

SUBJECT: TIER 1 ANTIDegradation EVALUATION FOR THE DRYDEN CANAL DIVERSION MAINTENANCE DREDGING PROJECT ON THE WENATCHEE RIVER IN DRYDEN, WASHINGTON, WITH UPLAND DISPOSAL.

1. Introduction. This memorandum documents the Tier 1 anti-degradation evaluation by the Dredged Material Management Program (DMMP) agencies (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Washington Departments of Ecology and Natural Resources, and the Environmental Protection Agency) of the Chelan Public Utility District's (PUD) Dryden Canal Diversion maintenance dredging project. This evaluation resulted in a no-test anti-degradation determination, and the DMMP does not require further testing.

2. Project. The Chelan PUD proposes to remove up to 200 cubic yards (CY) of material annually for up to 10 years from the Dryden Canal Diversion located on the Wenatchee River near Dryden, Washington. Sediment accumulates at the project location during high river flows, and periodic maintenance dredging is required to keep the canal functioning. All material removed from the Diversion will be disposed upland at the Wenatchee Landfill.

The dredging history of this project is unknown, although it's likely some dredging has occurred in the past. For the proposed dredging, the most likely removal process will involve an excavator working from the uplands, likely in the dry pending water levels.

3. Evaluation. For this project, the DMMP is primarily concerned in the surface to be exposed following dredging, since the dredged material will be removed and placed at an upland disposal site. Over five years, the cumulative project volume proposed for dredging will be 1000 CY (or 2000 CY over 10 years). Because this volume exceeds the "no test" small project volume of "less than 1,000 CY" (low-moderate or moderate-ranked projects), the DMMP small project exclusionary guidelines based on volume do not apply.

Under DMMP guidelines, projects for which upland disposal is planned do not ordinarily require testing of the dredged material if they are ranked moderate or less, but they do require evaluation under the Department of Ecology's anti-degradation standard. The Dryden Canal Diversion project is located on the eastern bank of the Wenatchee River near Dryden, Washington. An EIM query revealed that no sediment data have been collected from within or near (within 0.5 mile) the project area, which may be an indication that there are no suspected sediment contaminant issues in the vicinity of the project. Water samples were collected at the project site between 2002-2003 for basic water quality parameters such as temperature, pH, total organic carbon, dissolved oxygen, and total suspended solids. No contaminants of concern were tested for or found.

A review of EPA's Cleanups in My Community database and Ecology's Integrated Site Information System did not reveal any cleanup sites within a quarter mile radius of the project area.

Based on the site information review, the DMMP agencies have determined that the dredged material is sufficiently removed from potential sources of sediment contamination; therefore the potential for contamination is low.

Tier 1 Anti-Degradation Determination. This project is located in an area of low concern with regard to sediment contamination and upland disposal is proposed. Based on this information, the DMMP agencies have determined that the sediment exposed by dredging will likely meet the State of Washington antidegradation standard, and therefore, no DMMP testing of the leave surface is required for this project.

Since all dredged material will be going to an upland disposal location, a suitability determination for open-water disposal is not appropriate for this project.

This anti-degradation determination does *not* constitute final agency approval of the project. During the public comment period that follows a public notice, resource agencies will provide input on the overall project. A final decision will be made after full consideration of agency input, and after an alternatives analysis is done under section 404(b)(1) of the Clean Water Act.

5. References.

DMMP 2016. *Dredged Material Evaluation and Disposal Procedures (User Manual)*. Dredged Material Management Program, updated August 2016.

6. Agency Signatures.

signed copy on file in DMMO - Seattle District office

Date Heather Whitney Fourie – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District

Date Erika Hoffman – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Date Laura Inouye, PhD. – Washington State Department of Ecology

Date Celia Barton – Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Copies Furnished:

Joy Dunay, Anchor QEA
DMMP agencies
USACE Regulatory
DMMO File

Figure 1. Project Location

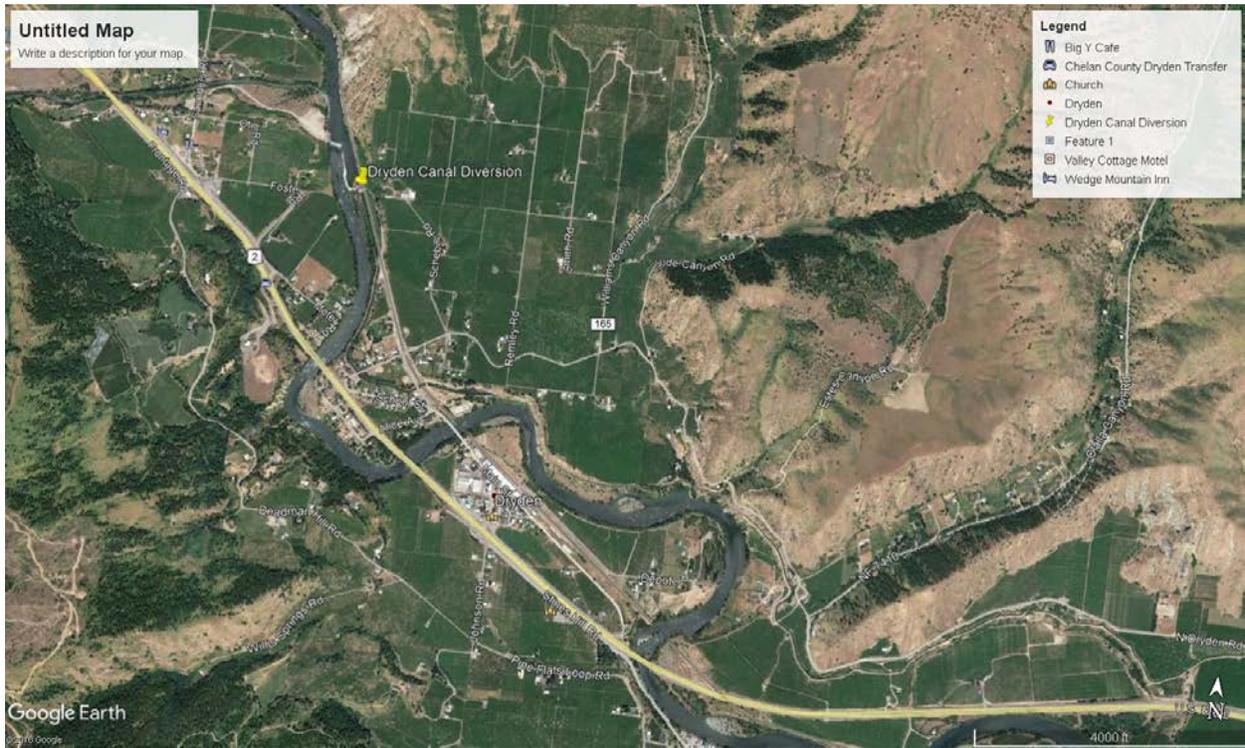


Figure 2. Proposed dredge area

