Port of Melbourne Operations Pty Ltd Dredging Program 2023-33 Environmental Management Plan (DP23-33 EMP)

March 2025 Port of Melbourne Operations Pty Ltd

Port of Melbourne







# **Approvals**

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# **Revision History**

Dates	Revision(s)	Details
2012-2022	0-7	Previous Dredging Program (DP12-22) EMP and revisions approved by former
		DSE/DELWP (now Dept. of Energy, Environment & Climate Action (DEECA))
11/04/2023	8	DP23-33 EMP approved by DEECA
16/01/2024	9	Amended - DMG Spoil Disposal Management and Monitoring Plan (refer Sect. 3.3)
6/03/2025	10	Amended - DEECA approval of 6 March 2025 (refer Section 1.3)



# Glossary

Acronym	Term
BHGD	Backhoe and/or grab dredge
CD	Chart datum
CDP	Channel Deepening Project
dB	decibels
DAFF	Dept. of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Cwlth)
DMG	Dredged Material Ground
DCCEEW	Dept. of Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Water (Cwlth)
DEECA	Dept. of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (Victoria)
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
EMS	Environmental Management System as defined under ISO 14001
EPA	Environment Protection Authority (Victoria)
EPBC Act	Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cwlth).
HMAS	Her Majesty's Australian Ship
GIS	Geographic Information System
km	kilometre(s)
Laeq	time weighted equivalent noise level
m	metre(s)
MBES	Multi beam echosounder
ML	Local Magnitude (Unit of scale for measuring seismic activity)
MNES	Matters of National Environmental Significance
MPB	Microphytobenthos
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units
OSF	Optimised Statistical Footprint
OCF	Operational Capping Footprint
PDS	Project Delivery Standard
PFAS	Per- and Polyfluorinated Substances
PoM	Port of Melbourne Operations Pty Ltd
PoMC	former Port of Melbourne Corporation
PoMDMG	Port of Melbourne Dredged Material Ground
SBP	Sub Bottom Profiler
SBPS	Sub Bottom Profiler Survey
SEDMG	South East Dredged Material Ground
SEES	Supplementary Environment Effects Statement
SF	Statistical Footprint
TSHD	Trailing Suction Hopper Dredge
PV	Ports Victoria
EPA Noise Protocol	Environment Protection Act 2017 (Vic) Publication 1826.4, May 2021



#### 1. Introduction

This Environmental Management Plan (EMP) details the environmental management requirements to be followed for the 10 year program of dredging activities to be undertaken by Port of Melbourne Operations Pty Ltd (PoM) between 2023 and 2033, referred to as DP23-33.

#### 1.1 Obligations

Under the *Delivering Victorian Infrastructure (Port of Melbourne Lease Transaction) Act 2016* (Vic), Port of Melbourne is required to dredge and maintain channels and berths and all associated dredge areas, as defined in Section 1.2 below, in accordance with the terms of the Port of Melbourne Lease Transaction.

## 1.2 Dredging Operations

Dredging of channels, berths, swing basins and silt traps is one of the critical asset management strategies required to be undertaken to achieve the performance and regulatory requirements to allow the safe navigation of vessels throughout all port waters.

To meet the requirements of the *Delivering Victorian Infrastructure (Port of Melbourne Lease Transaction) Act 2016* (Vic), the objectives of DP23-33 are to:

- optimise the performance of channels and berths within port waters;
- maintain the declared depths of the shipping channels, berths, approaches and associated swing basins;
- maintain the depths and capacity of all sundry areas of the port; and
- manage the placement of dredged material within the Port of Melbourne Dredged Material Ground (PoMDMG) and South East Dredged Material Ground (SEDMG).

DP23-33 includes dredging operations and dredge management works in the following areas (see Figure 1):

- Northern Port Phillip Yarra River and Hobsons Bay, comprising the Yarra River, Williamstown and Port Melbourne Channels, all berths, approaches, associated swing basins, silt traps and sundry port areas in the Yarra and Maribyrnong Rivers, Gellibrand Pier, Webb Dock, Station Pier and the PoMDMG; and
- South of the Bay South Channel, SEDMG and The Entrance comprising the Great Ship Channel, Outer Western Channel, Western Channel, Eastern Channel and Outer Eastern Channel.

#### 1.3 Scope of DP23-33

The scope of this EMP considers the following:

- the 10-year dredging consent for DP23-33 issued by the Dept. of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) on 14 April 2023.
- PoM's 'DMG Spoil Disposal Management and Monitoring Plan' approved by DEECA on 3 January 2024.
- the amended dredging volume approved by DEECA on 6 March 2025.
- the requirements for environmental management during the planning, implementation, evaluation and review of DP23-33 activities;
- the responsibilities for implementing this EMP;
- the Project Delivery Standards (PDS) including the environmental management controls to ensure that the objectives and targets are met; and
- an overview of the environmental management, inspection and audit requirements, environmental monitoring and contingency plans and associated management actions.

This EMP applies to all dredging activities undertaken during DP23-33. PoM has overall responsibility for the implementation of DP23-33 in accordance with the requirements of this EMP.

For context, the Channel Deepening Project (CDP) Supplementary Environment Effects Statement (SEES) studies estimated that ongoing dredging to maintain the declared depths over each 10 year period could comprise approximately 3.7 million m³, however the actual as-dredged volumes vary depending on survey results, weather conditions, port development activities, the annual rates of sedimentation and the availability of particular dredging equipment.



The types of sediments to be dredged during DP23-33 are shown in Table 1 and dredging activities may occur concurrently in these project areas.

Area	Sediment Type	Disposal Location
Northern Port Phillip	clays and silts (contaminated)	PoM DMG (bunded area)
	clays and silts (uncontaminated)	PoM DMG (unbunded area)
Southern Port Phillip & The Entrance	sands and other materials (clean)	SEDMG

Table 1 - Types of materials to be dredged

The dredging works will be undertaken by backhoe and/or grab dredges (BHGD), Trailing Suction Hopper Dredges (TSHD) and various support equipment including tugs, barges and sweeping / water injection vessels.

All sediments dredged from northern Port Phillip are deemed to be contaminated unless demonstrated otherwise. Material assessed as contaminated, as per the National Assessment Guidelines for Dredging (NAGD, 2009), will be placed within the southern underwater containment area at the PoMDMG located in the North of the Bay (see Figure 1).

If sediments are uncontaminated and suitable for unconfined disposal they will be placed within the northern area of the PoMDMG or, subject to geotechnical parameters, utilised for ongoing bund construction and/or maintenance.

Materials dredged from the South of the Bay will be placed in the SEDMG. (see Figure 1). If it is necessary to remove any loose material from the Entrance, it will be placed in the SEDMG.

# 1.4 Timing Considerations

Due to environmental and social seasonality issues, preference will be given to:

- maximising works in summer, autumn and winter in northern Port Phillip; and
- maximising works in autumn, winter and spring in southern Port Phillip.

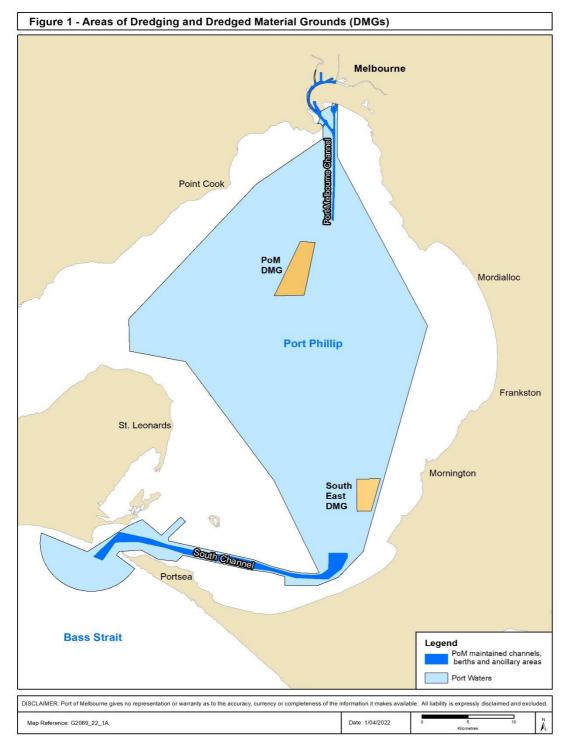
#### 1.5 Key Assets, environmental effects and risks

#### **Key Ecological Assets**

**The** key assets, predicted effects and risk events associated with ongoing maintenance dredging (and minor capital dredging) activities are summarised below. Detailed information is contained within the risk assessment (refer to Section 2.4). The key ecological assets and potential impacts include:

- listed and protected species potential disruption of migration patterns for the Australian grayling due to turbidity, and potential impacts to protected species due to turbidity and impacts on seagrass habitat;
- seagrass habitat reduced light due to turbidity has the potential to affect seagrass health;
- Marine Protected Areas potential impacts from turbidity in the vicinity of the Port Phillip Heads Marine National Park; and
- Ramsar sites (Swan Bay, Mud Island and the Spit Wildlife Reserve) potential impact due to hydrodynamic changes and turbidity.





## **Key Social Values and Economic Uses**

The key social values, economic uses and potential impacts include:

- public amenity noise and visual impacts of the project;
- recreational activities (diving, fishing, boating and beach use) impacts due to dredging works;
- commercial uses (e.g. commercial diving and fishing activities, charter fishing, ecotourism) potential disruption due to turbidity, and safety zones and no-dive zones around dredging equipment; and
- cultural heritage potential disturbance to the shipwreck sites HMAS Goorangai.



## 1.6 Environment Policy

PoM's Board-approved Environment Policy provides the umbrella policy direction for DP23-33.

A summary of the Environment Policy is displayed in the PoM workplace. Key requirements and responsibilities will be communicated via inductions or other training programs (refer to Training and awareness Section 0).

PoM is committed to delivering DP23-33 in an environmentally responsible manner and in accordance with its statutory approvals and this EMP.

#### 1.7 Environmental Management Plan overview

The implementation of this EMP is underpinned by the systems and procedures of PoM's Integrated Management System (IMS) as discussed further below.

PoM's port-wide 'Safety and Environment Management Plan' (SEMP), which is required under the *Port Management Act 1995* (Vic) (PMA), is applicable for the subject area with the Port's environmental management requirements outlined within this guiding document.

In accordance with the PMA, PoM's SEMP is required to be externally audited every three years by an auditor approved by the Minister for Ports and Freight. The last external audit in 2022 found the SEMP to be fully compliant with the PMA obligations. The next SEMP external audit is due to be undertaken in 2025.

The key objectives of PoM's SEMP are to promote:

- a cooperative approach to safety and environmental management between PoM and Port stakeholders, including but not limited to Ports Victoria,
   Port tenants, licencees, users and service providers; and
- the delivery of best practice safety and environmental management within the Port.

