



Source Water Assessment

A Hydrogeologic Susceptibility and Vulnerability Assessment for Vallenar View Mobile Home Park, Ketchikan, Alaska

PWSID # 120012

January 2003

Drinking Water Protection Program Report #833

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.

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Drinking Water Protection Program Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The primary public water system for Vallenar View Mobile Home Park is a Class A water system (community) that obtains water from Whipple Creek. The system's intake is located approximately 1-mile upstream from the shoreline and is accessible via Whipple Creek Road. The overall protection area received a susceptibility rating of "very high". A rating of high to very high is typical for all surface water catchment areas. Identified potential and current sources of contaminants for the drinking water source include potential logging areas and an industrial landfill. Potential and existing sources of the following contaminants were evaluated for this assessment: bacteria and viruses, nitrates and/or nitrites, heavy metals, cyanide, and other inorganic chemicals, synthetic organic chemicals, volatile organic chemicals, and other organic chemicals. Combining the natural susceptibility of the surface water source with the contaminant risk, this water system has received a vulnerability rating of "medium" for bacteria and viruses, nitrates and/or nitrites, synthetic organic chemicals; and "very high" for volatile organic chemicals, heavy metals, cyanide and other inorganic chemicals.

DRINKING WATER SYSTEM AND AREA OVERVIEW

The Vallenar View Mobile Home Park water system is a Class A (community) water system that operates year round and serves approximately 225 people. The system's intake is located just above a rock quarry, approximately 1-mile upstream of the shoreline on Whipple Creek, approximately 5-miles northwest of Ketchikan. Road access is available via Whipple Creek Road (T74S, R90E, Section 19) (See Map 1 of Appendix A). Ketchikan and surrounding area are located in the Ketchikan Gateway Borough, which is in the Southeast Panhandle of Alaska (Please see the inset of Map 1 in Appendix A for location). The Borough's current population is 14,070 (ADCED, 2003).

The majority of residents in the Ketchikan area are connected to the water and sewer services. Heating oil (stored in both above and below ground tanks) is most commonly used for heating homes and buildings. Refuse is transported to Deer Mountain Landfill, which

is equipped with an incinerator. Refuse is also baled and shipped out-of-state (ADCED, 2003).

The Ketchikan area is characterized by some of the most unique topography in Southeast Alaska. The area immediately surrounding the Vallenar View Mobile Home Park is generally steep and composed primarily of sedimentary rocks. Soils are typically well drained and the area supports western hemlock and Sitka spruce growth. Footslope areas tend to be more poorly drained and can support forested wetlands. Palustrine emergent wetlands are common near estuarine and cirque lake areas. Landslides are not uncommon in the surrounding areas (USDA, 2001).

Strong winds and frequent precipitation are normal here. Summer temperatures range from 51 to 65 degrees Fahrenheit; winter temperatures range from 29 to 39 degrees Fahrenheit. Ketchikan averages 162 inches (13.5 feet) of precipitation annually, including 32 inches of snowfall (ADCED, 2003).

The most recent Sanitary Survey (1997) indicates that the intake is located on the creek bottom and is screened. The system operator has indicated that salmon spawning does occur in the creek, but does not occur near the intake. The operator also estimates a dry weather flow rate of 15-20 million gallons per day (25-30 cubic feet per second).

VALLENAR VIEW MOBILE HOME PARK DRINKING WATER PROTECTION AREA

Identifying the pathways most likely for surface contamination to reach water intake areas is the first step in determining the water system's risk. These are initially determined by looking at the drainage area contributing to a surface water source. The entire drainage area is also known as the "drinking water protection area". Please refer to pages 10-11of the "Guidance Manual for Class A Public Water Systems" for additional information.

The protection area established for surface water sources by the ADEC is usually separated into three zones, limited by the watershed boundary. These zones correspond to the overland-flow distance that water travels to get to the source. The ADEC Drinking Water Protection Program's Technical Advisory Committee developed guidelines for derivation of these zones in

1998. The following is a summary of the three protection area zones:

Table 1. Definition of Zones

Zone	Definition
A	Areas within 1000-ft of lakes or streams
В	Areas within 1-mile of lakes or streams
C	The watershed boundary

The protection area for Vallenar View Mobile Home Park includes each of these Zones (See Map 1 of Appendix A). It should be noted here that, because of the small watershed size, the Vallenar View Zone C and Zone B areas are identical.

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 Vallenar View protection area. This inventory was completed through a search of agency records and other publicly available information. There is a wide array of potential contamination sources to surface water. These contaminants are found within agricultural, residential, commercial, and industrial areas, but *can also occur within areas that have little or no development*.

For Class A public water system assessments, six categories of drinking water contaminants were inventoried. They include:

- Bacteria and viruses:
- Nitrates and/or nitrites;
- Volatile organic chemicals;
- Heavy metals, cyanide, and other inorganic chemicals;
- Synthetic Organic Chemicals; and
- Other Organic Chemicals.

Sources identified in the Vallenar View protection area are displayed on Map 2 of Appendix C and summarized in Table 1 of Appendix B.

RANKING OF CONTAMINANT RISKS

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

- Low;
- Medium;

- High; and
- Very High.

The time-of-travel for contaminants within the water is dependent on the physical and chemical characteristics of each contaminant. Bacteria and Viruses are only inventoried in Zones A because of their short life span. Only "Very High" and "High" rankings are inventoried within Zones B and C due to the probability of contaminant dilution by the time the contaminants reach the water intake.

Tables 2 through 5 in Appendix B contain the ranking of potential and existing sources of contamination with respect to bacteria and viruses, nitrates and/or nitrites, volatile organic chemicals, metals, synthetic organic compounds, and other organic compounds.

VULNERABILITY OF VALLENAR VIEW MOBILE HOME PARK DRINKING WATER SYSTEM

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

- Surface Water Susceptibility; and
- Contaminant risks.

Appendix D contains 13 charts, which together form the 'Vulnerability Analysis' for the public drinking water Source Water Assessment. Chart 1 analyzes the 'Susceptibility of the Surface Water Source' to contamination by looking at the climate, terrain, and intake location. 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 well. Chart 3 contains the 'Vulnerability Analysis for Bacteria and Viruses', which is a composite score of the Vulnerability Analysis and the overall Susceptibility. Charts 4 through 13 repeat the Contaminant Risks and Vulnerability Analyses for nitrates and nitrites, volatile organic chemicals, heavy metals, cyanide, and other inorganic chemicals, synthetic organic chemicals, and other organic chemicals, respectively.

A score for the Surface Water Susceptibility of the source is reached by considering the properties of the water intake and the surrounding area. The derivation of this information is presented below and the data for this source is shown in Chart 1 of Appendix D.

Susceptibility of the Surface Water Source – always considered to be "high" (30 points)

+

Adequate Construction of the Intake (0-5 Points)

+

Runoff Potential Within Zone B (0 - 5 Points)

+

Dilution Capacity of the Surface Water (0 - 10 Points)

=

Natural Susceptibility (0-50 Points)

A ranking is assigned for the Surface Water Susceptibility according to the point score:

Surface Water Source Susceptibility Ratings

 $\begin{array}{ll} 40 \text{ to } 50 \text{ pts} & \text{Very High} \\ 30 \text{ to } < 40 \text{ pts} & \text{High} \end{array}$

Table 2. Susceptibility of the Vallenar View Mobile Home Park Surface Water Source

	Score	Rating
Minimum Allowable	30	Kating
Susceptibility Intake Construction	0	
Adequate Runoff Potential	5	
Dilution Capacity	10	
Overall Susceptibility	45	Very High

For contaminants, risks to a drinking water source depend on the type, number or density, and distribution of the contaminant sources. The Contaminant Risk score has been derived from an examination of existing, and historical contamination sources that have been detected in the protection area through routine sampling. It also evaluates potential sources of contamination. Flow charts are used to assign a point score, and ratings are assigned in the same way as the susceptibility:

Contaminant Risk Ratings						
40 to 50 pts	Very High					
30 to < 40 pts	High					
20 to < 30 pts	Medium					
< 20 pts	Low					

Table 3 summarizes the Contaminant Risks for each category of drinking water contaminants.

Table 3. Vallenar View Contaminant Risks

Category	Score	Rating
Bacteria and Viruses	0	Low
Nitrates and/or Nitrites	13	Low
Volatile Organic Chemicals	50	Very High
Heavy Metals, Cyanide, and		
Other Inorganic Chemicals	50	Very High
Synthetic Organic Chemicals	0	Low
Other Organic Chemicals	40	Very High

Finally, an overall vulnerability score is assigned for each contaminant type by combining each of the contaminant risk scores with the susceptibility score:

Susceptibility of the Surface Water Source

(0-50 points)

+

Contaminant Risks (0 - 50 points)

=

Vulnerability of the Drinking Water Source to Contamination (0 - 100).

