

**Shaping the Future** 



# BLUESCOPE STEEL LIMITED ILLAWARRA CO-GENERATION PLANT (ICP) PROPOSED SALT WATER COOLING NUMERICAL COOLING WATER STUDIES ADDENDUM REPORT

**Report Prepared for** 

30 April 2008 LJ2375/R2449

BlueScope Steel



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### 1. INTRODUCTION

BlueScope Steel Ltd has identified a need to modify aspects of the currently approved Illawarra Cogeneration Plant (ICP) Project. The project is located at the Port Kembla Steelworks. Figure 1.1 provides a general locality plan of the site and its relationship to Port Kembla.

The modified ICP Project includes a proposed once-through salt water cooling system. Operation of the ICP would involve decommissioning of the No. 1 Power House and cessation of the associated flows and temperature loads into the Main Drain. Saltwater used for cooling of the steam turbine generator (STG) condenser of the ICP would be drawn from Port Kembla Outer Harbour via the existing saltwater lift pump and channel, used as cooling water for the ICP and then returned back to Port Kembla Inner Harbour at a location in the mouth of Allan's Creek; approximately 170m downstream of the existing No. 2 Blower Station drain - see Figure 1.2.

As part of environmental investigations and planning activities for the proposed ICP, BlueScope Steel have engaged Cardno Lawson Treloar to undertake a range of 3D numerical cooling water studies. The purpose of these analyses was to simulate the temperature fields arising from the existing and post ICP heat-loads in order to describe any changes in heat field conditions. Apart from environmental effects, this information was to extend to a description of any changes in heat re-circulation to the saltwater intake at the lift-pump station. The impact on the hydrodynamics (currents) within the Inner Harbour due to the ICP has also been investigated.

This report describes the data available to this study, the numerical modelling simulations undertaken and the outcomes from this study. It is an addendum to the previous report prepared in August 2006 (Cardno Lawson Treloar, 2006a). It forms part of the input to CH2M HILL's Salt Water Cooling report.



### 2. PREVIOUS STUDIES

Cardno Lawson Treloar has previously reported the outcomes of a range of numerical modelling scenarios for typical summer and winter conditions as well as maximum heat-loads (Cardno Lawson Treloar, 2006a). These investigations included the existing heat-load conditions and post-ICP heat load scenarios. The model system (Delft3D), setup and verification are described in Cardno Lawson Treloar (2006a). Since that study, the ICP design has been refined and this report addresses investigations undertaken for the refined ICP design.



### 3. ICP DESIGN

#### 3.1 Discharge Structure

Cooling water will be discharged from the underground return pipeline to the mouth of Allan's Creek, see Figure 1.2. This discharge will be via a 30m long structure to be constructed parallel with and at the creek shoreline in the location indicated on Figure 1.2. The outlet laterally discharges cooling water into the top 1/3<sup>rd</sup>/half of the water column depending on the tide level. BlueScope have undertaken detailed numerical flow analyses to ensure that this discharge flows evenly into the upper half of the water column in Allan's Creek at all tide levels.

Based on CFD modelling results discussed with Cardno Lawson Treloar in December 2007, the proposed structure is likely to function as required and discharge cooling water into the top  $1/3^{rd}$  to 1/2 of the water column, depending on the tide level. Provided that these conditions are fulfilled, temperature increases at Location (22, 67) will be less than  $3^{\circ}$ C.

#### 3.2 Maximum Heat Load Conditions

The maximum heat load condition from the ICP is a temperature differential ( $\Delta$ T) of 10.29°C and a discharge rate of 8.682m<sup>3</sup>/s, as compared to a  $\Delta$ T of 9.4°C and a discharge rate of 7.5m<sup>3</sup>/s presented in Cardno Lawson Treloar (2006a). Table 3.1 presents all the heat load sources applied to the Delft3D model for the post-ICP maximum load simulation. The existing condition (pre-ICP) maximum heat-loads are also presented in Table 3.1.

Modelled Drain Flows – Maximum Summer Conditions									
Model	Drain	Existing C	ondition	Post – ICP					
Source No		Q (m <sup>3</sup> /s)	ΔT (°C)	Q (m³/s)	ΔT (°C)				
1	Main Drain	1.431	9.5	0	0				
2	No.2 Blower Station	8.233	8.5	7.32	8.0				
3	Iron Making East	0.232	7.5	0.156	6.27				
4	3500mm Plate Mill Drain	0.43	3.5	0.43	3.5				
5	Slab Mill Drain	0.013	32.68*	0.013	32.68*				
6	No.1 Flat Products East Drain	0.112	10.5	0.112	10.5				
7	Allan's Creek Flow	0.17	22.5*	0.17	22.5*				
8	North Gate Drain	0.13	30.22*	0.13	30.22*				
9	New ICP Drain	-	-	8.682	10.29				

\* This is not a power station source, absolute temperature (°C)

 $\Delta T$  refers to the temperature difference at the outlet compared to the inlet temperature

It should be noted that natural and stormwater flows from Cringila report to the Main Drain. The drain flows listed in Table 3.1 only include the salt water cooling flow from No. 1 Power House.



### 4. METHODOLOGY

#### 4.1 Model Setup

A full description of the Delft3D model setup, including the modelled meteorological conditions, is presented in Cardno Lawson Treloar (2006a). Since that study BlueScope Steel, as part of final design preparation, have moved the ICP discharge point approximately 30m east from its original location. This is to discharge into a wider section of Allan's Creek thus minimising/reducing any rebound and erosion from the discharge flow on the opposite bank. However, for the modelling reported herein, the original heat-load output location has been maintained, as well as the position of Location (22, 67). Hence the same spatial relativities have been maintained for purposes of model result comparison. Moving the discharge point will lead to slightly smaller temperature increases at Location (22, 67).

The model set up for these simulations relates to the case where cooling water discharge from the ICP to the entrance area of Allan's Creek is to be in the upper half of the water column and where continuous maximum summer heat-load conditions are adopted.

#### 4.2 Harbour Layout and Bathymetry

Since the ICP cooling-water model system was set up, there have been some changes and proposed changes to the layout of Port Kembla Harbour. Those changes were outlined in CH2M HILL's email of 5 February 2008 and the related attached Port Kembla Port Corporation plans (Appendix A); principally Dwg No. 60013335-G004, Rev. A. A generally qualitative assessment has been made on the basis of this information and AUS chart 195 (2000).

