



Public Community Meeting on the Anacostia River

with a special presentation on the Anacostia River Sediment Project

April 24, 2018

Agenda

- 7:00 Registration and Open House (Tables)
- 7:10 Welcome (Director Tommy Wells, District Department of Energy & Environment - DOEE)
- 7:15 Meeting Goals (Pastor Kitchen, Zion Baptist of Eastland Gardens)
- 7:20 Description of Tables (Jim Foster, AWS)
- 7:25 The Anacostia River: Past and Present (Richard Jackson, Deputy Director, DOEE)
- 7:45 Anacostia River Sediment Project (ARSP) Risk Assessments
(June Mire, Tetra Tech on behalf of DOEE)
- 8:00 ARSP Schedule and How To Comment on ARSP Documents
(Gretchen Mikeska, Anacostia Coordinator, DOEE)
- 8:10 Q & A (Justin Lini, ANC7D07)
- 8:30 Open House (Tables)
- 9:00 Adjourn (Pastor Kitchen, Zion Baptist of Eastland Gardens)

Tweeting?

#AnacostiaRiver

@DOEE_DC

#ARSP0418

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Goals

- Learn about the Anacostia River Sediment Project (ARSP)
- Provide Public Comments to recently released ARSP Reports
- Discover recreational opportunities along the Anacostia River

Tables

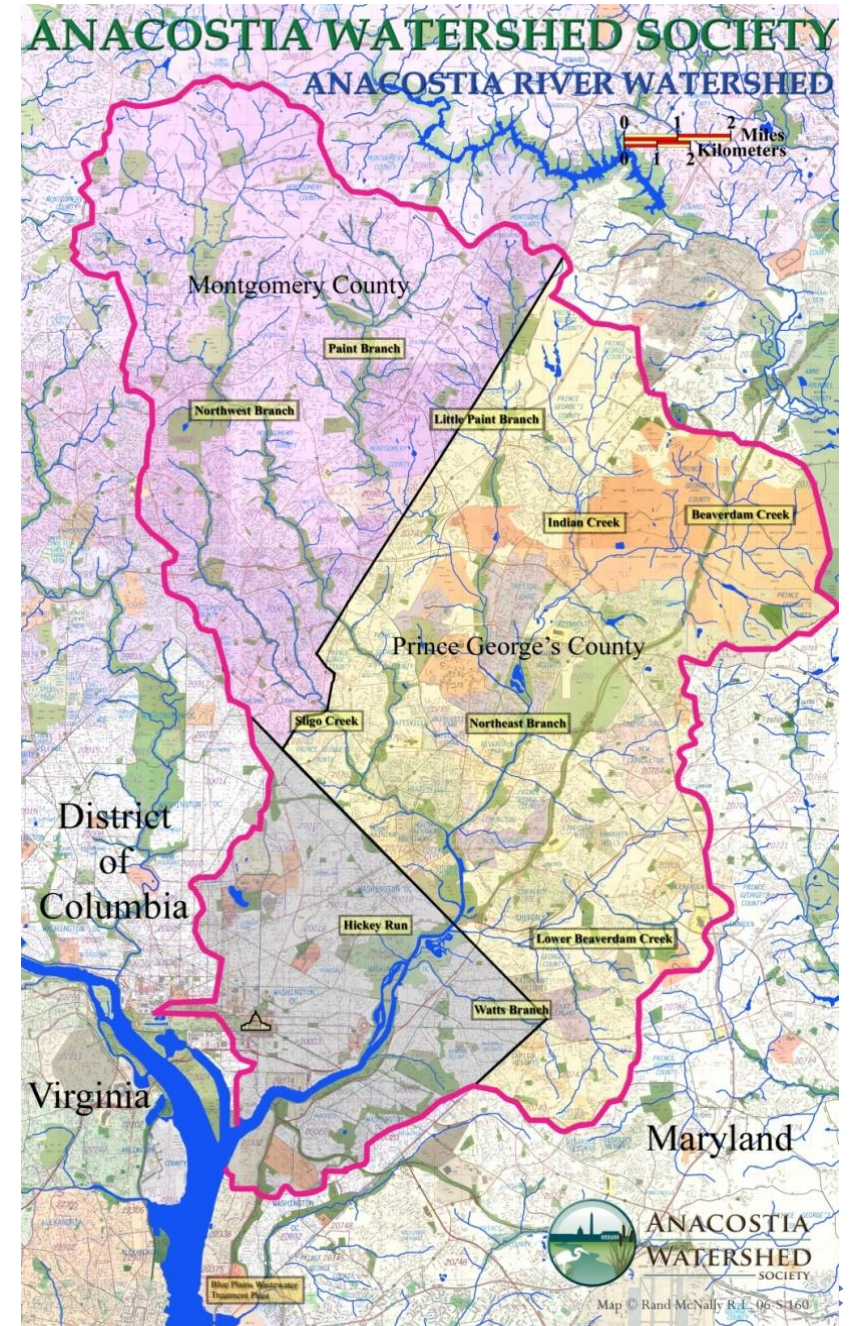
- Alice Ferguson Foundation: Trash in the Anacostia Watershed
- Anacostia Park and Community Collaborative and Anacostia Waterfront Trust: Year of the Anacostia
- Anacostia Riverkeeper
- Anacostia Watershed Restoration Partnership (MWCOCG)
- Anacostia Watershed Society
- DOEE: Anacostia River Sediment Project and Anacostia River Use Survey
- DC Water: Anacostia River Tunnel and Green Infrastructure Projects
- National Park Service: 100 year Anniversary of Anacostia Park