Again, rankings are assigned according to a point score:

Overall Vulnerability Ratings								
80 to 100 pts	Very High							
60 to < 80 pts	High							
40 to < 60 pts	Medium							
< 40 pts	Low							

Table 4 contains the overall vulnerability scores and ratings for each of the six 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	95	Very High
Heavy Metals, Cyanide, and		
Other Inorganic Chemicals	95	Very High
Synthetic Organic Chemicals	45	Medium
Other Organic Chemicals	85	Very High

Bacteria and Viruses

The contaminant risk for bacteria and viruses is "low". Typically, there is positive coliform detection in water samples, which is normal in water samples collected from surface water sources. (See Chart 2 – Contaminant Risks for Bacteria and Viruses in Appendix D).

Coliforms (a bacteria) are found naturally in the environment and although they aren't necessarily a health threat, they are an indicator of other potentially harmful bacteria in the water, more specifically, fecal coliforms and E. coli which only come from human and animal fecal waste. Harmful bacteria can cause diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms (EPA, 2003). Positive samples increase the overall vulnerability of the drinking water source, indicating that the source is susceptible to bacteria and virus contamination.

After combining the contaminant risk for bacteria and viruses with the natural susceptibility of the source, the overall vulnerability of the source to bacteria and virus contamination remains "medium".

Nitrates and Nitrites

The contaminant risk for nitrates and nitrites is "low" with the potential of logging posing the most significant contaminant risk to this source of public drinking water (See Chart 4 - Contaminant Risks for Nitrates and/or Nitrites in Appendix D). Nitrates are very mobile, moving at approximately the same rate as water.

Sampling history for the Vallenar View water source indicates that nitrates have not been detected in the past 5 years. The Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for nitrates is 10 milligrams per liter (mg/L). 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 (EPA, 2003).

After combining the contaminant risk for nitrates and nitrites with the natural susceptibility of the source, the overall vulnerability of the well to contamination is "medium".

Volatile Organic Chemicals

The contaminant risk for volatile organic chemicals is "very high" (See Chart 6 – Contaminant Risks for Volatile Organic Chemicals in Appendix D).

Chloroform and tolulene, both volatile organic chemicals have been detected during recent sampling, although below MCL levels. Both of these chemicals come from human-made sources. After combining the contaminant risk for volatile organic chemicals with the natural susceptibility of the source, the overall

vulnerability of the well to contamination is "very high".

Heavy Metals, Cyanide, and Other Inorganic Chemicals

The contaminant risk for heavy metals is "very high". This is primarily due to the detection of both lead and copper during 1997-1998 in levels that exceed the MCL (See Chart 8 – Contaminant Risks for Heavy Metals, Cyanide, and Other Inorganic Chemicals in Appendix D).

After combining the contaminant risk for heavy metals with the natural susceptibility of the source, the overall vulnerability of the well to contamination is "very high".

Synthetic Organic Chemicals

The contaminant risk for synthetic organic chemicals is "low". After combining the contaminant risk with the natural susceptibility of the source, the overall vulnerability to synthetic organic chemicals of the well is "medium" (See Chart 11 – Contaminant Risks for Synthetic Organic Chemicals in Appendix D).

Review of the historical sampling data indicates that no synthetic organic chemicals or other organic chemicals have been detected in recent years.

Other Organic Chemicals

The contaminant risk for other organic chemicals is "very high". This is due to the presence of an industrial landfill approximately 0.75-miles north of the intake location, which could potentially be the source of chemical runoff into Whipple Creek. After combining the contaminant risk with the natural susceptibility of the well, the overall vulnerability to other organic chemicals of the well is "very high" (See Chart 13 – Contaminant Risks for Other Organic Chemicals in Appendix D).

Review of the historical sampling data indicates that no synthetic organic chemicals or other organic chemicals have been sampled since 1993.

REFERENCES

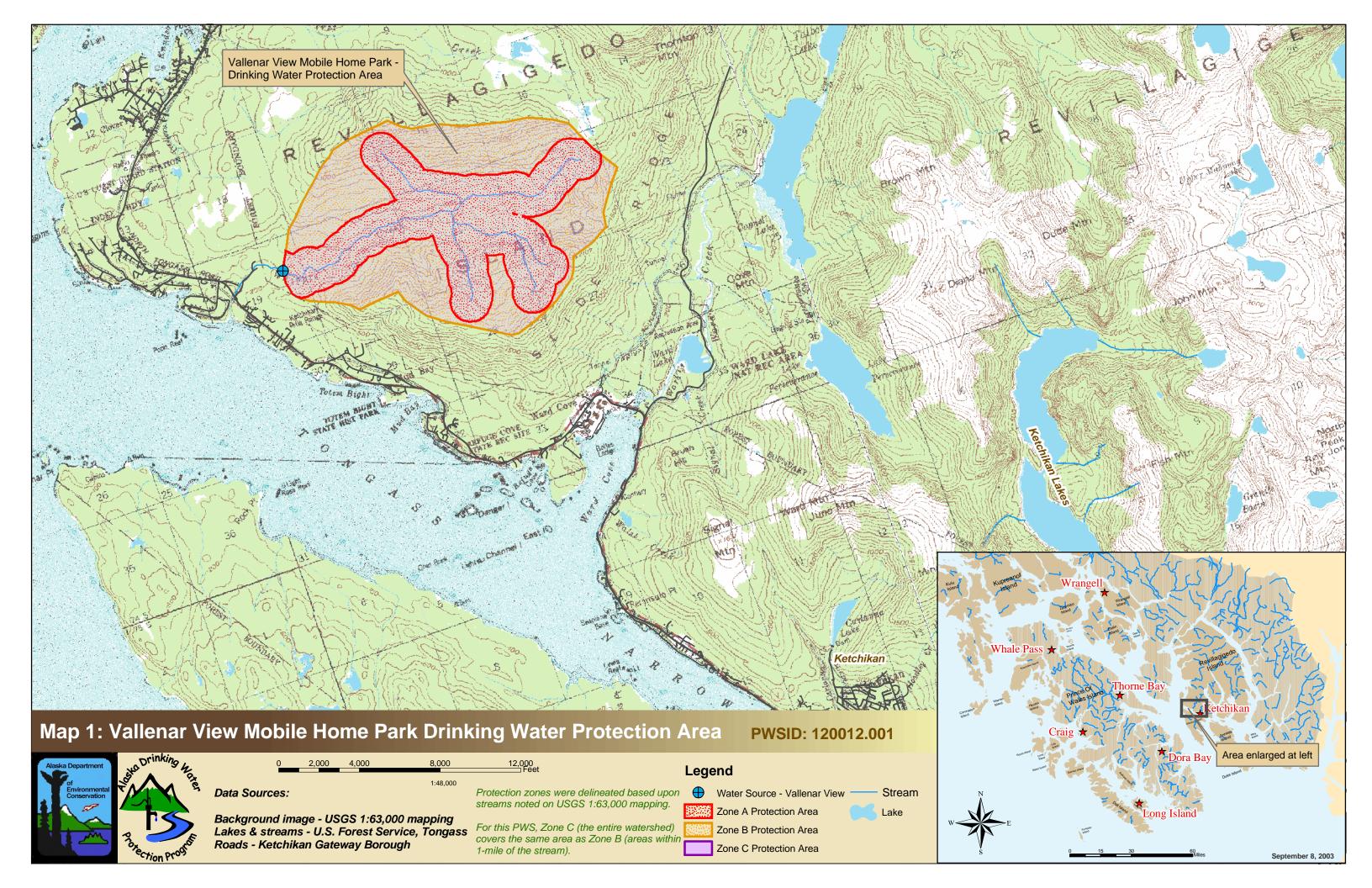
 $A lask a Department of Community and Economic Development (ADCED), 2003 \ [WWW document]. \ URL http://www.dced.state.ak.us/cbd/commdb/CF_COMDB.htm$

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APPENDIX A

Vallenar View Mobile Home Park
Drinking Water Protection Area Location Map
(Map 1)



APPENDIX B

Contaminant Source Inventory and Risk Rankings (Tables 1-5)

Table 1

Contaminant Source Inventory for Vallenar View Mobile Home Park

Contaminant Source Type	Contaminant Source ID	CS ID tag	Zone	Map Number	Comments
Logging	E02	E02 1-10	A	2	U.S. Forest Service Data - Tongass
Landfills (industrial)	D52	D52-1	В	2	ADEC data - yard waste, wood waste industrial
Logging	E02	E02 1-10	В	2	U.S. Forest Service Data - Tongass

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Table 2

Contaminant Source Inventory and Risk Ranking for Vallenar View Mobile Home Park Sources of Nitrates/Nitrites

Contaminant Source Type	Contaminant Source ID	CS ID tag	Zone	Risk Ranking for Analysis	Map Number	Comments
Logging	E02	E02 1-10	A	Low	2	U.S. Forest Service Data - Tongass
Logging	E02	E02 1-10	В	Low	2	U.S. Forest Service Data - Tongass

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Table 3

Contaminant Source Inventory and Risk Ranking for Vallenar View Mobile Home Park Sources of Volatile Organic Chemicals

