

**Pre-Design Investigation** includes sampling to help us design the cleanup.

**Q. Why are sampling locations important for design?**

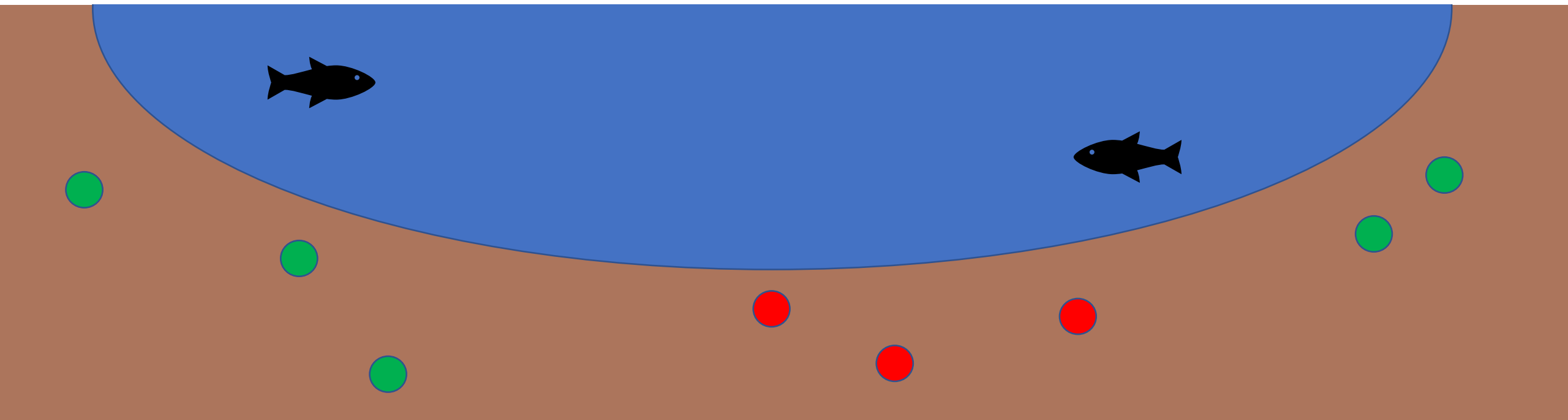
**A. Because the results help us decide where active clean-up will happen**

# Where does Record of Decision (final cleanup plan) say active clean-up is needed?

- **Sample results** are compared to remedial **action** level (RAL) in ROD.

For example, LDW ROD says: PCB action level is 12 (units: mg/kg OC)

- Sample ● is above RAL... 13 or 14 or 100 > 12
- Sample ● is below RAL... 1 or 4 or 11 < 12

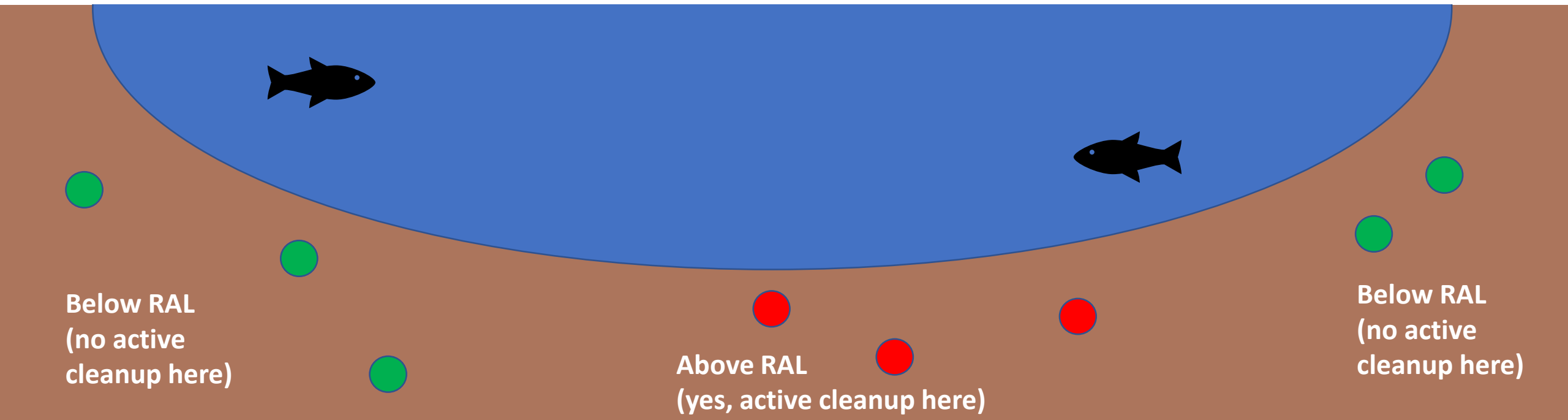


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# What is a sediment sample?

Due late  
November

Write  
Quality  
Assurance  
(QA) plan

- Sampling plan
- Lab plan

Collect  
samples

- From boat
- From land

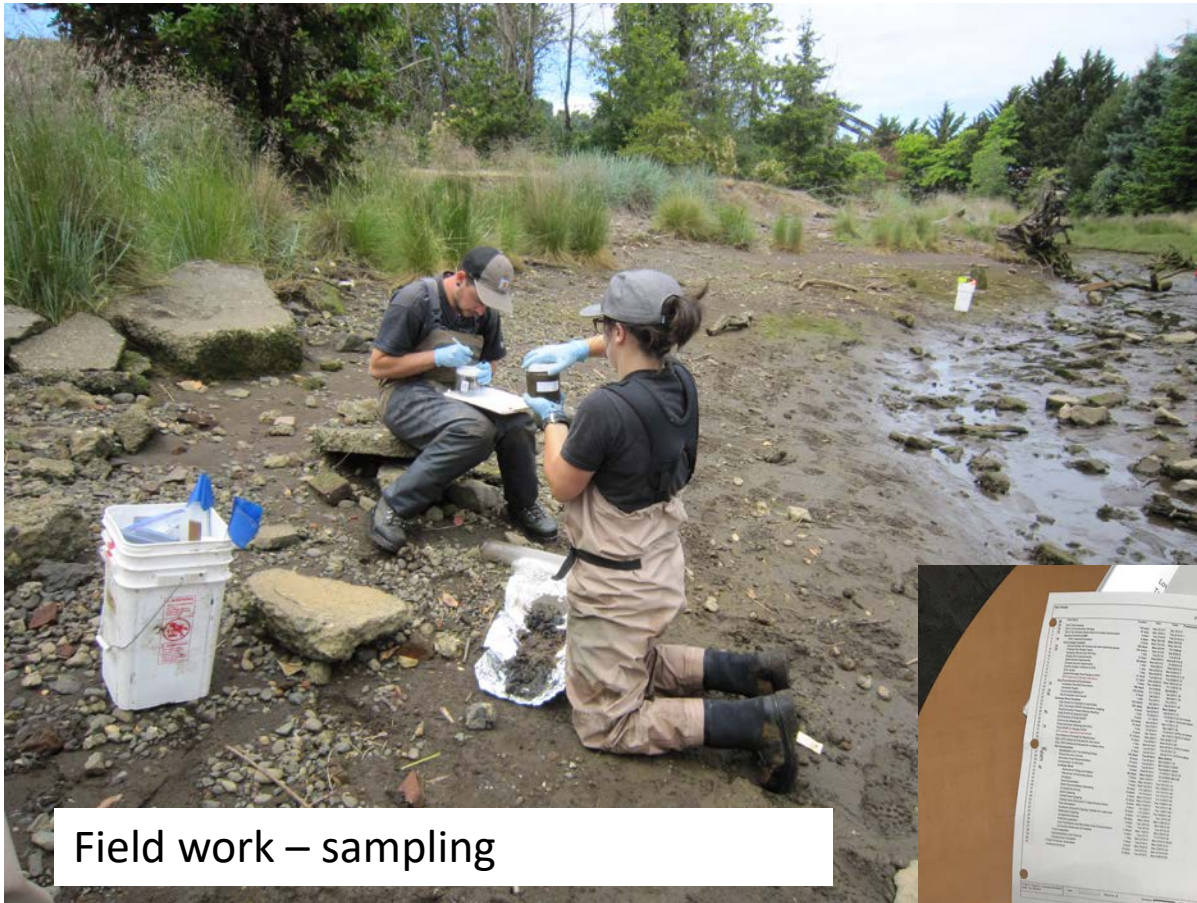
Send to lab

- Lab result  
“this much  
of this  
chemical is  
in this  
sample”

