Comments from April 20th Meeting

Functional Assessment Assumptions:

Curt Storlazzi

1) Its is not clear how impact zones from the Port of Miami - a different location - are justified as being applicable to Port Lauderdale? Have they been shown to have to same hydrodynamics, dredge techniques, and dredge material?

2) All of the DCA references are 'gray" literature and thus cannot be easily accessed to understand their methods, results, and thus both accuracy and application to this effort.

3) The information that is often referenced and highlighted in the report text decades old appear to primarily addresses the impacts directly following a short period of sediment accumulation. How are those 20- to 40-year old data and results applicable to a dredging projects that is proposed to run for multiple years? Why not include peer-reviewed, recent data and results specifically from dredging in coral reef areas that would be more openly available for review and applicable to the task at hand?

Minimization Techniques:

4) Monitor Overflow in the Inner Harbor - there are errors in the "Assumptions" regarding distinguishing the source of sediment and thresholds and "Other Risks" regarding the same issues.

IWG Minimization and Modeling Update:

5) Indirect Effects, 0-150 m zone - Why use 25+ year old data from the Baltic while the Australians have data from a $10 million peer-reviewed study of the impact of dredging on coral reefs that just wrapped up a few years ago?

6) Indirect Effects, 150-450 m zone - Its is not clear how impact zones from the Port of Miami - a different location - are justified as being applicable to Port Lauderdale? Have they been shown to have to same hydrodynamics, dredge techniques, and dredge material?

7) Mapping of hardbottom - please provide a full reference for 'Walker and Klug" to evaluate.

8) Average Sediment Depth by Location - There are not before/after data for the same sites in any row, thus how are these data useful to compare effects?

9) Recovery Timeframe - These (mostly old or 'gray' literature) contrast the more recent $10 million peer-reviewed study of the impact of dredging on coral reefs that just wrapped up a few years ago.