

**Coastal Sediment Management Workgroup**  
**September 24, 2015**  
**Pier 39 Administrative Offices**  
**San Francisco, CA**

1. Welcome and Introductions

Chris Potter, Heather Schlosser, Megan Whalen, Alyssa Moore, John Dingler, George Domurat, Susie Ming, Brian Baird, Tom Kendall, Jim Haussener, Anne Sturm, Tory White, SAJ, Brain Ross, Brad Damitz, Mark Johnsson, John Warrick, Mark Johnsson,, Marriah Abellera, Lesley Ewing

2. Review of Meeting Minutes from June 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting

HS: Chris P was going to check with Steve Aceti, add to next agenda for SoCal

Biological Impacts Assessments report: Course for modifying the document, many comments were received (critical) that we need consider, possibly re-write the document? Perhaps need to re-organize and use what was already done; but need to be careful about spending more money on it. Target document for BIA user; Information is there, intent needs to be clarified it was meant to be a reference for the resource agencies. Brad Damitz will assist with reviews.

Resource Protection Guide and Resource Documents\*

October 21: Jim H. will be able to attend

JPA/Leadership: DELETE/old

3. Elkhorn Slough Discussion (currently losing sediment)

Pre-application meeting: Discussed what the project is, which is to reintroduce sediment to restore tidal marshes in an area that has lost them due to increased tidal prism and erosion caused by a variety of factors - including man-made modifications to the system. The introduced material would cover mudflat (also a regulated and valued, albeit less rare, habitat). The central issue is how we address the mudflat impact. Immediate discussion was on how to frame it within a broader watershed perspective and be less focused on the specific losses to mudflat. This project is representative of what we are trying to do in other areas. The Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve is involved in project. Sediment benches idea is possibility. Issue with authorities (legal) and opening

up tidal areas. Issue of mitigation must have a nexus and be done in a certain manner (size/type/area, like for like).

To date (T. White) we have not received any applications for this project. We should not discourage anyone from doing a project and we should help them be successful. Site visit planned on Oct. 6, 2015. There is not a preference on mudflat v. marsh land, they are both special habitats. Compensatory mitigation is not required for this type of project; short term loss may occur, but you can plan for that (lessen the effect). If EPA is involved in this project, it will help USACE in their review/process. Including background of watershed and issues is very important, need to tell the story. Issue is what context we are looking in: Restoration?

There have been talks about Elkhorn Slough by USACE, but not uniform "one Corps" thought on what the approach. You cannot pay for mitigation for restoration projects. Nationwide Permit 27 requires you to look at upland alternatives and ensure that it is not just ocean dumping. Need to be more engaged in reviewing and accepting the application.

4. Discussion: Funding for Sediment Mater Plan Implementation  
How to fund plans moving forward and P3, with Joe Calcara, IWR, and other USACE members.
5. El Nino Preparation

Leslie Ewing (coastal engineer with Coastal Commission) The CCC is a land use, regulatory and planning agency, ranging from 5 miles to just along the road (Coastal Zone Management Act). Local governments have permitting authority. They have the authority and responsibility to review and concur on federally funded projects (if non-concur, it goes to arbitration to Sec. of Commerce). CCC gets many requests for armoring in emergency situations, without little notice or approval. Trying to understand what Caltrans and other asset agencies are doing to prepare for storm/winter seasons. Need to manage needs for sediment storage/replacement and road/culvert clearing of debris. El Nino has been an excuse to do work that is not an emergency and may have substantial effects on the coast.

Regulatory: General Permit (GP) is in place, consists of abbreviated consultation. Problem with emergency permits is deferred maintenance is often the case and not true need due to emergency. GP sent to resource agencies should be sent to

CCC at the same time. Letter should say who from the USACE gave them permission; issue with authority. CCC would like to have a more proactive, regional look at emergency work before the storm hits. Abbreviated consultations are reserved for emergencies; if the resource agency does not agree to turn around the permit in 15 days, it is a problem.

The concept of El Nino preparation, considering that past three years has been dry, would place a high level of debris and contaminated sediment into the ocean or beach.

Encourage preparation, but we still may have to permit projects that just had a failure to plan.

Communities that already build berms, and would like to build them earlier, or larger, may want to be involved in this process.

What outreach is being done? Some done in 97/98, need to do that now. Meeting led by OPR, question if Governor will override if an emergency hits. Does this also extend to levee work? Yes- (T. White) it does include this in the permit; emergency procedures include regulations and a time frame that work can be done, consultations can be done later as specified in the regulation.

Emergency permit does not equal failure to plan.

Public Meetings will be held in January (T.White). Permit specifies that structures must be maintained continually. PLA8499: (A.Sturm) States that we must be more diligent with maintenance.

Stockpiling sediment (Lesley E.) BOEM did work through MOA's?

Caltrans will have sediment coming down on roadways, need to find where to store it, test it, and dispose of it.

Have any RSM's looked at this? Yes, very preliminary, discussion.

1 million yards in the traps at the Channel Islands, have we quantified this? SCoup program is similar to this.

