New Edition of ‘Environmental Aspects of Dredging’

Brief review

The book commences with a look at the many people or “players” who become involved in the development of a dredging project and it considers their various perspectives.

Chapter 2 promotes a systematic approach to this process, and in so doing attempts to shed more light on the roles of various interested parties. Those involved in the contractual, planning and legal aspects of starting up dredging programmes may find it particularly useful.

Chapter 3 is the operational control centre of the entire book. It is intended to give the reader a “blow by blow” account of how to go about characterising the environmental attributes of a site, defining the project to be executed, and discovering and ranking the potential benefits and shortcomings of any proposed construction works. This chapter also points the reader to specific locations in the book where more detailed information is available.

Chapter 4 offers an in-depth description of how a project may influence a particular environmental regime. This is essentially how the finished works will affect the environment over the short and long term. Here, as in other parts of the book, environment means the whole spectrum of natural and human regimes and activities.

Chapters 5, 6 and 7 are support chapters. They cover matters that may be running in parallel within the overall environmental and project development processes. Chapter 5 presents matters relating to the collection of data and its interpretation. Chapter 6 describes the main dredger types and explores their environmental effects, mitigating measures that may be taken to make them less intrusive, and specialised machines that have been devised to work in sensitive areas. Chapter 7 describes the various uses for dredged material as well as the processes for determining the optimum methods for managing dredged material.

Chapter 8 explains monitoring methods and processes. These may be either to establish baseline conditions on a site or to monitor the impacts of projects or dredging activities on the local environment and apply controls as appropriate.

Finally, Chapter 9 looks to the future and discusses some of the more philosophical aspects of environmental assessment and evaluation.

In the Annexes information will be found about typical legislative conditions and controls imposed by international conventions and regional and national agencies around the world for the placement of dredged material, both in the sea and on land. Further additional Annexes cover case histories, general descriptions of environmental regimes and describe dredged material properties in detail.