Complementing PoM's Board-approved Environment Policy and the SEMP, PoM has the following supporting plans and systems to ensure PoM is managing the port in accordance with its contractual responsibilities under the Port Concession Deed and Port Lease in an environmentally sustainable manner:

- a Port Environment Strategy (PES) which is required to be maintained and a PES Annual Report provided to the State as part of the Port Lease;
- certification from Bureau Veritas of PoM's IMS to ISO 14001:2015 Environmental management systems, ISO 45001:2018 OH&S management systems, ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management Systems and ISO 55001:2014 Asset Management; and
- this DP23-33 Environmental Management Plan (EMP).

The DP23-33 EMP has been developed to meet the following objectives:

- establish the processes and controls that will be implemented to ensure that DP23-33 is delivered with all risks or effects equal to or less than those identified in the risk assessment;
- communicate environmental management requirements to the dredging contractor; and
- ensure that the project does not result in unacceptable environmental impacts upon the assets, values and beneficial uses of Port Phillip including matters of national environmental significance.

#### 1.8 EMP approval and revisions

This EMP is a controlled document and will be approved and revised in accordance with the requirements outlined in Table 2.

Where agency approval is required, this will be sought prior to implementing the change. Where approval is not required, relevant agencies will be notified of the change and issued with a revised EMP as soon a practicable, in accordance with requirements outlined in Table 2.



Revision	РоМ	DEECA
<b>Procedural revision</b> (administrative changes e.g. amendment of procedure reference, formatting)	Approved by Executive General Manager (EGM) Operations	Notification to DEECA
Minor revision (changes within existing environmental approvals)	Operations	
Major revision (changes requiring amendment to environmental approvals)	Approved by EGM Operations	Approved as required by DEECA

Table 2 - EMP approval and revision requirements



# 2. Planning

## 2.1 Legal requirements

The relevant project approvals, legal requirements and other requirements such as guidelines and codes of practice have been identified by PoM.

Where legislation requires a management action or response, these requirements have been identified within the Project Delivery Standards (PDS) as environmental controls, environmental limits, environmental monitoring programs, or within contingency plans. The PDS associated with key legislation are identified in Table 3.

Compliance with legal and other relevant requirements will be evaluated in accordance with the PoM's Compass.

Legislation	Applicable Project Delivery Standards
Marine and Coastal Act 2018 (Vic)	All PDSs
Environment Protection Act 2017 (Vic)	
Climate Change Act 2017 (Vic)	
Marine Safety Act 2010 (Vic)	
Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 (Vic)	
Environment Protection and Biodiversity	Marine-based works (all areas)
Conservation Act 1999 (Cwlth.)	Dredging and plume
	Dredging schedule
	Dredged material management
Historic Shipwrecks Act 1976 (Cwlth)	Marine-based works (all areas)
Heritage Act 1995 (Vic)	
National Parks Act 1975 (Vic)	Marine-based works (all areas)
Wildlife Act 1975 (Vic)	Dredging and plume
Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 (Vic)	Entrance maintenance

Table 3 - Key legislation and associated Project Delivery Standards

## 2.2 Project Delivery Standards

The Project Delivery Standards (PDS) address the key environmental risks, effects and legal requirements. The PDS include the management and mitigation measures, environmental monitoring and contingency plans for the project.

The DP23-33 activity-based PDS groups are:

- maintenance management (all activities);
- marine-based works (all areas);
- dredging and plume;
- dredging schedule;
- dredged material management; and
- Entrance maintenance.

The PDS relevant to the activities of DP23-33 are listed in Annexure 1 of this EMP.

## 2.3 External notification and reporting requirements

Performance against this EMP will be reported to government agencies as described in Table 4.



	Reporting or notification		
Subject	Government agency	Timeframe	
Environmental limit exceeded	Airborne noise – EPA, DEECA	Notification within 24 hours of verifying that environmental limit has been exceeded. Incident report required.	
Pollution event or imminent environmental hazard (as defined in EPA Publication 953.2, 2007)	DEECA, EPA, DCCEEW*	Immediate notification. Incident report required.	
Marine and Aboriginal heritage	Heritage Victoria, DEECA	Notification within 10 business days of discovery of shipwreck or potential Aboriginal site is identified. Notification prior to any additional surveys being conducted.	
		Report to be forwarded following heritage inspections.	
Campaign dredging schedule	DEECA	The schedule for each campaign will be forwarded by management no less than 10 business days prior to campaign commencement.	
Pre-mobilisation Review & Campaign Initiation Report	DEECA	Report to be forwarded no less than 10 business days prior to campaign commencement.	
Campaign close-out report	DEECA, DCCEEW*	Close-out report to be forwarded within 90 business days of the completion of each campaign.	
Independent environmental audit of implementation of this EMP	DEECA, DCCEEW*	Audit report will be provided with the campaign close-out report, within 90 business days of the completion of campaign.	
Project Delivery Standard	DEECA, DCCEEW*	Notification within 1 business day of verifying major non- conformance with a PDS (or part thereof)	

<sup>\*</sup>only for components relating to EPBC Act matters of national environmental significance

Table 4 - Notification and reporting requirements

#### 2.4 Risk management

Environmental risks associated with DP23-33 have been identified and documented in a project risk register consistent with international Risk Management Standard ISO31000:2009 (International Organisation for Standardisation).

The DP23-33 risk register will be reviewed periodically to incorporate monitoring and investigation results and to reflect changes identified through the change management process, or as a result of incident investigations. Changes to the risk register will be approved by PoM's Executive General Manager, Operations and be included for review in PoM's Pre-Mobilisation Review and Campaign Initiation Report (see Section 4.1).

Risk management, including review and reporting requirements, are outlined in the PoM DP23-33 Risk Report.

Task-based risk assessments (e.g. Job Safety and Environment Assessments) will be undertaken during the project to identify and control work place hazards.

# 2.5 Organisational structure and responsibility

PoM has overall responsibility for the implementation of DP23-33 in accordance with the requirements of this EMP and is responsible for communicating responsibilities to the dredging contractor.

The Executive General Manager (EGM) Operations is accountable for:



- implementing this EMP;
- coordinating all activities relating to this EMP; and
- providing adequate resources to undertake DP23-33 in accordance with this EMP.

Responsibility for implementing this EMP will be delegated by the EGM Operations, through the management team to the workforce, the dredging contractor and relevant external parties.

All levels within the management structure have duties and responsibilities associated with implementing this EMP. The specific responsibilities for implementing this EMP will be identified in internal operational procedures.

#### 2.6 Document and record control

Environment documents and records will be managed in accordance with PoM's Records Management Policy and associated documents.

## 2.7 Continuous Improvement

PoM is committed to continuous improvement during DP23-33. Management reviews will identify suitable opportunities for continuous improvement (refer Section 4.2).

Proposed changes to the dredging program will be assessed and documented as per the management review and reporting requirements outlined in Section 4. This will include an assessment of the risk and compliance with legal requirements. Changes to the program may include:

- alteration of a dredging schedule;
- modification of work methods within the approved scope of works;
- adjustment of environmental monitoring response levels;
- changes to project description; and
- future changes or improvements to dredging technology.

Changes will be approved by the Executive General Manager, Operations or delegate, with any necessary changes to this EMP handled in accordance with Table 4.

As an example of continuous improvement, PoM has implemented a new spoil monitoring and management regime (including management intervention trigger levels and measures) based on the studies documented in the DP23-33 Risk Report (refer to Section 4).

#### 2.8 Training and awareness

All personnel shall be suitably qualified and experienced to undertake their work in an environmentally responsible manner. Personnel who have formal responsibilities under this plan will be trained in the requirements of this EMP.

- Training may include formal courses, tool box meetings and in-field mentoring. Records of training and inductions will be maintained.
- Training requirements will include relevant personnel to be trained in spotting and identification of cetaceans (whales, dolphins).
- All personnel involved in DP23-33 will be required to complete an induction which will incorporate key
  environmental aspects of the project. All personnel will be required to complete an assessment to
  demonstrate an understanding of key issues, requirements and responsibilities.

Induction topics include the following:

- PoM Environment Policy;
- key environmental issues and controls;
- monitoring program(s);
- emergency response;
- incident reporting;
- waste management;
- cetacean requirements;
- responsibilities;



- communication requirements; and
- consequences of a departure from the requirements of this EMP.

#### 2.9 Communication

Internal and external communication and consultation arrangements are described below. The PoM communications delegate will be responsible for meeting all requirements with respect to community liaison.

#### Internal communication

- internal communication methods include meetings, emails, Intranet content; and
- regular meetings between PoM personnel and contractors will be scheduled.

#### **External communication**

A variety of methods will be used to enable information to be distributed to, and be received from, interested members of the community and key stakeholders. These may include the following:

- website (refer www.portofmelbourne.com);
- email or electronic direct mail (eDM);
- media releases;
- direct verbal or written advice (e.g. telephone, letter, email); and
- Notices to Mariners and shipping protocols.

Key communication activities and content include the following:

- the campaign dredging schedule to be available on the website covering project activities occurring in an upcoming campaign. Schedule to be updated as required;
- all complainants will receive a response within 1 business day. Complaints will be managed following the process described in Annexure 12 and resolved as soon as practicable; and
- engage various stakeholder groups just prior to commencement and at relevant milestones.

Key stakeholders include local, state and Commonwealth government bodies, business and commercial parties, commercial, passenger and recreational bay users and other identified stakeholders

### 2.10 Emergency preparedness, response and recovery

Emergency scenarios are identified in the risk report. In accordance with legislative requirements, PoM has a comprehensive Emergency Management Plan for managing emergencies that occur in its jurisdictional land and waters.

The contractor will have an emergency response procedure. This procedure will be in accordance with operational requirements, Harbour Master's directions and emergency management provisions contained in the Ports Victoria 'Port Operations Handbook' and 'Harbour Master's Directions'. The procedure will be reviewed to ensure consistency with PoM's Emergency Management Plan.

Inductions will provide an overview of emergency response requirements. Site specific inductions and training will be undertaken by the dredging contractor.

Following an emergency incident, an investigation will be conducted and corrective actions identified and addressed in accordance with PoM's Emergency Management Plan.



#### 3. Measurement and evaluation

## 3.1 Incident reporting and investigation

Environmental incidents and hazards, including pollution incidents will be reported and recorded consistent with PoM's incident reporting requirements. This requirement will be included in inductions and reinforced during the project. PoM's external reporting/auditing requirements are identified in Table 5.

Finding level	Description
Conformance	There is sufficient evidence to confirm that actions have been undertaken, prepared
	and/or implemented in full conformance with the requirements of the auditable element.
Major non-	The evidence shows that actions are not in full conformance with the requirements of the
conformance	auditable element and this gives rise to the potential that the environment will be
	significantly affected (as defined in the risk assessment process) if the non-conformance
	is not rectified.
Minor non-	The evidence shows that actions are not in full conformance with the requirements of the
conformance	auditable element but it is unlikely that this will cause the environment to be significantly
	affected (as defined in the risk assessment process).
Not applicable	The auditable element falls outside the scope of the audit, e.g. work relevant to the
	element being audited has not yet commenced.
Area for	A deficiency in the implementation of this EMP judged to be a risk to the environment, or
improvement	to environmental management, without constituting an overall failure in the area
	concerned.
Undetermined	There is insufficient evidence to make a judgement on compliance.

