

# Portland Harbor Natural Resource Trustees

## Community Advisory Group Meeting

13 May 2009

# Natural Resource Damage Assessment

- ◆ Nine Natural Resource Trustees
- ◆ NRDA Purpose: Determine the nature and extent of injuries to natural resources; develop a set of projects or an amount of money to make the public whole
- ◆ Recovered monetary damages and restoration efforts are used to restore, rehabilitate, replace, and/or acquire the equivalent of the injured resources
- ◆ Addresses past injuries and injuries residual to the clean-up

# NRDA Phased Approach

- ◆ Phase 1: Develop Assessment Plan, literature review, 3 focused studies
- ◆ Phase 2: Estimate injury and damages to reach settlements and implement restoration
- ◆ Phase 3: Finalize injury/damage determination and quantification through completion of assessment
- ◆ Phase 4: Litigation/Settlements
- ◆ Currently in Phase 1 - developing an assessment plan
- ◆ Phase 2 - negotiations to begin in a few months regarding scope and funding

# Assessment Planning

- ◆ Describes approach for compiling and evaluating sources of existing information, identifying data gaps, and determining the scope of information and kinds of analyses expected to determine and quantify injuries and damages
- ◆ Purpose:
  - ◆ facilitate performing the injury and damage assessment in a systematic manner, using appropriate methodologies for evaluating and quantifying injuries and estimating damages
  - ◆ allow the Trustees to conduct the assessment in a streamlined manner, via a phased approach, and at a reasonable cost
  - ◆ provide background information and general guidelines for conducting an NRDA for the Portland Harbor assessment area

# Assessment Planning (cont.)

- ◆ Currently 19 participating parties funding trustee efforts to develop the plan
- ◆ Plan should be available for public review and comment in Fall 2009
- ◆ Public comment period will include a public meeting
- ◆ Trustees are working to create an online and in-person "reading room" to allow access to documents that support the AP

# Restoration Planning Goals

- Identify, evaluate and preserve high value restoration opportunities
- Identify partners to help implement, monitor and maintain restoration sites
- Solicit community input on potential restoration opportunities
- Meet NEPA and other compliance requirements for restoration (Programmatic EIS)

# Ecological Restoration Considerations

- ◆ Ecological benefit
- ◆ Socio-economic constraints (feasibility)
- ◆ Geographic area
- ◆ Rare or unique opportunities

# Ecological Benefit Criteria

- ◆ Target species represent guilds common in PNW rivers, and show potential for injury
  - Fish species: salmon and steelhead, lamprey, and sturgeon
  - Wildlife species: bald eagle, osprey, spotted sandpiper, mink

# Restoration Action Objectives

- Move toward normative hydrology
- Restore floodplain function
- Re-establish floodplain and riparian plant communities
- Improve aquatic and riparian habitat conditions
- Improve river margin habitat (increase complexity)
- Restore habitat that provides ecological value in the landscape context (connectivity)
  
- Priority: create/restore access to off-channel and shallow-water habitats

# Geographic Priority

- ◆ WHY focus on restoration within the study area?
  - ◆ Projects within ISA offer the strongest link with potential injury: species, life stages, habitats.
  - ◆ Multiple populations of ESA-listed salmon use the area for rearing and migration (even spawning—coho).
  - ◆ Monitoring shows extensive utilization of recently restored off-channel habitats in the area.
  - ◆ Opportunities to restore habitat on a meaningful scale within the study area are under continuous threat of development or other uses that preclude restoration.

