

Source Water Assessment

A Hydrogeologic Susceptibility and Vulnerability Assessment for

Port Lions, Kodiak Island Alaska

PWSID # 250045.001

September 2004

Drinking Water Protection Program Report #1237 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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 - Contaminant Source Inventory and Risk Rankings (Tables 1 3) Β.
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 - Vulnerability Analysis and Contaminant Risks D. (Charts 1-13)

Source Water Assessment for the Port Lions Drinking Water System

Drinking Water Protection Program Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The public water system for Port Lions on Kodiak Island is a Class A water system that obtains water from Branch Creek, approximately 0.5-miles west of the community. The Port Lions protection area is approximately 3.1 square miles in size and received a susceptibility rating of "very high". A rating of high to very high is typical for all systems with surface water intakes. Potential and existing sources of the following contaminants were evaluated for the Source Water 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. Human/dog activity on trails within the watershed was identified as a potential source of contaminants for the drinking water source. This evaluation included all available water sampling data submitted to ADEC by the system operator. The samples may have been collected from either raw water or post-treated water. Combining the susceptibility of the surface water source with the contaminant risks, this water system has received a vulnerability rating of "medium" for volatile organic chemicals, synthetic organic chemicals, and other organic chemicals; "high" for bacteria/viruses, and nitrates/nitrites; and "very high" for heavy metals, cyanide, and other inorganic chemicals. This assessment can be used as a foundation for local voluntary protection efforts as well as a basis for the continuous efforts on the part of Port Lions to protect public health.

DRINKING WATER SYSTEM AND AREA OVERVIEW

Port Lions (Sec. 05, T027S, R022W, Seward Meridian) is located in Settler Cove, on the north coast of Kodiak Island, 247 air miles southwest of Anchorage. The current population is approximately 250 (ADEC, 2003).

The Port Lions community water system is a Class A water system that operates year-round and obtains water from Branch Creek, 0.5-miles west of the community. The intake area is accessible via trail.

Over 100 residences are connected to the City's piped water and sewer systems and 95% of these have

complete plumbing. The Branch Creek Reservoir provides water, which is treated and stored in a 125,000-gallon tank. The existing dam is weakening; funding has been provided to make repairs. A local priority is to construct a new 500,000-gallon dam on the Creek. A new landfill site has been identified (ADCED, 2003).

The climate of the Kodiak Islands is dominated by a strong marine influence. There is little or no freezing weather, moderate precipitation, and frequent cloud cover and fog. Severe storms are common from December through February. Annual precipitation is 54 inches, with 75 inches of snowfall. Temperatures remain within a narrow range, from 20 to 60 (ADCED, 2003).

The 1998 sanitary survey indicates that the water intake is screened and maintained, but is not properly protected from ice buildup and siltation. The survey also indicates that the average daily production of the system is approximately 70,000 gallons with an intake capacity of 100 gallons per minute.

System operators did not provide information regarding stream flow/reservoir size at the water intake structure.

PORT LIONS 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 overland water flow to a surface water source intake. 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
А	Areas within 1000-ft of lakes or streams
В	Areas within 1-mile of lakes or streams
С	The watershed boundary

The protection area for the Port Lions water intake includes each of these Zones, although, due the small watershed size, Zones B and C cover the same area (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 Port Lions 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 Port Lions 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 Zone 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.

The remaining tables in Appendix B (if necessary) contain the ranking of potential and existing sources of contamination with respect to bacteria and viruses, nitrates and/or nitrites, volatile organic chemicals, heavy metals, cyanide, and other inorganic chemicals, synthetic organic chemicals, and other organic chemicals.

VULNERABILITY OF THE 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 intake area. 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 40 to 50 pts Very High

 $30 \text{ to } < 40 \text{ pts} \qquad \text{High}$

Table 2. Susceptibility of the Water Source

	Score	Rating
Minimum Allowable	30	
Susceptibility		
Intake Construction	5	
Adequate		
Runoff Potential	5	
Dilution Capacity	10	
Overall Susceptibility	50	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. Port Lions Contaminant Risks**

Category	Score	Rating
Bacteria and Viruses	12	Low
Nitrates and/or Nitrites	15	Low
Volatile Organic Chemicals	0	Low
Heavy Metals, Cyanide, and		
Other Inorganic Chemicals	40	Very High
Synthetic Organic Chemicals	0	Low
Other Organic Chemicals	0	Low

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 60 to < 80 pts 40 to < 60 pts < 40 pts	Very High High Medium 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. Port Lions Overall Vulnerability

Category	Score	Rating
Bacteria and Viruses	60	High
Nitrates and Nitrites	65	High
Volatile Organic Chemicals	50	Medium
Heavy Metals, Cyanide, and		
Other Inorganic Chemicals	90	Very High
Synthetic Organic Chemicals	50	Medium
Other Organic Chemicals	50	Medium

Bacteria and Viruses

The contaminant risk for bacteria and viruses is "low".

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. Typically, coliform detection in raw water samples collected from surface water sources is normal. (See Chart 2 – Contaminant Risks for Bacteria and Viruses in Appendix D).

No positive bacteria counts have been detected during the 2003 sampling period.

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 is considered "high".

Nitrates and Nitrites

The contaminant risk for nitrates and nitrites is "low" (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.

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).

Sampling history for the water source indicates that low concentrations of nitrates (below MCL) were detected in sampling performed in 1997-1999.

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

Volatile Organic Chemicals

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

Chloroform and trihalomethanes were detected at levels below the MCL during sampling in 1999 and 2001, although both of these chemicals typically originate during the process of water treatment and not from the source waters. The MCL for chloroform is 0.2 milligrams per liter (mg/L) and the MCL for total trihalomethanes is 0.1 mg/L.

After combining the contaminant risk for volatile organic chemicals with the natural susceptibility of the source, the overall vulnerability of the source to contamination remains "medium".

Heavy Metals, Cyanide, and Other Inorganic Chemicals

The contaminant risk for heavy metals is "very high". Low levels of lead and copper were detected in samples collected during 1999 and 2001 (See Chart 8 – Contaminant Risks for Heavy Metals, Cyanide, and Other Inorganic Chemicals in Appendix D). The MCL for copper is 1.3 mg/l. and the MCL for lead is 0.015 mg/l.

The most common source of these chemicals is the infrastructure of the distribution system following the treatment process.

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 source is "medium" (See Chart 11 – Contaminant Risks for Synthetic Organic Chemicals in Appendix D).

Review of the historical sampling data indicates no testing for ethylene dibromide or dibromochloropropane has been performed recently.

Other Organic Chemicals

The contaminant risk for other organic chemicals is "low". After combining the contaminant risk with the natural susceptibility of the source, the overall vulnerability to other organic chemicals of the source is "medium" (See Chart 13 – Contaminant Risks for Other Organic Chemicals in Appendix D).

Review of the historical sampling data indicates that no other organic chemicals have been sampled recently.

Using the Source Water Assessment

This assessment of contaminant risks can be used as a foundation for local voluntary protection efforts as well as a basis for the continuous efforts on the part of Golovin to protect public health. It is anticipated that Source Water Assessments will be updated every five years to reflect any changes in the vulnerability and/or susceptibility of the drinking water source.

