

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As a result of urgent requirements for dredging of small harbors in the western portions of Long Island Sound, a dredged material disposal site was designated by the New England Division of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at 40 degrees 59.34'N, 73 degrees 29.21'W (Fig. 1.0-1). This point and the surrounding area, known as the western Long Island Sound III (WLIS III) disposal site was studied extensively during preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, including field observations conducted by the DAMOS program during January, 1982 (DAMOS Contribution #19).

The disposal point was marked with a taut-wire moored buoy in March, 1982 and has since been used for disposal of sediment from several projects as shown in Table 1.0-1. Two major periods of disposal have occurred, the first from March through May, 1982, and the second from December, 1982 through the winter of 82-83.

An interim survey was made during April, 1982, to insure that operational procedures were effective in developing a mound at the disposal site. The results of this survey were presented in DAMOS Contribution #18.

A more detailed survey of the area, using precision navigation control was made in August, 1982, which included replication of the baseline hydrographic and sediment chemistry surveys as well as diver observations of the disposed dredged material surface conditions. A similar survey was conducted in January, 1983, however, the diver observations were replaced by a REMOTS camera survey which photographed the sediment-water interface.

The purpose of this report is to document the information acquired during the August, 1982 and January, 1983 surveys for comparison with baseline data and evaluation of environmental impacts resulting from the disposal operation.