Source Water Assessment

A Hydrogeologic Susceptibility and Vulnerability Assessment for Excursion Inlet Cannery, Excursion Inlet, Alaska PWSID #130229

DRINKING WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM REPORT NO. 718

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

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The Drinking Water Protection Program (DWPP) is producing Source Water Assessments in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996. Each assessment includes a delineation of the source water area, an inventory of potential and existing contaminant sources that may impact the water, a risk ranking for each of these contaminants, and an evaluation of the potential vulnerability of these drinking water sources.

These assessments are intended to provide public water systems owners/operators, communities, and local governments with the best available information that may be used to protect the quality of their drinking water. The assessments combine information obtained from various sources, including the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC), public water system owners/operators, and other public information sources. The results of this assessment are subject to change if additional data becomes available. It is anticipated this assessment will be updated every five years to reflect any changes in the vulnerability and/or susceptibility of public drinking water source. If you have any additional information that may affect the results of this assessment, please contact the Program Coordinator of DWPP, (907) 269-7521.

CONTENTS

TABLES

APPENDICES

Source Water Assessment for Excursion Inlet Cannery, Excursion Inlet, Alaska

Drinking Water Protection Program
Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The public water system for Excursion Inlet Cannery is a Class B (transient/non-community) water system consisting of one surface water intake from an unnamed creek flowing into South Creek. The surface water intake received a susceptibility rating of **Very High**. A rating of High to Very High is typical for all surface water systems. Identified potential and current sources of contaminants for Excursion Inlet Cannery public drinking water include one road. Identified potential and existing sources of contamination include sources of bacteria and viruses, nitrates and/or nitrites, and volatile organic chemicals. Contaminant sources could potentially contribute bacteria and viruses, nitrates and/or nitrites, and volatile organic chemicals into the source waters. Overall, the public water sources for Excursion Inlet Cannery received a vulnerability rating of **Medium** for bacteria and viruses and nitrates and nitrites; and **High** for volatile organic chemicals.

EXCURSION INLET CANNERY PUBLIC DRINKING WATER SYSTEM

Excursion Inlet Cannery public water system is a Class B (transient/non-community) water system. The system consists of one surface water intake from an impoundment on an unnamed stream flowing into South Creek, on the east side of Excursion Inlet, Alaska (See Map 1 of Appendix A). Excursion Inlet is located in Glacier Bay National Park; north of Icy Straight and south of the Chilkat Range. The population of Excursion Inlet is approximately 475.

Excursion Inlet averages about 70 inches of precipitation per year; and approximately 120 inches of snow. The groundwater sources underlying the area are recharged through the infiltration of precipitation and surface water. Groundwater sources in the region generally occur in the fractured bedrock and unconsolidated sediments deposited by glaciers and/or rivers. Excursion Inlet topography varies from near sea level along Excursion Inlet to 3,900 feet at the Chilkat Range north of Excursion Inlet Cannery.

The most recent Sanitary Survey (August 3, 1994) does not indicate when the intake was initially put into operation. The survey does state that the intake was adequately constructed. An adequately constructed intake may provide protection against debris and contaminants from entering the system. The raw water is treated by filtration and chlorination. It is assumed there is a potential for runoff within the area surrounding the surface water.

This system operates year round, servicing 475 residents and 40 non-residents are through one connection.

EXCURSION INLET CANNERY DRINKING WATER PROTECTION AREA

In order to evaluate whether a drinking water source is at risk, we must first evaluate what are the most likely pathways for surface contamination to reach the creek. These areas are determined by looking at the characteristics of the creek, surrounding contaminant sources, and the intake.

The most probable area for contamination to reach the drinking water system is the area that contributes water to the surface water body that water is being drawn from. This area is designated as the Drinking Water Protection Area (DWPA). Because releases of contaminants within the DWPA are most likely to impact the drinking water system, this area will serve as the focus for voluntary protection efforts.

The size and shape of the DWPAs were established based on aerial distances from the surface water body, and the watershed that recharges the surface water body. Please refer to the Guidance Manual for Class B Public Water Systems for additional information.

The DWPAs established for surface water systems by the ADEC are separated into three zones. These zones correspond to different distances from the surface water body, and the entire watershed that recharges the surface water body. The following is a summary of the three DWPA zones and their definitions.

Table 1. Definition of Zones

Zone	Definition
A	1,000 feet from the Surface Water Body
B	1 mile from the Surface Water Body
C	Entire Watershed

The DWPA for Excursion Inlet Cannery extends over the entire watershed. Development in the vicinity of the surface water intake is limited to only Zone A (See Map 1 of Appendix A).

INVENTORY OF POTENTIAL AND EXISTING CONTAMINANT SOURCES

The Drinking Water Protection Program has completed an inventory of potential and existing sources of contamination within the Excursion Inlet Cannery DWPA. This inventory was completed through a search of agency records and other publicly-available information. Potential sources of contamination to the drinking water source include a wide range of categories and types. Potential drinking water contaminants are found within agricultural, residential, commercial, and industrial areas, but can also occur within areas that have little or no development.

For the basis of all Class B public water system assessments, three categories of drinking water contaminants were inventoried. They include:

- Bacteria and viruses;
- Nitrates and/or nitrites;
- Volatile organic chemicals

The sources are displayed on Map 2 of Appendix C and summarized in Table 1 of Appendix B.

RANKING OF CONTAMINANT RISKS

Once the potential and existing sources of contamination have been identified, they are assigned a ranking according to what type and level of risk they represent. Ranking of contaminant risks for a "potential" or "existing" source of contamination is a function of toxicity and volumes of specific contaminants associated with that source. Rankings include:

- Low;
- Medium;
- High; and
- Very High.

The TOT for contaminants within the water varies and is dependent on the physical and chemical characteristics of each contaminant. Bacteria and Viruses are only inventoried in Zones A and B because of their short life span.

Tables 2 through 4 in Appendix B contain the ranking of potential and existing sources of contamination with respect to bacteria and viruses, nitrates and/or nitrites, and volatile organic chemicals.

VULNERABILITY OF EXCURSION INLET CANNERY DRINKING WATER SYSTEM

Vulnerability of a drinking water source to contamination is a combination of two factors:

- Natural susceptibility; and
- Contaminant risks.

Each of the three categories of drinking water contaminants has been analyzed and an overall vulnerability score of 30 to 100 is ultimately assigned:

Natural Susceptibility (30 – 50 points)

+

Contaminant Risks (0 – 50 points)

=

Vulnerability of the
Drinking Water Source to Contamination (30 – 100).

A score for the Natural Susceptibility is achieved by analyzing the properties of the surface water source.

Natural Susceptibility
(Susceptibility of the Surface Water Source)
(30 – 50 Points)

The surface water intake for Excursion Inlet Cannery is in an unnamed creek. Because the creek is recharged by surface water runoff and precipitation, contaminants at or near the creek have the potential to adversely impact this drinking water source. Table 2 shows the Overall Susceptibility score and rating for Excursion Inlet Cannery.

Table 2. Natural Susceptibility

	Score	Rating
Natural Susceptibility	45	Very High

Contaminant risks to a drinking water source depend on the type, number or density, and distribution of contaminant sources. This data has been derived from an examination of existing or historical contamination that has been detected at the drinking water source through routine sampling. It also evaluates potential sources of contamination. Table 3 summarizes the Contaminant Risks for each category of drinking water contaminants.

Table 3. Contaminant Risks

Category	Score	Rating
Bacteria and Viruses	2	Low
Nitrates and/or Nitrites	13	Low
Volatile Organic Chemicals	18	Low

Appendix D contains seven charts, which together form the 'Vulnerability Analysis' for a source water assessment for a public drinking water source. Chart 1 analyzes the 'Susceptibility of the Surface Water Source' to contamination by looking at the construction of the intake and its surrounding area and naturally-occurring attributes of the water source and influences on the groundwater system that might lead to contamination. Chart 2 analyzes 'Contaminant Risks' for the drinking water source with respect to bacteria and viruses. The 'Contaminant Risks' portion of the analysis considers potential sources of contaminants as well as a review of contamination that has or may have occurred, but has not arrived or been detected at the surface water source. Chart 3 contains the 'Vulnerability Analysis for Bacteria and Viruses.' Charts 4 through 7 contain the Contaminant Risks and Vulnerability Analyses for nitrates and nitrites and volatile organic chemicals, respectively.