REFERENCES

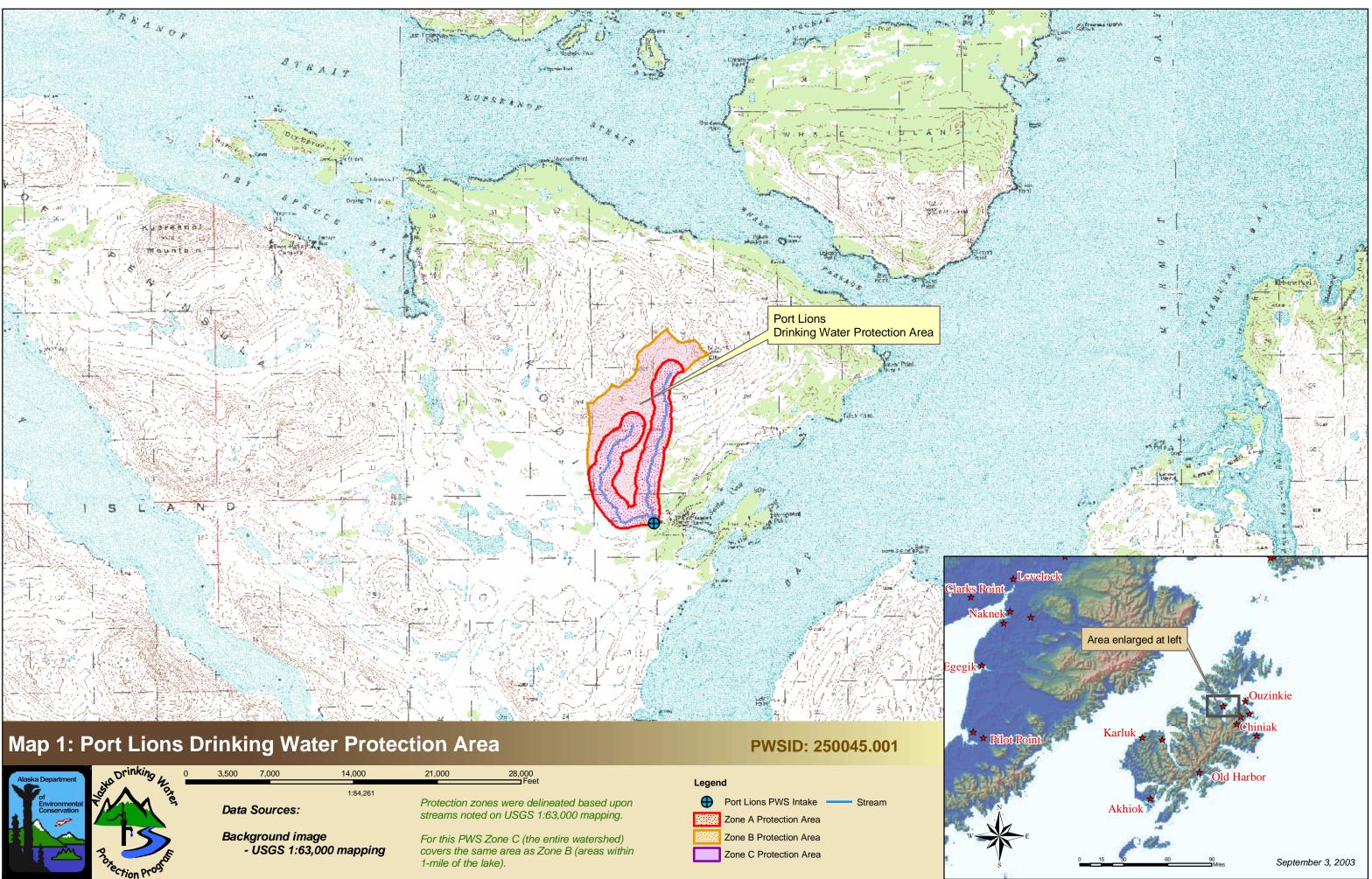
Alaska Department of Community and Economic Development (ADCED), 2003 [WWW document]. URL: http://www.dced.state.ak.us/cbd/commdb/CF_COMDB.htm

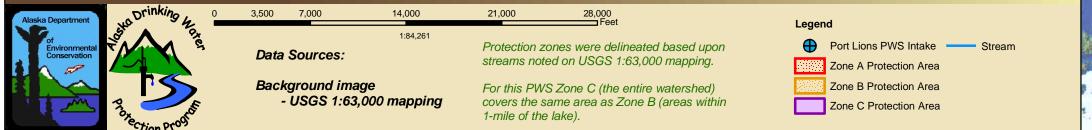
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APPENDIX A

Port Lions Drinking Water Protection Area Location Map (Map 1)





APPENDIX B

Contaminant Source Inventory and Risk Rankings (Tables 1 - 3)

Table 1

Contaminant Source Inventory for **Port Lions**

Contaminant Source Type	Contaminant Source ID	CS ID tag	Zone	Map Number	Comments
Dog walking areas/foot trails	X46	X46-1	А	2	From 1998 sanitary survey information.

Table 2

Contaminant Source Inventory and Risk Ranking for

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Port Lions Sources of Bacteria and Viruses

Contaminant Source Type	Contaminant Source ID	CS ID tag	Zone	Risk Ranking for Analysis	Map Number	Comments
Dog walking areas/foot trails	X46	X46-1	А	Low	2	From 1998 sanitary survey information.

Table 3

Contaminant Source Inventory and Risk Ranking for

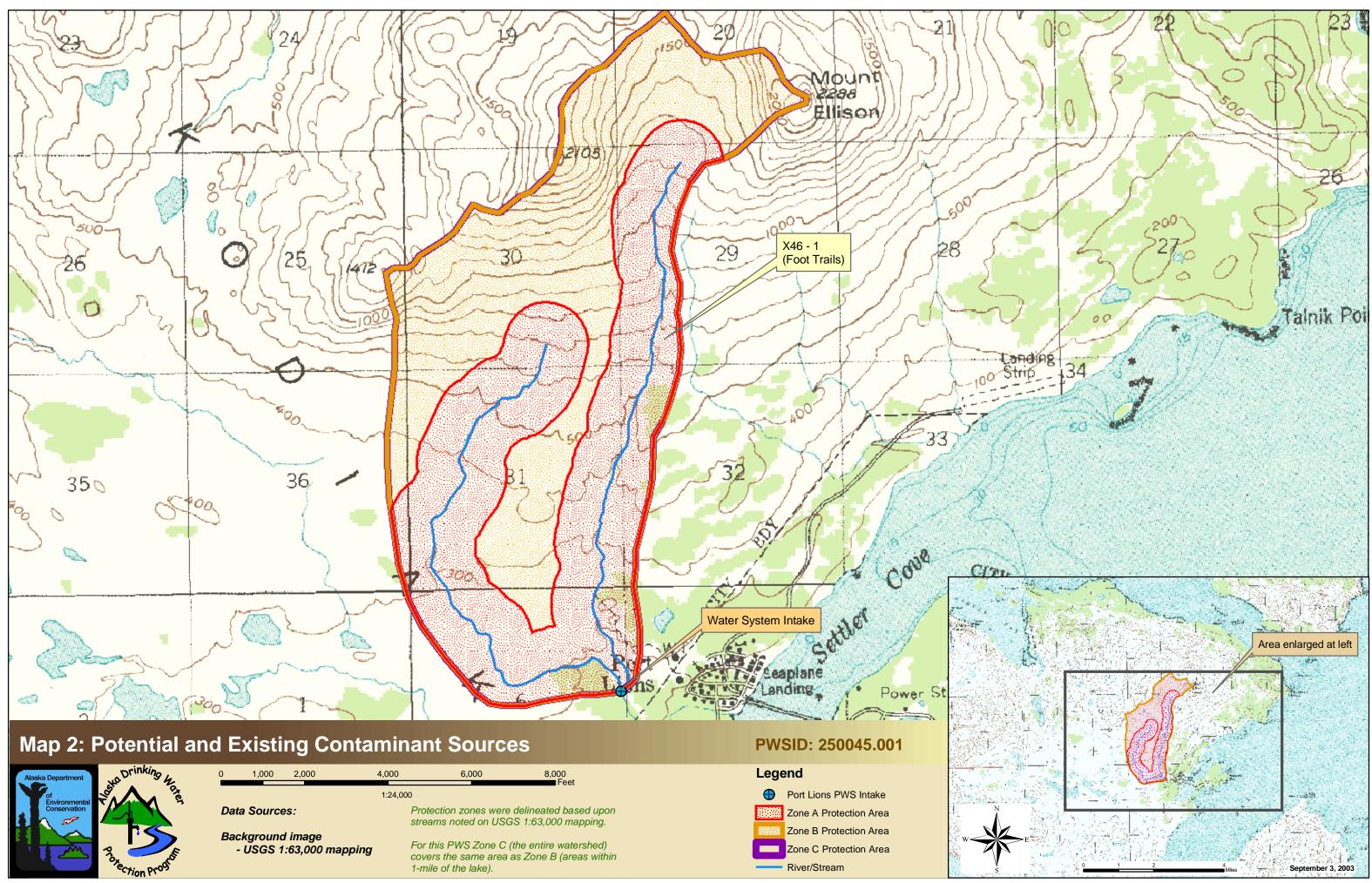
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Port Lions Sources of Nitrates/Nitrites

Contaminant Source Type	Contaminant Source ID	CS ID tag	Zone	Risk Ranking for Analysis	Map Number	Comments
Dog walking areas/foot trails	X46	X46-1	А	Low	2	From 1998 sanitary survey information.