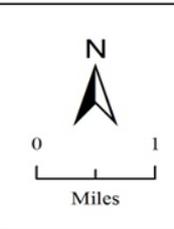
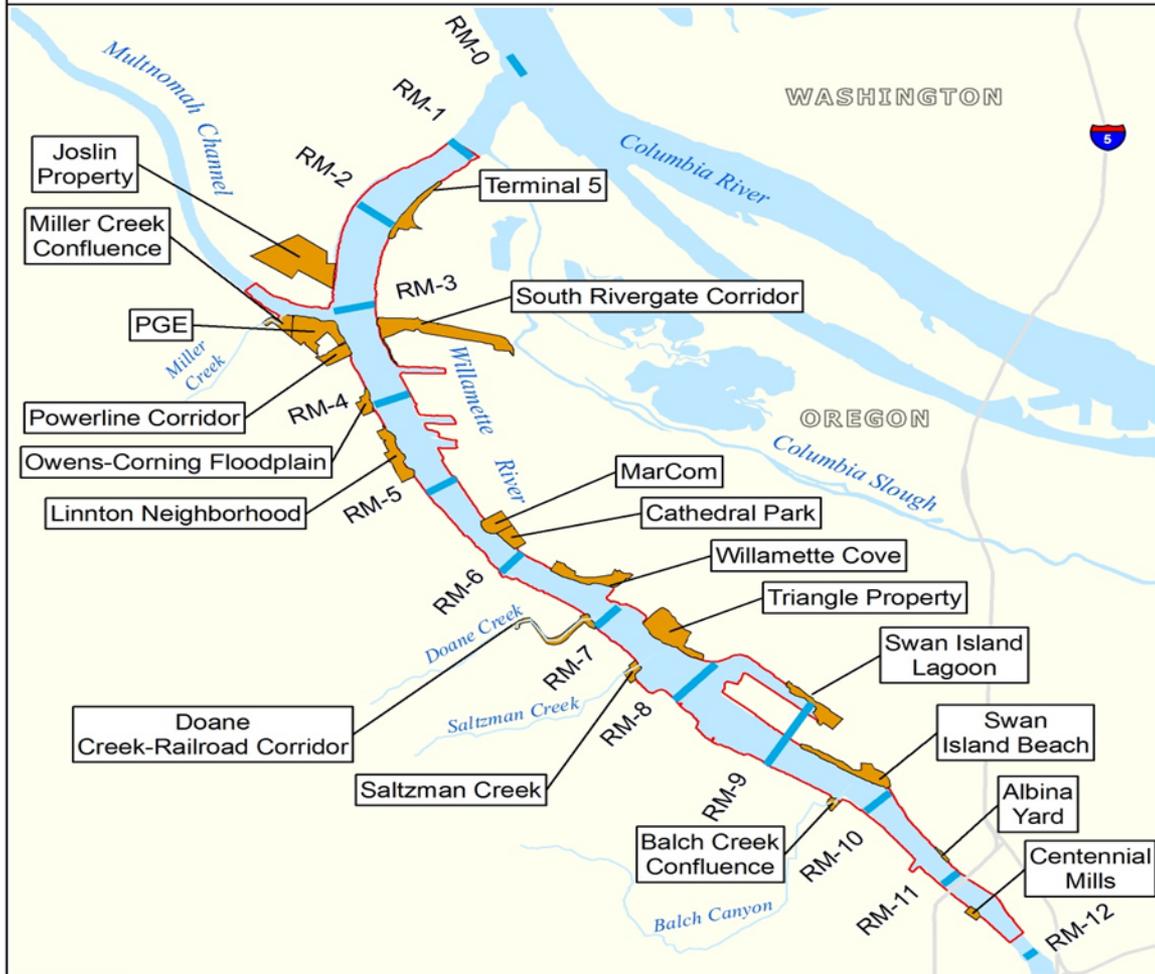
# Potential Restoration Opportunities

- ◆ City of Portland's identification and screening of potential projects for WRDA funding (2005) and Draft Willamette Greenway Plan/River Plan (2008)
- ◆ Community-led funding proposals and concepts
- ◆ Discussions with potential restoration partners, the Portland Harbor Community Advisory Group and the public (spring 2009)

Map No.	Project Name	River Mile
1	Albina Yard	10.75
2	Balch Creek Confluence	9.75
3	Cathedral Park	5.75
4	Centennial Mills	11.4
5	Doane Creek/Railroad Corridor	7
6	Joslin Property	~2.5
7	Linnton Neighborhood	4.6
8	MarCom	5.5
9	Miller Creek Confluence	3.2
10	Owens-Corning Floodplain	4
11	PGE	3.2
12	Powerline Corridor	3.4
13	Saltzman Creek	7.5
14	South Rivergate Corridor	~3.3
15	Swan Island Beach North	9.5
16	Swan Island Beach South	9.75
17	Swan Island Lagoon	9
18	Terminal 5	2 - 3
19	Triangle Property	7.5
20	Willamette Cove	6 - 6.5

# Potential Restoration Site Map

Map prepared for Portland Harbor  
Natural Resource Trustees



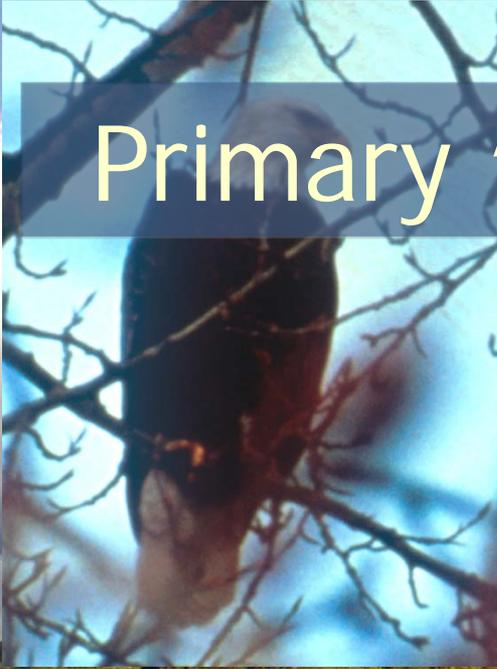
- Restoration Site
- River Mile Marker
- Portland Harbor Superfund Study Area

This map represents conceptual fish and wildlife habitat restoration opportunities which have been screened against criteria developed by the Portland Harbor Natural Resource Trustees. Further analysis of this site will occur to determine the feasibility, cost, and habitat value of the restoration concepts on a finer scale. This map was prepared using a geospatial database provided by the City of Portland's Bureau of Environmental Services.

# Next Steps

- ◆ CAG meeting presentation on May 13
- ◆ Developing list of interested parties
- ◆ Will begin broader-scale public involvement in fall/winter 2009
- ◆ Considering smaller-scale workshop with partners group to gather feedback on additional restoration opportunities

# Primary "Receptors" of Concern





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**Cliff Swallows**

*Photo provided by Terry Sohl*

# Primary Chemicals of Concern

