ERDC EL
Moderator: Courtney Chambers
April 19. 2017
1:00 PM CT

Courtney Chambers: Okay, at this time I'll give you today's speaker. Mr. Justin Wilkens is a Research Biologist in the Environmental Laboratory at the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center in Vicksburg, Mississippi. His work includes leading the management of several DOTS databases that he'll be sharing with us today, including the Ocean Disposal Database designed to annually collect and compile information about the disposal of dredge material at ocean sites. And that dates back to 1976. And secondly, the Biota Sediment Accumulation Factor Database, and the Environmental Residue Effects Databases which are collections of data obtained from peer review literature and reports submitted by U.S. government agencies. Additionally, Justin is the Assistant Program Manager for the Dredging Operations Technical Support Program and the host of this series.

More about Justin can be found in his bio posted with today's presentation and a recording of today's meeting on the DOTS Web page for your reference.

We're very happy to have you sharing with us today Justin. At this time I'm going to give you the presenter rights, we'll enter listen-only mode, and begin.

Justin Wilkens: Thank you for the introduction. My name is Justin Wilkens. I'm a Research Biologist here in the Environmental Laboratory at the Engineer Research and Development Center in Vicksburg, Mississippi.

And if you're interested in talking more about some of the topics I'll be discussing today, feel free to call me at 601-634-2421. Or email at Justin.l.wilkens@usace.army.mil.

I'll also be putting this information into my bio which will be posted on to the DOTS Website in a few days. So with that I will get started with the presentation.

I'll be covering several topics today. First I'll give a brief summary and introduction of the Dredging Operations and Technical Support Program, also known as DOTS.

DOTS provides the funding and support for the databases that I will be talking about which include the Ocean Disposal Database, the Biota Sediment Accumulation Factor Database, and the Environmental Residue Effects Database.

The Dredging Operations Technical Support Program has been around since the late 1970s. And basically it provides the environmental and engineering technical support to the USACE navigation missions.

And despite dredging in the title, DOTS is not only limited to dredging related issues, but also the broader USACE navigation mission.

The idea behind the DOTS Program is that somebody within the USACE district who's having some type of technical issue with - related to dredging or navigation in general can call upon the DOTS Program by submitting a request.

And this request goes to the DOTS Program Manager who is currently Dr. Burton Suedel. And as Courtney mentioned, I'm the Assistant Program Manager.

Once we get the DOTS request we identify an ERDC engineer or scientist who can help you out with your issue and provide you technical support. DOTS will fund up to about 80 hours of the researcher's labor and associated travel if necessary.

And beyond this reimbursable project a MIPR would be necessary from the district.

Responses and products that are produced from this DOTS request range from a simple phone call to a technology demo to a site visit to technical documents such as technical notes and reposts. Also Web based tools.

One of those that we'll be talking about today is the transferred knowledge through databases which the DOTS also supports. And these are usually displayed through DOTS microsites.

Microsites fall underneath the main umbrella of the DOTS website. A microsite is kind of a more focused website about a specific topic. And in this case, today it's going to be ocean disposal and bioaccumulation databases.

The best thing about the DOTS Program is that there is no cost to the district up to that 80 hour maximum. So it's a really great program and we hope that some of you will take advantage of it.

Moving on to our first database, I'll be talking about Ocean Disposal Database, also known as ODD. The address below is for the microsite where you ca obtain information directly from the database, as well as read more about disposal of dredge material at ocean sites.

The ODD is maintained by myself here at ERDC EL. And it provides data to help meet the needs of the London Convention which is an international treaty that the United States is party to. And it also is there to help support the USACE dredging mission by providing this data to our districts and also to USEPA and others interested in the environmental community.

ODD is supported by DOTS each year. Information at the Website is presented for over 100 ocean sites that have had dredge material disposed at them from 1976, which is the first required reporting year for the London Convention, up to present.

At the Website you can look at ocean sites on a map. You can also link to their disposal data, as well as perform simple queries for finding more specific information.

The whole reason why the Ocean Disposal Database exists is because of the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by dumping waste and other matter. Also known as the London Convention of 1972.

