Smith & Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area Management Committee
Frank Opila, Chair

Coordinated by:

Metro

600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232
(503) 797-1515

Smith & Bybee Lakes Management Committee Meeting

5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, February 24, 2004
Metro Regional Center, 600 N E Grand Ave.
Portland, Oregon 97232

Note: The meeting will be held in Room 270

AGENDA

Welcome, introductions	(Opila)	5:30 - 5:35 pm
Approve previous meeting's notes	(Opila)	5:35 - 5:40 pm
Remedial Investigation Proposal for the St. Johns Landfill	(Paul Vandenberg, Metro SW&R, Amanda Spencer, Hart Crowser & Taku Fuji, Hart Crowser)	5:40 - 6:20 pm
Updates	(All)	6:20 - 6:30 pm
Adjourn		6:30 pm

April mtg. - visit to undercrossing,
Ramsey & poss. WCS
& poss N Ptld Rd

Future mtg. - Denise present conceptual
plan for Expo parcel (10+ min.)

Summary Meeting Notes
Smith & Bybee Lakes Management Committee
February 24, 2004

In attendance:

Frank Opila *	Friends of Smith & Bybee Lakes
Elaine Stewart	Smith & Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area Manager
Nancy Hendrickson *	Portland Bureau of Environmental Services Services (BES)
Jane Bogus *	St Johns Neighborhood Association
Denise Rennis *	Port of Portland
Troy Clark *	Portland Audubon Society
Pam Arden *	40 Mile Loop Trust
Dennis O'Neil	Metro Solid Waste & Recycling (SW&R)
Paul Vandenberg	Metro SW&R
Amanda Spencer	Hart Crowser, Consultants
Taku Fuji	Hart Crowser, Consultants
Patt Opdyke *	North Portland Neighborhoods
Patricia Sullivan	Metro Regional Parks &Greenspaces (RP&G)

* denotes voting SBLMC member

Introductions

Approval of Jan meeting notes

A motion was made and passed by a unanimous vote (six in favor, no opposition and no abstentions) to approve the January 27 meeting notes as presented.

Remedial investigation proposal

Paul Vandenberg reminded the Committee of the overview provided by Amanda Spencer of Hart Crowser at the January meeting, including a hydrogeologist's perspective on how groundwater moves in the vicinity of the landfill, based on her evaluation of the extensive relevant information available. At this meeting, Amanda and Taku Fuji (also of Hart Crowser) would discuss how site hydrogeology is incorporated into a risk assessment for human health and ecological risks. Paul described how the risk assessment will involve an evaluation of how contaminants move from the waste materials into the groundwater and to possible points of contact with people, wildlife and aquatic organisms. There will also be an evaluation of the possibility of people and wildlife coming into contact with landfill gases. The gas collection system captures and controls essentially all of the gas generated by the landfill, but this project will examine the situations where people and wildlife may come in contact with gas that, for one reason or another, may not be captured.

Amanda provided handouts which gave a visual impression of how chemicals from the refuse might move away from the landfill and come into contact with different receptors. Landfill layers include the refuse, and under that, low permeability silt layers that differ in thickness under different parts of the landfill, from 20 ft. to 150 ft. at the central part. Below that, layers of sand are sometimes present, and then a gravel layer, which has a greater lever of conductivity. A mound of leachate exists in the refuse, and the leachate constituents coming out of the landfill will do one of two things – move towards the sloughs or the lakes that generally surround the landfill, or it will be pushed through the silt and into the gravel layer.

Amanda described how, during certain times of the year, there will may be upwelling of the water from the gravel towards the North Slough, and a discharge into it. The North Slough is going to be a significant area of consideration as part of the process

Taku identified the different media of concern (soils, sediments, surface water, ground water and aquatic organisms) that could contain chemicals from the landfill. It will be necessary to determine if there is enough data for each of those media to be able to answer the questions that will be posed. He described the primary source of chemicals (landfill waste) and release mechanisms by which they can be released into the environment. Historically that could have been due to erosion of the landfill, flooding, etc. – direct releases to the environment. The landfill is now capped and managed so that those direct releases don't occur.