- Why? What info do you need?
- What depth?
- Where?
- How many?
- What field methods?
- What chemicals to test for?
- What Quality Assurance (QA)?
- Health and Safety

- People with experience and training
- Boat, sampling and safety equipment
- Bowls, spoons, jars, bags
- Labels, ice, coolers

- Receive jars, track, store, prepare
- Typical measures: weight, moisture content, organic carbon, grain size
- Dissolve contaminants into liquid, put in jar, and run through analytical instrument
- Output – “raw” data, QA checks
- Reviewer checks if usable, qualifies.



Field work – sampling



Laboratories and chemical analysis



Data evaluation and design

# SEDIMENT SAMPLING



Core for deeper samples



Scoop sediment to depth needed



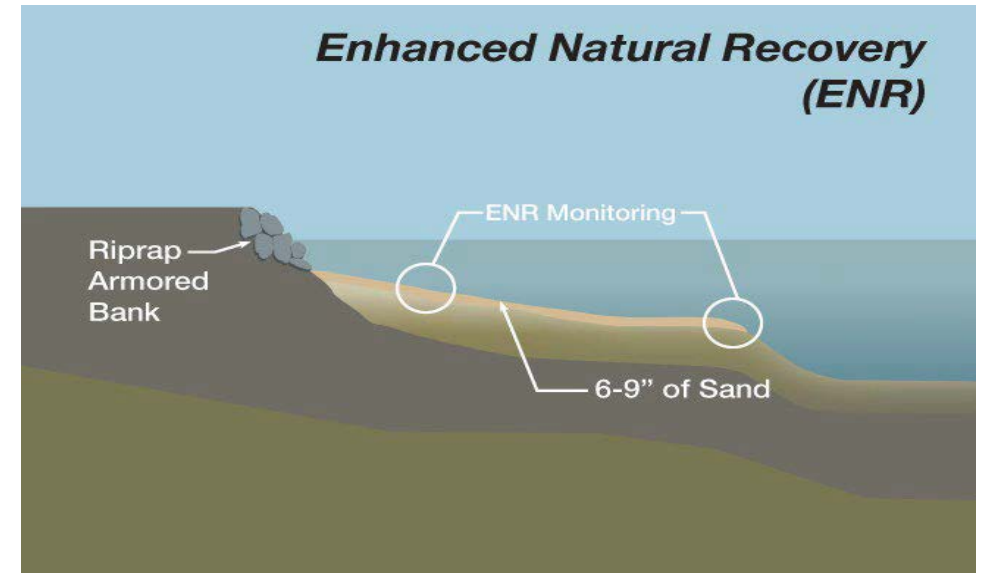
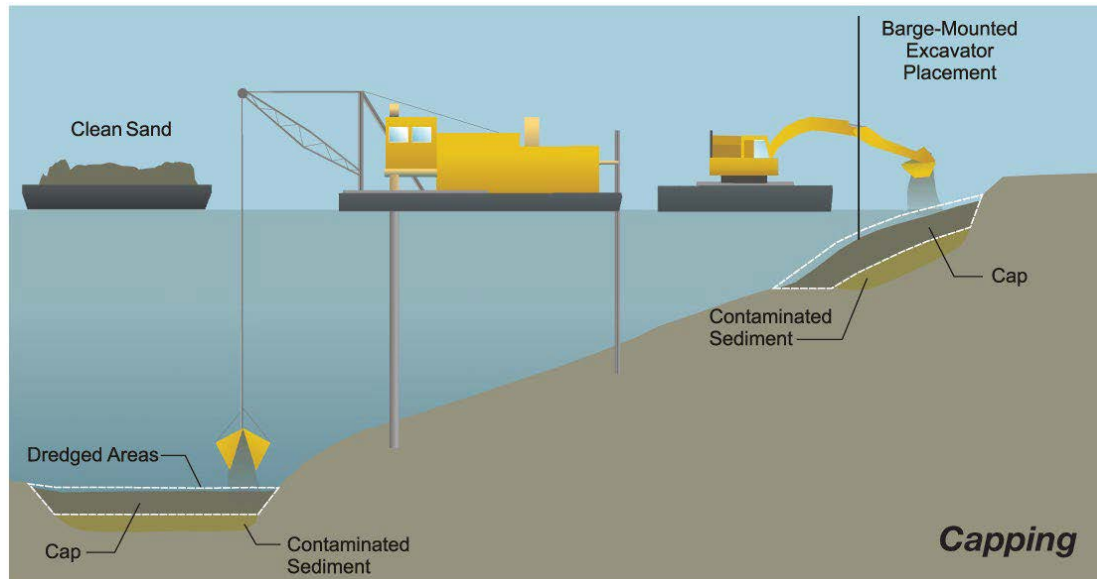
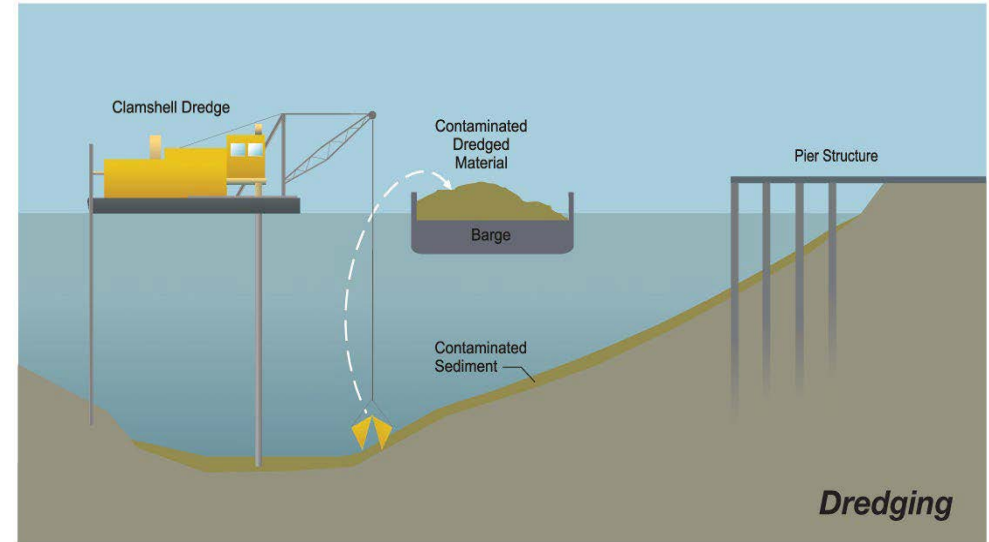
Box corer for shallower samples, collected from boat



Mix the sediment and put some in clean, labeled jar

# Greater than ACTION level?

# Take ACTION!



# Which action you take also depends on...

- **How MUCH HIGHER than the action level are the contaminants?**

*Enhanced Natural Recovery Upper Limit – below the limit, ENR is okay*

- **Is the sediment always under water?**

*Subtidal*

- **Or is it sometimes above water – between high and low tide?**

*Intertidal*

- **Is it a habitat area?** *Biologically important! Intertidal and shallow subtidal*

