

An aerial photograph of the mouth of the Columbia River, overlaid with a bathymetric map. The bathymetry shows depth contours in shades of gray and green, indicating the river's channel and surrounding shallow waters. The river flows from the top center towards the bottom right. The surrounding land is green and hilly.

# **MOUTH OF THE COLUMBIA RIVER REGIONAL SEDIMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**May 3, 2015**

# SUMMARY OF RSMP ROCESS

- ❑ Since 2002 -- More than dozen different research projects, including sand tracer studies
- ❑ 2004 -- Columbia Nearshore Beneficial Use Project initiated as pilot project.
  - 34,000 cu yds. deposited at South Jetty Site
  - Series of research studies and modeling of sand transport
- ❑ 2007 -- Southwest Washington Littoral Drift Restoration Project
  - Demonstration on-shore disposal project at Benson Beach
- ❑ 2005, 2007, 2009 and 2010 -- Science-Policy workshops convened by LCSG
- ❑ Collaborative projects, e.g. navigational aid projects (enhancements to ARGUS beach monitoring; CDIP wave-ride buoy)

# SUMMARY OF PROCESS, cont.

- ❑ December, 2011 -- RSMP and Declaration of Cooperation
  - Signed by 16 federal & state agencies, local governments and interest groups
  
- ❑ Provide long-term strategy to guide sediment management at MCR, serve as basis for permitting a network of beneficial use sites, and facilitate securing of appropriations to finance ongoing R & M
  
- ❑ Designates system of Beneficial Use Disposal Sites
  - Existing Authorized Sites – SWS, NJS, DWS
  - New Beneficial Use Sites
    - 2 nearshore = South Jetty, North Head
    - 2 on-shore = Clatsop Spit, Benson Beach
  
- ❑ Disposal guided by Adaptive Management Approach informed by monitoring
  
- ❑ Ongoing Implementation Program

# Disposal and Monitoring Program

Since RSMP adoption in 2011:

2012: 30,000 cu yds

Limited monitoring

2013: 68,000 cu yds

Monitoring program expanded

2014: 300,000 cu yds

Full monitoring program

2015: 300,000 cu yds

New instrument buoy installed at SJS

# Research and Monitoring Program

## *Navigational Safety*

- Continuation of bathymetric monitoring
- Wave height threshold of 10% increase
- Predictive & real-time information on waves and wind

# Research and Monitoring Program

## *Biological Sciences*

- ❑ Focused on species of concern
  - Dungeness crab
  - Razor clams
  - Other fish species
- ❑ Baseline surveys and pre- and post-disposal monitoring
- ❑ South Jetty area as a priority

# Moving Forward

- ❑ Data analysis and identification of disposal impacts/additional information needs
- ❑ Continued monitoring at SJS
- ❑ Monitoring program and baseline data collection at North Head
- ❑ Opportunities to coordinate with monitoring at SWS and DWS