

# **Tentative WATER QUALITY ORDER NO. R4-2016-0333-A01 AMENDING WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (regional Water Board) finds:

1. The Regional Water Board issued Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) and Clean Water Act (CWA) section 401 water quality certification in Order No. R4-2016-0333, on October 13, 2016, for routine maintenance dredging operations in Ventura Harbor, City of Ventura (Figure 1).
2. Order No. R4-2016-0333 authorized the Port to dredge up to 100,000 cubic yards of bottom sediments per year from the navigation channels, berthing areas and sand traps within the inner harbor. The order also authorized the Port to dredge small volumes of material (approximately 2,500 cubic yards) via a shore-based clam shell operation where shoals develop where two major storm drains discharge into the harbor including the southeast corner of Area D, just to the south of the point where the Olivas Park Storm Drain enters the harbor, and where the Arundell Barranca enters the harbor. See Figure 2 for areas authorized for dredging. Chemical analyses from samples collected in 2015 and listed in Order No. R4-2016-0333, demonstrated that the sediments to be dredged from the inner harbor did not contain elevated levels of trace metals or organic contaminants.

Order R4-2016-0333 authorized the discharge of coarse-grained material for beneficial reuse such as beach replenishment. It also authorized the discharge of fine-grained material into a 4,000-foot section of the nearshore area adjacent to McGrath State Beach (Figure 4). The order also authorized disposal of fine-grained material within the nearshore area near the mouth of the Santa Clara River (Figure 3), provided that the river is flowing at a rate of 100 cubic feet per second or greater, or within any of three depressions identified within the interior portion of the harbor. Although discharge of material into nearshore areas near the mouth of the Santa Clara River or adjacent to McGrath State Beach does not constitute beneficial reuse, this disposal method does not cause degradation or impacts to beneficial uses, and is consistent with the natural flow regime of the Santa Clara River which discharges an average of approximately 6 million cubic yards of sediment per year, primarily during periods of high stormwater runoff.

3. The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACOE) CWA section 404 permit for the Port of Ventura maintenance dredging activities expires on January 25, 2023. This amendment will align the expiration of Order No. R4-2016-0333 with the USACOE CWA section 404 permit.

Tentative WDR Amendment for Ventura Port District Maintenance Dredging

Reg. Meas. ID: 409959

Place ID: 271044

File No. 76-059

4. On June 29, 2021, the Ventura Port District submitted a request for Renewal of Order No. R4-2016-0333 Ventura Port District Maintenance Dredging.
5. This amendment to Order No. R4-2016-0333, extending the expiration date from September 30, 2021 to January 25, 2023, will maintain WDR coverage for Port of Ventura maintenance dredging in conjunction with the USACOE permit. All other findings and requirements of Order No. R4-2016-0333 remain the same. There are no new or additional environmental impacts as a result of this deadline extension.
6. Modification of the issuance of waste discharge requirements requires action by the Regional Water Board. This amendment revises Order No. R4-2016-0333.
7. The Regional Water Board provided public notice of the draft Order from July 20, 2021 to August 19, 2021.

The Regional Water Board, in a public hearing, heard and considered all testimony pertinent to this matter. All Orders referred to above, Regional Water Board files on this matter, and records of hearings and testimony therein are included in the administrative record for this matter.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Order No. R4-2016-0333, adopted by this Regional Water Board on October 13, 2016, is hereby amended as follows:

1. Order, Cover Page and Header
  - a. Change "ORDER No. R4-2016-0333" to "ORDER No. R4-2016-0333-A01".
2. Order, page 7
  - a. Change "This Order shall expire on September 30, 2021" to "This Order shall expire on January 25, 2023".
  - b. Change "Samuel Unger, P.E." to "Renee Purdy".
  - c. Add after "...a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted... on October 13, 2016," "and revised on September 9, 2021".

I, Renee Purdy, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region, on September 9, 2021.

