

DMMP CLARIFICATION PAPER

MANAGEMENT OF THE COMMENCEMENT BAY NON-DISPERSIVE DISPOSAL SITE

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INTRODUCTION

The DMMP program uses adaptive management to more effectively manage all the disposal sites within its jurisdiction. The DMMP has the flexibility to make management changes for use of the disposal site as needed to more effectively manage all disposal sites in its jurisdiction (MPTA, 1988).

The Commencement Bay disposal site just completed its nineteenth year of implementation with a cumulative disposal volume of 7.9 million cubic yards at the end of the 2007 dredging year concluding on February 15, 2007. The present disposal site capacity limit is 9 million cubic yards within the framework of the initial Final Environmental Impact Statement (PSDDA Phase I FEIS). The height of the disposal mound was measured in 2006 by the Seattle District Navigation Section with a multi-beam bathymetric survey (**Figures 1 and 2**), which indicated that the mound height with 6.4 million cubic yards measured 112.6 feet at the center. The DMMP agencies are currently engaged in a NEPA/SEPA review to evaluate the long-term management strategy for future disposal and capacity at this site.

PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION

The DMMP agencies, following years of site monitoring have identified two problems. First, the mound height at the center of the site has continued to grow rapidly, and second, in two monitoring years, small amounts of dredged material have been observed outside the site perimeter, with the bulk of this material to the north and northwest. Therefore, the DMMP agencies must take management action at the Commencement Bay site to both dampen the recent rapid growth in the mound height of dredged material, and act to ensure deposited material stays within the site boundaries. The DMMP agencies propose to move the disposal coordinates 565 feet to the southeast of the present disposal coordinates, which will place the new disposal coordinates still within the existing target area and disposal zone (see **Figure 3**). The purpose of the coordinate shift is to reduce the rate of growth of the mound height by 25 to 30% from future disposal at the site, and to restrict the northern extent of the dredged material footprint. This estimate is based on a STFATE analysis accomplished by Eric Nelson for the DMMP agencies (Nelson, 2006). This clarification paper does not change the present 9 million cubic yard site capacity.

PROPOSED CLARIFICATION

1. The DMMP proposes to move the coordinates for disposal at the Commencement Bay site 565 feet to the southeast. The new coordinates (**NAD83**) will be: **Latitude:** 47.302420 degrees (47° 18.145'); **Longitude:** 122.463584 degrees (122° 27.815'). **Figure 3** shows the location of the proposed new disposal coordinates within the existing target area (600 ft radius circle) and disposal zone (900 foot radius circle) within the established disposal site boundary.
2. The DMMP agencies will notify the U.S. Coast Guard of this change so that the Puget Sound Vessel Traffic Service can guide all barges to these revised coordinates.
3. The effective date for this coordinate change will be the 2008 dredging year commencing on 16 June 2007.

REFERENCES

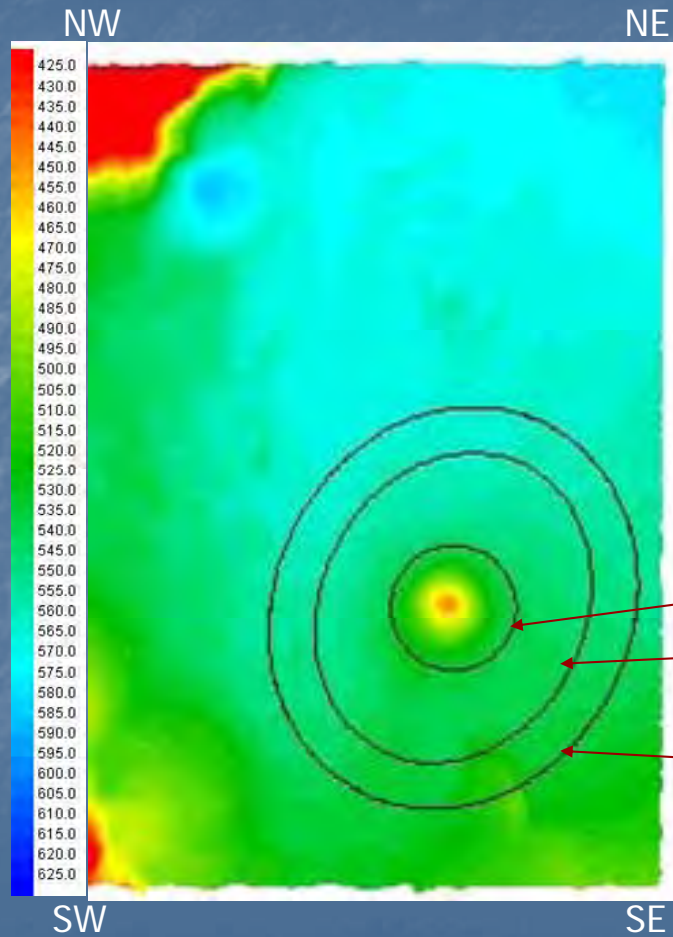
PSDDA Phase I FEIS. (1988). Unconfined, Open-Water Disposal Sites for Dredged Material, Phase I (Central Puget Sound); Puget Sound Dredged Disposal Analysis (PSDDA) NEPA/SEPA Final Environmental Impact Statement. Prepared by the PSDDA Agencies.

