Ashland Lakefront Sediment Remediation

What is a Wet Dredge?

Wet dredging is a process by which sediments are removed from under a body of water, with a dredge barge and an attached closable environmental hydraulic bucket with secure lips. The bucket removes sediment and discharges it to a sealed container on the barge, from which it is subsequently de-watered and treated or disposed.

Wet dredging technology has evolved over the past two decades and today uses state-of-the-art environmental controls and GPS technology to provide for precise removal of contaminated sediments.

Wet dredging is a proven remedial technology that has been used at a number of sediment sites around the country where similar contaminants and conditions are present.

NSP-Wisconsin has offered to perform a wet dredge following standard industry practices with reasonable performance standards to measure its success.

Substantial precedent exists for using wet dredging technology to remediate contaminated sediments.

Compared to a dry dredge, wet dredging is:

- Equally protective of the environment and can be completed faster and more cost-effectively
- Less disruptive to the public and local businesses, has fewer risks to safety and human health
- Significantly less costly
- The predominant sediment management technology at moderate-sized to large sediment sites around the county, including the Great Lakes

Any wet dredging remedy must be implementable and should be consistent with nationally-recognized best practices.

Environmental engineering controls such as turbidity silt curtains are highly effective means to contain and control dispersal of contaminants during wet dredging.

Wet dredging, coupled with engineering controls and GPS technology, is a proven remedy for addressing contaminated sediments in the Great Lakes.