There is some potential for changes in tidal prism and harbour volume to affect cooling processes. Additionally, flushing and turnover times may be affected. The following sections describe these assessments.

#### 4.2.1 Volume Changes

Based on the dredging data provided by CH2M HILL, there has been an increase in harbour volume of  $131,000m^3$  through disposal of this volume of spoil to sea. Other dredged material has been placed in the Outer Harbour reclamation area and in a deep area near The Cut. The total harbour volume at MSL is approximately 24.3 x  $10^6 m^3$ .

Based on the footprints described by developments EB4, MPB3 and MPB130, the following volume changes have been estimated:-

- Loss of harbour volume = 85,000m<sup>3</sup> based on typical depths in the berth development areas shown on AUS 195
- Loss of tidal prism = 8,000m<sup>3</sup> based on a Mean Sea Level to High Water height of 0.7m - typical spring tide

Thus there has been a 0.2% net increase in harbour volume  $((131,000-85,000)/(24.3\times10^6 \times 100))$  and 0.3% decrease in tidal prism, see below also. These changes are very small and have a negligible impact on the modelling results.



#### 4.2.2 Tidal Exchange

DECC have suggested that an extraction index be used to provide a basis for assessing the likely present condition and change to plankton impacts. The calculation of this index (I) was undertaken as follows:-

 $I = T_i/T_r$ 

- where T<sub>i</sub> = time required to extract a volume of cooling water equal to the volume of water Port Kembla Harbour (taken as the Inner and Outer Harbours)
  - T<sub>r</sub> =average residence time of harbour water (has been estimated from existing models based on flushing).

 $T_i$  required an estimate of the harbour volume. This was determined to be about 24.25 x  $10^6 m^3$ , based on the present model bathymetry.

Cooling water flows were based on the flows presented in our report (Cardno Lawson Treloar, 2006a), Tables 4.1, 5.1 and 6.1, including only those flows drawn in from the Outer Harbour by the lift-pump.

Flushing times were determined by re-running the cooling water simulations for:-

- existing average summer and typical summer post-ICP cases
- existing average winter and typical winter post-ICP cases
- existing peak summer and peak summer post-ICP cases,

including all cooling water flows, winds and tides.

That is, these simulations were the same as those undertaken for Cardno Lawson Treloar (2006a) previous report. However, they now include a conservative marker contaminant with no density or temperature. This marker was set initially to be 100 (dimensionless units) everywhere within Allan's Creek and the Inner and Outer Harbours. As each model simulation progressed, the marker contaminant diluted. The rate of dilution depended on cooling water flows, as well as the tide and wind driven flows. Flushing time was estimated using the e-folding time which is defined from:-

$$C_T = C_o/e$$

(1)

where flushing time T is the time for concentration to reduce to 1/e of an initial concentration.  $C_T$  and  $C_0$  are concentrations on a specific tracer decay curve separated by time T when Equation (1) is fully fulfilled. These seasonal and pre and post-ICP differences arise from the different cooling water flows and environmental conditions.

The present harbour and tidal prism volume changes marginally increase  $T_i$  and decrease  $T_r$  leading to changes in the computed indices of less than 0.5%. The results from Cardno Lawson Treloar (2006b) are reproduced in Table 4.1 and the computed changes, shaded, show little difference.



Recent Dredging and Expansion of the Multi-Purpose Berth										
Parameter	Summer- Pre-Ave	Summer- Post-Ave	Winter- Pre-Ave	Winter- Post-Ave	Summer- Pre-Peak	Summer- Post-Peak				
T <sub>i</sub> (days)	28.5/ <mark>28.6</mark>	18.4/ <mark>18.4</mark>	26.9/ <mark>27.0</mark>	18.4/ <mark>18.4</mark>	26.9/ <mark>27.0</mark>	17.9/ <mark>17.9</mark>				
T <sub>r</sub> (days)	3.8/ <mark>3.8</mark>	3.2/ <mark>3.2</mark>	6.5/ <mark>6.5</mark>	6.0/ <mark>6.0</mark>	3.2/ <mark>3.2</mark>	2.4/ <mark>2.4</mark>				
Index	7.5/ <mark>7.5</mark>	5.8/ <mark>5.8</mark>	4.1/ <mark>4.2</mark>	3.1/ <mark>3.1</mark>	8.4/ <mark>8.4</mark>	7.5/ <mark>7.5</mark>				
Pump Flow (m <sup>3</sup> /s)	9.85	15.26	10.43	15.26	10.44	15.72				

#### Table 4.1 – Impact on Flushing and Exchange Times of Port Kembla as the result of Recent Dredging and Expansion of the Multi-Purpose Berth

Typically, an index greater than 1 is theoretically 'good' because it means that harbour water is replaced more quickly than it is passed through the cooling water system. However, as a factor of safety, it is recommended that a minimum index of 3 is likely to indicate satisfactory conditions.

#### 4.2.3 Effects on Cooling Water

The above results have shown that there would most likely be only very minor changes in harbour flushing compared to the results presented in Cardno Lawson Treloar (2006b).

Harbour flushing is the principle which underlies the cooling water processes and recirculation. Hence the changes in harbour volume would have only minor changes on the cooling water processes. The changes to the layout of Port Kembla Harbour have no identifiable impact on the cooling water processes or the potential for recirculation.

#### 4.3 Impact on Hydrodynamic Conditions – Inner Harbour

The potential impact on hydrodynamic conditions, in particular currents, inside the Inner Harbour due to the ICP cooling water system has been investigated. For this particular investigation, the model bathymetry was adjusted to reflect the development of the MB3 berth and the 2006-2007 dredging works. Current speeds and directions (depth-averaged) inside the Inner Harbour have been investigated for existing and post-ICP maximum heat load conditions – see Section 5.2 and Table 3.1.



