

The session will begin promptly at 6:30pm. Please look at the maps & materials before the session begins.

Thank you!

Updates for the Portland Harbor Superfund Site

EPA Community Information Session

Facilitated by Kay Morrison, EPA R10

St. Johns Community Center in Portland, OR

January 10, 2018

Karl Gustavson, EPA HQ Contaminated Sediments Expert

Sean Sheldrake, EPA R10 Remedial Project Manager

Laura Knudsen, EPA R10 Community Involvement Coordinator

Technical Coordinating Team (TCT)

- **Formed in 2001 per a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with EPA**
- **Consists of EPA and the Following Members:**
 - Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ)
 - Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation
 - Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon
 - Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians
 - Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
 - Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon
 - the Nez Perce Tribe
 - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
 - Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
 - U.S. Department of Interior



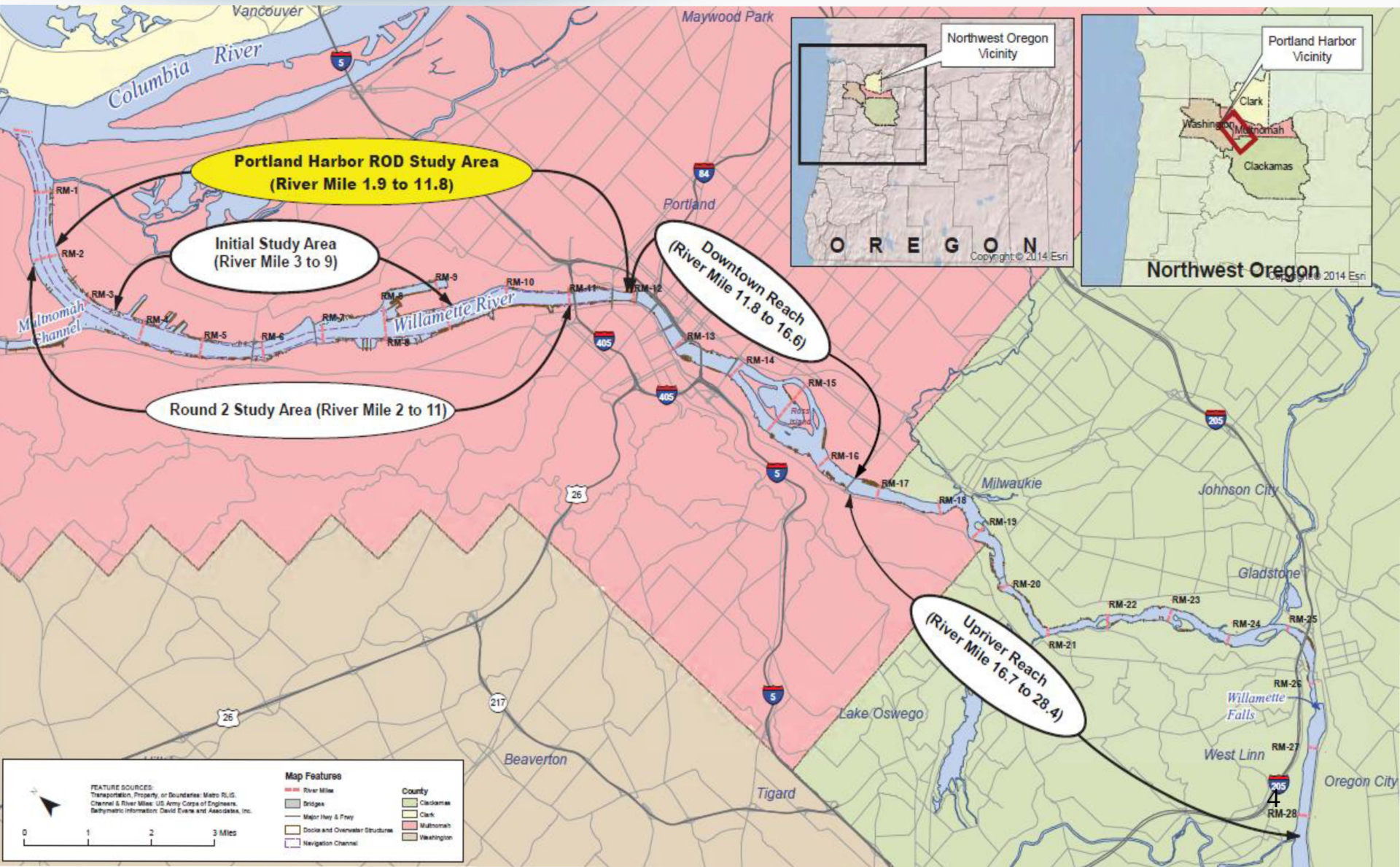
Session Agenda



- **Brief Site Overview** - *Sean Sheldrake*
- **Final Site-Wide Baseline Sampling Plan** - *Karl Gustavson*
 - Brief Q&A Session will follow *Laura Knudsen*
- **Early Action Priority Area Updates** - *Sean Sheldrake*
 - Brief Q&A Session will follow
- **Community Involvement Updates** – *Laura Knudsen*
- **Question and Answer Session** - *Kay Morrison*
- **Conclusion and Wrap-Up** - *Kay Morrison*

Please *hold your questions* until the Q&A Sessions.
Thank You!

Site Location & Brief History



Overall Site Progress



2000

2010

2011

2015

Jun 2016 - Jan 2017