Table 5 - Summary of audit findings classifications

#### 3.2 Audits

A suitably qualified external auditor will be appointed to independently assess the conformance of each dredging campaign with the requirements of this EMP. The auditor may be appointed to audit a number of campaigns. The audit process takes into account the following:

- the timing and nature of the proposed works;
- the environmental risks of the dredging and dredged material management activities;
- the location, timing and volume of dredge material to be removed for minor capital projects; and
- the relevant PDS (refer Annexure 1).

The audit will evaluate performance on the basis of management records. The audit activities may also include direct observation of activities, as relevant. The audit report will include (as relevant):

- summary of findings;
- audit objective and scope;
- audit activities and reference documents;
- audit findings classification (refer Table 5 above); and
- audit findings and conclusion.

The audit findings will also be used to inform the management review and reporting process as per Section 4.

# 3.3 Monitoring of environmental performance

Environmental performance will be monitored via three mechanisms:

- process monitoring, inspections and surveys monitoring of operational activities, physical conditions and post-maintenance activity environmental conditions (e.g. equipment tracking, monitoring of DMG integrity, bathymetric surveys, Entrance surveys).
- management performance monitoring monitoring of the implementation and effectiveness of the environmental management system (e.g. nature of complaints, number of corrective actions completed).



• environmental monitoring and contingency plans - monitoring or response levels or environmental limits, with a description of the process to be followed in the event that identified levels or limits are reached.

## **Process monitoring**

Process monitoring identified in the PDS includes the following:

- equipment tracking Dredging and Plume PDS and Dredged Material Management PDS;
- hydrographic surveys Dredged Material Management PDS;
- energy consumption and greenhouse emissions maintenance management (all activities) PDS; and
- monitoring removal of contaminated sediments Dredging and Plume PDS.

#### Inspections and surveys

Inspections and surveys identified in the PDS include:

- multibeam surveys and inspections at HMAS Goorangai as per the marine-based works (all areas) PDS;
- marine pest requirements identified in marine-based works (all areas) PDS;
- Entrance inspections and surveys as identified in the Entrance PDS; and
- bathymetric and multibeam surveys in dredging and plume PDS.

#### **DMG Monitoring and Management Framework**

Based on the result of the technical studies, PoM has replaced the previous intermediate sand capping activity at the DMG with a 'DMG Spoil Disposal Management and Monitoring Plan' which was approved by DEECA on 3 January 2024. This monitoring and management plan will determine when an intermediate capping campaign will need to be considered and is summarised below in Table 6:

Item	Description
24/7 storm event	real-time monitoring of wind speeds at the DMG and automated notification of
monitoring	extreme wind events to trigger a hydrographic survey inspection
Consolidation and/or	monitoring of sediment properties deposited at the DMG to track their erosion
settlement testing of	potential and resilience of significant storms to determine if trigger values are
deposited sediments	reached that require intervention
Bioavailability/	a four-stage approach for assessing bioavailability and bioaccumulation based
bioaccumulation	on guidance in the National Assessment Guidelines for Dredging (NAGD, 2009)
monitoring	
Trigger events and	defined trigger and management actions through the hydrodynamic and
approved	sediment monitoring program and the bioavailability and bioaccumulation data
Management Actions	assessment and analysis process which detail when an intermediate sand cap
	determination will need to be made
Final Sand Capping	one final 0.5m thick sand capping layer will still be placed on top of the
Layer for DMG	contaminated sediments when the DMG is at full capacity, using the current
	approved capping protocol methodology

**Table 6 - DMG Monitoring & Management Framework** 

The scope of works to be undertaken for the approved DMG Spoil Disposal Management and Monitoring Plan is outlined in PDS 24.

### 3.4 Other environmental monitoring and contingency plans

In addition to the monitoring and contingency plans described in Section 3 above, environmental monitoring and contingency plans for noise, heritage and complaints monitor response levels or environmental limits, with a description of the process to be followed in the event that identified levels or limits are reached.

The management actions identified in the contingency plans for noise, heritage and complaints are not an exhaustive list but tangible responses that the project will implement if required. The most appropriate management action will be selected on a case by case basis (refer to Annexures 10-12).



# 4. Management Review and Reporting

#### 4.1 Pre-Mobilisation Review and Campaign Initiation Report

A dredging campaign comprises all dredging and dredging-related activities required in a particular timeframe following collection and assessment of hydrographic data that is routinely collected in the port.

Prior to commencement of each dredging campaign, a 'Pre-Mobilisation Review and Campaign Initiation Report' (Report) will be prepared by management to inform each maintenance campaign.

The Report will document the assessment by management of:

- the project activities to be undertaken for the campaign including any new dredging equipment, spoil management requirements and associated methodologies;
- estimated volumes to be dredged;
- hydrographic survey requirements;
- assessment of legal requirements including statutory approvals and other commitments, including listing
  of new species, habitats, communities and locations under Victorian or Commonwealth review;
- review of significant events that may have occurred since the previous campaign;
- review of environmental monitoring results from previous campaign(s);
- review of the relevant risks associated with all dredging activities;
- requirements of audits; and
- a summary of consultation activities.

The report will be sent to DEECA ten (10) business days prior to commencement of a campaign.

## 4.2 Campaign Close-Out Report

At the end of the each campaign, a 'Campaign Close-Out Report' will be prepared by senior management. The information from this review process will be used to inform subsequent maintenance campaigns.

The review will consider:

- summary of dredging activities undertaken;
- compliance with PDS;
- compliance with legal requirements including statutory approvals and other commitments;
- environmental performance monitoring results;
- results of inspections and surveys;
- results of audits, including the independent environmental audit;
- project risk profile; and
- lessons learned including any amendments required to the PDS.

Where an opportunity for continual improvement has been identified as part of the management review process, the following actions may be considered for each following maintenance campaign:

- development of new procedures;
- modification of existing procedures;
- modification to project scheduling;
- modification to communications strategy;
- modification to training schedule and/or programs;
- modifications to internal audit schedule;
- assessment as to whether any input is required from external specialists; and
- consideration of need for further investigations.

Any action arising from the management review will be assigned responsibility and tracked until completion.

The campaign close-out report will be sent with the independent audit to relevant government agencies within 90 business days of the final completion of all activities and contractual requirement for each campaign (refer to Table 4).



## 4.3 DMG Spoil Disposal Management and Monitoring Framework Reporting

The scope of work and reporting requirements for the approved DMG Spoil Disposal Management and Monitoring Plan are set out in Project Delivery Standard (PDS) 24 (refer Annexure 7). As the first dredging campaign (DP2023) undertaken under the DP23-33 consent extended from May 2023 through January 2024, the first annual report will be prepared in mid-late 2024 after the following sampling and testing program has been completed:

- monitoring of wind speeds at the DMG (ongoing);
- the sediment sampling program which will be undertaken in the South-East Cell) through 2024 and 2025;
   and
- the bioavailability and bioaccumulation sampling and laboratory testing program which is scheduled to be undertaken at least three months after completion of PoM's 2023/2024 dredging program in circa April 2024.

All separate bioavailability/bioaccumulation reports will be provided to DEECA for review prior to finalisation. The agreed triggers and management actions arising from the monitoring framework are shown in Drawing 6, Annexure 13. Any actions arising from the results of these report(s) will be subject to the approval of DEECA.



# 5. Annexure 1 Project Delivery Standards – applicable works and project areas

	Project Delivery Standards	Yarra River and Hobsons Bay	North of the Bay	South of the Bay	The Entrance	PoMDMG
	intenance management (all					
act	ivities)	,				
1.	Hours of operation	✓	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>
2.	Airborne noise	✓	<b>✓</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	✓
3.	Airborne Noise Monitoring	✓	×	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	*
4.	Waste management	✓	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>✓</b>	✓
5.	Energy and greenhouse gases	✓	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>√</b>
6.	Equipment maintenance	✓	<b>✓</b>	✓	<b>√</b>	✓
7.	Fuels, oils, chemicals and	✓	<b>✓</b>	✓	<b>√</b>	✓
	hazardous goods					
8.	Emergency response preparedness	✓	<b>✓</b>	✓	✓	✓
Ma	rine-based works (all areas)					
9.	Marine pests	✓	✓	✓	<b>✓</b>	✓
10.	Vessel bunkering	✓	<b>✓</b>	✓	<b>✓</b>	✓
11.	Cetaceans – vessel manoeuvring	✓	<b>✓</b>	✓	<b>✓</b>	✓
12.	Cetacean sightings and log	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
13.	Dredging in the vicinity of services	✓	✓	×	×	×
14.	Heritage (marine-based) –	✓	<b>✓</b>	✓	<b>✓</b>	×
	identification of potential relics					
15.	Maritime heritage – dredging	*	×	✓	*	×
Dre	edging and plume					
16.	Pre- and Post-Dredging	✓	<b>✓</b>	✓	<b>✓</b>	×
17.	Dredging of consolidated and	✓	✓	×	*	×
	unconsolidated contaminated					
	sediments					
18.	Dredging of consolidated	✓	✓	✓	✓	×
	uncontaminated sediments.					
19.	Dredging of unconsolidated	✓	✓	✓	✓	×
	uncontaminated sediments					
Ent	trance Activities					
20.	Dredging in The Entrance	×	×	×	✓	×
Dre	edging schedule					
21.	Campaign dredging schedule	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
22.	Consideration of seasonal	✓	×	✓	×	×
	sensitivities					
Dre	edged material management					
23.	Dredge material placement	✓	✓	✓	✓	×
24.	DP23-33 Monitoring and	*	×	×	×	$\checkmark$
	Management Framework					
25.	PoMDMG – final capping	✓	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	×	✓
26.	PoMDMG – maintenance and	*	×	×	×	✓
	inspection.					
27.	SEDMG	×	×	✓	✓	×