### 5. RESULTS

#### 5.1 Water Temperature

Tables 5.1 and 5.2 present a comparison of the maximum summer average temperature (Table 5.1) and standard deviation (Table 5.2) at selected locations for the existing (as reported in Cardno Lawson Treloar, 2006a) and post-ICP simulations for maximum heat load summer conditions. As with the previous simulations, the largest temperature increases between the existing and post-ICP cases are observed in Layer 10 at Location (22, 67). At this location (Layer-10, Location (22, 67)), the average temperature difference between the existing maximum heat-load case and the post-ICP case is equal to 2.6°C. Figure 5.1 presents a plan view of the Delft3D model time series output points.

 Table 5.1 - Existing and Post-ICP Average Water Temperatures (°C)
 – Maximum Heat 

 Load Conditions - Summer

	Layer 1 (Surface)		Layer 5 (Middle)		Layer 10 (Bottom)		Vertical Gradient (1-10)*	
Location	Existing Post-ICP		Existing	Post-ICP	Existing	Post-ICP	Existing	Post-ICP
22,67	28.62	27.89	28.04	28.63	23.92	26.49	4.72	1.95
45,68	25.08	26.24	23.38	23.74	22.94	23.11	2.13	3.13
60,62	24.30	25.25	23.30	23.66	22.84	22.97	1.47	2.28
77,46	23.86	24.60	23.06	23.34	22.66	22.72	0.81	1.89
81,40	23.64	24.29	22.89	23.06	22.70	22.79	0.76	1.50
80,34	23.16	23.51	23.15	23.46	23.01	23.25	0.22	0.32

\* Note: Gradient result is the average vertical gradient based on the time series results, not gradient of the average temperatures

Table 5.2 - Existing and Post-ICP Water Temperatures Standard Deviation (°C) –
Maximum Heat-Load Conditions - Summer

	Layer 1 (Surface)		Layer 5 (Middle)		Layer 10 (Bottom)		Vertical Gradient (1-10)*	
Location	Existing	Post-ICP	Existing	Post-ICP	Existing	Post-ICP	Existing	Post-ICP
22,67	1.93	2.18	1.65	1.49	1.46	1.14	2.48	1.57
45,68	0.92	0.92	0.30	0.37	0.19	0.19	0.89	0.90
60,62	0.84	0.99	0.26	0.29	0.19	0.19	0.82	0.99
77,46	0.75	0.91	0.25	0.27	0.19	0.18	0.74	0.94
81,40	0.72	0.87	0.30	0.32	0.22	0.22	0.68	0.88
80,34	0.58	0.64	0.51	0.56	0.43	0.48	0.26	0.36

\* Note: Gradient result is the standard deviation of vertical gradient based on the time series results, not gradient of the average standard deviations



In addition to the post-ICP heat load presented in Table 3.1, an extreme temperature pulse simulation was undertaken. BlueScope advised that every 3-weeks, a discharge of 10,000 kL/hr ( $2.78m^3$ /s) with an outlet temperature of 40°C (associated with a thermal macro-antifouling treatment process, in the event that this method is implemented instead of, or in conjunction with, chemical dosing) may occur for 8 hours during a period of low power generation. This condition was applied to the Delft3D model. At all specified outlet locations, the water temperature changes compared to the maximum summer heat-load conditions were very small. There were no changes to the statistics presented in Tables 5.1 and 5.2. In fact, for the higher temperature case, the heat load (flow x temperature) is lower during the pulse condition compared to the maximum heat-load condition presented in Tables 3.1.

Figure 5.2 presents a plan view of the change in average water temperature through the water column between the existing (maximum summer condition) and the post-ICP (maximum summer condition) cases. The increase in mid-depth average temperature near the ICP cooling water outlet is up to 3°C. The water temperature increase may exceed 3°C in the initial mixing zone which may extend between 30m to 40m from the ICP cooling water outlet. This increase in water temperature in the immediate vicinity of the ICP outlet rapidly decreases beyond this distance from the outlet. Within the Inner Harbour, the average temperature increase for the post-ICP condition is generally less than  $0.5^{\circ}$ C in the middle to bottom layers of the water column and less than  $1.5^{\circ}$ C for the upper layers. Within the Outer Harbour, the average temperature increase for the post-ICP condition is generally less than  $0.5^{\circ}$ C in the surface layer and less than  $0.2^{\circ}$ C in the middle and bottom layers.

#### 5.2 Hydrodynamics – Inner Harbour

The potential impact on currents in the Inner Harbour has been investigated by comparing depth-averaged currents in the Inner Harbour for an existing case maximum heat-load summer condition, and the maximum post-ICP heat-load summer condition. The simulations were undertaken in 3D for a 31-day period.

Figures 5.3 to 5.9 present plan views of depth-averaged currents over a 12-hour flood-ebb tide period (2-hour time intervals). The existing condition is indicated by the black vectors, and the post-ICP condition is indicated by the red vectors. A time-series plot at the bottom of Figures 5.3 to 5.9 indicates the tide condition for each of the vector plots. In all cases, the pre-and-post ICP current vectors are small, less than 0.05m/s in the Inner Harbour.

A time-series comparison of existing and post-ICP depth-averaged current speed and direction for the time-series Location (45,68) is presented as Figure 5.10. (Location (45,68) is displayed on Figures 5.2 to 5.8). Figures 5.1 to 5.8 indicate that the currents inside the Inner Harbour are small – generally less than 0.02m/s (depth-averaged). The ICP is not expected to change the general current conditions and changes to current speeds are small, generally less than 0.005m/s. Hence, where some changes in current direction are indicated, this is not a concern because the forces that would be impinging on ships would be very small. There is not expected to be any impact on shipping operations inside the Inner Harbour as a result of the ICP cooling water flows.



### 6. POST – ICP VERIFICATION – WATER TEMPERATURE IMPACTS

The following section provides a general concept for a water quality sampling plan that could be used to provide the necessary data to validate the post-ICP operation impacts on water temperature. From experience, the most effective approach to achieve regulatory requirements is to prepare a comprehensive water quality monitoring plan – water column data. The key water quality indicator for the ICP project is water temperature.

