

Dredging – the Permit Process

Contact:
Robert Lawrence
Chief, Dredged Material Management Office
San Francisco District
(415) 503-6808
robert.j.lawrence@usace.army.mil



US Army Corps of Engineers
BUILDING STRONG[®]
San Francisco District

Building Strong on the Cornerstone of the Southwest



Dredging vs Excavation

- “Dredging” generally refers to removing sediment in deeper water to increase depth and typically occurs to facilitate navigation.
- “Excavation” refers to removing sediment or soil in shallow waters or under no-flow conditions and typically is done for purposes other than navigation.



Dredging in SF Bay Area



BUILDING STRONG®

How We Got Here

(1989)



BUILDING STRONG®

THE LTMS GOALS

The Long Term Strategy for the Placement of Dredged Material in the Bay Area

- Maintain in an economically and environmentally sound manner those channels necessary for navigation in San Francisco Bay and Estuary and eliminate unnecessary dredging activities in the Bay and Estuary;
- Conduct dredged material disposal in the most environmentally sound manner (40-40-20 plan)
- Maximize the use of dredged material as a resource; and
- Maintain the cooperative permitting framework for dredging and disposal applications



Who is the Interagency DMMO?

- US Army Corps of Engineers (Lead)
- US Environmental Protection Agency
- San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board
- San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission
- State Lands Commission
- Resource Agencies

