

# **Completion Summary for City of Portland Outfall Basin 15**

## **1 Summary**

The City of Portland (City) has been addressing source control concerns related to the City conveyance systems for more than four decades, and several City programs have evolved to meet changing regulatory requirements and watershed health objectives. Following the 2000 listing of Portland Harbor on the National Priorities List, the City initiated a new partnership with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Cleanup Program to identify specific sources of contaminants to City stormwater conveyance systems in the harbor that were not being adequately controlled. This report summarizes the results of this collaborative effort in Outfall Basin 15.

The City has completed its source evaluation objectives in Basin 15 and determined that future discharges from the basin are not likely to represent a significant source to the Willamette River. Basin 15 is located on the west side of the river near River Mile (RM) 10.4, between NW Front Avenue and the river. The basin drainage area is entirely a small portion of one industrial site (the former Sulzer Bingham Pumps facility), which is conducting a stormwater pathway evaluation under DEQ Cleanup Program oversight. This evaluation will determine whether source controls are needed to address contaminant discharges from the site to the river via Outfall 15. Because the one potential source area has been identified and is being controlled, the City has met its remedial investigation (RI)/ Source Control Measures (SCM) objectives for Basin 15.

## **2 Introduction**

This Completion Summary presents a weight-of-evidence evaluation of whether further source investigation is needed in Basin 15, and the rationale for concluding that future discharges from the basin are not likely to be significant sources of contaminants to river sediment. The purpose of this report is to demonstrate that, for Basin 15, the City has met the joint RI/SCM objectives of the August 13, 2003, intergovernmental agreement (IGA) between the City and DEQ.

This report is included in Appendix A of the *Municipal Stormwater Source Control Report for Portland Harbor* (Municipal Report), which provides additional background and detail regarding the City's harborwide source control efforts, including regulatory and non-regulatory programs to address current and future sources and to minimize recontamination potential.

## **3 Outfall and Basin Setting**

### **3.1 Basin Location and Configuration**

Outfall 15 discharges to the west side of the Willamette River near RM 10.4, just north of the Pearl District. The outfall currently serves a 1.1-acre stormwater basin. Historically, this outfall drained a larger area that was diverted to the City wastewater treatment plant in 2006 as part of the City's Combined Sewer Overflow Abatement Program. Figure 1 shows the location of the

outfall and current drainage basin boundary and provides an overview of the associated stormwater conveyance system.

### **3.2 Land Use and Potential Upland Sources**

Land use in Basin 15 is heavy industrial, and operations are limited to a portion of a single property, the former Sulzer site. The basin is within a part of the property that was divided in approximately 2007 and sold to Dolan Designs. The Basin 15 portion of the Dolan property is used for offices and truck parking.

The former Sulzer site is a DEQ Cleanup Program site (Environmental Cleanup Site Information [ECSI] #1235) and is conducting a stormwater source control evaluation for the entire former property under DEQ oversight. Contaminants of interest for the site stormwater pathway evaluation include polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH), total petroleum hydrocarbons, and metals (Anchor et al., 2012). The source control evaluation includes evaluation of stormwater discharges from the portion of the site draining to Outfall 15. Additionally, the former Sulzer site operated under a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) 1200-Z industrial stormwater permit before splitting and selling the former eastern portion of their property. Current operations within the basin do not require NPDES industrial stormwater permit coverage.

Groundwater contamination is present at the former Sulzer site. The City evaluated existing site groundwater data and the identified plume does not appear to intersect the Basin 15 outfall pipe (GSI, 2006). DEQ is evaluating potential groundwater pathways at the former Sulzer site as part of the site investigation.

### **3.3 Outfall Setting**

Outfall 15 discharges upstream of a river reach identified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as an area of potential concern (AOPC 24) for metals and polychlorinated biphenyls, based on results of river sediment sampling (EPA, 2010). AOPC 24 borders most of the former Sulzer site.