The objective of the plan will be to ensure that there is suitable pre-and-post ICP construction water temperature data with which to undertake reliable analyses that can verify the predicted water temperature changes, whilst acknowledging that model results are not precise and field data will need to be considered in terms of sample variability. It is important to develop a water quality monitoring plan that is effective in achieving the verification objectives for the ICP project and to also be consistent with current guidelines for example ANZECC (2000). Based on similar projects and ANZECC (2000) guidelines, it is recommended that water temperature be monitored at 5 to 6 sites inside Port Kembla Harbour and Allan's Creek for a period of at least 12 months prior to the operation of the ICP and at least 12 months after the commencement of the ICP operations. Water temperature could be sampled monthly at all locations, from three points in the water column. It is recommended that samples be collected during adjoining flood and ebb tides for each of the sites. At the end of a 12 month period this would result in 12 flood-tide and 12 ebb-tide data sets from each location. Samples could be collected 0.5m below the water surface, mid-depth and 0.5m above the seabed for example. The pre-ICP data can be used to define the baseline water temperature condition.

An indicative layout of four potential water quality monitoring locations inside Port Kembla Harbour is presented as Figure 6.1. An additional site would likely be selected in Allan's Creek, well upstream of the ICP cooling water outlet. Site 1 can be used as a reference site to define the ambient ocean water temperature at the time of each sample.

Ideally the pre and post ICP measurements should be taken under similar meteorological and oceanographic conditions. However, it is likely that there will be ocean water temperature variation between the pre and post ICP measurements due to natural variations in the meteorological and oceanographic forcing mechanisms over the data collection period (approximately two years). As a result, meteorological data - including temperature, humidity, rainfall and solar radiation, should also be sampled at Port Kembla Harbour or obtained from nearby sites for the duration of the ICP verification data collection period.

When analysing the post-ICP water temperature data, it will be important to consider any differences in the meteorological conditions or ambient ocean temperatures between the pre-and-post ICP operation periods.



### 7. CONCLUSIONS

This addendum report should be considered together with the previous report (Cardno Lawson Treloar, 2006a).

The results presented herein have shown that:-

- Recent developments within Port Kembla Harbour and associated changes in the harbour water volume will not have had any significant effect on previous modelling results.
- The proposed increase in maximum ICP heat-load will cause temperature increases higher than those reported in Cardno Lawson Treloar (2006a), but remain below DECC recommendations. The maximum temperature increase is 2.6°C at the seabed near Location (22, 67). More typically, average temperature increases are 0.4°C, or less.
- The proposed thermal pulse which may be released during the anti-fouling treatment would not cause higher seabed temperatures near Location (22,67) compared to the maximum ICP heat-load case.
- At the ICP salt water intake location, the mid-depth average temperature would increase 0.17°C above the existing condition hence there is little additional heat recirculation.
- Maximum current speeds caused by combined tidal and ICP flows at Inner Harbour shipping berths located near the entrance to Allan's Creek will not exceed 0.02m/s. Compared to the tide only case, the ICP flows would increase current speeds by up to 0.005m/s. Current speeds of these magnitudes will not affect shipping because the pressure forces imposed on vessel hulls will be very small.



### 8. **REFERENCES**

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Cardno Lawson Treloar (2006a): Steelworks Co-Generation Plant (SCP). Proposed Saltwater Cooling, Numerical Cooling Water Studies. Report (LJ2375/R2257) Prepared for BlueScope Steel Limited.

Cardno Lawson Treloar (2006b): Numerical Modelling of Cooling Water Field – Plankton Fatality and Flushing Issues. (LJ2375/L9920) Prepared for BlueScope Steel Limited September 2006.



# FIGURES

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- Figure 5.10 Water Level and Current Time Series (Depth-Averaged) Location (45, 68)
- Figure 6.1 Indicative Water Temperature Sampling Locations