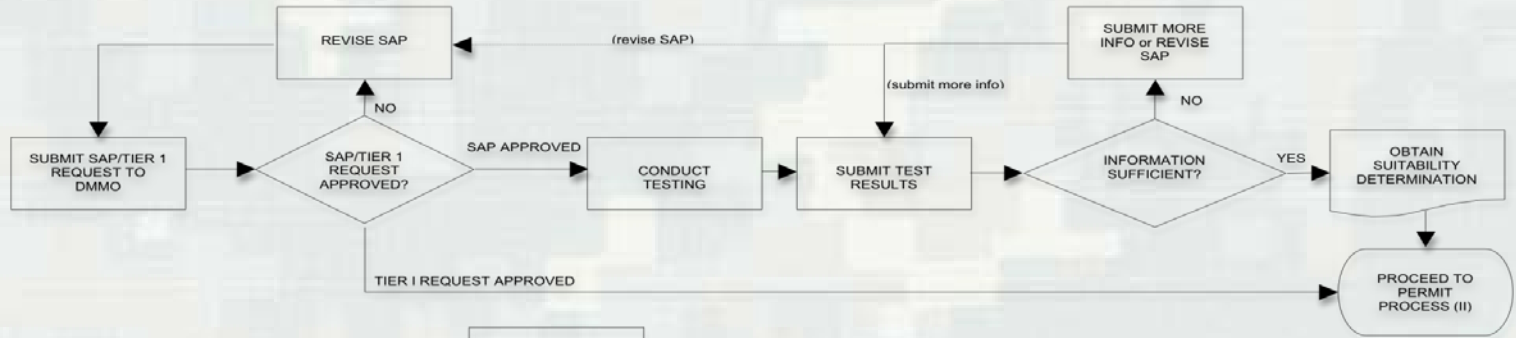




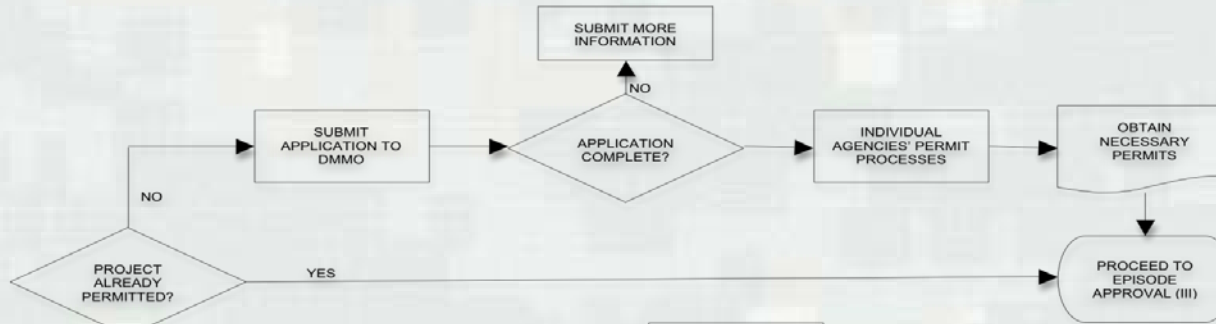
The Simplified Version

Project Review and Authorization by DMMO Agencies

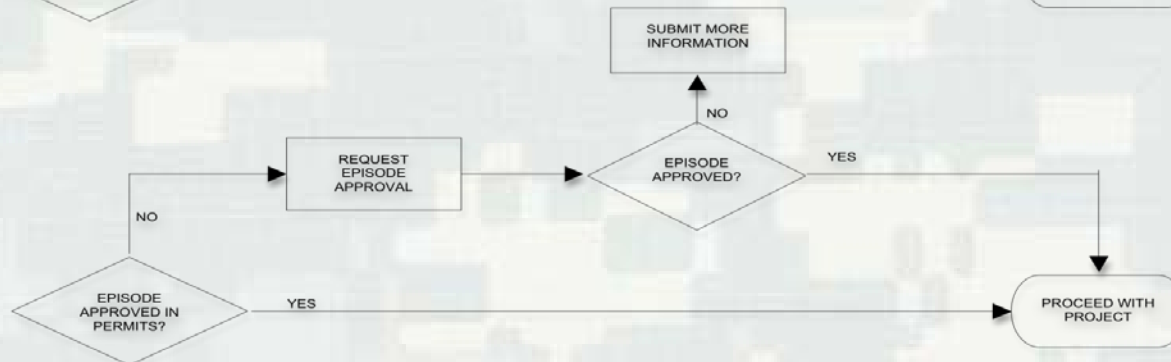
I. Suitability Determination



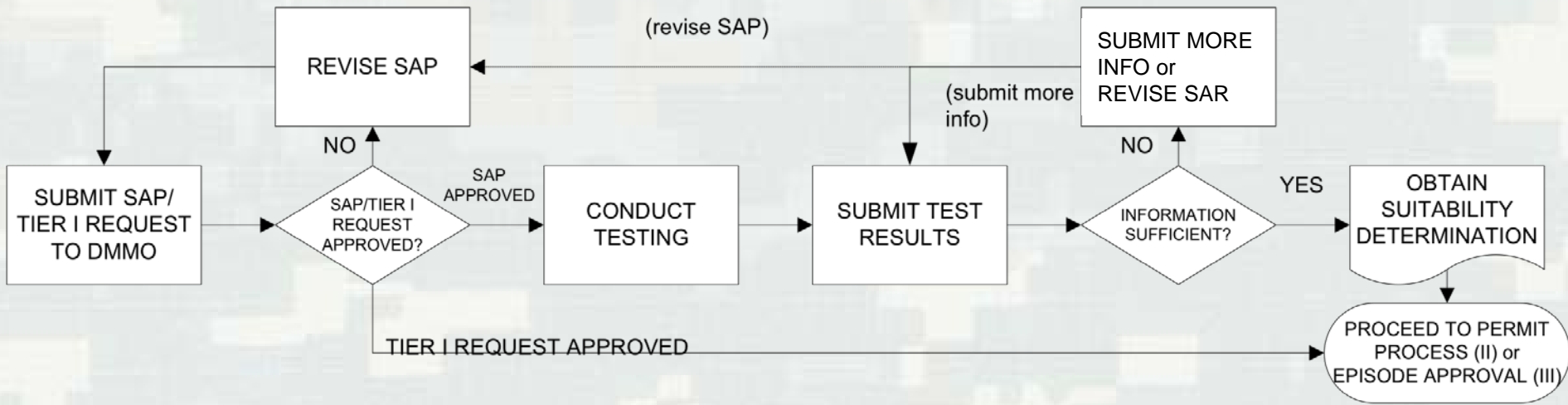
II. Permit Process



III. Episode Approval



The Testing Process...



