

Managing Sediments in the Watershed: Bringing Dredged Material and Watershed Managers Together

August 29-31, 2006, Portland, OR.

**Breakout Session 8A Report out:
Developing Regional Plans: Gulf
Region**

Key Issues Requiring Greater Coordination

- Need for a Gulf management policy
- Reducing sediments in reservoirs in the watershed (including navigation locks and dams)
- Identifying a broader range of economic benefits of sediment management
- Efficiently transporting sediment from where it is not needed/wanted to where it can be beneficially used

Groups who need to be involved

- Corps
- CEQ
- EPA
- NOAA
- States
- FWS
- Oil and Gas industry
- Mineral Management Service
- Bur Rec
- Farmers
- Towing companies
- Dredging contractors
- Insurance/ financial companies
- Chambers of commerce
- NRCS/ DoA
- DOT
- Regulators
- Researchers/ Academia
- Cities
- Commercial fishermen
- Recreators, others

Action plan for regional coordination

- Panel convened by Gulf state governors to address sediment management policy issues
 - Create more flexibility, beneficial use cost analysis, etc.
- Gulf of Mexico Alliance, Sediment Management Master Plan
- Corps Regional Sediment Management Plan
- Communications and education among stakeholders
- Evaluate feasibility of transport of sediments trapped behind dams to borrow sites in Louisiana

Next steps and actions

- Define the scope, mission statement for sediment master plan
- Target of opportunity: Attend Nov/Dec workshop to define objectives for Gulf Alliance sediment management master plan – have proposals ready
 - Studies to compute volumes of sediments available behind dams; economics involved
 - Stakeholder involvement processes
 - Benefit analysis of sediment management options
- Advance work on the Governors' Panel idea

**Timing is Right. The public and politicians
are calling for Action!**