Taku described the components of the risk assessment process: 1) exposure assessment - the duration and frequency of exposure and 2) toxicity assessment – why the compounds are toxic, whether they are carcinogens or non-carcinogens, etc. Once the chemicals in the leachate have been identified, a screening is done to determine which chemicals are present in levels high enough for concern. There are also concerns with food chain effects and predator-prey interactions. The greatest challenge is going to be on the toxicity side of the equation.

Taku stated that it will be necessary to identify gaps that exist in the data which must be filled in order to complete the remedial investigation and then begin the baseline risk assessment. He said that the overall goal of the remedial investigation is to determine if current conditions are resulting in the release of compounds that are causing unacceptable risks. If that is the case, remedial or cleanup actions can be designed that can address the situation.

Taku discussed receptors, both human health and ecological. The main human receptors will be workers on the landfill as well as future recreational users; trespassers on the landfill must also be considered. One of the unique aspects of this project is that in the consent order with DEQ which identifies what is required for the remedial investigation, there were nine ecological receptors that were identified as a preliminary list of things to consider in the ecological risk assessment. They were a mix of classes of organisms and also some very specific species such as river otters, osprey and Western painted turtles – representing a wide range of life cycle behaviors, such as types of feeding behaviors and where they live and breed. Elaine Stewart noted that the list of organisms included in the consent order is the list submitted to DEQ by the SBLMC.

Updates

Denise Rennis reported that the wildlife undercrossing is nearly complete. Dan Layden of the Portland Dept. of Transportation (PDOT) has offered to take this committee on a visit to view the project. Denise added that they may want to visit other sites during that same trip such as the water control structure and the Ramsey mitigation site. There was debate as to whether to substitute this visit for the regular April 29 meeting or include it as an additional one. It was observed that by the end of April it should be lighter until later in the evening.

Elaine reported that preparations for the trail feasibility study are proceeding. A Request for Proposals (RFP) will go out in mid-March for this work. The technical working group (which includes Troy Clark from the SBLMC) will participate in the consultant selection.

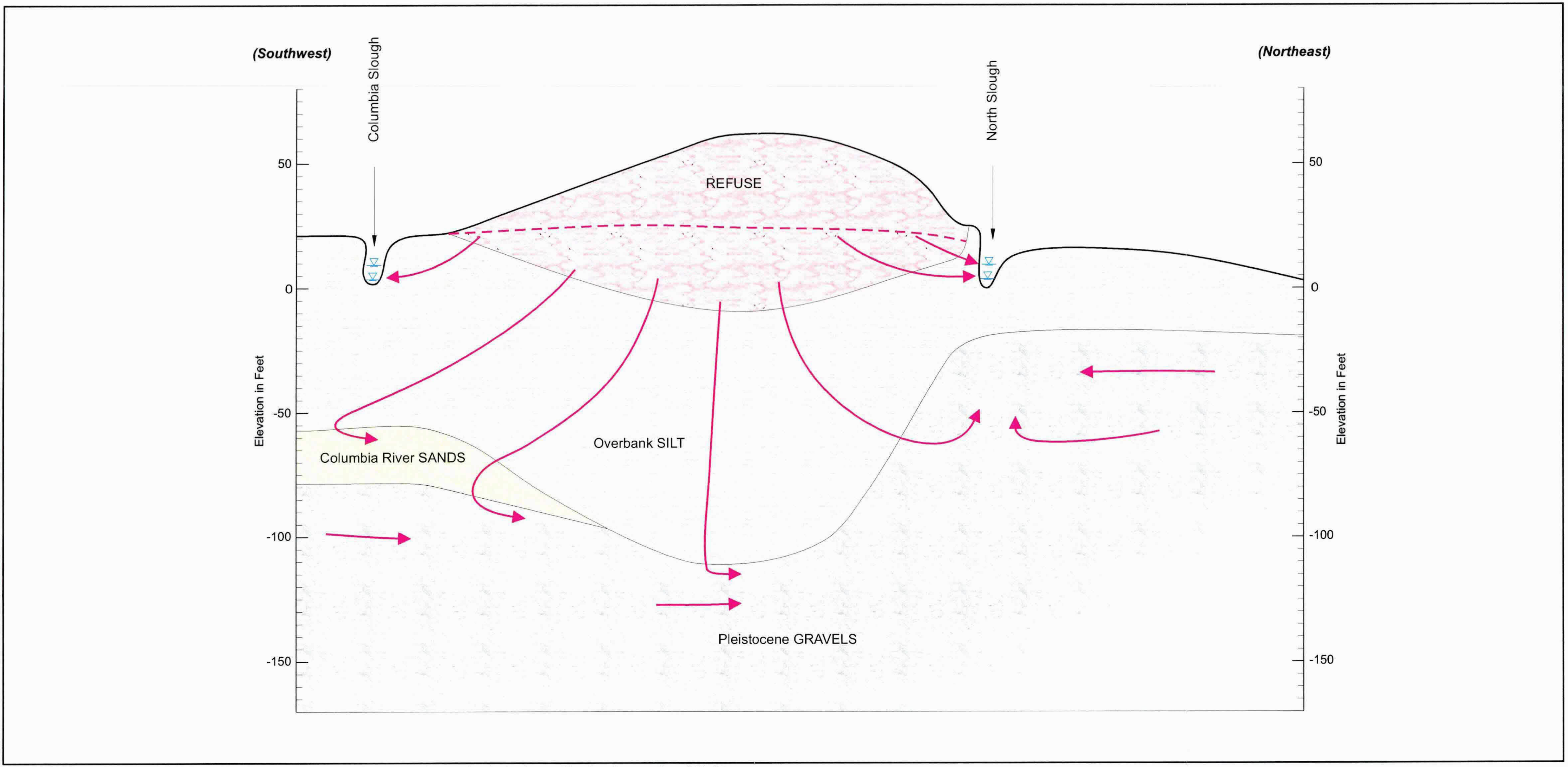
Denise also reported that there is now a conceptual plan for the piece of property adjacent to the Expo Center that the Port of Portland acquired in the trade that brought the triangle piece to Metro. She offered to give a power point presentation on the plan at a future SBLMC meeting when there is 10 minutes open on the agenda.

