

A photograph of a slough with a large log pile in the foreground and a bridge in the background. The water is calm and reflects the surrounding greenery. The sky is bright and clear.

Proposed Agreement with City of Portland for Columbia Slough

NWR Cleanup Program

Zoom Meeting | Nov. 15, 2023

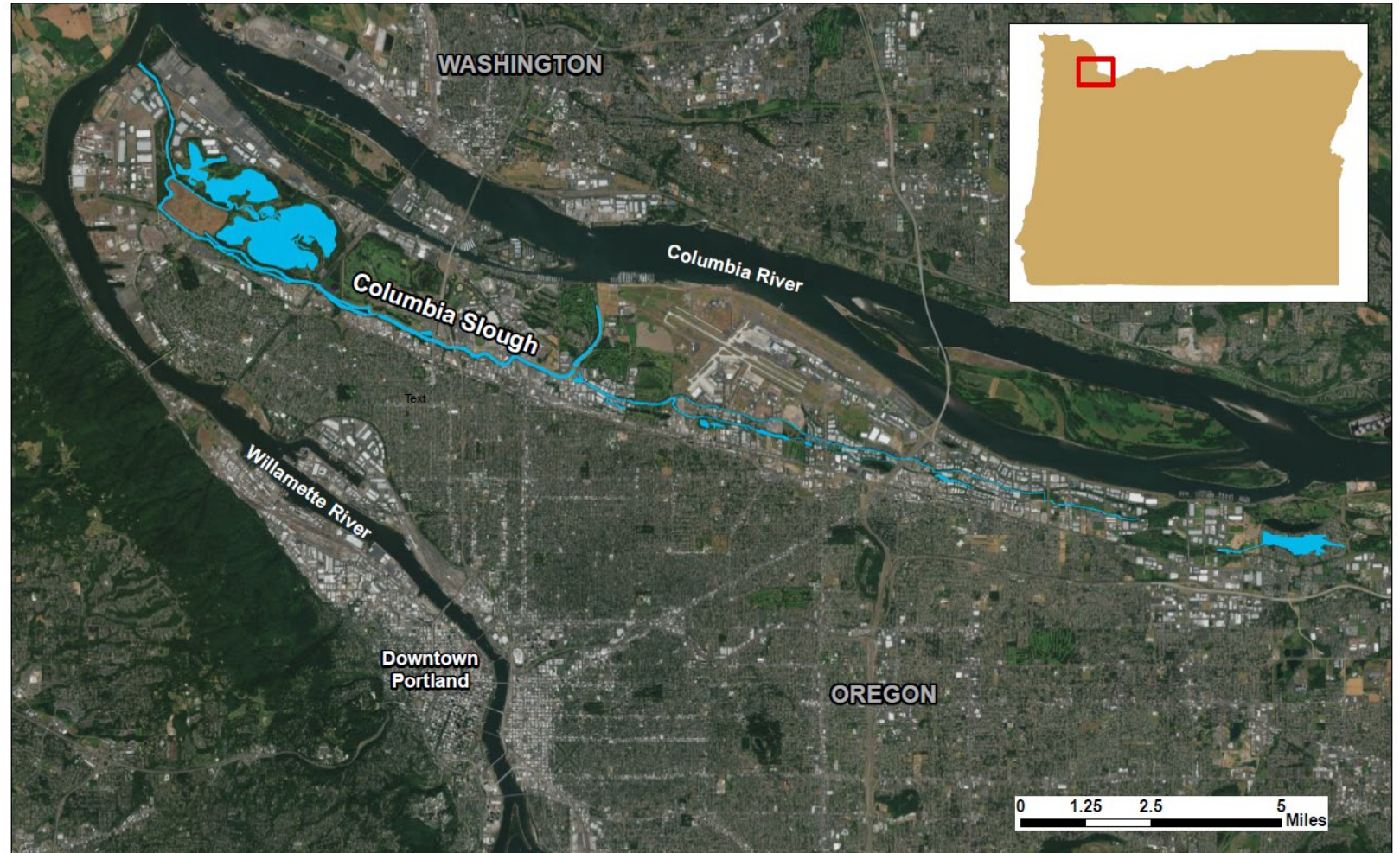
Agenda

- Columbia Slough Site overview
- Cleanup approach
- Agreement with City of Portland
- Questions



Columbia Slough – Brief History

- 19 river miles with side channels
- Intense development for 100+ years
- Variety of comingled contaminants



2005 Slough Cleanup Plan



- Control upland sources of pollution to the waterway (e.g., groundwater, stormwater, etc.)
- Clean up significant sediment contamination
- Long-term monitoring of fish tissue and sediment
- Alternative remedial measures
- Modify approach as new information is available

DEQ/City Slough Agreement

- Intergovernmental Agreement since 2006
 - Voluntary
 - Flexible
 - Not legally binding



- City focus on source control investigations and sampling

DEQ/City Slough Proposed Agreement

- Consent Judgment
 - Legally binding
 - Required performance
 - DEQ to issue certificate of completion(s)



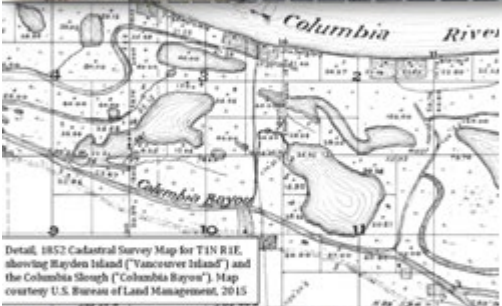
Terms of Proposed City Agreement

- Funding to DEQ to perform in-water sediment cleanup.
- Funding to DEQ/ODFW for habitat restoration.
- Funding to DEQ for additional source control resources.
- City will perform additional/alternative remedial measures in collaboration with DEQ.
- City will install upland stormwater treatment systems in 15 priority outfall basins over next 15 years.
- City will complete a comprehensive fish tissue and sediment sampling event.