Contaminant Source Type	Contaminant Source ID	CS ID tag	Zone	Risk Ranking for Analysis	Map Number	Comments
Logging	E02	E02 1-10	A	Medium	2	U.S. Forest Service Data - Tongass
Logging	E02	E02 1-10	В	Medium	2	U.S. Forest Service Data - Tongass

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Table 4

Contaminant Source Inventory and Risk Ranking for Vallenar View Mobile Home Park Sources of Heavy Metals, Cyanide and Other Inorganic Chemicals

Contaminant Source Type	Contaminant Source ID	CS ID tag	Zone	Risk Ranking for Analysis	Map Number	Comments
Logging	E02	E02 1-10	A	Low	2	U.S. Forest Service Data - Tongass
Logging	E02	E02 1-10	В	Low	2	U.S. Forest Service Data - Tongass

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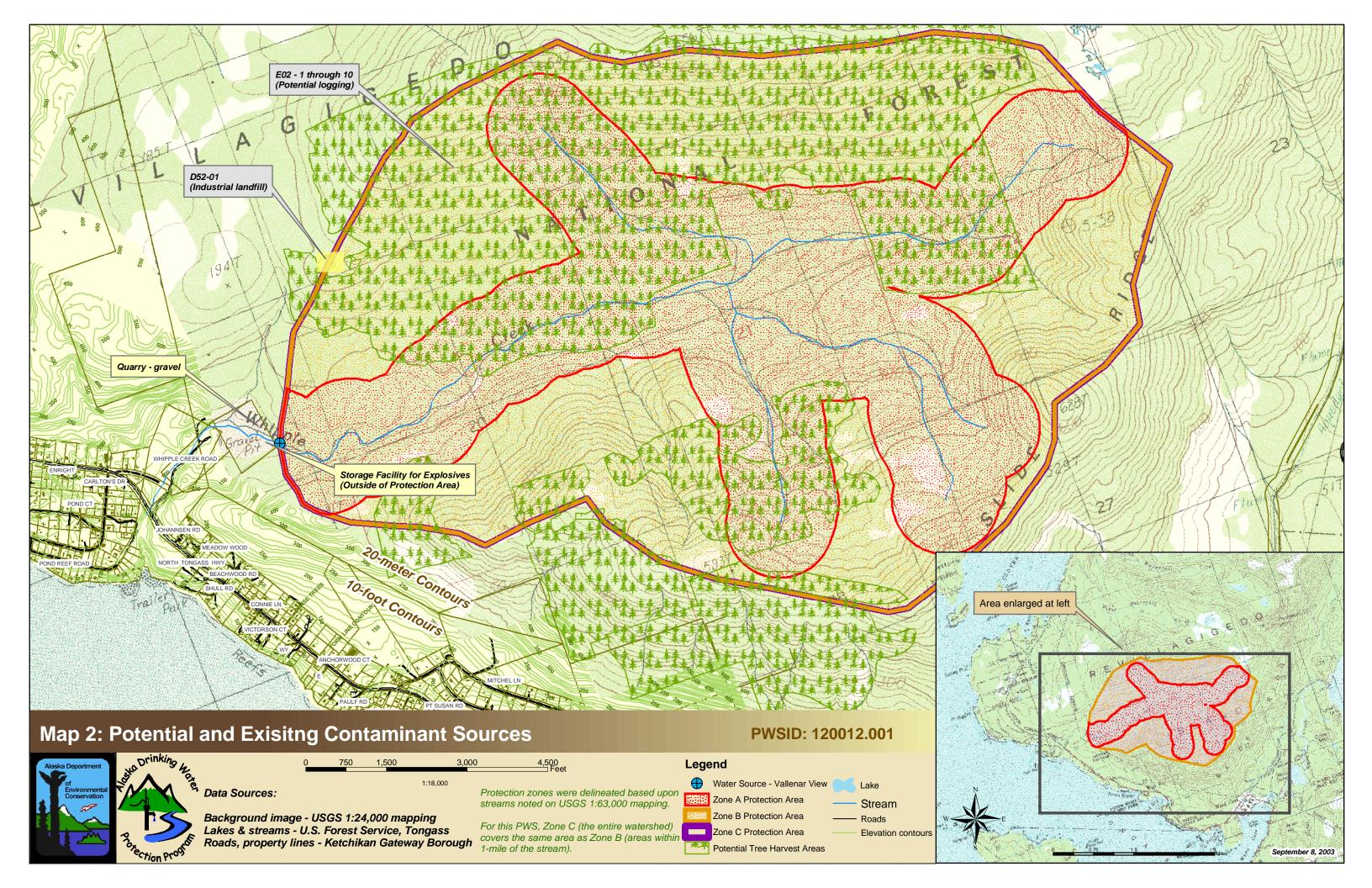
Contaminant Source Inventory and Risk Ranking for Vallenar View Mobile Home Park Sources of Other Organic Chemicals

Table 5

Contaminant Source Type	Contaminant Source ID	CS ID tag	Zone	Risk Ranking for Analysis	Map Number	Comments
Landfills (industrial)	D52	D52-1	В	Very High	2	ADEC data - yard waste, wood waste industrial

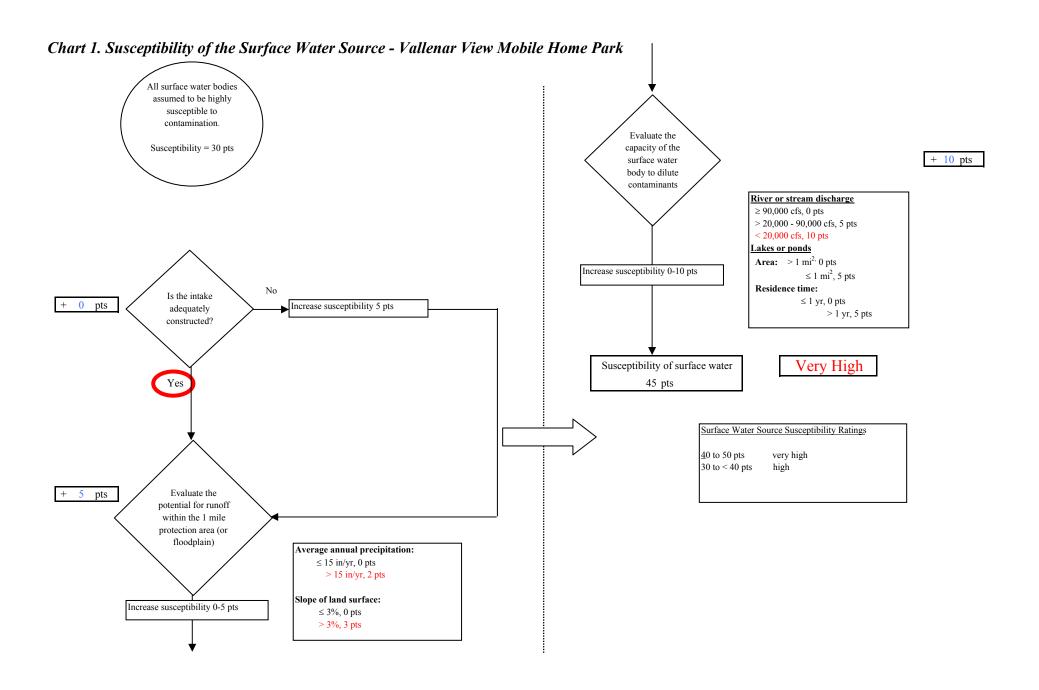
APPENDIX C

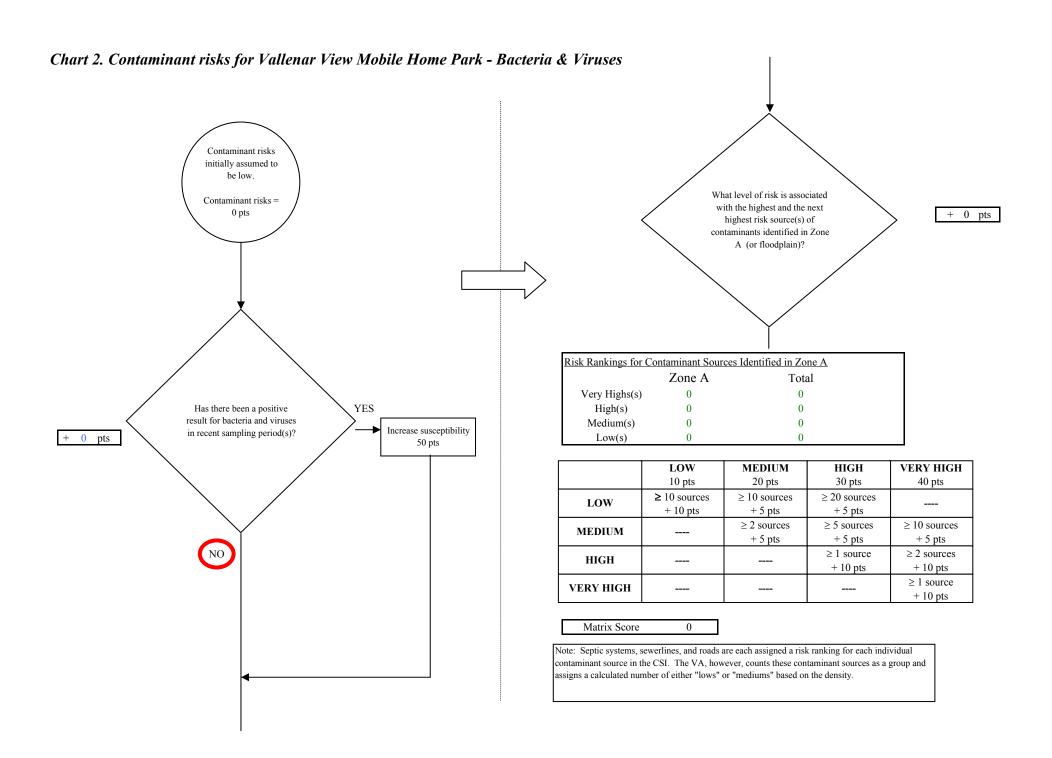
Vallenar View Mobile Home Park
Drinking Water Protection Area
and Potential and Existing Contaminant Sources
(Map 2)

