

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: National Regional Sediment Management (RSM) Workshop

1. The subject annual meeting was held 13-15 July in Honolulu, Hawaii, hosted by the Honolulu District. The purpose of this meeting, directed by ERDC, is to update the program managers for RSM on each of the Districts' and Divisions' progress with respect to their individual demonstration programs. In addition to the update, the annual meeting provides a forum for the Coastal Engineers within the Corps of Engineers to exchange information and ideas. The RSM initiative is funded with O&M funds managed through ERDC. The conference was attended by a total of 27 representatives from ERDC (CHL & EL), IWR, POD, NAD, SAD, POH, SPL, NWP, NAN, NAP, SWG, SAM, SAJ, LRE and MVN.
2. Opening remarks were made by BG Robert Davis, Commanding Officer of Pacific Ocean Division. BG Davis is currently a member of the Coastal Engineering Research Board; he welcomed the group and encouraged them to continue to promote the RSM initiative, while keeping in mind the political and emotional issues associated with the shore protection program (i.e. Kansas paying for beaches). He also made reference to band-aid dredging practices utilized throughout the Corps due to current funding constraints and asked the conference to infuse new ideas into the dredging community.
3. Jack Davis, RSM program manager at ERDC, opened discussions with an overview of the National RSM initiative. Although the RSM initiative was scheduled to close out this FY, it is expected to continue to receive funding due to its success throughout the Corps. He stressed "systems management" and full District/stakeholder involvement throughout project development. Jack also mentioned that Julie Rosati of CHL will be out of the RSM picture for the next year to continue her education. Ty Wamsley will now be assisting Jack with the management of the RSM program.
4. Lynn Martin of IWR presented the HQ perspective on RSM. She opened with the "Ecosystem Approaches" outlined in the Ocean Commission's Policy Report, and stressed how the Corps is attempting to move away from "project" solutions and utilize the watershed development/enhancement approaches implemented by the Corps prior to the cost-sharing restrictions in WRDA 1986. Another new initiative being funded throughout the coastal communities is the Integrated Ocean Observation Systems (IOOS); this initiative (sponsored by NOAA) has been broken into several regions along the coastline. Part of the goal of IOOS is to determine different Federal Agencies needs for data (type, quality, frequency) with respect to the coastal environment. Stan Boc of ERDC is the Corps' representative on these efforts, directing our data needs wish list. Lynn Martin went on to discuss the importance and focus on watershed management and eGIS in the 2012 environment. She mentioned that the new Budget EC will (or does?) contain language on funding eGIS, supporting the letter signed by MG Griffin on 02 July

2004 dictating that the Corps will begin keeping GIS databases in SDS compliant formats for ease of data sharing across District and Division boundaries. RSM got \$1.54 M in CW Budget. Districts need to continue to coordinate with Congressional delegations. There is House language to amend Beneficial Use to include RSM.

5. The rest of the day was spent by various Districts providing presentations to the group on the topics listed in the attached Agenda. Some of the important highlights from these presentations include Mobile District's Lessons Learned from developing a PMP for RSM. The overwhelming volume of tasks and information being tracked caused the PMP to be difficult to update; a smaller overview version has now been implemented at SAM. The Galveston District emphasized the importance of including the State and the Corps Regulatory Office in the PDT discussions on RSM. They also discussed the large role that Operations plays in the success of RSM and the development of strategic Dredged Material Management Plans. Jacksonville presented the current status of Ft. George Inlet studies (DEP), eCoastal GIS implementation, and other activities within the District. Jason Engle's presentation on Regional Sediment Budgets (USACE/Taylor Engineering) for various parts of Florida was well received and is already on being utilized by the Gulf of Mexico RSM effort. Brian Brodehl's presentation on the IWW and beach/nearshore placement efforts (in conjunction with FIND) generated a great deal of interest and was praised as RSM in action. Brian pointed out that this is possible with FIND's funding supplements and that Operations Branch in Jacksonville has been committed to keeping sand in the system to the greatest extent possible for some time.

6. The second day of the workshop was spent being divided into different groups to brainstorm on several different topics (as seen on the agenda). Each group discussed the proposed topic, modified it as needed, and presented solutions or additional information on the topic. Each of these groups' efforts are being summarized and captured by ERDC and will be available on their website in the near future. This information will be shared with the RSM team (and hopefully others) within the District. Each member of the RSM team is encouraged to introduce others with the District to the RSM effort.

7. On Thursday Tom Smith of POH provided the group an introduction to Honolulu District's recommended demonstration project for RSM. It involves a large section of the southeastern shore of Oahu that is experiencing periodic erosion of its sandy beaches. A field trip was conducted to provide the group with the scale of the project and existing environment. POH is proposing to collect data, monitor conditions and calibrate models over the next 3 years (funding permitting) in an effort to document and understand the complex coastal processes in the area. The presentations concerning these proposed efforts will be made available on the web as well.

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