Dec 2017

There Is A Problem

Portland Harbor Listed as Superfund Site (2000)

Sampling, Analysis, Early Actions, Uplands Cleanup (2000-Present (?))

What and where are the risks?

Remedial Investigation and Risk Assessment

Human Health & Ecological Risk Assessments

How could it be cleaned up?

Feasibility Study

EPA's Proposed Clean-up Plan

Proposal for formal public comment

**Tribal Consultations
*Formal Public Comment Period**

Final Decision: How to Clean it Up

EPA's Record of Decision (ROD)

Pre-Remedial and Remedial Design

We are here



Overview of Final Site-Wide Baseline Sampling Plan (Signed December 2017)

- **History** of the development of the agreement
- **Overall Goals** of the agreement
- **Technical Overview** of the sampling work in the agreement
 - Includes key differences from EPA's original draft sampling plan
- **Other Components** of the agreement
 - Community involvement
 - Cost considerations
 - Contractor selection
 - Overview of enforcement and accountability
 - Data management



Source: U.S. EPA

- **EPA draft sampling plan** *(June 2017)*
 - EPA worked with the Technical Coordinating Team (TCT) on the plan
 - EPA Community Info. Session on Draft Sampling Plan (6/17/2017)
- **Discussion between EPA and PRPs interested in performing baseline sampling work** *(June 2017)*
 - Discussed EPA draft sampling plan and EPA's goals for the baseline sampling effort
- **Negotiations between Pre-RD Group and EPA** *(July – Dec. 2017)*
 - EPA consulted the Technical Coordinating Team (TCT)
- **Signature of agreement** *(December 2017)*
 - The Pre-RD Group (**Arkema Inc., Evraz Inc. NA, Schnitzer Steel Industries, Inc., The Marine Group LLC**) and EPA signed agreement
 - Final agreement is available at: www.epa.gov/superfund/portland-harbor

