EPA Region 10 Expectation for Maintenance Dredge Prism Characterization in the Portland Harbor Superfund Initial Study Area

Because of the potential for contaminated sediment and the potential need to evaluate in-water placement as a disposal option, adequate maintenance dredge prism characterization is needed within the Portland Harbor Superfund Initial Study Area (Portland Harbor Site). EPA has the following expectations for maintenance dredging projects in the Portland Harbor Site:

- Project proponents should follow the 2009 Sediment Evaluation Framework and associated Portland Sediment Evaluation Team sampling and analysis plan (SAP) guidance.
- The Level 1 assessment will likely need to assume a "High" management area risk. In so doing, an appropriate number of dredged material management units (DMMUs) and field samples can be developed and presented in the project SAP.
- EPA expects a more detailed sampling effort in areas where principal threat waste (PTW) is potentially present. The draft Portland Harbor Feasibility Study has identified areas containing PTW based on elevated risk (10^{-3} or greater), non-aqueous phase liquid (NAPL) within the sediment bed, and on an evaluation of mobility of contaminants in the sediment. In the case where sediment designated as PTW is removed for a maintenance dredge project, EPA has an expectation that treatment will be evaluated for the removed sediment prior to disposal in an upland landfill as well as for management of the new surface material.