Monitor the effects of dredging on physical processes and particle transport in the water column and at the seabed (mudflats and gullies) is currently very limited. Through a combination of measurements from observation masts, ships, in and near harbours, and with models, current efforts aim to identify how effects of dredging and slurry deposition on the Wadden Sea can be better defined. This applies to both regular dredging activities and experimental re-use of dredged material.

Core
Shipping routes and harbours in the Wadden Sea are dredged to maintain required depths. The dredged material is deposited at designated sites, which are determined according to natural changes, proximity to vulnerable habitats and progressive insight. Little is known about the impact of dredging and deposition of dredged slurry on the sediment budget and the turbidity of the Wadden Sea. There is increasing interest in the re-use of dredged material, including for the restoration of salt marshes.

Approach
Monitoring of the effects of dredging on physical processes and on particle transport in the water column and at the seabed (mudflats and gullies) is currently very limited. Through a combination of measurements from observation masts, ships, in and near harbours, and with models, current efforts aim to identify how effects of dredging and slurry deposition on the Wadden Sea can be better defined. This applies to both regular dredging activities and experimental re-use of dredged material.

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