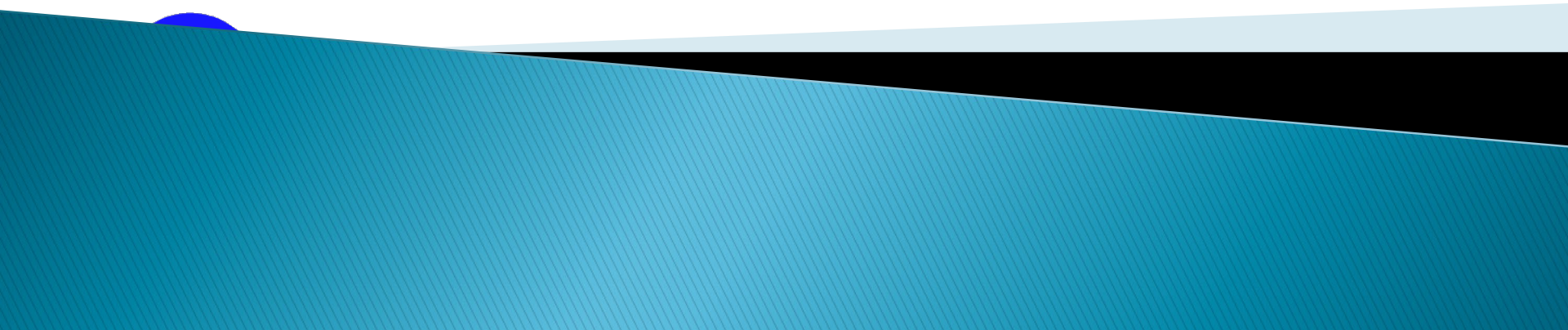


Lower Neponset River Site Boston/Milton, MA

October 5, 2021



Topics for Discussion

- ▶ Introduction
- ▶ MassDEP – Request for EPA Involvement
- ▶ Area of Interest
- ▶ National Priorities List (NPL)
- ▶ Overview of Superfund Process
- ▶ Timeline of Activities
- ▶ Outreach