A photograph of a river scene. In the foreground, the water is calm and reflects the surrounding environment. A bridge with a dark metal railing spans across the river on the right side. In the background, there is a dense line of green trees. Several utility poles with power lines are visible against a clear blue sky. The overall scene is peaceful and scenic.

What are the current river conditions?

Anacostia River Watershed

The Anacostia watershed encompasses over 175 mi² within suburban Maryland and DC.



History

Native Americans

- ▶ Anacostia watershed was a thriving center of Native American culture (Nacotchtanks) in the early 1600s.

Agriculture

- ▶ Development of agriculture in 1680 was the first major change to come to the River. Tobacco became profitable. Nacotchtanks were expelled from the area.

Port of Bladensburg

- ▶ Primary seaport for Washington was located in Bladensburg due to its deep natural channel.

Deep channel

- ▶ The deep channel and James Bay was one of the main reasons the site was chosen for the Nation's capitol.

Sedimentation

- ▶ Due to agriculture, sediments entered the river and filled in the natural channel.

Sewage and runoff

- ▶ By 1865, gutters and sewers moved waste and street runoff directly to streams and rivers.

Decades of River Pollution

- Bacteria
- Trash
- Sediment
- Sewage





Why did this happen?

Past Waste Disposal Practices

- Industrial Direct Discharges
- Storm Sewers/Combined Sewers
- Agricultural Chemical Use
- Landfills
- Illegal Dumping





Anacostia Unique Challenges

- Urban River - What is Background?
- Remediation Goals - What is Clean?
- Small Watershed - Not Enough Water
- Potential for Recontamination
- Multiple Consent Orders
- National Park Requirements
- Limited Space for Handling Dredge Spoils