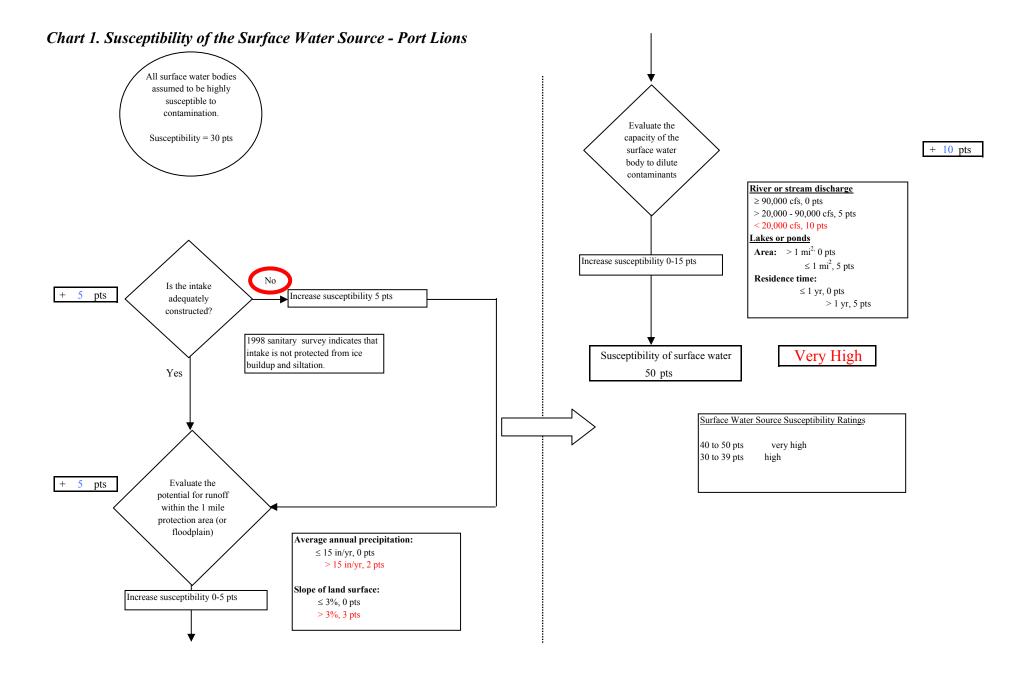
APPENDIX C

Port Lions Drinking Water Protection Area and Potential and Existing Contaminant Sources (Map 2)

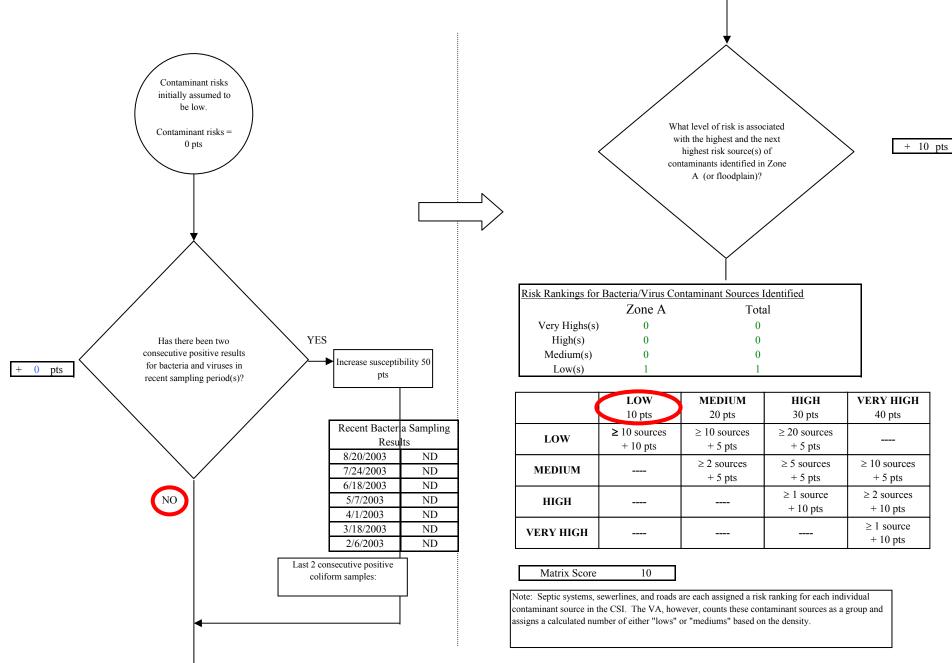


APPENDIX D

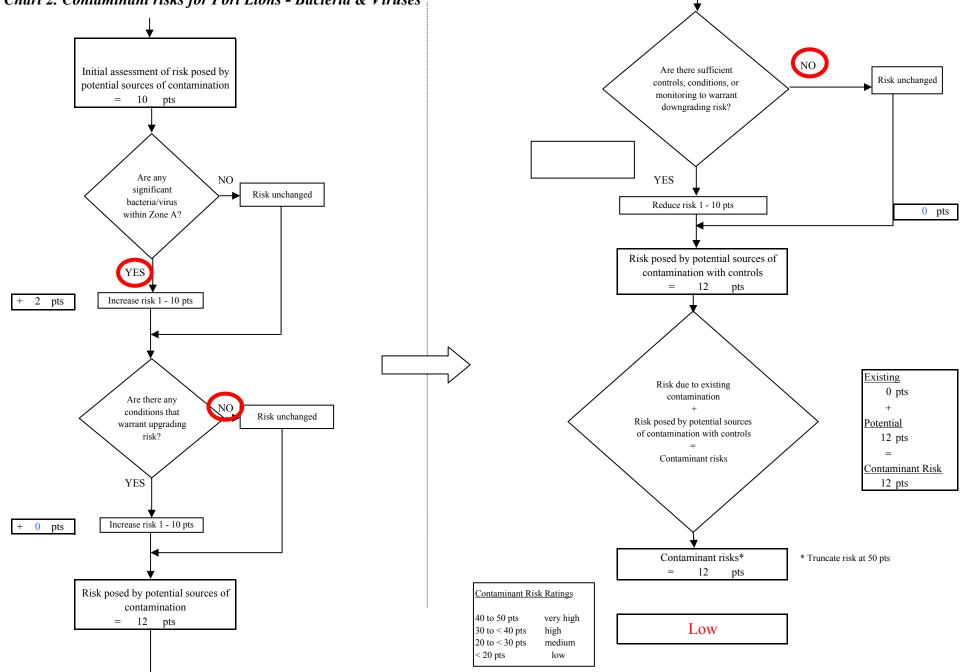
Vulnerability Analysis and Contaminant Risks (Charts 1-13)











