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Parks and Nature

2018 Nature Education and Outdoor Experiences Grant

3/6/2018 deadline

Portland Harbor Community Coalition (PHCC) [Social Good Fund is the fiscal sponsor] Portland Harbor Access & Cultural Ties To the River

\$ 30,000.00 Requested
\$ 50,000 Estimated Match

Submitted: 3/6/2018 2:27:23 PM (Pacific)

Project Contact

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Additional Contacts

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Portland Harbor Community Coalition (PHCC) [Social Good Fund is the fiscal sponsor]

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
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[Redacted]

Telephone [Redacted]
Fax [Redacted]
Web h [Redacted]
EIN 4 [Redacted]

Application Questions

1. Program summary (one paragraph, 255 characters)

Provide a brief summary that describes your program.

This program connects and re-connects youth and adults to the Portland Harbor through culturally-specific events and outings that educate about the Willamette River and Superfund Site and inspire a reverence for nature.

2. Fiscal agent

If different than the lead organization. If no fiscal agent, please write "not applicable".

Social Good Fund (PHCC is happy to share more about them and our agreement upon request).

3. Program partners

Committed partner organizations.

Get Hooked, LLC; East European Coalition; American Indian Movement - Portland Chapter; [Redacted]

4. Potential partners

Potential partner organizations.

Two Spirit Nation; Portland All Nations Canoe Family; Purépecha community; the Mexica and Azteca communities; the Guatemala Maya community

5. Program length

(Select only one)

- ☒ One year
☐ Two years
☐ Three years

6. Program narrative (up to one page, 4000 characters)

Provide a narrative that describes the program. Explain why the program is important for your community and organization, such as how it fits your organization's strategic plan or mission.

The mission of the Portland Harbor Community Coalition (PHCC) is to raise the voices of communities most impacted by pollution in the cleanup of the Portland Harbor Superfund Site, including Native, Black/African American, immigrant, refugee, and people

experiencing homelessness. Since our inception in 2012, grassroots organizations led by these communities have made up our core membership, and we are supported by environmental organizations such as the Sierra Club - Oregon chapter and the Audubon Society of Portland. We strive to ensure that diverse people - especially impacted communities - benefit from the harbor's cleanup and redevelopment. Cleanup is expected to take at least 13 years and cost over a billion dollars.

Two interrelated parts of our work are educating coalition members and the broader public about the Portland Harbor, and providing space for people to access nature. Over a century of industrial pollution is buried in the soil and sediment in an 11-mile stretch of the Willamette, from the Broadway Bridge to nearly the confluence with the Columbia River. Traditionally home, fishing, and trading grounds for the Multnomah, Kathlamet, Chinook, Clackamas, Kalapuya, and many other tribes, Native people and others are now cut off from historically important land and food sources. Many of PHCC's constituents cannot afford to live near the river, yet maintain strong connections to the river and continue to fish for subsistence or cultural reasons.

Support from Metro - Nature in the Neighborhood will contribute to our program "Access & Cultural Ties To the River" (ACTR). This program entails holding quarterly culturally-specific events that introduce people who are new to learning about the harbor to nature and activities taking place there, as well as deepening understandings for people who are already familiar. For this grant cycle, we will host events with four of PHCC's core communities: Eastern Europeans, in collaboration with the East European Coalition (EEC); [REDACTED] Native Americans, in collaboration with American Indian Movement (AIM) - Portland chapter; and diverse youth and families, in collaboration with the Black/African American-led group Get Hooked Foundation.

These quarterly events through our ACTR program complement our other programming by providing space for newcomers to learn in a facilitated yet relaxed setting, and veteran members to deepen their learning and connections. Such cultural connections are imperative to cultivate, as they engage people who otherwise might not get involved. They also help develop the background understanding necessary to participate in our other program areas, around environmental policy and economic equity. PHCC works with local and federal public agencies to track cleanup progress, and works with other organizations to ensure that impacted community members have access to cleanup jobs. These are both very technical areas, and culturally-specific learning helps people get involved and build the necessary background to participate more deeply. There is a dearth of involvement of communities of color in both environmental policy and green jobs; ACTR is one avenue to helping more people get and stay involved.

