



February 8, 2024

To: Suisun Marsh Landowners
From: Suisun Resource Conservation District

**Subject: 2024 Application for Dredging Program for Suisun Marsh
Exterior Levee Maintenance**

Directors

Tony Vaccarella, President
Mike Lewis
H. Kent Hansen
Jim Waters

Associate Directors

Dennis Becker
Kurt Black
Lalo Kwiat
Dick Vanderkous
John Telfer
John Eudy

Staff

Steven Chappell
Executive Director
John Takekawa, PhD
Operations Manager
Kelli Perez
Office Supervisor
Tim Edmunds
Water Manager/Biologist
Jeff Taylor
Water Manager/Biologist
Marina Guzman
Water Manager/Biologist
Jesirae Collins
Biologist
Kristin Brandon
Analyst Biologist
Marque Mouton
LJI Resident Caretaker

**SUISUN RESOURCE
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**
2544 Grizzly Island Road
Suisun City, CA 94585-9539
(707) 425-9302
(707) 425-4402 FAX
srcd@suisunrcd.org
www.suisunrcd.org

This is the final year of the Suisun Resource Conservation District (SRCD), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), of the 10-year Letter of Permission (LOP) which permits dredging activities for exterior levee maintenance in the Suisun Marsh. This LOP allows the annual dredging of up to 100,000 cubic yards of material from tidal sloughs, bays, and dredger cuts in the Suisun Marsh, but with strict regional limitations and construction restrictions.

The application requirement and authorization procedure is complicated and requires several supplemental documents. Please read through the LOP carefully. If you are interested in dredging this fall, please fill out the enclosed application form and return it to SRCD by **April 30, 2024** to provide ample time to submit the proposed projects and collect the appropriate documents in order for SRCD to submit the dredging package to the USACE and Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), as well as filing a Marsh Development Permit with Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) for approval.

Highlight summary of the LOP:

- The annual dredging work season window is August 1st through November 30th of each year.
- All dredging material must be placed on the crown or backslope of the exterior levee only.
- The LOP requires a detailed application, strict compliance with work restrictions, Biological Opinions and Conditions and extensive post-construction reporting.
- Ridgeway Rail work season restrictions apply in designated areas (work cannot begin until after August 31st).
- The landowner will be required to sign a State Land Commission Sub-lessor's Agreement and provide a copy of the deed for the participating property.

- A BCDC Consolidated Dredging-Dredged Material Reuse/Disposal Permit must be obtained before dredging can begin
- RWQCB requires a \$0.15/CY fee for proposed materials dredged
- SRCD requires a \$500.00 permit administration fee for participating landowners.
- Dredging will not be allowed in channels separated from the levees by vegetated berms greater than 50 feet wide.
- All dredging *must avoid emergent and submerged aquatic vegetation* in the tidal area where the material is to be obtained.
- Annual permitted dredging volumes are limited by Suisun Marsh region and source habitat type.

This permit provides a long term, cost-effective source of material for exterior levee maintenance. If you are interested in dredging this year, please contact your Water Manager and get your properties initial application submitted before April 30th to get on the list of clubs to be inspected for project eligibility and dredging volume allocations.

Sincerely,



Steven Chappell,
Executive Director