# 6. Annexure 2 Dredging Management (all activities) PDS

Dredging mana	gement (all activities)			
Objective	<ul> <li>To appropriately plan and implement operational aspects of dredging activities.</li> <li>To ensure noise levels comply with EPA Noise Protocol requirements.</li> <li>To ensure that materials are appropriately stored, handled and disposed of.</li> </ul>			
Target	Conformance with environmental limits and controls specified in	Conformance with environmental limits and controls specified in this PDS.		
Application	<ul> <li>The duration of dredging activities and areas.</li> </ul>			
Environmental	controls	Project phase		
1. Hours of op	peration			
	s may be conducted on a 24 hour, 7 days a week basis, except where stricted within a PDS, or relevant legislation.	All phases		
2. Airborne n	oise	All phases		
<ul> <li>All activities</li> <li>A desktop report new to wore conducted</li> <li>Where the to the risk and Airborne No.</li> </ul>				
3. Airborne N	borne Noise Monitoring			
<ul> <li>Noise monitoring to be undertaken as described in the Airborne Noise Contingency Plan (Annexure 10).</li> <li>Where monitoring indicates an exceedance of EPA Noise Protocol limits, appropriate action is to be taken as described in Airborne Noise Contingency Plan.</li> </ul>		Activity		
4. Waste man	agement			
<ul> <li>treatment of Substances</li> <li>Contractor containment disposal.</li> <li>The handlind dredging (expression)</li> </ul>	vessels to have sewage containment or treatment facilities. Sewage will comply with Section 23G of the Pollution of Waters by Noxious Act 1986 (Vic).  waste management arrangements to include waste minimisation, not, segregation and appropriate reuse, recycling, treatment and ag and disposal of unexpected materials identified during TSHD ag. inert debris such as metallic wastes and timber) to be included in agement arrangements.	Activity		
	managed in accordance with:			
<ul><li>Biosecurity</li></ul>	nt Protection Act 2017 (Vic) Act 2015 (Cwlth.) (applicable vessels) Waters by Oil and Noxious Substances Act 1986 (Vic)			
5. Energy and	greenhouse gases			
	will identify, calculate and report on energy consumption and emissions on major plant and equipment if required under the	Activity		



Dr	edging manage	ment (all activities)		
	National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007 (NGER) and/or any other requirements under the Climate Change Act 2017 (Vic).			
6.	Equipment maintenance			
•	<ul> <li>Maintenance programs will be implemented for all plant and equipment as defined in the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2007 (Vic).</li> </ul>		Activity	
7.	Fuels, oils, ch	emicals and hazardous goods		
Sto	orage and hand	ling of chemicals to be in accordan	ce with:	Activity
:	Dangerous Go International Pollution of W			
8.	Emergency re	sponse preparedness		
	<ul> <li>Development and testing of emergency response procedures, integrated with PoM's Emergency Management Plan, including provision for fuel, oil and chemical spills.</li> <li>All dredge vessels to have oil spill response kits on board.</li> </ul>			
En	vironmental lin	nit	Environmental monitoring progra	m
Air	Airborne noise		Airborne Noise Contingency Plan	
		Airborne Noise Contingency Plan	(Annexure 10) a Emergency Response Procedures	(FMP Section 2-10)



# 7. Annexure 3 Marine-based works (all areas) PDS

Marine-based w	vorks (all areas)						
Objective	<ul> <li>To appropriately manage marine-based works.</li> <li>To minimise disturbance to and appropriately manage non-Aboriginal heritage.</li> <li>To minimise impacts on cetaceans due to vessel manoeuvring.</li> </ul>						
Target	<ul> <li>Conformance with environmental controls specified in this PDS.</li> </ul>						
Application	All marine-based dredging activities.						
Environmental of	Project phase						
9. Marine pest	s						
dredgers and these are so from the final All applicable.	inspection and certification of monitoring and support vessels, d pontoons is required before mobilisation onto project, where urced from outside Port Phillip. Certification must be received al port of call, before entry to Port Phillip. e vessels to comply with the 'Australian Ballast Water at Requirements', Dept. of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry th.)	Pre-mobilisation  Activity					
10. Vessel bunk	cering						
<ul><li>All bunkering</li><li>Guidelines a</li></ul>	All phases						
11. Cetaceans –	vessel manoeuvring						
If within 300 m o	of a whale or dolphin the vessel must not:	All phases					
<ul> <li>approach a whale or dolphin head on;</li> <li>restrict the path of a whale or dolphin;</li> <li>pursue a whale or dolphin;</li> <li>separate any whale or dolphin from a group;</li> <li>come between a mother and a calf; and</li> <li>drop or lower an anchor overboard from the vessel.</li> </ul>							
If within 300 m o	of a whale or dolphin, the vessel must:						
<ul><li>avoid sudde</li><li>post a looko</li><li>manoeuvre</li></ul>	constant speed that does not exceed 5 knots; n changes in speed and direction; out for cetaceans; and the vessel to a distance of at least 300 m from the whale or shows any signs of disturbance.						
12. Cetacean sig	ghtings and log						
	n board vessels are to report all sightings of cetaceans; and acean sightings and action taken to be kept for all work areas.	Activity					
13. Dredging in	the vicinity of services						
_	nt measures including positional controls and mechanical devices the risk of damage to services.	Activity					



Nanina basad	Navina haad wada (all areas)				
	Marine-based works (all areas)				
14. Heritage (mari	4. Heritage (marine-based) – identification of potential relics				
·	If potential relics are identified during maintenance activities, the process described in Annexure 11 will be followed.				
15. Maritime heri	age – dredging				
before and aft	Conduct multibeam survey in the vicinity of the HMAS Goorangai (S294)  before and after dredging in the area identified in Activity Areas – Heritage  Significance drawings included in Annexure 13.				
The following mar HMAS Goorangai ( Activity Areas – He					
<ul><li>use of the swe Goorangai;</li><li>draghead track</li></ul>	use of the sweep bar in conjunction with the TSHD in the vicinity of the HMAS				
<ul> <li>heritage significance; and</li> <li>conduct site inspection within 2 months of completion of dredging in the vicinity of HMAS Goorangai (S294).</li> <li>Inspections to be carried out under the supervision of an archaeologist and reports to be provided to Heritage Victoria, if needed.</li> </ul>					
Environmental lim	Environmental limit Environmental monitoring program				
Not applicable to t	his PDS	Not applicable to this PDS			
Contingencies Not applicable to this PDS					



# 8. Annexure 4 Dredging and Plume PDS

lume	
<ul> <li>To optimise the performance of channels and berths</li> <li>To appropriately manage dredging activities and contaminated sed</li> <li>To minimise area of seabed disturbed and appropriately manage the removed.</li> <li>To protect assets, beneficial uses and values from long-term advers to dredging-related water quality effects.</li> </ul>	ne material
<ul> <li>Maintain physical dredging works within the nominated activity zo</li> <li>No turbidity plume extent outside expectations</li> </ul>	nes
<ul> <li>All maintenance dredging activities in the Yarra and Maribyrnong R Williamstown Channel, Hobsons Bay, Port Melbourne Channel, Sou and Entrance;</li> <li>All minor capital dredging projects undertaken in the Yarra and Ma Rivers, Williamstown Channel, Hobsons Bay and Port Melbourne C defined as comprising a maximum insitu dredge volume of 50,000</li> <li>The disposal of dredged material at the PoMDMG and SEDMG; and Use of TSHD, BHGD, sweep and associated equipment.</li> </ul>	uth Channel oribyrnong hannel; m3/annum
controls	
controls	Project phase
	<ul> <li>To optimise the performance of channels and berths</li> <li>To appropriately manage dredging activities and contaminated sectors</li> <li>To minimise area of seabed disturbed and appropriately manage the removed.</li> <li>To protect assets, beneficial uses and values from long-term adverto dredging-related water quality effects.</li> <li>Maintain physical dredging works within the nominated activity zo</li> <li>No turbidity plume extent outside expectations</li> <li>All maintenance dredging activities in the Yarra and Maribyrnong F Williamstown Channel, Hobsons Bay, Port Melbourne Channel, Sociand Entrance;</li> <li>All minor capital dredging projects undertaken in the Yarra and Marivers, Williamstown Channel, Hobsons Bay and Port Melbourne C defined as comprising a maximum insitu dredge volume of 50,000</li> <li>The disposal of dredged material at the PoMDMG and SEDMG; and</li> </ul>



## **Dredging and plume**

Area	Maximum duration	Principal proposed dredging operation
Yarra River, Maribyrnong River	16 weeks	Dredging by BHGD in channels and at berths, approaches and swing basins.
and Hobsons Bay	6 weeks	Dredging by TSHD in channels, approaches and swing basins and disposal in PoMDMG.
North of the Bay	1 week	Dredging by TSHD in Port Melbourne Channel south of Williamstown Channel
South of the Bay	6 weeks	Dredging by TSHD in South Channel
The Entrance	1 week	Dredging by TSHD in channel

- Dredging equipment and associated support vessels will be required to manoeuvre outside activity zones, including transit between activity zones.
- Toe lines and activity zones are identified in drawings included in Annexure 13.
- Tracking of equipment activity as follows:
  - The overflow valve of the TSHD will be closed when sailing.

<ul> <li>Equipment</li> </ul>		T i m e	•	D a t e	• (	Coordinates	•	Other
■ TSHD		<b>✓</b>	•	<b>\</b>	) ) ] 2 • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	Oredging – x,y,z of dragheads northing, easting, depth to Chart Datum) Gailing and Diacement of dredged material – x,y (northing, easting)	•	Status of cycle (i.e. dredging, sailing, placement of dredged material)
<ul> <li>Backhoe Dredge and Grab Dredge (contaminated material only)</li> </ul>		<	•	<	(	k,y,z bucket northing, easting, depth to Chart Datum)	•	Nil
<ul><li>Split hopper barges</li></ul>	•	✓	•	✓		c,y (northing, easting)	•	Nil

# 17. Dredging of consolidated and unconsolidated contaminated sediments

Dredging of contaminated sediment in the Yarra River, Maribyrnong River, Williamstown and Port Melbourne Channels, Hobsons Bay and associated swing basins, piers and berths will be conducted with the following equipment:

Activity



## **Dredging and plume**

- TSHD;
- grab dredge and/or backhoe dredge; and
- sweep / water injection.

## 18. Dredging of consolidated uncontaminated sediments

Where uncontaminated and consolidated sediments are identified to exist in the Yarra River, Maribyrnong River, Williamstown and Port Melbourne Channels, Hobsons Bay and associated swing basins, piers and berths, dredging of consolidated and uncontaminated sediment to be conducted with the following equipment:

- TSHD:
- grab dredge and/or backhoe dredge; and;
- sweep.

## 19. Dredging of unconsolidated uncontaminated sediments and loose material

- Uncontaminated and unconsolidated sediments and loose material exist in the South Channel and the Entrance. Dredging of unconsolidated and uncontaminated sediment to be conducted with the following equipment:
- TSHD; and
- Sweep /water injection and/or specialist backhoe dredge.

Environmental limit	Monitoring	g program		
Not applicable to this PDS		Not applica	ble to this PDS	
Contingencies	Not applicable to this PDS			
Conformance with environmental controls specified in this PDS.				
All dredging activities in the	Entrance, including use of the TSHD.			