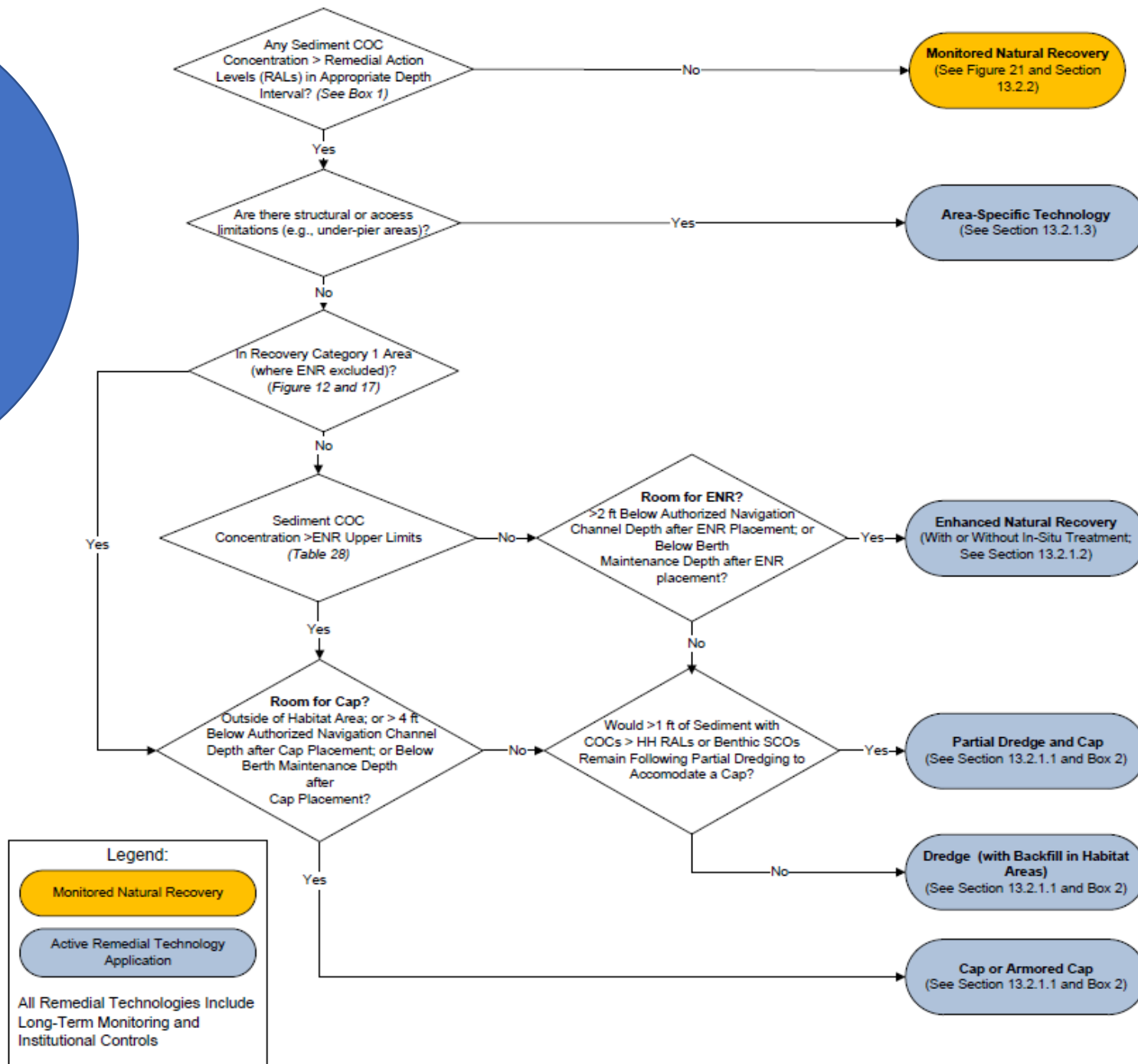


# Which action you take also depends on...

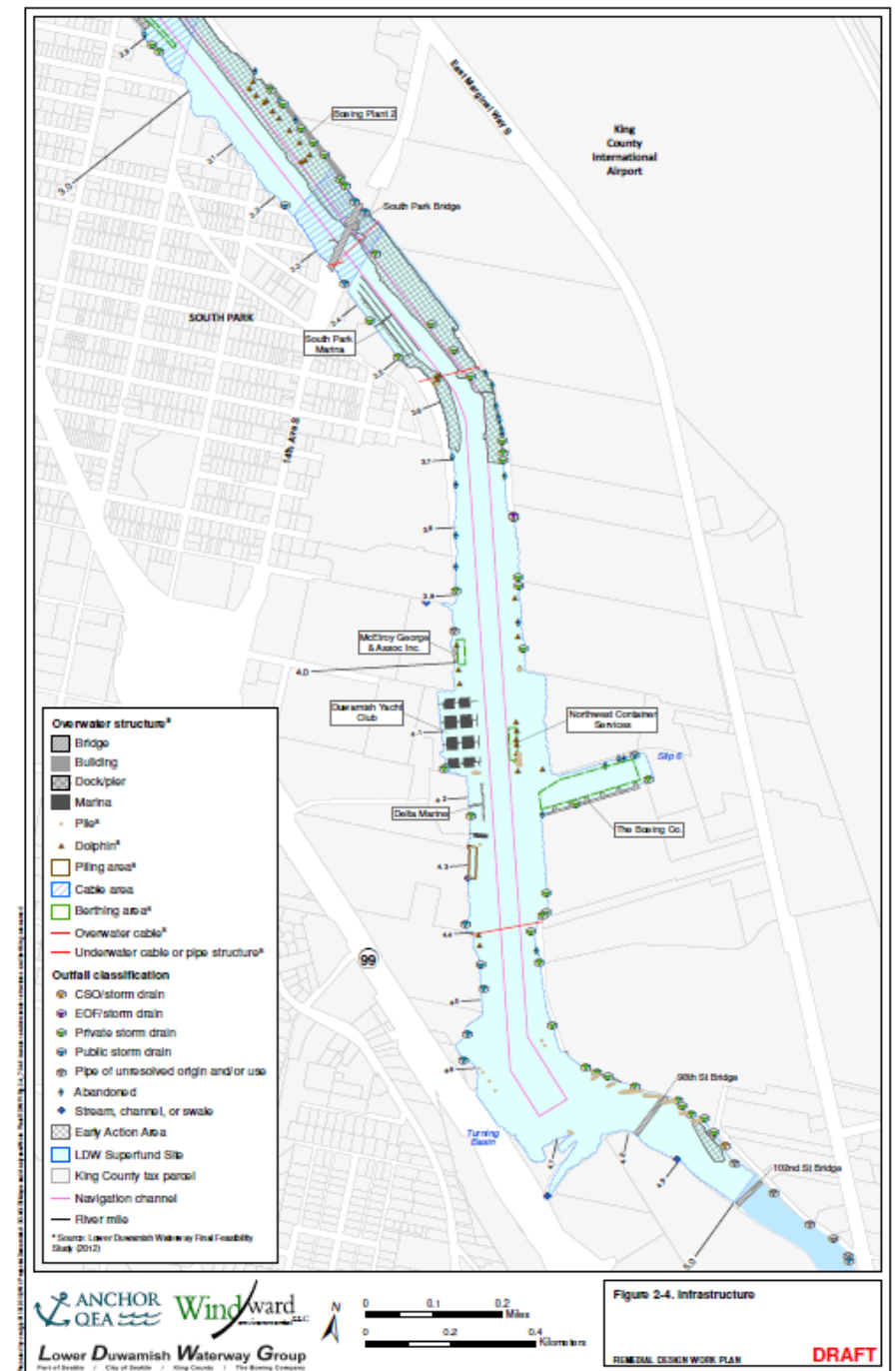
- **Is the sediment where the law requires a certain water depth for boat traffic?**  
*Navigation Channel depth must be protected.*
- **Is it where boat traffic or river currents can carry sediment?**  
*Erosional or Scour Areas – Recovery Category 1 not likely to recover without action*
- **Is it in area where new sediment will be added over time?**  
*Depositional Area - Recovery Category 2 or 3 may not need dredging before cover*
- **What action is possible in the area?**  
*Steep or tight space for equipment or may cause structures to fail*

It's in the ROD!