This is an international agreement that is to control the deliberate disposal at sea of waste and other matter, including dredge material from vessels.

This entered into force in 1975. And the London Convention requires that parties report each year, the amount and location of materials disposed of at sea.

In 1972 the United States Congress enacted the Marine Protection Research and Sanctuaries Act, also know an MPRSA or the Ocean Dumping Act. And this regulates the disposal at sea of all materials, and is the legislative

authority regulating the disposal of dredge material into ocean waters including a territorial sea.

Since 1976 which was the first required reporting year for the London Convention Treaty, ERDC EL has annually collected data from our USACE districts who are disposing of dredge material only, at ocean sites.

ERDC EL gets the data from our districts and we enter and maintain this in the Ocean Disposal Database. The database has been developed in several different platforms but currently resides in Microsoft Access. This is a relational database.

The tables are all organized by subject basically. So there's a table about sites, there's a table about disposal, so on and so forth. They each have their own unique identifiers.

The relations that are defined between the tables provides quick and easy access and abilities to sort the data in a variety of different ways to prepare our report for the London Convention, but to also display information at our Website. And to meet other customized data requests.

When preparing the report for the London Convention, ERDC EL will collaborate with USEPA to prepare the report.

So ERDC EL is gathering information about disposal of dredge material at ocean sites. And USEPA will also provide permits for other types of disposal, mostly including fish waste and sinking of vessels.

And USEPA also receives monthly updates I believe, from our districts about disposal of dredge material at ocean sites. And so between us and USEPA we

get together and we talk about the disposal for the previous year. And we agree upon the report and then move forward with producing this for the London Convention.

The Ocean Disposal database is the USACE's most comprehensive ocean disposal data set which adheres to the London Convention obligations and the required data fields.

This is an overview of the sites that are out there right now for ocean disposal of dredge material only. The markers in red are inactive, closed, or dedesignated sites. And the markets in green are active sites.

I think in all right now we have roughly 92 or 93 active sites. In total I think about 140 have been used, so there's about 40 to 50 that are currently inactive, closed, or dedesignated.

Getting back to the MPRSA, under Section 102, the USEPA is responsible for designating sites for the ocean disposal of all materials including dredge material.

Disposal of dredge material occurs at specific geographic areas known as ocean dredge material disposal sites. I'll just call them ocean sites.

The dredge material that's transported to the ocean for disposal requires the use of this ocean site whenever possible. However when these sites are not feasible to use, the Army Corps of Engineers can select other sites for short-term use for disposal under MPRSA Section 103, and upon USEPA agreement.

A list of the current sites can be found at 40CFR Part 228. So you can do a quick Google search of 40CFR 228 and find the final list which is listed by USEPA region. We'll give you good information such as coordinates for this site, as well as, the type of use of the site and the period of use.

Regulations for the Army Corps of Engineers in ocean dumping can also be found at 33CFR.

Together USEPA and USACE jointly develop site management plans for each ocean site.

I mentioned before, the MPRSA implements the requirements of the London Convention and is the legislative authority regulating the disposal of dredge material into ocean waters, including the territorial sea.

This graphic shows an example of what the territorial sea is and what this covers. This was obtained from the USEPA Website. They've got a section of their Website devoted to ocean placement of dredge material. And it's also another good resource to tap in to.

This just shows the baseline which is basically the closing line across the mouths of days and rivers. And then extending 12 miles out is the contiguous zone. And between the contiguous zone and baseline is where all the ocean dredge material disposal sites are located.

I'm going to show you a few examples of some of the sites now so you kind of get an idea of some of their shapes and sizes and how long they've been used for and various other things.

These two sites are located off of the Atchafalaya River. And the left-hand site; the West site, that's about a 36.2 square nautical mile site. Max depth is about seven meters.

It was first used in 2002 and last used in 2015. A total of 23 dredge projects have been reported as placing material at this site. And in total about 110 million cubic yards of sediment have been placed at that site.

