



March 11, 2020

Willamette Cove In-Water Agreement: Brief Introduction

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Learning Objectives

- ▶ **By the end of this section, you will be able to:**
 - ▶ **Explain** the history and general health risks
 - ▶ **Describe** the purpose of the Willamette Cove in-river agreement.
 - ▶ **Understand** the roles of the different agencies and responsible parties

Willamette Cove In-river Agreement History

- ▶ Signed in December 2019
- ▶ 100% of Remedial Design
- ▶ In river cleanup will be integrated with upland cleanup.



Willamette Cove Involved Parties

▶ Performing and Funding Parties

- State of Oregon
- City of Portland
- Port of Portland

▶ Funding Parties: Settling Federal Agencies

- U.S. Maritime Administration
- U.S. Coast Guard
- U.S. General Services Administration
- U.S. Bonneville Power Administration
- U.S. Department of Treasury
- U.S. Department of Defense (Navy and Army Corps of Engineers)

Willamette Cove In-River Health Risks

Main contaminants of concern:

- ▶ PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls)
- ▶ Dioxins

Willamette Cove In-Water Health Risks

➤ Considerations:

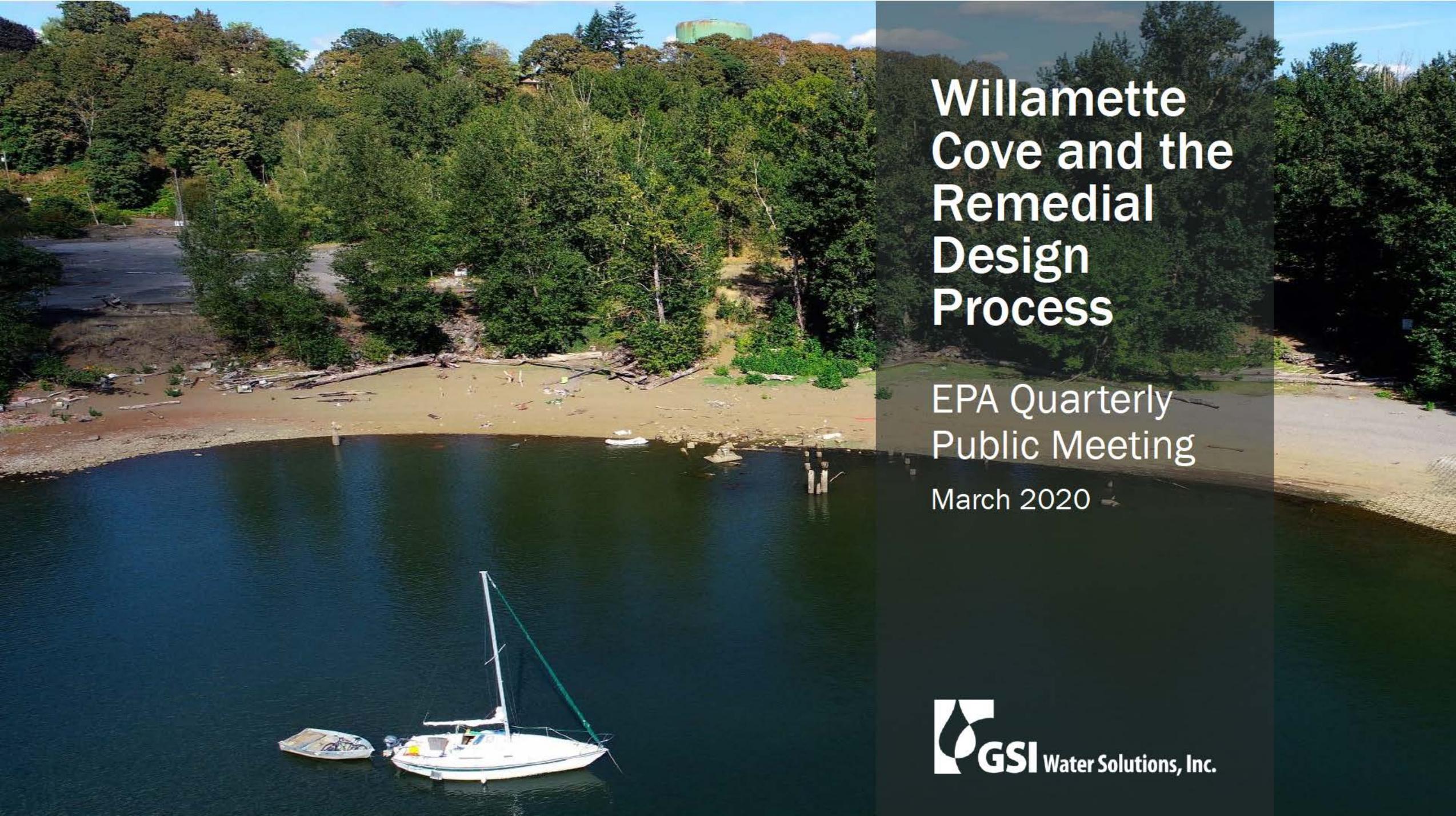
- **Frequency of exposure** (daily, several times per month, once per month)
 - Dependent on type of exposure evaluated
- **Type of exposure** (eating fish, wading/swimming, playing on the beach, drinking river water)
- **Highest risk** is related to eating fish, shellfish due to the bioaccumulation of contaminants