FEMA usually gives federal dollars to replace sand to communities. There should be opportunistic sediment management, which allows sediment to move without emergencies.

Ventura and Channel Islands will be doing regular dredging. Other areas depend on if funds are available.

Coastal Commission: Need to have a contact list and more resources. CCC would like to know what they should be doing now to prepare.

LIDAR data will exist after this year for Coastal California. Data from last year will be available in December 2015. New data in March?

Effort to get data without duplicating efforts for second round of data collection (Anne Sturm).

Potential for washout of debris basin from burn areas?

Brenda Goeden (BCDC): Levees are also subject to failure. CCC would like to convert an area behind a levee to wetlands (? Keys).

## 6. Federal Updates and Announcements

Susie Ming: Encinitas/Solana Beach completed S&A review, four agencies submitted comments, signed letters sent out. Chief's report is final piece, in progress. PED expected in next FY. Water quality certification review happening now; issues with 2 to 1 replacement as it could impact cost. There is an indirect impact of sand going over the reef. RWQCB has draft of water cert, needs to be signed before the Chief's report, or it is a risk to the project. Lessons learned: higher level of coordination on a staff level, but need to know in advance what Commissioners have to say and what their issues are.

Pismo Beach (small seawall): Design build happening in October, to protect lift station.

Rindge Dam: Suspended. Waiting for Congressional approval for CA Parks to give us contributed funds agreement, which would allow USACE to finish the project. Hopefully, this will happen soon and the project will be progressing again.

Port of Long Beach: Navigation project, FCSA just signed.

East San Pedro Bay Ecosystem Restoration: New start for 2015, City of Long Beach is funding 75% of the project. Contributed and accelerated funds approved.

Surfside Sunset Beach?

San Clemente: Will be signing agreement soon, not in time for El Nino, for beach re-nourishment.

### San Francisco Updates

RSM: Eureka contract almost in effect which will allow for public outreach meetings for RSM.

Humboldt Bay Plan: Used as a spring board for other beneficial use projects.

State Lands Humboldt Bay Sea-Level rise study and adaptation planning?

J. Dingler: Joint meeting in mid-late October

Project Partnership Agreement with San Francisco CAP 204 Beach Placement of Dredge Material: City will not sign PPA until CEQA is complete. Causing delay in starting project and funding issue. There is not a template for CAP 204 projects, so it may elevate to ASA.

Fifth Public Meeting for Santa Cruz RSM September 25.

SLO RSM Public Meeting is on September 29.

CAP 204 Program is in jeopardy; inconsistencies in guidance.

Is CAP Program in Jeopardy as a whole?

Shoreline Study (SF): Tracking the best way to handle BCDC (CZMA) and Water Board certification. Waiting until after the PPA is signed to complete CEQA. May be able to get a Chief's Report with the Exec Director of the BCDC rather than going to the Board. Would go to the Board during PED.

Perch Beach/North Half-Moon Bay progress?

Surfers' Beach: Stakeholder input will consist of 50% of the meeting, which will be from 9:00-12:00pm, at USGS Facility. David Cannon (Contractor) will lead the meeting. One JPA may not be possible, because it is not one County and there is much overlap.

Steve McGrath will be taking a new position as the director at Half-Moon Bay.

## 7. State Updates and Announcements

Coastal Commission: (Mark Johnsson) Humboldt meeting featured designs from students. LA County applied for permission for sand dunes (done on an annual basis). Big Lagoon Project, trying to manage 60-70 feet lost with storm damage every year. A park company manages this area and all land is not individually owned, not a model way to do projects because of this.

Broad Beach: Main concern about grain size compatibility. Staff recommendations coming out shortly.

San Onofre: Issue of material being a hazard for thousands of years.

NOAA Sea Grant: Funding for the grant had been approved, but late Friday legislative issues regarding another issue (Planned Parenthood) will lead to CRA until potentially mid-December.

Santa Cruz Sanctuary (Perched Beach): 13 prohibitions that you cannot get a permit for, one being dredged material. But, there is engagement with agencies to look at this. Sanctuary organizations would like a pilot project to look at two alternatives (option A) and B), using upland material that was dredged, to place here, along with plant material.

Management Plan Document will be updated in the coming year, October deadline for comments. Doughnut hole.

Recommendation to put footnote in report to clarify dredge/fill (ocean dumping) vs. beach re-nourishment. Use same terminology as EPA and USACE for dredged material.

## 8. NGO Updates and Announcements

BCDC: Sediment Science workshop, will pose questions to scientists and managers, goal is to create links between the two disciplines. Part of CIAP grant that BCDC won. 16-17 high level scientists, 10 managers; need to have more participation, goal is 40 people to participate.

Central Bay RSM: In progress, hopefully will have a draft out for review.

Ocean Bay Summit (Brain Baird): SF Bay, looking at climate change. More to come

9. Confirm Date, Location, logistics , agenda for future meetings

October 21

P3 and Funding Potential (Joe Calcara)

WRDA language on CSM Program and engaging with law makers.

10. Adjourn to the Sea Lion Center