

# J.H. Baxter Superfund Site (Eugene, OR)

Officially Added to the National Priorities List (NPL) in July 2025



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# Types of Superfund Work

- ▶ EPA uses two types of responses to address contaminated sites:
  - ▶ Removal Actions: For emergency oil spills or chemical releases and short-term responses
  - ▶ Remedial Actions: Address complex sites, which require long-term responses
- ▶ J.H. Baxter Removal Action almost complete
- ▶ EPA Remedial Program is gearing up to take over the cleanup process

# Removal Action

Before



After





# Superfund Remedial Cleanup Process



NOTE: Removal actions can occur at any time and simultaneously.

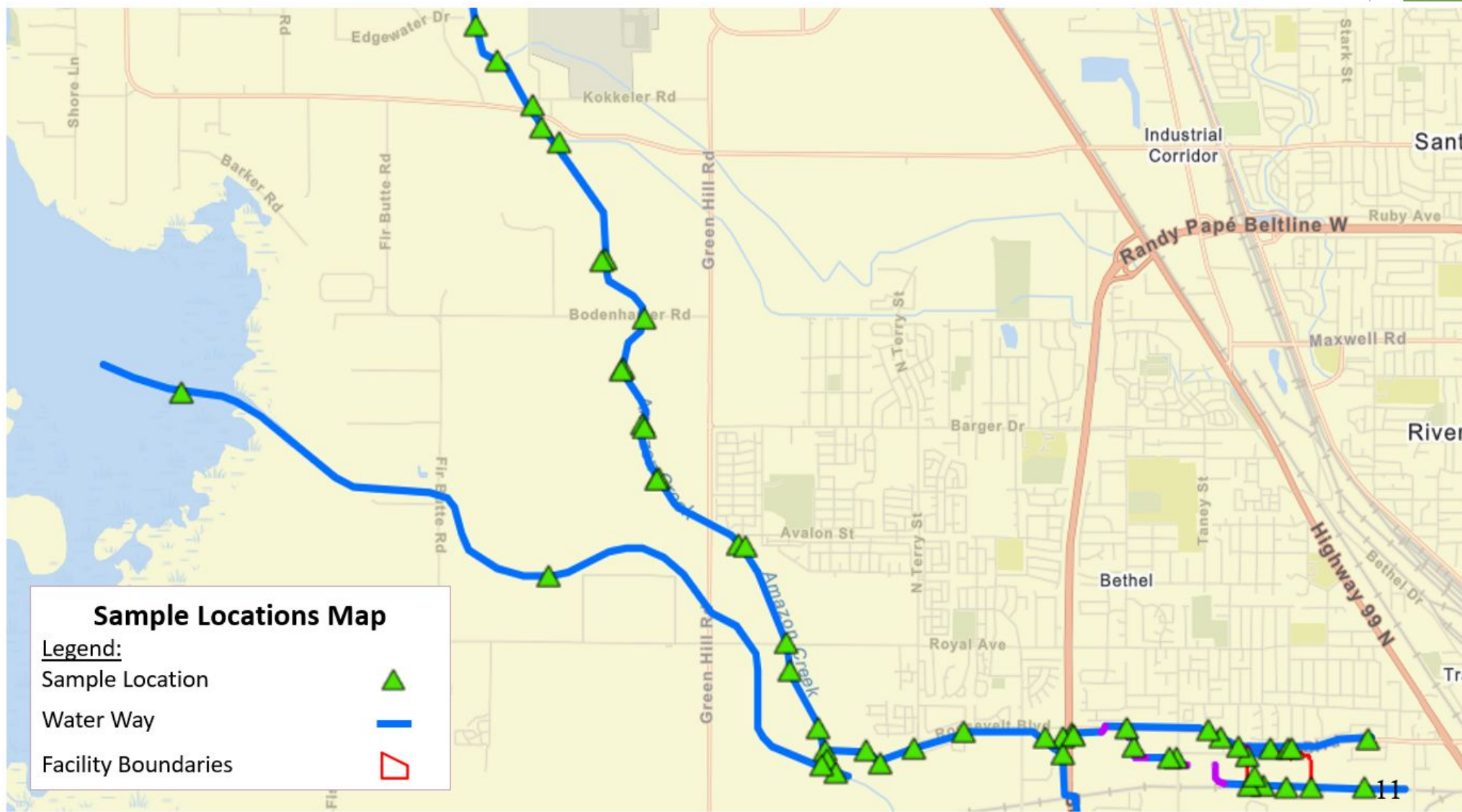
# Potential for an Early Action- Additional Removal Action

- ▶ EPA's Remedial Program will continue to work with EPA's Removal Program to strategize efficiencies for the cleanup
- ▶ EPA will evaluate completing an early action (ex: additional removal action) at the same time as the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study to address the areas of the site with the worst contamination
- ▶ EPA is prioritizing this site and hopes to streamline the cleanup process

# Remedial Investigation

- ▶ EPA is currently setting up a contract for the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study
- ▶ EPA will evaluate all existing data that has been collected by the facility, Oregon DEQ, EPA's Site Assessment Program and EPA's Removal Program to determine what data gaps still exist and what additional sampling is needed
- ▶ The previous data was mostly collected while the facility was still operating, but now that structures have been removed, EPA has access to larger areas of the property to fully outline all of the contamination that remains after the Removal Action
- ▶ EPA will evaluate the following sources of contamination in more depth:
  - ▶ Soil, groundwater, and stormwater on the property
  - ▶ Residential properties potentially impacted by site contaminants
  - ▶ Groundwater and stormwater that migrates off the property
  - ▶ Surface water and sediment outside the property (see next slide)

EPA collected 52 sediment samples and 26 surface water samples to assess how the surface water carries contaminants away from the facility



# ...Remedial Investigation

- ▶ EPA will assess potential exposure pathways and complete a Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA) and Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment (BERA) as part of the RI
- ▶ EPA will conduct the additional sampling on and off the property
- ▶ □ The results of the RI sampling will determine the contaminants of concern, the exposure pathways of concern, and the areas of contamination that pose unacceptable risk and need to be cleaned up
- ▶ □ This will define the Superfund Site boundary



# Feasibility Study and Proposed Plan

- ▶ The FS evaluates multiple technologies that can be used to clean up contamination in soil, groundwater, stormwater, surface water, and sediment at the Site
  - ▶ Examples include: soil excavation and disposal, soil or groundwater treatment in place, continued pumping and treatment of groundwater using the existing system, capping the soil, dredging/capping the sediment, etc.
- ▶ EPA will select a preferred alternative or combination of alternatives from the FS and will present it to the public in the Proposed Plan
  - ▶ There will be a public comment period for the Proposed Plan, so community members can submit comments to EPA about any thoughts/concerns they have about EPA's preferred alternative

# Community Involvement

- ▶ **Community Involvement Plan (CIP)**
  - ▶ Will provide opportunities for community interviews regarding how the community would like to be involved, how information can be shared, frequency of communication, etc.
  - ▶ All interviews are anonymous and only summarized in the final plan
  - ▶ Updated on as-needed basis throughout the run of the cleanup
- ▶ **Technical Assistance Grant (TAG)**
  - ▶ A community group may apply for a TAG
  - ▶ Initial grant of up to \$50k is available to hire a technical advisor to interpret and explain technical reports, site conditions, and EPA's proposed actions
- ▶ **Community meetings, as needed (CMAN)**
  - ▶ EPA may hold a public meeting during the public comment period of the Proposed Plan if the public expresses interest

# Questions for EPA?

- ▶ Alice Corcoran, Community Involvement Coordinator and Public Affairs Specialist
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