The east site on the right-hand site is about nine square nautical miles in size and average depth about five meters. And this one hasn't been used I don't believe, in quite some time.

Those previous sites were being used by the Army Corps of Engineers New Orleans District. These sites are located off the Coast of Texas and they're used by the Galveston District. And these are the Sabine-Neches, sites 1 through 4, and A through D.

Sites 1 through 4 range in size from 2.4 to five square nautical miles. They're all limited to material from the Sabine-Neches area.

They've been used from 1976 up through 2014. And in total between those four sites, about 115 million cubic yards of material have been placed there.

Sabine-Neches sites A through D are relatively new sites. And they're about four square nautical miles in size. And they're also limited to material from the Sabine-Neches area.

This is a site located off of California, and this is the San Diego, California or LA5 site. This is used by the Los Angeles District.

All the sites that I've shown so far are underneath the MPRSA Section 102. This site has been used since 1976 all the way through 2015 I believe. And over 18 million cubic yards of material have been placed here as well.

And you can see from the last three slides that each ocean site has a unique shape. Most of them are polygon in shape. Probably 75% are polygon and the other 25% are circular in shape.

Most of them are located very near the port or harbor or coastal waterway in which they are receiving their sediment from. Typically they're five nautical miles or less from the source of material.

This is the Corpus Christi Ship Channel and Corpus Christi new sites. Again, these are rectangular and I guess kind of square in shape. And they range in size from 0.63 square nautical miles to 1.4.

Dredging in our coastal areas is mostly accomplished by the USACE Dredge Fleet. And these are government owned and operated dredges. And to a lesser degree our coastal waterways are dredged by the private dredging industry.

Since reporting began in 1976 a total of 3206 dredge projects have been reported. And they have placed a total of 2.36 billion cubic yards of dredge material at about 140 ocean sites.

Each year to collect our data, ERDC EL will send out a data call to our districts. And this is a complete census of USACE districts who either one, used the USACE dredge fleet which are authorized to transport dredge material to an ODMDS for disposal.

Or the Corps issued a permit for ocean disposal for a contractor dredge operation to transport and place material at an ocean site.

Districts that developed and maintained coastal waterways, ports, harbors typically receive this data call form. Project managers, physical scientists, biologists, regulatory project managers are often the ones who receive the report or the data call and report the information.

As you can see from the picture here, we are currently using PDF forms. In the past we used an application that was actually deployed on the computers at local district offices. However due to network issues with the Army over the years, it's just become more difficult to deploy applications like that on computers. So we find that using this PDF form is pretty efficient and works very well.

Going forward we are probably going to be looking at going to a Website application. However, either way we do this, whether it's a PDF form or Website application, this type of work requires a lot of follow-up.

So once you begin the process, the follow-up is the most important part of this piece in order to make sure that we have a complete census of our USACE districts.

But the form only ends up to be about two pages. And they're answering, I think, its 30 questions total. And questions range from the name of the dredge project, where the material was disposed at, how much material was placed at that site, what dredging methods were used, how frequently did you travel to the site to place material there, compliance, monitoring performed for the site.

Was there any type of field monitoring at the site such as bathymetry, physical biological and chemical tests? We also ask about adverse impacts, and also a few questions about site management.

Most of these questions are from the London Convention guidelines which brings us to our next slide.

The International Maritime Organization, also known as IMO is the United Nations specialized agency responsible for regulating shipping and the prevention of marine pollution by ships.

The IMO administers the London Convention and also provides the guidance for collecting data. So every year ERDC EL will review the guidance document that IMO releases and will update our PDF reporting form as necessary.

However, for the last 41 years the reporting requirements really have not changed much. So we've been basically reporting this information for the last 40 something years which makes it ideal for any type of historical comparisons.

After we get all of our data back from our districts, typically this is entered into our own database. We do some cross-referencing when possible, to make sure that we're getting accurate information.

We also collaborate again with USEPA who is responsible for submitting data on disposal permits that they put out which usually include fish waste and vessels that are sunk.

We agree upon the data that we're going to send to the London Convention. It will eventually end up going to the IMO Website where they have a reporting module. And all the information for the previous year is entered into IMO.

