#### Dredging, Dredged Material Management and the NJ Marine Transportation System

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#### The Marine Transportation System

The Marine Transportation System, or MTS, consists of waterways, ports, and intermodal landside connections that allow the various modes of transportation to move people and goods to, from or on the water. The Geographical Space of Marine Transportation



Source: Transport Geography, J.P. Rodrigue, 2004

#### The Nation's Marine Transportation System

First widely used transportation system in the New World 300 seaports 3700 marine terminals 25,000 miles of engineered waterway Bays, Harbors, Rivers and Canals Intracoastal Waterways Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Seaway Mississippi, Ohio and Missouri Rivers 238 locks at 192 locations 13 million jobs \$750 billion to GDP



#### New Jersey's Marine Transportation System

- Federal Channels in NY/NJ Harbor, Delaware River, and NJ Intracoastal Waterway; over 465 nm (860 km) of engineered waterways
- State Channel Network 215 Marked and Identified Channels; over 200 nm (370 km) of engineered waterways
- Two International Ports (PONYNJ and South Jersey Port Corporation)
- Internationally recognized tourism destination
- World Class Fishery (most lucrative shellfishery in the U.S.)
- Worth over \$50 billion annually to the New Jersey economy









#### NOTES:

- 1. VERTICAL DATUM IS IN REFERENCE TO MEAN LOW WATER (MLW). MLW IS 1.10 FEET BELOW THE NORTH AMERICAN VERTICAL DATUM 1988 (NAVD88). INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA) VDATUM DATUM TRANSFORMATION PROGRAM, VERSION 4.0.
- 2. COORDINATES ARE EXPRESSED IN FEET AND REFER TO THE NEW JERSEY STATE PLANE GRID COORDINATE SYSTEM NORTH AMERICAN DATUM OF 1983 (NAD83).
- 3. EXISTING SHORELINE (MHWL) & DOCK LOCATIONS ARE BASED ON AERIAL IMAGERY AND SHOULD BE CONSIDERED APPROXIMATE.
- 4. AERIAL IMAGERY IS FROM GOOGLE MAPS DATED JULY 2018.



#### Ship Simulators



#### **Dredging and Dredging Engineering**

#### Engineered Waterways



- Provide access between shore and deep water for rec. and comm. vessels
- Width and depth are a function of vessel type, location, traffic and sea

EXISTING GROUND

1' ALLOWABLE OVERDEPTH BELOW REQUIRED DREDGING ONLY



#### *Understanding the Channel Network*

*Federal Channels* – Access to ocean. Analogous to Interstate Highway System.

State Channels – Connects local and private facilities to the Intercoastal. Analogous to State Highway System.

*Local Channels* – Lagoons, lakes, and low volume use channels. Analogous to County and local roads.

*Private Channels* – Private residential docks and commercial berths. Analogous to driveways.



#### Bathymetric Surveys

Boat mounted sonar Single-beam or multibeam Identify shoal Iocations/volumes Establish navigability



42+00



47+00



#### Sediment Sampling and Analysis



- Physical characteristics
- Chemical characteristics
- One sample every 3000 cyd
- Bulk sediment chemistry
- Elutriate testing
- Leachate testing
- Bioaccumulation and Toxicity Testing





# Navigation Dredging in New Jersey



- Deep draft navigation is often performed with large mechanical equipment. Fine grained material is dredged with environmental buckets that limit loss of fines.
- For sand, and on the Delaware River, large hoppers and cutterhead dredges are also used.



# Navigation Dredging in New Jersey



- Shallow draft navigation requires smaller equipment.
- Usually performed using hydraulic cutter head pipeline dredges.
- Can also be performed mechanically with conventional excavators or environmental buckets that limit loss of fines.



## NY/NJ Harbor Region



- Clamshell dredging
- Silty clay material
- 2-3 million m<sup>3</sup>/yr
- High Debris
- Moderate to High Contamination
- High volume projects
- High economic value



## Delaware River Region





- Mixed fine sand to gravel, some silt
- Hydraulic dredging to large, Federally owned and operated CDFs
- 3-4 million m<sup>3</sup>/yr
- Moderate economic value
- Low to moderate contamination
- Variable volume jobs
- Low debris





# Atlantic Shore Region



- Mixed from fine sand to silt
- Hydraulic dredging to CDFs
- Less than 400,000 m<sup>3</sup>/yr
- Low volume jobs
- Low debris
- Low contamination
- Low economic value









## Dredged Material Management

#### What Happens to Our Dredged Material?



3 Uses assume clean or decontaminated

#### Confined Disposal Facilities (CDFs)



- Open earthen berm settling ponds designed to hold slurry from dredge for at least 24 hours. Range in size from 5 acres to over 100 acres
  - Requires ample, inexpensive open space. Service area limited by size of dredge.