PHCC has a long tradition of hosting such culturally-specific events. For instance, PHCC has co-hosted Water Ceremonies with the Portland chapter of the American Indian Movement (AIM) on the banks of the Willamette, which involve Native-led prayers and cross-cultural dialogue for approximately 30 participants. PHCC has also facilitated workshops for 50 Slavic youth at the only Russian-speaking youth leadership conference in the country, providing information about safe fishing practices for youth from families that stock their freezers with resident fish. This grant will allow us to build on prior programming by increasing numbers of participants and expanding our reach to more culturally-specific commu

7. Goals (up to one page, 4000 characters)

Describe how the program addresses the Nature in Neighborhood nature education and outdoor experiences grant's purpose and goals.

PHCC's ACTR program fundamentally addresses the Nature in the Neighborhood purpose, to "support and create partnerships in local communities that improve water quality, fish and wildlife habitat and connect people with nature." We bring people from diverse backgrounds together to learn from one another through the harbor, while celebrating the traditions of particular groups. In turn, by deepening relationships with the river through educational opportunities, our members work for the harbor's cleanup to enhance healthy habitat for fish, wildlife, and people.

Cultural Equity - This grant will also allow us to expand on past Water Ceremonies; we intend for at least 50 people from different backgrounds attend our Water Ceremony next year. In addition to providing space for Native people to connect to the river and learn about the harbor, this gathering will allow us to connect with communities new to our work. We will invite other indigenous groups such as Two Spirit Nation and Portland All Nations Canoe Family, and the Purépecha, Mexico, and Mayan communities.

[REDACTED]

Environmental Equity - Too often, communities of color are left out of environmental planning processes and do not have access to green space. PHCC was borne out of a need to help communities most impacted by harbor pollution learn about the planning process, steer the cleanup, and benefit from remediation and redevelopment. Our culturally-specific programming helps us build a base of community members who are invested in increasing access to nature along the river for impacted communities to steward in the years to come.

This grant will help us engage diverse youth and families in nature in a culturally-responsive way. Get Hooked Foundation (GH) (grant Co-Applicant) is a Black/African American-led group formed in 2016 to introduce at-risk children and families to the outdoors

through fishing. GH leaders and participants are intimately familiar with the Portland Harbor through outings on the river. This grant will help fund three fishing and education outings for youth and families from culturally-specific communities at the Portland Harbor Superfund site, as well as one cultural, youth-focused gathering with a much larger group of young people and adults that combines culturally-specific entertainment and education. GH also hopes to help conduct fish sampling as part of the baseline sampling plan in the Superfund cleanup.

Economic Equity - Another important part of PHCC's work is ensuring that community benefits and standards emerge as part of the cleanup, restoration and redevelopment. Long-term, we hope to secure job training and job opportunities for impacted communities in the harbor, and we are working with several partner organizations toward this outcome. The culturally-specific educational opportunities of our ACTR program will help ensure that we maintain and expand strong relationships of trust with communities who will access those job opportunities.

8. Partnerships (up to one page, 4000 characters)

Show how partnerships and collaboration with other individuals, organizations and groups in your community will be formed, strengthened and extended through this program.

Funding from Nature in Neighborhoods will allow PHCC to offer its core member organizations culturally-specific opportunities through our ACTR program, which raise awareness and educate communities about the ongoing impacts of Portland Harbor Superfund Site, including exploration of safe ways to access the harbor waterfront and river. Through this program, we will build and strengthen partnerships with a number of organizations, including the four groups with whom we will co-lead culturally-specific educational events/outings: Get Hooked, East European Coalition, [REDACTED], and American Indian Movement-Portland chapter.

Get Hooked leaders have been active with PHCC since October 2017. During this time, Get Hooked leaders have become oriented to our work by attending our coalition meetings and exchanging information on social media. One of our staff members, a life-long Black Portlander whose family has fished in the harbor since the 1950s, even went fishing for the first time ever with Get Hooked founders. The Nature in Neighborhood grant is an exciting opportunity for Get Hooked and PHCC to imagine a more intentional partnership in the next year and a half. In addition to our work with Get Hooked, this grant will allow us to continue our already-strong partnership with the East European Coalition by once again hosting culturally-specific programming at the Russian-Speaking Youth Leadership Conference. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. And, as outlined above, it will allow us to continue to support Portland's Native community as well as build relationships with other indigenous communities with whom we are connected but have not formed full partnerships, including Two Spirit Nation, the Purépecha community, the Mexica and Azteca communities, the Guatemalteca Mayan community, and Portland All Nations Canoe Family.