BUILDING STRONG®

Tier I Exclusion from Testing

- Consistently clean sediment with sediment testing history
- Sand (80%)
- “Small” volume, no anticipated contaminants
- Adjacent location, knockdowns
- Stormdrains are an exception
- Confirmatory chemistry (Tier II)



Tier III Sampling and Analysis Plan

- Proposed testing program for episode or project
- Chemical, physical and biological testing parameters and protocols
- Correct number of samples per volume
- Map of project footprint defined with bathymetry (MLLW), sample points and is legible
- Disposal site considerations
- Submit test results for review





Overall Permit Process

- Submit DMMO Application to DMMO agencies: BCDC, USACE, Water Board, CDFW, USFWS, NMFS, State Lands
- Work with Agencies to provide any additional information. Send information to all agencies.
- Applicant submits Biological Assessment for State Listed Species (Longfin Smelt) to CDFW, BCDC and RWQCB
- USACE contacts federal agencies on any EFH or ESA consultations; wait for Biological Opinions (individual or programmatic) to be completed, as necessary
- Permits Issued Sequentially– (1) Water Quality Certification; (2) BCDC Permit; (3) USACE Permit
- Episode Approval



USACE Ocean-Disposal Permits

Section 103 Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 (MPRSA)

- For the transportation of dredged material for the purpose of disposal at an ocean disposal site
- Requires USEPA concurrence that the dredged material is suitable for ocean disposal



BUILDING STRONG®

USACE Permit Process

- Complete Consolidated DMMO Application
- Public Notice
- Comments and Responses
- Impact Analysis and Decision Document
- Permit Decision



BUILDING STRONG®

DMMO

LTMS

Application

Meetings

Public Notices

Guidance

Contact

Links

Contact

Dredge Material Management Office

1455 Market Street

San Francisco, CA 94103

(415) 503-6808

Dredged Material Management Office (DMMO)

Welcome to the Dredged Material Management Office (DMMO) Internet information server. This Internet site provides information regarding navigational dredging projects processed through the DMMO in the San Francisco Bay area.

The DMMO is a joint program of the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC), San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), State Lands Commission (SLC), the San Francisco District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE), and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Also participating are the California Department of Fish and Game, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and the Fish and Wildlife Service who provide advice and expertise to the process. The purpose of the DMMO is to cooperatively review sediment quality sampling plans, analyze the results of sediment quality sampling and make suitability determinations for material proposed for disposal in San Francisco Bay. The Goal of this interagency group is to increase efficiency and coordination between the member agencies and to foster a comprehensive and consolidated approach to handling dredged material management issues. Applicants using DMMO fill out one application form, which the agencies then jointly review at bi-weekly meetings before issuing their respective authorizations.

Public Notice PN 96-3 describes the DMMO, the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) implementing the DMMO, and the DMMO application form with instructions all working under the General Operating Principles. (Please click on appropriate subject for further information.)

Listening Session Notes - January 30, 2003

DMMO Annual Reports

San Francisco Estuary Institute's Dredger Web Page: <http://www.sfei.org/content/dmmo-ambient-sediment-conditions>

To obtain additional information regarding sediment sampling and testing requirements, or development of sampling and analysis plans, contact DMMO staff member:

Rob Lawrence, (415) 503-6808



DMMO Application: Box 1

CONSOLIDATED DREDGING-DREDGED MATERIAL REUSE/DISPOSAL APPLICATION

(Please completely follow instructions provided with application)

SECTION I - GENERAL INFORMATION

1. APPLICANT INFORMATION			
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	<input type="checkbox"/> Legal Entity	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-profit
Applicant Name:	<input type="text"/>	Title:	<input type="text"/>
Company Name:	<input type="text"/>		
Mailing Address:	<input type="text"/>		
City:	<input type="text"/>	State:	<input type="text"/>
Zip:	<input type="text"/>		
Phone: Main	<input type="text"/> - <input type="text"/>	Fax (<input type="text"/>) - <input type="text"/>
Cell	<input type="text"/> - <input type="text"/>		
E-mail	<input type="text"/>		
Applicant Business Type - Check One If Applicable (See Instructions)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Sole Proprietorship	<input type="checkbox"/> Partnership	<input type="checkbox"/> Corporation	<input type="checkbox"/> Government Agency <input type="checkbox"/> Other Association
<input type="text"/>			