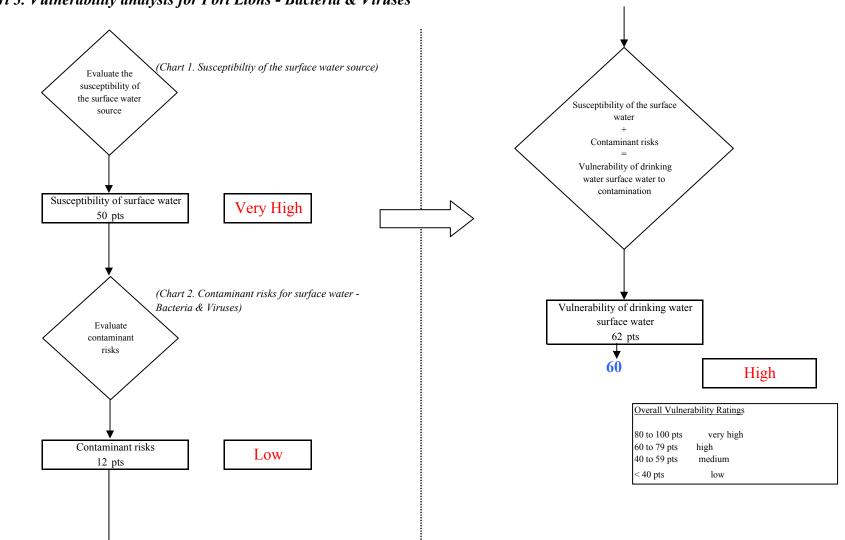


Chart 3. Vulnerability analysis for Port Lions - Bacteria & Viruses

Chart 4. Contaminant risks for Port Lions - Nitrates and Nitrites

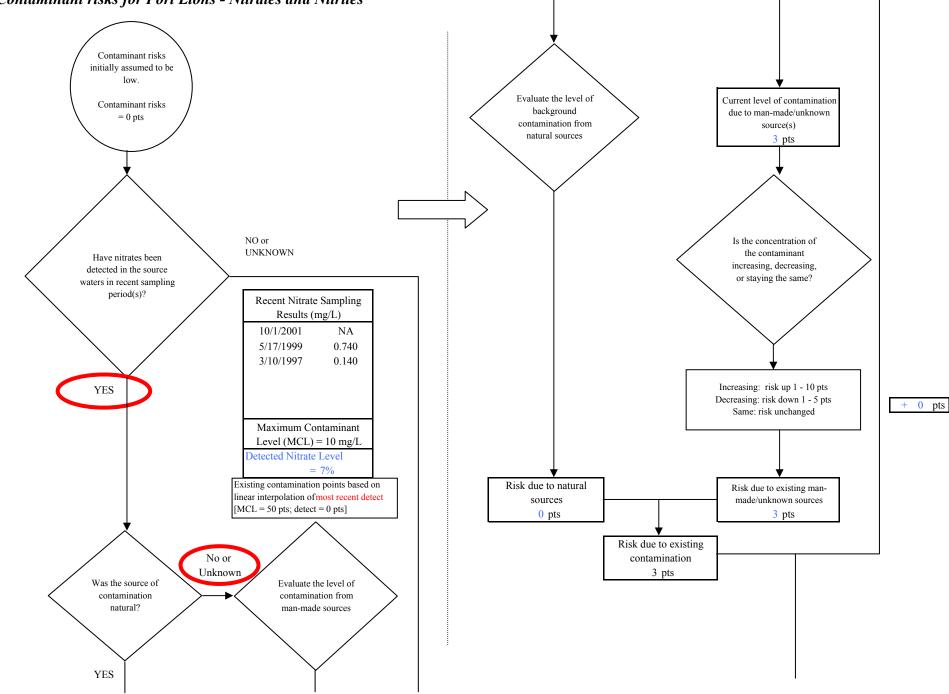
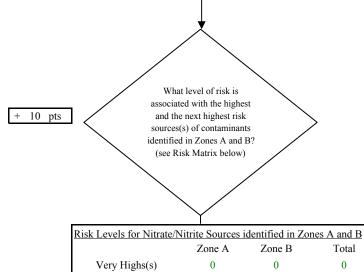


Chart 4. Contaminant risks for Port Lions - Nitrates and Nitrites



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			\geq 1 source + 10 pts	\geq 2 sources + 10 pts
VERY HIGH				\geq 1 source + 10 pts

Matrix Score

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.

10

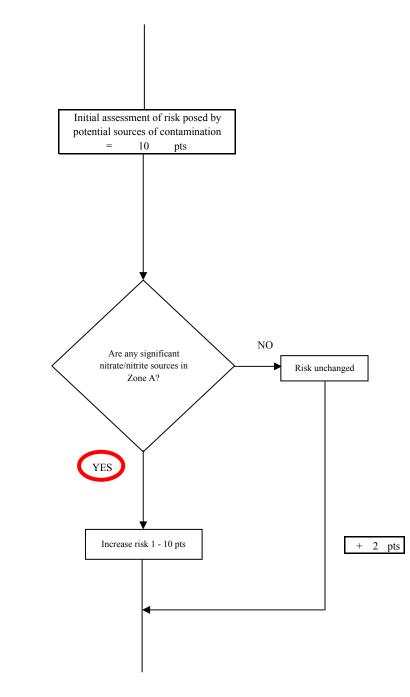
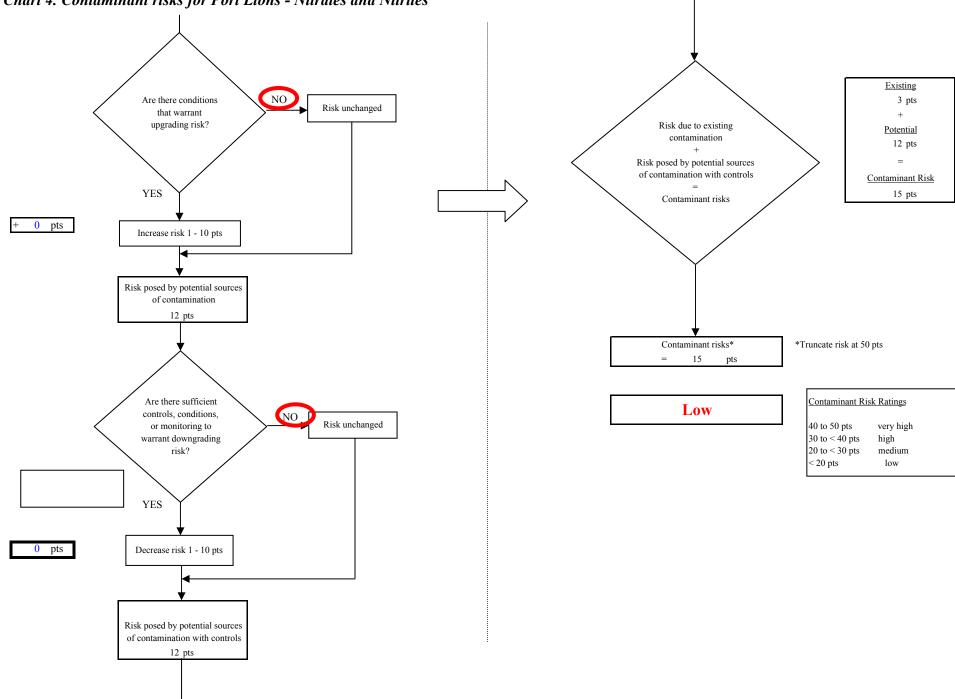