Willamette Cove Roles and Responsibilities

- ▶ EPA is the lead for in-river
- ▶ DEQ is the lead for the upland
- ▶ Performing Parties implement Remedial Design



Questions?



Willamette Cove and the Remedial Design Process

EPA Quarterly
Public Meeting

March 2020

Willamette Cove In-Water Remedial Design Group



Discussion Topics

- Willamette Cove Project Area Introduction and History
- Remedial Design (RD) process
- Timeline to complete RD
- Community Involvement (City of Portland)

SITE OVERVIEW

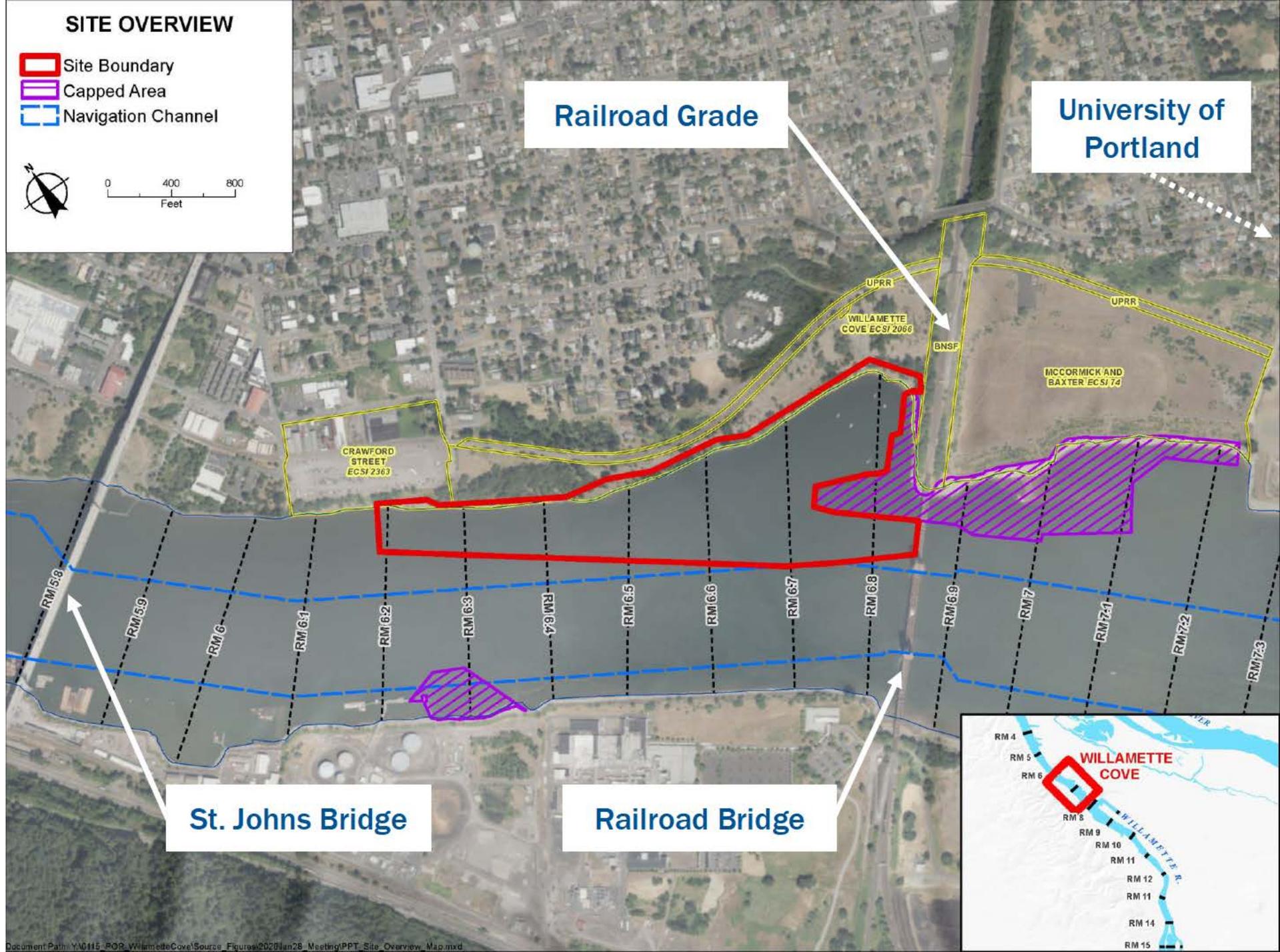
-  Site Boundary
-  Capped Area
-  Navigation Channel



