

FINAL MEETING NOTES
CRCIP AMT Quarterly Meeting
April 11, 2007

The CRCIP Adaptive Management Team held its quarterly meeting from 9:30 am – 3:30 pm on April 11, 2007 at the Robert Duncan Plaza, Executive Office Team Room. The following AMT members and technical support personnel participated in person or via telephone:

Laura Hicks, COE	Dale Blanton, DLCD	Agnes Lut, ODEQ
Kim Larson, COE	Loree` Randall, WDOE	Paula Ehlers, WDOE
Marci Cook, COE	Dianne Perry, Sponsor Ports	Alex Cyril, ODEQ
Steve Bartell, E2 Inc.	Cathy Tortorici, NMFS	Robert Anderson, NMFS
Donna Ebner, COE		

* participants via telephone

The following topics were addressed by the AMT participants at the meeting:

January 2007 AMT Meeting Notes

The notes from the January 2007 AMT Meeting were approved. These notes will be posted as approved on the E2 FTP site.

Project Update

Project construction will focus on CRM 91-71. River Miles 27-32 planned for FY 08. Blasting is planned in FY 09. The blasting zone near Pillar Rock will be avoided in the pending contract, while a blasting plan is developed for this area.

A request for proposal is in process for consolidated rock removal in the vicinity of the Port of Longview. This area also has buried timbers that need to be removed and this issue may be a component of the RFP. An award is intended by April 20.

Bid openings for the mitigation contract are scheduled for April 19.

Condemnation is proceeding for locations in Martin Island and Chumley. Hydraulic and hydrodynamic models are being developed to examine the efficacy of wetland and bottomland restoration in these areas.

New Section 401 applications for the entire Columbia River are in preparation and should be submitted within several weeks. The new applications will also address overwidth dredging. Current 401 certifications expire in 2008.

Reach 3 and 4 Sediment Contaminants

The Corps met with NMFS and USFWS in January 2007 to review sediment contamination data. At the April AMT Meeting, Donna Ebner described the nature of sediment contamination in reaches 3 and 4 of the Lower Columbia River (powerpoint presentation). In reach 3 (CRM 70-84), 13 surveys (sampling trips) were entered into Sedqual from 1984-2003. Of the 2,526 separate chemical analyses, no samples exceeded the DMEF/SEF or NOAA Threshold Values. In reach 4 (CRM 56-70), 18 sampling surveys were entered into the Sedqual from 1987-2006. Of the 4,080 samples, PAHs exceeded DMEF/SEF and NOAA criteria at one station and NOAA criteria at a second station. The samples that exceeded the criteria were collected outside the Federal Navigation Channel and advanced maintenance areas. Other samples did not exceed criteria for metals or organic contaminants.

It was pointed out during ensuing discussion that the SEDQUAL will be incorporated into the USDOE Environmental Information Management (EIM) system. However, the Corps will likely maintain a separate version of SEDQUAL. It was also noted that there remain gaps in the SEF benchmark values for freshwater organisms.

AEM Workbook 1st Quarter Review

The AMT reviewed the status of the monitoring actions for the first quarter in 2007.

MA-1 CORIE Analyses

CORIE data were analyzed for the January and February. Several mid- to late January temperature values for cnbc3 were lower than the decision criteria; salinity values were correspondingly higher than the decision criteria. These observations will be examined in relation to available local climate data and river flow data to determine if the values are realistic or the result of errors in the data or the analyses.

Analysis of the normalized temperature and salinity plots suggested that the January and February 2007 data were consistent with previously defined relationships for these parameters.

One early January data point for depth (grays) was below the decision criteria. All other depth values were within the ranges specified by the decision criteria.

MA-2 Dredging Summary

Patrick O'Brien provided spreadsheet summaries of project construction to date. Some of the dredging volumes reflect the observation that Mt. Hood and Mt. St. Helens sediments are working their way through the system. The Cowlitz River inputs are also reflected in recent dredging volumes. However, the numbers do not include overwidth dredging and future reporting will likely increase.

ODEQ expressed concerns regarding dredging volumes and disposal capacities. The spreadsheet that summarizes disposal for each site will be updated to address concerns regarding capacity for project dredging, including disposal to the deepwater site and Gateway.

MA-3 Crossline Surveys

Post-construction surveys were available for 2006. These surveys were compared with MA-3 decision criteria.

As a post-meeting follow on activity, the outlier observed for the crossline survey at CRM 45.5 will be reviewed and evaluated.

MA-4 Habitat Surveys

No new information was available for MA-4.

MA-5 Sediment Contaminants

This monitoring action was addressed by the presentation and discussion of reach 3 and 4 sediment data as described above.

MA-6 Fish Stranding

Fish stranding was not discussed and will not likely be addressed until the post-construction stranding studies are completed.

Sediments

Discussion of sediment management was re-scheduled for the July 2007 AMT Meeting.

Sturgeon, smelt, crab

The report on the analysis of sturgeon habitat preferences is anticipated in the next month or so.

The final crab entrainment and burial report was posted on E2 FTP site for review and comment.

No new information concerning smelt was introduced.

AEM 2006 Draft Annual Report

The AMT generally supported the format and content of the draft 2006 Annual Report. The Team requested more information that summarized the project construction in 2006, including descriptions of dredging locations, amounts, and disposal. Importantly, the

Team suggested that the conclusion/recommendation sections of the document be used to report the decisions previously recorded for each topic in the AEM Workbook. Oregon DEQ provided detailed comments and requested consistent scaling across stations in the presentation of the CORIE analyses.

E2 will re-draft the report for consideration at the July 2007 AMT Meeting.

Re-Structuring of the E2 CRCIP FTP Site

E2 presented a revised design for the project FTP site. The intention is to make it easier for AMT members to find files and determine the content, date, and author of each file. The AMT agreed to the proposed changes and discussed the value of a parallel archive for finalized project documents. The AMT requested that all read-ahead documents for upcoming meetings be placed within a single file that is clearly identified.

E2 will implement the new site structure before the July 2007 AMT meeting.

Wrap-up Discussion and July AMT Agenda Topics

Sediment management remains as a topic to be discussed at the July meeting.

Adjourn

The April 11 meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.