Unfortunately IMO has no public facing Website at this time, so there's no way that I know of, where interested parties can go there and look at disposal for the United States or for any other country for that matter.

So I think the - between USEPA and ERDC EL, we're the only sites that have this type of information compiled and presented for the United States.

After reporting to the IMO and fulfilling our London Convention obligations, we also have our microsite that we update with our new information. And at the microsite it's pretty intuitive and self-explanatory when you get there.

I don't plan on doing a live demo today. We feature a map that displays the ocean sites. A user can click on the ocean sites and it will display an info window with different attributes about the site. For more specific information you can choose the disposal search and narrow in on specific years of data that you're interested in.

This is a screenshot of the map. We took advantage of the Google Maps API. When a user comes here they can go over to the left-hand side and select a USACE division and narrow the list down to more specific areas.

All the red markers are inactive, closed, or dedesignated sites. All the green ones are actively used sites.

If you click on a site such as this one here, the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet, it pops up a nice info window. It tells you the status of the site, when it was

first used, last used; how many dredge projects have placed material there. The total amount of material placed there.

And if you click on the disposal data link, that will take you to a HTML table with more information about that site.

This is the disposal search and this is where you can search more specifically for disposal events. So if you're not really familiar with USACE divisions or districts, you can also search by ocean area or USEPA region. And you can also limit it certain years that you're interested in.

I will be talking about our Bioaccumulation Databases now, this will include the Biota Sediment Accumulation Factor Database and the Environmental Residue Effects Database which will come up right after this. They're both bioaccumulation databases and they're both operated and maintained here at ERDC EL.

The Website link below here is the site for the microsite displaying the database information.

BSAF basically is a collection of biota sediment accumulation factor data obtained from peer reviewed literature and reports. The database was developed by researchers at ERDC EL in the 1990s, through support provided by the DOTS Program.

The BSAF Database is accessible via a public Website where the users can build simple queries to view and download data.

The BSAF data is commonly used by the Corps in evaluating suitability of dredge sediments for disposal at ocean sites. Prior to disposing of dredge

material in ocean waters, the sediment must be evaluated to determine whether contaminants are present and whether the contaminate level may adversely impact the ecosystem at the ocean site.

The Corps of Engineers has used bioaccumulation tests since the 1970s and perhaps even before that to make regulatory decisions regarding the management of dredge sediment.

The goal of course is to protect human health and the environment by identifying these chemicals and their bioaccumulation potential. And restricting the disposal of these sediments at ocean sites.

To help interpret the data from these bioaccumulation tests, the Corps often uses published BSAF data. BSAF is the ratio of the lipid normalized concentration of an organic chemical in an organism to the organic carbon normalized concentration of the chemical in the sediment that the organism was exposed to. It's very relevant to the bioaccumulation test that the Corps performs.

To collect BSAF data, systematic searches are conducted using a variety of resources including in-house and public databases. For each identified paper an electronic copy is obtained for evaluation. Studies that meet the minimum data quality objectives listed here on this slide are accepted. Other supporting information is collected, but it's not required for acceptance.

And it should be noted that when visiting the site you'll probably notice right away that not all studies report the same level of detail. So as a result, some of the supporting data fields contain no information.

However, we make no attempt to assign value to a study based on what is or is not reported beyond the initial data quality objectives. And the most important data quality objectives are listed here and they basically include whether the paper defined the BSAF formula as we define it. Was the organism exposed to an organic compound? Is the chemical clearly identified in the paper? We typically focus on fish and other aquatic organisms as these are the ones that will be more commonly affected by disposal of dredge materials at ocean sites.

Again, the BSAF is the ratio of the contaminant concentration in the tissue of the organism to the contaminant concentration in the sediment. This database also resides in Microsoft Access just like the ODD.

Once the paper is accepted we begin our review process and this typically takes anywhere from an hour to several hours to complete, depending on the amount of data available and the level of complexity.