Chart 4. Contaminant risks for Port Lions - Nitrates and Nitrites



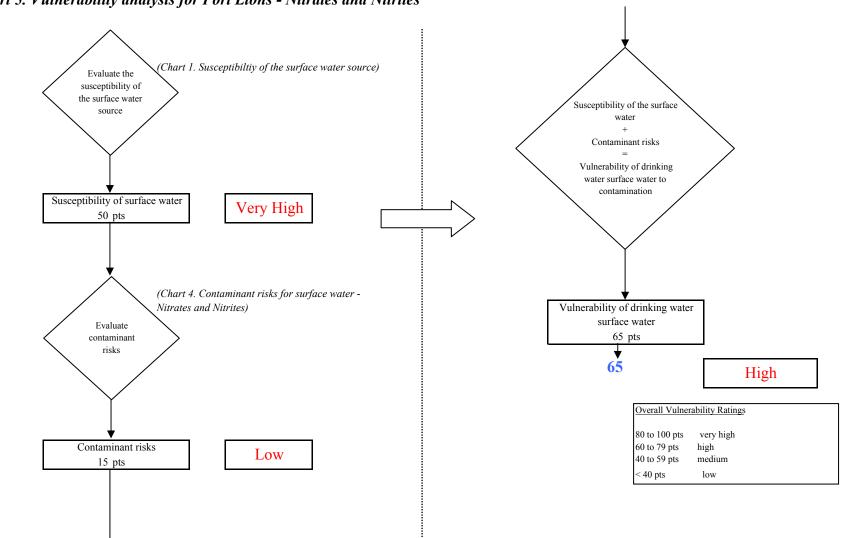


Chart 5. Vulnerability analysis for Port Lions - Nitrates and Nitrites

Chart 6. Contaminant risks for Port Lions - Volatile Organic Chemicals

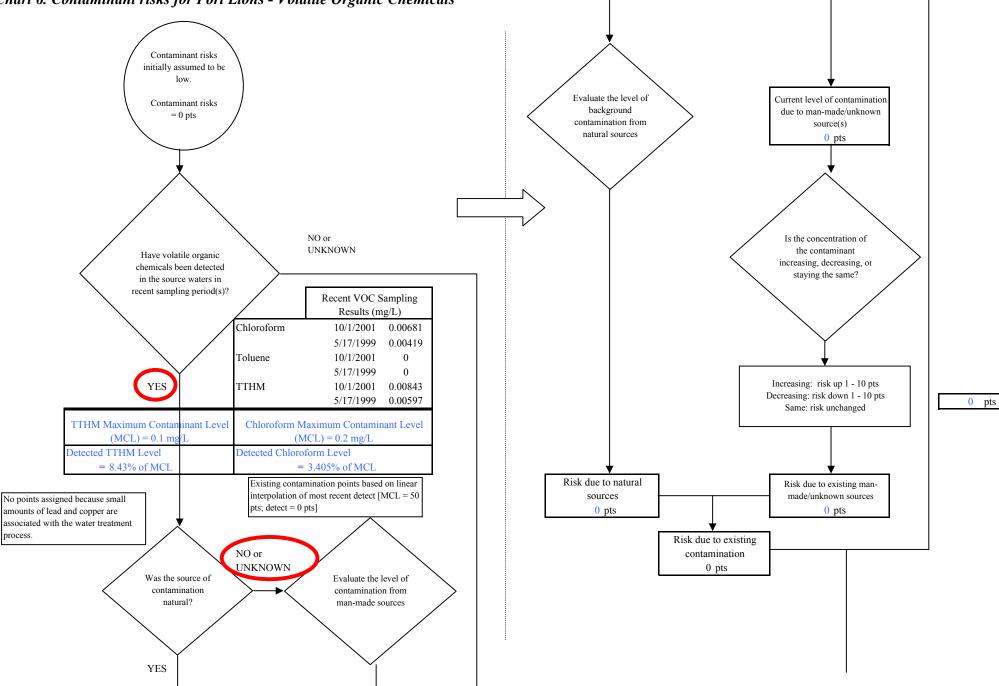
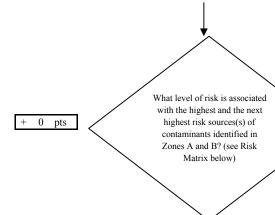


Chart 6. Contaminant risks for Port Lions - Volatile Organic Chemicals



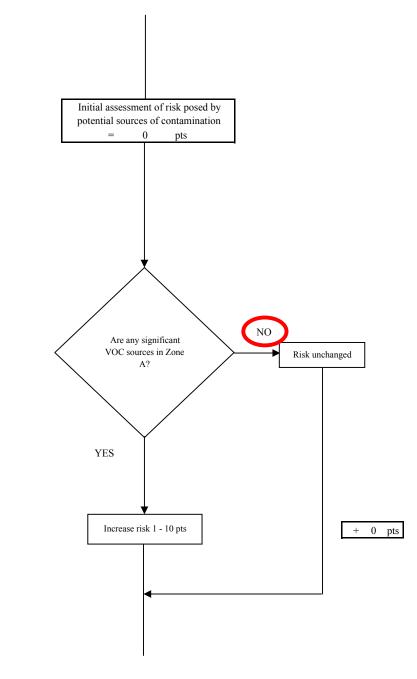
Risk Levels for VOC Sources identified in Zones A and B						
	Zone A	Zone B	Total			
Very Highs(s)	0	0	0			
High(s)	0	0	0			
Medium(s)	0		0			
Low(s)	0		0			

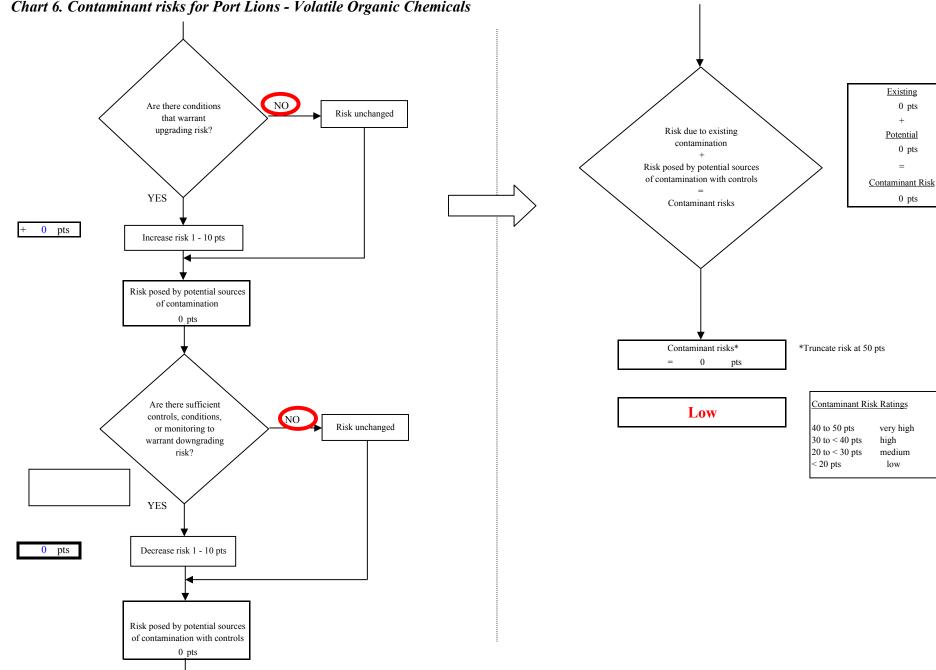
	LOW 10 pts	MEDIUM 20 pts	HIGH 30 pts	VERY HIGH 40 pts	
LOW	≥ 10 sources + 10 pts	\geq 10 sources + 5 pts	\geq 20 sources + 5 pts		
MEDIUM		$ \geq 2 \text{ sources} \\ + 5 \text{ pts} \\ \geq 5 \text{ sour} \\ + 5 \text{ pt} $		\geq 10 sources + 5 pts	
HIGH			≥ 1 source + 10 pts	≥ 2 sources + 10 pts	
VERY HIGH				\geq 1 source + 10 pts	

Matrix Score

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.