BUILDING STRONG®

DMMO Application: Box 2

2. REPRESENTATIVE INFORMATION

Applicant's authorized agent, point of contact and/or representative None

Name: Title:

Organization:

Mailing Address:

City: State: Zip:

Phone: Main () - Fax () -

Cell () -

E-mail

I hereby authorize to act as my representative and bind me in all matters concerning this application.

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Signature of Applicant	Signature of Representative	Date
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
Name	Title	(if different than box 1)

Who should receive correspondence relevant to this application?

Applicant Representative Both



DMMO Application: Box 3

3. DREDGING PROJECT

Project Name or Title:

Type of Dredging Project: Maintenance New Work (see instructions)
 Single Episode Multi-Episode Knockdown

Project Description:

Project Need and/or Purpose:

Month and year work is proposed to begin: , complete:

Estimated total project cost:

Project Location:

County: Nearest City:
Latitude(s): Longitude(s):
Waterway:

Proposed type of equipment to be used:



DMMO Application: Box 3

Will the project result in the construction of temporary or permanent structures or other than normal dredging equipment? Yes No If Yes, describe:

Project depth information:

Proposed design depth (MLLW) _____ Overdredge depth tolerance (MLLW) _____

Existing depth (MLLW) _____ Proposed total depth (MLLW) _____

Volume of material to be dredged: _____ cy, area of dredging: _____ acres/sq feet
(Average depth plus overdredge depth)

Volume of material to be knocked down: _____ cy

Type(s) of substrate being dredged: Subtidal Bottom Intertidal Bottom Wetlands

Other (explain): _____

Does the project involve activities within the Suisun Marsh Protection Zone? Yes No