Figure 19, 20 and Table 28



- What physical features and structures must we consider in design? Will they affect access? Will cleanup affect them?
- Bridges, docks and piers, marinas, piles, “dolphins”, cables, berthing areas, pipes and outfalls.
- Slopes, bulkheads, sheet pile walls, rip-rap



OK, that's the background. Now how to choose where to sample?

Upper Reach of the Duwamish Waterway

Length - two miles!

Average width 440 feet!



# How are new sample locations being proposed?

- **What do we know already?**

Existing data from past studies are shown on a map and compared to cleanup action levels. (“RALs”, or “remedial action levels”).

- **Are there “data gaps” to fill?**

- CONFIRM – Is the sediment still above the RAL? Sample in the same location as before, to check whether conditions have changed.
- BOUND – We know there’s an area above the RAL. How big an area is it? How deep?
- DID WE MISS SOMETHING? – Has area been tested? Do we think there’s a reason for concern? (Roundtable input about sources, other info?)

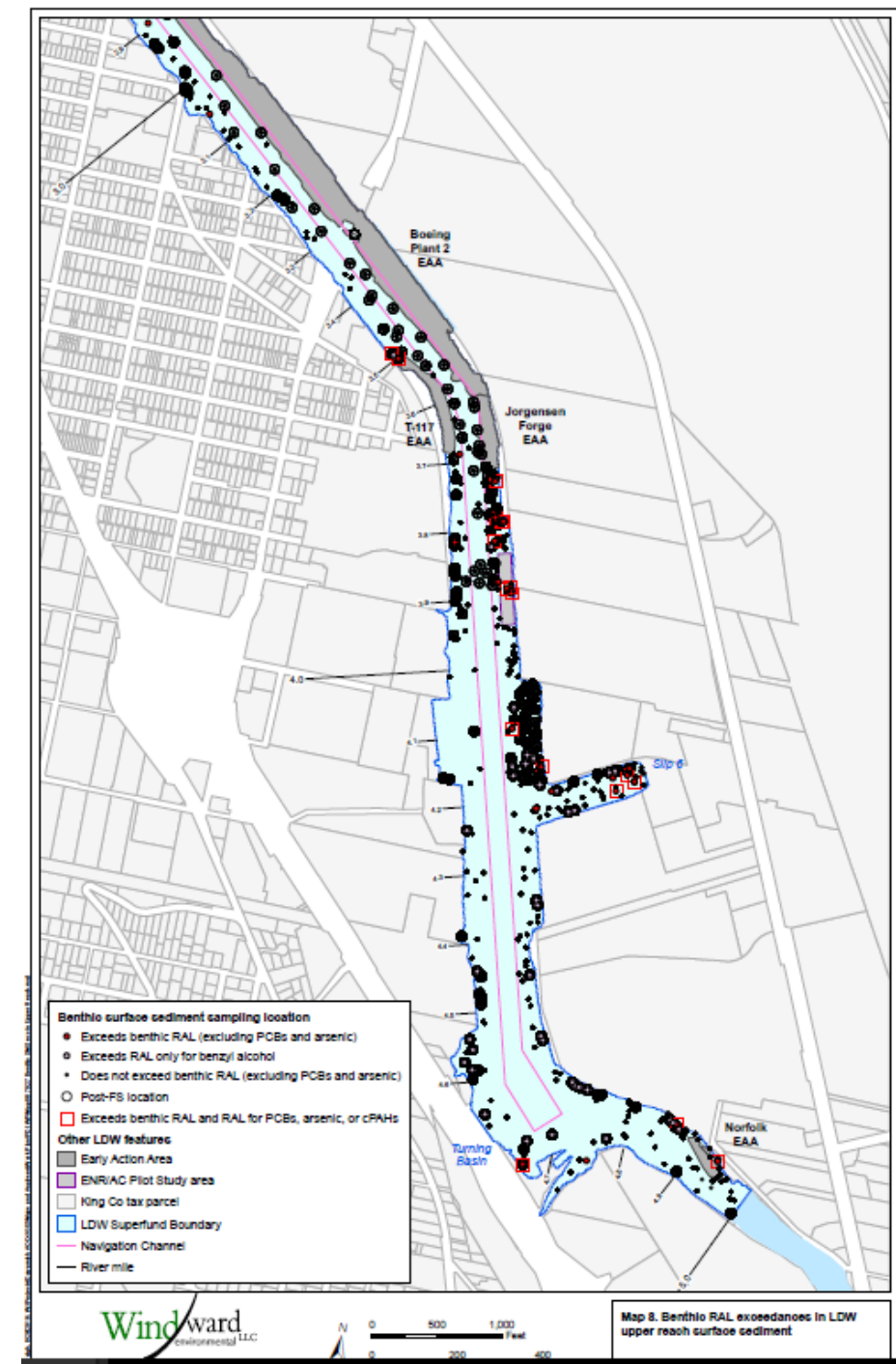
- **Can we get the information we need cost-effectively?**

During the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) and early actions, many samples were collected.

Most RI/FS samples are from the surface layer of sediment (10 cm), where the most biological activity occurs.

Some samples were deeper.

This map shows where 10 cm samples were taken in the upper reach of the Duwamish Waterway.



# Phases and Tiers

**We don't want to  
delay cleanup!**

**We want the right  
information for  
design**

**But sampling costs  
money. Laboratory  
analyses cost  
money.**





**How to balance  
design needs,  
costs and time?**

# Phases and Tiers

## PHASES – 1, 2, maybe 3

- The first phase of sampling will focus on defining areas better
- The second phase of sampling will fill data gaps for more exact areas and for engineering
- There may not be a third phase, but if so, won't delay design

