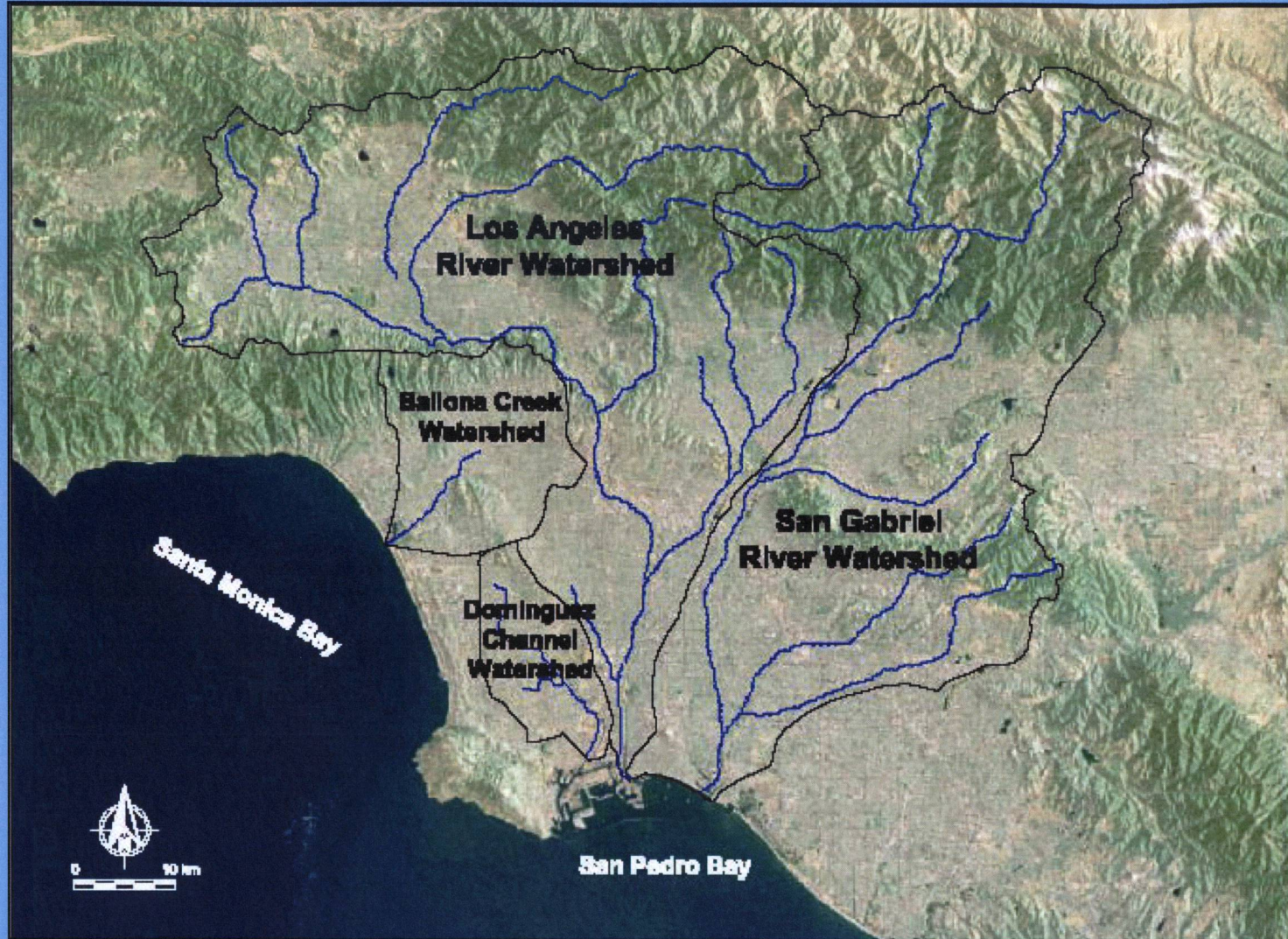


# Los Angeles River Estuary Dredging

Dennis Eschen

Manager, Planning and Development  
Dept. of Parks, Recreation and Marine





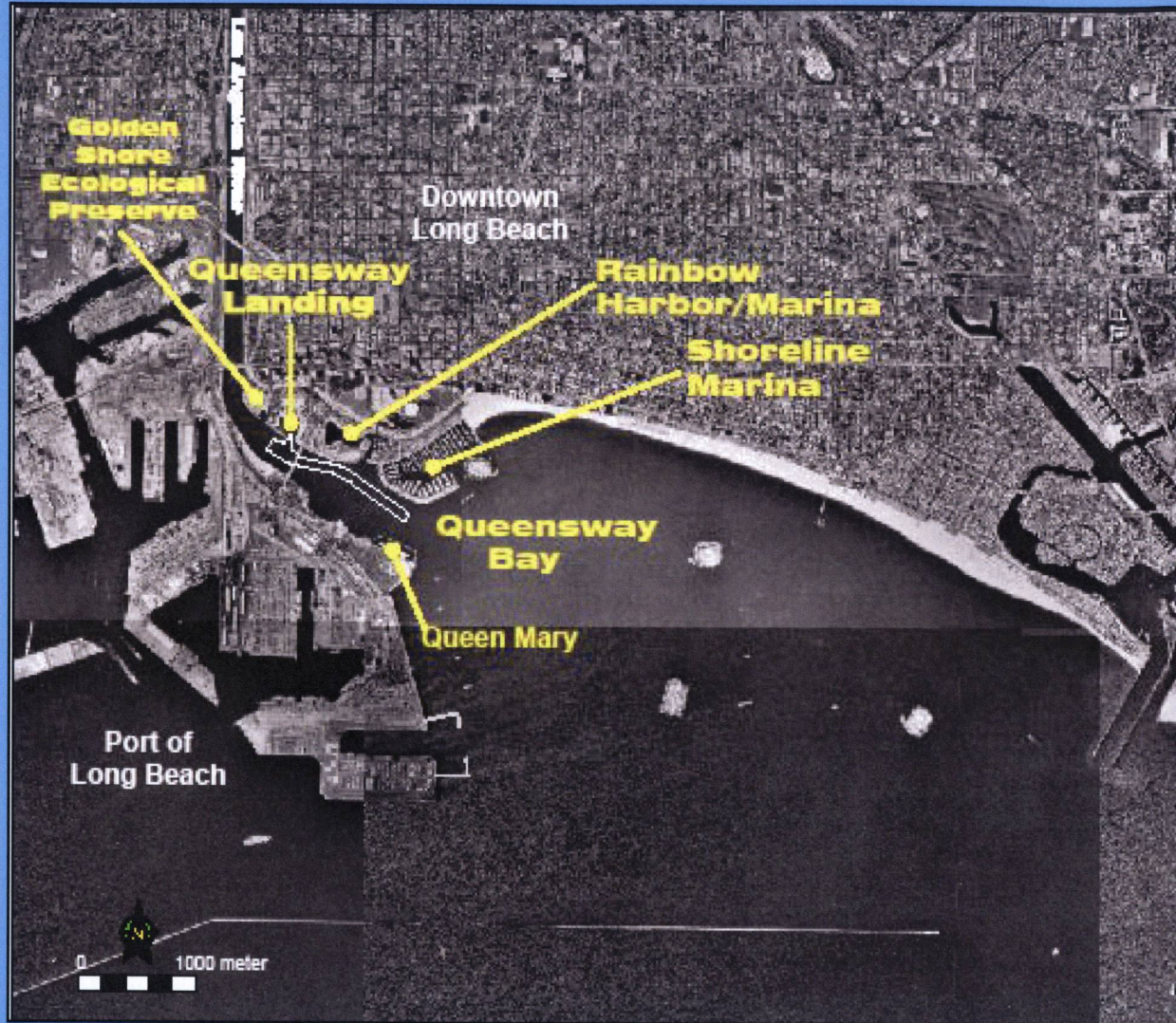
The majority of the Los Angeles region drains to the Los Angeles River estuary.





An estimated 300,000 to 400,000 cubic meters of sediment are discharged annually from the Los Angeles River estuary adjacent to Downtown Long Beach.





The federal navigation channel in the Los Angeles River estuary.





# Importance

- Channel to Queensway Landing (Catalina Express Terminal) closed January 2005 to May 2005
- Terminal serves 600,000 passengers annually
- Key component of Long Beach tourist industry
- Economic impact on Catalina annually—\$50 million
- Critical for evacuating in emergency



# Issues

- Funding
- Contaminated sediment disposal



# Funding

- Congress has not appropriated funds for maintenance dredging since 1999/2000.
- Maintenance dredge frequency is 3 to 5 years.
- The continuing resolution in 2006/7 provided \$1 million.
- The ACE reallocation of funding in 2007/8 provided \$2.5 million.
- \$2 million more is needed for full maintenance dredging.