Table 4 contains the overall vulnerability scores (30 – 100) and ratings for each of the three categories of drinking water contaminants. Note: scores are rounded off to the nearest five.

Table 4. Overall Vulnerability

Category	Score	Rating
Bacteria and Viruses	45	Medium
Nitrates and Nitrites	55	Medium
Volatile Organic Chemicals	65	High

Tables 2 through 4 in Appendix B contain the ranking of potential and existing sources of contamination with respect to bacteria and viruses, nitrates and/or nitrites, and volatile organic chemicals.

Bacteria and Viruses

The contaminant risk for bacteria and viruses is **Low** with the road representing the risk to the source of public drinking water (See Chart 2 – Contaminant Risks for Bacteria and Viruses in Appendix D).

Only a small amount of bacteria and viruses are required to endanger public health. Bacteria and viruses have not been detected during recent sampling of the system. Combining the contaminant risks with the overall natural susceptibility of the surface water source, the vulnerability of the surface water source to contamination by bacteria and viruses is **Medium**.

Nitrates and Nitrites

The contaminant risk for nitrates and nitrites is **Low** with the road representing the risk to this source of public drinking water (See Chart 4 – Contaminant Risk for Nitrates and/or Nitrites in Appendix D)..

Sampling history for Excursion Inlet Cannery indicates that nitrates have been detected in the water, but only in very low concentrations (most recently at 0.236 mg/L on 5/11/1998) or 2% of the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL). The MCL is the maximum level of contaminant that is allowed to exist in drinking water and still be consumed by humans without harmful health effects. Due to the high solubility and weak retention by soil, nitrates are very mobile, moving at approximately the same rate as water.

After combining the contaminant risk for nitrates and nitrites with the natural susceptibility of the surface water source, the overall vulnerability of the surface water source to contamination by nitrates and nitrites is **Medium**.

Volatile Organic Chemicals

The contaminant risk for volatile organic chemicals is **Low** with no sources of contamination identified (See Chart 6 – Contaminant Risks for Volatile Organic Chemicals in Appendix D).

Sampling history indicates that volatile organic chemicals have been detected in the water, but only in very low concentrations. These chemicals are byproducts of chlorinating water containing naturally-occurring organics. Combining the contaminant risk for volatile organic chemicals with the natural susceptibility of the surface water source, the overall vulnerability of the surface water source to contamination by volatile organic chemicals is **High**.

REFERENCES

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Gehrels, G.E., Berg, H.C., Geologic Map of Southeastern Alaska: U.S. Geological Survey Map (scale 1:600,000), Map I-1867, 1sheet.

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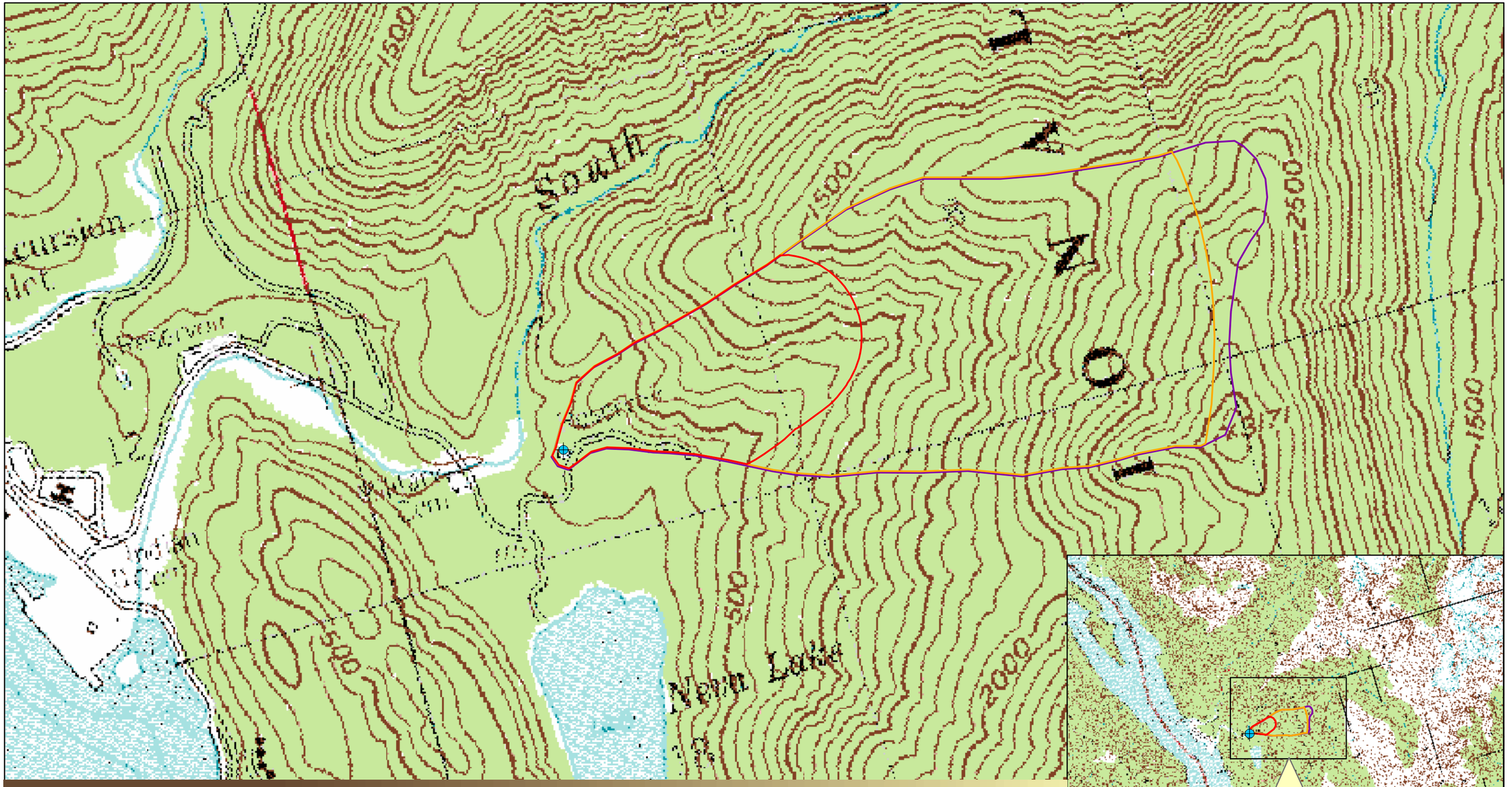
United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), 2002 [WWW document]. URL: http://www.epa.gov/safewater/mcl.html.

APPENDIX A

Excursion Inlet Cannery
Drinking Water Protection Area Location Map
(Map 1)



Map 1: Excursion Inlet Cannery Drinking Water Protection Area

PWSID: 130229.001

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

Alaska Drinking Water Protection Program

0 625 1,250 2,500 3,750 5,000 Feet

1:13,032

Data Source:

Background image - USGS 1:63,000 mapping

Protection zones were delineated based upon stream noted on PWS Inventory Information.