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Renee Purdy  
Executive Officer  
Los Angeles Water Quality Control Board

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Date

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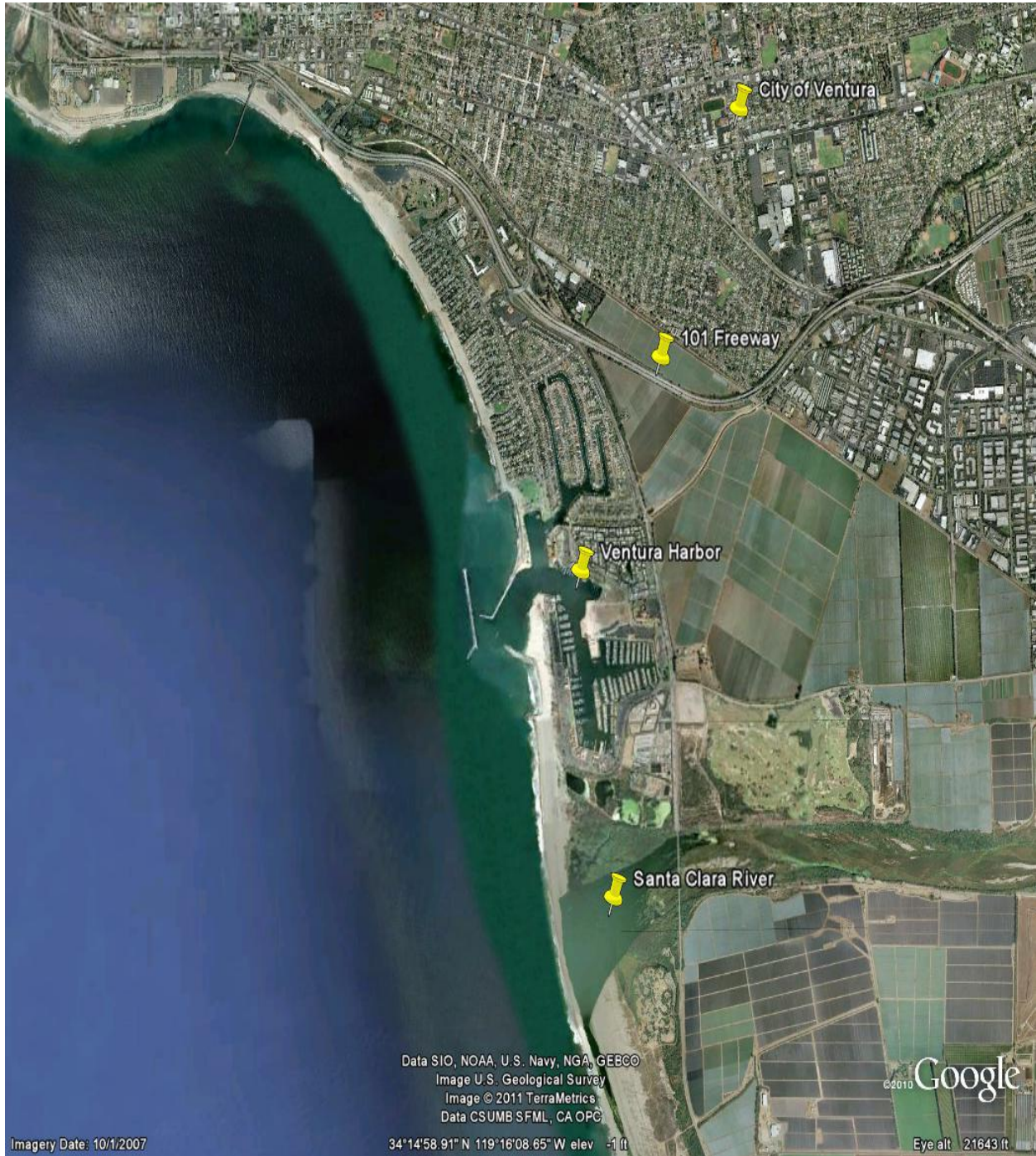


Figure 1. Location of Ventura Harbor, Ventura County, California.