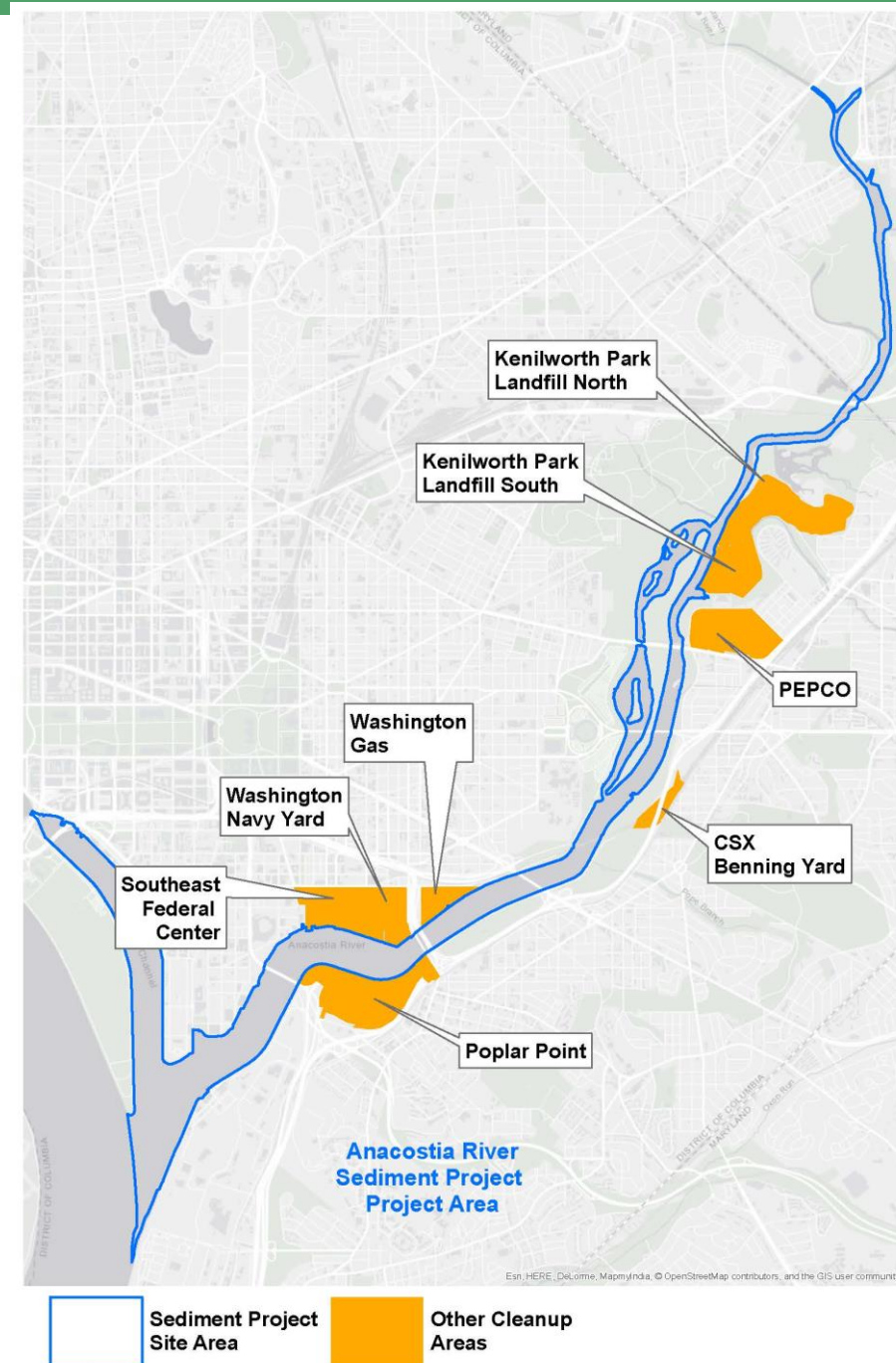
A scenic view of a river with autumn foliage reflected in the water. The trees on the banks are in various stages of fall, with some showing vibrant yellow and orange leaves, while others are still green. The sky is a clear, pale blue with a few wispy clouds. The water is calm, creating a clear reflection of the trees and sky.

What are we doing now?

Anacostia River Sediment Project (ARSP)

ARSP Project Study Area

- Tidal Anacostia River (*9 miles*)
- Kingman Lake (*1.8 miles*)
- Washington Channel (*0.2 miles*)
- 14 Potential Environmental Cleanup Sites



Remedial Investigation Objectives

- **Determine extent:**

Determine extent of contamination (surface water, sediment, biota)

- **Characterize risks:**

Characterize site to evaluate human health and ecological risks

- **Assess clean up options:**

Utilize data to support a Feasibility Study that assesses clean up options

- **Support other studies:**

Provide information to support a Natural Resources Damage Assessment

Sources of Contamination: Past Waste Disposal Practices

- Industrial Direct Discharges
- Storm Sewers (MS₄s)
- Combined Sewer Overflows
- Agricultural Chemical Use
- Landfills
- Illegal Dumping
- Contaminated Groundwater