Legend

Public Drinking Water Systems

Zone A Protection Area
1000 Feet from Surface Water Body

Zone B Protection Area
1 Mile from Surface Water Body

Zone C Protection Area
Entire Watershed

APPENDIX B

Contaminant Source Inventory and Risk Ranking for Excursion Inlet Cannery (Tables 1-4)

Table 1 *Contaminant Source Inventory for* ***PWSID 130229.001***

Excursion Inlet Cannery

Contaminant Source Type	*Contaminant Source ID*	*CS ID tag*	*Zone*	*Map Number*	*Comments*
Highways and roads, dirt/gravel	X24	X24-1	A	2	Road to Excursion Inlet Cannery

Contaminant Source Inventory and Risk Ranking for

Table 2 ***PWSID 130229.001***

Excursion Inlet Cannery

Sources of Bacteria and Viruses

Contaminant Source Type	*Contaminant Source ID*	*CS ID tag*	*Zone*	*Risk Ranking for Analysis*	*Map Number*	*Comments*
Highways and roads, dirt/gravel	X24	X24-1	A	Low	2	Road to Excursion Inlet Cannery

Contaminant Source Inventory and Risk Ranking for

Table 3 ***PWSID 130229.001***

Excursion Inlet Cannery

Sources of Nitrates/Nitrites

Contaminant Source Type	*Contaminant Source ID*	*CS ID tag*	*Zone*	*Risk Ranking for Analysis*	*Map Number*	*Comments*
Highways and roads, dirt/gravel	X24	X24-1	A	Low	2	Road to Excursion Inlet Cannery

Contaminant Source Inventory and Risk Ranking for

Table 4 ***PWSID 130229.001***

Excursion Inlet Cannery

Sources of Volatile Organic Chemicals

Contaminant Source Type	*Contaminant Source ID*	*CS ID tag*	*Zone*	*Risk Ranking for Analysis*	*Map Number*	*Comments*
Highways and roads, dirt/gravel	X24	X24-1	A	Low	2	Road to Excursion Inlet Cannery

APPENDIX C

Excursion Inlet Cannery
Drinking Water Protection Area
and Potential and Existing Contaminant Sources
(Map 2)

Excursion Inlet Drum Site (U04)

Excursion Inlet -Wards Cove Packing Co. Landfill (D51)

X01-1

X24-1

Map 2: Drinking Water Protection Area for Excursion Inlet Cannery and Potential and Existing Sources of Contamination

PWSID: 130229.001

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

Alaska Drinking Water Protection Program

0 290 580 1,160 1,740 2,320 Feet

1:5,959

Data Source:

Background image - USGS 1:63,000 mapping

Protection zones were delineated based upon stream noted on PWS Inventory Information.

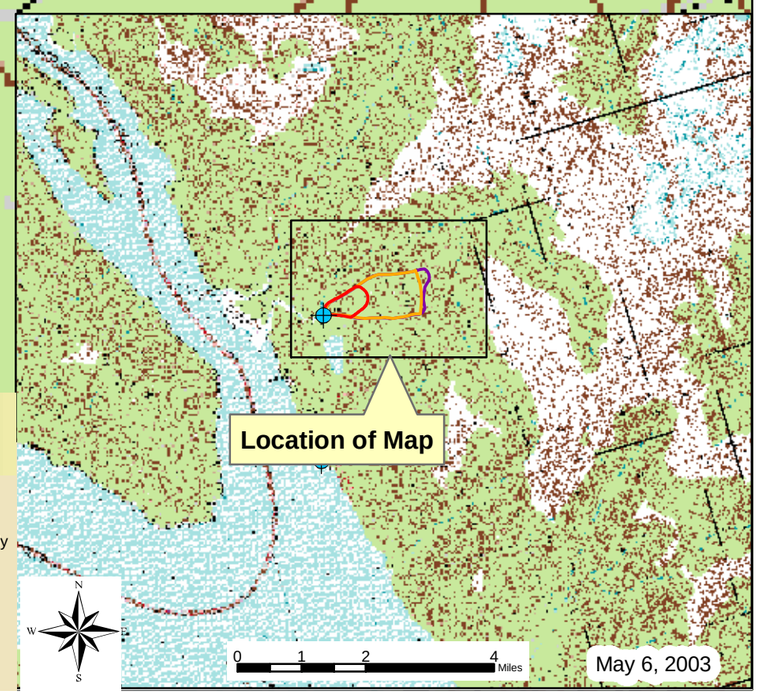
Legend

- Public Drinking Water Systems
- Large Capacity Septic System (D10)
- Excursion Inlet Drum Site (U04)
- Cemetery (X01)

Zone A Protection Area
1000 Feet from Surface Water Body

Zone B Protection Area
1 Mile from Surface Water Body

Zone C Protection Area
Entire Watershed



May 6, 2003

APPENDIX D

Vulnerability Analysis for Excursion Inlet Cannery Public Drinking Water Source

(Charts 1-7)

Chart 1. Susceptibility of the surface water source - Excursion Inlet Cannery

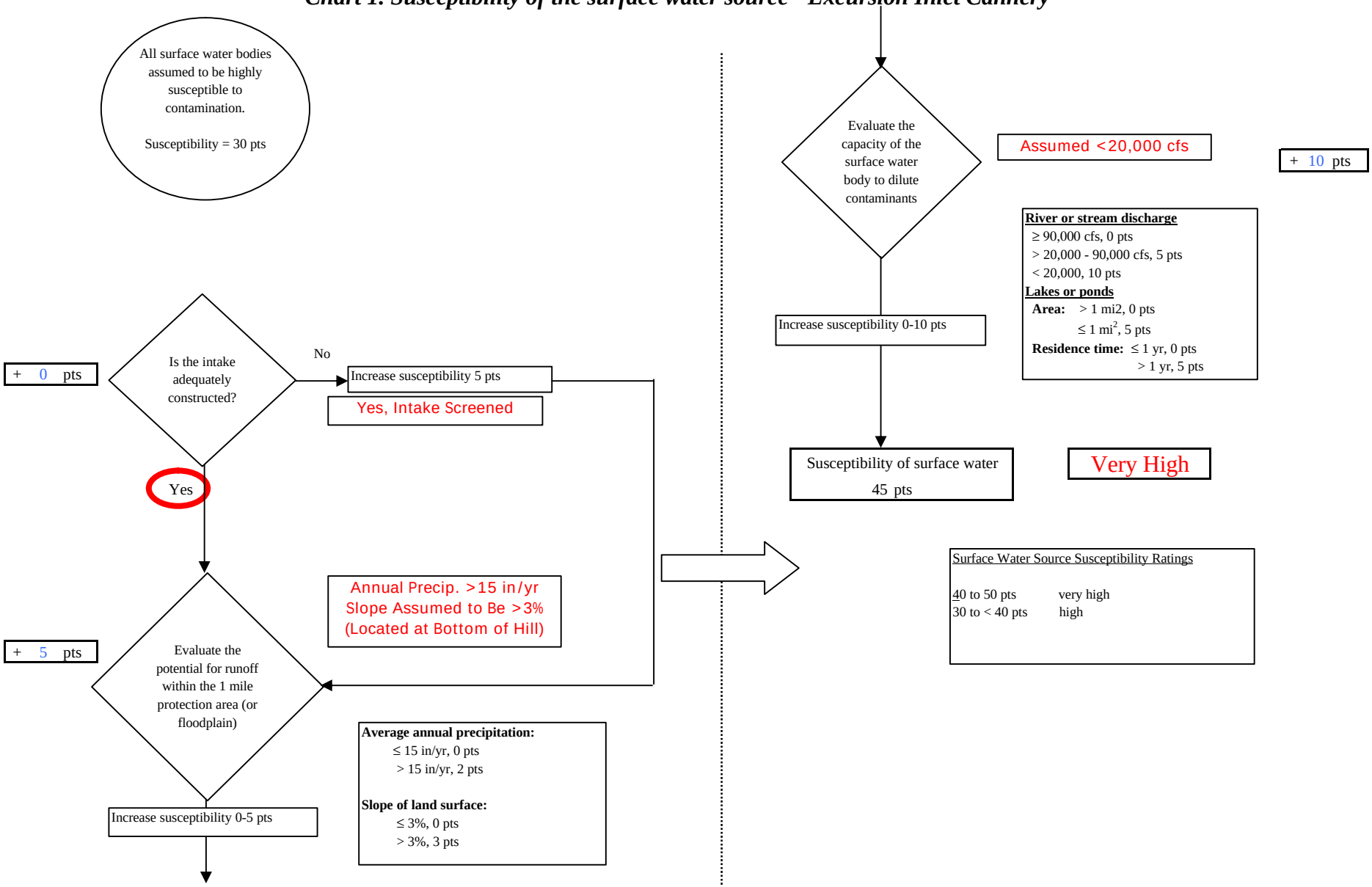
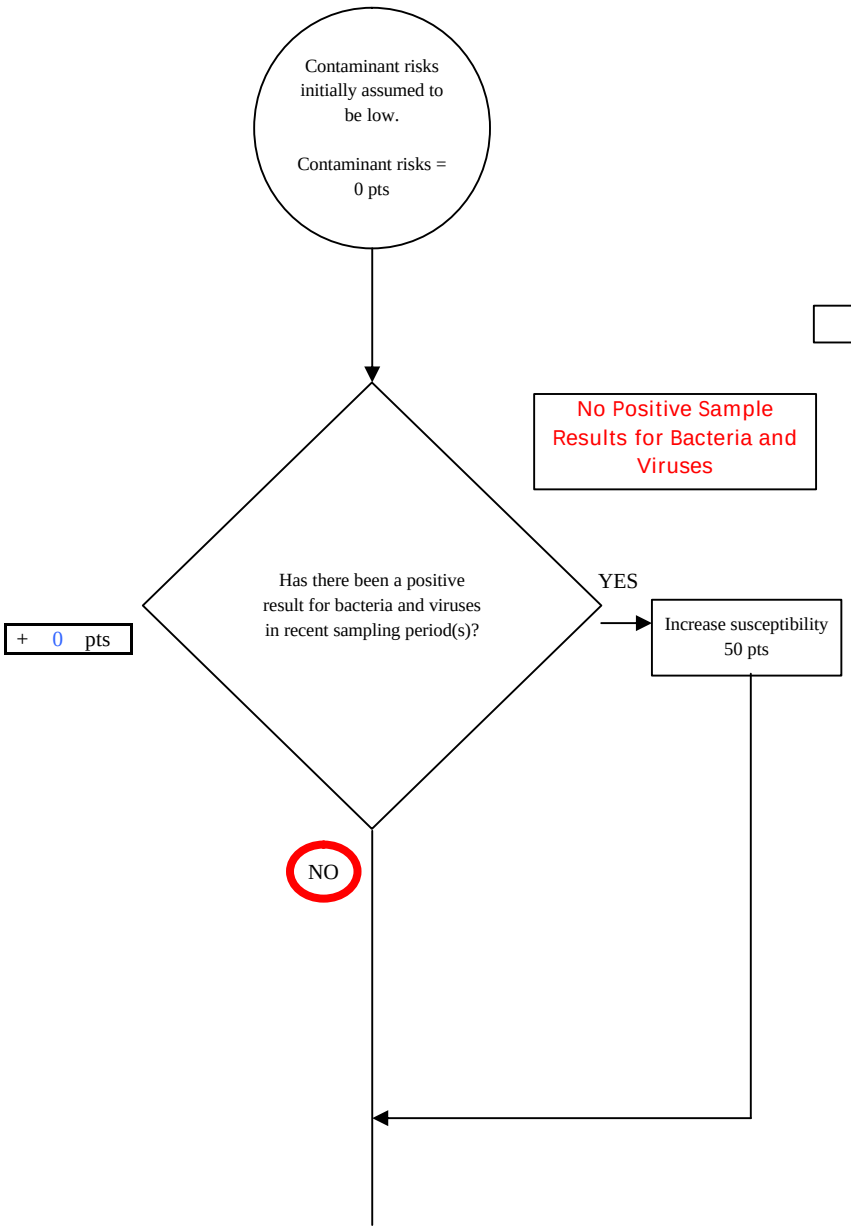
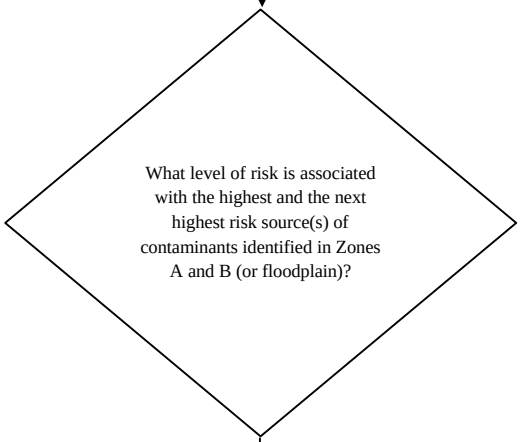