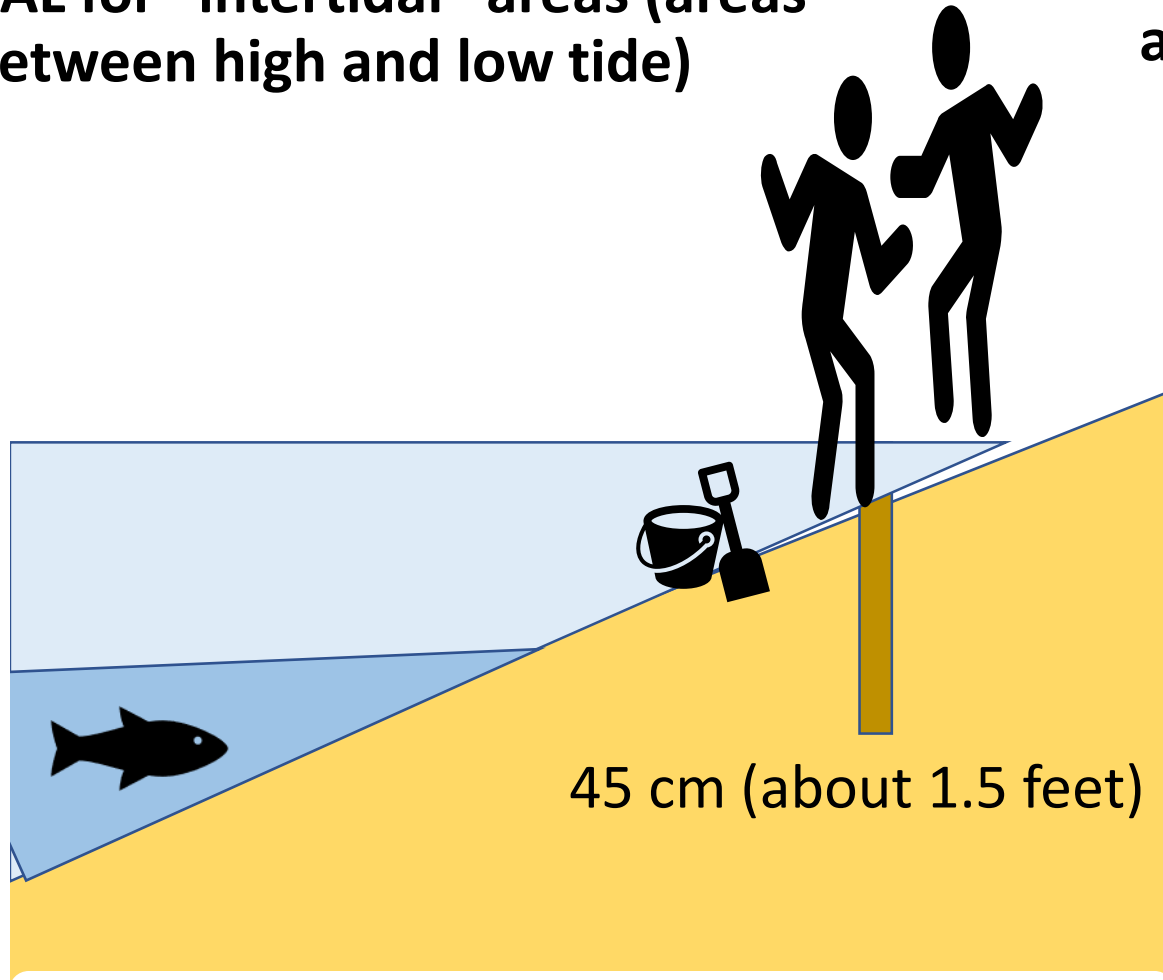
## TIERS:

- Some samples will be analyzed right away.   
- Some will be stored at the lab (“archived”) unless a decision is made to analyze them. 
- The decision to analyze archived samples depends on the results of the primary samples and on gaps.

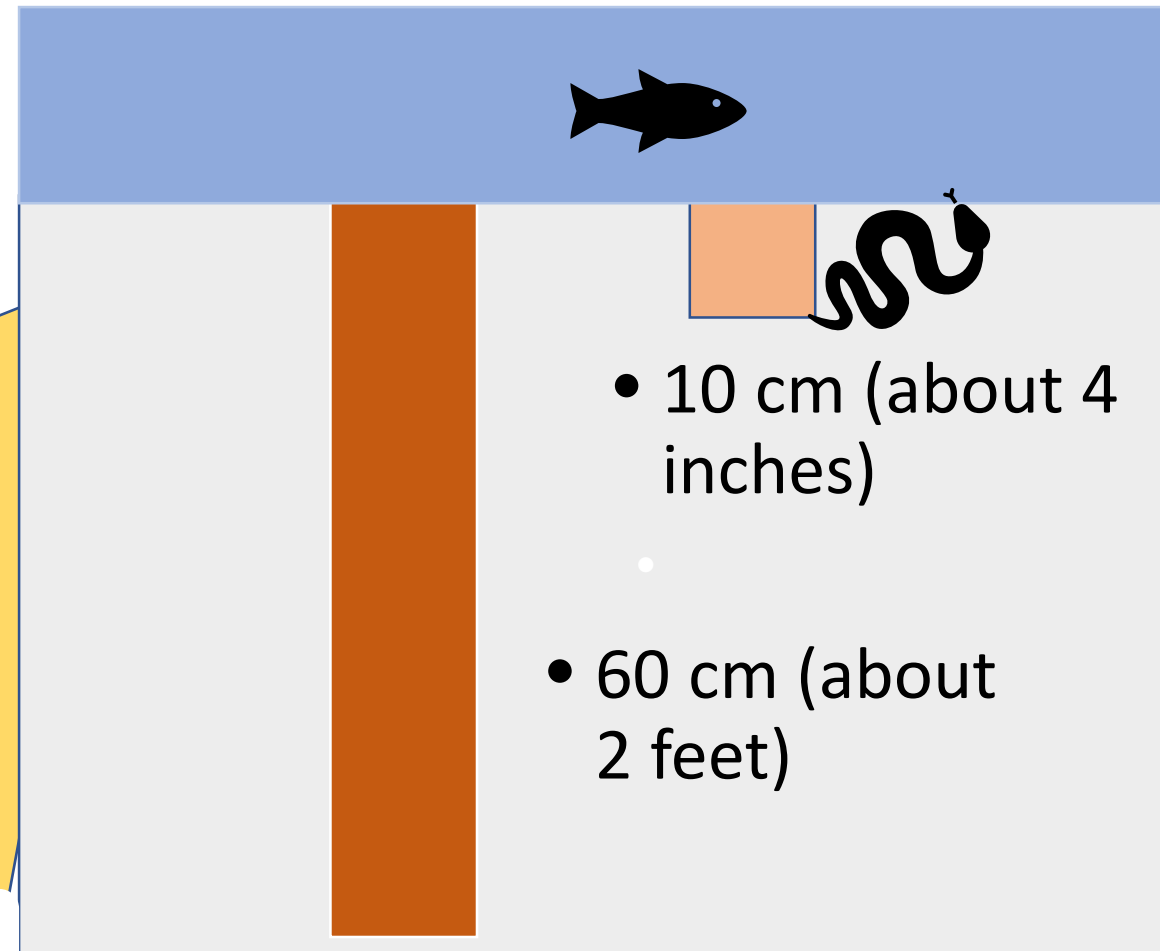


# How deep in the mud must the samples be?

**RAL for “intertidal” areas (areas between high and low tide)**



**RAL for subtidal areas (areas that are always underwater)**



What we know about contamination? What do we know about sources of contamination? Water depth? Potential for erosion? Physical structures? Ownership? Where cleanup or habitat or dredging has been done?