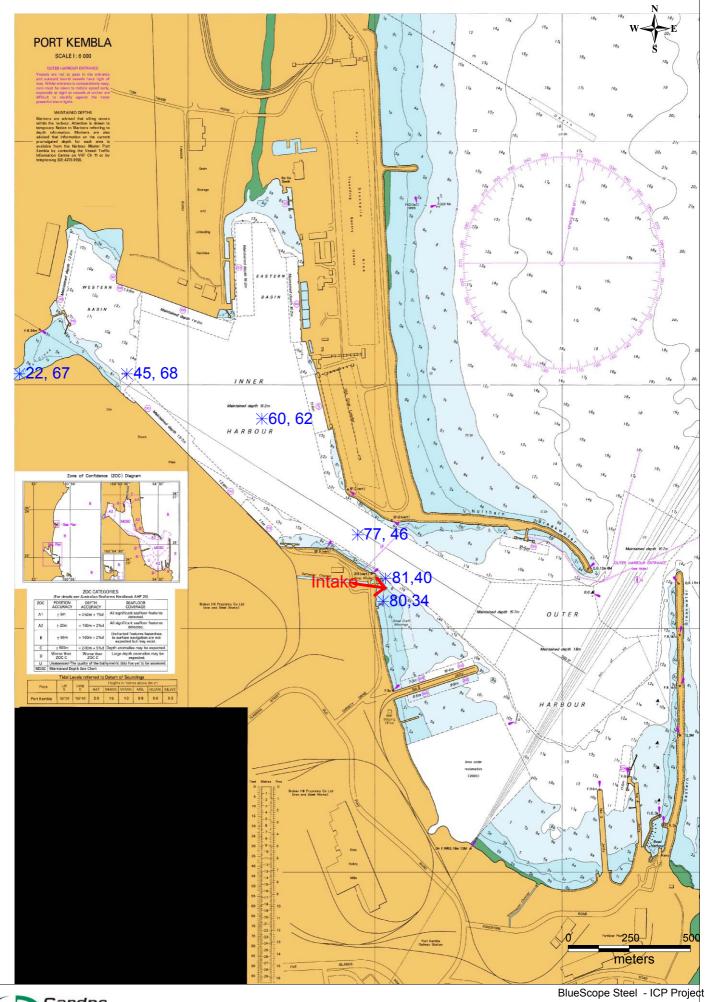




BlueScope Steel - ICP Project LOCALITY PLAN

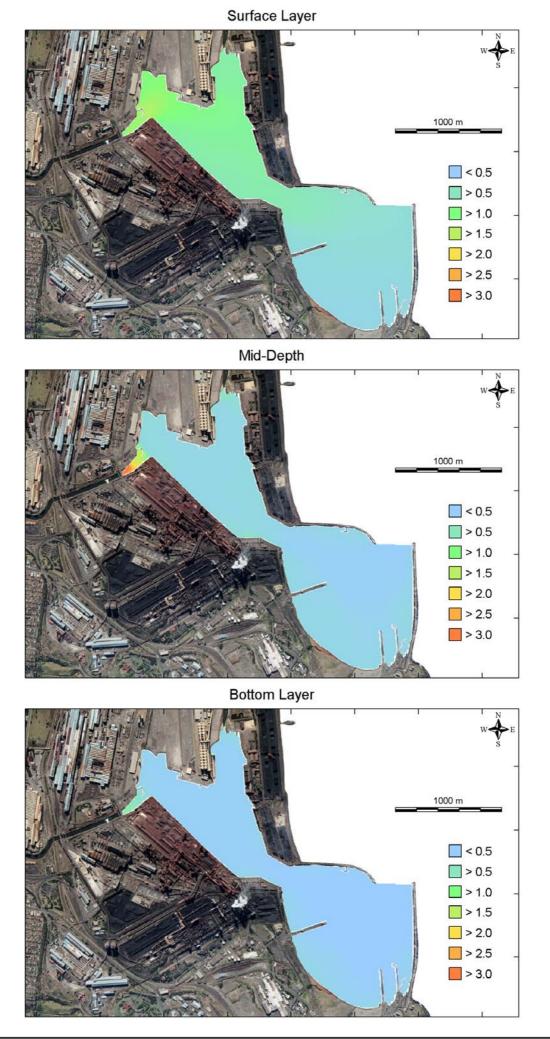
Figure 1.1





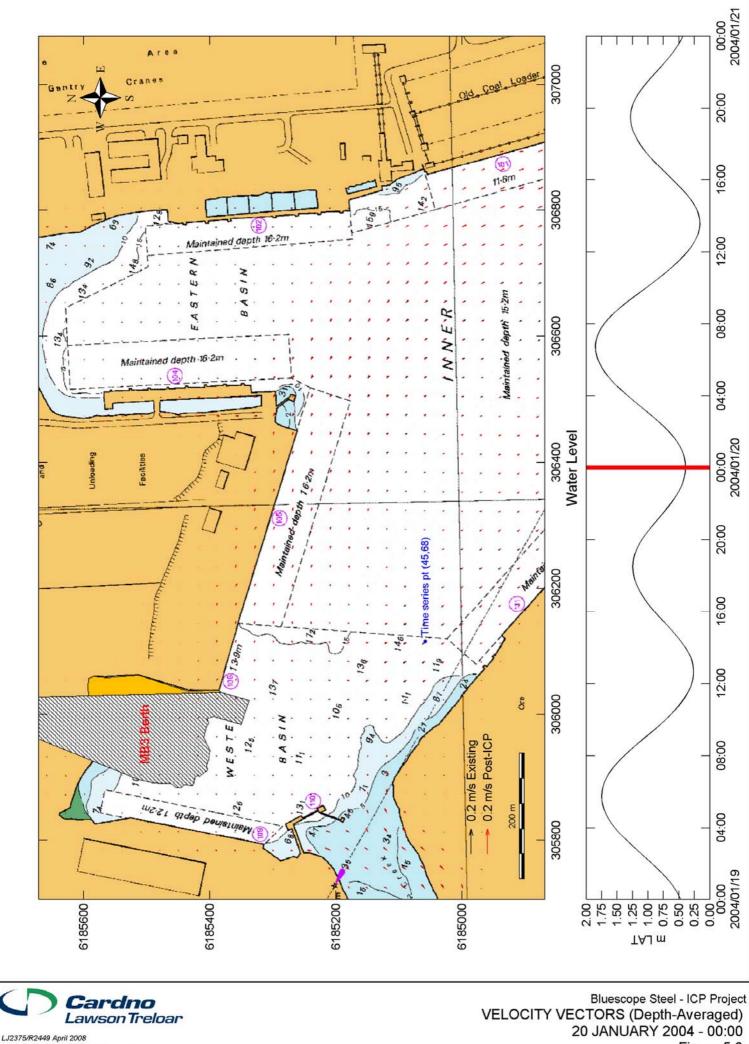
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DELFT3D TIME SERIES OUTPUT LOCATIONS (AUS195 - Aust. Hydrographic Service) Figure 5.1