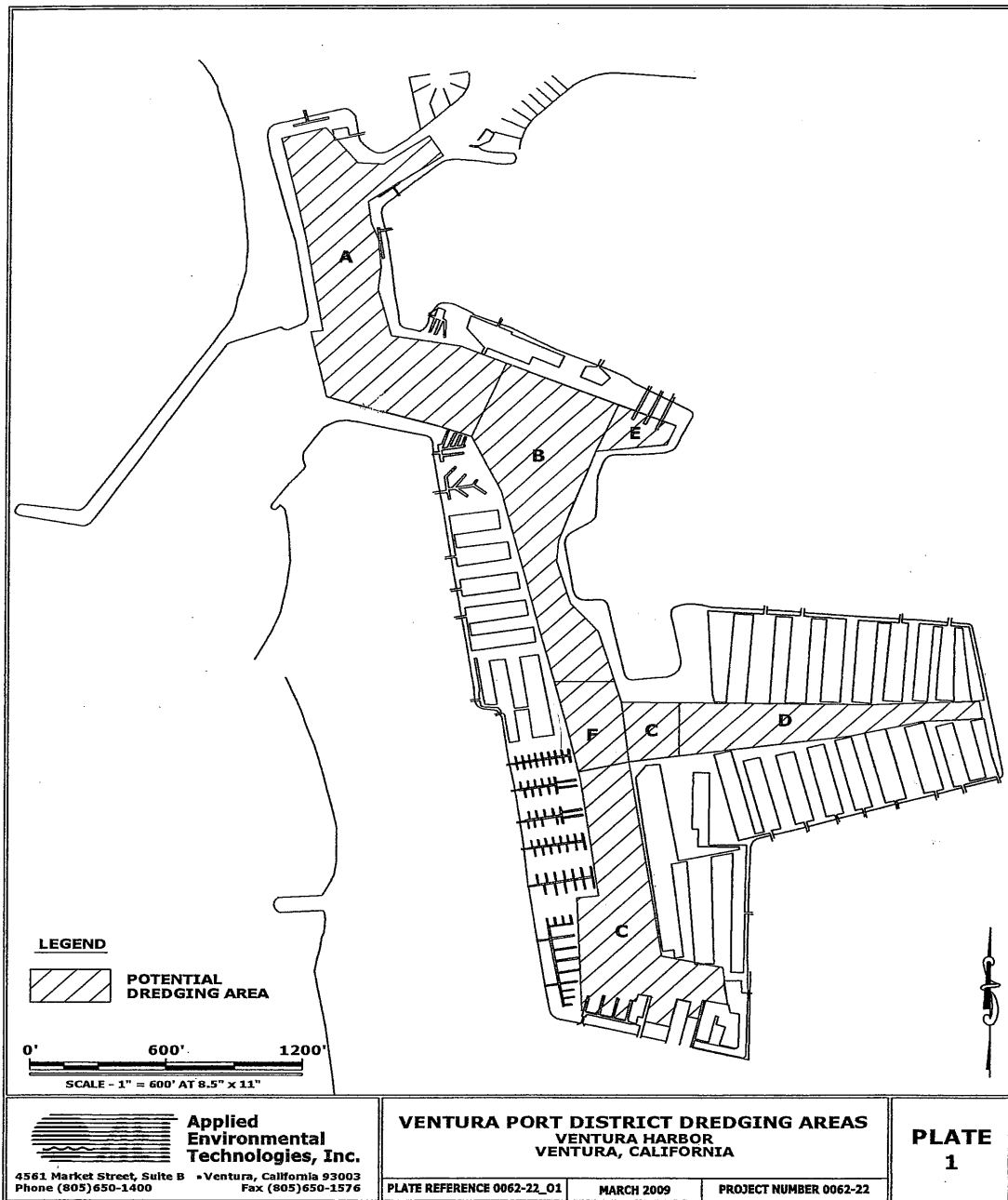


Figure 2. Areas to be dredged within Ventura Harbor (designated as A through F).