Overall Goals



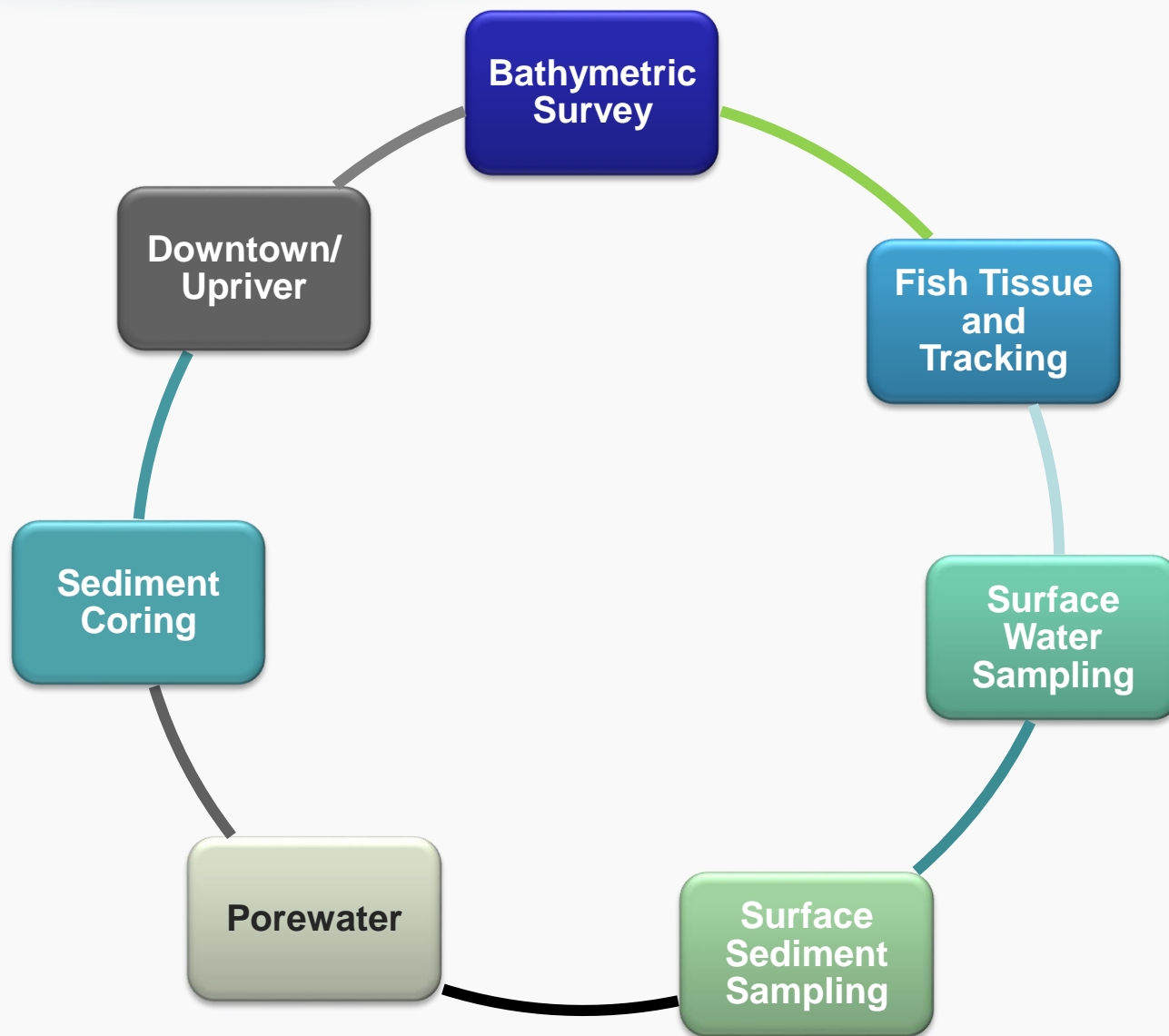
Main Goals of the Agreement:

- Update existing site-wide data
- Gather data to be used as part of future long-term monitoring
- Inform certain analysis regarding scope and extent of remedial actions
- Refine sediment management areas (SMAs)
- Collect data to facilitate completion of third-party allocation

Other Aspects of the Agreement:

- Coordinate with technical coordinating team (TCT) partners to review and comment on deliverables
- Baseline sampling field work, analysis, and reports are anticipated to be complete by **October 2019**

Technical Overview



- What is a **bathymetric survey**?
 - Creating a picture of the riverbed and gathering information about the riverbed (all of the peaks and valleys)
- **Goals:**
 - Update water depths
 - Supports technology selection
 - Updates the Conceptual Site Model (understanding of how the system behaves)
 - Anticipated completion date is **to be determined**

Video

2002 Portland Harbor
Bathymetric Survey

Link: <https://youtu.be/sbnZ2oKz608>

Source: U.S. EPA

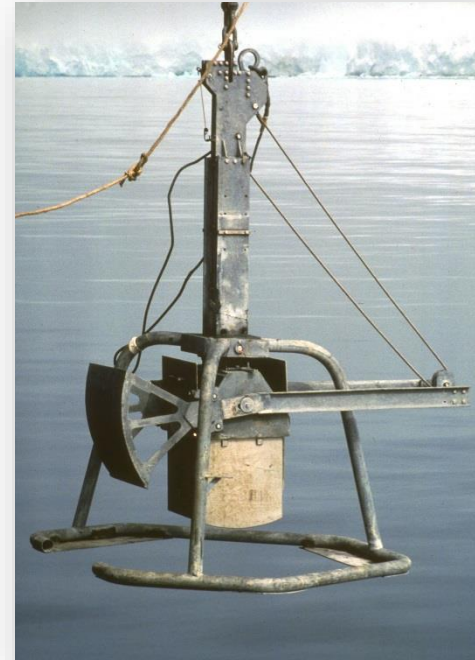
Key Differences From EPA's Draft Plan (June 2017):