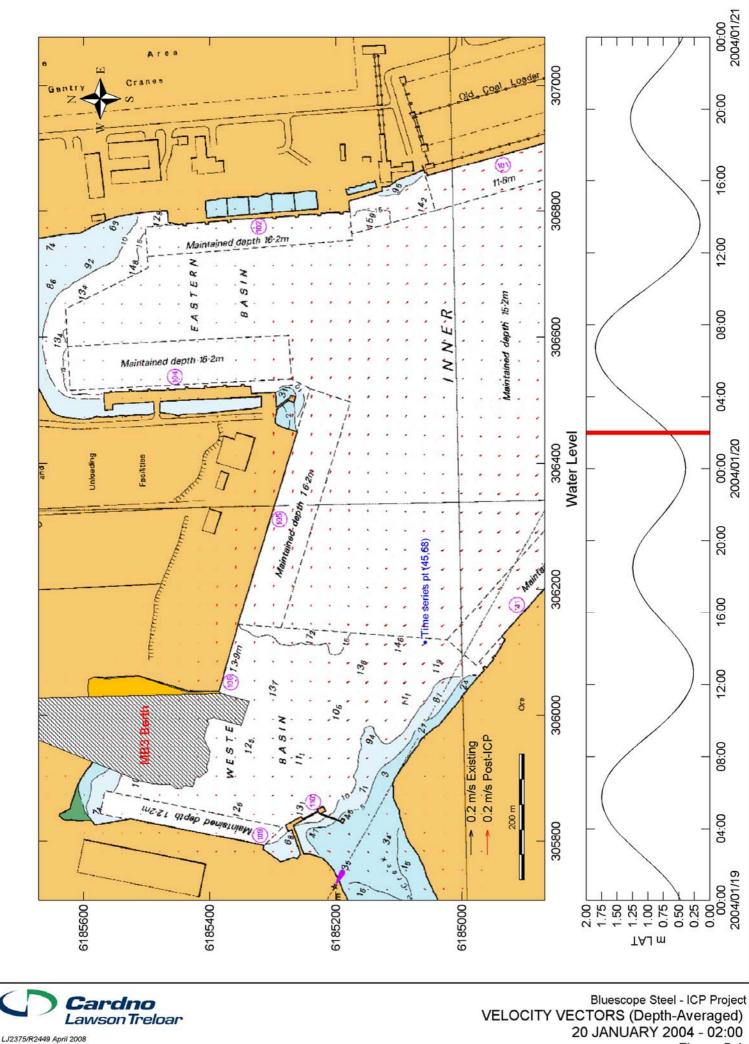




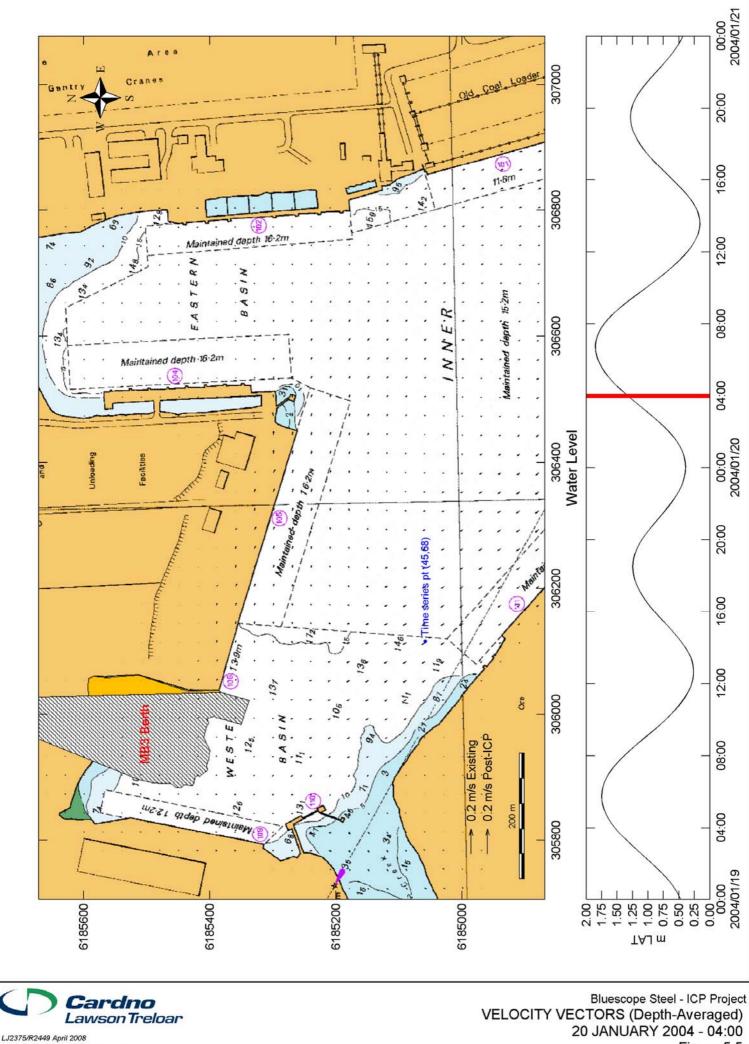
Bluescope Steel - ICP Project AVERAGE CHANGE IN WATER TEMPERATURE PEAK SUMMER LOAD CONDITIONS Figure 5.2



