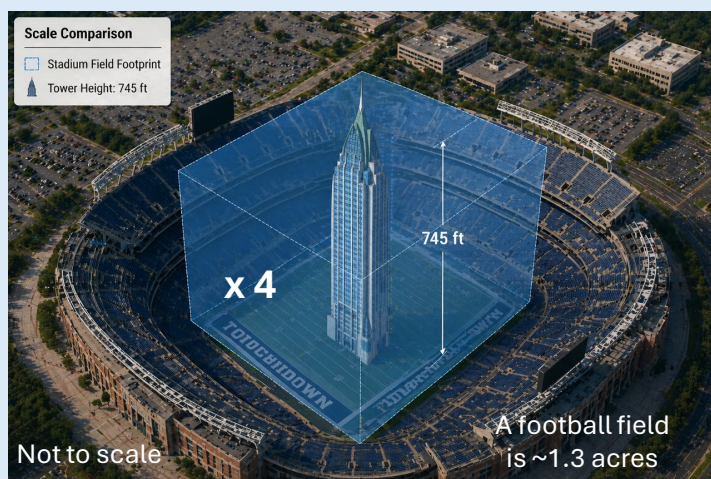


The Mobile Harbor Operations and Maintenance Project

Dredged Material Management: An Understanding of Scale and Alternatives

The Project: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Mobile District, oversees maintaining a safe and efficient navigation channel in partnership with the Alabama Port Authority and United States Coast Guard. USACE's role is the removal of approximately 4.5 to 6.8 million cubic yards (MCY) of natural sediment that deposits within the authorized channel limits every year. This is enough material to fill more than 4 football fields 745 feet high – the height of the RSA Tower. The Corps works to ensure that the dredging and management of this immense volume is done in an environmentally responsible, economically sound, and operationally feasible manner utilizing a variety of management alternatives.



Confined Placement (Placing Material on Land): This management alternative places dredged sediment in a land-based site, known as a Confined Disposal Facility (CDF). It removes sediment from the natural system.

Thin Layer Placement (TLP): This management alternative keeps the natural sediment within the bay's ecosystem by placing the material in a thin layer ≤ 1 -foot within designated locations within the bay. Material is placed at least 2,500 feet from the channel and placement sites are rotated every 4-6 years to the greatest extent possible.

Sand Island Beneficial Use Area (SIBUA): This management alternative retains sandy sediment dredged from the entrance channel and places it in a designated location south of Sand Island Lighthouse to naturally feed down drift beaches and Dauphin Island.

Ocean Dredge Material Disposal Site (ODMDS): This management alternative uses an area located several miles offshore in the ocean to place sediment from the channel.

What This Means for Mobile Bay: Dredged Material Management Alternatives for the Operation and Maintenance of the Mobile Harbor Project are routinely evaluated through a comprehensive and adaptive management process, in coordination with local, State and Federal partners, to ensure ongoing compliance with Federal environmental laws and regulations while maximizing opportunities for beneficial use and operational efficiency.

Management Alternative	Average Annual Volume Placed (%)*
CDF	25%
TLP	42%
SIBUA	6%
ODMDS	27%

*Average annual volume placed varies on based on annual dredging.