According to Dennis O'Neil, the planting at the North Portland Road site is nearly done.

Elaine will give a presentation on the new water control structure for the Friends of Smith and Bybee Lakes at the April meeting.

Following a very productive recent meeting between Metro and Portland Parks, the Smith & Bybee Lakes trail planning project will be steadily moving forward now.

Conceptual Hydrogeologic Model
Metro
St. Johns Landfill



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Note: Contacts between soil units are based upon interpolation between borings and represent our interpretation of subsurface conditions based on currently available data.

Legend:

▽ Typical Seasonal Water Elevation Range in Slough

– – – – Leachate Elevation in Refuse (Generalized)

→ Generalized Flow Path of Leachate Constituents From Refuse

☐ Overbank SILT Deposits

☐ Columbia River SANDS

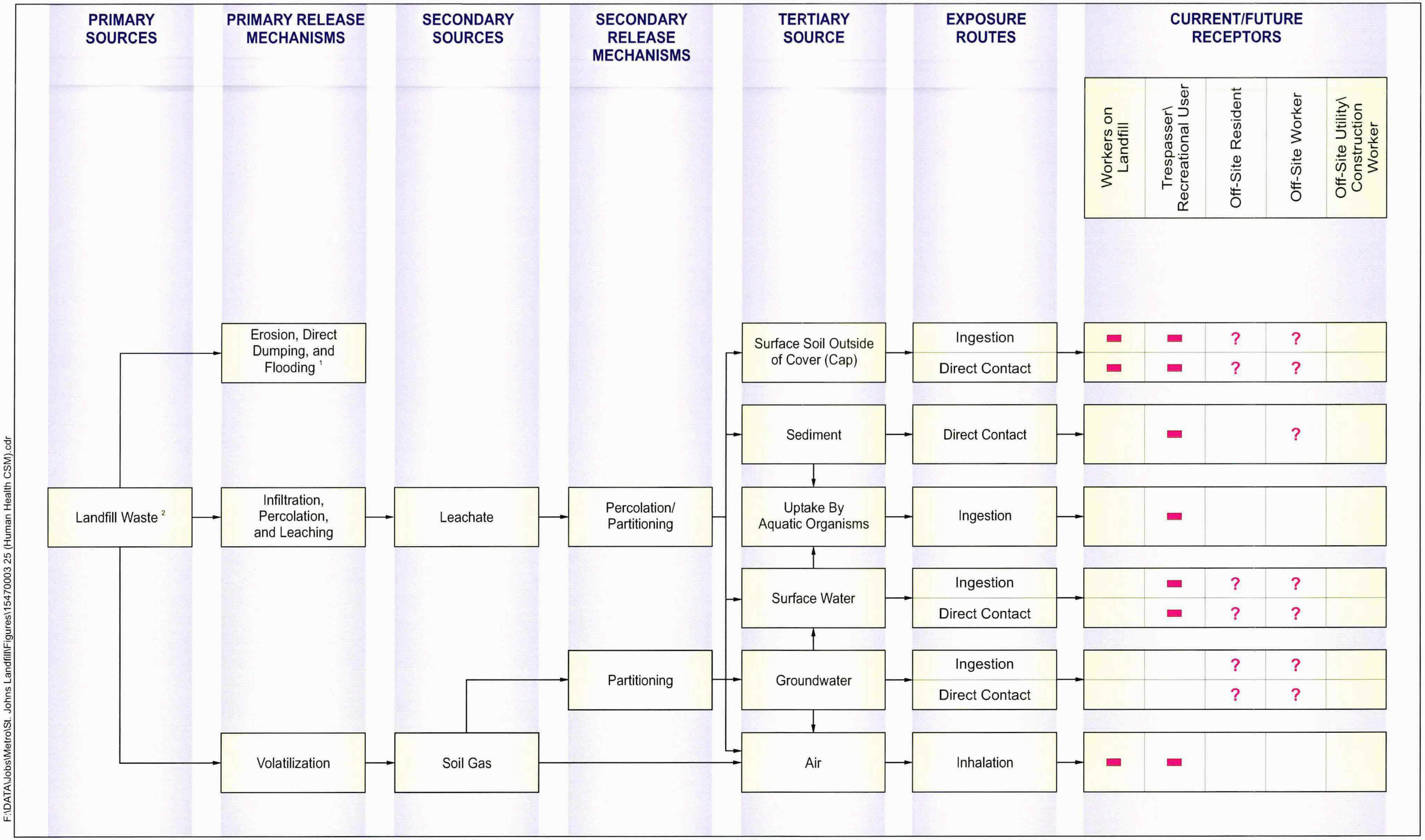
☐ Pleistocene GRAVELS

Approximate Horizontal Scale in Feet
0 400 800

0 40 80
Approximate Vertical Scale in Feet
Vertical Exaggeration x10

HARTCROWSER
15470-00 *2/04*
Figure 24

Preliminary Human Health Conceptual Site Model
Metro
St. Johns Landfill



Tertiary Source	Exposure Routes	Workers on Landfill	Trespasser\ Recreational User	Off-Site Resident	Off-Site Worker	Off-Site Utility\ Construction Worker
Surface Soil Outside of Cover (Cap)	Ingestion	▬	▬	?	?	
	Direct Contact	▬	▬	?	?	
Sediment	Direct Contact		▬		?	
Uptake By Aquatic Organisms	Ingestion		▬			
Surface Water	Ingestion		▬	?	?	
	Direct Contact		▬	?	?	
Groundwater	Ingestion			?	?	
	Direct Contact			?	?	
Air	Inhalation	▬	▬			

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Notes:

[1] Possible historical release mechanism, waste now capped. The only current transport mechanism is via infiltration, percolation, leaching, and volatization.

[2] The landfill is covered and management practices preclude contact of workers with refuse unless appropriately trained and wearing protective gear.