Chart 2. Contaminant risks for Excursion Inlet Cannery - Bacteria & Viruses



No Positive Sample Results for Bacteria and Viruses



+ 10 pts

Risk Rankings for Contaminant Sources Identified in Zones A and B

	Zone A	Zone B	Total
Very Highs(s)	0	0	0
High(s)	0	0	0
Medium(s)	0		0
Low(s)	1		1

	LOW 10 pts	**MEDIUM** 20 pts	**HIGH** 30 pts	**VERY HIGH** 40 pts
LOW	[3] 10 sources + 10 pts	≥ 10 sources + 5 pts	≥ 20 sources + 5 pts	----
MEDIUM	----	≥ 2 sources + 5 pts	≥ 5 sources + 5 pts	≥ 10 sources + 5 pts
HIGH	----	----	≥ 1 source + 10 pts	≥ 2 sources + 10 pts
VERY HIGH	----	----	----	≥ 1 source + 10 pts

Matrix Score 10

Note: Septic systems, sewerlines, and roads are each assigned a risk ranking for each individual contaminant source in the CSI. The VA, however, counts these contaminant sources as a group and assigns a calculated number of either "lows" or "mediums" based on the density.

Chart 2. Contaminant risks for Excursion Inlet Cannery - Bacteria & Viruses

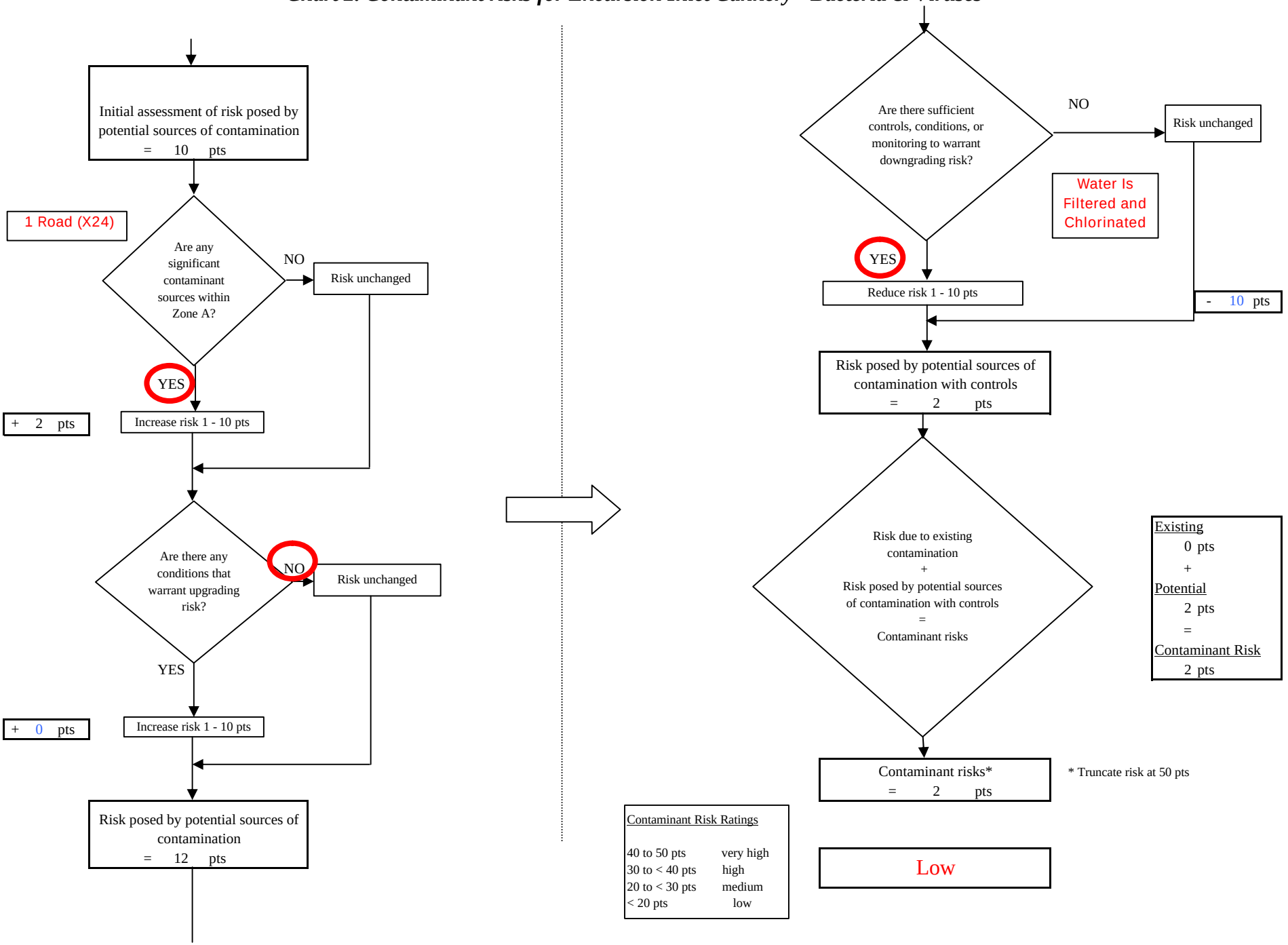


Chart 3. Vulnerability analysis for Excursion Inlet Cannery - Bacteria & Viruses

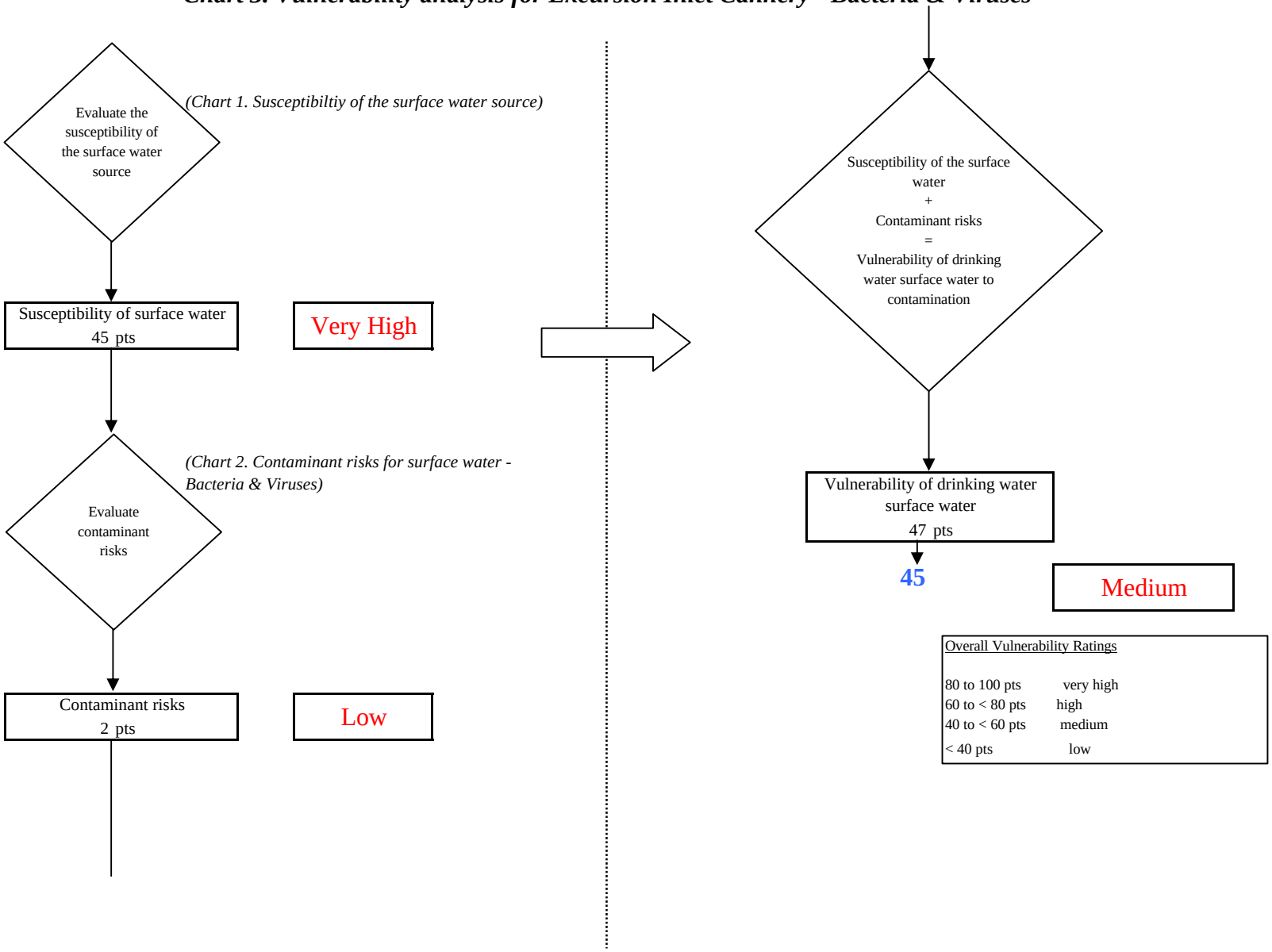


Chart 4. Contaminant risks for Excursion Inlet Cannery - Nitrates and Nitrites

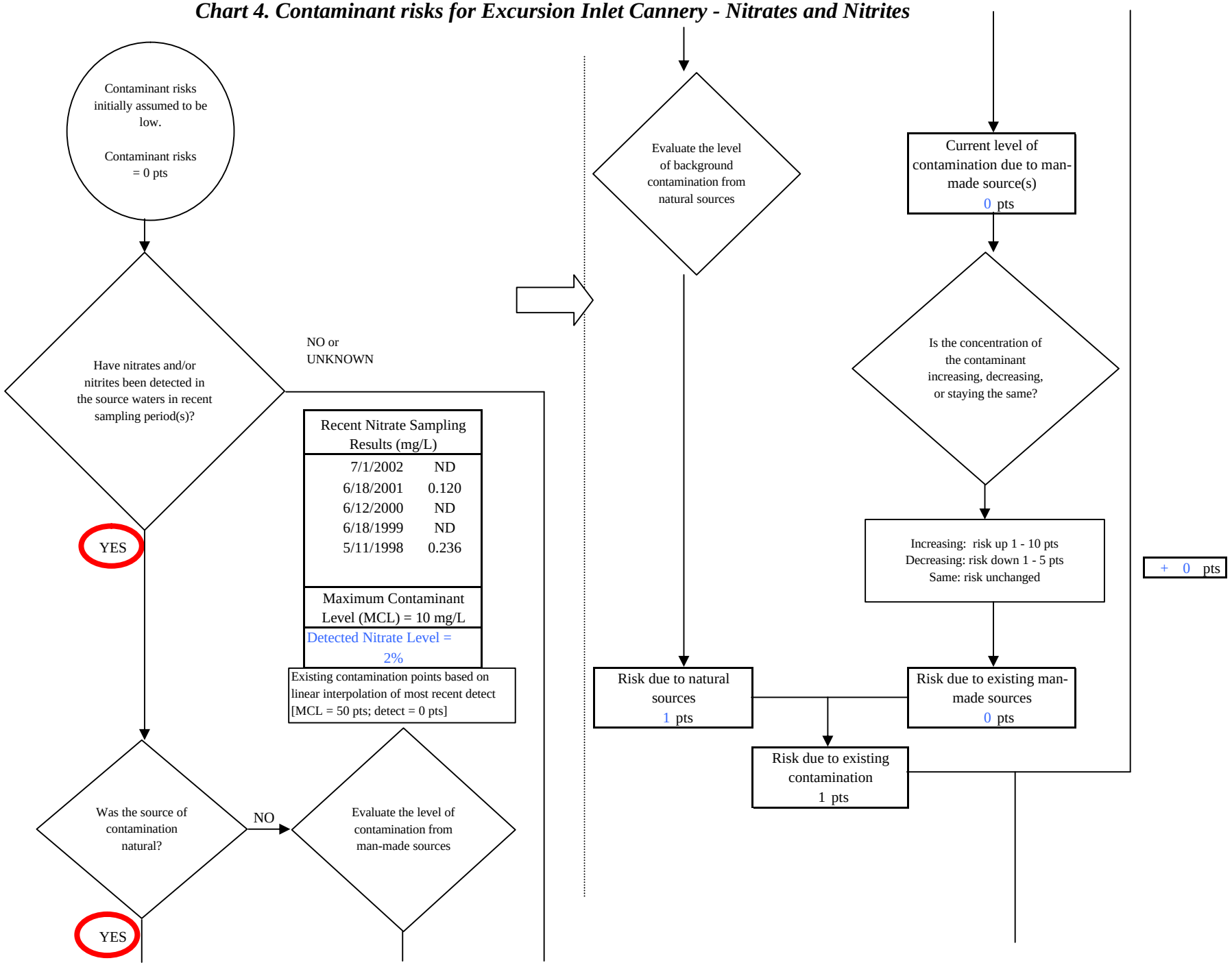


Chart 4. Contaminant risks for Excursion Inlet Cannery - Nitrates and Nitrites

+ 10 pts

What level of risk is associated with the highest and the next highest risk sources(s) of contaminants identified in Zones A and B? (see Risk Matrix below)

Initial assessment of risk posed by potential sources of contamination = 10 pts

Are any significant sources in Zone A?