- A Bathymetric Survey was not included

Surface Sediment Sampling



- What is **surface sediment**?
 - The uppermost layer of mud (or sediment) on the bottom of the river. For Portland Harbor, this is defined as the upper 12 inches of sediment.
- **Goals:**
 - Refine sediment management areas
 - 606 total samples will be taken
 - 428 random samples within the Site
 - 178 non-random samples at specific locations for SMA delineation
 - Anticipated schedule is **January 2018 – March 2018**

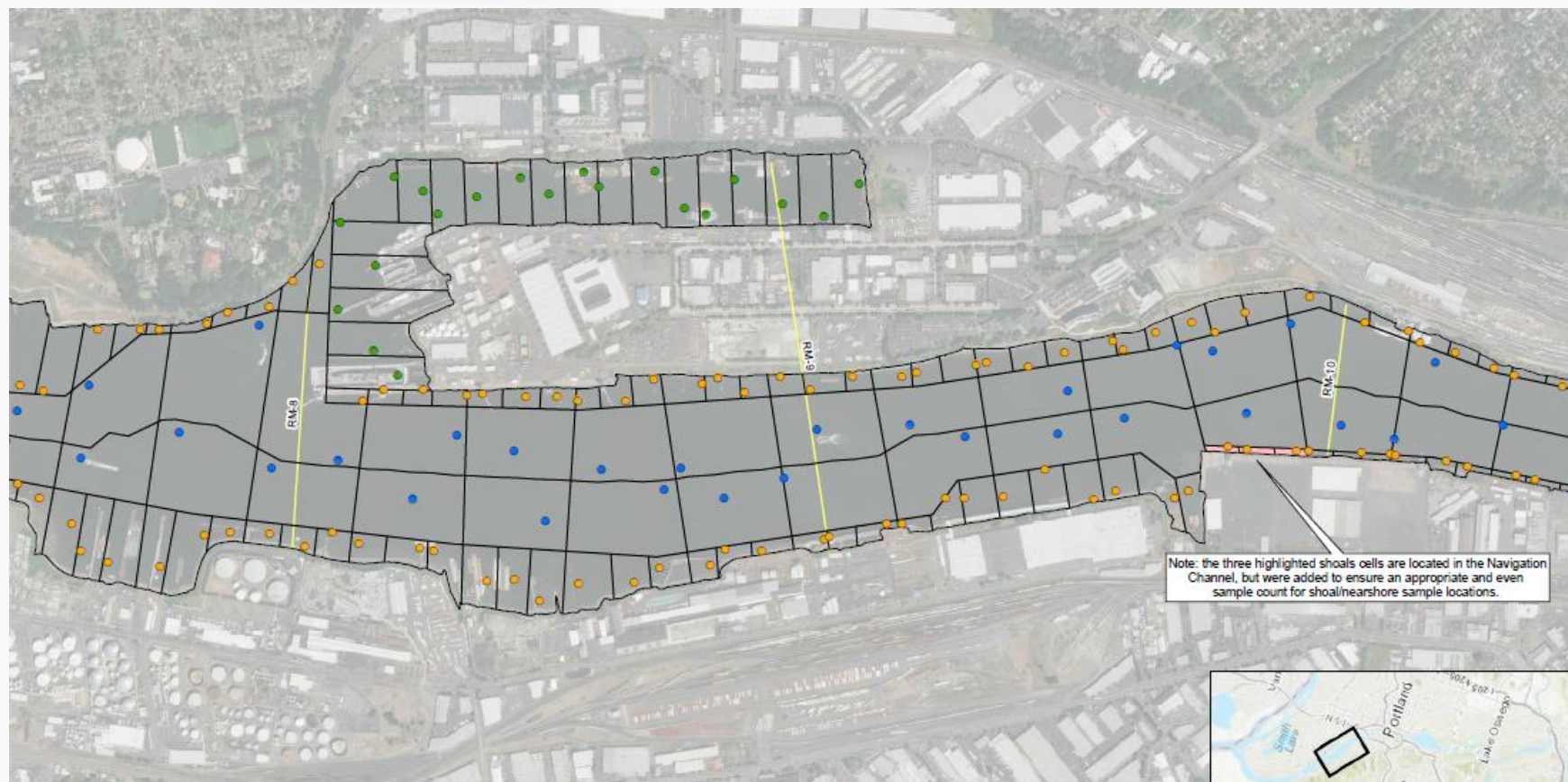


Surface Sediment Sampler
Source: Geosyntec

Key Differences From EPA's Draft Plan (June 2017):

- EPA had planned to fully determine sediment management areas (non-random samples); this current plan is a first phase.
- EPA's sample pattern for baseline sampling was different.

