

**Great Lakes Dredging Team
Meeting Summary
September 19-20, 2002
Erie, Pennsylvania**

Bill Harder	USACE Great Lakes Ohio River Division
Don Wadleigh	USACE Chicago District
Jim Bredin	Michigan DEQ
Don Zelazny	New York DEC
Don Benczkowski	Pennsylvania DEP, CZM Program
Tom Hays	City of Oregon, Ohio
Kelly Burch	Pennsylvania DEP
Ray Schreckengost	E???
John Waugh	Phoenix Process Equipment Co.
Scott Pickard	USACE Buffalo District
Ellen Fisher	Wisconsin DOT
Tara Martz	Severn Trent Laboratories
Steve West	Indiana Dept of Environmental Management
Jan Miller	USACE Great Lakes Ohio River Division
Rich Greenwood	USFWS
Steve Thorp	Great Lakes Commission
Victoria Pebbles	Great Lakes Commission
Genevieve Ray	Cleveland Waterfront Coalition & Ohio DNR
Doug Zande	USACE Detroit District
Julianna Cruz	MARAD
Larry Karnes	Michigan DOT
Ray Skelton	Duluth Seaway Port Authority
Rich Weber	Montgomery Watson Harza

Via Conference Call	
Ray Skelton	Port of Duluth
Bob Schacht	Illinois EPA
Marc Tuchman	USEPA GLNPO
Bonnie Eleder	USEPA GLNPO
Jim Casey	Illinois DNR
Dan Injerd	Illinois DNR

DAY 1

Updates/News from Agencies and States

Jan Miller provided an update on WRDA and FY03 Appropriations related to Great Lakes navigation and environmental dredging. Jan also discussed and circulated copies of a recent MOU between the Corps and USEPA to restore degraded urban rivers. Steve Thorp provided an overview of the recreational boating study being undertaken by the Great Lakes Commission with funding from the Corps.

Victoria Pebbles briefed the GLDT on the Commission's advocacy to secure language in the new WRDA bill related to expanding authority for beneficial uses and waterfront revitalization. The testimony, written by V. Pebbles, was presented before the House Subcommittee on Water Resources and the Environment by GLC President/CEO Mike Donahue on April 10, 2002. The testimony is available online at www.glc.org/about/testimonies.

There was discussion on the beneficial use provisions in the draft WRDA bill and related proposed legislation. The GLDT agreed to have a state caucus conference call to determine support for or response to the proposed language. (Note: the call was held on 9/26/02 and the state caucus was generally supportive of the language, with minor modifications. The Great Lakes Commission prepared letter to members of Congress to this end.)

Canadian Involvement in GLDT

The IJC 11th Biennial Report included a recommendation to expand the GLDT to include Canadian membership. There was discussion on how to proceed and agreement for staff to initiate a conference call with selected relevant Canadian agencies to explore the level of interest.

Beneficial Use of Dredged Material

Victoria Pebbles announced that USEPA GLNPO had provided the GLC with some funding for the Upland Testing and Evaluation Project. The funding provided was substantially less than requested so the project will produce an annotated bibliography and briefing paper in lieu of a full manual. The GLDT will serve as an Advisory Committee to the project management team. States are appointing members to the project management team in response to GLC letters of request that went to relevant agency heads.

Don Benczkowski conducted a slide show presentation on beach nourishment at Conneaut Harbor. A case study on this project is online at www.glc.org/dredging/case/conneaut.html.

Presentation: Dredged Material Treatment

John Waugh of Phoenix Process Equipment discussed their belt filter press technology, which is used primarily for dewatering coal slurry, but has potential applicability for dredged material.

Environmental Windows

Steve Thorp provided an overview of the Environmental Windows Project goals and objectives and noted that a Windows Advisory Team had been established in support of the project, which is receiving modest funding from USEPA GLNPO.

DAY 2

Great Lakes Navigation System Review

Doug Zande informed the GLDT about the Great Lakes Navigation System Review, including goals and objectives, framework of the study, key issues and prospective timeline and implications for dredging. The channel and port deepening alternatives required to be considered under Corps policy are causing concern in the environmental community.

Confined Disposal Facilities

Bill Harder provided the GLDT with a detailed overview FY02 and FY03 Corps dredging projects. He also highlighted the Corps' policies with respect to CDFs. Key points are:

- 10 percent of CDF capacity is reserved for non-federal dredged material
- No space is legally authorized for non-navigation material
- Great Lakes dredging costs about \$8.00 per cubic yard compared to \$3.00 per cubic yard nationally
- CDF construction is expensive; in 2002 it would cost about \$25.81 per cubic yard compared to \$4.10 in 1980

Tom Hays of Oregon, Ohio (near to Toledo) discussed his City's proposal to use dredged material beneficially for a variety of upland beneficial uses, including landscaping and brownfields remediation and to dedicate a portion of **Toledo CDF #3** as a public park as part of a multi-faceted approach to addressing the very large volume of material that is dredged from

Toledo Harbor each year.

Genevieve Ray of the Cleveland Waterfront Coalition discussed the public process to determine what future uses for **Cleveland's Dike 14**. The report is available online at <http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/coastal/pdf/dike14rpt.pdf>

Scott Pickard discussed efforts to use the **Times Beach CDF** in Buffalo for evaluation of contaminant containment and release levels. This CDF has been closed for many years and is designated as a bird sanctuary.