0





Existing

+

Potential

=

0 pts

0 pts

0 pts

very high

medium

low

high

Chart 6. Contaminant risks for Port Lions - Volatile Organic Chemicals

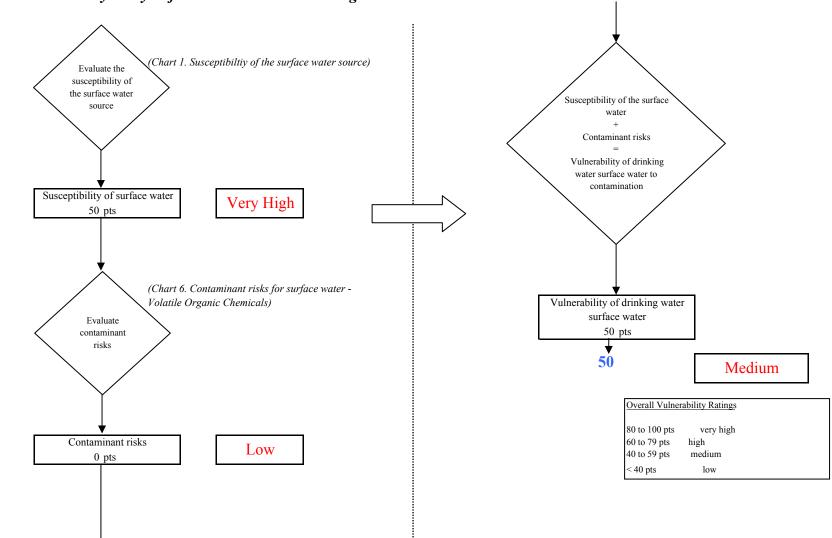


Chart 7. Vulnerability analysis for Port Lions - Volatile Organic Chemicals

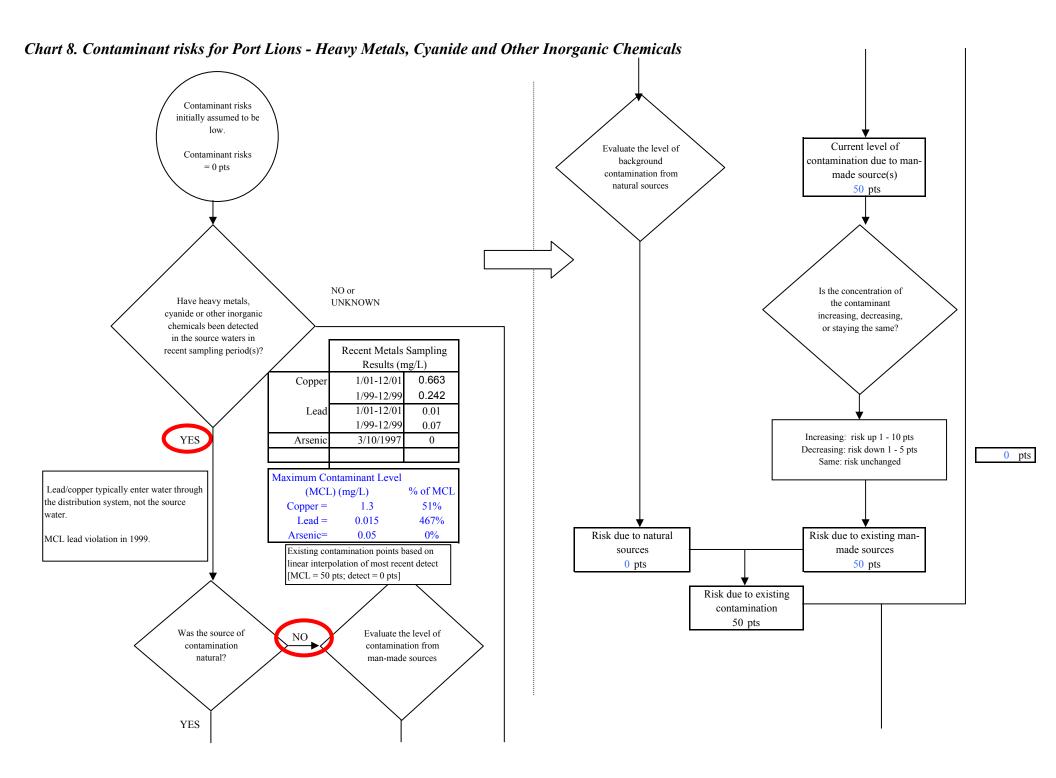
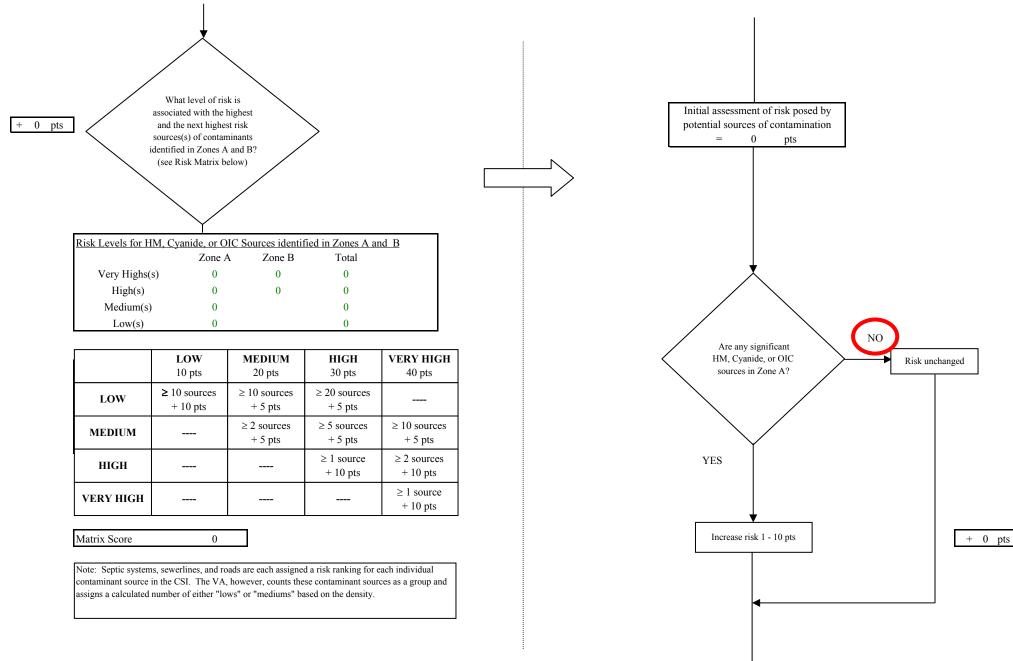
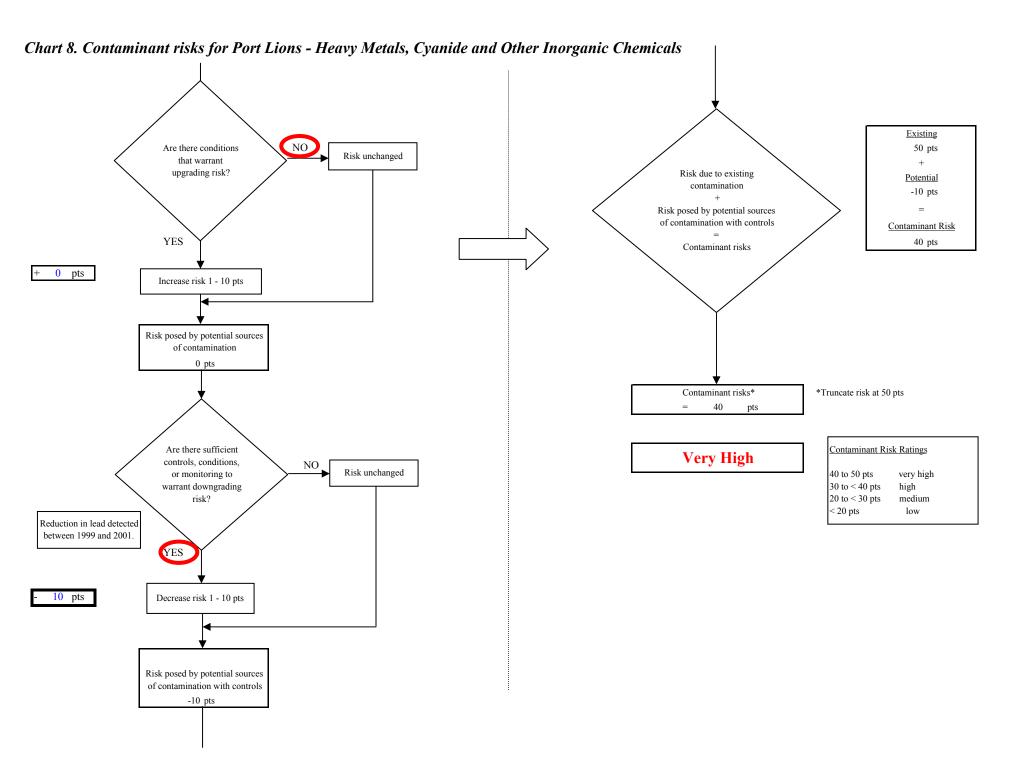
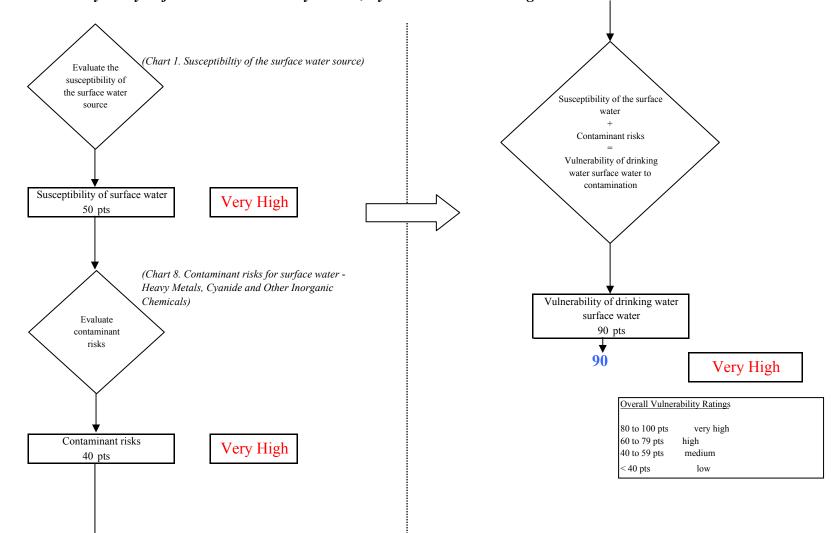
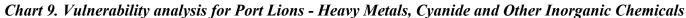