0 400 800
Feet

Railroad Grade

University of
Portland



St. Johns Bridge

Railroad Bridge



How does RD relate to the Record of Decision (ROD) and the Remedial Action?



ROD Technology Assignments



Technology Assignments, Selected Remedy
 Willamette Cove Project Area
 Portland Harbor Superfund Site

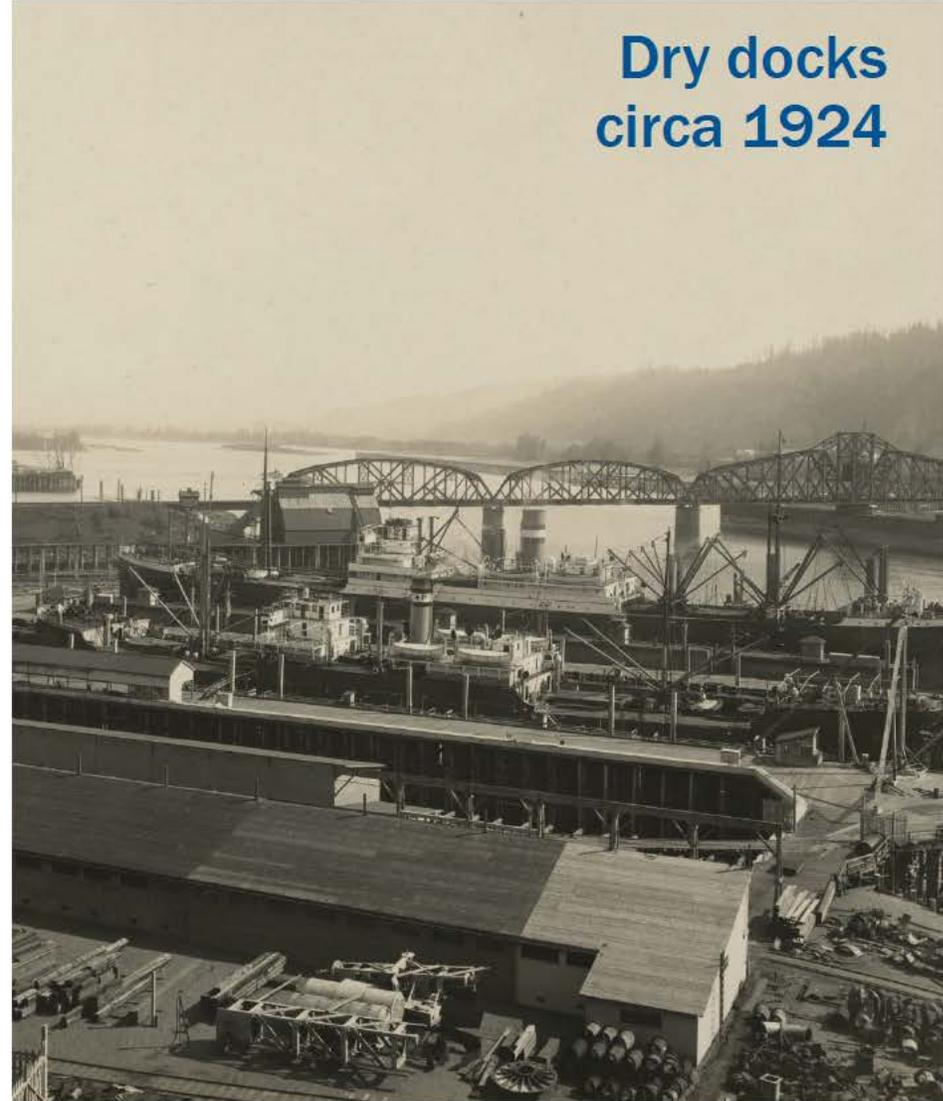
What were historical activities?

