

Tannery Brownfield Site Assessment

The City of Sherwood was awarded a grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Brownfields Program to assess and prepare a plan to clean up the contaminated Frontier Leather Tannery site on SW Oregon Street. The Brownfield grant is being used to assess 24 acres (Tax Lots 600 and 602) of the 33-acre site, which the City is considering for use as the future home of its public works facility.

Since March 2015, the consultant hired by the City has been developing and getting approval of the assessment plan, conducting the assessment and analyzing the results. This Fact Sheet summarizes the assessment results. A more detailed description of the assessment can be found on the City's web page at www.sherwoodoregon.gov/Tannery.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

From the 1940s through the 1990s, the former Frontier Leather tannery treated animal hides with chromium oxide before being split into halves. The valuable halves of the hides were sold and the less valuable "hide splits" were buried on-site. Tannery operations included wastewater treatment in two aeration ponds and two 3.4-acre sedimentation lagoons. Water treatment sludge was buried on-site with the hide splits.



Drilling investigation, November 2015.

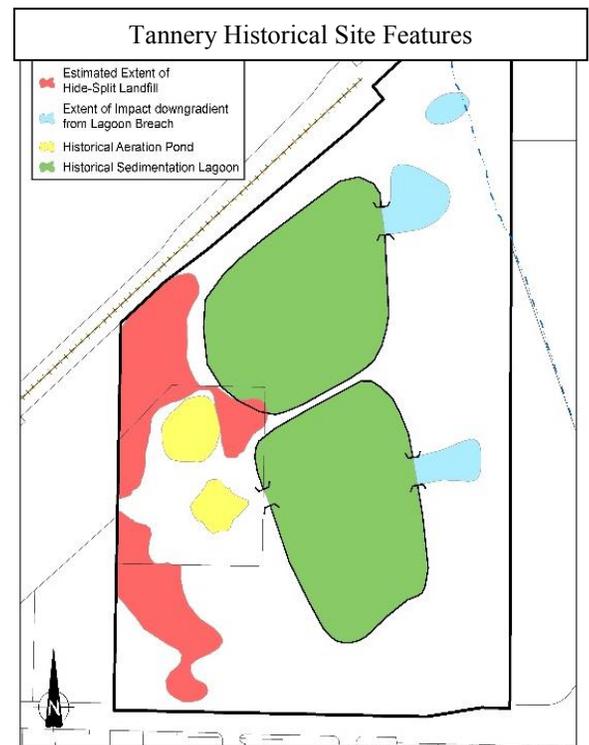
SITE ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES

The site assessment was completed in November 2015. It included two days of geophysical investigation to define the extent of the hide split landfill, and two days of subsurface investigation to collect soil and groundwater samples from Tax Lot 602. Tax Lot 600 was assessed by DEQ in 2003 and 2004.

SITE ASSESSMENT RESULTS

Findings from the site assessment include:

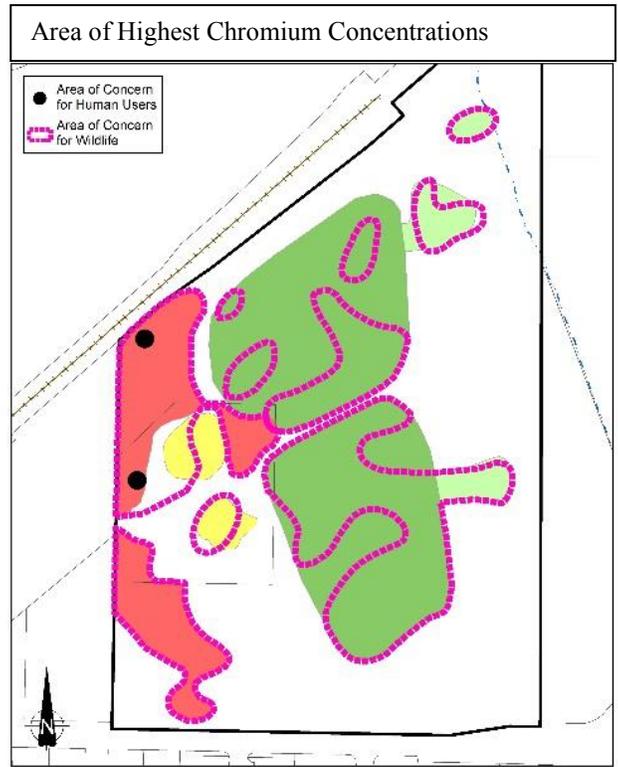
1. The extent of the hide-split landfill has been defined on Tax Lots 600 and 602.
2. Elevated levels of chromium and several other metals were found in soil and sediment related to historical site use associated with the following historical site features illustrated in the diagram to the right:
 - a. Hide-split landfill.
 - b. Two aeration ponds.
 - c. Two sedimentation lagoons.
 - d. Localized areas downgradient of the breaches in the berms of each sedimentation lagoon.
 - e. A small segment of Rock Creek downgradient of the breach in the north sedimentation lagoon.
3. Chromium and other metal concentrations detected in soil and sediment samples collected away from these historical site features were found to be consistent with naturally occurring background levels.
4. Chromium and other metals were detected in groundwater and surface water samples at concentrations below levels of concern for most likely site uses.
5. Other potential contaminants of interest were not present or found below levels of concern.



WHAT ARE THE HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS?

Potential health risks were evaluated for the most likely human users. These include a recreational user/trespasser, an occupational worker, a construction worker and an excavation worker. Health risks were identified for exposure to arsenic and lead in soil/sediment for the occupational worker and the excavation worker, neither of whom are currently present at the site. For each metal, the estimated health risk is limited to the areas of concern marked by the black dots in the figure to the right. No site-wide human health risks were identified.

Potential health risks were evaluated for wildlife during the previous site assessment conducted by DEQ. The American Robin was assessed as a representative species using all habitat types present at the site, and included exposure through feeding on worms in direct contact with soil. The metals contributing to the environmental risks for robins include antimony, lead, chromium, manganese, and mercury. The areas of concern for wildlife are defined by the distribution of chromium concentrations, because other metals of concern were generally detected within the same areas as the chromium. The areas with the highest chromium concentrations are associated with the historical site features described above, as illustrated by the pink outlined areas on the diagram to the right.



PROJECT SCHEDULE

With the assessment complete, we are now one year into this approximately two-year project. The City is providing several opportunities for the public to participate in the process as shown on the schedule below. The first opportunity was at a Planning Commission public work session on July 28, 2015.

A second public meeting is scheduled for July 13 to share the results, answer questions and begin discussing the cleanup plans and next steps. A third and likely final meeting will be held in the winter of 2017 to present the draft clean-up plan and hear community comments.

	Spring 2015	Summer 2015	Fall 2015	Winter 2016	Spring 2016	Summer 2016	Fall 2016	Winter 2017	Spring 2017
Project kick-off									
Finalize work plan									
Field work									
Assessment report									
Draft clean-up plan									
Public outreach/engagement	★					★		★	
Web page and news updates on-going									

WHAT'S COMING UP NEXT?

Community Meeting
July 13, 2016
Sherwood City Hall
22560 SW Pine Street
6:00 PM -7:30 PM

Come to learn more about the project, comment on the assessment results, and discuss next steps in the project.

MORE INFORMATION

Julia Hajduk, Community Development Director 503-625-4204, or view project information on the web site at www.sherwoodoregon.gov/Tannery.