Lower Duwamish Waterway Group

Port of Seattle / City of Seattle / King County / The Boeing Company

Lower Duwamish Waterway Remedial Investigation

APPENDIX A. PHASE 1 SCOPING-PHASE ECOLOGICAL RISK ASSESSMENT

FINAL

ATTACHMENT A-1. GIS MAPS

For submittal to:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 10 Seattle, WA

The Washington State Department of Ecology Northwest Regional Office Bellevue, WA

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List of GIS maps cited in Appendix A, ERA

Мар А-2-1.	LDW tissue sampling locations	3
Мар А-2-2.	Intertidal and subtidal areas in the LDW	4
Мар А 3 1а.	Exceedances of SQS/CSL by point location for total PCBs in LDW surface sediments	5
Map A 3 1b.	Exceedances of SQS/CSL by Thiessen polygon for total PCBs in LDW surface sediments (full DL)	6
Мар А 3 2а.	Exceedances of SQS/CSL by point location for BEHP in LDW surface sediments	7
Map A 3 2b.	Exceedances of SQS/CSL by Thiessen polygon for BEHP in LDW surface sediments (full DL)	8
Мар А 3 За.	Exceedances of SQS/CSL by point location for mercury in LDW surface sediments	9
Map A 3 3b.	Exceedances of SQS/CSL by Thiessen polygon for mercury in LDW surface sediments (full DL)	10
Map A 3 4a.	Exceedances of SL/ML by point location for total DDTs in LDW surface sediments	11
Map A 3 4b.	Exceedances of SL/ML by Thiessen polygon for total DDTs in LDW surface sediments (full DL)	12
Map A 3 5.	Number of chemicals exceeding SQS/SL by location in LDW surface sediments (full DL)	13
Map A 3 6.	Number of chemicals exceeding CSL/ML by location in LDW surface sediments (full DL)	14
Map A 3 7.	Benthic invertebrate community and sediment bioassay sampling locations in the Lower Duwamish Waterway	15
Мар А-6-1.	Marsh habitat in the LDW	16
Мар А-7-1.	Exceedances of SQS/CSL by Thiessen polygon for total PCBs in LDW surface sediments (zero DL)	17
Мар А-7-2.	Exceedances of SQS/CSL by Thiessen polygon for BEHP in LDW surface sediments (zero DL)	18
Мар А-7-3.	Number of chemicals exceeding SQS/SL by Thiessen polygon in LDW surface sediments (zero DL)	19
Мар А-7-4.	Number of chemicals exceeding CSL/ML by Thiessen polygon in LDW surface sediments (zero DL)	20
Мар А-7-5.	Maximum SQS/SL exceedance factor by Thiessen polygon in LDW surface sediments (zero DL)	21
Мар А-7-6.	Maximum CSL/ML exceedance factor by Thiessen polygon in LDW surface sediments (zero DL)	22
Мар А-7-7.	Thiessen polygons with CSL/ML exceedances in LDW surface sediments (zero DL) that do not have co-located total PCB or BEHP CSL exceedances	23
Мар А-7-8.	Tributyltin concentrations by Thiessen polygon in LDW surface sediments	24
Мар А-7-9.	Exceedances of SMS standards by Thiessen polygon for total PCBs in LDW surface sediments (half DL)	25
Мар А-7-10.	Exceedances of SMS standards by Thiessen polygon for BEHP in LDW surface sediments (half DL)	26
Мар А-7-11.	Number of chemicals exceeding SQS/SL by Thiessen polygon in LDW surface sediments (half DL)	27
Map A-7-12.	Number of chemicals exceeding CSL/ML by Thiessen polygon in LDW surface sediments (half DL)	28
Мар А-7-13.	Maximum SQS/SL exceedance factor by Thiessen polygon in LDW surface sediments (half DL)	29
Map A-7-14.	Maximum CSL/ML exceedance factor by Thiessen polygon in LDW surface sediments (half DL)	30

Notes regarding maps in this folio:

- 1. Many of the sediment chemistry maps present data both as points and Thiessen polygons. Where a single chemical is shown on a map, the size of areas represented by the Thiessen polygons is a function of the sample density for that chemical. As sample density increases, the area of a Thiessen polygon associated with a sampling station decreases. As sample density decreases, the area of a Thiessen associated with a sampling station polygon increases.
 - Not all stations were analyzed for the same chemicals. Where multiple chemicals are shown on the same map, Thiessen polygons are defined by the sample density for the chemical(s) that were sampled most frequently (with smaller polygons). This technique underrepresents the area associated for a chemical that was measured less frequently (with larger polygons). See Phase 1 RI Appendix C for additional discussion on Thiessen polygons. Other spatial data analysis techniques will be considered for the Phase 2 RI.
- 2. Some of the sediment chemistry maps portray the ratio of actual chemical concentrations to chemical-specific sediment quality standards or guidelines. This ratio has been called an exceedance factor (EF) in this document. EFs have no regulatory relevance, and are not necessarily related to the degree of risk. They are presented here only to indicate the relative magnitude of chemical concentrations or detection limits.
- 3. The primary focus of the maps is sediment chemistry. Since 1990, sediment toxicity testing has also been conducted at 10 locations shown on the sediment chemistry maps, as shown on RI Map 2-11 and described in Section A.3.2.2 of the ERA (Appendix A of the Phase 1 RI report). The results of these toxicity tests, particularly as they relate to interpretation of compliance with the Washington State Sediment Management standards (SMS), are not shown on any of the sediment chemistry maps. At most of the locations at which toxicity tests were conducted, the toxicity test "passed" the biological effects criteria of the Sediment Quality Standards (SQS). In other words, the SQS exceedances based on chemistry alone for such locations were not confirmed by the toxicity test results.

























