Cooperage plant
circa 1925



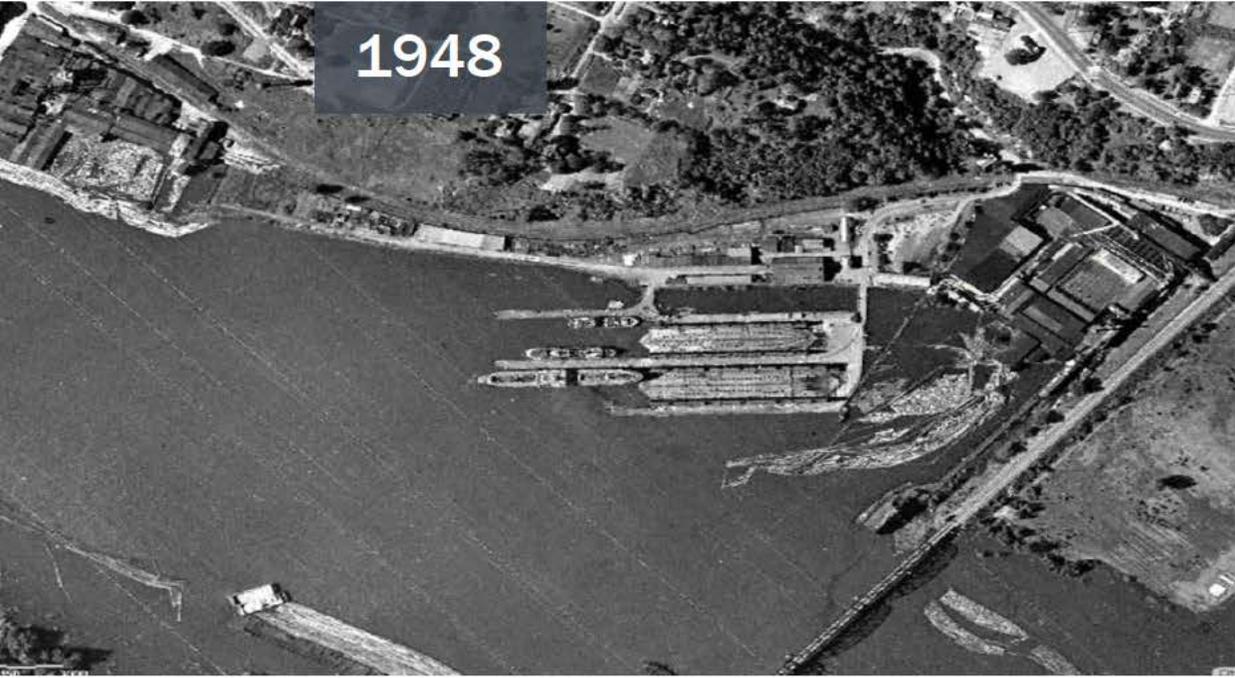
Credit: Oregon State University

Dry docks
circa 1924



Credit: City of Portland

1948



1954



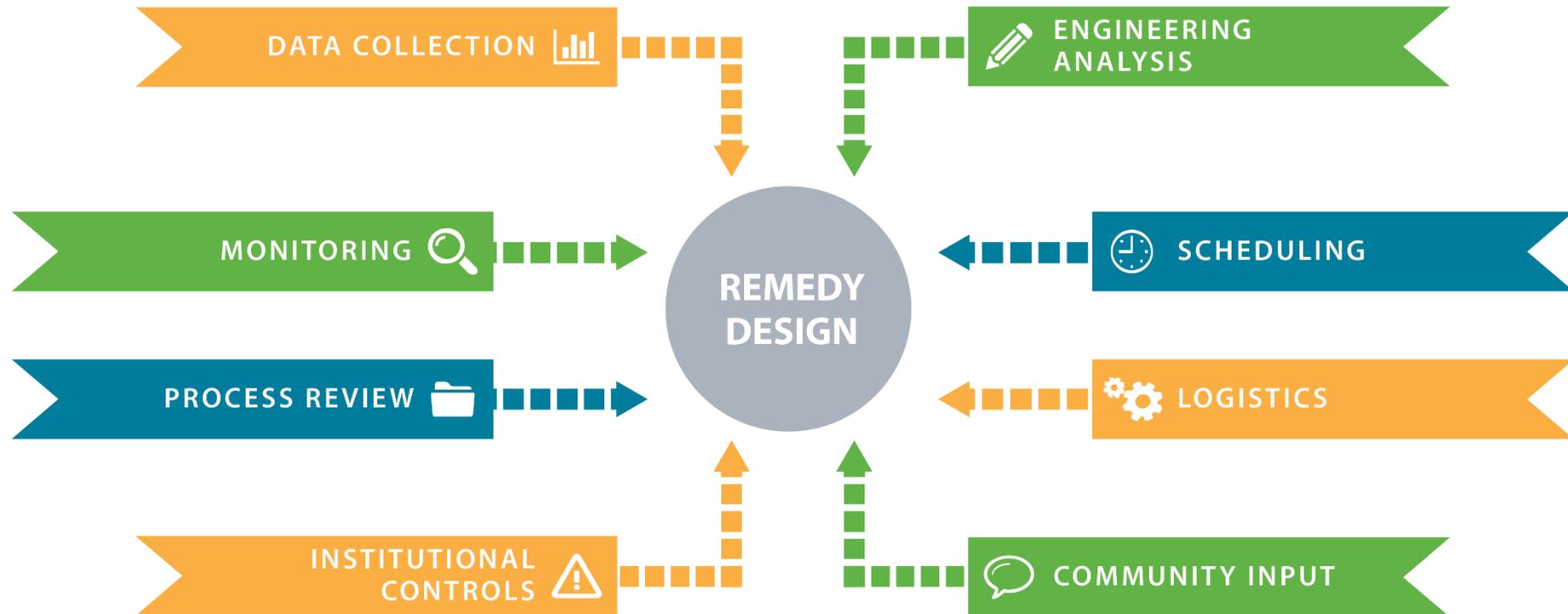
1975



2018



What happens during Remedial Design?





DATA COLLECTION



- Pre-Design Investigation
 - Often has multiple phases
 - Refine known areas of contamination, including depth
 - Collect preliminary data essential for design
 - Collect follow-up data based on previous investigations



MONITORING



Sediment sampling in Willamette Park
Photo Courtesy of GSI Water Solutions

- Project Area Monitoring Plan
 - Details long-term monitoring plan
- Operations & Maintenance Plan
 - Describes actions necessary if maintenance or repairs are needed to remedy



PROCESS REVIEW

- Remedial Action Objectives (RAOs) of ROD
- Administrative Settlement Agreement & Order on Consent
- Permitting
- Approval of Design
 - EPA and partners review draft design documents
 - EPA must approve all final design documents before remedial action is implemented



INSTITUTIONAL CONTROLS



- Administrative and legal tools used during and after cleanup
- Protect the remedy, people, and the environment
- Examples:
 - Fish advisories
 - Navigation, anchoring, and land use restrictions
 - Beaching watercraft
- Developed during RD
- Supports the harbor-wide Institutional Control Program



ENGINEERING ANALYSIS



- Basis of Design Report (BODR)
 - Initial engineering considerations
- 30/60/95% Design
 - BODR considerations evaluated
 - New engineering considerations are identified and evaluated
- State, Public, and Tribal Participation
 - Evaluate stakeholder and partner concerns
- Permitting Process
 - Various permits evaluate specific considerations



SCHEDULING

- **Baseline Schedule**
 - Sets initial vision
- **Progress Schedule**
 - Compared to baseline and updated regularly