# Disposal of Contaminated Sediment

- Following 1995 channel closure and emergency dredging, federal, State, and local task force formed to develop a plan for contaminated sediment disposal
- Limited disposal options available due to concerns that contaminants might be re-released back into marine environment



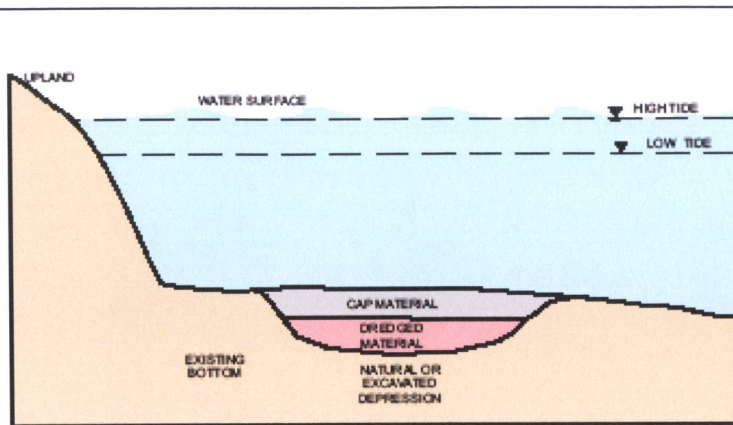




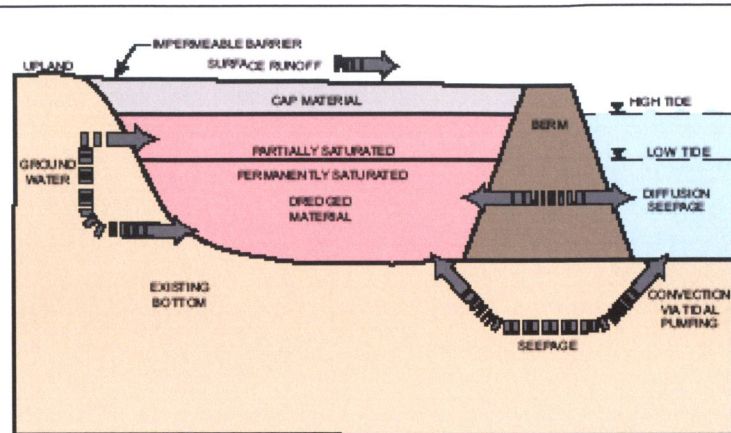
# Disposal Options

- Confined disposal such as burial inside a port landfill
- Issues:
  - **Timing** Is a Port landfill occurring within timeframe when dredging must occur?
  - **Capacity** Does the Port landfill have capacity beyond the Port needs?
  - **Operations** Can the use of the Port fill occur without interfering with Port operations or fill?

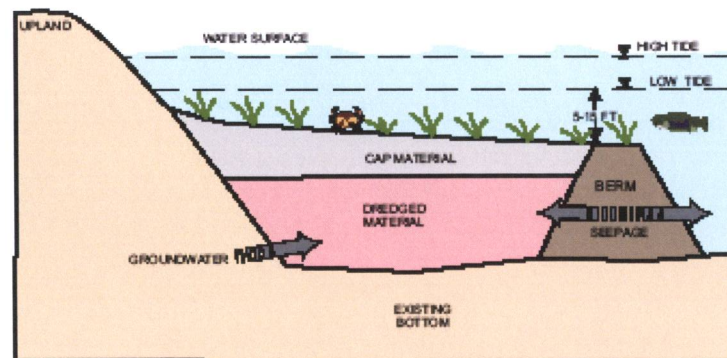




SUBMERGED CONFINED AQUATIC DISPOSAL



NEARSHORE CONFINED DISPOSAL



CONFINED AQUATIC DISPOSAL (w / habitat)