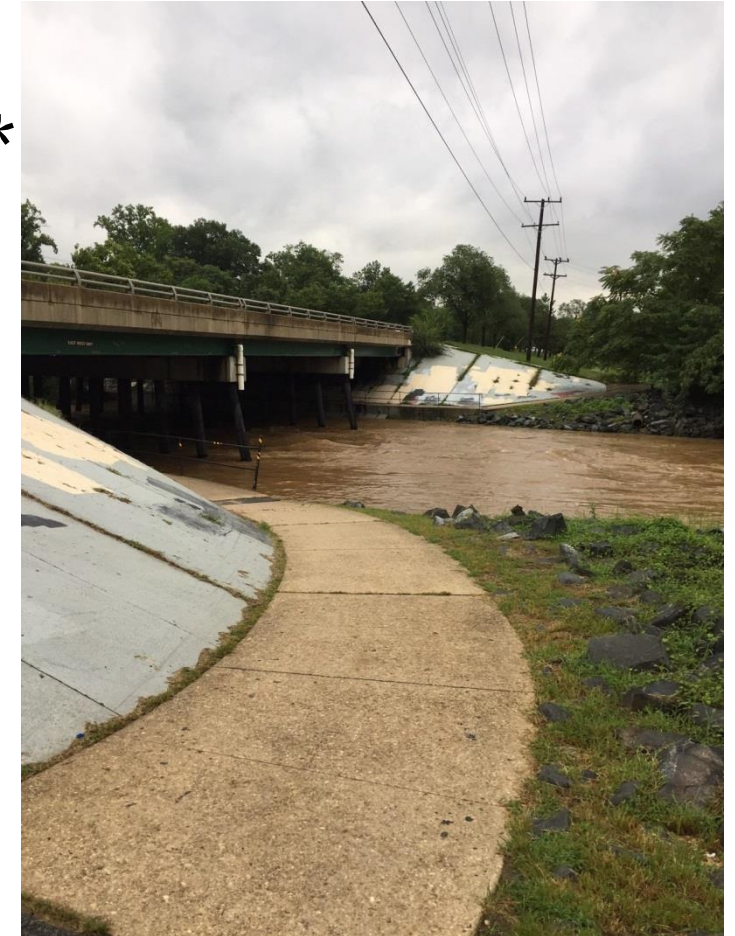


Sources of Contamination: Ongoing Sources

- Storm Sewers (MS₄s)
- Upstream Contamination from Tributaries*
- Contaminated Groundwater*
- 14 Potential Environmental Cleanup Sites*