MPTA. (1988). Management Plan Technical Appendix (Phase I, Central Puget Sound). Prepared by the Management Plans Work Group for the Puget Sound Dredged Disposal Analysis (PSDDA) Agencies.

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Figure 1. Plan View of disposal mound within Disposal Zone (900 ft radius circle), disposal site boundary, and perimeter line (1/8 nautical mile boundary)



Disposal Zone

Disposal Site Boundary

Perimeter Line



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Figure 2a. Zoom of 1 to 1 (vertical to horizontal aspect ratio) of disposal mound within Disposal Zone (900 ft radius circle), disposal site boundary, and perimeter line (1/8 nautical mile boundary)

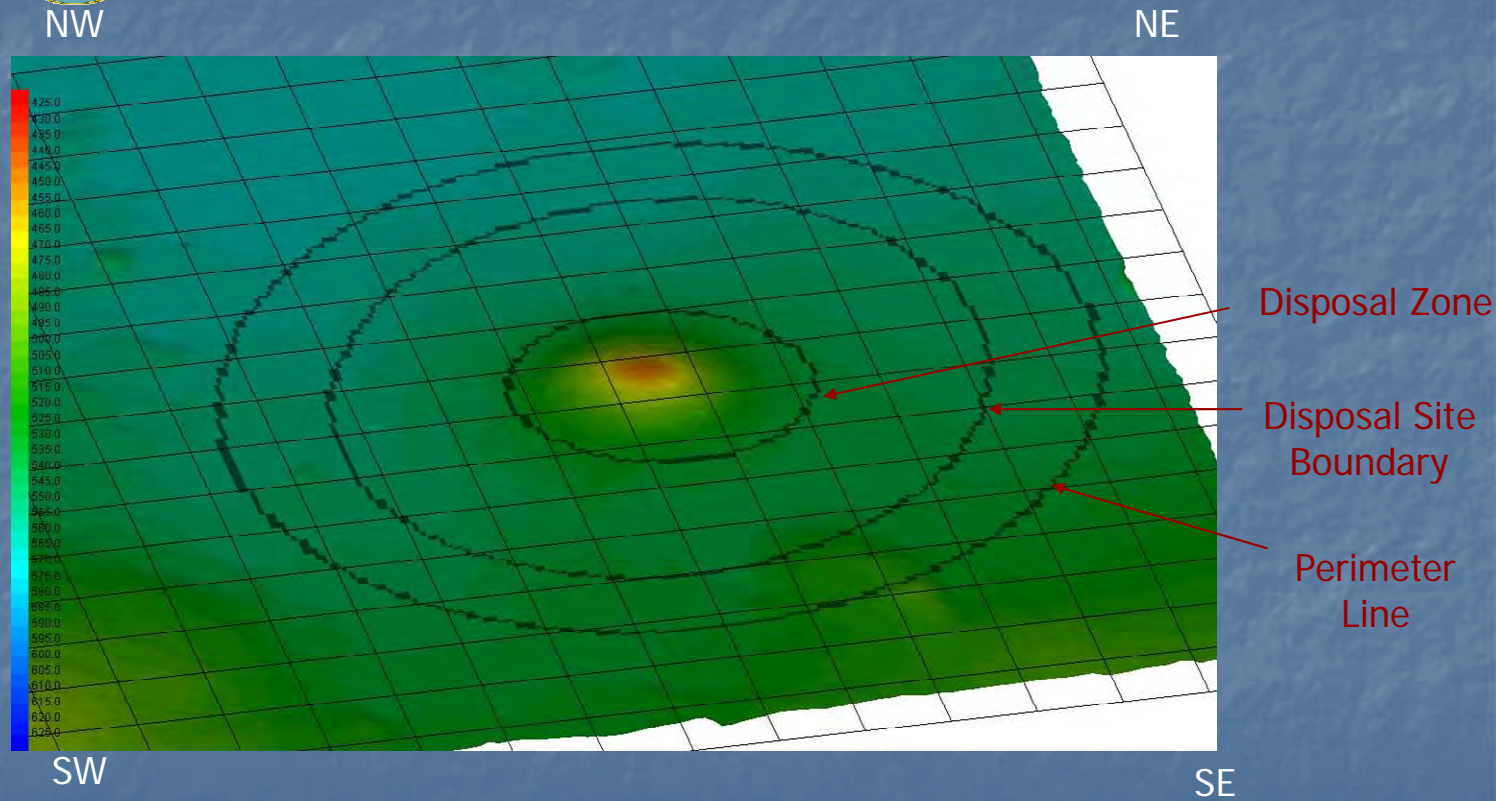




Figure 2b. Zoom 3 to 1 (vertical to horizontal aspect ratio) View of disposal mound within Disposal Zone (900 ft radius circle), disposal site boundary, and perimeter line (1/8 nautical mile boundary)

