Harbor Plan Dredging (after dredging)

Periodic dredging of Wellfleet Harbor is crucial maintain it’s viability . A navigable harbor is essential for numerous economic and recreational reasons including the marina, commercial fishing, aquaculture, tourism, boating safety (and others )

Dredging spoils have traditionally been deposited in deep water well away from the harbor. This has been seen to be the most efficient, economical , and presumably the safest way of dealing with the dredged material.

Other communities have utilized spoils in other ways;

The Town of Truro uses dredged material from Payomet Harbor to replenish the Town Beach erosion.

There are potential options for using spoils for marsh replenishment.

Thin Layer Placement of dredged material , a system of spraying a slurry of dredged material over land , has been used to restore marshland in a number of southern and Atlantic Coast states. Extensive review of the current status of this method is available in Army Corps o Engineering websites.

“Black Mayonnaise” A recent analysis of this material was done by the CCS . No toxic organic or inorganic ingredients were found so that it is possible that some of this material could be used for beach or marsh replenishment.

In the future measures directed at reducing the need for further extensive dredging are being looked at including revising infrastructure such as the old railroad bridge and the pier itself. Maintenance dredging is a consideration with a Town owned or shared dredge

Recommendations;

Provide a grant to study feasibility of using dredge spoils from Wellfleet harbor to replenish marsh erosion, either directly or by using Thin Layer Placement.

Review Center For Coastal Studies analysis of black mayonnaise and fund ongoing research of it’s recurrence.

CCS presentation of final report to a Wellfleet Forum or as part of State of the Harbor Conference.

Work with CCS, APCC, in evaluating potential cost/ benefit of removing the old railroad bridge and other infrastructure modifications.

work with dredge task force in reviewing feasibility of maintenance dredging, including possible purchase or sharing of a dredge.