

**Technical Committee Breakout Summary**  
**Great Lakes Dredging Team Annual Meeting**  
**June 4, 2015, 7:30-9:00 a.m.**  
**Lombardi Room – The District Event Center, Green Bay, WI**

\*This is a summary of the discussion that took place during the committee breakout session

**Attendees**

Karen Keil, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Buffalo District (federal co-chair)  
Jim Sharrow, Duluth Seaway Port Authority (non-federal co-chair)  
Steve Galarneau, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
Gene Clark, University of Wisconsin Sea Grant  
Scudder Mackey, Ohio Department of Natural Resources  
Jennifer Miller, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Chicago District  
Russ Short, EA Engineering, Science & Technology  
Dan Breneman, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Duluth  
Burton Suedel, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Engineer Research and Development Center  
Guy Partch, Barr Engineering  
Hannah Wolfman-Jones, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Chicago District  
Dan Everson, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service – Ohio  
Mollie Mahoney, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Detroit District  
Larry Sullivan, Port of Milwaukee  
Josh Feldmann, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Buffalo District

**Beneficial use**

*Beneficial Use Policy White Paper*

K. Keil reported that the draft submitted by E&E is still in the review process, and indicated that it will be critical that each state weigh in on the document. Preferred deadline for comments is July 1.

*Beneficial Use Outreach Pilot Project*

J. Cappel and S. Mackey reported on selected project, Toledo's Center of Innovation for Beneficial Use of Dredged Material, which is funded by State of Ohio Healthy Lake Erie program at a level of \$2.5 M (which will hopefully leverage additional dollars). The general objective is currently to study placement of appropriate dredged sediment back on agricultural fields from which it originated. E&E role in the outreach component will likely involve print materials, such as a brochure, website development, and possible signage and a webinar.

*CFIRE project support and connectivity*

- CDF characterization: G. Clark reported on status of work by W. Likos, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Enhancement of beneficial use web tool with more detailed description of material placed in CDFs: D. Knight reported on status of work planned using data from Likos' field work, and updated USACE information on CDFs. Current objective will be to have data ready to present for the GLDT fall webinar meeting, and the project completed by 1<sup>st</sup> Q of 2016.

*Testing manual: Beneficial use of dredged material in the Great Lakes*

K. Keil reported on status of work left incomplete with retirement of PI Richard Price.

### **Open water placement**

White paper on federal and state policies regarding open water placement of dredged material: K. Keil reported that the document is currently under review by USACE legal staff.

### **Environmental dredging windows**

Research at the USACE ERDC facility on turbidity impact as it relates to windows policy: (Following committee meetings, B. Suedel presented a detailed summary of the project to the full GLDT.)

### **Mitigation for loss of open water habitat**

J. Sharrow introduced this issue area as a new item for the Technical Committee work plan. The concept stems from frustration at the port of Duluth-Superior on the part of commercial dock operators who want to invest in development/expansion projects, and are required to provide mitigation for loss of open water placement, but have difficulty with lack of guidance or direction on how to accomplish that. He proposed exploring a white paper document reviewing policies on this practice, where they exist, among all Great Lakes states.

S. Mackey noted that available data is limited, but work is being done in OH on detailed nearshore assessments of shoreline vegetation, nearshore habitat conditions and other shoreline characteristics to incorporate into a regulatory guideline.

Proposed was a literature review of what data is available, and where are the gaps. D. Everson, US F&W, noted that there can be value in un-engineered landscape, as well as engineered mitigation strategies.

### **Delisting Areas of Concern**

This is a new issue area for the Tech Committee work plan. Time constraints prevented further discussion.

### **Symposium: State of the Science and Policy Issues**

Discussion on this proposed event was forwarded to the full GLDT plenary session.