

SUBJECT: REGENCY DETERMINATION FOR THE PROPOSED 2015/2016 DREDGING OF THE DUWAMISH WATERWAY FEDERAL NAVIGATION CHANNEL AND TURNING BASIN, KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON.

- 1) **Introduction.** This memorandum reflects the consensus determination of the Dredged Material Management Program agencies (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers [USACE], Washington Departments of Ecology and Natural Resources, and the Environmental Protection Agency) regarding the application of the DMMP recency guidelines to proposed dredging of the Duwamish Waterway federal navigation channel and turning basin with in-water disposal at the DMMP nondispersive disposal site in Elliott Bay.

This recency determination applies to the USACE plan to dredge a total of 105,000 cubic yards from the Duwamish turning basin and Section A of the navigation channel between stations 254+00 and 275+56 (Figures 1 and 2). Dredging will occur from December 2015 to February 2016.

- 2) **Background.** The Duwamish turning basin and Section A of the navigation channel require maintenance dredging every two to three years. In-water disposal of maintenance dredged material from these two areas was most recently approved in a DMMP suitability determination on July 22, 2011 (DMMP, 2011). In that determination, the rankings of the turning basin and Section A of the navigation channel were documented as low-moderate and moderate respectively and a recency period of 5 to 7 years (April 2016-2018) was provided.
- 3) **Recency Determination.** The recency guidelines indicate how often a project needs to conduct sediment characterization. Recency guidelines apply to both projects that have been tested but not yet dredged, and to projects that have been maintained with repeated dredging since previous testing. Under the recency guidelines, sediment sampling and testing would not be needed for this cycle of dredging.
- 4) **References.**

DMMP, 2011. *Determination Regarding the Suitability of Federal Operation and Maintenance Dredged Material from the Duwamish River, Seattle, King County, Washington Evaluated under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act for Beneficial Use or Unconfined Open-Water Disposal at the Elliott Bay Nondispersive Site. Prepared by the USACE for the DMMP Agencies, July 22, 2011.*

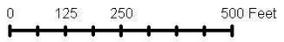
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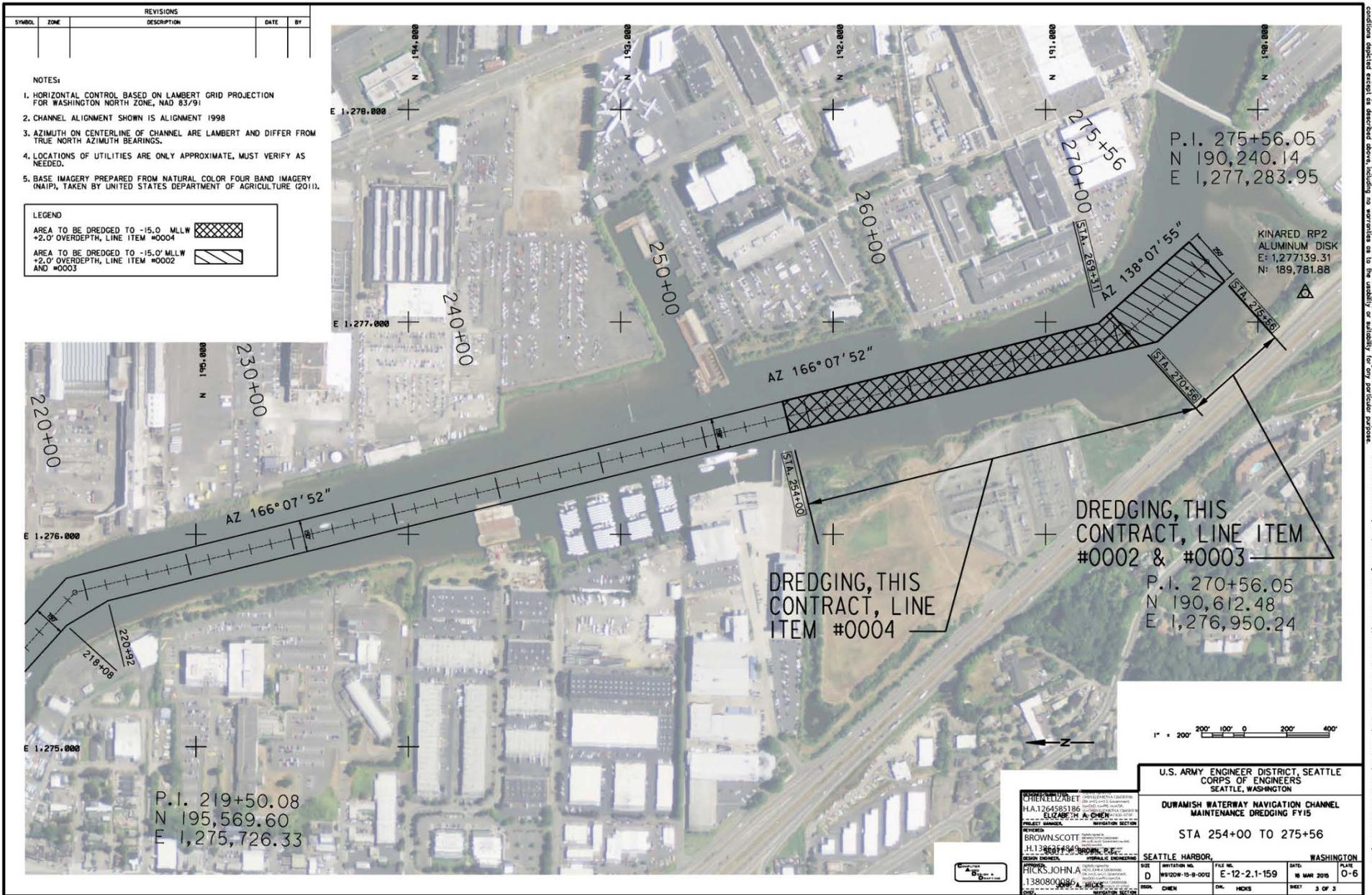
Figure 1 Area Designation



L. Delwiche, Mar 2011

Figure 2. Duwamish DY2016 Planned Dredging



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