We do review both laboratory and field studies. Laboratory studies tend to be more narrowly focused and often designed to answer specific questions. They sometimes are more difficult to use in a real world environment.

Whereas field studies are more broadly applicable and oftentimes more environmentally relevant.

I mentioned before, BSAF is focused mostly on fish and invertebrate data, because regulatory assessments often focus on the bioaccumulation of substances from a sediment into fish or invertebrates as they are measured in the laboratory or in the field.

BSAF does not contain all of the available BSAF data. There are some other good resources to check out. USEPA has a nice BSAF database where data is displayed from projects performed at Super Fund sites.

There is very little overlap between these two databases. And there is some pretty good information to be had, I think, from both.

And of course the microsite is where the information is updated annually. And here at the site you can perform simple queries to obtain the data for download.

Some of the queries include searching by the organism, by the chemical, by chemical group or the chemical case.

Jumping into the Environmental Residue Effects Database, also known as ERED, ERED is a collection of bioaccumulation data as well. But it's based off of residue effects data obtained from peer reviewed literature and reports.

This database is again developed by researchers here at ERDC EL and is supported through the DOTS Program. And it's accessible through the Website link provided here.

Just like the BSAF database, the idea behind ERED is to help support the evaluation of bioassay tests performed on dredge material prior to disposal at ocean sites.

This information is also relevant for other environmental issues or related problems. And so it's just another way to support the Corps in their efforts to ensure that the material going out to an ocean site is safe for disposal.

To help interpret a lot of these bioassay tests, many researchers, they often turn to the empirical data from the experiments in which the tissue contaminant concentrations and the resulting effects have been measured in the same organism.

We perform systematic searches just as before, with BSAF and conduct this at a variety of in-house databases and also public databases.

Our criteria for acceptance is straightforward, and relies on a few key components which are listed here in this slide. The chemical is clearly identified. We tend to focus on effects that are linked to a single contaminant, although we do present some studies that come from mixtures of contaminants. We also try to focus on fish and other aquatic organisms, although we do have some terrestrial species listed in our site.

The source of our data comes from primarily, peer reviewed literature. And to a lesser degree, other reports submitted by U.S. government agencies. The database is updated annually with new records and is accessible through our Website.

A very similar Website is the ECOTOX Website operated by USEPA. In fact there is some overlap with some of the studies that we review.

However, neither one typically contains all the available studies. So it's often a good idea for interested users to visit both databases to acquire as much information as they can.

As mentioned before, ERED is mostly focused on fish data. And the reason for this is because regulatory assessments often focus on the bio concentration of substances from a medium such as water into fish as they are measured in

the laboratory or in the field. So this is why we typically focus on the invertebrates and the fish data.

This is a few screenshots of our microsite. This microsite is a little bit different than BSAF. And I think we're going to be incorporating some of the ERED features into BSAF going forward.

But here at ERED you can do a species specific search. And so depending on the species that you select, it will populate all the available chemicals for that species.

You can also do a range search where the species are grouped by their filum. And also chemicals are grouped into different chemical groups. And this kind of gets you to more of the bulk data.

Going forward we are most likely going to be offering a complete download of the data set.

Another nice feature of the site is looking through our references. So if you've been there before and you want to come back and just look at a certain reference, you can search through the references and get right to the data that we have collected for it.

Most data that we have at the ERED site and also BSAF are displayed in data tables. And so these are nice tables that present information, usually in color coded rows so they're fairly easy to go through and find information.

You can also copy these to your clipboard and paste them directly into Excel. Or you can do a download of a CSV or an Excel file and open them in your spreadsheets.

These are the three databases that the DOTS Program has been supporting for quite some time now. Ocean Disposal Database has been around since the early 1980s and data dates back to 1976.

BSAF and ERED bioaccumulation databases have been around since the 1990s and both help fulfill specific purposes, as mentioned in previous slides.

ODD is here to fulfill the obligations of the London Convention Treaty which is the international treaty that the United States is party to. And it has been used to successfully develop and comprehensively document and report the data for dredged material disposal at ocean sites.

