

# Controlling Sources to Portland Harbor

A watershed approach to addressing  
upstream toxics

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# DEQ Cleanup= Source Control

- Been at work on SC for over 15 years
- Addressing sources and sediment cleanup upstream of the Site since the 80's.



# Challenge: ambient toxics and recontamination

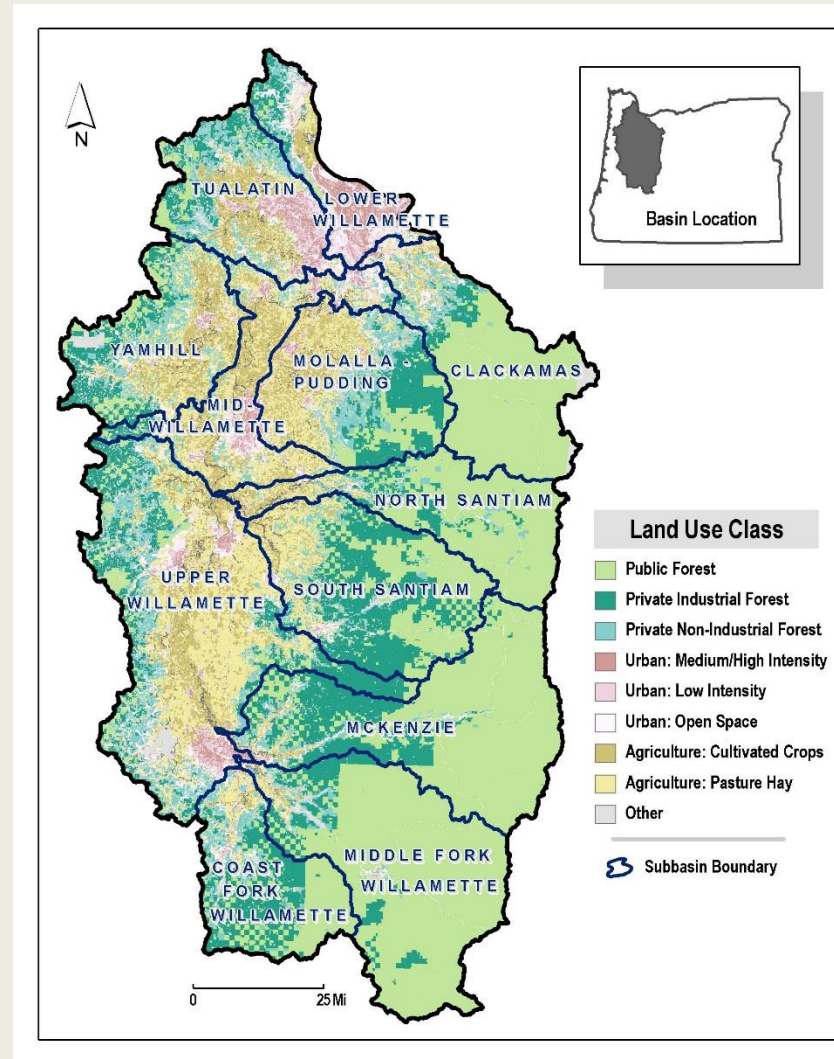
- Cleanup actions typically cleanup to “background”
- What if “background” risks are unacceptable?
- What about toxics that the ROD doesn’t address?





# Tools to achieve the ROD Goals

- In-water sediment cleanup in PH
- PH upland source control
- Ongoing Downtown Reach investigation and cleanups
- Upriver sources: Address through watershed strategy



# Willamette Watershed Toxics Reduction Partnership

- Identified in PH ROD
- A collaborative effort between EPA and DEQ, Tribal nations, interested agencies and stakeholders
- Goals:
  - Compile existing data;
  - Assess existing efforts and data gaps;
  - Recommend new efforts and strategies to reduce toxics in the watershed coming into Portland Harbor



# What do we already know?

- Ongoing monitoring info
- Known contamination sources and sites
- Many sources available
- No one data base covers it all



# But first, what are we already doing?

- WQ standards
- Permits
- TMDLs
- Agency Toxics Reduction Strategy, pollution prevention
- Collaborations with other agencies and stakeholders
- Measures by other state agencies



## Columbia Boulevard Wastewater Treatment Plant

### 3. Treatment

The runoff and sewage from the westside, eastside and Columbia Slough pipes are treated and discharged into the Columbia River.

Columbia Slough pipe  
(Completed in 2000)

### 2. Pumping

They're then pumped to a wastewater treatment plant.

### 1. Collection

Runoff and sewage collect in the westside and east-side Big Pipes and flow to a pumping station.

## Portland's combined-sewer system

Portland is two years from finishing its "Big Pipe" project. It will redirect 5 billion gallons a year of combined sewer and stormwater flows to the Columbia Boulevard Wastewater Treatment Plant instead of spilling it into the Willamette River and Columbia Slough.

West Side Big Pipe  
(Completed in 2006)

East Side Big Pipe  
(To be completed in 2011)

DOWNTOWN





**MIND THE GAP**





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# Questions?

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- Other DEQ team members: Andrea Matzke, Alex Liverman, Kevin Masterson

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