# 9. Annexure 5 Entrance PDS

Entrance Activities				
Objective	To appropriately ma	anage activities in the Entrance.		
Target Conformance with all environmental controls specified in this PDS.  Application Activities in the Entrance			nis PDS.	
Environmental con	trols		Project phase	
<ul> <li>Dredging in the Entrance</li> <li>For Rip Bank, all channel dredging works within 50 m of the canyon edge will be undertaken with the dredge operating in a southerly direction;</li> <li>For Nepean Bank, all dredging works will be conducted away from the canyon edge towards the plateau;</li> <li>A towed video survey shall be conducted prior to any dredging; and</li> <li>Works will only be undertaken within the workability of the vessel which includes limiting metocean conditions.</li> </ul>			Activity	
Environmental limit Monitoring program				
Not applicable to this PDS  Not applicable to this PDS				
Contingencies Not applicable to this		PDS		



# 10.Annexure 6 Dredging Schedule PDS

Dredging schedule				
Objective To develop an appropriate dredging schedule, taking into acco			unt the seasonal	
	sensitivities of Port Phillip assets, ben	eficial uses and values.		
Target	5.			
Application	rt Melbourne			
Environmental cont	rols		Project phase	
21. Campaign dred	ging schedule			
The dredging sche implementation wh	dule for each campaign will be submich will include:	itted to DEECA before	Pre–Activity	
<ul> <li>dredging technology;</li> <li>dredging configuration (i.e. number and location of dredges); and</li> <li>timing, duration and sequence of dredging in Project Areas.</li> </ul>				
22. Consideration of	of seasonal sensitivities			
<ul> <li>No dredging per Bay to mitigate holiday season;</li> </ul>	Activity			
<ul> <li>No dredging using the TSHD in the Yarra River or Williamstown Channels between 15 October to 30 November to protect migration of the endangered Australian grayling species;</li> </ul>				
<ul> <li>Dredging using the TSHD in Yarra River between 1 April and 31 July restricted to no more than two calendar months in any one year, or equivalent in days to protect Australian grayling larval drift; and</li> </ul>				
For each campaign schedule, consideration will be given to seasonal sensitivities and preferred seasons identified in Annexure 9. The decision process, including how seasonal sensitivities were considered, will be documented.				
Environmental limi	•	Monitoring program		
Not applicable to th	is PDS	Not applicable to this PD	)S	
Contingencies	Not applicable to this PDS			



# **11.**Annexure **7** Dredged Material Management PDS

	management					
<ul> <li>To manage and track the placement of dredged material.</li> <li>To dispose of and manage dredged material appropriately within the</li> <li>To manage the PoMDMG to the standard required for long-term cor of contaminated material.</li> </ul>						
Target	Conformance with environmental controls specified in this PDS.	mance with environmental controls specified in this PDS.				
Application	<ul> <li>All dredged material placement and DMG management activities in the PoMDMG and SEDMG.</li> </ul>					
Environmental co	ntrols	Project phase				
<ul> <li>Dredged material placement.</li> <li>DMGs - all dredged material placement activities to take place within the specified DMGs (including associated activity zones) set out in the drawings in Annexure 13.</li> <li>Dredged material placement - All dredged material to be placed in accordance with Annexure 8.</li> <li>Dredging and disposal locations to be recorded as per tracking of equipment table (refer to Annexure 4).</li> <li>Dredged material placement will not commence if a cetacean is sighted within 300 m of the TSHD placing material into a DMG. If a cetacean is sighted, placement can commence if the whale has been seen to move beyond 300 m, or has not been sighted within 300 m for at least 15 minutes (refer Annexure 3).</li> <li>DP23-33 DMG Management and Monitoring Framework</li> <li>This section summarises the management, monitoring and reporting requirements of PoM's approved 'DMG Spoil Disposal Management and Monitoring Plan 2023' as well as the ongoing monitoring procedures at the PoMDMG and SEDMG.</li> </ul>		-				



# **Dredged material management**

Item	Sampling Regime
Consolidation	Dredge material during DP2023:
and settlement testing:	<ul> <li>Dredge hopper/barge sampling (TSHD/Backhoe) and sediment testing, including density (bulk, dry and particle)</li> </ul>
First Dredging	and shear strength, to determine sediment properties
Campaign (DP2023):	1 month (approximately) after first stage of DP2023 completed:
(S1 2025).	■ Placed material: Sample up to 5 sediment cores immediately after placement (i.e. within the first month). Square arrangement with one sample in the middle. Results can be averaged or looked at individually. Test top 0-50 mm, then at 0.25m and 0.5m core depth for baseline density and shear strength
ears 1-2 (after P2023):	<ul> <li>6 month intervals - Collect core samples of 0.5 m depth and test for density and shear strength.</li> </ul>
ollowing ears	<ul> <li>To be determined in consultation with DEECA following the results of Years 1-2 monitoring.</li> </ul>



Item	Reporting Regime			
Hydrographic Monitoring and Sediment Festing Reporting	Annual MBES Survey  Reporting of the outcomes and findings from the hydrographic monitoring and sediment testing will be undertaken annually and provided to DEECA, and ongoing review of results will inform the following year of monitoring.  The report will summarise the following:  Storms that trigger management actions;  Wave data associated with each storm (modelling or nearby wave buoy);  Sediment sample data and results and how they relate to dredge areas and methods employed; and  The trigger values reached, and subsequent management actions employed.			
Wind Alert System	Management Triggers			
Wind Alerts >10-year ARI storms or greater	<ul> <li>If wind alerts are not triggered, the shear testing shows no material difference to what is expected and the MBES survey does not indicate erosion there are no management actions beyond the scheduled monitoring.</li> <li>If scheduled monitoring of shear strength indicates the dredge deposit is materially lower in strength than expected at the 12 month mark (&lt;301 Pa) then turbidity will be monitored at the seabed and the erosion model will be re-calibrated to re-assess the risk of erosion.</li> <li>If wind alerts are triggered:</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>wave modelling will then be used to confirm the storm intensity and estimated bed shear due to wave action. The wave modelling of the storm that generated the alert will be undertaken within 1 month to confirm the bed shear stress at the bed and if it exceeds 0.35 N/m2.</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>If the bed shear is greater than the threshold (0.35 N/m2), then MBES survey and additional core sampling of the DMG is undertaken.</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>If there are indications of erosion or material changes to the strength of the dredge deposit (lowering of shear strength to &lt;301 Pa), then turbidity will be monitored on the seabed to re- calibrate the erosion model and re-assess the risk of erosion.</li> </ul>			
	If there is an increased risk of erosion from storm events, relative to erosion due to capping, then intermediate capping will be applied within 18 months, subject to dredger availability noting:			
	<ul> <li>sediment core monitoring will continue in the lead up to any capping decision to determine if the material consolidates and</li> </ul>			



# **Dredged material management**

gains strength to the point where capping is not needed (> 301Pa).

If erosion monitoring triggers intermediate capping, the findings of the bioaccumulation study will be assessed to determine if the dredged material poses an ecotoxicological risk to the environment. If there is no ecotoxicological risk, then capping is not required.

Item	Monitoring Regime			
Bioaccumulation/ Bioturbation	Task	Period		
survey after completion of DP2023 dredging campaign	DP23-33 Dredging Campaign 1 – DP2023	May 2023-April 2024		
Campaign	Stage 1 Field Preparations	May - June 2024		
	Stage 1 Ecological Community Survey and Bioavailability Testing	July - September 2024		
	Stage 2 Resident Biota Bioaccumulation Testing	January-February 2025		
	Stage 3 Placed Biota Bioaccumulation Testing	February-March 2025 (assume pre-spawning season)		
	Stage 4 Data Analysis	March-May		
	Draft Reporting	June - July 2025		
	Review and Final Reporting	July - August 2025		



# **Dredged material management**

As per the approved DMG Spoil Disposal Management and Monitoring Plan (PoM, December 2023), management actions will be undertaken at the PoMDMG subject to the results of the above monitoring and management framework:

Item	Trigger	Management Action	
Wind Speed/ Erosion of deposited sediment	persisting for 3 hours and	Proceed with interim capping of affected sediment with clean sand within 12-18 months (depending on dredger availability)	
Bioaccumulation/ Bioturbation Outcome 1	Receptors are present at impact location at a minimum level of colonisation - biota have colonised the South East Cell sediments for the applicable DP23-33 campaign.	Revisit DP23-33 risk assessment and workshop with DEECA. If risk level is unacceptable, proceed with intermediate capping of sediments in South East Cell	
	And Significant or very significant bioaccumulation is measured in resident or placed biota at the South East Cell impact location that is statistically greater than that measured at the reference locations		
Bioaccumulation/ Bioturbation Outcome 2  Receptors are present at impact location at a minimum level of colonisation - biota have colonised the South East Colonised the So		No action	
	There is no significant difference in bioaccumulation measured in placed biota at the South East Cell impact location when compared to the reference locations.		
Bioaccumulation/ Bioturbation Outcome 3	Receptors are not present at impact location and exposure pathway is incomplete – there is	receptor colonisation at impact	



Dredged material management				
	no or minimal biota colonisation the South East Cell sediments for the applicable DP23-33 intervals after Stage 1 survey until next DP23-33 campaign.			
	And Significant or very significant bioaccumulation is measured in placed biota at the South East Cell impact location that is statistically greater than that measured at the reference locations	Revisit management actions if minimum level of colonisation is detected in a periodic survey.		
Bioaccumulation/ Bioturbation Outcome 4	Receptors are not present at impact location – there is no or minimal biota colonisation the South East Cell sediments for the applicable DP23-33 campaign.	25. No action		
	And  There is no significant difference in bioaccumulation measured in placed biota at the South East Cell impact location when compared to the reference locations.			
25. PoMDMG – final	capping			
<ul> <li>Construction of final cap for PoMDMG when at capacity (and/or if an intermediate cap is required based on the DP23-33 monitoring and management regime):</li> <li>capping material to be sourced from South Channel and / or SEDMG as set out in the drawings in Annexure 13.</li> <li>capping material to be placed in accordance with the Capping Protocol detailed in Annexure 14.</li> </ul>				
26. PoMDMG – ongoing maintenance and inspection				
Maintenance and inspection procedures to be put in place for the long-term management of the PoMDMG and incorporated into PoM's operations management system.				
Ongoing inspections, based on acoustic techniques, of representative areas of any required intermediate capping layers (based on the proposed monitoring and management regime or final capping layer(s) when the PoMDMG is at capacity will be undertaken in accordance with the Capping Protocol detailed in Annexure 14 at the following intervals after completion of capping:				
<ul> <li>annually</li> <li>within 2 weeks of a storm event (a 1 in 100 year event) or seismic event (greater than 4.5ML on the Richter scale), subject to safety considerations due to weather.</li> </ul>				



# **Dredged material management**

#### 27. SEDMG

 Subject to the results of pre-mobilisation review and the campaign initiation report risk assessment, a minimum 0.5 m thickness of sand material may be placed over Entrance rock material.

Activity

- Dredged material to be placed to maximum -15 m below Chart Datum.
- Once the dredged materials have been placed in SEDMG, survey to confirm materials have been placed in accordance with requirements.