NO → Risk unchanged

1 Road (X24)

YES → Increase risk 1 - 10 pts

+ 2 pts

Risk Levels for Contaminant Sources identified in Zones A and B

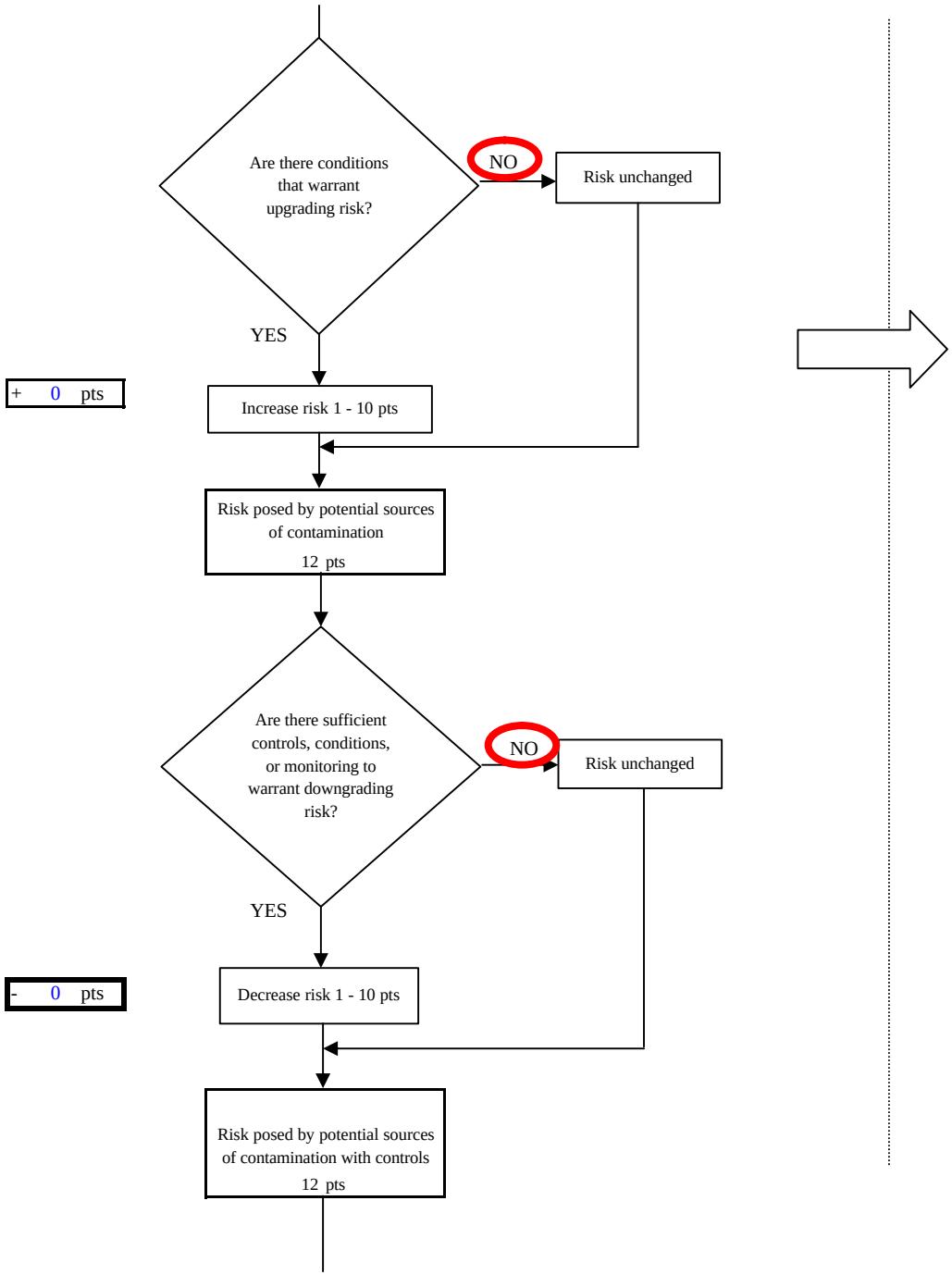
	Zone A	Zone B	Total
Very Highs(s)	0	0	0
High(s)	0	0	0
Medium(s)	0		0
Low(s)	1		1

	LOW 10 pts	**MEDIUM** 20 pts	**HIGH** 30 pts	**VERY HIGH** 40 pts
LOW	[3] 10 sources + 10 pts	≥ 10 sources + 5 pts	≥ 20 sources + 5 pts	----
MEDIUM	----	≥ 2 sources + 5 pts	≥ 5 sources + 5 pts	≥ 10 sources + 5 pts
HIGH	----	----	≥ 1 source + 10 pts	≥ 2 sources + 10 pts
VERY HIGH	----	----	----	≥ 1 source + 10 pts

Matrix Score 10

Note: Septic systems, sewerlines, and roads are each assigned a risk ranking for each individual contaminant source in the CSI. The VA, however, counts these contaminant sources as a group and assigns a calculated number of either "lows" or "mediums" based on the density.

Chart 4. Contaminant risks for Excursion Inlet Cannery - Nitrates and Nitrites



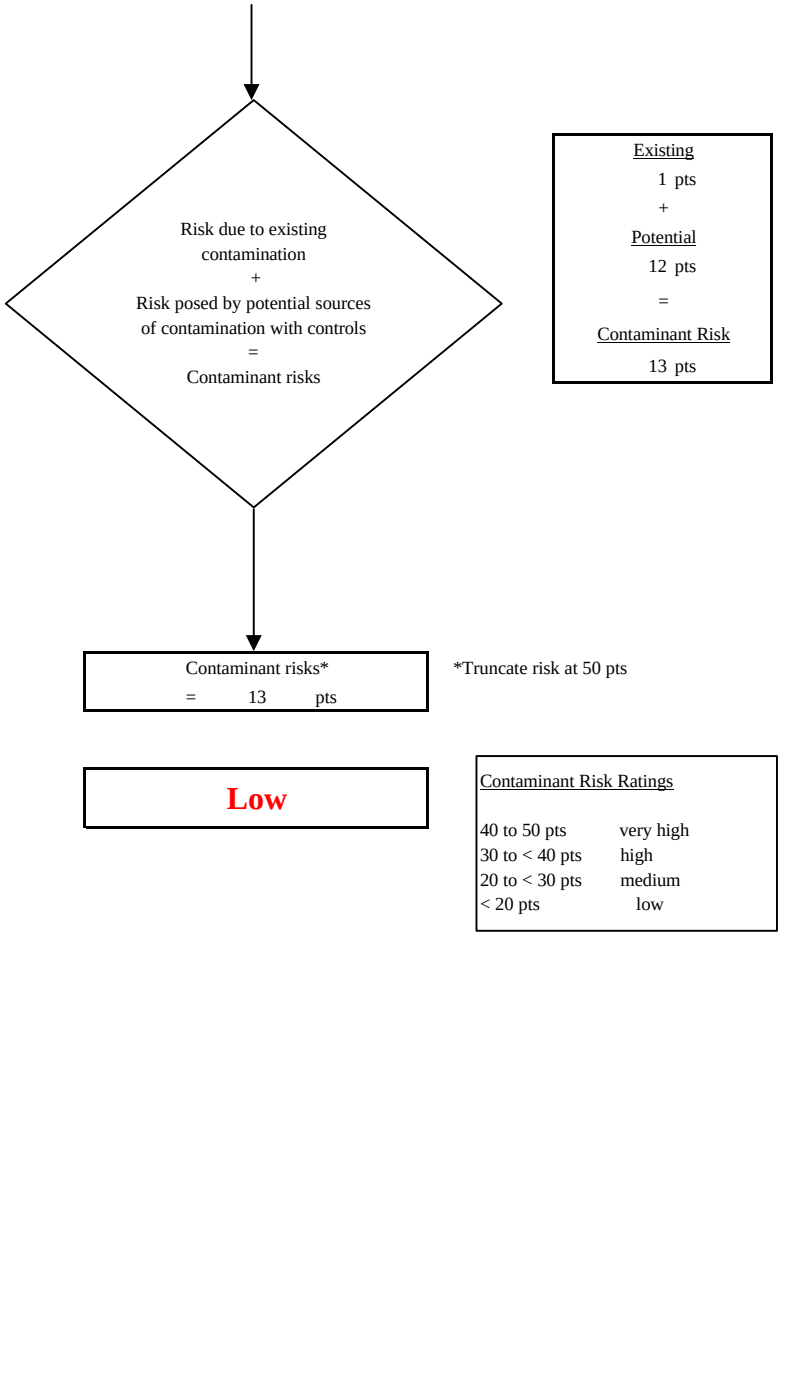


Chart 5. Vulnerability analysis for Excursion Inlet Cannery - Nitrates and Nitrites