BSAF and ERED databases are organized collections of bioaccumulation information and they can be easily accessed through our microsites. The data have been very useful we believe, for comparing measured tissue concentrations from bioaccumulation tests such as those performed prior to disposing of dredge material at ocean sites, and using this data to help better review and interpret test results.

That's all the information I had for the databases and the DOTS Program. I'd be happy to answer any questions that I can, at this time.

Courtney Chambers: Great. Thank you very much Justin.

Operator: All participants are now in interactive talk mode.

Courtney Chambers: Okay, at this time we welcome you to ask your questions. You can unmute your phone line or utilize the Chat feature.

(Tom Smith): Yes, this is (Tom Smith). How is it going Justin?

Justin Wilkens: Good.

(Tom Smith): I'm out in Honolulu district, and we've had the (unintelligible) out from Portland. So we've been using the ODMDS sites over the last couple of years. And we've done a lot of sediment sampling.

I see your databases, but can we just send you the reports and you populate them or you know, that's a lot of extra work for us?

Justin Wilkens: Right. I typically send out the PDF form which has the London Convention specific questions to contacts, in Honolulu. Have I worked with you in the past on the Ocean Disposal Report?

(Tom Smith): No, I recently took over the O&M Tech Lead. So it's only been about two years for me. And I wasn't familiar with this initiative so, you know if we can make further contact that would be great. But you know we have all those bioaccumulation reports that are kind of voluminous when you look at them. I don't know if you just ingest those from a spreadsheet if we just send you a report, or what.

Justin Wilkens: Right, yes. I guess for BSAF or ERED, yes it will be helpful I think, to send the report to me. Then I could review it and get a plan together of how we would incorporate that data.

(Tom Smith): Okay. Because like I said, we've got the stuff we did in '16 and we're doing Port Allen and Honolulu Harbor again this year.

Justin Wilkens: Okay yes. I'd be very interested in seeing those reports and trying to incorporate that data.

(Tom Smith): All right. I'll get up with you.

Justin Wilkens: Okay.

(Tom Smith): Thanks.

Justin Wilkens: You're welcome.

Courtney Chambers: On that note Justin, do you have a point of contact list that gets updated each year? Or how do you determine who receives your query for the ODD database stuff?

Justin Wilkens: With ODD I've got several contacts within each district. And one of the questions I ask them every year is has anything changed with the contacts. Because often people retire or move to different positions. But that's how I've been maintaining contact with the appropriate person for Ocean Disposal over the years.

If I'm having trouble contacting someone I usually rely on one of the Chiefs in the district there, like the Navigation or a Program Manager, that could get me started back on the right track if my other contacts fail.

Courtney Chambers: Okay.

Justin Wilkens: But typically they've all responded in a timely manner. And the key is just following up with them. Because you know, everyone has got other things they're doing. And of course they're not receiving any kind of money for

filling out the data call. So it just requires a lot of follow-up with what they're doing. And then try to reduce the data burden as much as possible.

Courtney Chambers: Right. Okay, so then biota one, like what (Tom) said, how do you collect those reports, or how do you find out about new ones?

Justin Wilkens: For BSAF and ERED?

Courtney Chambers: Right. Yes.

Justin Wilkens: Typically I'm searching through the peer reviewed literature. And things like the internal reports, those are a little bit harder to come by, I think. And sometimes the reports aren't always necessarily something we can use in BSAF.

But yes, that's a good question about how you would get in contact with districts performing these studies and how to potentially use their data.

Courtney Chambers: I did receive another question here in the Chat feature. Is this data call annual? And I assume yes, but is that correct?

Justin Wilkens: Yes, for Ocean Disposal it's an annual data call.

Courtney Chambers: Okay. And then the other one is simply an ongoing review of peer reviewed literature?

Justin Wilkens: Right; yes.

Courtney Chambers: Okay, got it. And I'll take a break here and see if there's any other questions over the phone line that anyone would like to ask.

Allan Ota: This is Allan Ota from EPA Region 9, San Francisco. Justin I know you work with (Brian Ross) on you know, collecting and verifying ocean disposal data.