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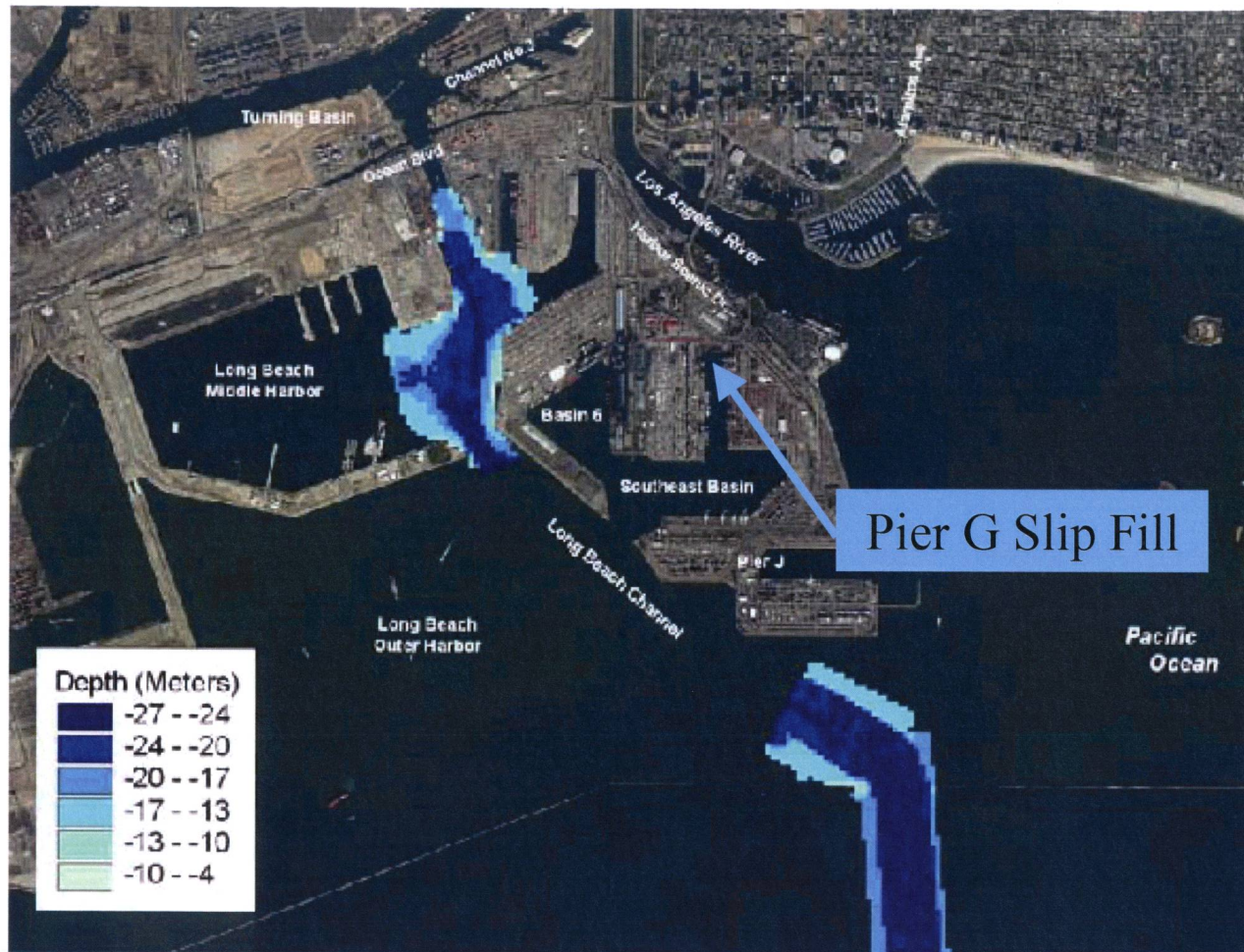
Figure 6-1  
Example Aquatic Disposal Options



# Disposal Options

- Separation: Experimental technology has been able to separate contaminated silt and clay from clean sand. Never tested at production scale. Four times cost of confined disposal.
- Upland disposal: Truck to classified landfill for daily cover. Ten time the cost of confined disposal.





**Figure 2-10**  
 Port of Long Beach Navigation Channel Bathymetry Data  
 Source: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District  
 Oct 2002 Survey



# Proposal

Port of Long Beach will allow disposal in Pier G Slip Land Fill.

- Corps of Engineers Los Angeles River: January through April 2008
- City of Long Beach Catalina Basin October 2008
- MOU before Council allows this to occur