity, and sand compatibility in open coastal watersheds and littoral cells for which problems and opportunities were identified under Task 3a.
 - e. Identify other entities that may review and provide comments on local, county, and regional permits related to sediment transport, disposal, dredging/excavation, turbidity, and sand compatibility in open coastal watersheds and littoral cells for which problems and opportunities were identified under Task 3a.

- f. Define the appropriate jurisdictional boundaries of the local, county, and regional agencies identified under Task 3d for inclusion in the GIS database. This task will cover the coastal zone of the state established in the current Sediment Master Plan GIS. The effort for this task is based on the assumption that the data will be available in a variety of formats, including electronic data (e.g., MS Word and PDF files), hard copy (e.g., memos and maps), and GIS files. Depending on how much of the data is available only in hard copy format, additional effort and funds may be needed to complete this task or the task will be truncated to fit within the available funding level.
- g. Develop a database of relevant local, county, and regional PPRs related to sediment transportation, dredging/excavation, and disposal in open coastal watersheds and littoral cells. This effort will include specific information for the PPRs related to permitting of beach nourishment and general information related to the role of CEQA and NEPA in the environmental review process of beach nourishment projects.
- h. Compile digital copies of all relevant local, county, and regional PPRs already available in digital format (PDF file format). This will not include conversion of non-digital PPR information to digital format (e.g., scanning or typing of hard copy PPRs).
- i. Compile a comprehensive list of permits and regulatory approvals that were issued for beach nourishment for those agencies identified in Task 3d between 1990 and 2004.
- j. Compile a comprehensive list of information that has been requested by local, county, and regional agencies during the permitting process for historical beach nourishment projects based on the information obtained from Task 3i.
- k. Identify how turbidity and sand compatibility issues were addressed during the permitting process for historical beach nourishment projects based on information obtained from 3i.
- l. Analyze the local, county, and regional PPRs and identify those that are supportive of increasing, either artificially or naturally, the supply of sand to the state's coastal beaches, including any specific conditions that apply to those PPRs.
- m. Analyze the local, county, and regional PPRs and identify those that are impediments to supplying sand to the state's coastal beaches, through either artificial or natural means, including those that may be in conflict with each other, not being consistently applied, limit the time beach nourishment can occur, or limit the amount and/or type of sand that can be used.

Deliverables:

- *List of local, county, and regional PPRs relevant to regional sediment management in open coastal watersheds and littoral cells along the California coast (draft and final).*
 - *Database of local, county, and regional PPRs relevant to regional sediment management in open coastal watersheds and littoral cells along the California coast (draft and final)*
 - *List of permits, regulatory approvals, and information requested by local, county, and regional agencies.*
 - *List of GIS products available from local, county, and regional agencies.*
4. Develop recommendations for changes to federal, state, local, county, and regional PPRs.
- a. Make specific recommendations for changes to existing PPRs and suggestions for new PPRs that would facilitate regional sediment management at all levels of government.
 - b. Prioritize the recommendations based on a methodology to be agreed upon by the PPR Analyst, PM, and CSMW. Identify the appropriate steps that are necessary to implement the recommended changes.
 - c. Discuss recommended changes with the marine biologist working on other sediment management plan tasks to identify any problems with the recommended changes.

Deliverables:

- *Document (e.g., “white paper”) with recommendations for changing existing PPRs and/or suggesting new PPRs relevant to regional sediment management in open coastal watersheds and littoral cells along the California coast (draft and final).*
5. Prepare a report for inclusion on the project web site and in the final implementation strategy. A draft version of the report will be prepared and submitted to the Project Manager for review by the CSMW and Coastal Sediment Master Plan Steering and Advisory Committee. The draft report will be edited based on comments received by these groups and a final report will be prepared and submitted to the Project Manager. The report will include the following information.
- Federal, state, regional, and local entities with jurisdiction
 - Maps showing agency jurisdiction
 - Summaries of federal, state, regional, and local PPRs, including legislative intent, affecting regional sediment management

- Protocols and checklists being used or contemplated by various agencies with jurisdictional responsibility for regional sediment management activities
- PPRs that are supportive of increasing the supply of sand to the state's coastal beaches
- PPRs that are impediments to increasing the supply of sand to the state's coastal beaches
- A list of important and/or critical definitions used by agencies involved in regional sediment management
- Recommendations on how to streamline the beach nourishment process and steps needed to implement those changes
- Review of previously identified regulatory concerns and recommendations on how those concerns could be addressed

Deliverables:

- *Report summarizing the purpose, objectives, methods, results, conclusions, and recommendations of the PPR Analysis (draft and final).*
6. Research, design, and develop a GIS-based application/database framework for linking information collected during the PPR Analysis to the Master Plan GIS being developed by the USACE. This will include the following tasks.
- a. Analyze PPR data, design and develop a GIS database capable of storing findings from the PPR Analysis. This may include loading a sample set of PPR data as a proof-of-concept for testing and demonstrating the database design.
 - b. Analyze, design, and develop database relationships necessary to support linkage of georeferenced digital copies of the federal, state, and local/regional PPR documents to geographic representations of their jurisdictional limits (i.e. PPR spatial 'footprints'). This may include creating a sample set of PPR digital documents and footprints as a proof-of-concept for testing and demonstrating the design.
 - c. Work with the USACE Master Plan GIS Analyst to design and implement a metadata capture procedure. This task may include creating metadata for a sample set of PPR data records to test and demonstrate the procedural design.
 - d. Work as directed by the USACE Master Plan GIS Analyst to design and conduct spatial modeling/analysis of PPR data, and to produce maps and visualizations for inclusion in the PPR Final Report.

Deliverables:

- *GIS database for PPR Analysis findings that supports linking digital copies of PPR documents to geographic representations of their jurisdictional limits*
- *Geographic representations of the jurisdictional limits of at least one federal PPR, one state PPR, and one local/regional PPR*
- *Metadata capture procedure for the PPR data layer*
- *Maps and other visualizations for the study report*