

# Columbia Slough Access Restrictions

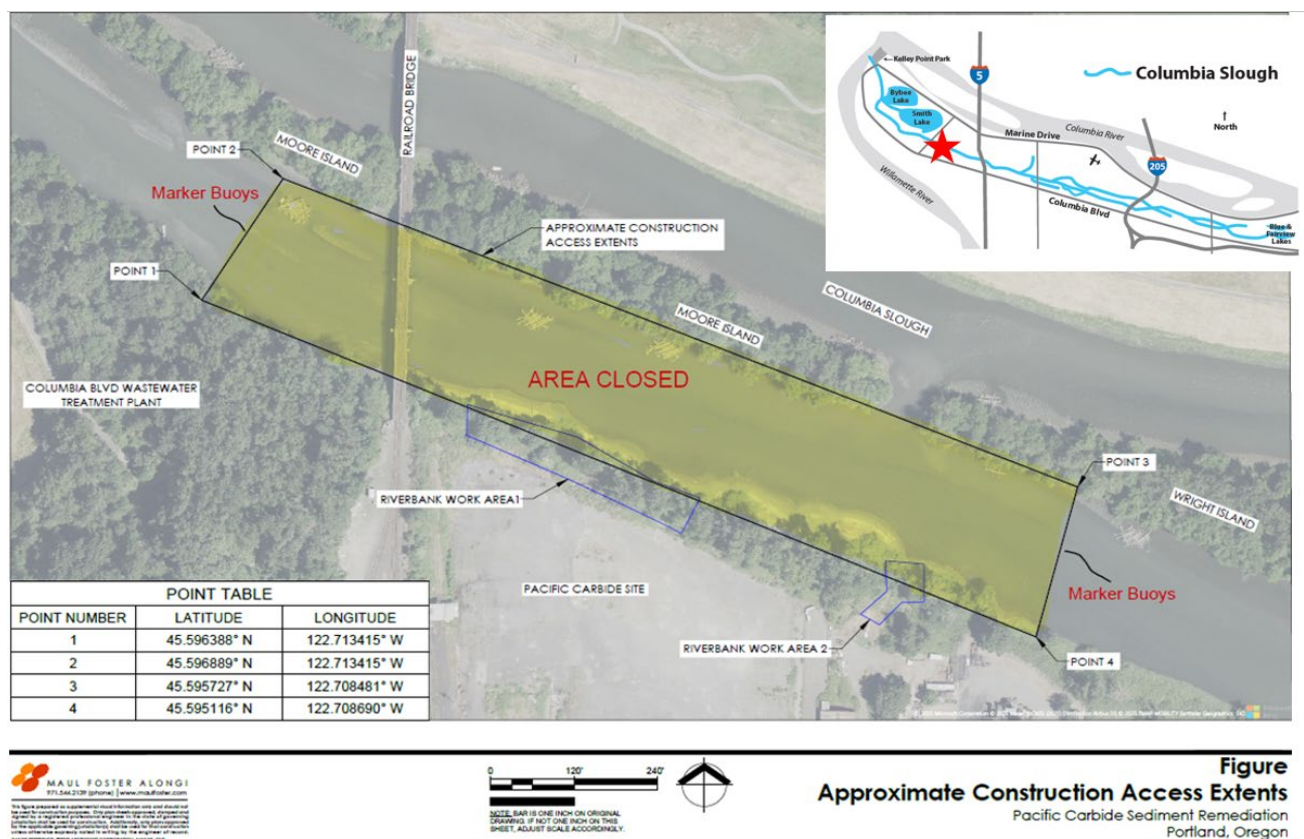
**Temporary closure: Extended to Oct. 17, 2025**

## Portion of the Columbia Slough closed for environmental cleanup

A portion of the Columbia Slough is temporarily closed to enable a sediment cleanup project lead by DEQ and its contractors.

This work requires closure of an approximate 1,500-foot-long portion of a Columbia Slough channel south of Wright and Moore islands, as shown in the figure below. Work occurs Monday – Saturday.

The channel north of Wright and Moore islands is not affected and remains open.



## Cleanup activities completed and schedule

Activities completed so far include removing polluted bank soil and disposing it at a landfill and capping a portion of contaminated sediment. Remaining activities include capping remaining contaminated sediment. The manufacture and shipping of custom capping materials took longer than expected and caused a delay in the project. All materials are now on site and in-water construction work has been extended to Oct. 17, 2025. Bank revegetation work will continue through Nov. 30, 2025.

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## Background

Historical industrial and agricultural use, going back to the middle of the 20th century, led to high levels of contamination found in Columbia Slough sediments today. In 2005, DEQ issued a cleanup plan, called a Record of Decision, for the Columbia Slough. The cleanup plan describes the framework for cleaning up sediment contamination in the Slough. The primary components of the cleanup plan are in-water cleanups of contaminated sediment hot spots, source control and monitored natural recovery. Contaminated Slough sediments between Moore & Wright islands and the former Pacific Carbide site is the focus of this in-water cleanup project that is part of the overall Columbia Slough cleanup plan.

In 2023, DEQ and the [Oregon Department of State Lands](#) applied for and received a \$1 million [EPA Brownfield Cleanup Grant](#) to assist with cleanup costs. DSL administers and disburses Brownfield Grant funds. DEQ manages day-to-day grant activities and the in-water cleanup.

## Contact

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