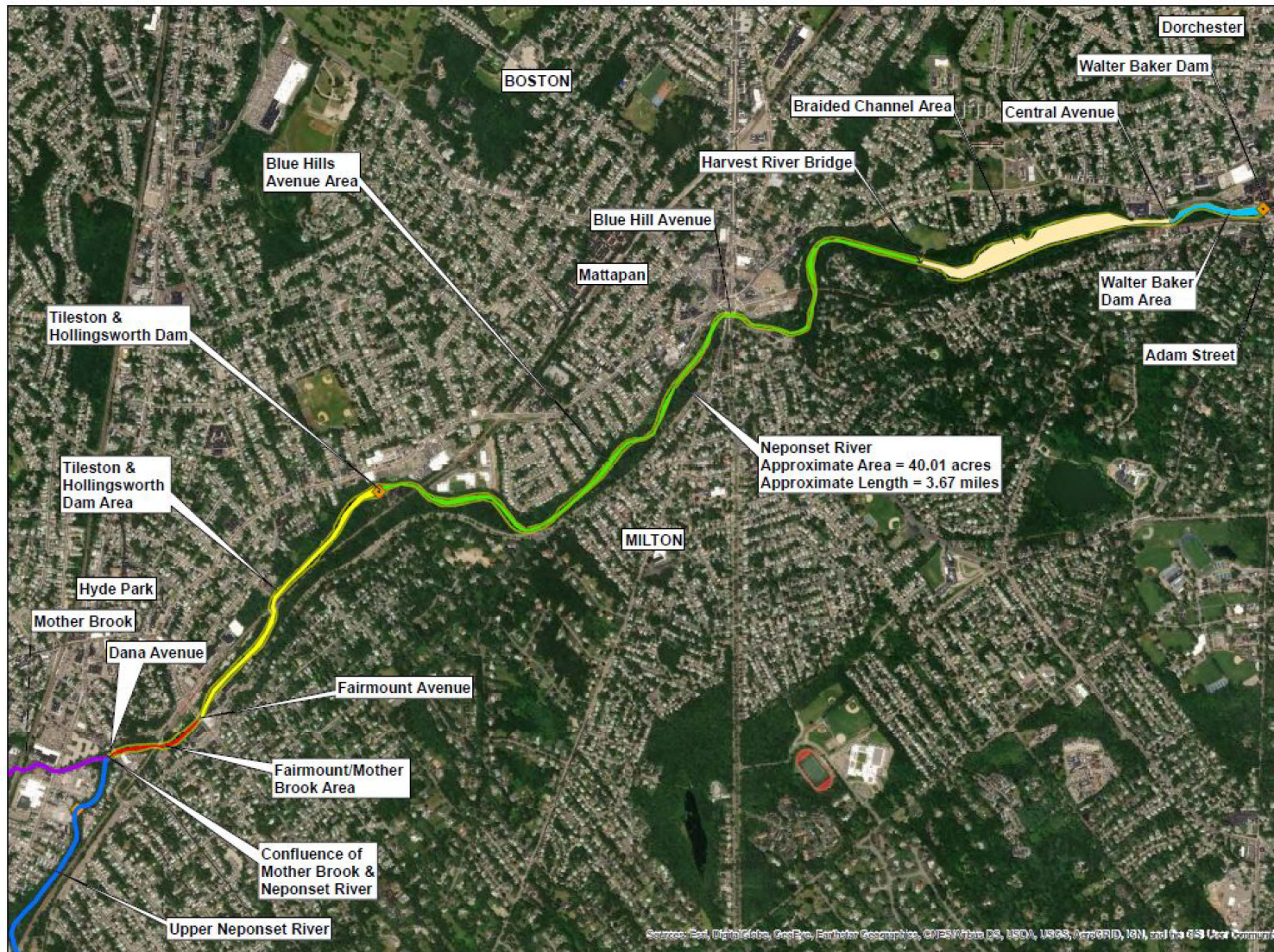


Figure 2

Site Map

Lower Neponset River PCBs
Boston/Milton, Massachusetts

EPA Region I
Superfund Technical Assessment and
Response Team (START) IV
Contract No. EP-S3-15-01

TDD Number: TO1-01-16-06-0009
Created by: B. Mace
Created on: 3 April 2017
Modified by: B. Mace
Modified on: 18 April 2019

LEGEND

- Approx. Site Boundary
- Upper Neponset River
- Mother Brook to Charles
- Dams
- Walter Baker Dam Area
- Braided Channel Area
- Blue Hills Avenue Area
- Tileston & Hollingsworth Dam Area
- Fairmount/Mother Brook Area



Data Sources:

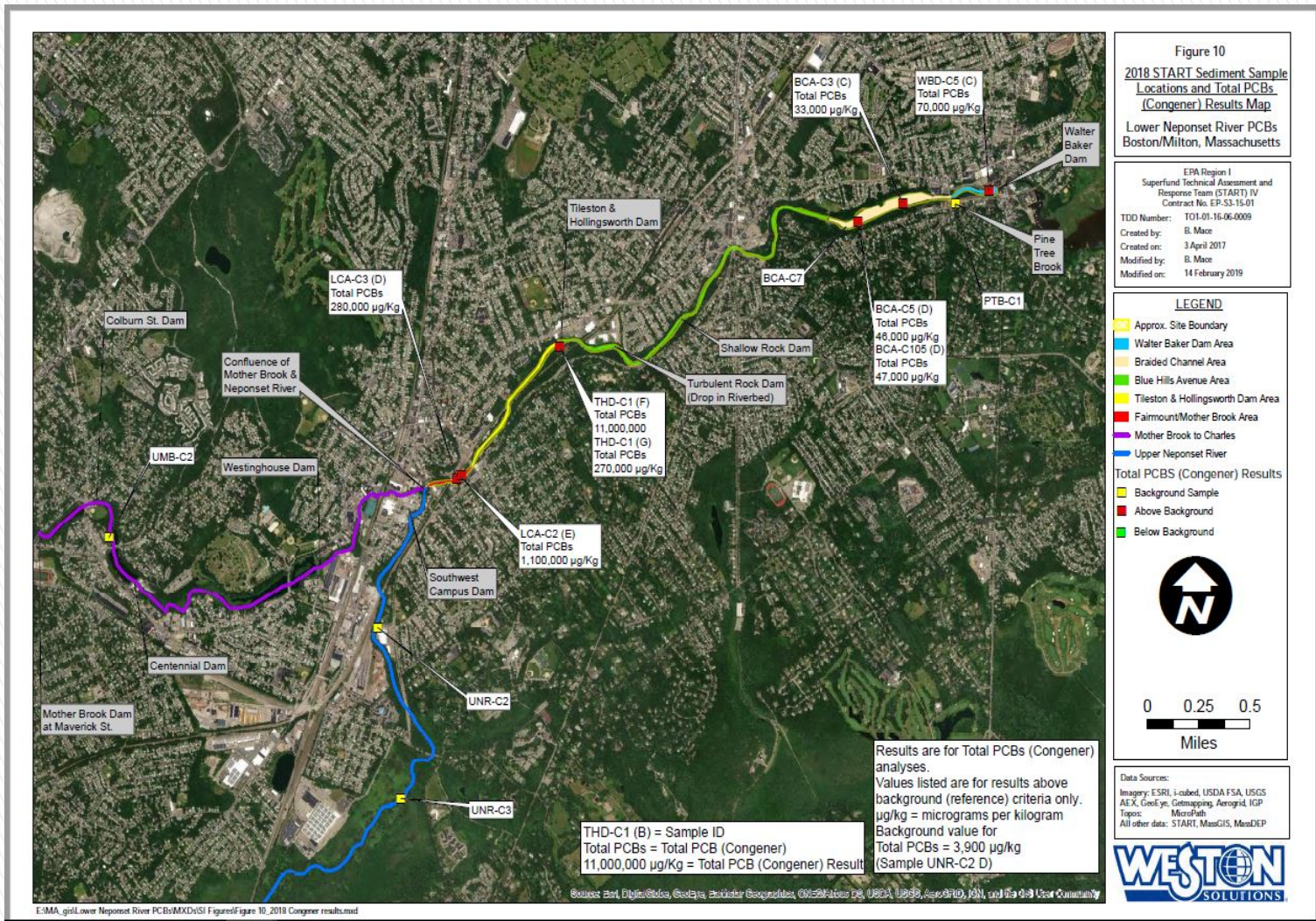
Imagery: ESRI, i-cubed, USDA FSA, USGS
AEX, GeoEye, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGP
Topos: MicroPath
All other data: START, MassGIS, MassDEP
USGS