- Combined Sewer Overflows**
- Agricultural and Urban Runoff

* *Studies ongoing*

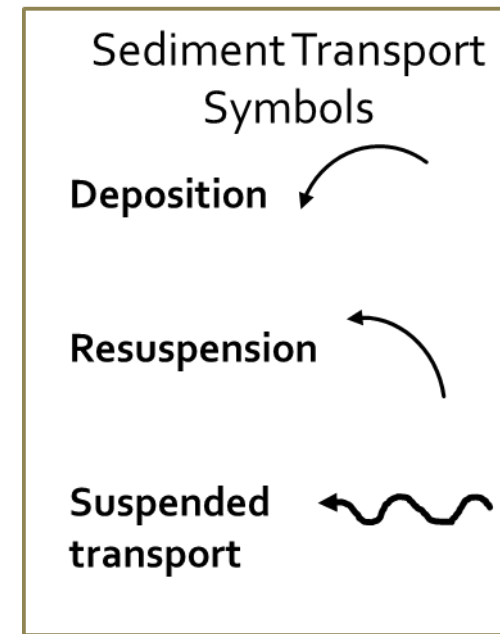
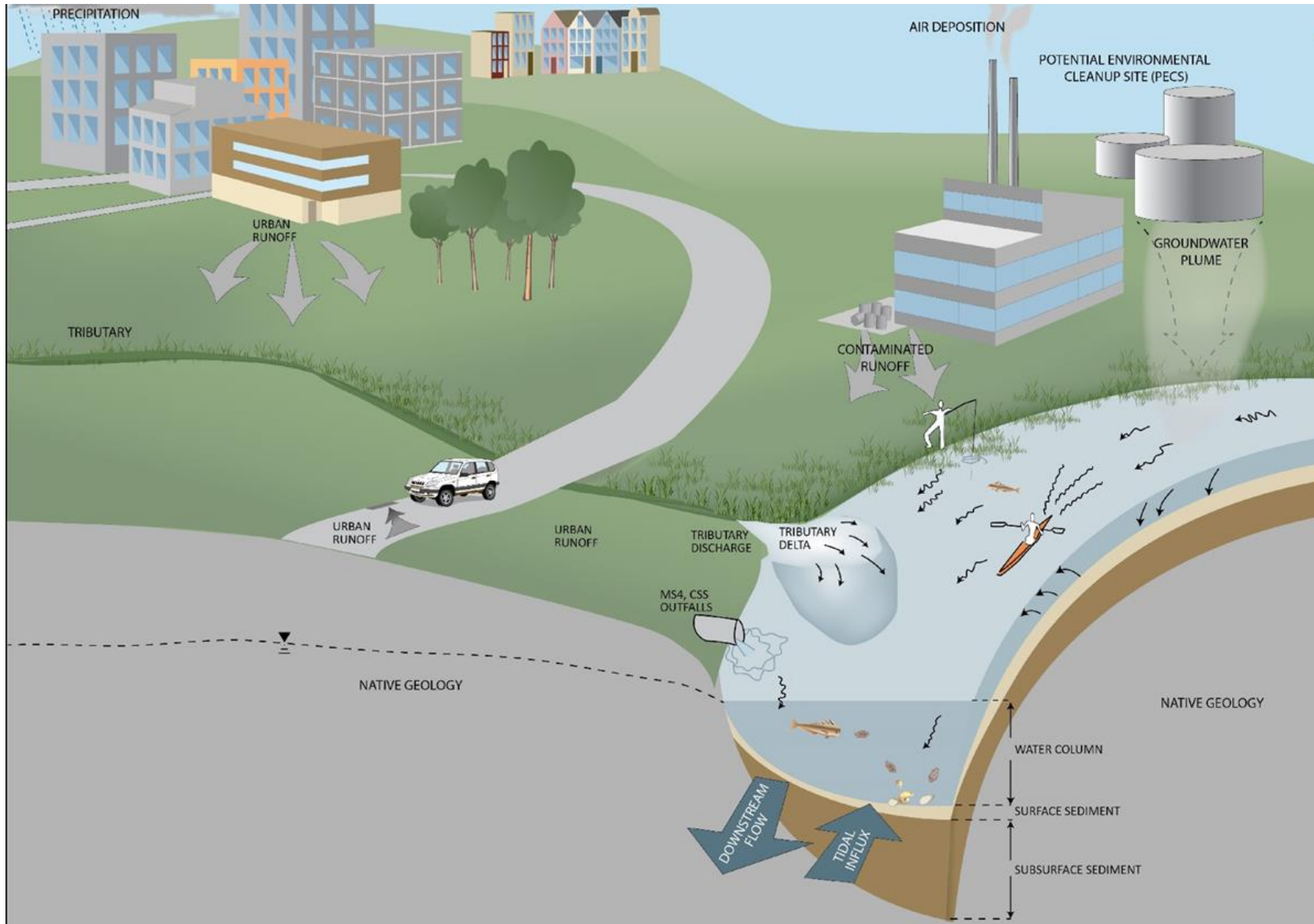
** *DC Water's Anacostia River Tunnel online March 2018*