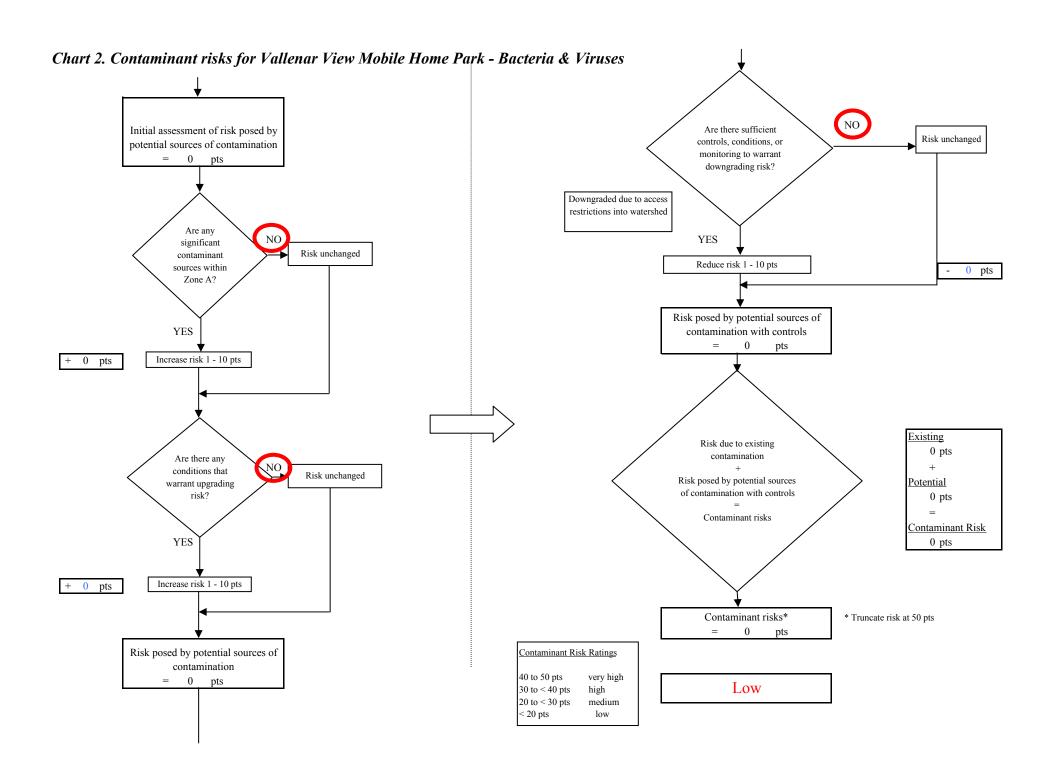


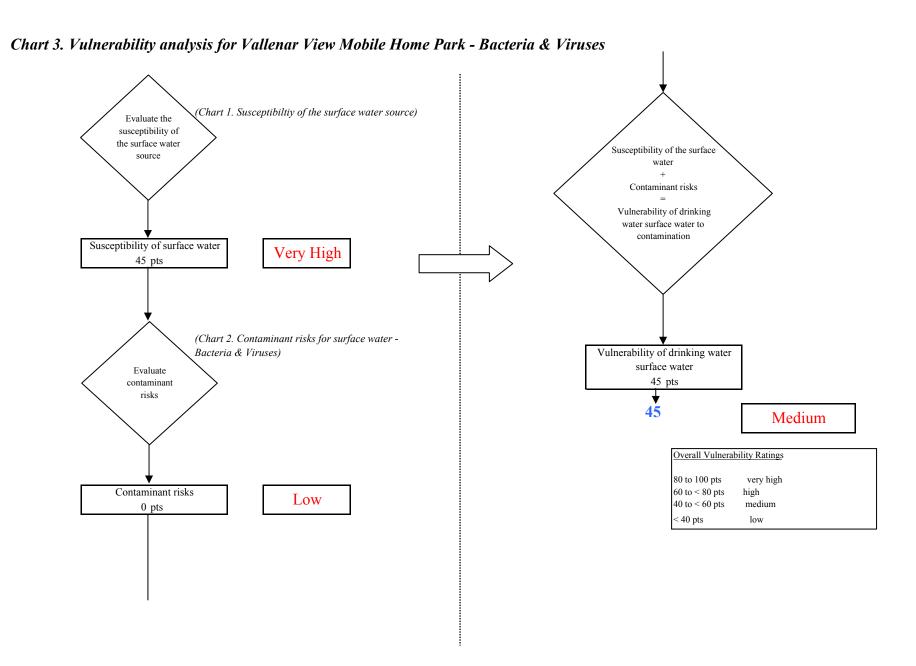
APPENDIX D

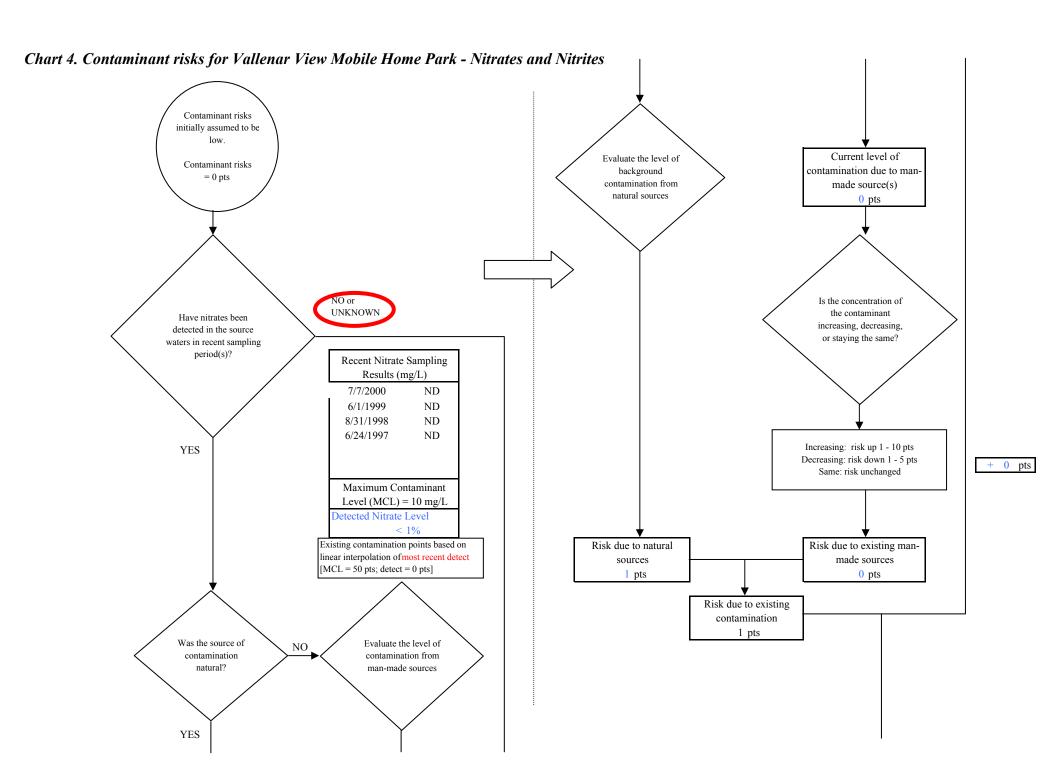
Vulnerability Analysis for Vallenar View Mobile Home Park Drinking Water Source (Charts 1-13)