·	·
Environmental limit	Not applicable to this PDS
Monitoring program	Not applicable to this PDS
Contingencies	Not applicable to this PDS



# 12. Annexure 8 Dredging Summary

6				
Project area	<b>Dredging</b> location	General description material	DMG	Management requirements
Yarra River, Maribyrnong River and Hobsons Bay including Webb Dock, Station Pier and	Channels and at berths, approaches and swing basins	Clays and silts that are deemed contaminated (unconsolidated contaminated sediments)	PoMDMG	<ul> <li>If dredged by BHD disposal directly from barge.         Requires bunding.</li> <li>If dredged by TSHD determine disposal method (ie. bottom doors, diffuser etc.) via risk assessment.         Requires bunding.</li> </ul>
Gellibrand		Clays and silts that are demonstrated to be uncontaminated (consolidated uncontaminated sediments)	PoMDMG	<ul> <li>If dredged by BHD disposal directly from barge.</li> <li>If dredged by TSHD disposal via bottom doors.</li> <li>Material may be utilised for bund maintenance.</li> </ul>
		Clays and silts that are deemed contaminated (consolidated contaminated sediments)	PoMDMG	<ul> <li>If dredged by BHD disposal directly from barge.         Requires bunding.</li> <li>If dredged by TSHD determine disposal method (ie. via bottom doors, diffuser etc.) via risk assessment. Requires bunding.</li> </ul>
		Clays and silts that are demonstrated to be uncontaminated (unconsolidated uncontaminated sediments)	PoMDMG	<ul> <li>If dredged by BHD disposal directly from barge.</li> <li>If dredged by TSHD disposal via bottom doors.</li> <li>Material may not be utilised for bund maintenance.</li> </ul>
North of the Bay	Port Melbourne Channel	Clays and silts that are deemed contaminated (unconsolidated contaminated sediments)	PoMDMG	<ul> <li>If dredged by BHD disposal directly from barge.         Requires bunding.</li> <li>If dredged by TSHD determine disposal method (ie. via bottom doors, diffuser etc.) via risk assessment. Requires bunding.</li> </ul>



Project area	<b>Dredging</b> location	General description of material	DMG	Management requirements
South of the Bay	South Channel	Medium to coarse sand	Final capping in PoMDMG	Disposal via spreader
			SEDMG	<ul> <li>Disposal directly from hopper.</li> <li>Need for capping material to be determined via risk assessment.</li> <li>Other material to be disposed of in SEDMG.</li> </ul>
The Entrance	The Entrance	Loose material (cobbles)	SEDMG (if required)	<ul> <li>If removal to SEDMG is required, disposal directly from hopper.</li> </ul>



# 13. Annexure 9 Key seasonal sensitivities and preferred seasons

Project area	Key seasonal sensitivities	Preferred seasons
Yarra River, Maribyrnong River and Hobsons Bay	Denitrification, algal blooms, seabirds, MPB, little penguins, fish (in particular anchovy and Australian grayling and mudfish), eels, commercial fishing, recreational fishing (the Warmies), yachting, boating, beach use.	Winter is ranked the most preferred season for dredging to occur. Autumn and summer are ranked as second and third preference respectively. Spring is considered least preferred in this project area primarily due to the Australian grayling.
North of the Bay	Denitrification, algal blooms, seabirds, MPB, seagrass, little penguins, dolphins, fish (in particular anchovy), commercial fishing, recreational fishing, swimming, boating, yachting, beach use.	Winter is ranked the most preferred season for dredging to occur in this project area. Autumn and spring are ranked as equally preferred, while summer is considered the least preferred season for dredging in the North of the Bay Project Area.
South of the Bay	Algal blooms, nutrient cycling, denitrification, seagrass, macroalgae, seaweed, MPB, seabirds, little penguins, dolphins, whales, fish, commercial fishing (including abalone), aquaculture, tourism, recreational fishing, swimming, boating, yachting, beach use.	Winter is ranked the most preferred season for dredging to occur in this project area. Autumn is ranked as second preference and spring as third preference. Summer is the least preferred season for dredging to occur in the project area.
The Entrance	Seabirds, little penguins, whales, fish, commercial fishing (including abalone), tourism, recreational diving, beach use.	Winter is ranked the most preferred season for dredging to occur in this project area. Autumn and spring are ranked as second and third preference respectively, while summer is considered the least preferred season for dredging the Entrance.



# 14. Annexure 10 Noise monitoring and contingency planning

This section contains the Airborne Noise Contingency Plan and management actions as described below.

Program / plan	Rationale	Procedure and indicator	Monitoring location	Associated PDS
Airborne Noise Contingency Plan	Comply with EPA 'Noise Limit and Assessment Protocol' (EPA Publication 1826.4, May 2021).	A desktop noise assessment of new dredging vessels and/or major equipment and response to noise complaints.	Yarra River and Hobsons Bay, North of the Bay, South of the Bay, the Entrance.	Maintenance management (all activities)

#### **Airborne Noise Contingency Plan**

This Airborne Noise Contingency Plan relates to a potential or actual exceedance of the EPA 'Noise Protocol' from dredging activities.

### **Response level**

Two events that will trigger contingency actions to appropriately manage airborne noise emissions are defined by either:

- airborne noise measurement at key locations is evaluated as likely to exceed EPA Noise Protocol unless management contingencies are taken; or
- a noise complaint has been received from an area represented by a key monitoring location within a distance from dredging activities that audible levels of noise disturbance are possible.

#### **Environmental limit**

The airborne noise environmental limit relates to the legislative requirements for noise under EPA Noise Protocol. This is required for:

- TSHD when working closer to key locations of Queenscliff and McCrae/ Dromana/ Rye
- TSHD and BHGD when working closer to the key locations of Port Melbourne and Williamstown
- the response to a noise complaint that has been received within a distance from dredging operations that audible levels of noise disturbance are possible.



The time period classification defined in the Environment Protection Regulations are shown below.

Time Period	Description
Day	7am to 6pm Monday to Saturday
Evening	6pm to 10pm Monday to Saturday
	7am to 10pm Sundays and Public Holidays
Night	10pm to 7am Everyday

#### Contingency for potential or actual exceedance

The management actions required for potential/actual noise exceedances are described below. Noise complaints will be managed as per the process in Annexure 12.

## **Management actions**

New vessel or equipment management actions where the desktop noise assessment of vessels or equipment indicates it may not conform to EPA Noise Protocol, appropriate action to be taken. Management options include:

- selection of alternative vessel/equipment;
- modification to vessel/equipment; and
- restrictions on use of vessel/equipment.

In response to complaints, where the complaint is identified to have some basis for the complaint, noise monitoring may be used to assess compliance with the EPA Noise Protocol.

Management actions if activity does not meet/not likely to meet EPA Noise Protocol.

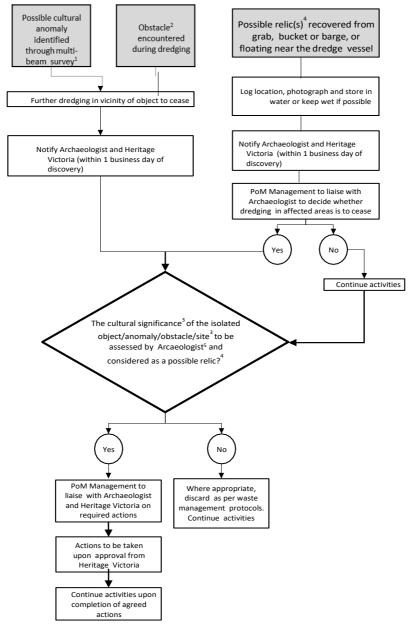
- If noise monitoring results and/or desktop noise assessment predict EPA Noise Protocol limits have been exceeded or may be exceeded unless appropriate management action is taken, then the following options for action may be taken:
- rescheduling high noise equipment to operate for daytime works only, or control locations of evening or night-time use to greater distances from key locations sensitive to noise; and/or
- evaluate ways to reduce equipment noise emissions if required (e.g. decreasing operating energy, installing additional acoustic dampening covers and mufflers etc.).



## 15. Heritage Marine-based Response

## **Annexure 11 Heritage Marine Based Response**

The management actions for encountering previously unidentified heritage items/sites during dredging is shown in Figure 2 below.



- If multi-beam survey is part of post construction monitoring, references to dredging are not relevant.
- 'Obstacle' refers to the progress of dredging impeded by object(s) on seabed within a discrete area. 2
- Obstacle refers to the progress of dredging impeded by object(s) on seabed within a discrete area. 
  Cultural significance' refers to archaeological or historic shipwrecks, shipwreck relics, artefacts or sites as defined by the (Vic) Heritage Act 1995 and (Cwth) Historic Shipwrecks Act 1976., unless relics, items or sites have otherwise been exempt as agreed with Heritage Victoria.

  Possible relics' refers to artefacts that may possibly be protected by legislation (see 3). Therefore car tyres, shopping trolleys, and aluminium beer cans etc. are not possible relics. Previously identified timber piles and wharf structures removed during construction or demolition activities are also not possible relics. For this project a site is defined as a collection of artefacts within a discrete area. A ship or plane wreck is a site, as is an area of dumped material.
- By way of diving inspection, inspection of recovered material and/or review of data collected.



## **16.Annexure 12 Complaints Response**

The management actions to deal with complaints are described below.

### **Management actions**

Management actions if a complaint is received:

- If a complaint is received, a general response will be given to the complainant within 24 hours. The timeframe for a response to a complaint (aside from the initial response) is dependent on the nature of the complaint and the scale of investigation (if required). It is expected that there will be management action within 24 hours of the initial assessment of the complaint. The following options for action may be taken:
- if the complaint is a single event then no monitoring may be required if the cause cannot be determined; and/or
- if there are a number of complaints relating to the same issue then monitoring may be considered as part of the investigation.
- Where the assessment of vessels, equipment or activity indicates that it may not conform to relevant legislation, appropriate action to be taken. Management options include:
- selection of alternative vessel/equipment;
- modification to vessel/equipment;
- restrictions on use of vessel/equipment; and
- other actions as deemed appropriate.