More broadly, East European Coalition, [REDACTED], Get Hooked, AIM- Portland Chapter, Right 2 Survive, Lideres Verdes, Wisdom of the Elders, Portland Youth and Elders Council, and NAACP currently make up our core groups. Our Steering Committee is comprised entirely of leaders from these organizations, and all members are people of color or immigrants. All of our core members and supporters bring important skills and capacities that will contribute to the success of our ACTR programming. Our core member groups have a wealth of culturally-specific knowledge and experience, which is imperative to ensuring that our programs are relevant for diverse audiences. They also have a collective base of thousands of people who we can outreach to for our educational program. The ACTR program will help all of these groups continue to learn from one another, breaking down traditional cultural and language barriers.

PHCC also works with a number of other advisors and supportive groups and governments, such as the Yakama Nation, Sierra Club (Oregon Chapter), Portland Harbor Community Advisory Group, Audubon Society of Portland, Willamette Riverkeeper, and various labor and workforce development groups. Organizations have all joined our coalition based on their commitment to a robust harbor cleanup that benefits impacted communities. They bring expertise around the technical aspects of environmental remediation, policy, Tribal history and needs, and other important perspectives. PHCC also has partnerships and is working to form additional relationships with governments around planning community engagement, public health outreach, future restoration opportunities, and community benefits and standards, including with the Port of Portland, City of Portland, Metro, DEQ, the Governor's Office, Yakama Nation, and the Natural Resource Trustee Council (which includes 5 tribes, Department of Fish and Wildlife, Department of State Lands, and NOAA).

9. Organizational preparedness (up to one page, 4000 characters)

Explain why your organization and your partners have the experience and capacity to conduct the program, including identification of key personnel, their roles in the program and their qualifications.

PHCC has the structure in place to provide culturally-specific educational opportunities through ACTR. People are often initially shocked to hear the extent of the contamination and the complexity involved with cleaning it up; through engaging with PHCC, they also acquire deep knowledge and a sense of commitment to being a part of making the river safe and beautiful for generations to come. In addition to dozens of activated members and a dedicated Steering Committee (entirely people of color or immigrants), we have a full-time coalition coordinator, two part-time (PT) organizers, a PT media/communications specialist, and PT development specialist on our team. Collectively, we have decades of environmental education experience, and we are a cohesive team with a shared commitment to carrying out our mission.

PHCC Staff/Contractors

*Cassie Cohen, PHCC Coordinator, founded PHCC in 2012 when she served as the director of Groundwork Portland, an environmental justice organization that worked with at-risk youth. She previously helped coordinate the citywide visioning project for Portland called visionPDX, working with a diverse, intersectional alliance of individuals and groups. She provides supervision to

the team and is the direct liaison to the Steering Committee.

*Ibrahim Mubarak is the founder of houseless rights organizations Dignity Village, Right to Dream Too, and Right 2 Survive. Ibrahim is Right 2 Survive's Executive Director (PT) and works for PHCC as a community organizer (PT). Communities across the country seek Ibrahim's consultation on addressing the challenges of the houseless community living in urban green spaces. Alejandra Ruiz, Community Organizer (PT), has years of environmental justice and youth organizing experience in California, including stopping a major source of air pollution in her hometown. Both PHCC Community Organizers provide support and coordination for coalition partners to refine Portland Harbor curriculum and educational trainings, and to lead culturally-specific events and outings along the river.

*Donovan Smith, Media/Communications Coordinator (PT) is an artist and has worked as a journalist for the Scanner, Portland Observer, and independently. Donovan facilitates workshops about Portland's Black history, and has produced an Oregon Humanities film about gentrification. Donovan helps coordinate events and highlights our work on social media, culturally-specific media sources, and to our supporters.