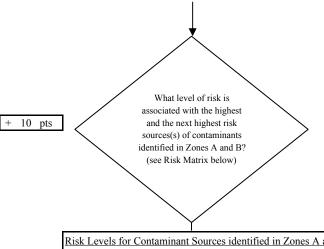






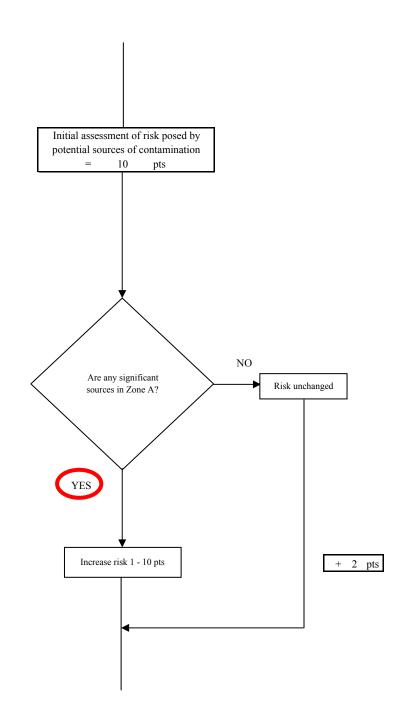
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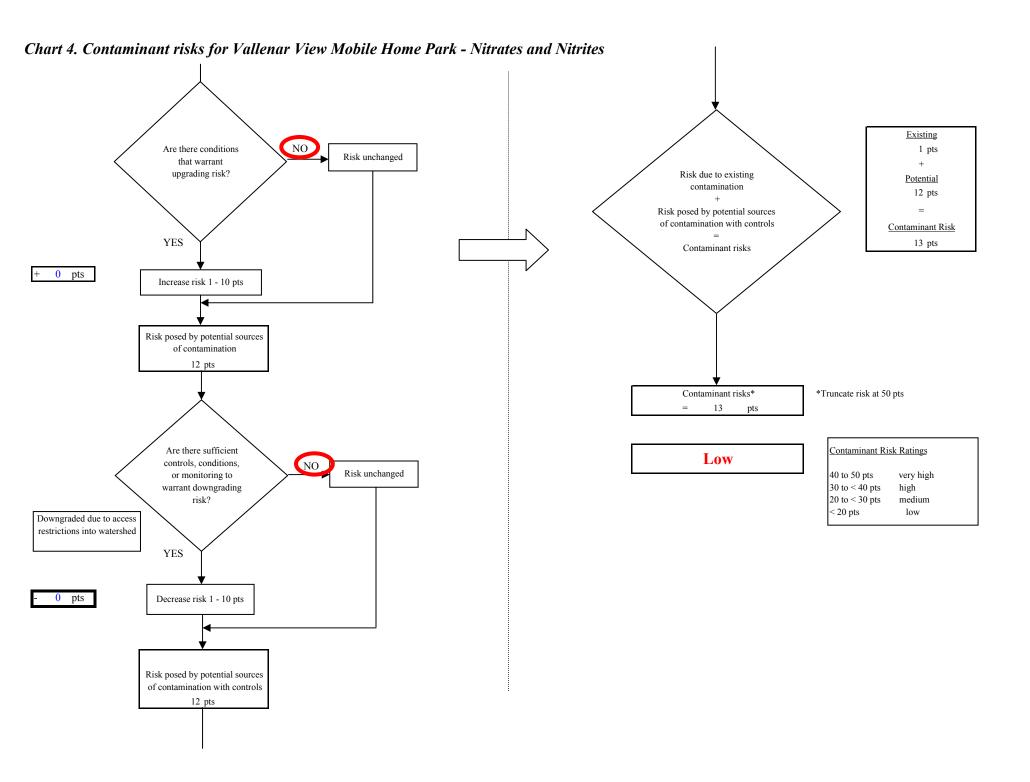
Chart 4. Contaminant risks for Vallenar View Mobile Home Park - Nitrates and Nitrites

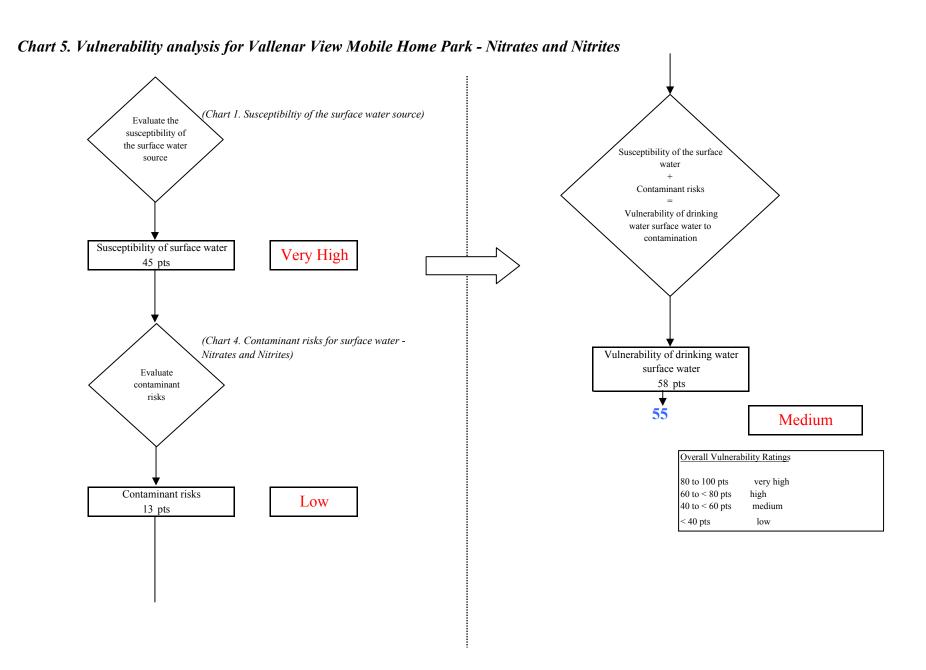


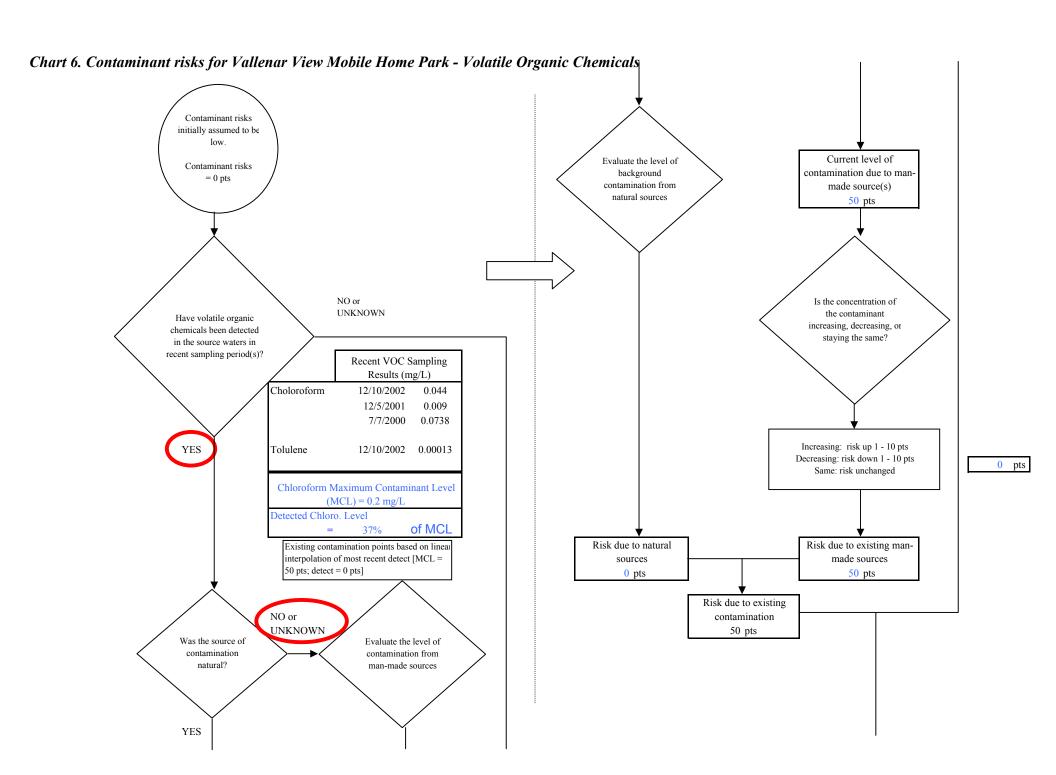
Risk Levels for Contaminant Sources identified in Zones A and B					
	Zone A Zone B Total				
Very Highs(s)	0	0	0		
High(s)	0	0	0		
Medium(s)	0		0		
Low(s)	1		1		

	LOW 10 pts	MEDIUM 20 pts	HIGH 30 pts	VERY HIGH 40 pts
LOW	≥ 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