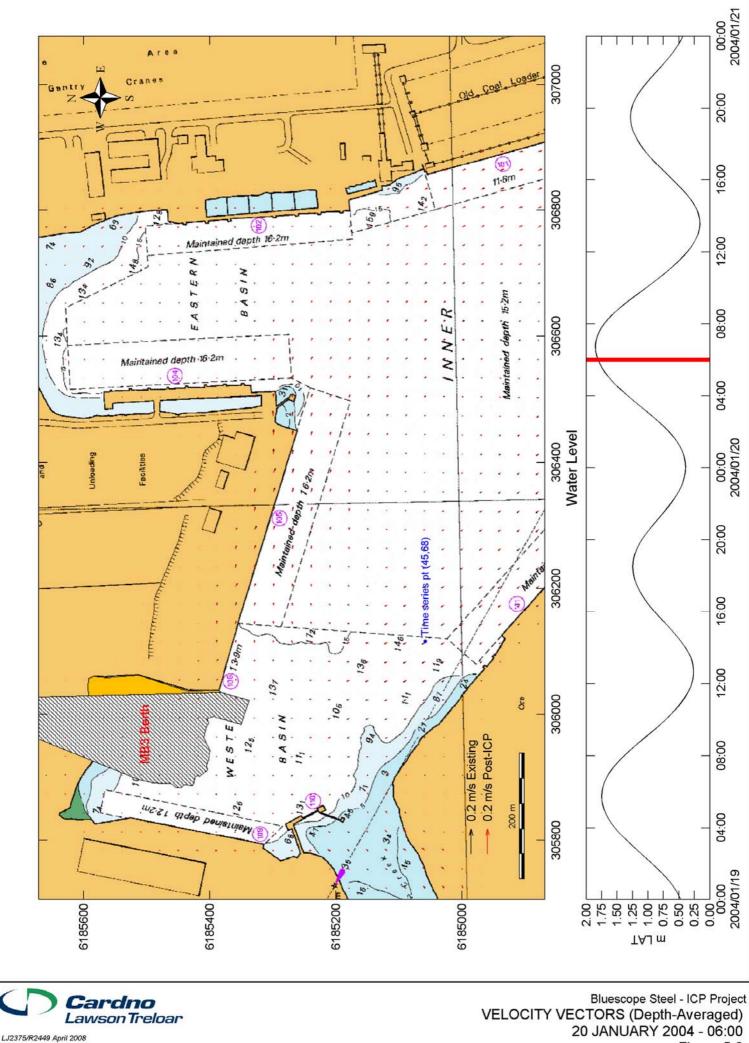
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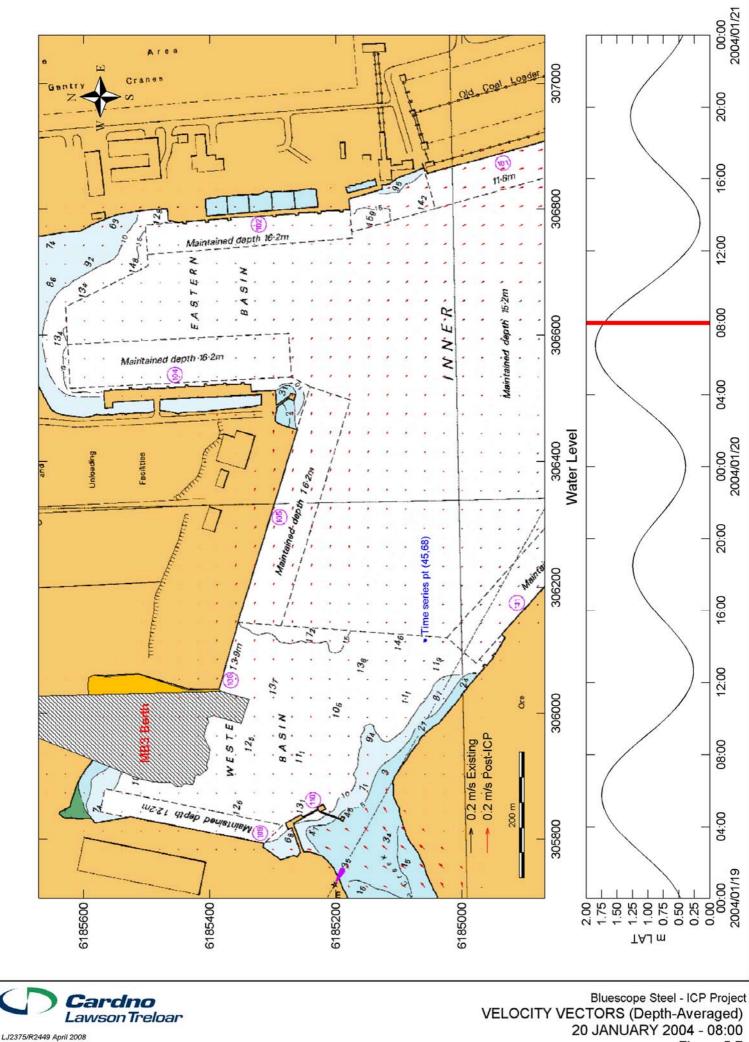
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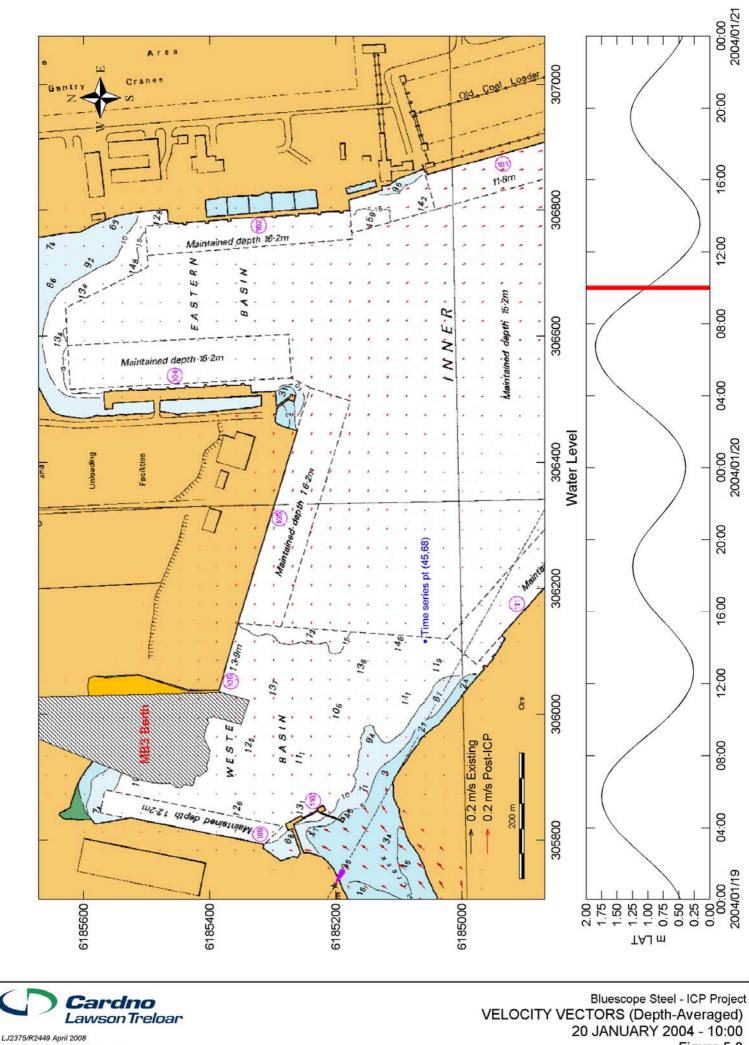
LJ2375/R2449 April 2008 J:/CM/J2375/Figures/R2449/Figure5.5.png



