
San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board

September 26, 2013
CIWQS Place No.: 718831 (EAC)

NOTICE: Regional Monitoring Program Dredger Fee Schedule Policy

Dear Regional Monitoring Program Dredging Participant:

On April 23, 2013, the Regional Monitoring Program for Water Quality in the San Francisco Estuary (RMP) Steering Committee, in collaboration with the San Francisco Estuary Institute (SFEI), the Regional Water Board, and the Bay Planning Coalition (BPC), approved the Dredger Fee Schedule for RMP Budget Years 2014-2016 (Attachment). This fee schedule is reviewed and revised as necessary every three years. It was last revised in 2010; no changes were made in 2013.

1) Annual Fee Schedule

This schedule applies only to the largest in-bay dredge disposal clients (see Table 1 in Attachment). The goal is to provide fiscal budgeting certainty to these clients. The annual fee is based on a five-year average of disposal volumes multiplied by a cost per cubic yard (cy) of dredged material. The RMP budget year 2014-2016 multiplier is \$0.60/cy.

2) Project-Based Fee Schedule

The fee for all in-bay dredged disposal clients not listed in Table 1 will be based on a sliding fee-schedule (see Table 2 in Attachment). The RMP budget year 2014-2016 project-based fee rate remains the same as the 2004, 2007, and 2010 rates. The fees are based on in-bay dredge disposal volumes calculated using post-dredge survey results provided to the Regional Water Board and SFEI by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. If the post-dredge survey volumes for each fiscal year ending June 30 are not reported to the Regional Water Board by September 1 of the next fiscal year (same calendar year), RMP dredger participants will be billed based on reported bin volumes, which may overestimate the volume actually dredged.

Requirement for Monitoring Dredging Discharges and Participation in the RMP

The Regional Water Board requires anyone who discharges materials to the Bay, including disposal of dredged materials, to provide a technical monitoring report evaluating the impacts of the discharge pursuant to California Water Code (CWC) section 13267. This monitoring provides necessary information about ambient Bay water quality and potential long-term impacts of dredged material disposal.

Since 1992, many Bay Area dischargers have decided to provide this information through the RMP rather than through individual monitoring programs. SFEI, located in Richmond, administers the program with oversight by the Regional Water Board and the RMP Steering and Technical Review committees. BPC represents dredgers on the RMP Steering Committee. The Regional Water Board recognizes payments to the RMP as fulfilling requirements to provide information on water quality impacts under CWC section 13267. Satisfactory payments to the RMP shall be based on the RMP Dredger Fee Schedule Policy as approved by the RMP Steering Committee. Payments must be issued to the Regional Monitoring Program, c/o SFEI, 4911 Central Ave, Richmond, CA 94804.

If you have any questions, please contact Elizabeth Christian at (510) 622-2335, or, by email, at echristian@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Bruce H. Wolfe
Executive Officer

Attachment: Approved RMP Dredger Fee Schedule for RMP Budget Years 2014-2016

cc: Lawrence Leung, San Francisco Estuary Institute

To: RMP Dredger Participants

From: RMP Program Managers (Jay Davis & Meg Sedlak)

Date: September 26, 2013

Subject: Approved RMP Dredger Fee Schedule for RMP Budget Years 2014-2016

Background

The RMP Steering Committee adopted a new Dredger Participant Fee Schedule Policy starting with RMP budget year 2005. The primary goal of the revised policy was to develop an equitable fee structure that would achieve the dredging group participation target of 17.5% of the total annual RMP participant fees. RMP dredger participants were divided into two fee-paying categories: Annual Fee participants and Project-Based Fee participants. All fees continue to be based on in-bay dredge disposal volumes calculated using annual (July 1 – June 30) post-dredge survey results provided to SFEI by the Regional Water Board and originally reported to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers by dredge permit holders.

The average dredge disposal volume for the Annual Fee participants is recalculated every three years and the per-cubic yard (cy) multiplier may be adjusted for both the Annual and Project-based fees at that time with the goal of achieving the dredging group participation target of 17.5% as mentioned above. This memorandum presents the new volumes for RMP budget years 2014-2016 that were approved by the RMP Steering Committee on April 23, 2013¹.

Dredger Fee Schedule – Rates for RMP Budget years 2014 – 2016

Annual Fee Participants

Annual fees apply only to the five largest in-bay dredge disposal clients (Table 1). The rationale for separating these participants into a separate group was to provide fiscal budgeting certainty to these clients. The fees are based on a five-year average of disposal volumes multiplied by a cubic yard cost (2014-2016 multiplier is \$0.60/cy). Annual Fee clients will be billed according to this fee schedule for RMP budget years 2014 through 2016.

The average dredge disposal volume for these clients is recalculated every three years and the per-cy multiplier may be adjusted at that time in accordance with RMP fee increases. The next calculation will be calculated in 2016, based on July 1, 2010, through June 30, 2015, dredge disposal volumes.

¹ SC approval from 2013-4-23: Item 4. Dredger Fees for 2014 to 2016

Table 1 - Annual Fee Rate for the 2014 – 2016 RMP Budget Years

Fee Rate (Vol. x \$0.60)	
5-yr Average (7/1/07-6/30/12) Dredge Disposal Volume (yd³)	
PORT OF SAN FRANCISCO	58,310
CHEVRON RICHMOND LONG WHARF	100,738
VALERO REFINERY TERMINAL	26,322
PHILLIPS 66 CO, RODEO TERMINAL	10,156
PORT OF OAKLAND	77,018
Total Avg Dredge Disposal Volume (cy)	272,544

Project-Based Fee Participants

The RMP fee for all in-bay dredged disposal clients not listed in Table 1 is based on a sliding fee-schedule (Table 2). The Project-Based fee schedule is updated every three years (on the same schedule as the Annual Fee participants) and the per-cy multiplier may be adjusted at that time.

Table 2 - Project Based Fee Rate for the 2014 – 2016 RMP Budget Years

Disposal Vol. Range (yd³)	Fee Rate
< 2,499	\$100 (base fee)
2,500 to 14,999	Vol. x \$0.25
15,000 to 34,999	Vol. x \$0.30
35,000 to 54,999	Vol. x \$0.35
> 55,000	Vol. x \$0.40