Separately, the City will continue to pay DEQ oversight costs until source control work is complete.



City Funding for In-Water Remedial Action



- In-water sediment cleanups – DEQ will complete remedies in high-priority sediment cleanup areas
 - Areas with elevated PCBs, DDX, and/or PAHs
 - Dredging and/or capping technologies considered
 - Targeted sediment characterization
- DEQ to implement ODFW approved NRD actions
 - Flood mitigation
 - Habitat restoration
 - Invasive species removal



City Completes Alternative Remedial Measures

- Improve watershed health
- Improve fish and wildlife habitat
- Connect riparian habitat
- Manage invasive vegetation
- Improve hydrology
- Incorporate community-defined actions with Environmental Justice lens



Upland Pollution Prevention

- City Stormwater Treatment Projects: Install 15 active treatment systems (i.e. filter vaults) in priority outfall basin
- Ongoing source identification and referrals

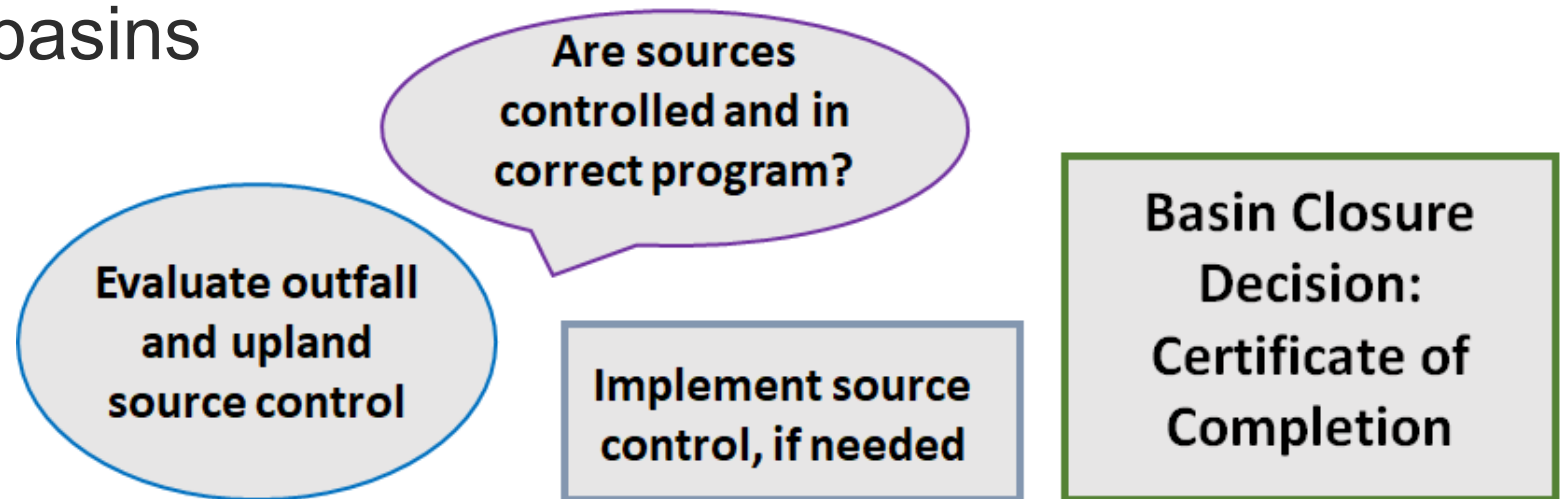
Other ongoing City Responsibilities:

- MS4 permit/TMDL compliance
- SWMM/City Code improvements



Upland Pollution Prevention

- **City Outfall Basin Evaluation** Basin closeout process will be completed for each basin within next 15 years to determine if sources of contamination are removed or controlled in the upland
- Evaluation of 209 basins
- Funding to support DEQ source control position to help with this process



Slough-Wide Sampling Events



- 2025: Fish tissue sampling
 - Fish tissue from about 50 locations
 - Inform the OHA fish advisory
- 2026: Sediment sampling
 - About 100 samples
- Comprehensive data set for additional consideration of cleanup progress in the Slough

Details of the Proposed Agreement

- \$16M for DEQ in-water sediment cleanup.
- \$2M for DEQ/ODFW habitat restoration.
- \$1.5M for additional DEQ source control resources.
- \$4M for additional/alternative remedial measures (by City).
- Install Upland stormwater treatment systems in 15 priority outfall basins over next 15 years. Evaluate all 209 city basins.
- A comprehensive fish tissue and sediment sampling event.



How Agreement Provides Public Benefit

- Resources to expedite sediment investigation and cleanup and reduce risk.
- City providing funding for additional personnel to aid in upland source control.
- Gather data to increase/improve public health risk communication.
- Opportunity to use resources and collection of work to address Environmental Justice.
- Targeted projects to provide lasting enhancement to watershed health.



Public Notice Schedule



ordeq.org/columbiasloughcleanup

- Public Notice: November 1
- Public Meeting: November 15
- End of Public Comment Period – November 30

Submit written comments:

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THANK YOU!