## **4 Basin Screening and Source Investigations**

Basin screening and source investigation was not conducted by the City in the basin because the entire basin area is being addressed under the DEQ Cleanup Program. Sulzer collected stormwater and catch basin solids samples from the portion of the conveyance system draining to Outfall 15 as part of the site's source control evaluation (GeoDesign, 2012) and additional source investigation work is underway (GeoDesign, 2013).

## **5 Completion of Source Identification**

The only site within Basin 15 is the former Sulzer site, which is conducting a stormwater source control evaluation under DEQ Cleanup Program oversight. Therefore, no additional source tracing is warranted.

## 6 Basin Source Control Measures

Source control measures are being implemented and planned under DEQ oversight at the former Sulzer site (see Figure 1). Measures include stormwater line and catch basin cleanout (2006) and additional line cleanout planned for 2013 (DEQ, 2013). If future industrial activities in the basin drainage area change and result in industrial exposures to stormwater, these activities will be evaluated by the City's Industrial Stormwater Program to determine whether a DEQ Water Quality NPDES industrial stormwater permit is warranted. This program is described in the Municipal Report.

## 7 Conclusion

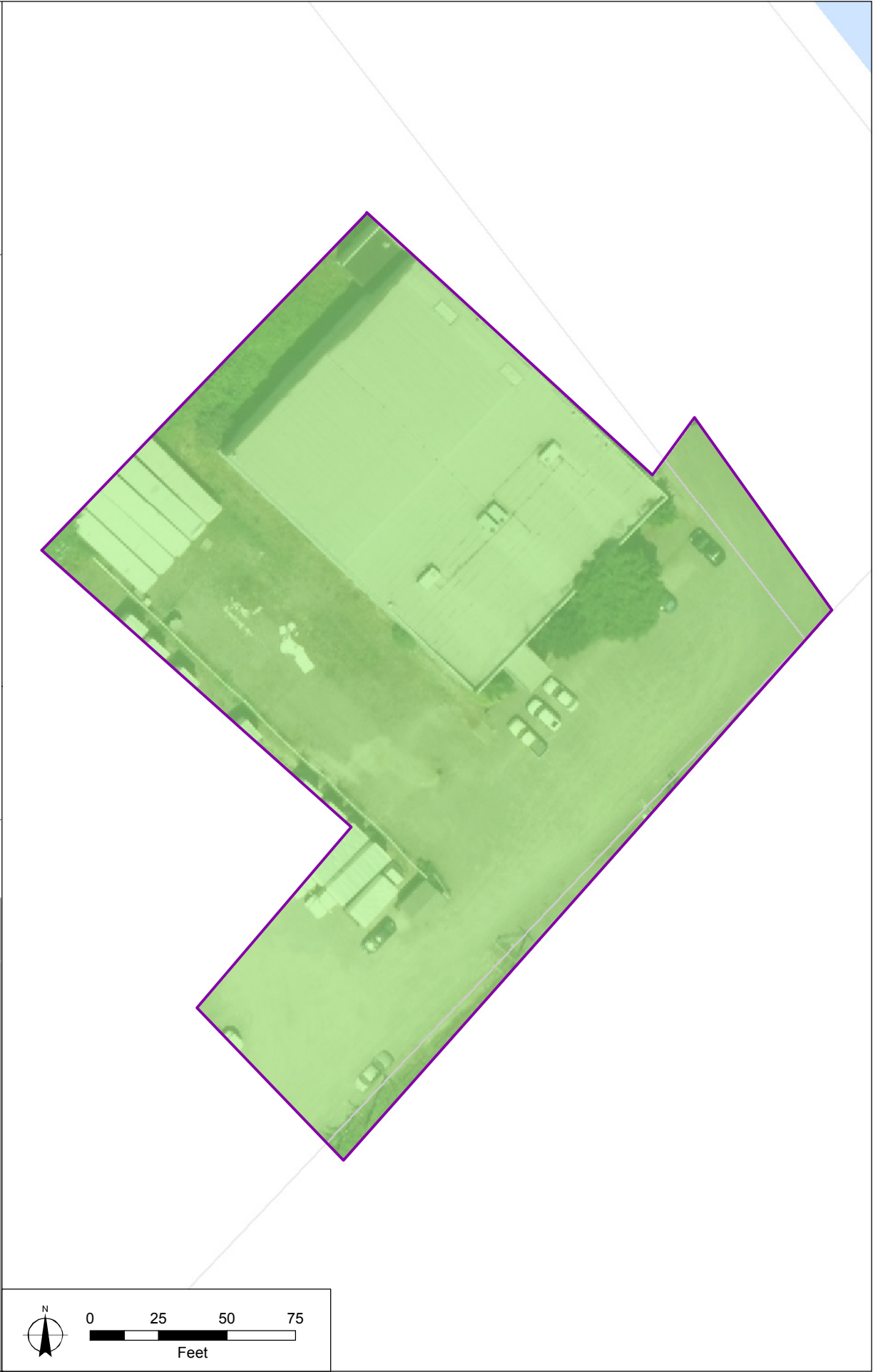
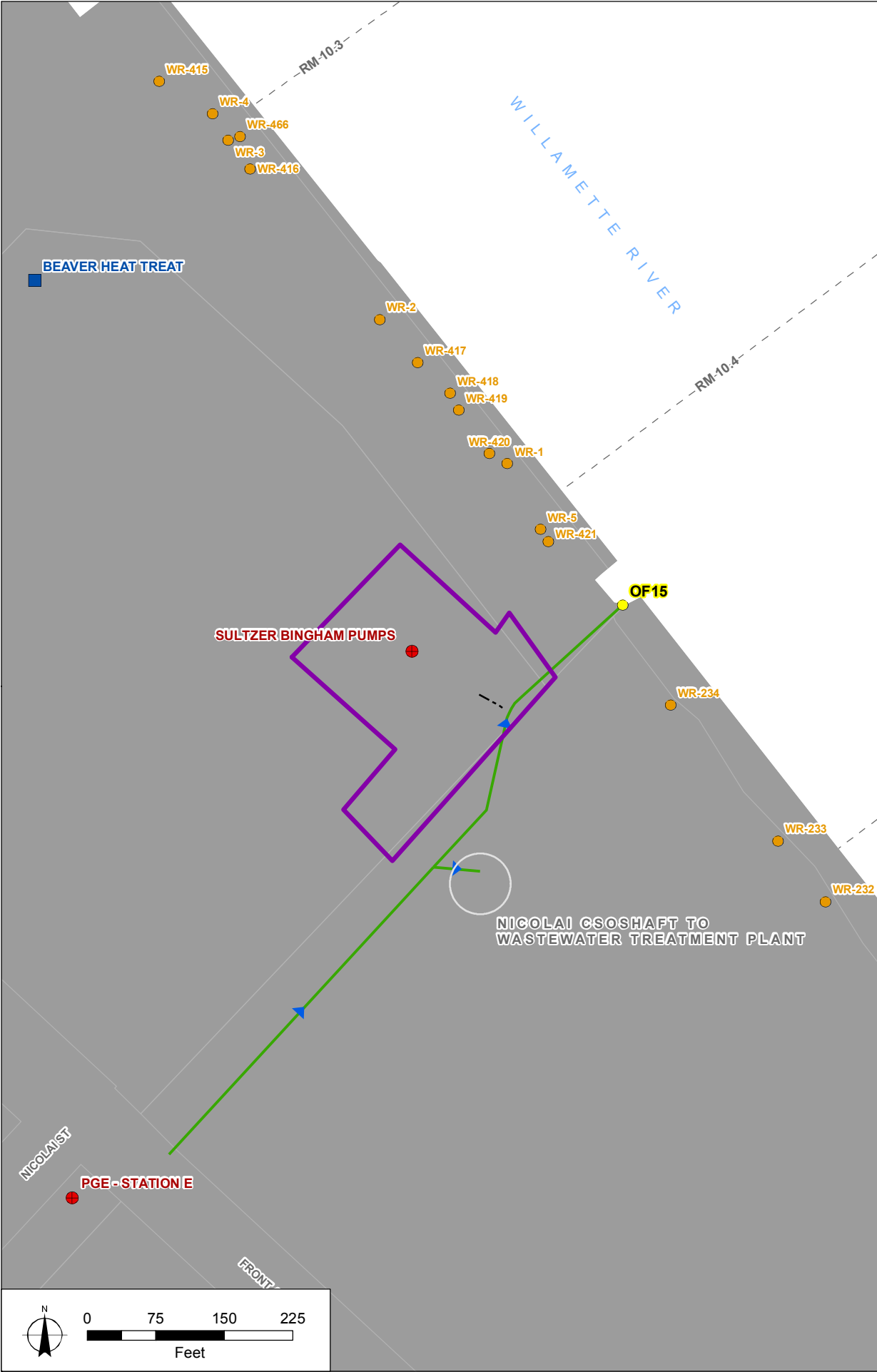
Only one site is located within the Basin 15 drainage area, and the need for stormwater source control measures at this site is being evaluated under DEQ authority. Future discharges from Outfall 15 therefore are unlikely to represent a significant source of contaminants to the river. The City concludes that it has met the RI/SCM objectives of the IGA and requests a source control decision from DEQ for Basin 15.