Exceeds means it is greater than!  
EF is how many times

Location ID — SD-PER209  
Chemical — Total PCBs: 1.1 — EF

**Existing surface sediment sampling location**

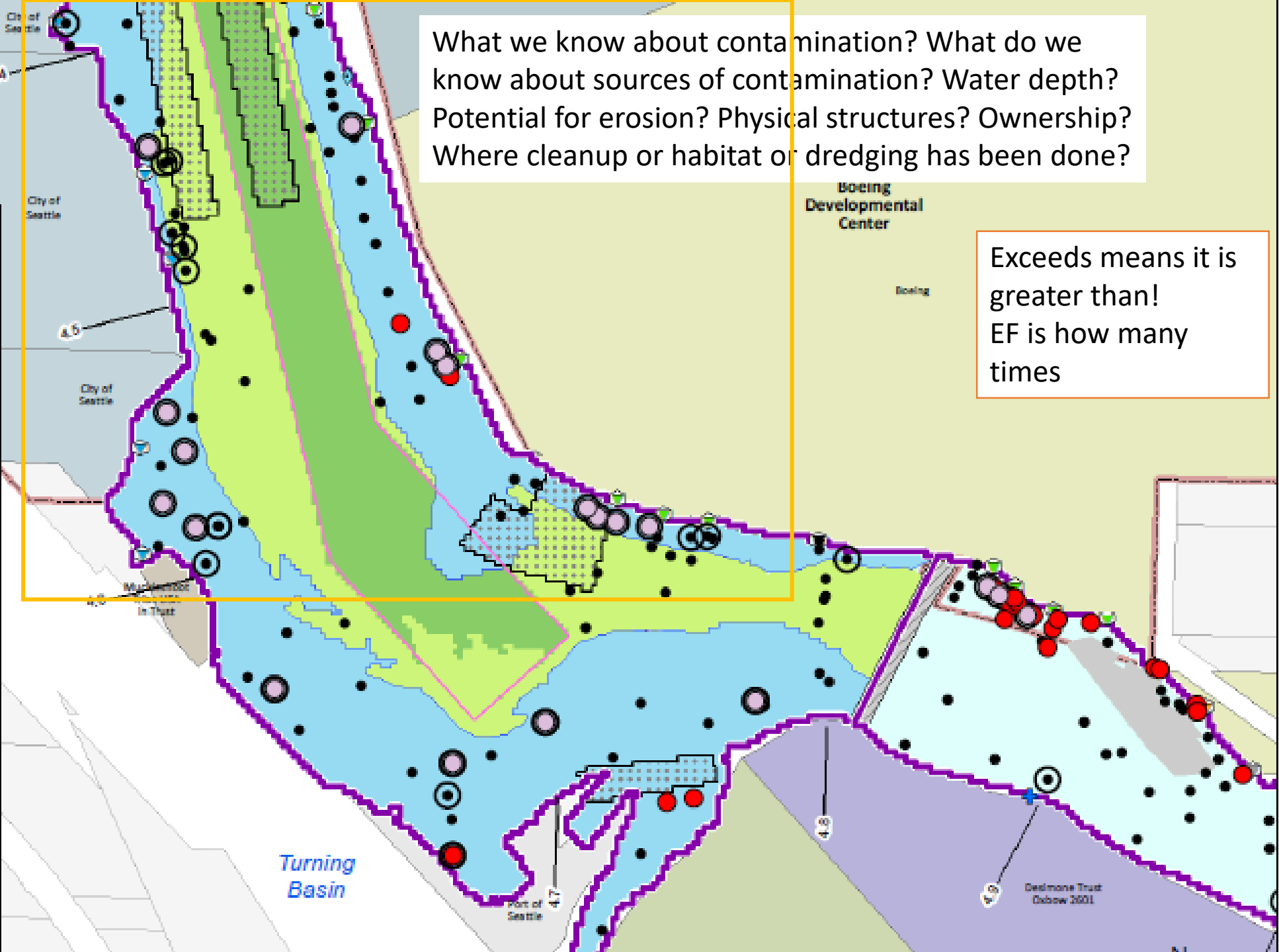
- Exceeds RAL
- Exceeds RAL for benzyl alcohol only
- Does not exceed RAL
- Post-FS location

**Other existing sampling locations**

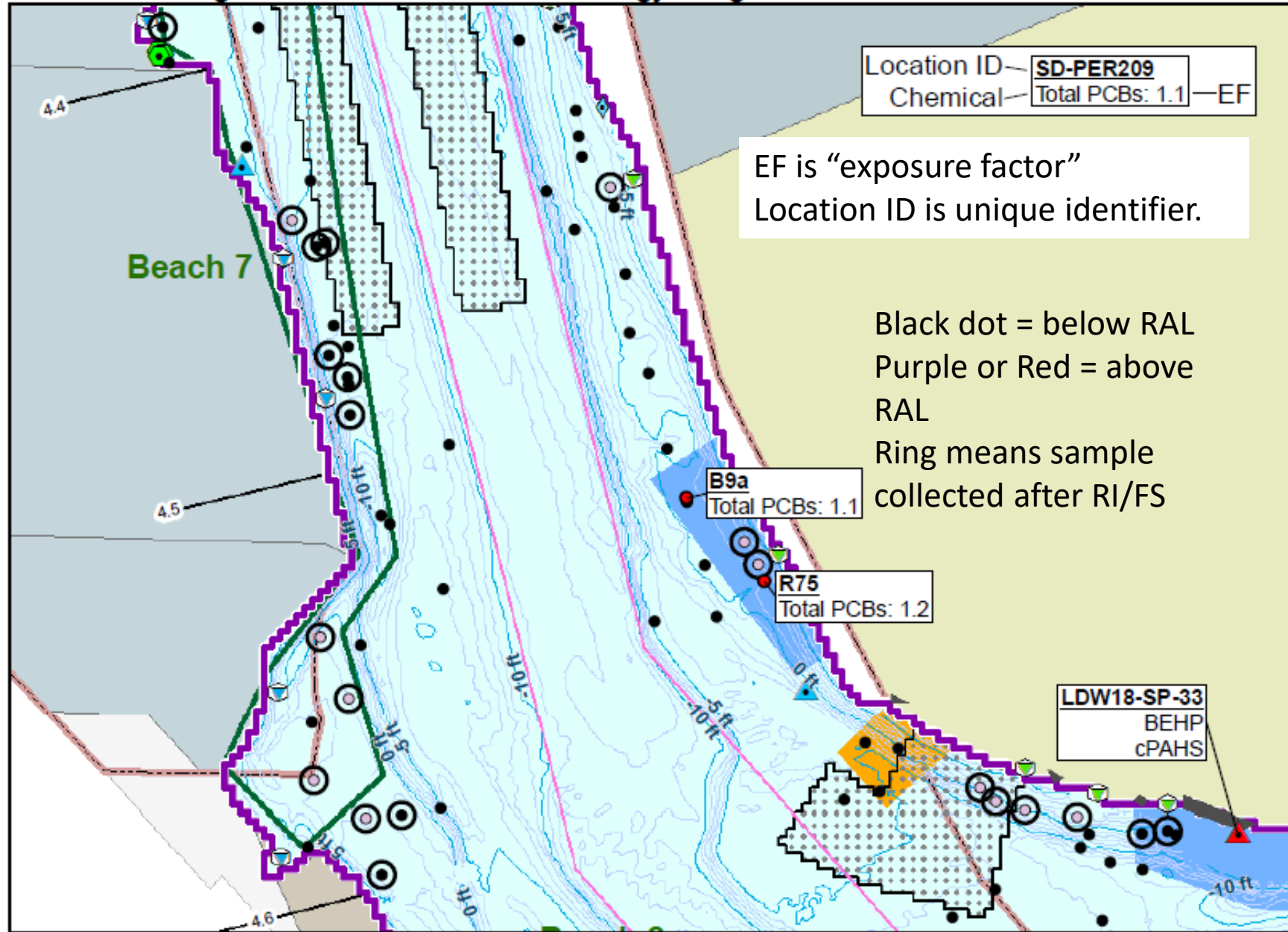
- Bank sampling location (exceeds RAL)
- Bank sampling location (no exceedance)
- ▲ Seep location (exceeds groundwater PCUL)
- ▲ Seep location (no exceedance)

**Outfall classification**

- CSO/storm drain
- Private storm drain
- Public storm drain
- Pipe of unresolved origin and/or use
- Abandoned/inactive