### Beach Replenishment

- Highly desirable beneficial use of clean dredged material
- Can use material from navigation dredging
- Greater than 90% sand for bathing beach
- Greater than 70% sand for non bathing (natural) beach
- Quick and cost effective





Mud Dump became Historic Area Remediation Site (HARS) in 1997 1-meter cap 40 million cubic yards Non-toxic, Non-bioaccumulative

- Very efficient and inexpensive way to manage large volumes of dredged material.
- Primary method of disposal for all NY/NJ Harbor sediments for decades
  Fell into disfavor in 1990s due to concerns over contaminants in sediments and risk to fisheries







#### Brownfield Reclamation





### Sediment Stabilization



## Dredging and Barge Transport



# Dewatering (decanting)



# Offloading and Debris Screening




# In-Barge Mixing



- Must be offloaded within 24 hours
- Low capitalization costs
- High wharfage requirements

- 18,000 CY/day
- Poor control of mix





# Pugmill Mixing



Good mix
control
4-6,000
cyd/day

- Can be offloaded directly into trucks or stockpile
- High capitalization costs
- Low wharfage requirements

### Processed Dredged Material (PDM)

# Curing and Loading



# Transportation and Placement



# Compaction and Grading





### Environmental Manufacturing (decon)

- EPA/NJDOT sediment decontamination technology demonstration program
- Thermal desorption
- Sediment washing
- Chemical destruction
- Enhanced geoamendments
- Theoretically unlimited capacity
- Cost and capitalization



# What about clean, small quantity, shallow draft, lower economic value channels?

- Value of a cubic yard
- The GAP problem
- Innovative solutions
- Land use conflicts
- Sea level rise
- Superstorm Sandy
- Resiliency
- Sustainability



### Beneficial Use of CDF Material

- New CDF locations are difficult if not impossible to find
- Material usually meets residential standards
- Material is suitable for a variety of structural and non structural purposes
- Access can be an issue
- Excavation is costly
- May need to be blended or processed for some uses



### Dredged Material Management Facilities (DMMFs)



- Renewable
   Capacity
- Manage material inputs and outputs to increase options, decrease dewatering time and lower costs
- Permanent access roads or docking facilities; staging areas; pipelines
- Regional Sediment Management

### Mechanical Dewatering

- What to do when there is no CDF available?
- Dewatering, desanding, belt filter presses for fines
- Modular, flexible, and capable of working efficiently on a small footprint
- Produce truckable, stackable solids
- \$80-100 per cyd



### Passive Dewatering

- Geotubes composed of synthetic fabric retain fines, allow water to drain
- Fill directly from hydraulic pipeline
- Polymers used to increase flocculation
- Effluent retained and directed to storage or point discharge
- Custom sizes, stackable
- 16 weeks from silt to transport
- \$45-90/cyd



### Dredged Hole Restoration

- 5 priority sites identified by Stockton CRC, over 1.1 million cyd of capacity already permitted
- Anoxic or Hypoxic conditions all or part of the year, no benthic life
- Filling will restore shellfish or SAV habitat
- Mechanical or hydraulic dredging and placement
- Cap of coarse grained material to match surrounding bottom
- Monitoring of turbidity during construction
- Monitoring of recovery/restoration after construction
- \$50-60 per cubic yard



### Unconfined Open Water Placement



High energy environments Clean material only Use of ebb tide to move material to desired location No visual plume or detectable solids in water column Seven Mile Island Living Laboratory \$20/cyd





# Habitat Creation

- Clean dredged material only
- Usually sand, but other material types could be used
- Refugia from humans and predators in high use areas
- Repeated applications possible
- Highly successful
- \$30-60/cyd





### Marsh and Dune Restoration

- Coastal erosion and sea level rise has taken a toll on NJ coastal wetlands
- Dredging has further reduced natural accretion
- Dredged material can be used to restore lost sediment and improve habitat
- Dunes can provide resiliency to restored marsh
- 6,500 cy to marsh, 18,500 cy to dune, 7,000 cy to beach
- \$65-105/cy