Potential Risk to People



Conceptual Site Model (Diagram)



A person in a white kayak is paddling on a calm river. The water is still, reflecting the surrounding dense green forest and the clear blue sky. The kayaker is wearing a grey shirt and a red and black life vest. The scene is peaceful and scenic.

Human Health Risk

Human Health Risk

► Chemicals of Concern

Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs), polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), dioxin, pesticides, and metals

► Media of Concern

Surface sediment, surface water, fish tissue

► Receptors

Waders, swimmers, anglers, shoreline workers

► Potential avenues for exposure

Incidental ingestion of and dermal contact with sediment and surface water, eating (fish)

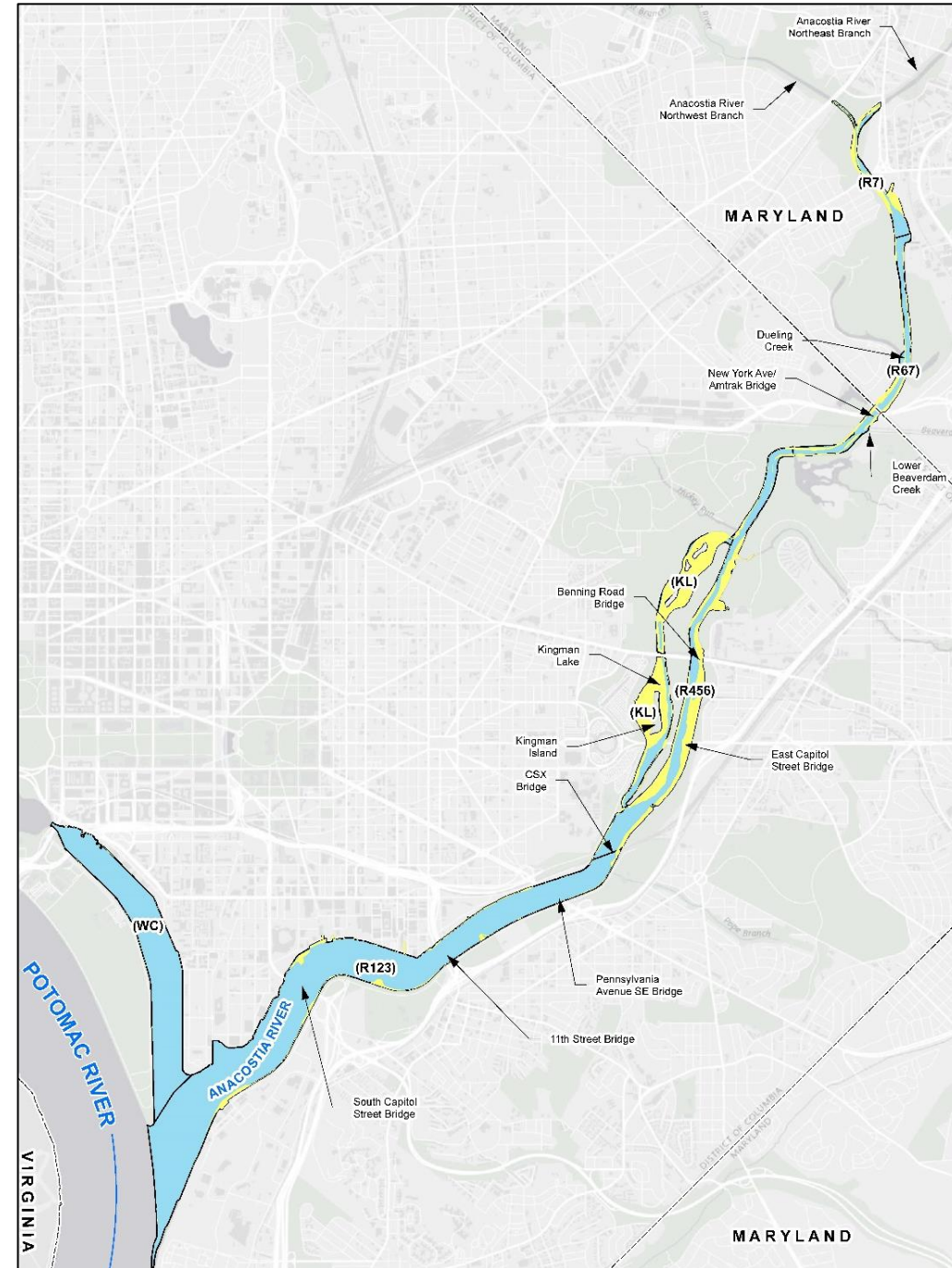
Anacostia River – Site Features and Human Health Exposure Areas

Legend

- FRINGE SEDIMENT - LOW TIDE MINUS ONE FOOT
- RIVER REACH
- WASHINGTON DC BOUNDARY

Legend

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CLEANUP SITE BOUNDARY (LAND BASED PORTION) SEDIMENT STUDY AREA WASHINGTON DC BOUNDARY | <p>RIVER REACH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (WC) - WASHINGTON CHANNEL (R123) - CSX BRIDGE TO MOUTH OF RIVER (R456) - NASH RUN TO CSX BRIDGE (R87) - BLADENSBURG MARINA TO NASH RUN (R7) - UPPER TIDAL LIMIT TO BLADENSBURG MARINA (KL) - KINGMAN LAKE |
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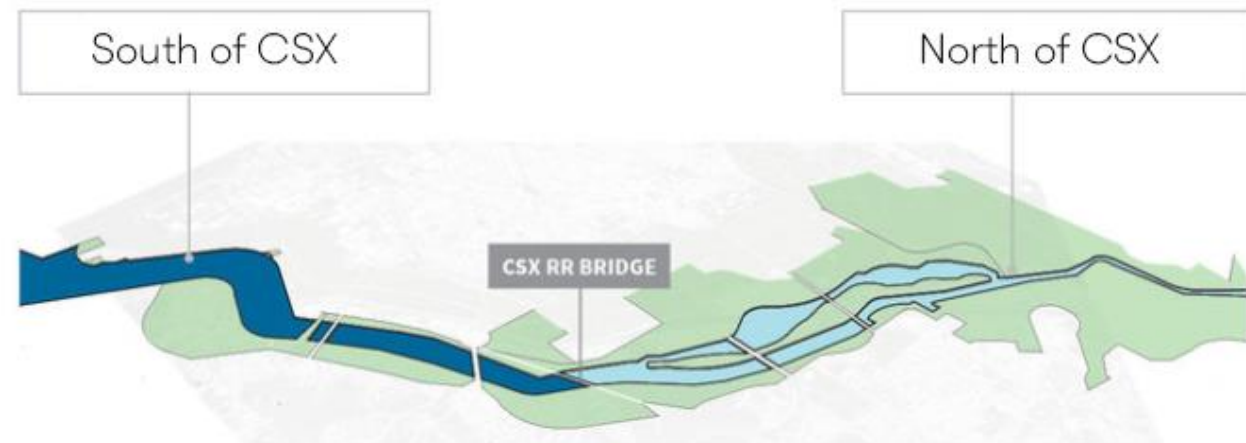
Human Health Risk Results