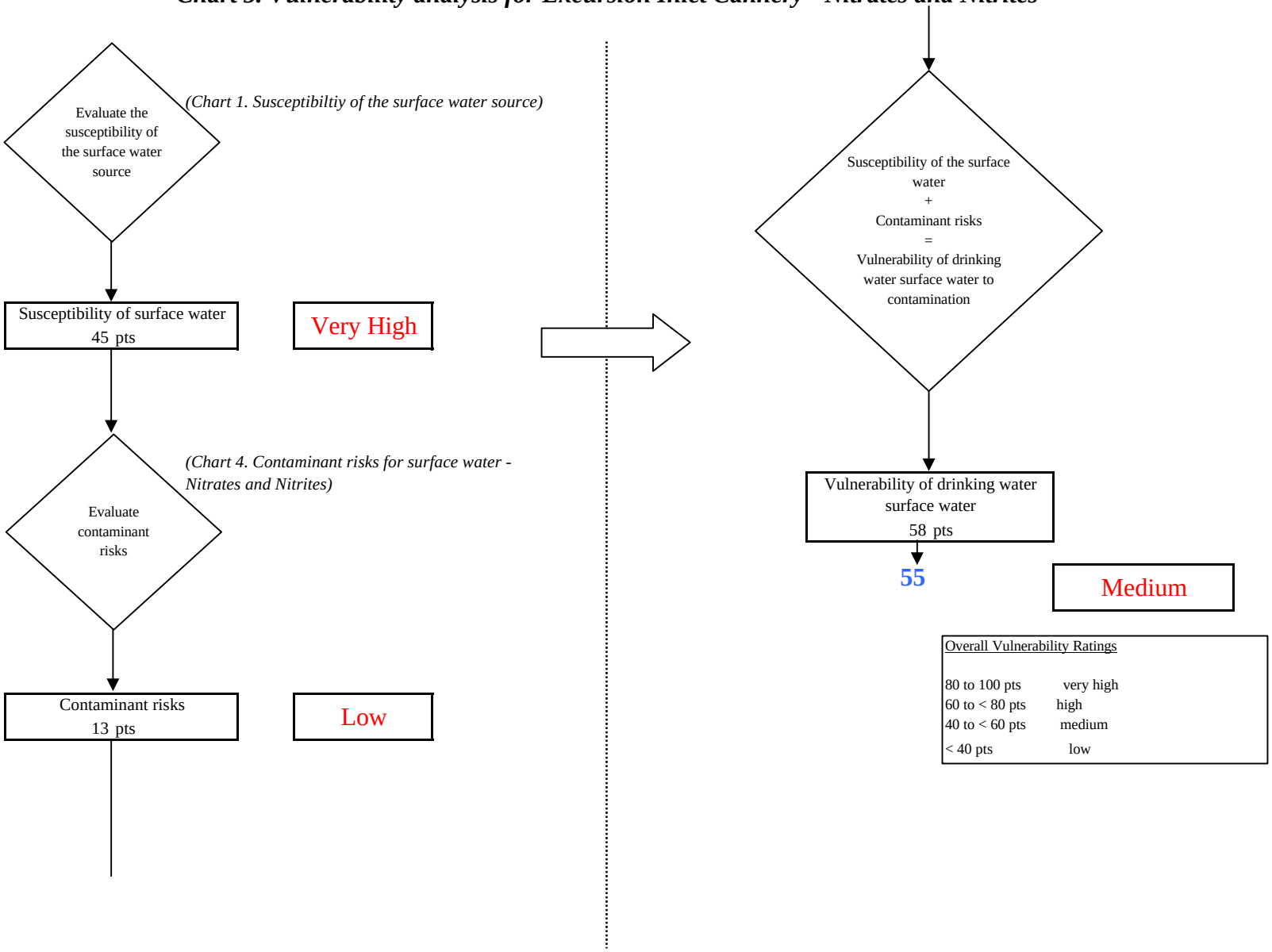


Chart 6. Contaminant risks for Excursion Inlet Cannery - Volatile Organic Chemicals

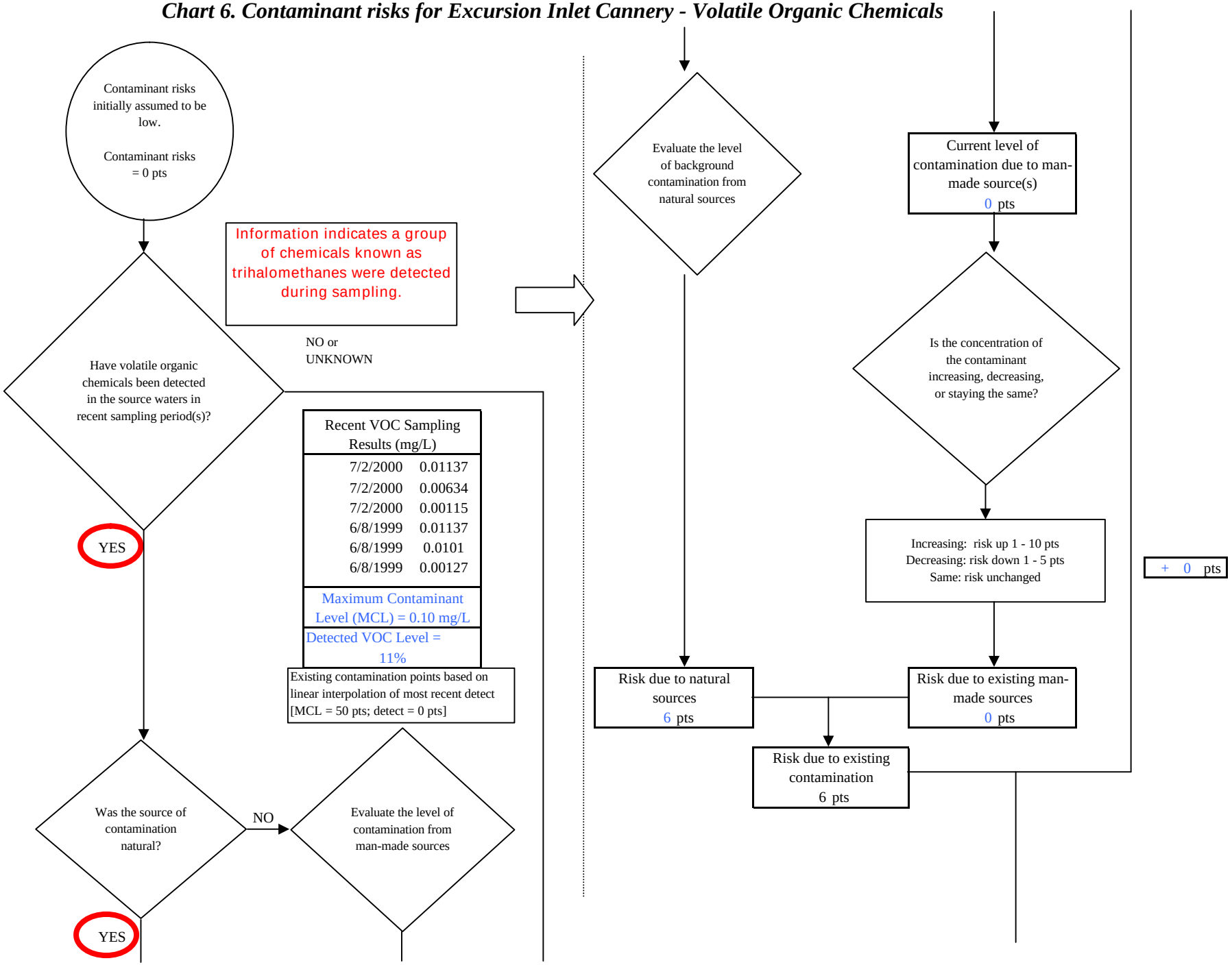


Chart 6. Contaminant risks for Excursion Inlet Cannery - Volatile Organic Chemicals

+ 10 pts

What level of risk is associated with the highest and the next highest risk sources(s) of contaminants identified in Zones A and B? (see Risk Matrix below)

Initial assessment of risk posed by potential sources of contamination = 10 pts

Are any significant sources in Zone A?

