

FACT SHEET

Grays Harbor Outer Harbor Hopper Dredging Project



Dredging Operations:

- The project area is in Grays Harbor, Outer Harbor, Washington.
- Maintenance dredging operations will begin April 8, 2024, and are expected to be completed May 30, 2024.
- A significant component of Washington State's economy relies on navigation and commerce, which require dredging state waterways such as the Port of Grays Harbor.
- Dredging is necessary for safe navigation conditions to allow large ocean-going vessels to enter and leave the Port of Grays Harbor and other nearby facilities safely.



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Project Details:

- Dredging shoaled areas of the Bar, Entrance, Pt. Chehalis, and South reaches.
- Goal is to dredge approximately 1,000,000 cubic yards with 600,000 CY to be placed in the South Beach Beneficial Use Site (SBBUS).
- Remaining material to be placed in either the Half Moon Bay Beneficial Use Site (HMBUS) or the Pt. Chehalis Disposal Sites (PCDS).
- The Yaquina is scheduled to start dredging in the outer harbor of Grays Harbor April 8 for about 15 days.
- The Essayons is scheduled to start dredging in the outer harbor April 8 for about 25 days.
- Contractor hopper operations are scheduled to start dredging in the outer harbor April 8, for about 15 days.
- The navigation channel and all the placement/disposal target areas and access lanes will be used by the hoppers.
- Dredging work will be performed 24 hours/day and 7 days per week (Sun Sat) with all work to be concluded May 30, 2024.

Community Concerns:

- Fishermen and crabbers must relocate any boats, pots, and gear before they are damaged by dredging and disposal activities.
- Position vessels, pots and/or gear at least 300 feet from any channel and placement/disposal area boundaries to provide a buffer zone to allow for boats, pots, and/or gear drifting into the area used by the hoppers.
- Gear that drifts into the navigation channel, access channel, and/or target placement/disposal areas may be damaged or destroyed by the hoppers.

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