Sediment

- Risk from PCBs, dioxin, PAHs, and metals to waders, swimmers, anglers, and shoreline workers in the majority of the river except as noted below
- Risk less than 1 in 1 million in Washington Channel and the Anacostia River north of Bladensburg Waterfront Park

Surface Water

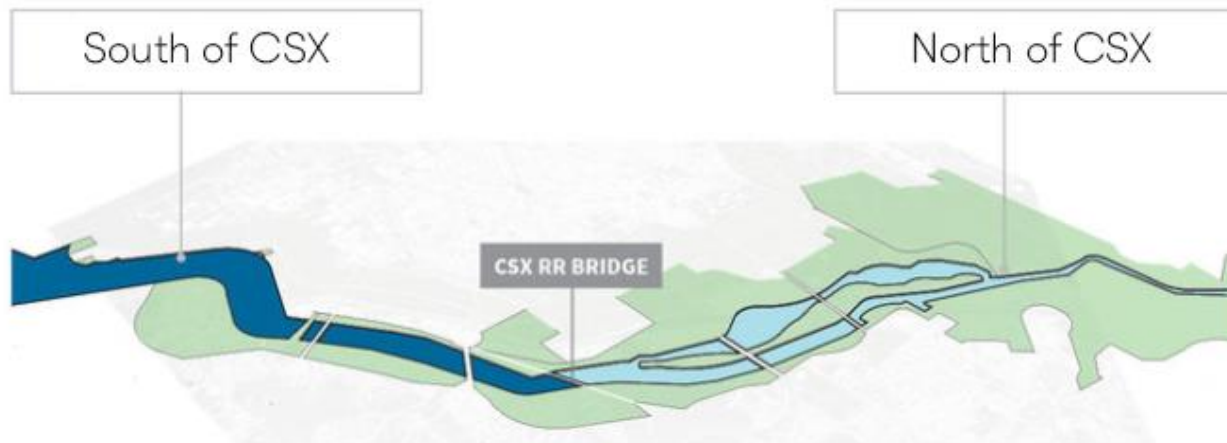
- No significant risk to swimmers anywhere in the river, except the Anacostia River north of Bladensburg Waterfront Park for PAHs



Human Health Risk Results

Fish

- Risk to anglers in the Anacostia River is greatest downstream of the CSX Bridge and in the Washington Channel.
- Risk to anglers from PCBs and metals in fish throughout the Anacostia River but is greatest below the CSX Bridge.
- Risk to anglers in the Potomac River is approximately twice the risk in the Anacostia River downstream of the CSX Bridge.



Chemicals that are of Concern for People

Polychlorinated Biphenyls and Dioxins	Exposure
Total PCB Congeners	Fish Ingestion
Dioxin-like PCBs	Fish Ingestion Sediment Contact
Dioxins	Sediment Contact
Semivolatile Organic Compounds	
Benzo(a)pyrene	Sediment Contact
Benzo(a)pyrene Equivalent (BaPE)	Sediment Contact
Dibenzo(a,h)anthracene	Surface Water
Metals	
Arsenic	Fish Ingestion
Mercury	Fish Ingestion

Pesticides	Exposure
4,4'-DDD	Fish ingestion
4,4'-DDE	Fish ingestion
Aldrin	Fish ingestion
Alpha-BHC	Fish ingestion
Chlordane	Fish ingestion
Dieldrin	Fish ingestion
Heptachlor Epoxide	Fish ingestion

A Great Egret stands on a mossy log in a calm lake. The background is a dense forest with green and yellow foliage, suggesting an autumn setting. The water is still, reflecting the bird and the surrounding environment.

