Publication to expand solutions for increased beneficial use of dredged material

ERDC-EL partnered with USACE-HQ, USACE-SAS and Anchor QEA to summarize a stakeholder perspective on the potential solutions to hurdles for expanding beneficial use of dredged sediment. This survey and Technical Note are part of a larger series of publications to find solutions to current constraints encumbering further expansion of the amount of beneficially used sediment to realize the 70% by 2030 goal.

Dr. Alan Kennedy and Daniel Farrar (ERDC-EL) partnered with Dr. Katie Brutsche (USACE-HQ), Jared Lopes (USACE-SAS) and Anchor QEA to summarize the results of stakeholder perceptions about potential outside barriers that need to be overcome to further expand beneficial use of dredged sediment in terms of both volume and diversity of beneficial use applications. This knowledge is disseminated in the recently published Technical Note (TN) "Understanding Hurdles to Expanded Beneficial Use of Dredged Sediment: Stakeholder Perspectives." Challenges were identified (e.g., facets within the same agencies that both promote and hinder beneficial use, initial cost of implementation, uneven process and regulatory uncertainties, misconceptions in risk perceptions, site selection and timing, sediment composition constraints, planning timelines, conflicts between short-term impacts and failure to quantify/communicate long-term values, etc.) from a stakeholder perspective but the USACE Environmental Advisory Subcommittee of the Army Science Board is advancing efforts to provide specific recommendations to overcome identified barriers to BUDM. A current roadmap is summarized in Figure 9, which will be presented with more robust detail in forthcoming Technical Reports.

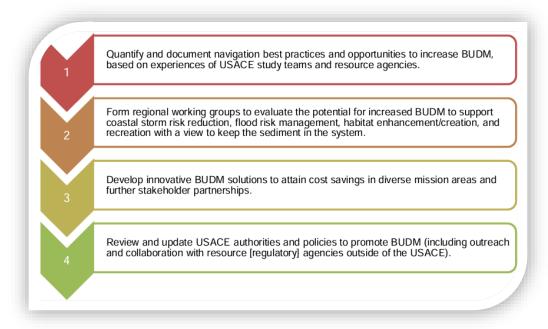


Figure 9. A roadmap for beneficial use of dredged material solutions.

Funding for this project was from the Dredging Operations Environmental Research Program (DOER).

The publication is available online and is open access:

Mohan, R. K., J. M. Lopes, M. L. Strevig, Z. N. Hubbard, A. J. Kennedy, J. D. Farrar, and K. E. Brutsche. 2025. Understanding Hurdles to Expanded Beneficial Use of Dredged Sediment: Stakeholder Perspectives. ERDC/TN DOER-25-4. US Army Engineer Research and Development Center. https://dx.doi.org/10.21079/11681/49974

POC: For more information about this project, please contact Al Kennedy (Alan.J.Kennedy@usace.army.mil).