Chart 8. Contaminant risks for Port Lions - Heavy Metals, Cyanide and Other Inorganic Chemicals









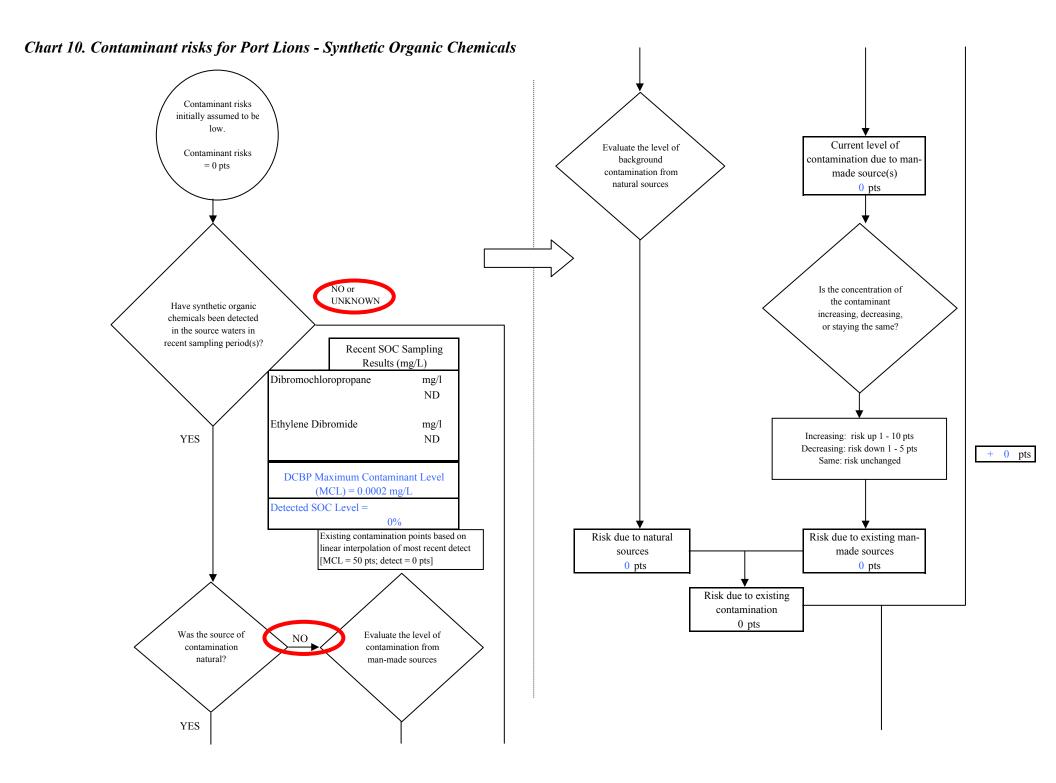
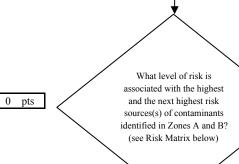


Chart 10. Contaminant risks for Port Lions - Synthetic Organic Chemicals



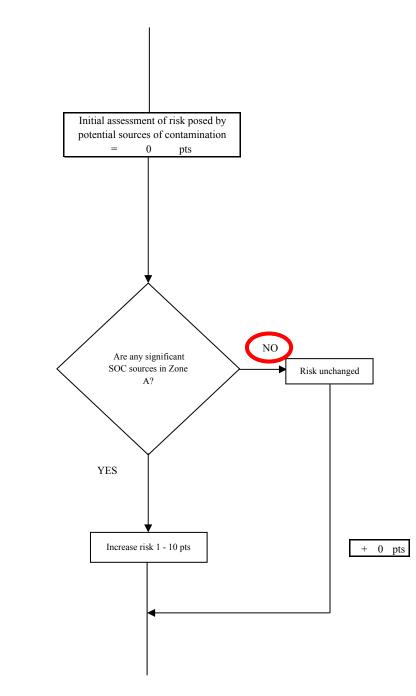
Risk Levels for SOC Sources identified in Zones A and C					
Zone A Zone B Total					
Very Highs(s)	0	0	0		
High(s)	0	0	0		
Medium(s)	0	0	0		
Low(s)	0	0	0		

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

Matrix Score

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.