NO → Risk unchanged

YES → Increase risk 1 - 10 pts

1 Road (X24)

+ 2 pts

Risk Levels for Contaminant Sources identified in Zones A and B

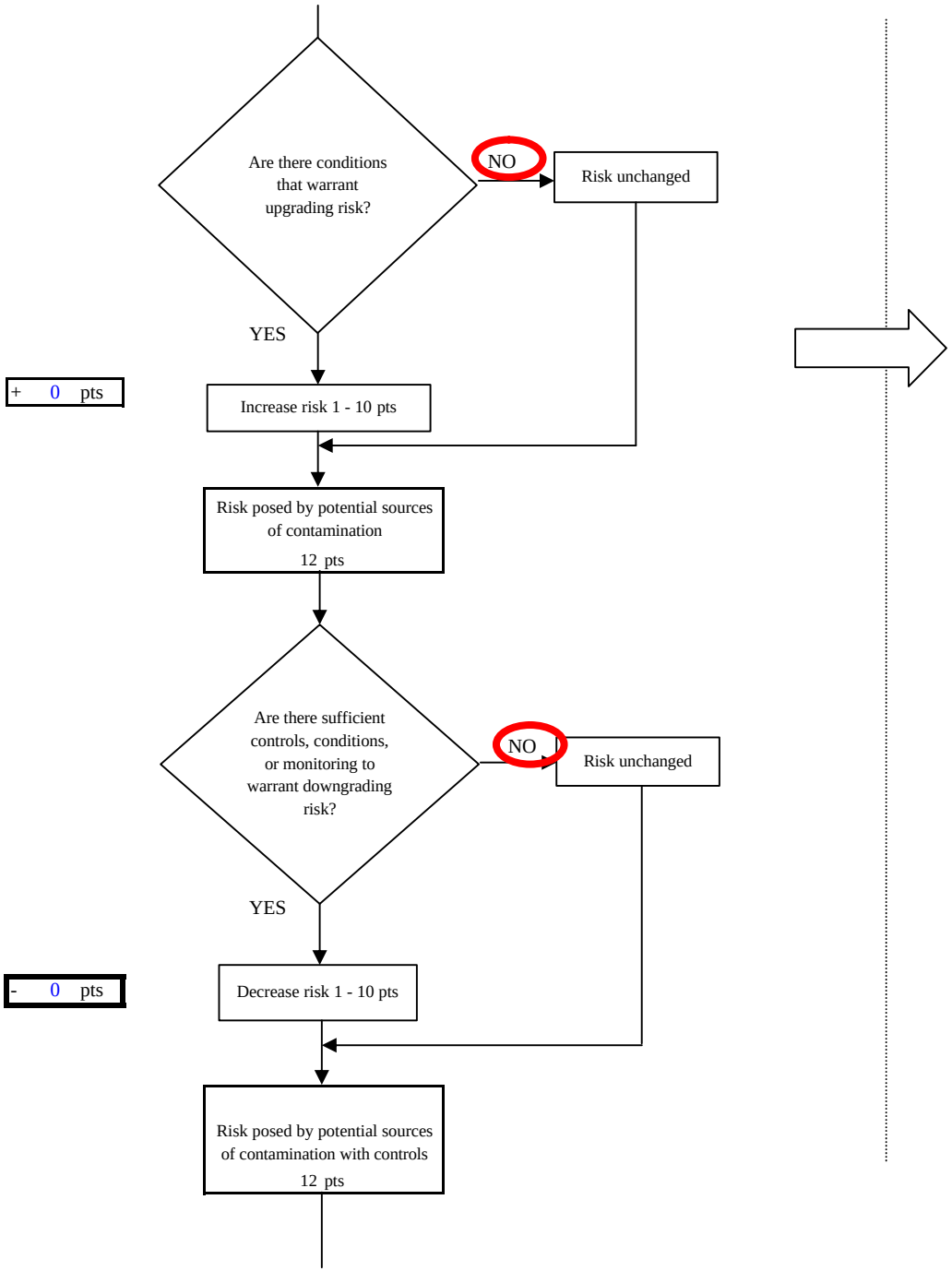
	Zone A	Zone B	Total
Very Highs(s)	0	0	0
High(s)	0	0	0
Medium(s)	0		0
Low(s)	1		1

	LOW 10 pts	**MEDIUM** 20 pts	**HIGH** 30 pts	**VERY HIGH** 40 pts
LOW	[3] 10 sources + 10 pts	≥ 10 sources + 5 pts	≥ 20 sources + 5 pts	----
MEDIUM	----	≥ 2 sources + 5 pts	≥ 5 sources + 5 pts	≥ 10 sources + 5 pts
HIGH	----	----	≥ 1 source + 10 pts	≥ 2 sources + 10 pts
VERY HIGH	----	----	----	≥ 1 source + 10 pts

Matrix Score 10

Note: Septic systems, sewerlines, and roads are each assigned a risk ranking for each individual contaminant source in the CSI. The VA, however, counts these contaminant sources as a group and assigns a calculated number of either "lows" or "mediums" based on the density.

Chart 6. Contaminant risks for Excursion Inlet Cannery - Volatile Organic Chemicals



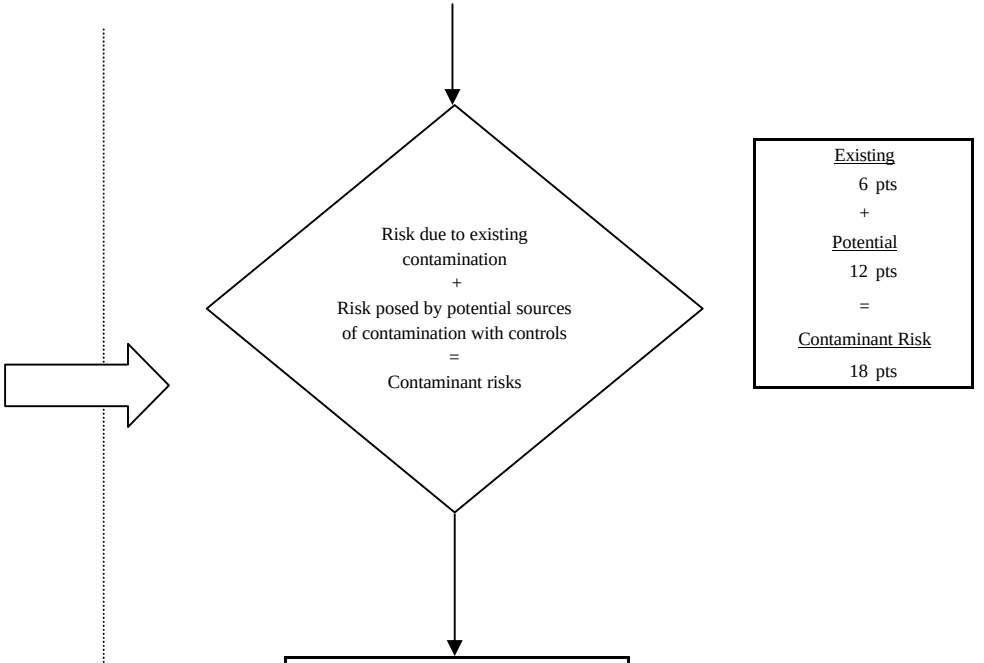


Chart 7. Vulnerability analysis for Excursion Inlet Cannery - Volatile Organic Chemicals