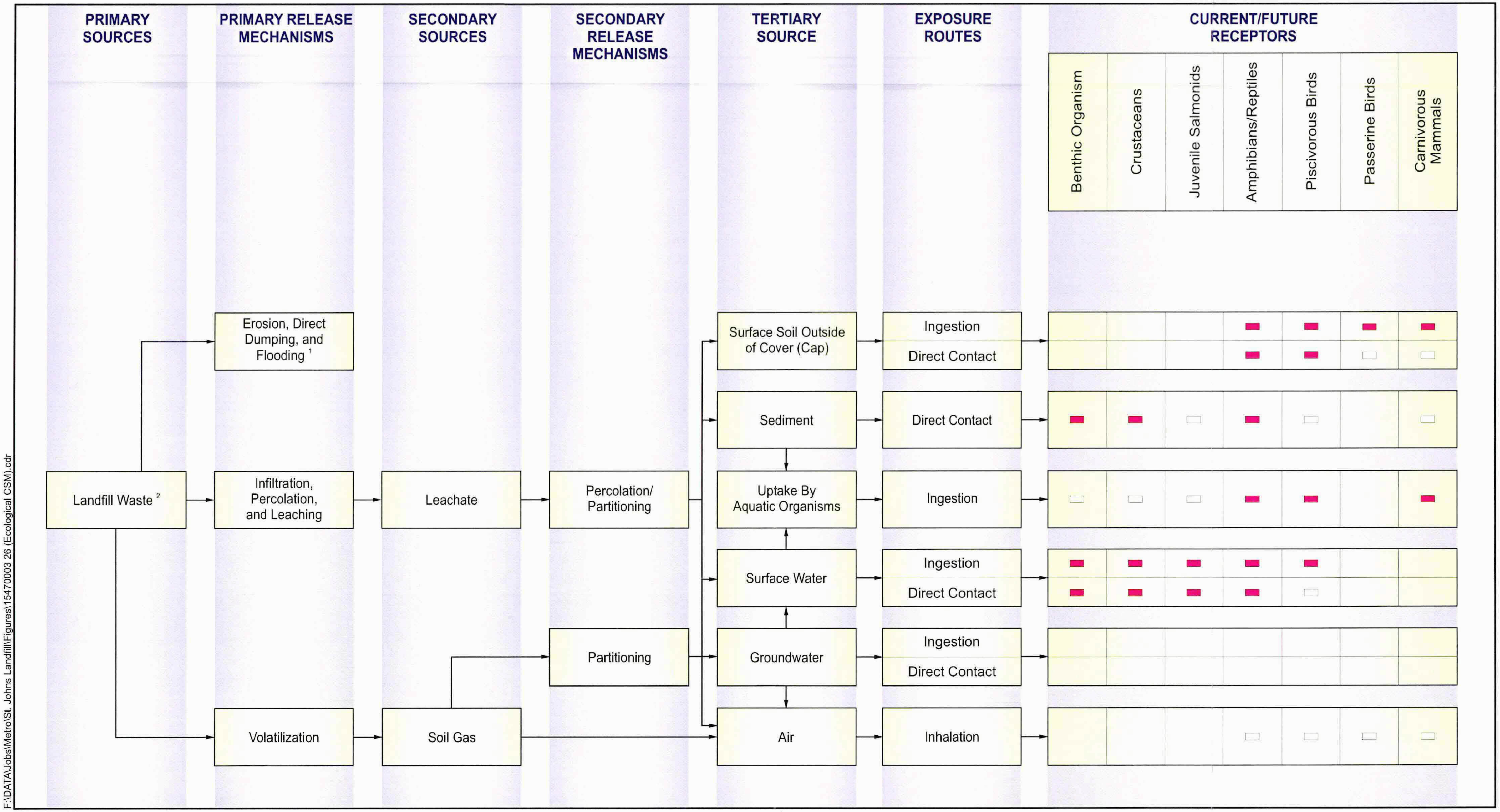
Legend:

▬ Potentially Complete Pathway

? Potentially Complete Pathway Pending Results of Beneficial Use Survey

HARTCROWSER
15470-00 *2/04*
Figure 25

Preliminary Ecological Conceptual Site Model
Metro
St. John's Landfill



Tertiary Source	Exposure Route	Benthic Organism	Crustaceans	Juvenile Salmonids	Amphibians/Reptiles	Piscivorous Birds	Passerine Birds	Carnivorous Mammals
Surface Soil Outside of Cover (Cap)	Ingestion				🟥	🟥	🟥	🟥
	Direct Contact				🟥	🟥	☐	☐
Sediment	Direct Contact	🟥	🟥	☐	🟥	☐		☐
Uptake By Aquatic Organisms	Ingestion	☐	☐	☐	🟥	🟥		🟥
Surface Water	Ingestion	🟥	🟥	🟥	🟥	🟥		
	Direct Contact	🟥	🟥	🟥	🟥	☐		
Groundwater	Ingestion							
	Direct Contact							
Air	Inhalation				☐	☐	☐	☐

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Notes:
[1] Possible historical release mechanism, waste now capped. The only current transport mechanism is via infiltration, percolation, leaching, and volatization.
[2] Landfill has been capped and refuse is not exposed.