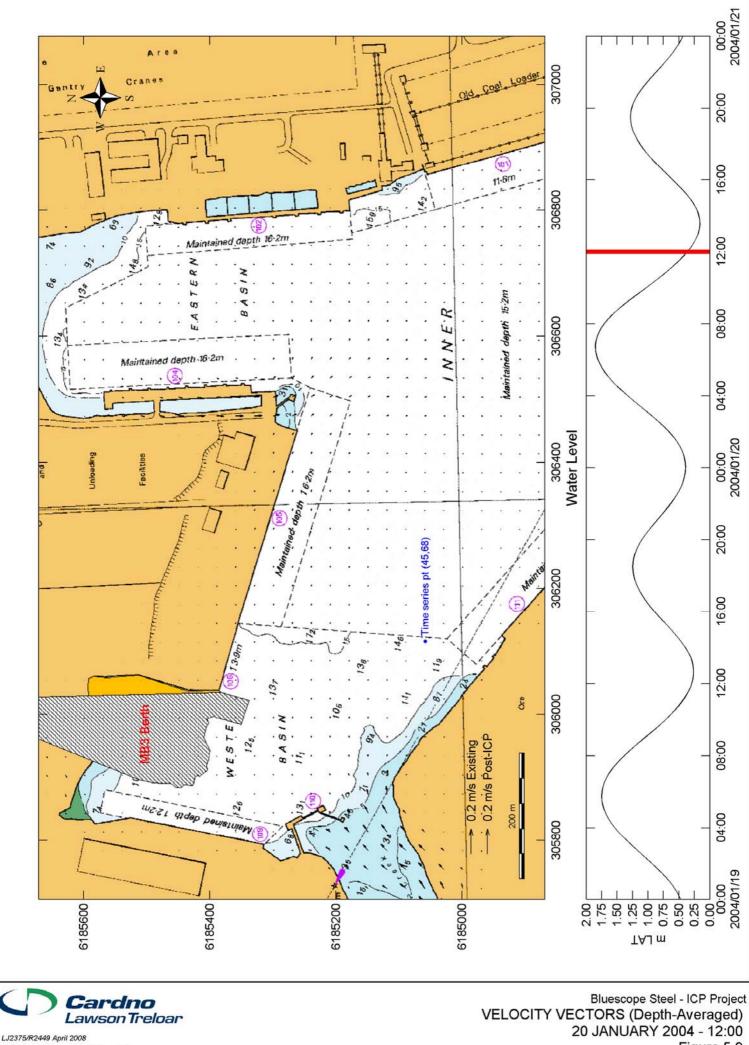
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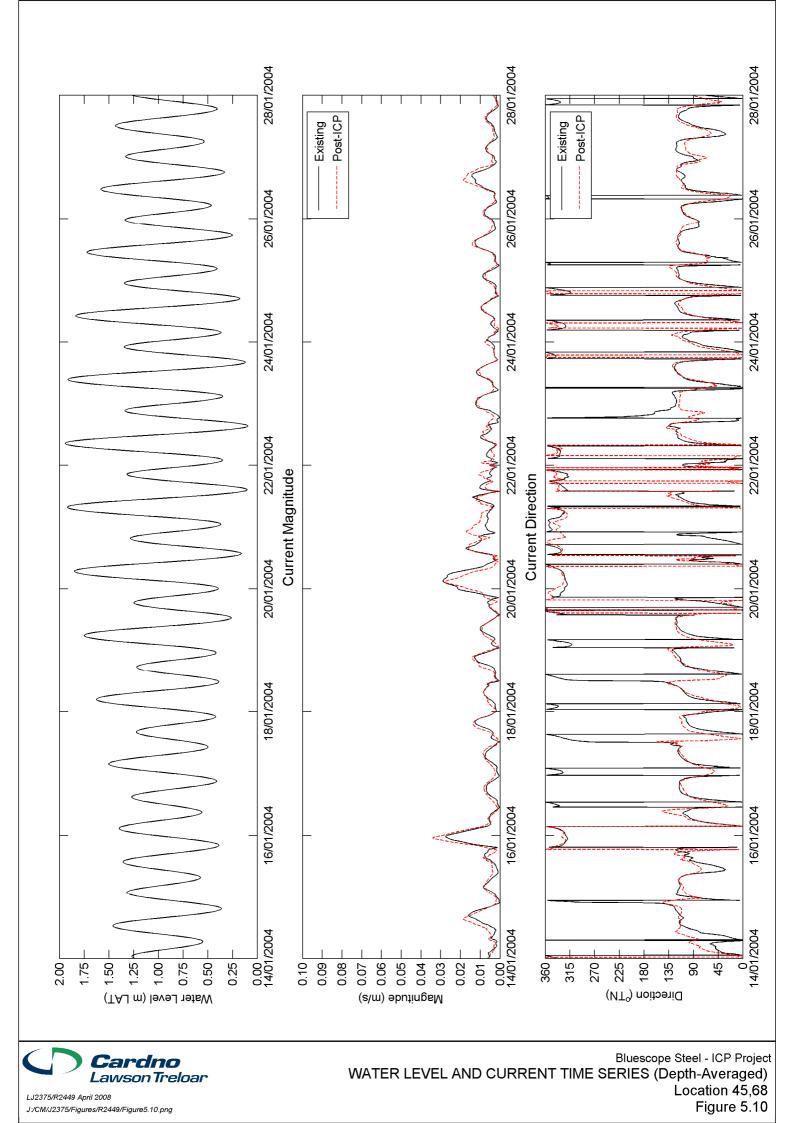
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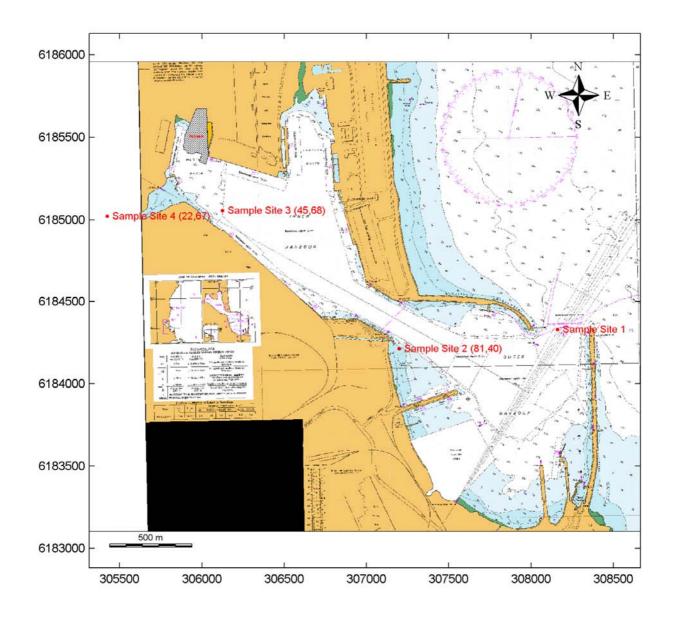


J:/CM/J2375/Figure/R2449/Figure5.8.png



J:/CM/J2375/Figures/R2449/Figure5.9.png







LJ2375/R2449 April 2008 J:/CM/J2375/Figure5.s/R2449/Figure6.1.png

Figure 6.1



# **APPENDIX A**

## Port Kembla MPB Expansion and Dredging Plans – Provided by CH2M HILL