Surface Sediment Sampling Grid



Legend

- Navigation Channel Sample (100)
- Shoal Sample (300)
- Inlet Sample (28)
- Sample Grid Cell

Notes:
 1. Aerial Imagery provided by ESRI Basemaps 2017.
 2. Surface sediment samples are defined as the 0-30 cm depth.
 3. Sample locations placed using the ET Geowizard's "random points in polygons" algorithm (Spatial Techniques, <http://www.jan-klo.com/>).



Proposed 428-Grid Surface Sediment
Sampling Locations RM 8-10
Portland Harbor Superfund Site

Geosyntec
consultants

CDN OPS

25-Oct-2017

Figure

1d

Surface Water Sampling



Transect



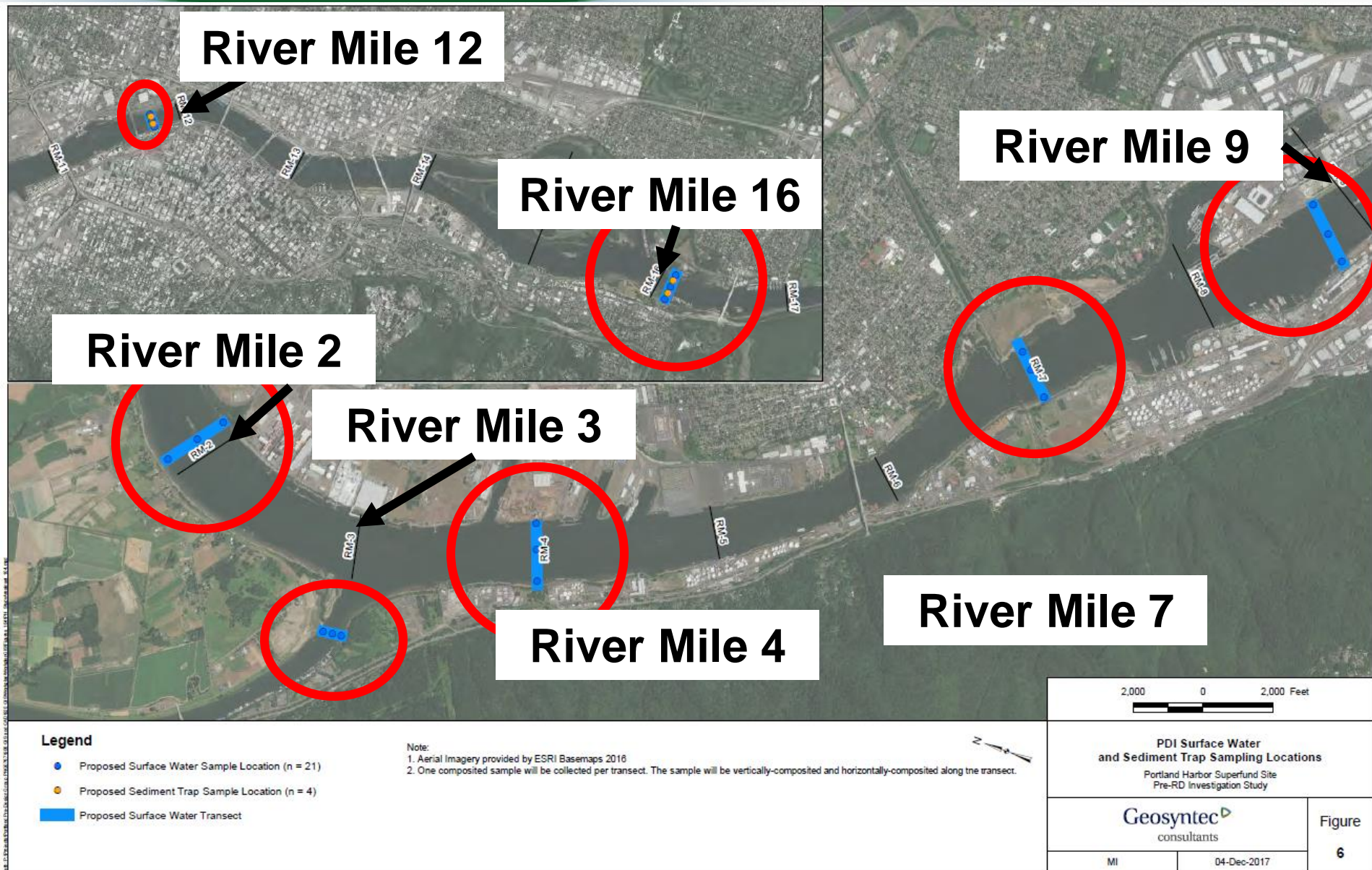
Proposed Sample Locations

- What is **surface water**?
 - River water (not porewater)
- What is a **transect**?
 - A pre-determined line across the river with water sampling stations
- **Goals of Surface Water Sampling:**
 - Provides baseline water contaminant concentrations to update risk & to understand the long-term performance of the remedy
 - Collect samples from **seven transects** (“lines”) three different times because of changing seasons
 - Expected to occur through **summer 2018**

Key Differences From EPA’s Draft Plan (June 2017):

- EPA proposal had fewer water sampling transects.

Surface Water Sample Locations



- **Goals of the Fish Tissue Sampling:**

- Establish baseline for smallmouth bass tissue contamination
- 95 smallmouth bass samples (whole body) will be taken within the Site
- Sampling anticipated to start in **late summer 2018**

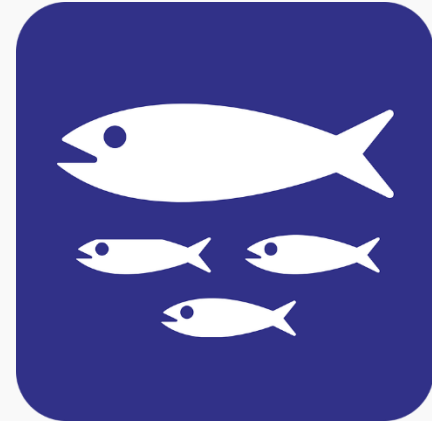


Smallmouth Bass
Source: Oregon Health Authority

Key Differences From EPA's Draft Plan (June 2017):

- EPA's draft plan included additional species for sampling:
 - **Resident Species:** Carp, crayfish, clams