I've got a slightly different question. I was looking at your map that you showed in your presentation and it only went as far as Hawaii.

We actually have a relatively new Ocean Disposal site out in Guam. And I was just wondering if you were aware of that, or maybe that hasn't actually been added yet, to your map and database.

Justin Wilkens: Is this Ocean Disposal site for fish waste?

Allan Ota: No, this is new dredge material disposal site for Apra Harbor. It was originally designated for the military expansion that was planned. But it's been somewhat slowed at this point.

But it's been fully designated. And there is a couple of relatively small maintenance dredging projects that will be going out there or, being used for. So you will eventually be getting some disposal data for that site.

Justin Wilkens: Okay yes, I was familiar with the fish waste site that has been used out there sometimes. I guess I wasn't aware of the new ocean site there.

Allan Ota: Yes, okay. Well we'll - maybe we'll just talk off line and we'll coordinate with you on how to get the information to you.

Justin Wilkens: Okay. Usually I review 40CFR, but maybe I didn't see it in there this year. Or maybe it's not listed there yet. But yes, I'd like to learn more about that.

Allan Ota: Okay.

Courtney Chambers: Thanks. Any other questions or comments?

Sherilyn Lau: Hi Justin. This is Sherilyn Lau from EPA Region 3. We've been looking for this type of data for our sites. So our sites are Dam Neck and Norfolk off the coast of Virginia.

And I noticed for Norfolk the data only showed up to -- let's see -- I think 2013. So it was 2013 and 2014 and that was it. So is that something that we could work with you on, or would you have to talk to Norfolk District to get some of the historical data?

Justin Wilkens: I think it would be best probably, to start with me and then I can check the database to make sure that everything is showing on the Website. And then we could go back to Norfolk and try to collect more of that data.

Sherilyn Lau: Okay. And then also did you mention that this - I mean we can transcribe it from the site, but will there be an opportunity, I guess in the future, to be able to export the data disposal - the ocean disposal data?

Justin Wilkens: Yes.

Sherilyn Lau: Okay.

Justin Wilkens: I think so, yes.

Sherilyn Lau: Okay, great. Thank you.

Justin Wilkens: You're welcome.

Kristin Regan: Justin, this is Kristin Regan from EPA Region 3 as well. We have another dredge disposal site, Dam Neck, and it's not showing up on the ODD Databases.

Justin Wilkens: Okay.

Kristin Regan: Again, I guess that's something we would work with you on, getting that information?

Justin Wilkens: Yes. I can work on those issues if they're Website related or database.

Courtney Chambers: So Justin, the best way to do is, if they've got additional information like that regarding a site or something, just follow up with you by email?

Justin Wilkens: By email is the best way. And if you go to the site there is a contact link there which contains my email. And we can start addressing some of these missing items.

And you know that's something that I've noticed since I've been doing ocean disposal. That sometimes things slip through the cracks for whatever reasons. Folks forget to enter the appropriate data for disposal sites or dredge projects. And it's not until years later that you happen to be cross-referencing something and you find these dredge projects.

I think that's gotten better over time, but there certainly are some that we've missed. And it's part of the reason why follow-up is so important. And also having good contacts at the districts who are familiar with of course, the dredge projects that are operating and where they're placing the material.

Courtney Chambers: Very good. Other questions for Justin? Okay, well Justin thank you very much for informing us and sharing about these databases and your process for populating them. And just the resource that they are.

Participants, thank you all for joining us. Justin, do you have any closing comments before we finish today?

Justin Wilkens: No, I look forward to hearing more from USEPA and (Tom Smith) about some of the questions that they had. And I hope you all follow-up and we can try to run some of these things down.

Courtney Chambers: Very good. Thank you Justin. And if anybody on the line or that's joined our meeting today would like a PDH and hasn't contact me yet, please send me a Chat message and I'll add you to the list and email you that certificate in the next few days.

And it's been great learning with you today. Please watch your email for future DOTS Webinar announcements. And we'll look forward to learning with you soon.

Justin Wilkens: Thank you.

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