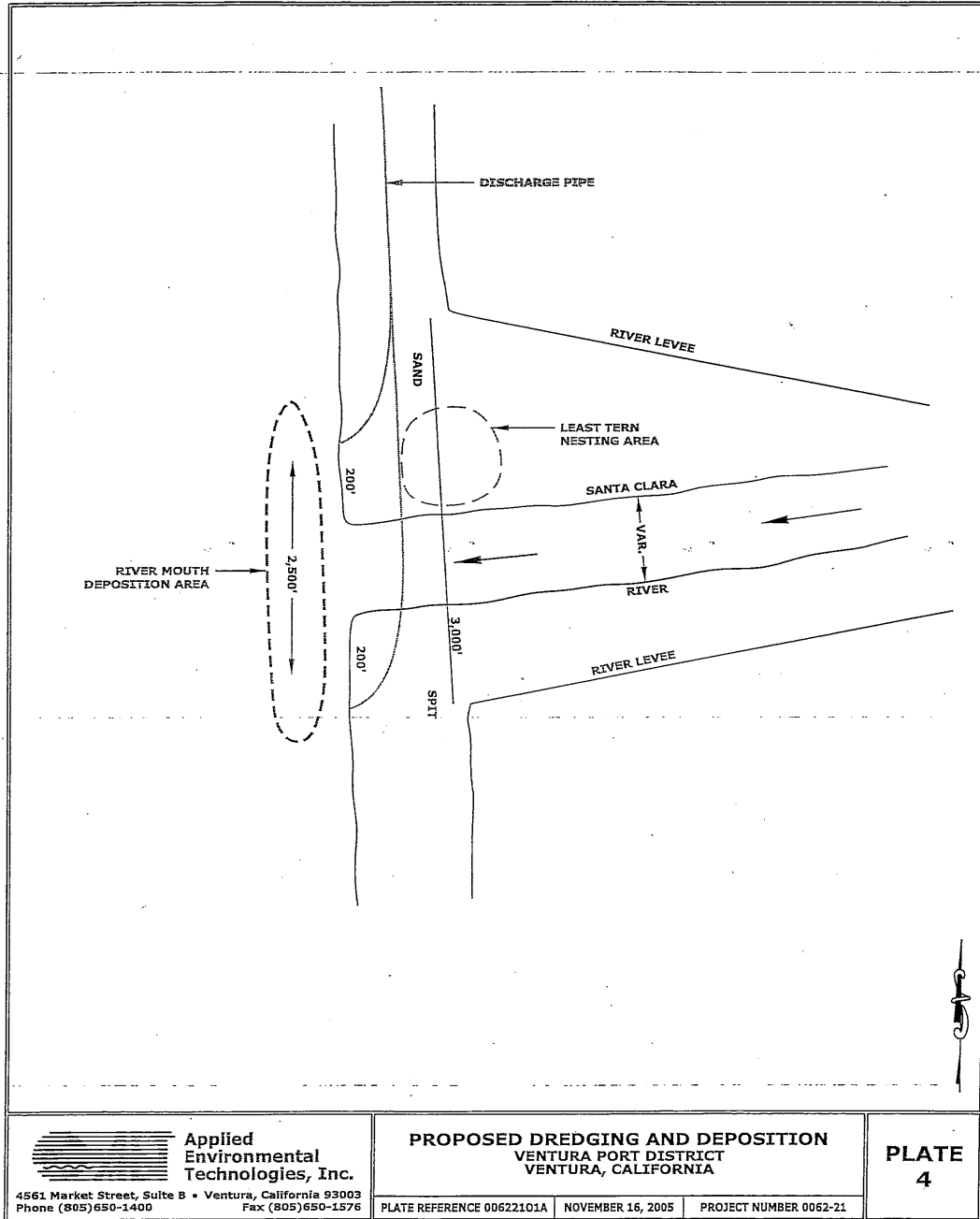


Figure 3. Zone at the mouth of the Santa Clara River for discharge of dredged material.