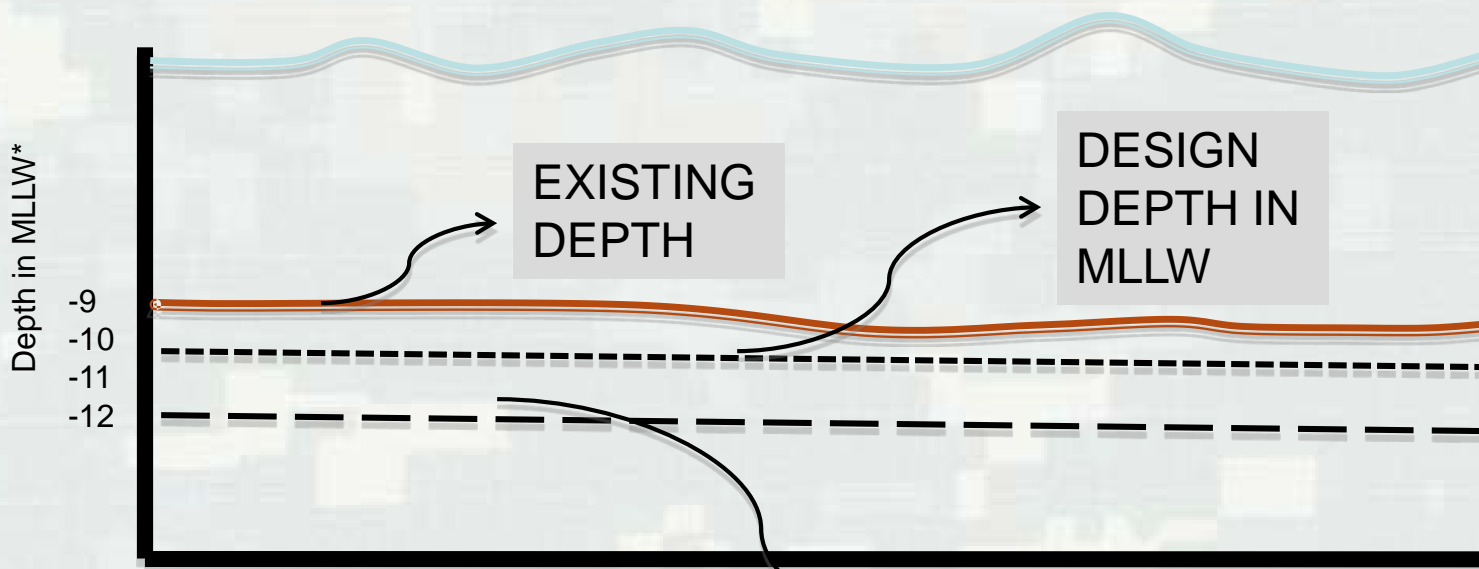
If Yes, complete Box 7

Please list agency and identification numbers of any previous permits for this activity:

SLC _____ RWQCB _____ BCDC _____ USACE _____



What Do We Mean By Design Depth?



*Mean Lower Low Water - Datum

OVERDREDGE DEPTH (1-2 feet)

Total Depth is in this example is -12-feet MLLW



BUILDING STRONG®

Alternatives Analysis Options

- Small Dredger Programmatic Alternatives Analysis (SDPAA) – includes small dredgers (dredge depth <12 feet MLLW and average of 50K cy per year)
- Integrated Alternatives Analysis (IAA) – evaluation of overall dredging program over a multi-year (3-5 years) period for large and medium dredgers in the Bay



Maintenance Dredging Work Windows by Area and Species

Site	Species	Jan	Jan	Feb	Feb	Mar	Mar	Apr	Apr	May	May	Jun	Jun	Jul	Jul	Aug	Aug	Sep	Sep	Oct	Oct	Nov	Nov	Dec	Dec
		1-15	16-31	1-15	16-28	1-15	16-31	1-15	16-30	1-15	16-31	1-15	16-30	1-15	16-31	1-15	16-31	1-15	16-30	1-15	16-31	1-15	16-30	1-15	16-31
SF Bay Bridge to Sherman Island	Chinook Salmon and Steelhead	WORK WINDOW										CONSULTATION REQUIRED													
Carquinez Bridge to Collinsville	Delta Smelt Water ≤10' *	CONSULTATION REQUIRED																							
	Delta Smelt Water >10' *	CONSULTATION REQUIRED												WORK WINDOW											
Napa and Petaluma Rivers, Sonoma Creek	Steelhead	CONSULTATION REQUIRED												WORK WINDOW											
Napa River	Delta Smelt	WORK WINDOW		CONSULTATION REQUIRED										WORK WINDOW											
North SF Bay & San Pablo Bay shallow berthing areas	Dungeness Crab	WORK WINDOW										CONSULTATION REQUIRED													
Richardson Bay North and South Bay	Pacific Herring	CONSULTATION REQUIRED				WORK WINDOW																			
Waters of Marin County from the Golden Gate Bridge to Richmond-San Rafael Bridge	Coho Salmon	CONSULTATION REQUIRED										WORK WINDOW													
Berkeley Marina to San Lorenzo Creek within 1 mile of coastline	California Least Tern	WORK WINDOW				CONSULTATION REQUIRED										WORK WINDOW									
Central Bay	Pacific Herring	CONSULTATION REQUIRED				WORK WINDOW																			
South of Highway 92 Bridge (San Mateo-Hayward)	California Least Tern	WORK WINDOW										CONSULTATION REQUIRED													
In Areas with Eelgrass Beds	California Least Tern	CONSULTATION REQUIRED																							
Baywide in Areas of Salt Marsh Habitat	California Clapper Rail	CONSULTATION REQUIRED																							
Baywide within 250 feet of Salt Marsh Habitat	California Clapper Rail	WORK WINDOW		CONSULTATION REQUIRED										WORK WINDOW											
In and Adjacent to Salt Marsh Habitat	Salt Marsh Harvest Mouse	CONSULTATION REQUIRED																							
Within 300' of known roost site	California Brown Pelican	WORK WINDOW												CONSULTATION REQUIRED											

For more detailed information, see Appendix F of the LTMS Management Plan or the LTMS EIR/EIS.