- **Pre-Design Investigation (PDI) Work Plan**
 - Defines PDI Evaluation Report delivery date
- **Remedial Design Work Plan**
 - Defines multiple deliverable document dates
 - Sets 30/60/95% design completion schedule

Early Remedial Design Dates

December 13, 2019

Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent (ASAOC) Effective Date

- Date Performing Parties, Federal Agencies, and EPA signed agreement to begin RD

April 10, 2020

Draft Sufficiency Assessment (SA) & Pre-Design Investigation (PDI) Work Plan Due

- SA states pathways that could recontaminate remedy and whether controlled
- PDI Work Plan states investigation plan for Site to support detailed design

Fall 2020 (target)

Pre-Design Field Investigation

- Sampling of Site media after approval of final PDI Work Plan



- Basis of Design Report
 - Initial consideration of logistical aspects of design, including the following:
 - Implementation timeframes (fish windows)
 - Permitting process
 - Impacts to community



COMMUNITY INPUT



- City, State, and Port are committed to:
 - Meaningful community involvement
 - Making site information understandable, accessible
 - Providing regular updates
 - Ongoing communication
 - Creating space and structure to support all of the above

City-Administered Grant Program

- Supports community involvement in:
 - Information Management Plan
 - **Willamette Cove in-water design advisory body**
- Co-developing structure and process
- Building community capacity on RD topics
- Including community voices in design



Photo Courtesy of City of Portland

Grantees

- Black Educational Achievement Movement
- Blueprint Foundation
- Portland Audubon
- Portland Harbor Community Advisory Group
- Portland Harbor Community Coalition
 - Get Hooked Foundation
 - PDX350
- **Non-grantees will also play a role!**





Thank you!

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