### Shoreline Stabilization and Marsh Creation

- Replace up to the 1977 shorelines
- Need to retain material, but allow for tidal flushing
- Rock sills are not a natural feature, and very costly
- Replanting accelerates recovery
- High cost >\$100/cubic yard







### Waterway Linear Segmentation

#### Similar to NJDOT Straight Line Diagrams

User Groups NJDOT OMR State/Federal Public (restricted)

#### Data Management

Waterway referencing model Navigation channel limits Notable waterway features (marina, boat ramp, CDF, bridge, ...) Collected data

#### Data Collection

Bathymetric survey data In-situ sediment

#### Data Analysis

Channel conditions Dredging demand







### Dredged Material Management System

Data Collection

CDFs map/survey Dredged material sampling/analysis Permit data Beneficial use options

#### Data Analysis

CDF capacity DM physical/chemical

#### **Dredged Material Management**

"Dredged Material Marketplace" Placement options Match dredged material with beneficial use

CDF planning







### Maritime Asset Management System





- Ability to rank channels by condition and value
- Ability to set available funding
- Ability to set goals for "state of good repair"
- Dashboard mimics those used in highway and bridge programs
- Objectively determines channels for "just in time" maintenance
- Future versions will be "smart" enough to evaluate shoaling patterns and predict rate of "decay".

### State Channel Dredging Program Success to Date



 >1.2 million cubic yards dredged and placed

- 54 channels cleared
- 45 nautical miles of waterway opened
- Cost of >\$75 million
- ~25 percent FEMA reimbursed to State
- 2 new CDFs
- 5 CDFs restored capacity

### Case Studies

### Case Study One: Port Jersey Channel

- Super Post Panamax capability Room for expansion of container capacity
- Easiest navigation pathway to Port from Ocean
- Jersey Flats (mitigation required)
- PVSC Tunnel (protection required)
- HARS placement 2.2 million cy
- Upland placement 1.6 million cy
- South MOTBY channel restoration/Jersey Flats mitigation – 0.94 million cy
- 475-1700 ft wide x 1.6 miles long x 50 ft deep
- \$120 million (cost to State)
- 10 years to complete









### Case Study Two: Shark River

- Severe shoaling, significantly worsened by Superstorm Sandy
- Lack of disposal options
- Site availability issues
- Weather issues
- Mechanical dewatering
- Passive dewatering
- Beneficial use at Monmouth County Landfill
- 1.5 miles of channel
- 6-7 ft x 100 ft
- 68,500 cy
- \$7 million
- 3 dredging seasons







### Case Study Three: Upper Barnegat Bay

- Lack of disposal options
- 10 channels (6 were severely shoaled)
- 1 municipal boat ramp
- Restoration of dredged hole 18
- Turbidity monitoring
- SAV/benthos/wq monitoring plan
- 13.25 miles of channel
- 6-7 ft x 100 ft
- 210,000 cyd
- \$18 million
- 2 dredging seasons



### Restoration of Subaqueous Borrow Pits













Season 2 - Background vs Compliance Turblaity Readings

# 2020 Projects

### **Ongoing Dredging Projects:**

- Beach Haven Complex
  - 10 channels ~ 39,000 cubic yards
- Ludlam CDF Repair
  - Capacity: 195,000 cubic yards
- Story Island CDF Repair
  - Capacity: 82,000 cubic yards
- Gateway DMMF Construction
  - Capacity: 525,000 cubic yards

### Upcoming Dredging Projects:

- Good Luck Point (4 channels)
  - Marsh enhancement
  - Near shore berm
- Toms River North (5 channels)
  - Dredged hole restoration
- Lakes Bay (4 channels)
  - Dredged hole restoration
- Brigantine (2 channels)
  - Beach replenishment
  - Mudflat restoration

# Upcoming Dredging Plans

### Projects:

- Absecon Creek
- West Creek Complex- 4 Channels
- Tuckerton Complex 3 Channels
- Shrewsbury Navesink 26 Channels
- Manasquan Phase II 5 Channels
- Wildwood Complex- 5 Channels
- Ship Bottom Complex- 5 Channels
- Patcong Creek
- Berkeley Township 7 channels

### Innovative Technologies:

- Shoreline Stabilization
- Mud Flat Augmentation
- Marsh Restoration
- Island Creation
- Feeder Berms
- 1122 Program
- EWN Program

# Want to learn more?



www.state.nj.us/transportation/airwater/maritime