* Depths are represented in MLLW, and are project depth, not including over dredge allowance

**This chart is for operations and maintenance dredging of existing navigational facilities. Other species may be affected by work in other areas.



BUILDING STRONG®



Dredge Operation Plan

- Details for DOP in Permit Conditions:

Recent pre-dredge bathymetric survey
(MLLW)

Show dredge footprint for the episode

Proposed acreage, depths and volumes

- Approval to Commence from USACE and BCDC



The Bottom Line

- Permitting is a process
- Plan ahead
- Do not make assumptions (timeframes)
- Ask questions
- Divide and conquer does not work
- Be patient (delays on both sides)



DMMO Web Page Address (Guidance Documents)

<http://www.spn.usace.army.mil/Missions/DredgingWorkPermits.aspx>

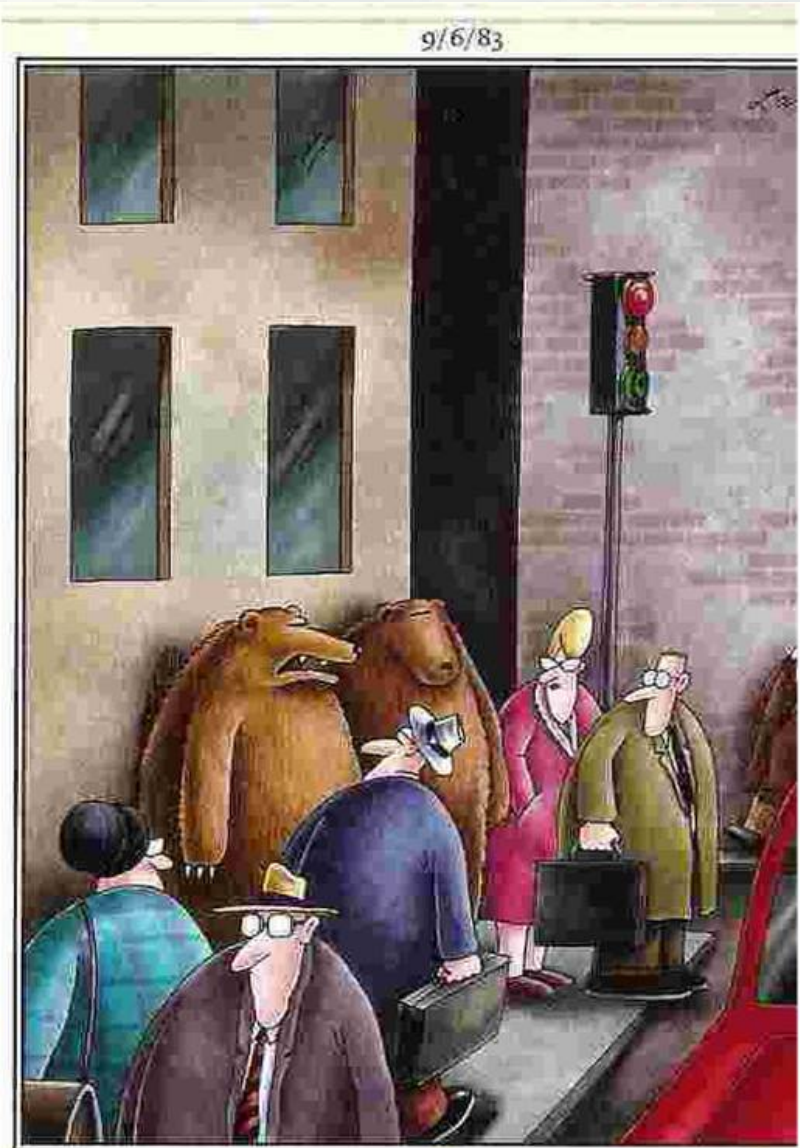
Or simply search for “DMMO”



BUILDING STRONG®

Questions

Contact:
Robert Lawrence
Chief, Dredged Material
Management Office
San Francisco District
(415) 503-6808
robert.j.lawrence@usace.army.mil



BUILDING STRONG®