Panel 1: Existing Information and ROD technology assignment



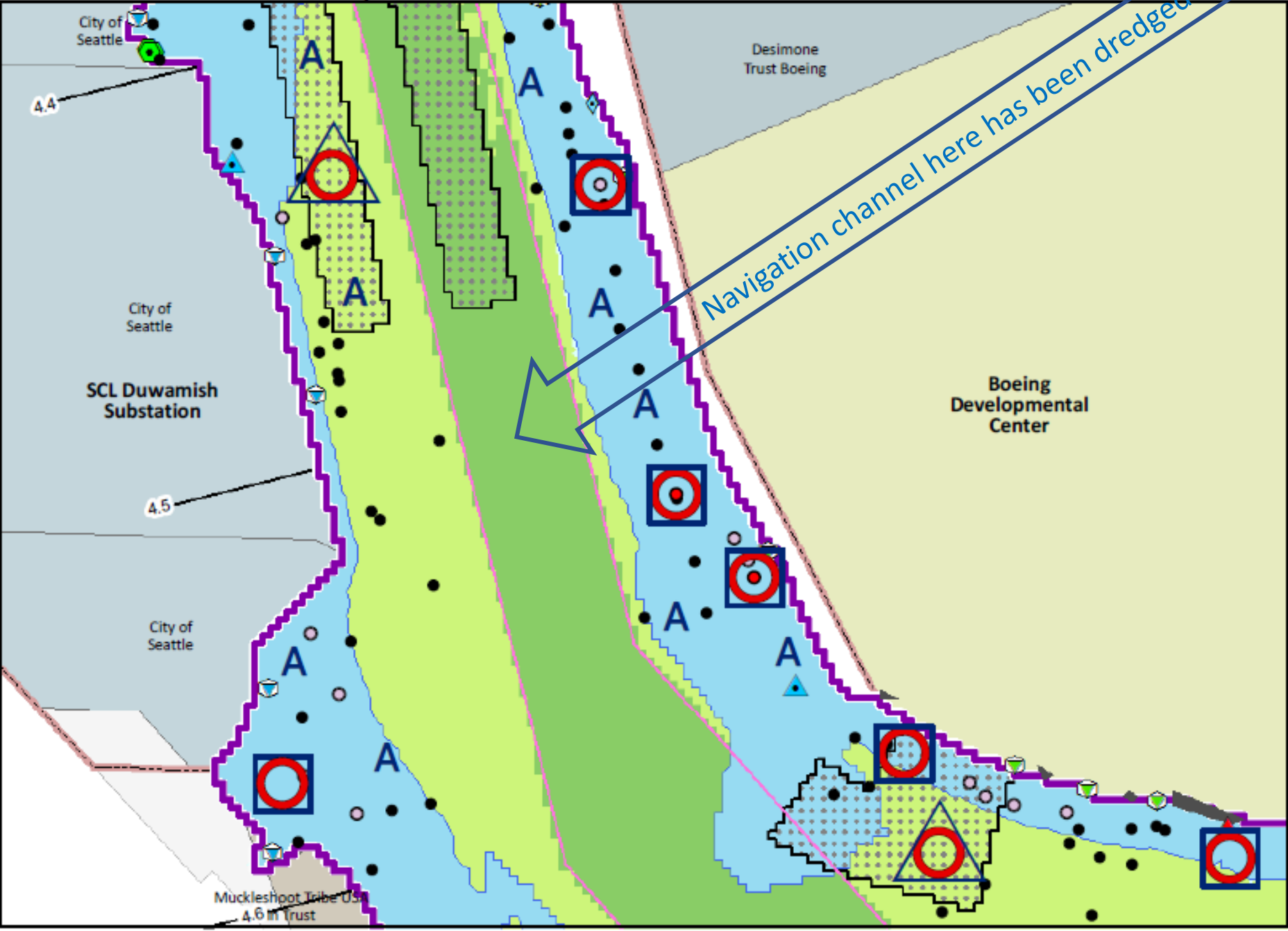
Location ID — SD-PER209  
Chemical — Total PCBs: 1.1 — EF

EF is “exposure factor”  
Location ID is unique identifier.

Black dot = below RAL  
Purple or Red = above RAL  
Ring means sample collected after RI/FS

Hypothetical Example!!  
Where would you put new samples?  
Which would be archived?

# Panel 2: Phase 1 Tier 1 Sample Locations



**Conceptual sampling locations**

Interval sampled

- 0-10 cm
- 0-45 cm
- △ 0-60 cm

● Conceptual sampling location: RAL exceedance(s)

● Conceptual sampling location: no exceedances

**A** Archive - appropriate intervals

**Existing surface sediment sampling location**

- Exceeds RAL
- Exceeds RAL for benzyl alcohol only
- Does not exceed RAL

**Other existing sampling locations**

- Bank sampling location (no exceedance)
- ▲ Seep location (exceeds groundwater PCUL)
- ▲ Seep location (no exceedance)

**Outfall classification**

- Private storm drain
- Public storm drain
- ◆ Abandoned/inactive

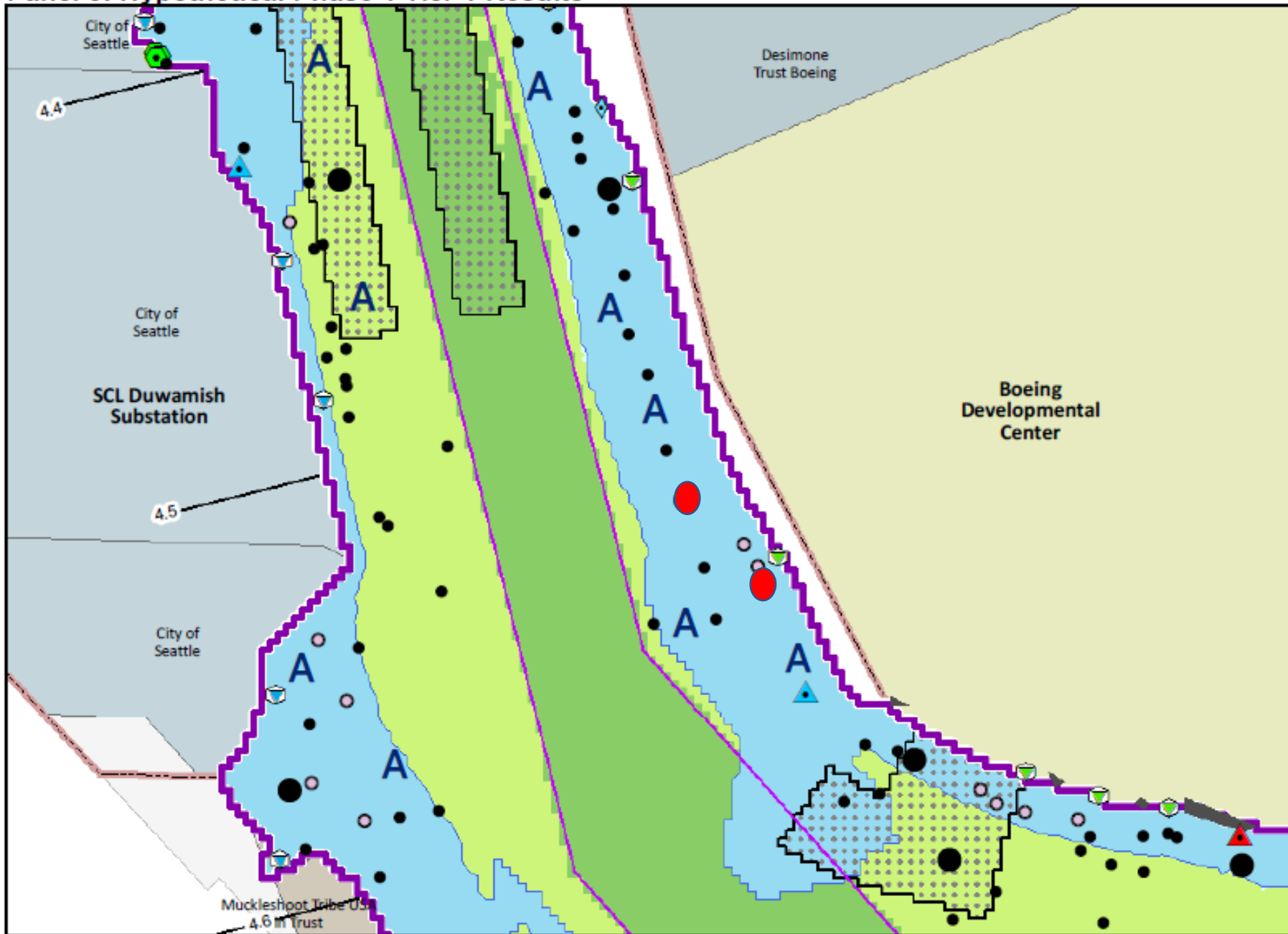
**Technology assignment**

- Dredge
- Monitored Natural Recovery (MNR > SCO)