Studies / Evaluations

- ▶ Extensive USGS sampling - 2002-2006
- ▶ MassDEP work _ Oversight/evaluation of various studies and remediation of Mother Brook.
- ▶ EPA
 - Limited sampling to confirm previous results November 2017 and September 2018
 - Preliminary Assessment - August 2018
 - Site Inspection - April 2019
 - Hazard Ranking System Package - July 2021





PCB Concentrations in Sediment



What is the National Priorities List (NPL)?

- ▶ National list of sites that EPA determines require further detailed investigation, and potential cleanup action in accordance with CERCLA*.
- ▶ Investigations at NPL sites determine whether long-term threats to human health & environment exist.
- ▶ Where needed, comprehensive strategy to address threats is implemented.

*CERCLA = Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act
(Often referred to as Superfund)



Why Add A Site To NPL?

- ▶ Sites on NPL subject of detailed investigation, and cleanup where warranted.
- ▶ Only sites on the NPL are eligible to receive federal Superfund resources for comprehensive cleanup.
- ▶ Federal resources can include monetary support, as well as expertise/staffing.
- ▶ Absent the use of federal resources, comprehensive cleanup strategies may not be able to be pursued.



How is a Site Added to the NPL?

- ▶ Sites added to NPL through federal rulemaking.
- ▶ Requires letter of concurrence from Governor.
- ▶ Site is first proposed to the NPL.
- ▶ 60-day public comment period.
- ▶ Site finalized to NPL, upon consideration of public comments received.



The Superfund Process: Discovery and Cleanup for a Long-Term Site



Lower Neponset River

- Timeline for NPL

- ▶ Hazard Ranking System (HRS) package - July 2021
- ▶ Letter of concurrence from Governor - June 2021
- ▶ Propose site to NPL - September 9, 2021
- ▶ 60-day public comment period - Sept. 9 - Nov. 8, 2021
- ▶ Finalize site to NPL - 2022 (dependent on public comments).



Outreach

- ▶ Meetings held to date:
 - City of Boston/Town of Milton
 - March 2017
 - April 2017 (Boston only)
 - Milton Conservation Commission public mtg April 2017
 - November 2019
 - Federal legislative delegation briefing – Dec. 2019
 - State legislative delegation briefing – Feb. 2020
 - Boston City Council member briefing – Feb. 2020
 - EPA sponsored public informational meeting Mattapan – Feb. 24, 2020
 - EPA/MassDEP presentation at Milton BOS meeting – Feb. 26, 2020



Next Steps

- ▶ What happens after NPL Proposal?
 - EPA will initiate a Potentially Responsible Party (PRP) search effort.
 - Goal of PRP search is to identify parties that may have contributed to contamination.
 - PRPs are generally given the opportunity to:
 - Perform work or;
 - EPA may perform work and seek to recover costs.
 - The above work is completed before further investigation of the nature and extent of contamination begins.
 - EPA will coordinate with the impacted communities to develop a plan for outreach and engagement at the site.



Comment Period

- 60-day public comment period on NPL proposal information
 - September 9 – November 8, 2021
- Comments must be submitted electronically or postmarked by November 8, 2021
- Electronic comments:
 - <http://www.regulations.gov>
 - Docket number EPA-HQ-OLEM-2021-0457
- Written comments:
 - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
 - EPA Docket Center, Superfund Docket
 - Mail Code 28221T
 - 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
 - Washington, DC 20460