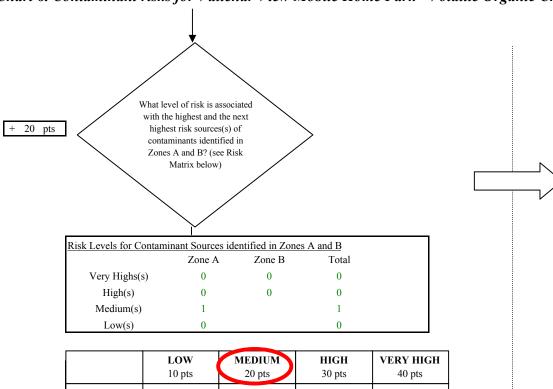






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Chart 6. Contaminant risks for Vallenar View Mobile Home Park - Volatile Organic Chemicals



	LOW 10 pts	MEDIUM 20 pts	HIGH 30 pts	VERY HIGH 40 pts
LOW	≥ 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

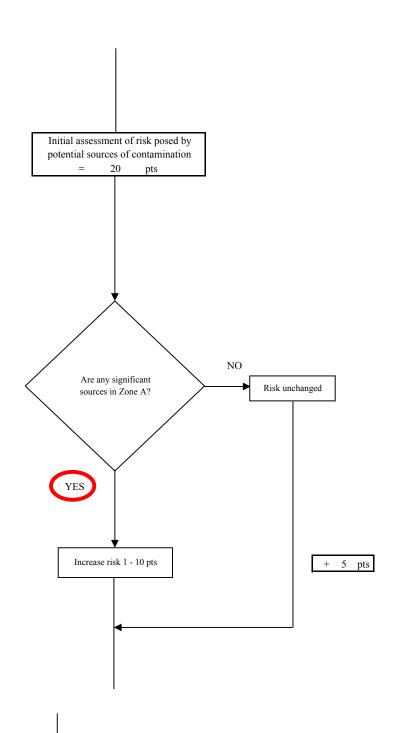
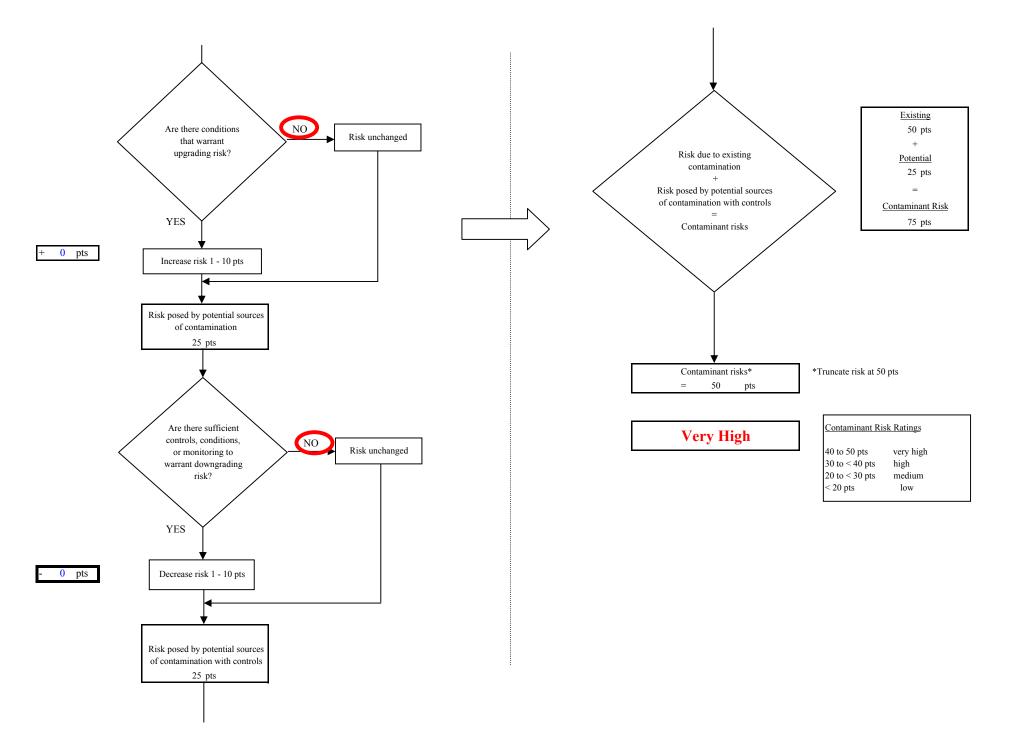
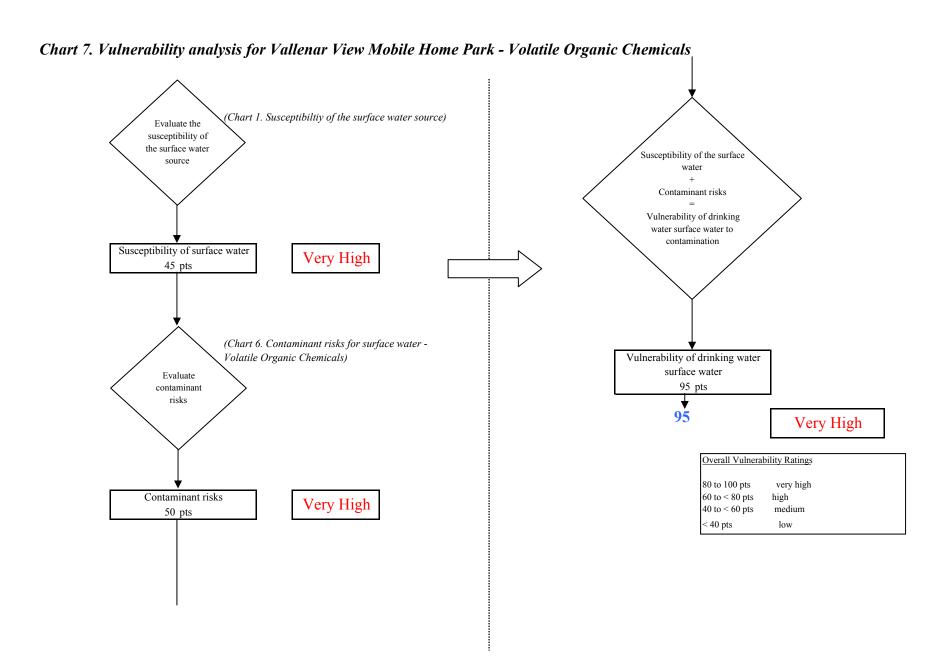
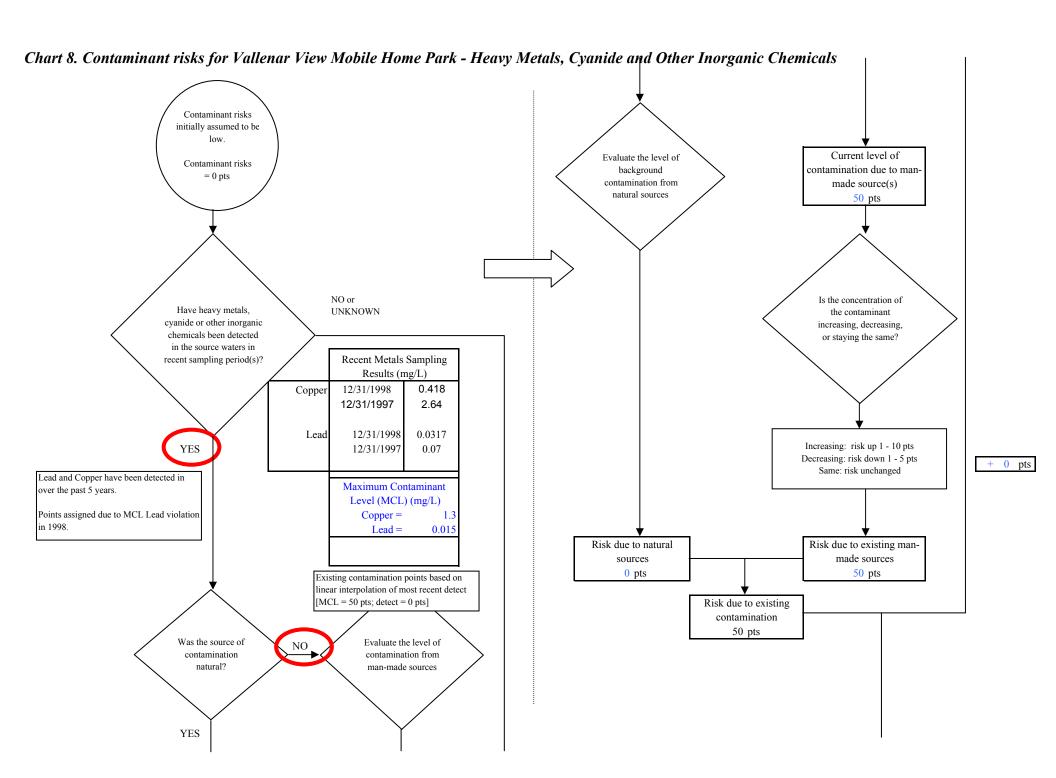


Chart 6. Contaminant risks for Vallenar View Mobile Home Park - Volatile Organic Chemicals