PHCC Steering Committee Members

*Ms. Wilma Alcock just celebrated her 80th birthday. Ms. Wilma grew up fishing in the harbor with her family. Her father worked in the Portland shipyards and was exposed to toxins on the job, contributing to health problems and premature death. Ms. Wilma is involved in AARP's local Black Chapter.

*Art McConville is Nez Perce and Cayuse and an enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. He has worked with and learned from Native Elders for 40 years. His relationship with water began in childhood, living on the shores of Idaho's Clearwater River. Art is dedicated to saving the purity of our water and has been helping lead PHCC since 2012 as an AIM member.

*Pedro Moreno coordinates the Líderes Verde program, a PHCC core member since 2012. He engages and educates Latino/a leaders who live in N/NE Portland about environmental issues, including the Portland Harbor.

*Vadim Riskin serves diverse parents at Portland Public Schools and has been leading the East European Coalition for over 20 years, serving and educating Slavic youth. For the last 2 years, the Russian-Speaking Youth Leadership Conference included educational subjects about the Willamette River and Portland Harbor.

10. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (up to one page, 4000 characters)

Describe how your program involves communities of color and the demographics of the community served in identifying the need for, designing, and delivering this programming. How does your organization's vision or mission address diversity and equity?

Since 2012, PHCC has served over 4,000 people, mainly members of impacted communities - predominantly low-income and/or communities of color - through monthly meetings, culturally-specific events, outreach, and capacity building. Native people from throughout the region are cut off from ceded land and food sources due to hazardous industrial activity along the river. Black/African American Portlanders have been exposed to toxins while working and fishing in the harbor, especially during the war years. The Black community was also segregated to the nearby Albina neighborhood following the 1948 Vanport Flood, only to be displaced again in recent years as inner Portland has been "cleaned up". Immigrants and refugees from Central America, SE Asia, and Eastern Europe have subsisted on toxic fish from the harbor for the last several decades. And as police sweep downtown and residential area camps, houseless people seek refuge along the river, exposing them to toxins in the soil and fish.

As PHCC's main constituents, members of these impacted communities are working hard to ensure a more equitable, sustainable, and beautiful future of the Portland Harbor. PHCC is fundamentally focused on diversity and equity, with our overarching mission to raise the voices of impacted community members and ensuring that these groups steer and benefit from the cleanup. PHCC mainly recruits new members by outreaching to existing community of color organizations. Materials representing the coalition are produced collaboratively with coalition partners and approved by the Steering Committee before finalizing, and we translate materials into various languages as needed. We also provide interpretation services, child care, food, and transportation for all of our events and meetings to ensure accessibility.

The coalition adopted a governance policy in 2016 that codifies the coalition's priority of individuals and groups from communities most historically and currently impacted by pollution in the Portland Harbor to continue to be at the forefront of PHCC's decision-making. Culturally-specific and intercultural programming is crucial to PHCC's mission because it appeals to communities of color and other impacted communities--which, despite having deep historical or present-day ties to the river, often do not feel included in the programming of public agencies and mainstream environmental organizations. PHCC provides crucial space for people to not only connect with the river and learn about the harbor in ways that are grounded in culture, but also that allow for people from different backgrounds to learn from one another.

11. Location and program reach (up to two pages)

On next page, please upload a location/vicinity map that shows where the program and/or participating communities are located within the region, such as on Google Maps, MetroMap, Regional Equity Atlas, or the Regional Conservation Strategy viewer

✓ I uploaded it!

12. Demographic form (two pages)

On next page, please upload the requested the 2018 Nature in Neighborhoods demographic form, which will not be used for the review of your grant application.

✓ I uploaded it!

Document Uploads

Documents Requested *

Provide a location/vicinity map that shows where the program and/or participating communities are located within the region, such as on Google Maps, MetroMap, Regional Equity Atlas, or the Regional Conservation Strategy viewer.