# 17. Annexure 13 Drawings

Drawing 1 - Activity Zone Definition South Channel Plan Layout (Dwg 35331-4)

Drawing 2 - Activity Zone Definition South Channel (Dwg 35332-3)

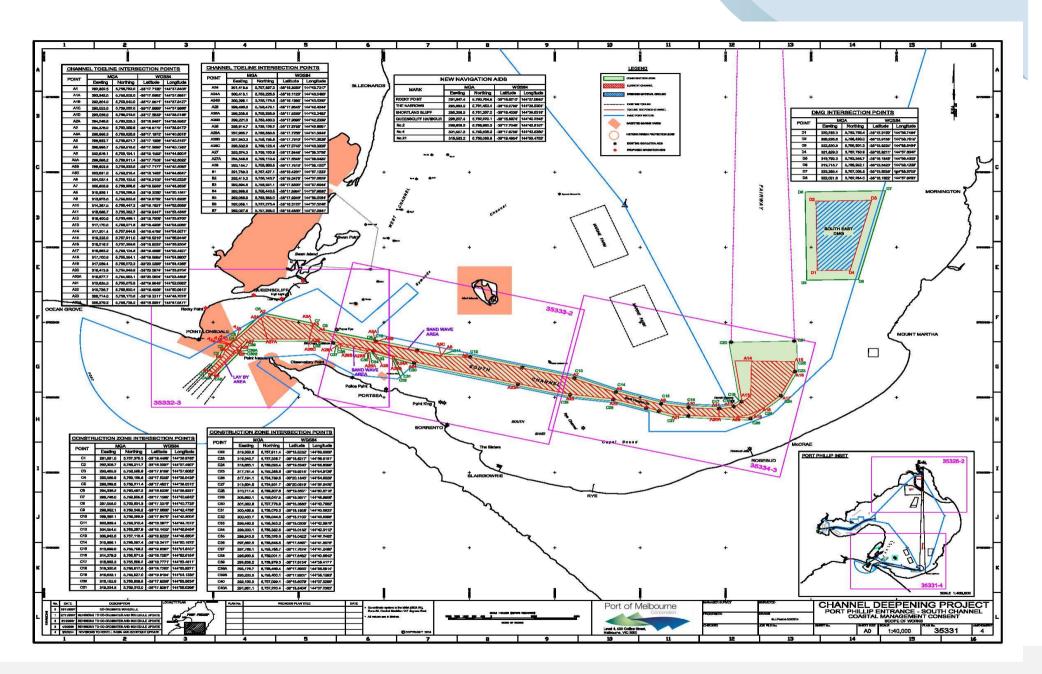
Drawing 3 - Activity Zone Definition South Channel (Dwg 35333-2)

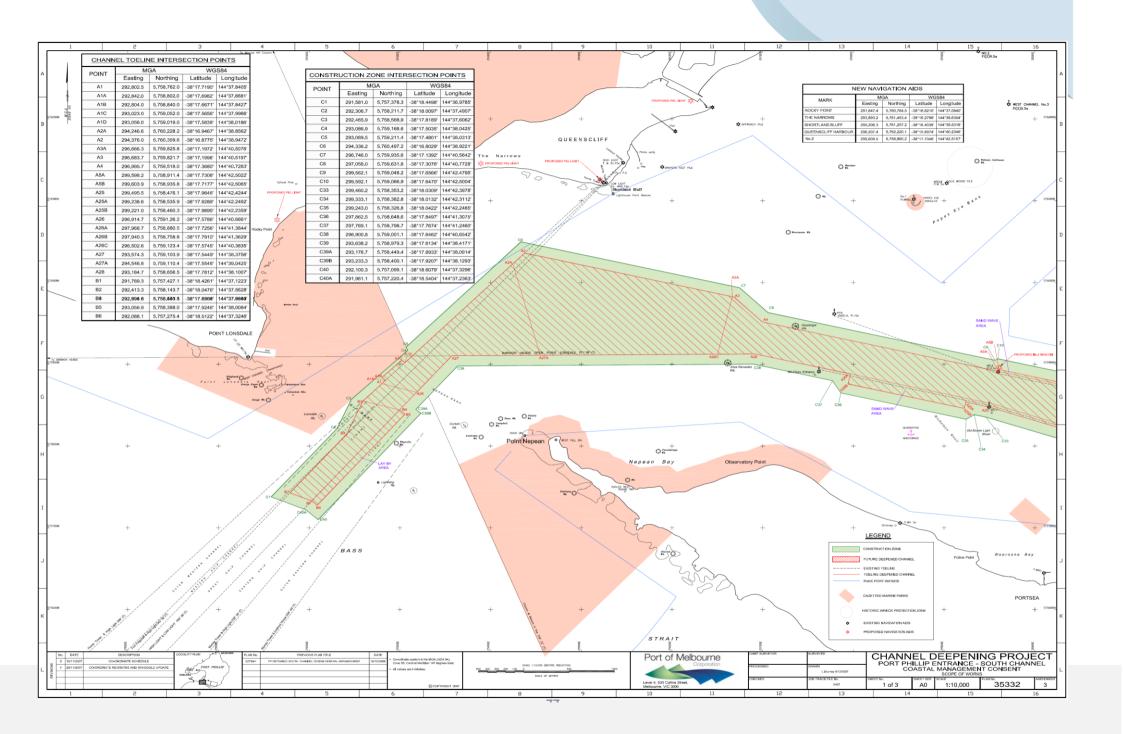
Drawing 4 - Activity Zone Definition South Channel (Dwg 35334-3)

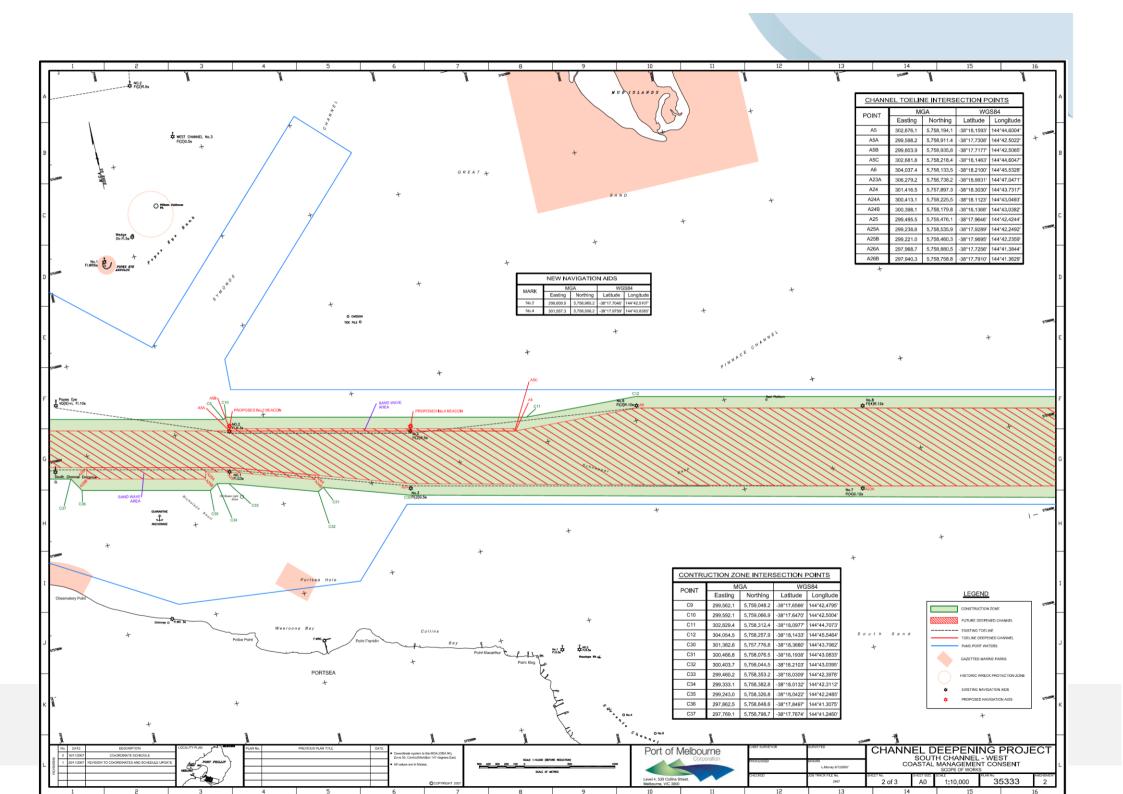
Drawing 5 - Activity Zone Definition Northern Port Phillip (Dwg 35853-4)

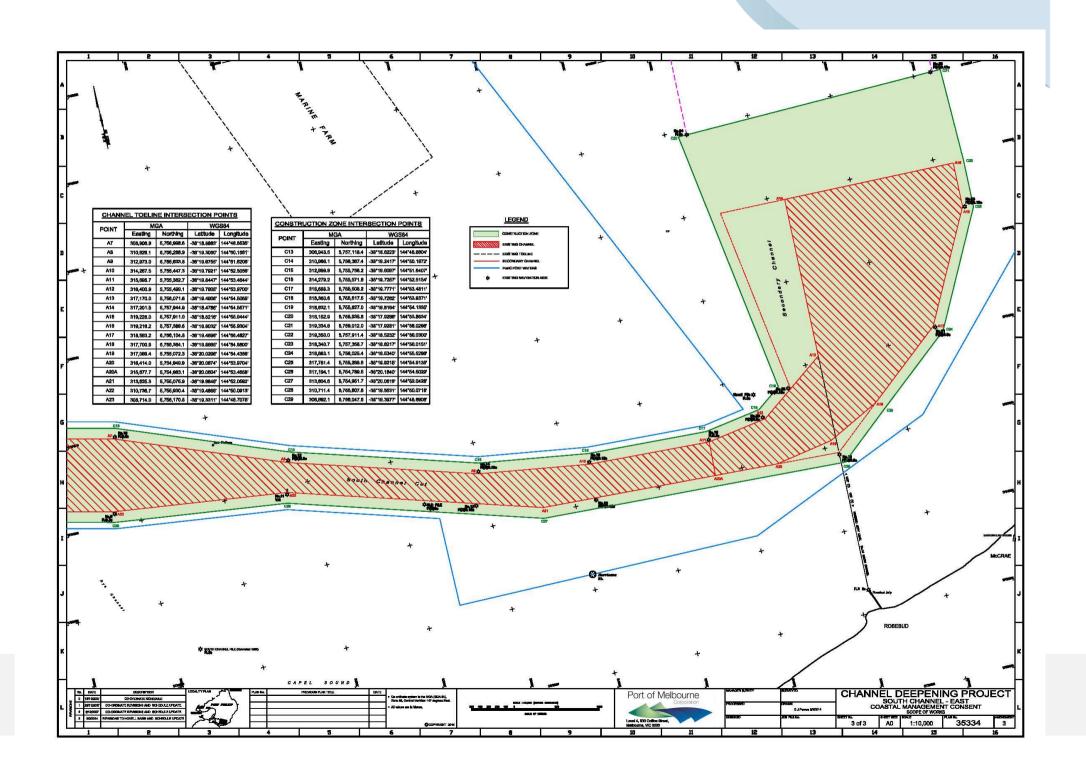
Drawing 6 - Triggers and Management Actions for capping determination