**Other LDW features**

- Recovery Category 1
- Intertidal area
- Potential tug scour area
- Potential tug scour area and shoal area
- Beach play area
- Dock/pier/marina
- Upper Reach listed site
- Segment boundary
- King Co tax parcel
- Navigation Channel
- River mile

### Panel 3: Hypothetical Phase 1 Tier 1 Results



- Conceptual sampling locations**
- Interval sampled
    - 0-10 cm
    - 0-45 cm
    - 0-60 cm
  - Conceptual sampling location: RAL exceedance(s)
  - Conceptual sampling location: no exceedances
  - A Archive - appropriate intervals
- Existing surface sediment sampling location**
- Exceeds RAL
  - Exceeds RAL for benzyl alcohol only
  - Does not exceed RAL
- Other existing sampling locations**
- Bank sampling location (no exceedance)
  - ▲ Seep location (exceeds groundwater PCUL)
  - ▲ Seep location (no exceedance)
- Outfall classification**
- Private storm drain
  - Public storm drain
  - ◆ Abandoned/inactive
- Technology assignment**
- Dredge
  - Monitored Natural Recovery (MNR > SCO)
- Other LDW features**
- Recovery Category 1
  - Intertidal area
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  - Potential tug scour area and shoal area
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  - Segment boundary
  - King Co tax parcel
  - Navigation Channel
  - River mile

## Conceptual sampling locations

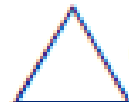
Interval sampled



0-10 cm



0-45 cm



0-60 cm



Conceptual sampling location:  
RAL exceedance(s)



Conceptual sampling location:  
no exceedances



Archive - appropriate intervals

## Existing surface sediment sampling location

- Exceeds RAL
- Exceeds RAL for benzyl alcohol only
- Does not exceed RAL

## Other existing sampling locations

- Bank sampling location (no exceedance)
- ▲ Seep location (exceeds groundwater PCUL)
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## Outfall classification

- Private storm drain
- Public storm drain
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## Technology assignment



Dredge



Monitored Natural Recovery (MNR > SCO)

## Other LDW features



Recovery Category 1



Intertidal area



Potential tug scour area



Potential tug scour area and shoal area



Beach play area



Dock/pier/marina



Upper Reach listed site



Segment boundary



King Co tax parcel



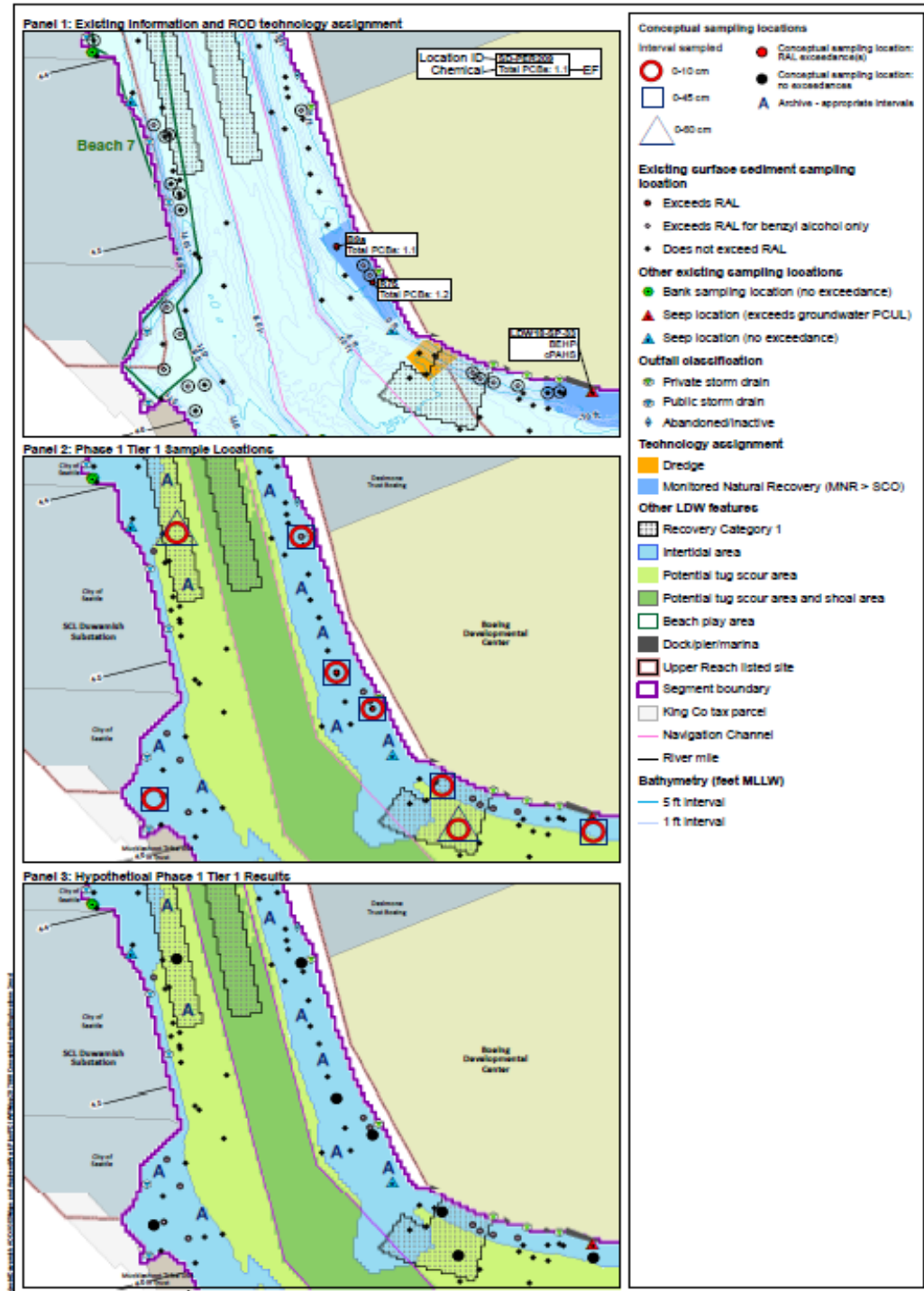
Navigation Channel



River mile

# Hypothetical Example

- Existing information
- Phase 1, Tier 1 samples
- Possible results – now, which archived samples should you analyze?



# EXTRA SLIDE - What does sampling involve?

- A clear description of the goals and how the samples fit the goal
- A plan for field work and laboratory work, called a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP).
- Trained field crew collects samples following the plan, keep records of the field conditions, make sure the samples are properly labeled and kept safe and cool until the lab receives them.
- At the lab, the samples are extracted (so the contamination in the sediment becomes dissolved in liquid) and the liquid (“extract”) is placed in the appropriate sampling equipment.