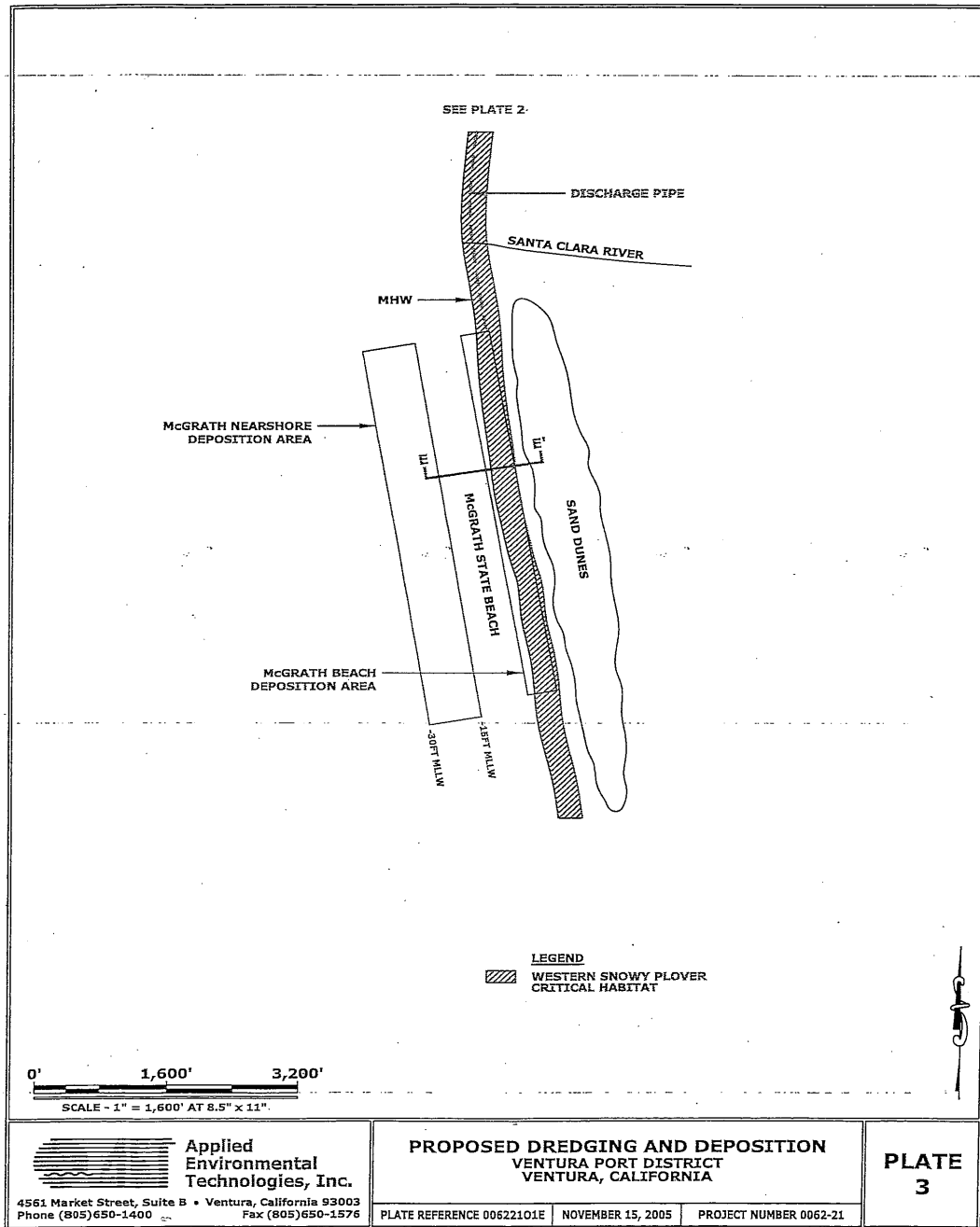


Figure 4. Nearshore zone for discharge of dredged material.