## 8 References

- Anchor et al. 2012. Portland Harbor RI/FS Draft Feasibility Study. Prepared for The Lower Willamette Group by Anchor QEA, LLC, Windward Environmental, LLC, Kennedy/Jenks Consultants, and Integral Consulting, Inc. February 2012.
- DEQ. 2013. Milestone Report, Upland Source Control at the Portland Harbor Superfund Site. Prepared by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. January 2013.
- EPA. 2010. Re: Portland Harbor Superfund Site; Administrative Order on Consent for Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study; Docket No. CERCLA-10-2001-0240. Portland Harbor Feasibility Study Source Tables. Letter from EPA to Mr. Bob Wyatt, Chairman, Lower Willamette Group. November 23, 2010.
- GeoDesign. 2012. Source Control Evaluation, Sulzer Pumps Facility, 2800 NW Front Avenue, Portland, Oregon, DEQ ECSI No. 1235. Prepared for Sulzer Pumps (US) Inc. by GeoDesign, Inc. June 1, 2012.
- GeoDesign. 2013. Revised Work Plan, Additional Source Control Evaluation Activities, Sulzer Pumps Facility, 2800 NW Front Avenue, Portland, Oregon, DEQ ECSI No. 1235. Prepared for Sulzer Pumps (US) Inc. by GeoDesign, Inc. June 7, 2013.
- GSI. 2006. Relationships between Upland Shallow Groundwater Plumes and the City Stormwater and Combined Conveyance System with the Portland Harbor. Technical Memorandum prepared by Groundwater Solutions, Inc., for the City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services. March 16, 2006.

## List of Figures

Figure 1: Basin 15 Overview and Upland Site Source Controls



**FIGURE 1**  
**Basin 15**  
**Overview and Upland Site Source Controls**

- Basin 15
- DEQ ECSI Site
- Conveyance System**
  - Storm Line
  - Site Connection
  - City Outfall
  - Non-City Outfall
- Land Use/Zoning**
  - Heavy Industrial
- DEQ Stormwater SCE**
  - SCEs implemented or pending
- All Other Features**
  - River Mile (RM)
  - Tax Lot
  - Discharges to City Outfall
  - Portland Harbor Hydroboundary

**MAP NOTES:**  
Date: December 31, 2013  
Data Sources: BES, METRO

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