0



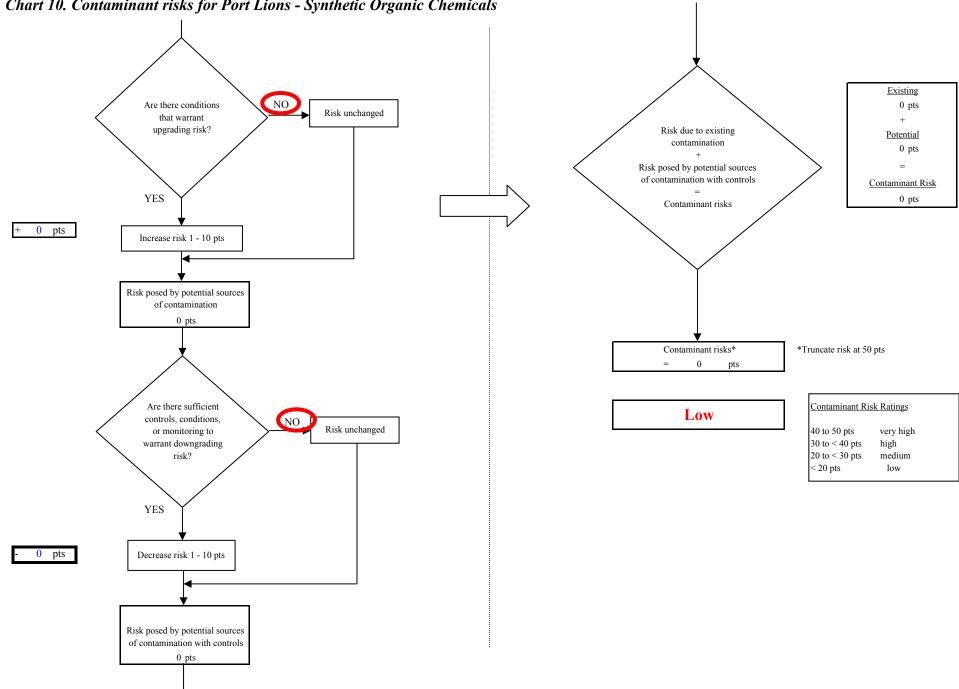


Chart 10. Contaminant risks for Port Lions - Synthetic Organic Chemicals

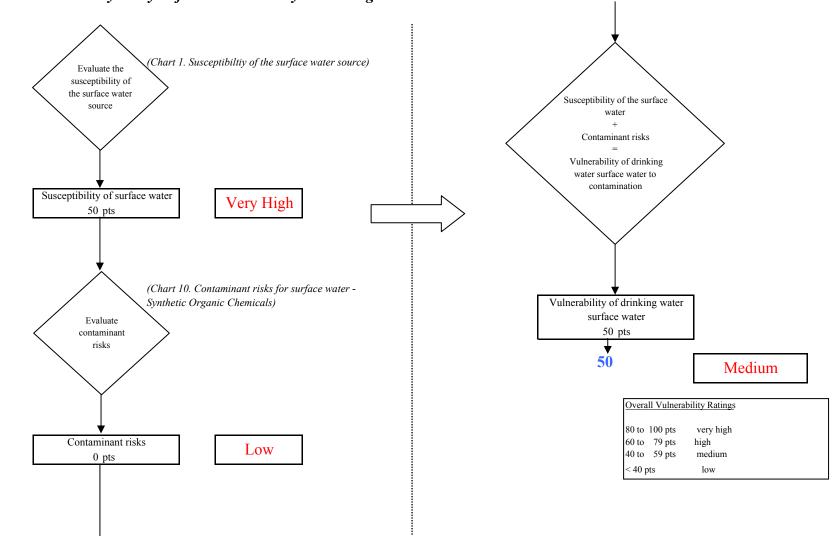


Chart 11. Vulnerability analysis for Port Lions - Synthetic Organic Chemicals

Chart 12. Contaminant risks for Port Lions - Other Organic Chemicals

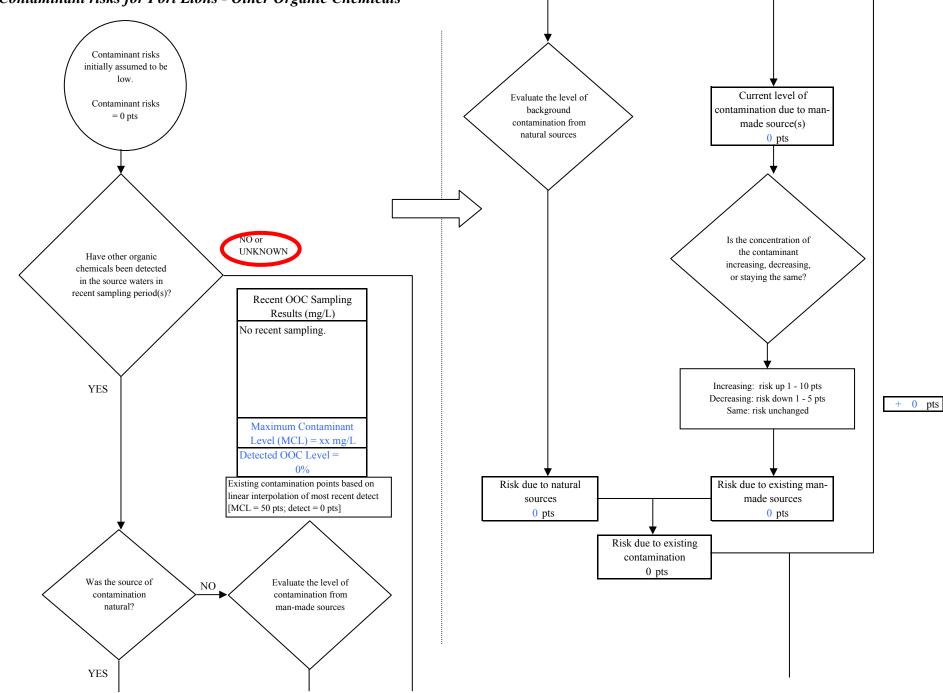
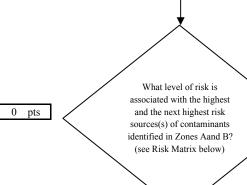


Chart 12. Contaminant risks for Port Lions - Other Organic Chemicals



Risk Levels for OOC So	vels for OOC 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	0		
Low(s)	0	0	0		

	LOW 10 pts	MEDIUM 20 pts	HIGH 30 pts	VERY HIGH 40 pts
LOW	≥ 10 sources + 10 pts	\geq 10 sources + 5 pts	≥ 20 sources + 5 pts	
MEDIUM		$ \begin{array}{c c} \geq 2 \text{ sources} \\ + 5 \text{ pts} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \geq 5 \text{ sources} \\ + 5 \text{ pts} \end{array} $		$\geq 10 \text{ sources}$ + 5 pts
HIGH			\geq 1 source + 10 pts	≥ 2 sources + 10 pts
VERY HIGH				\geq 1 source + 10 pts

Matrix Score

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.

0

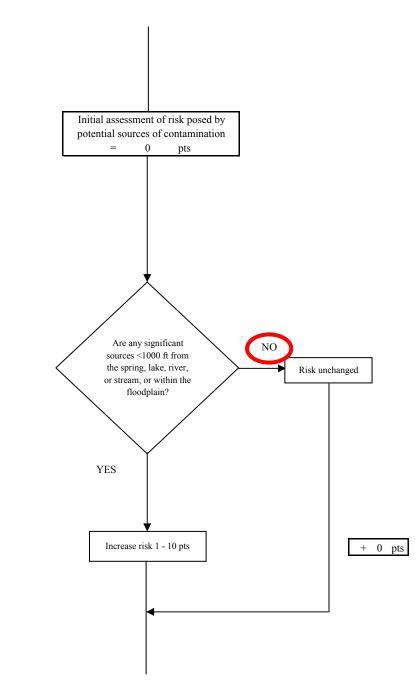
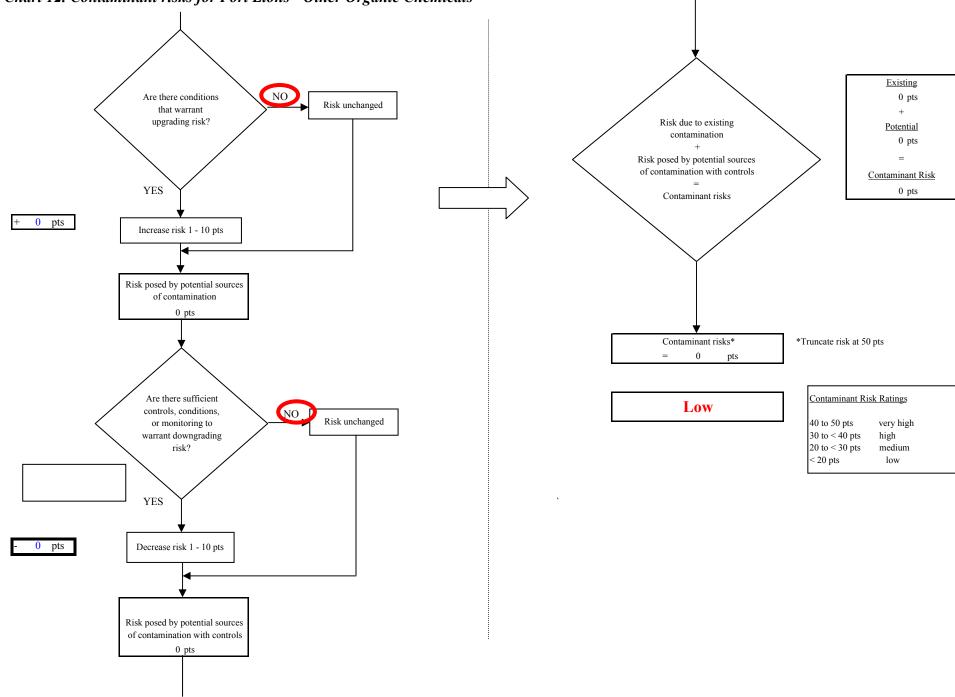


Chart 12. Contaminant risks for Port Lions - Other Organic Chemicals



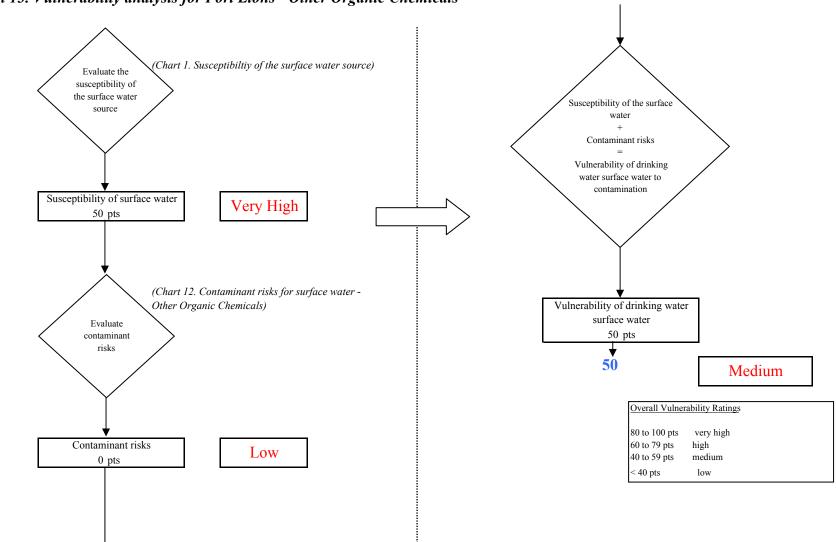


Chart 13. Vulnerability analysis for Port Lions - Other Organic Chemicals