

9 January 1997

Memorandum for Record

SUBJECT: FREQUENCY DETERMINATION ON THE SUITABILITY OF DREDGED MATERIAL FROM THE PORT OF GRAYS HARBOR, TERMINAL 2, FOR DISPOSAL AT EITHER THE SOUTH JETTY OR POINT CHEHALIS ESTUARINE OPEN-WATER DISPOSAL SITES.

1. The Port of Grays Harbor proposes to maintenance dredge approximately 15,000 cubic yards of material near Terminal 2 at Aberdeen, Washington in February/March 1997 (see Attachment 1). The following summary reflects the consensus determination of the agencies (Washington Department of Natural Resources, Washington Department of Ecology, Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency) with jurisdiction over dredging and disposal regarding the applicability of frequency guidelines to this project.
2. The initial ranking for this area was "high" based on guidance provided in the *Dredged Material Evaluation Procedures and Disposal Site Management Manual, Grays Harbor and Willapa Bay*, June 1995, page 47. The project area was down-ranked to "low-moderate" based on testing completed in 1994 and 1995.
3. Testing completed in 1994 and 1995 showed no detected exceedances of Grays Harbor screening levels (SLs). For chemicals-of-concern that were undetected, all detection limits were reported below SLs. Dioxin testing was completed during both years. In 1994 detected levels of 2,3,7,8 TCDD (Tetrachloro-Dibenzo-p-Dioxin) were at 1.9 parts per trillion. In 1995, the detected levels for this congener were at 1.1 parts per trillion. Based on the agencies' best professional judgment, these low concentrations are unlikely to be environmentally harmful.
4. Two cycles of dredged material sampling and testing are required before frequency guidelines take effect, as provided for on page 56 of the Manual. For low-moderate ranked areas in Grays Harbor, the frequency guideline specifies that existing information remains adequate and valid for decision-making without further testing for six years from the most recent sampling event. This determination is also contingent upon a finding that no significant condition has occurred that might impact the quality of the proposed dredged material, such as a contaminant spill or discharge.
5. The agencies have determined that additional sediment characterization is not required prior to dredging 15,000 cubic yards from Terminal 2 in February/March 1997.

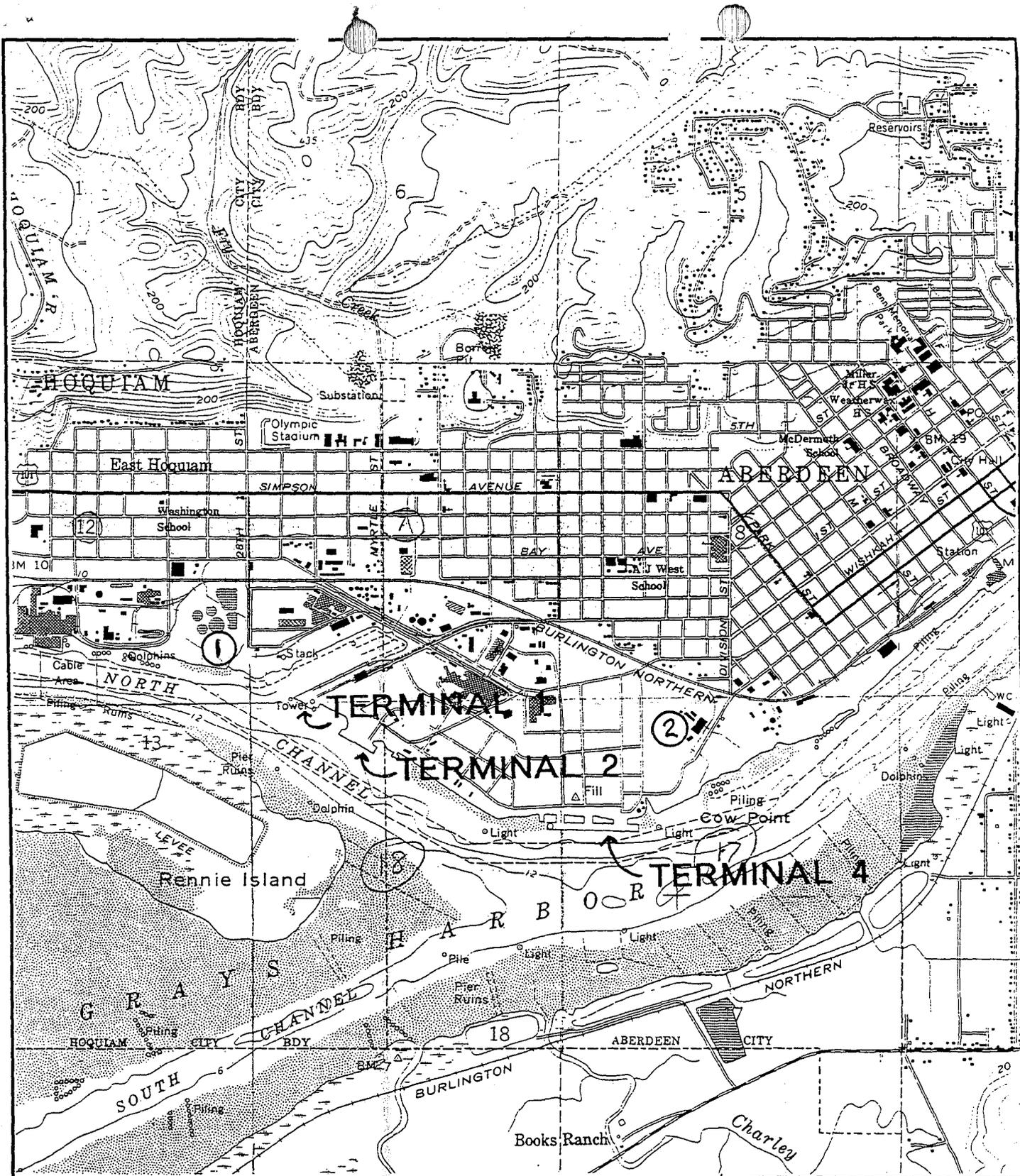


David Fox, PE

Copies:

Tom Evans/Port of Grays Harbor
Tom Mueller/OP-RG
DMMO file

Rick Vining/Ecology
Ted Benson/DNR
Justine Barton/EPA



Scale = 1:24,000

Terminal No. 1 - Lat. = 46° 57' 59"

Long. = 123° 51' 21"

Terminal No. 2 - Lat. = 46° 57' 52"

Long. = 123° 51' 11"

Terminal No. 4 - Lat. = 46° 57' 40"

Long. = 123° 50' 17"

Adjacent Property Owners: (1) Grays Harbor Paper Co. (2) Weyerhaeuser Co.

Proposed: Annual
Maintenance Dredging

Application 96-2-01969

In: Chehalis River
At: Hoquiam, WA
County of: Grays Harbor
Appl. By: Port of Grays Harbor
Page 1 of 7 Date: 9/30/96

VICINITY MAP DREDGING AREAS