 - **Migratory Species:** Chinook Salmon, Pacific Lamprey, White Sturgeon
 - **Osprey Eggs**

Fish Acoustic Tracking Study



- What is a **fish acoustic tracking study**?
 - Transmitters are implanted into fish that “ping” every few seconds. Receivers are placed in the river to record date, time, and location of the fish.
- What are the **goals of the fish acoustic tracking study**?
 - Gather information on the movement of **smallmouth bass** for one year
 - Better understand the areas where smallmouth bass are being exposed to contamination
 - Anticipated timeframe for the study is **early spring 2018** through **winter 2019**

Key Differences From EPA's Draft Plan (June 2017):

- Fish acoustic tracking study was not included

Porewater Sampling

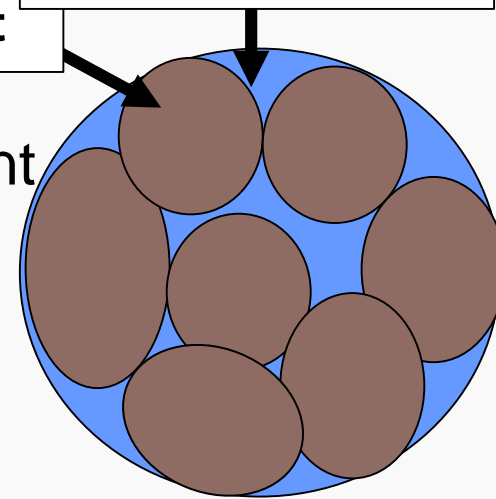
- What is **porewater**?
 - The water that is in between grains of sediment in the sediment bed.
- **Goals of Porewater Sampling:**
 - Provide more information to fill data gaps
 - Background concentrations of manganese and arsenic in porewater weren't addressed in the Remedial Investigation
 - Collect 8 total samples at specific locations

Key Differences From EPA's Draft Plan (June 2017):

- Porewater sampling was not included

Grain of
Sediment

Pore between
grains with water
“Porewater”



Porewater peeper sampling device
Source: Geosyntec

- What is **sediment coring** or **subsurface sediment sampling**?
 - Collecting samples of the mud (or sediment) at the bottom of the river at a depth that goes further than the uppermost layer of sediment.
- **Goals of Sediment Coring:**
 - Refine sediment management areas where there is limited data
 - **90 core sediment samples** will be taken at specific locations in **two foot sections**
 - Samples will be analyzed for contaminants of concern