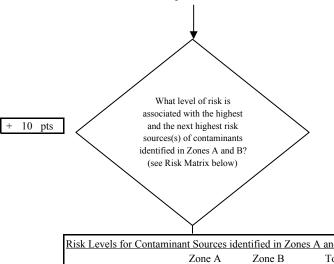






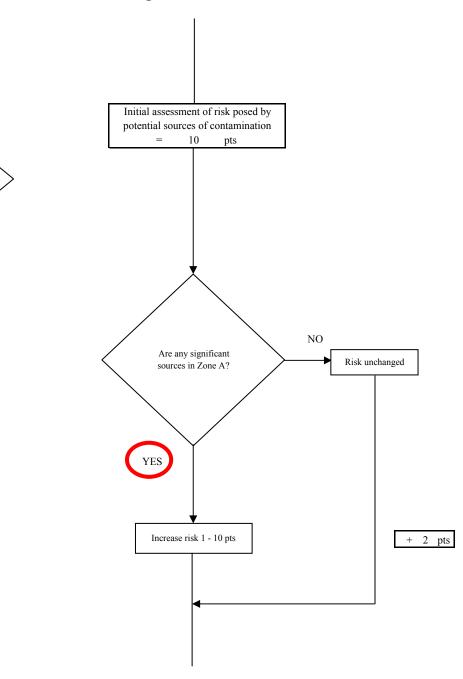
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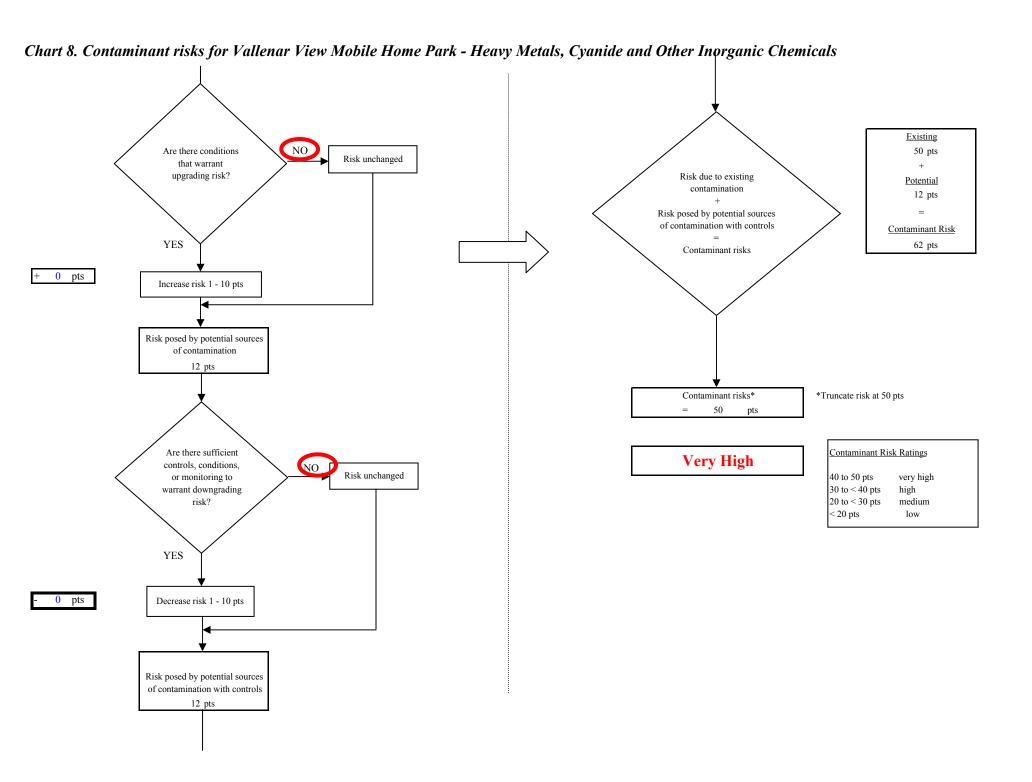
Chart 8. Contaminant risks for Vallenar View Mobile Home Park - Heavy Metals, Cyanide and Other Inorganic Chemicals



isk 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		

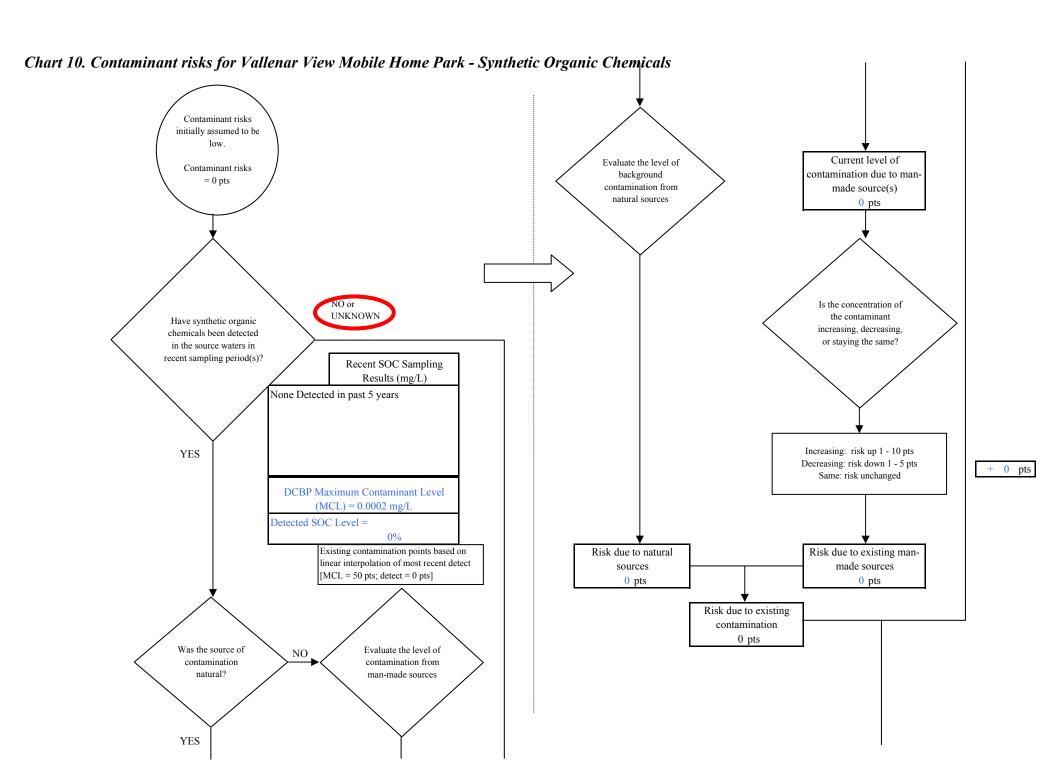
	LOW 10 pts	MEDIUM 20 pts	HIGH 30 pts	VERY HIGH 40 pts
LOW	≥ 10 sources + 10 pts	≥ 10 sources + 5 pts	≥ 20 sources + 5 pts	
MEDIUM		≥ 2 sources + 5 pts	≥ 5 sources + 5 pts	≥ 10 sources + 5 pts
HIGH			≥ 1 source + 10 pts	≥ 2 sources + 10 pts
VERY HIGH				≥ 1 source + 10 pts





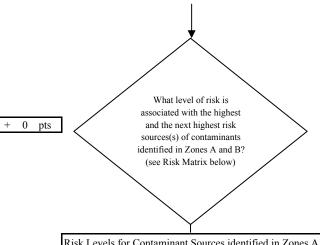
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Chart 9. Vulnerability analysis for Vallenar View Mobile Home Park - Heavy Metals, Cyanide and Other Inorganic Chemicals (Chart 1. Susceptibiltiy of the surface water source) Evaluate the susceptibility of the surface water Susceptibility of the surface source water Contaminant risks Vulnerability of drinking water surface water to contamination Susceptibility of surface water Very High 45 pts (Chart 8. Contaminant risks for surface water -Heavy Metals, Cyanide and Other Inorganic Chemicals) Vulnerability of drinking water surface water Evaluate 95 pts contaminant risks 95 Very High Overall Vulnerability Ratings 80 to 100 pts very high Contaminant risks 60 to < 80 pts high Very High 40 to < 60 pts medium 50 pts < 40 pts low