Ecological Risk

Ecological Risk

- **Chemicals of Concern**

PCBs, Dioxins, and Chlordane (pesticide)

- **Conceptual Site Model - Food Web**

- **Data Evaluated in the Ecological Risk Assessment (ERA)**

- Surface Sediment
- Surface Water
- Pore Water
- Fish, Snail, Clam, Crayfish, and Turtle Tissue
- Laboratory Toxicity Tests



Ecological Conceptual Site Model



Benthic invertebrates in the sediment are not shown.

Ecological Risk Results

Birds and Mammals

- ▶ Little or no risk

Benthic Invertebrates (snails, clams, crayfish)

- ▶ Uptake of chemicals into animal tissues but no clear evidence of harm
- ▶ Toxic effects of sediment in laboratory studies were not linked to specific chemicals

Fish

- ▶ Little difference in fish tissue concentrations between non-tidal Anacostia background and tidal Anacostia Study Area
- ▶ Toxic effects in larval fish were observed in 5 of 31 samples (Reach 123, Reach 456 and Kingman Lake)

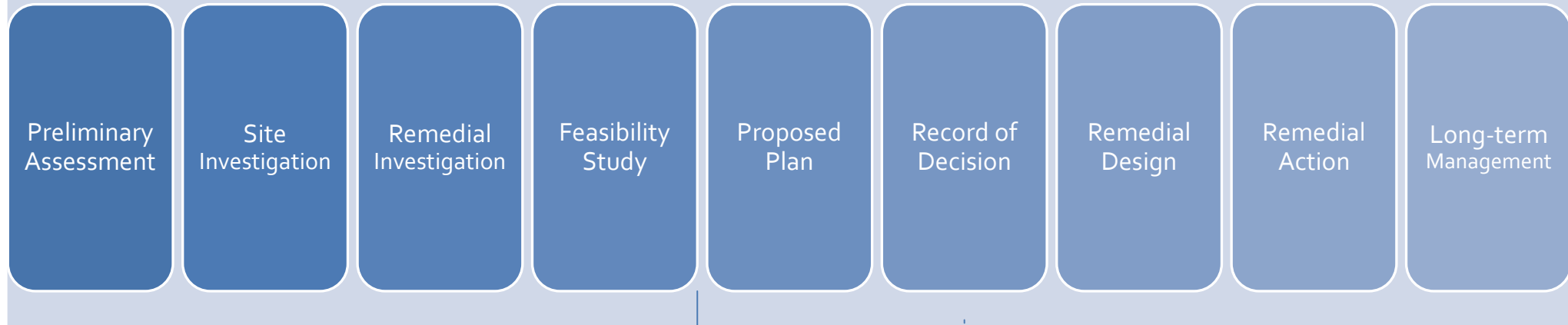
Chemicals of Concern Summary

	Human Health Risk	Ecological Risk
Polychlorinated Biphenyls and Dioxins	✓	✓
Organic Hydrocarbon Compounds (PAHs)	✓	
Legacy Pesticides	✓	✓
Metals (Arsenic and Mercury)	✓	



What's next?

Timeline



2018

- Remedial Investigation Report
- Feasibility Study (FS) Report
 - Draft FS (August 2018)*
 - Final FS (December 2018)*
- Public Comment Periods

Early 2019

- Proposed Plan
- Public Comment Period

Late 2019 (December 31, 2019)

- Record of Decision

Anacostia Goals: Fishable/Swimmable/Boatable!



Public Comment Period: Now through May 14, 2018

ARSP documents now open for Public Comment:

- ▶ Remedial Investigation Report
- ▶ Human Health Risk Assessment
- ▶ Ecological Risk Assessment

How to Review the ARSP Documents:

- ▶ **Download** from the Department's website, at www.doe.dc.gov/Anacostiasediment
- ▶ **Email** a request to DOEE.sedimentproject@dc.gov
- ▶ **Review the report in person** at DOEE or select DC Libraries (Rosedale, Francis A. Gregory)

Thanks to the planning team:

Brent Bolin, Clean Water Action

Susie Cambria, Volunteer Consultant

Jim Foster, Anacostia Watershed Society

Erin Garnaas-Holmes, Urban Waters Partnership/Anacostia Waterfront Trust

Pastor Keith Kitchen, Zion Baptist Church

Malusi Kitchen

Justin Lini, ANC 7D07 Commissioner

And all our Tablers: Alice Ferguson Foundation, Anacostia Park & Community Collaborative, Anacostia Watershed Society, Anacostia Watershed Restoration Partnership, Anacostia Riverkeeper, DC Water, National Park Service

Questions?

★ ★ ★ DEPARTMENT
OF ENERGY &
ENVIRONMENT