Sediment Sampling and Analysis and DMP Apollo Bay 2018





Apollo Bay Harbour Maintenance Dredging

The Colac Otway Shire Council is responsible for the management of the Apollo Bay Harbour. Council has recently identified that maintenance dredging is required to remedy the sand accumulation which has occurred in the harbour.

Maintenance dredging is undertaken in Victoria in accordance with the *Coastal Management Act* 1995. For obtaining *Coastal Management Act* consent (CMA consent), dredge proponents are required to characterise the physical and chemical status of the sediments to be dredged for either onshore or offshore disposal.

In Victoria, the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) manages dredging under the Best Practice Environmental Management Guidelines for Dredging (BEPM) (EPA, 2001). The Australian Government regulates the dredging and dumping of dredged materials in Commonwealth waters through the *Commonwealth Environmental Protection (Sea Dumping) Act 1981*.

Australasian Marine Associates (AMA) has been working for the Colac Otway Shire Council and Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DWELP) over the past few months characterising dredge material for dredging and beach renourishment activities. The works have included characterising dredge material in the marina area, at the adjacent beach and within a larger maintenance footprint. These areas have been identified as requiring maintenance dredging to return the harbour back to the declared depths.

Scope of the Works:

- Characterisation of dredge material for either onshore or offshore disposal;
- Preparation of a dredge management plan for managing dredge and disposal activities; and
- Resistance testing to examine depth to hard material for informing the dredging works.

AMA is currently working with Council and their Dredge Engineer to understand any issues or constraints for dredging and assisting with the provision of recommendations regarding disposal and reuse of dredge material.

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