Key Differences From EPA's Draft Plan (June 2017):

- EPA proposed **1,080 to 1,470 core sediment samples** in **one foot sections**
 - These samples were meant to develop the entire design plan for the cleanup (full remedial design)

- **Goals of Downtown/Upriver sampling:**
 - Provide more information about contaminants of concern entering the Site
 - **Surface Sediment:** Collect **30 random samples** in the Downtown Reach and **30 random samples** in the Upriver Reach
 - **Fish Tissue:** **40 smallmouth bass samples** will be collected
 - **Surface Water:** **Two sample locations (transects)** at River Mile 11.8 and River Mile 16.2
 - **Sediment Traps:** **Four sediment traps** (glass tubes to grab sediment coming into the Site) will be sampled 3 times over one year.

Key Differences From EPA's Draft Plan (June 2017):

- EPA had wanted 60 surface sediment samples in the Downtown Reach and the Upriver Reach
- EPA had wanted the same additional species sampled in this area as well (not just smallmouth bass)

Other Components



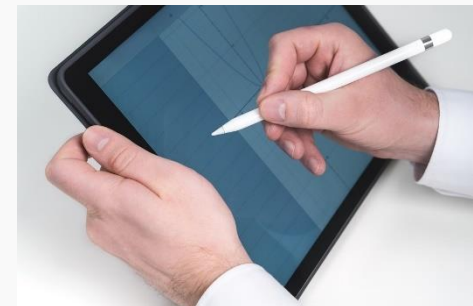
- **Community Involvement:**
 - If requested by EPA, the Pre-RD Group shall:
 - Support EPA's Community Involvement activities related to this agreement
 - Explore the possibility of participating in the Superfund Job Training Initiative Program
 - Designate a Pre-RD Group Community Involvement Coordinator
- **Cost:**
 - The Pre-RD Group shall reimburse EPA response costs up to \$2 Million under this agreement
 - The Pre-RD Group estimates total cleanup cost will be \$12 Million and shall provide EPA financial assurance that they can pay this cost
 - In addition to the four PRPs listed on this agreement, other PRPs have agreed to help cover the cost as well



2004 Portland Harbor Field Day,
Cathedral Park

Source: U.S. EPA

- **Contractor Selection:**
 - EPA may review contractors selected by the pre-RD group to perform the field sampling work
- **Enforcement and Accountability:**
 - EPA can impose **financial penalties** for noncompliance
 - A **dispute resolution process** may occur if the Pre-RD Group objects to an EPA decision or action in this agreement
 - EPA may do a '**work takeover**' from the Pre-RD Group. The Pre-RD group won't have to pay for those costs under this agreement
 - Pre-RD Group shall have **regular meetings** with EPA
 - Pre-RD Group will provide **regular progress reports** to EPA
 - EPA will conduct **site inspections** or be **on-site** during field work
- **Data Management:**
 - ***Draft*** data management plan is included in agreement
 - Data management process is still in development