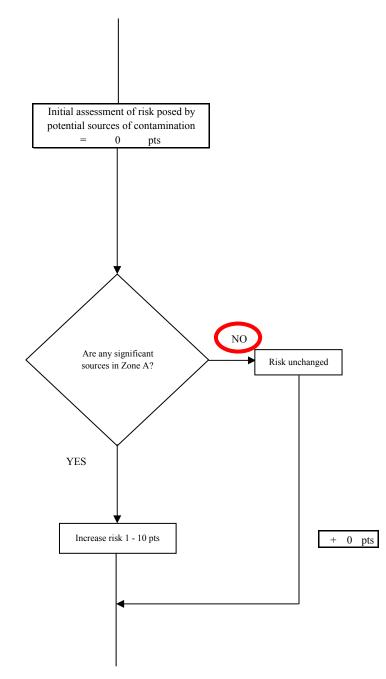
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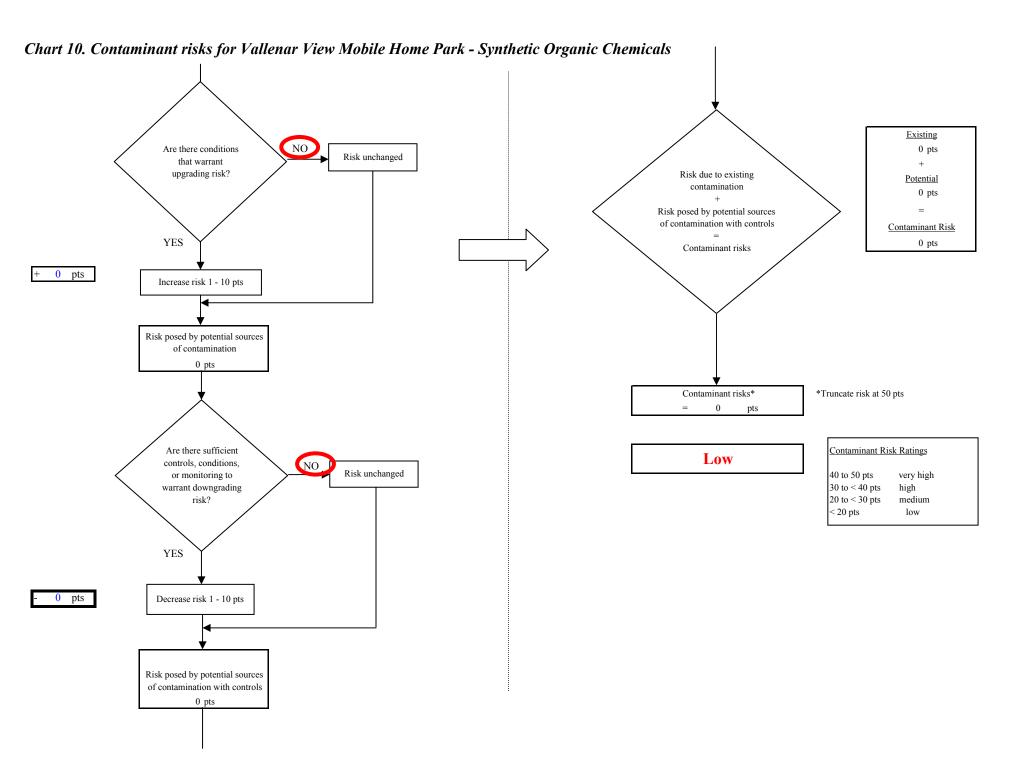
Chart 10. Contaminant risks for Vallenar View Mobile Home Park - Synthetic Organic Chemicals



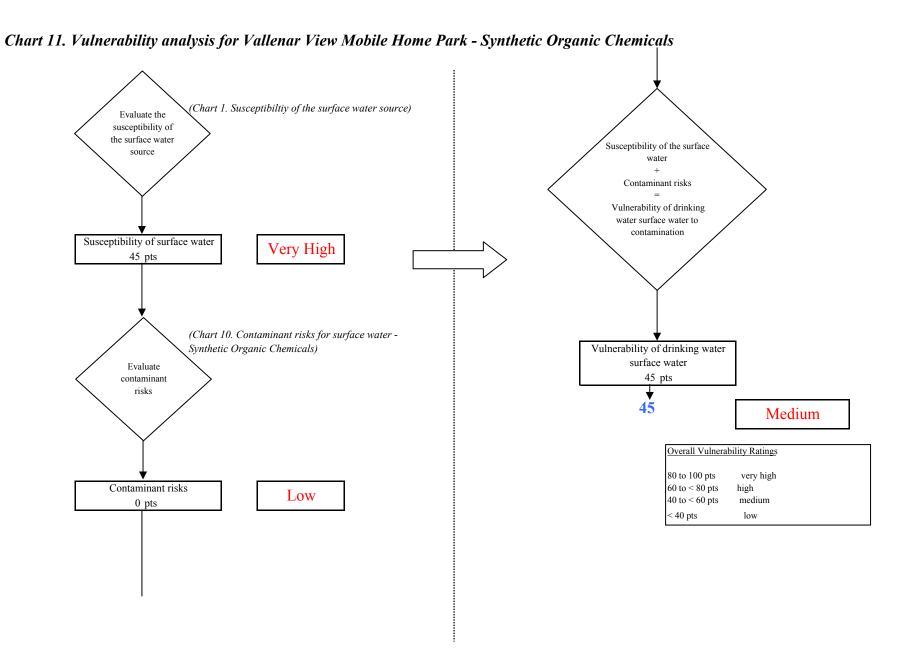
Risk Levels for Contaminant Sources identified in Zones A and C					
	Zone A	Total			
Very Highs(s)	0	0	0		
High(s)	0	0	0		
Medium(s)	0	0	0		
Low(s)	0	0	0		

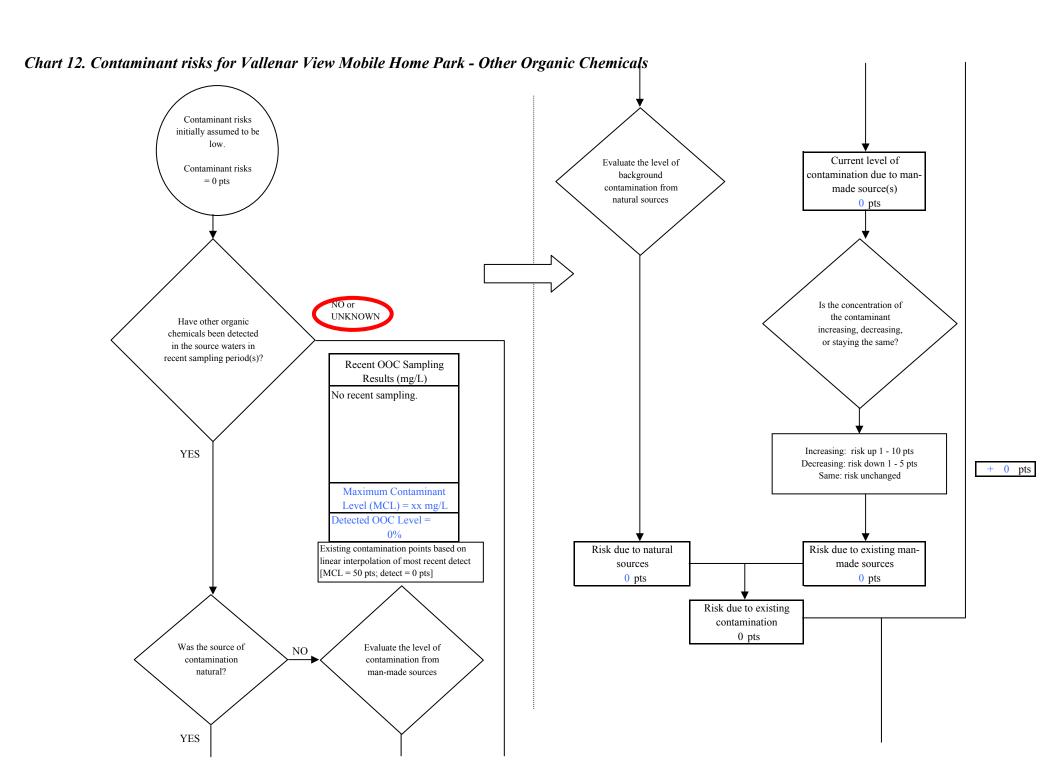
	LOW 10 pts	MEDIUM 20 pts	HIGH 30 pts	VERY HIGH 40 pts
LOW	≥ 10 sources + 10 pts	≥ 10 sources + 5 pts	≥ 20 sources + 5 pts	
MEDIUM		≥ 2 sources + 5 pts	≥ 5 sources + 5 pts	≥ 10 sources + 5 pts
HIGH			≥ 1 source + 10 pts	≥ 2 sources + 10 pts
VERY HIGH				≥ 1 source + 10 pts





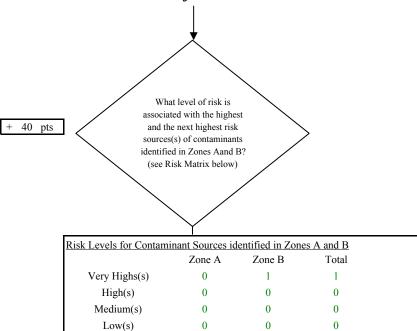
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Chart 12. Contaminant risks for Vallenar View Mobile Home Park - Other Organic Chemicals



	LOW 10 pts	MEDIUM 20 pts	HIGH 30 pts	VERY HIGH 40 pts
LOW	≥ 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