Required? **Attached Documents ***

✓

[Portland Harbor Superfund map](#)

[DEQ Upland Sites - Portland Harbor](#)

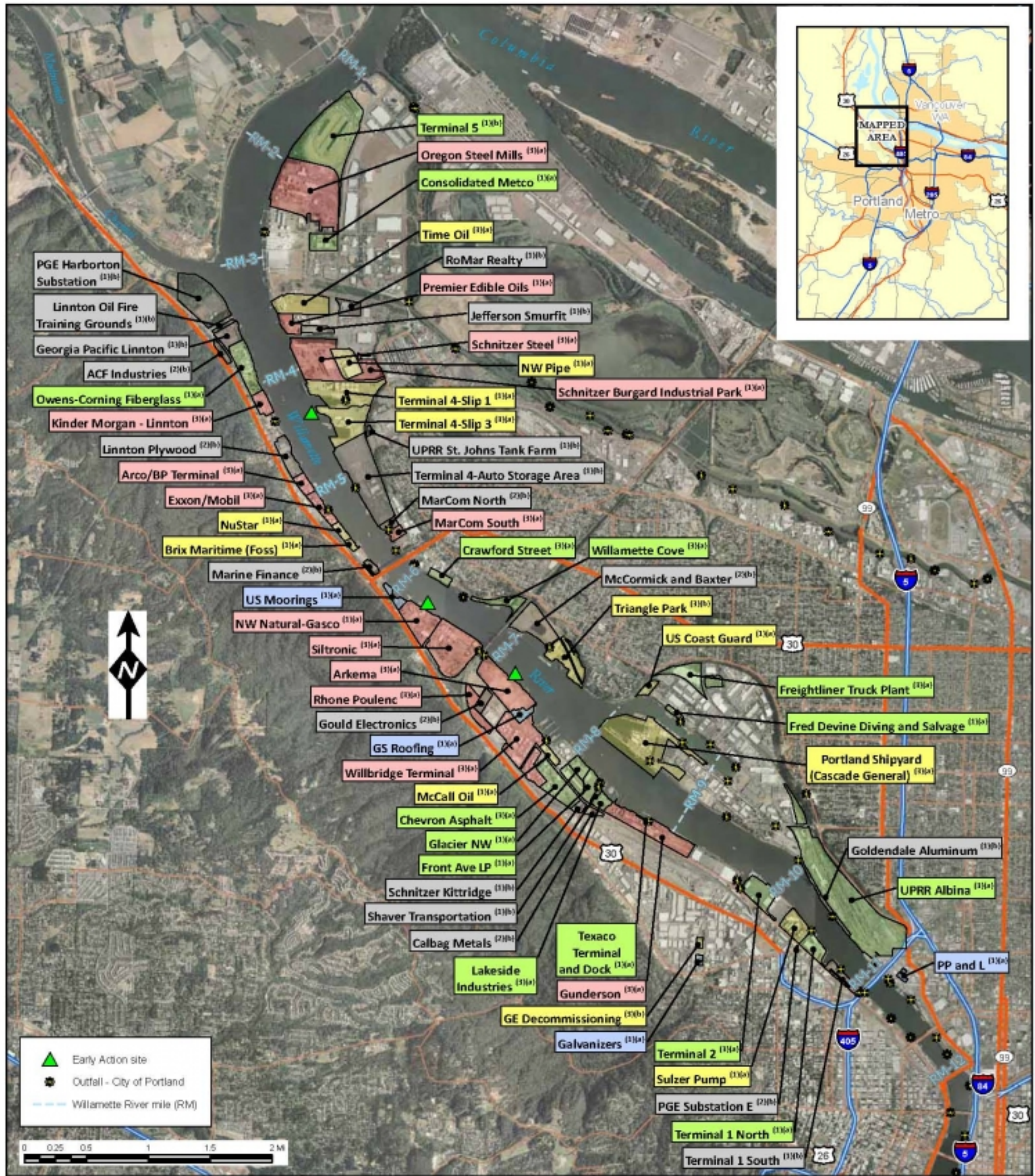
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PORTLAND HARBOR CLEANUP





PORTLAND HARBOR CLEANUP SITES

Site source control priority

High priority site

Medium priority site

Low priority site

Priority to be determined

Not a current or anticipated future source

FOOTNOTES

SOURCE CONTROL MEASURE (SCM) STATUS

(1) - None

(2) - Source control measure in place

(3) - Interim source control measure in place

SOURCE CONTROL EVALUATION (SCE) STATUS

(a) - Source control evaluation in progress

(b) - Source control evaluation complete



State of Oregon
Department of
Environmental
Quality