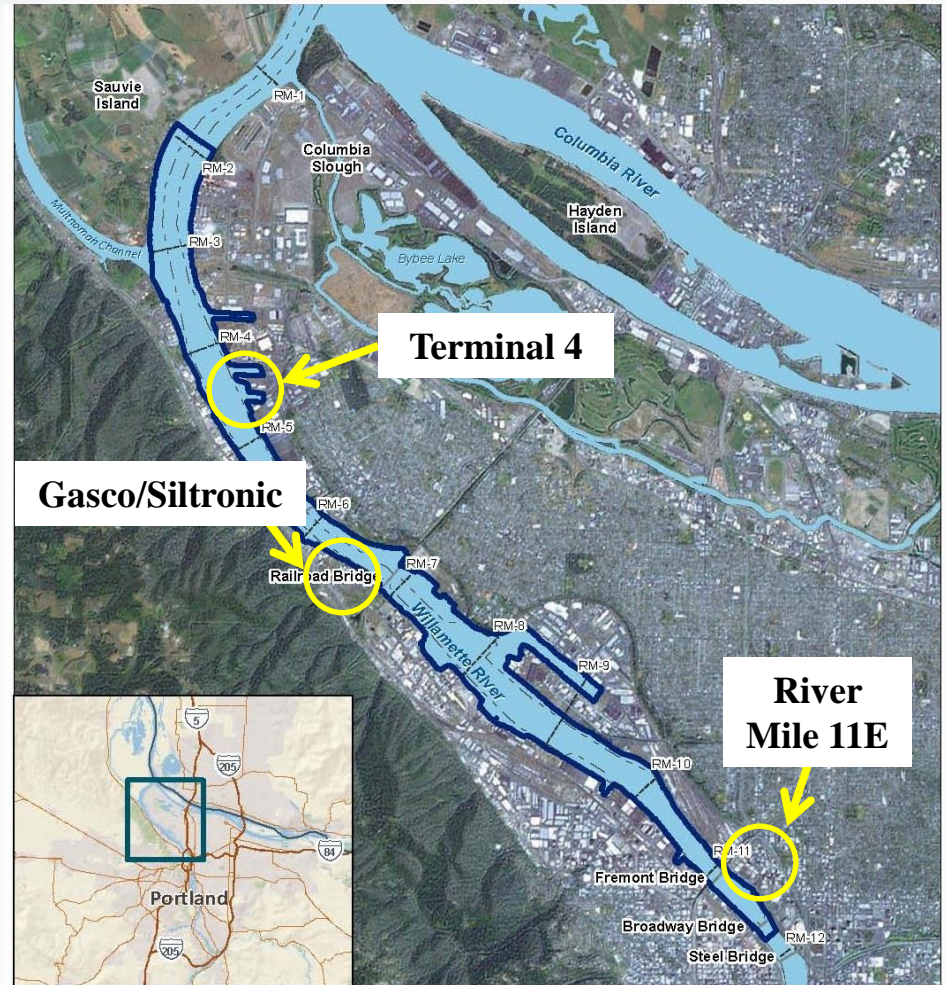
Questions?



Early Action Priority Sites



- **Gasco/Siltronic**
- **River Mile 11 East**
- **Terminal 4**



Source: Lower Willamette Group

- EPA Remedial Project Manager: **Sean Sheldrake**
- Existing Administrative Order is in place for remedial design
- EPA is working with the NW Natural Gas Company and the Siltronic Corporation to design a cleanup plan
- Cleanup plan design is expected to take **two to three years**

Opportunities for Community Involvement?

- Once a rough draft of the cleanup design plan is complete, EPA will provide the document for public comment and provide an information session
 - ***Estimated timeframe:*** ~1 year from now



River Mile 11 East



- EPA Remedial Project Manager: **Sean Sheldrake**
- A draft Administrative Order for remedial design has been written and is expected to be signed soon
- Cleanup plan design is expected to take **two to three years**

Opportunities for Community Involvement?

- Once a rough draft of the cleanup design plan is complete, EPA will provide the document for public comment and provide an information session
 - ***Estimated timeframe:*** ~1 year after signature of Administrative Order



Terminal 4



- EPA Remedial Project Manager: **Rebecca Chu**
- EPA and Port are currently discussing:
 - how the ROD applies/would be implemented at T4; and
 - amending the existing Administrative Order to begin remedial design.



Source: Port of Portland

Questions?



- **Community Involvement Plan**
 - Over 50 community in-person interviews conducted
 - Currently working to compile interview information and draft updated plan
 - Draft Community Involvement Plan is anticipated available for community review in **early Spring 2018**
- **New Portland Harbor Website**
 - New website link: www.epa.gov/superfund/portland-harbor
 - Document organization for new website is ongoing
- **Technical Assistance Grant**
 - EPA received a letter of intent (LOI) from the Willamette River Advocacy Group on 12/8/2017
 - EPA plans to post a notice in the newspaper this month (**January 2018**) announcing the availability of the technical assistance grant
- **Exploring a regular forum and/or roundtable concept**



2006 EPA Presentation to CAG
Source: U.S. EPA

Questions?

Karl Gustavson (*Final Site-Wide Baseline Sampling Plan*)

- E-mail: gustavson.karl@epa.gov
- Phone: **703-603-8753**

Sean Sheldrake (*Gasco/Siltronic & River Mile 11 East Early Action Areas*)

- E-mail: sheldrake.sean@epa.gov
- Phone: **206-553-1220**

Rebecca Chu (*T4 Early Action Area*)

- E-mail: chu.rebecca@epa.gov
- Phone: **206-553-1774**

Laura Knudsen (*Community Involvement*)

- E-mail: knudsen.laura@epa.gov
- Phone: **206-553-1838**