Legend:

🟥 Potentially Complete Pathway

☐ Potentially Complete Pathway, Will Not be Quantitated in Ecological Risk Assessment

HARTCROWSER
15470-00 *2/04*
Figure 26

Friends of Smith & Bybee Lakes
P.O. Box 83862
Portland, OR 97283-0862

Bill Bach
Corporate Real Estate Manager
Port of Portland
P.O. Box 3529
Portland, OR 97208

February 20, 2004

Dear Bill Bach:

Thanks for your letter dated February 3, 2004 regarding the Port's enhancement area adjacent to the Wapato Correctional Facility. The Friends of Smith & Bybee Lakes (the Friends) acknowledge that significant effort has gone into this project. We are generally pleased with the plantings, particularly the black cottonwoods, which are noted in your letter.

The Friends would like to comment on the topographic design of the Port's enhancement area. This area has a fixed slope in the remaining fill, a relatively flat bottom, and a 90-degree cut on the east and south boundaries with the wildlife area. An approximation of the cross section of this area is shown in the figure below. There is little variation in this design. Furthermore, when viewed from a plan view, the boundaries of the excavation with the wildlife area are straight lines.

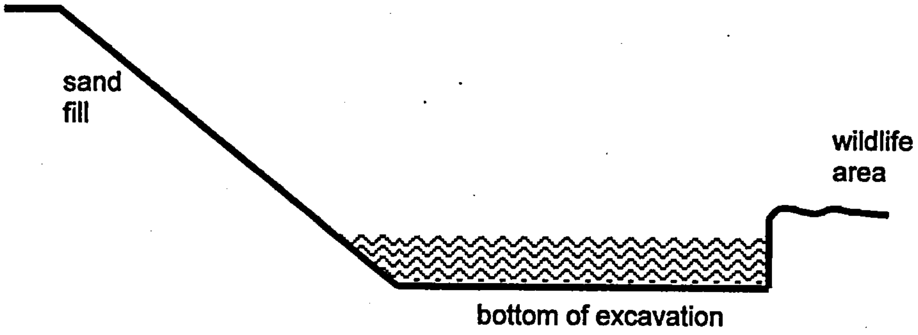

Figure. Approximation of cross section of Port's enhancement area adjacent to jail site.

While this design may fulfill the legal requirements of the consent decree, this shape is not characteristic of natural sloughs and wetlands in the region. The appearance of a 'moat' is apparent from the ground and when flying over in an airplane. Certainly, as noted in your letter, the maturation of shrubs and trees will lessen this effect. However it will still resemble a moat for many years, perhaps decades, unless there is some topographic modification. This modification may eventually occur naturally, perhaps with one or more significant flood events.

The Friends realize that the consent decree probably does not give the Port much leeway for terrain modifications. However, we want to ask: what can be done? The Port owns the land in the wildlife area that is adjacent to the enhancement area. Are there any possible enhancements to this area that could lessen the impact of the appearance of a 'moat'? Also, is the Port open to working with the County if the County acknowledges that their buffer will not visually shield the jail within the 10-year timeline?

The state has done significant research on mitigation planning in Oregon, showing that well over half of all mitigation projects are failing to meet their objectives. Is there a sufficient maintenance budget coupled with the Port's plantings to ensure success?

The Friends believe that the Port is capable of high quality enhancement projects. In particular, we are impressed with the Port's work at Vanport Wetlands. We look forward to continuing a dialog on both the Port's and County's enhancement projects adjacent to the Wapato Correctional Facility.

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Frank Opila
Board Director, Friends of Smith & Bybee Lakes
Phone: 503-283-1145

cc: Lt. Jay Heidenrich, Multnomah County Sheriff's Office
Bill Wyatt, Executive Director, Port of Portland
Denise Rennis, Port of Portland
Elaine Stewart, Metro, Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area manager
David Bragdon, Metro President