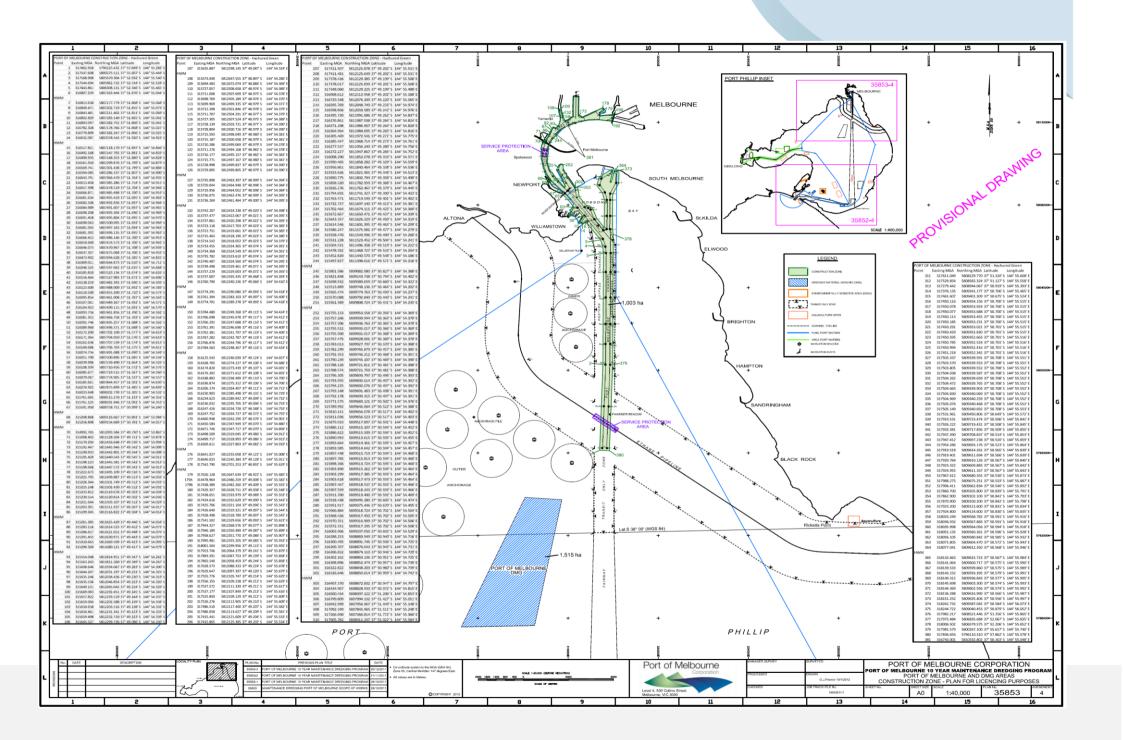
Drawing 7 - Marine Based Activity Area South of Bay (Dwg DS-ENV-70012v0)

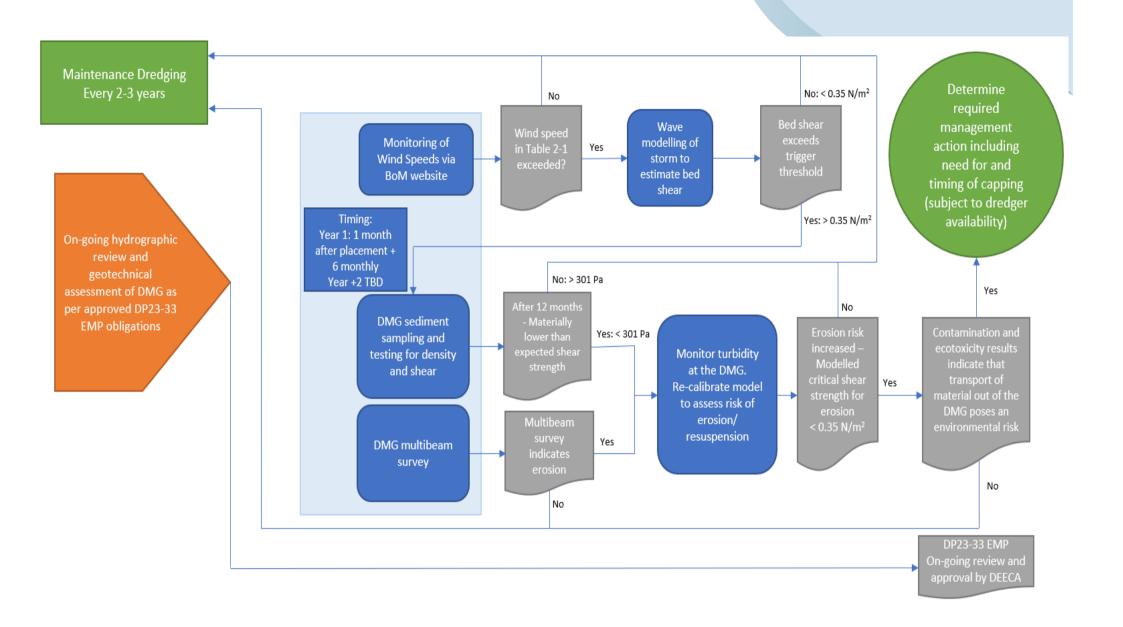


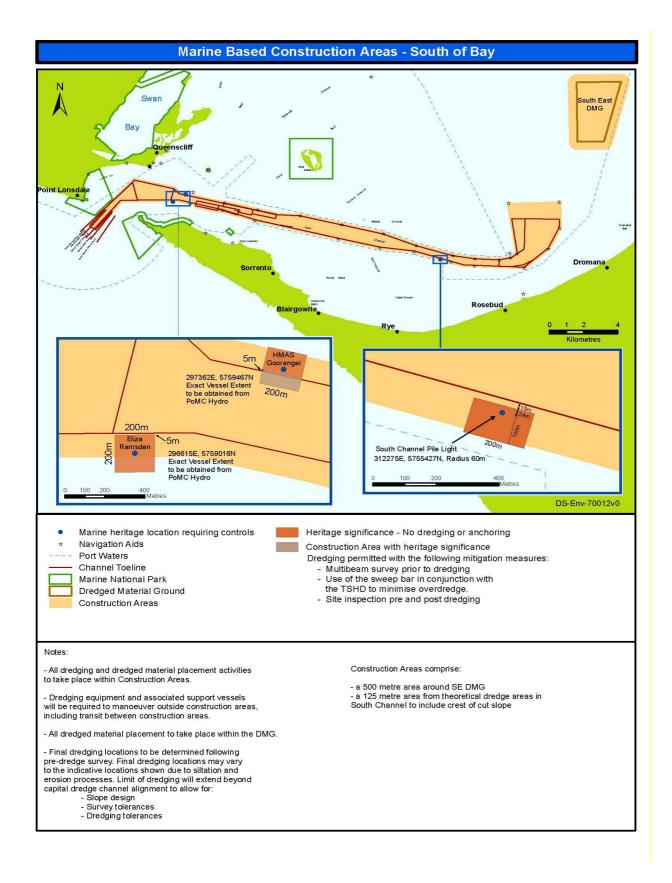












## **18.Annexure 14 Final Capping Protocol**

This protocol is applicable to the following:

- The final capping layer when the PoMDMG is at full capacity; and/or
- Any intermediate capping layers determined to be required under the monitoring and management regime as outlined in this EMP.

### **Capping Footprint Definition**

The operational capping footprint shall be determined prior to the performance of the capping operation by adopting the same criteria as utilised for the capping determination of the MP09-11 dredging campaign, initially approved by DEPI (now DEECA). For details refer below:

- The difference between the pre and most recent post disposal bathymetric surveys will be determined to define the footprint of the contaminated material.
- A 0.296 m difference threshold will be utilised to determine the limit of spatially coherent area of deposition to define the Statistical Footprint (SF).
- The application of GIS smoothing and majority filtering techniques to the Statistical Footprint to produce the Optimised Statistical Footprint (OSF).
- An Operational Capping Footprint (OCF) will be created by conducting a sensibility check of the OSF in conjunction with a review of the disposal event records to ensure that the proposed OCF is robust and caters for any unplanned disposal activities.

## **Construction Monitoring and Initial Capping Compliance**

- A bathymetric pre-cap survey of the area to be capped will be undertaken to define the surface of the contaminated material.
- The pre-cap bathymetric surface, in conjunction with progress bathymetric surveys during the initial phase of the capping works, will be used to inform operational matters related to the progress of the works. Such operational matters are likely to include evenness of coverage, adjustments to capping methodology and dredge settings.
- When the volume of capping material placed approximates the design volume necessary to allow compliance with the capping thickness requirements or the average capping thickness as defined by the difference between bathymetric surveys is nominally 0.40 m, a sub bottom profile survey (SBPS) will be undertaken.
- SBPS lines will be run at 20 m centres in conjunction with long lines at 100 m centres over the area defined by the OCF.
- A multibeam hydrographic survey will be undertaken at the same time as the SBPS.
- The SBPS results will be interpreted by an appropriately qualified geophysicist to define the thickness of the capping at the location of the SBPS survey lines.
- Following interpretation of the SBPS data, an adjusted capping /dredged material interface will be created, by an appropriately qualified statistician, utilising data analysis techniques to transform the pre cap multibeam survey data based on the relationship to the SBPS data. This approach ensures that the settlement caused by the placement of capping material during construction is appropriately accounted for and that the transformed surface reflects the relief and complexity of the pre cap surface as determined by hydrographic survey techniques.
- Following the above, the difference between the current bathymetric surface and the adjusted pre-cap surface will be used to determine compliance with the capping thickness acceptance criteria where the lower limit of the 95% confidence interval, of the average capping thickness, must be equal to or greater than 0.5 m.
- In addition to the above, the difference between the current bathymetric surface and the adjusted pre-cap surface dataset will be used to determine compliance with the capping

thickness spatial distribution acceptance criteria. Acceptance of this criteria is defined as when the lower limit of the 95% confidence interval of the mean capping thickness of a 20 m neighbourhood around each cell, with a value of less than 0.5 m, is equal to or greater than 0.5 m. A 20m neighbourhood is defined as a collection of cells within a 20m radius of a cell with a value of less than 0.5m.

• Compliance with the capping thickness acceptance criteria requirements of the EMP will be on the basis of averaged bathymetric data on a 2 m grid over the OCF.

### **Post Construction Monitoring**

- The bathymetric pre-cap survey of the capped area will be used as the basis for the definition of the surface of the contaminated material.
- At the time of monitoring as required by the EMP, SBPS lines will be run at 20 m centres in conjunction with long lines at 100 m centres over the area defined by the OCF.
- A multibeam hydrographic survey will be undertaken at the same time as the SBPS.
- The SBPS results will be interpreted by an appropriately qualified geophysicist to define the thickness of the capping at the location of the SBPS survey lines.
- Following interpretation of the SBPS data, an adjusted capping /dredged material interface will be created, by an appropriately qualified statistician, utilising data analysis techniques to transform the pre cap multibeam survey data based on the relationship to the SBPS data. This approach ensures that the settlement caused by the placement of capping material during construction is appropriately accounted for and that the transformed surface reflects the relief and complexity of the pre cap surface as determined by hydrographic survey techniques.
- Following the above, the difference between the current bathymetric surface and the adjusted pre-cap surface will be used to determine compliance with the capping thickness acceptance criteria where the 95% confidence interval of the average capping thickness must be equal to or greater than 0.5 m.
- Compliance with the capping thickness requirements of the EMP will be on the basis of averaged bathymetric data on a 2 m grid reconciled over the OCF.