

Quality Partnership Initiative, QPI Update

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QPI Memorandum of Understanding

Excerpt from 2004 AAPA/ASA(CW) MOU:

“The shared principles expressed below are intended to create a high trust culture between our organizations, where we work seamlessly, exchange information freely, and spend the public’s money wisely.”

AAPA members are public ports and cost sharing non-Federal project sponsors

QPI Structure

- **Three workgroups:**
 - **Authorities**
 - Issues requiring legislation
 - **Project Delivery**
 - Issues requiring change to Corps policy
 - **Communication & Collaboration**
 - Existing policy sufficient, pursue consistent application at Corps District level

QPI Workgroup Leaders

- **Authorities**
 - Ports: Grady Bryant
 - Corps: Wes Coleman
- **Project Delivery**
 - Ports: David Miller
 - Corps: Amy Frantz
- **Communication & Collaboration**
 - Ports: Hope Moorer
 - Corps: Joe Vietri

Current Issues

- **Back to ‘regular order’ - WRDA’s 2014, 2016, 2018 and 2020 (?)**
- **Fewer legislative issues, mostly policy**
 - **Feasibility Studies for navigation channel improvement**
 - **Dredging Schedules to optimize dredging program execution and cost**
 - **Regulatory changes to ‘Dredge and Fill’ permits, Water Quality Certification and Coastal Zone Consistency**

AAAPA/Corps Webinar Topics

STUDIES

- **Feasibility Studies – what counts as a ‘benefit’ for Cost/Benefit ratio**
- **Best practices on community outreach**

NAVIGATION

- **Beneficial Use of Dredged Material**
- **Applying Regional Sediment Management approach to dredged material placement**

AAAPA/Corps Webinar Topics

REGULATORY/PERMITS

- **Corps New Federal Rule on Water Quality Certifications**
- **Waters of the United States (WOTUS), new definition of jurisdictional wetland**
- **One Federal Decision overview**

AAPA/Corps Webinar Topics

OTHERS?

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Summary

- **Great progress has been made in all 3 QPI areas**
- **Top 3: Communicate, communicate, communicate**
- **Ports discuss with Corps District and elevate issues as needed**
- **Share your webinar topic ideas**



Thanks for all you do!