

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT SUMMARY BROCHURE

ROCKAWAY BEACH WATER DEPARTMENT PWS # 4100708

WHAT IS A SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT?

The Source Water Assessment was recently completed by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the Oregon Health Division (OHD) to identify the surface areas (and/or subsurface areas) that supply water to Rockaway Beach Water Department's public water system intake and to inventory the potential contaminant sources that may impact the water supply.

WHY WAS IT COMPLETED?

The Source Water Assessment was completed to provide information so that Rockaway Beach Water Department's public water system staff/operator, consumers, and community citizens can begin developing strategies to protect the source of their drinking water, and to minimize future public expenditures for drinking water treatment. The assessment was prepared under the requirements and guidelines of the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA).

WHAT AREAS ARE INCLUDED IN ROCKAWAY BEACH WATER DEPARTMENT'S DRINKING WATER PROTECTION AREA?

The drinking water for Rockaway Beach is supplied by several groundwater wells and an intake on Jetty Creek. This Source Water Assessment addresses only the surface water component of Rockaway Beach's drinking water supply. This public water system serves approximately 2,500 citizens. The intake is located in the Cook Creek/Lower Nehalem River Watershed in the Nehalem Sub-Basin of the Northern Oregon Coastal Basin. In addition, Rockaway Beach uses a groundwater from wells. The geographic area providing water to Rockaway Beach's intake (the drinking water protection area) extends upstream approximately 3.8 miles in an easterly direction and encompasses a total area of 2.1 square miles. The boundaries of the Drinking Water Protection Area are illustrated on the figure attached to this summary.

WHAT ARE THE POTENTIAL SOURCES OF CONTAMINATION TO ROCKAWAY BEACH WATER DEPARTMENT'S PUBLIC DRINKING WATER SUPPLY?

The primary intent of this inventory was to identify and locate significant potential sources of contaminants of concern. The delineated drinking water protection area for the surface water sources is primarily dominated by forestry land uses. Clearcuts (which occur throughout the protection area) and a borrow pit were identified as potential sources of contamination within Rockaway Beach's drinking water protection area. This provides a quick look at the existing potential sources of contamination that could, if improperly managed or released, impact the water quality in the watershed.

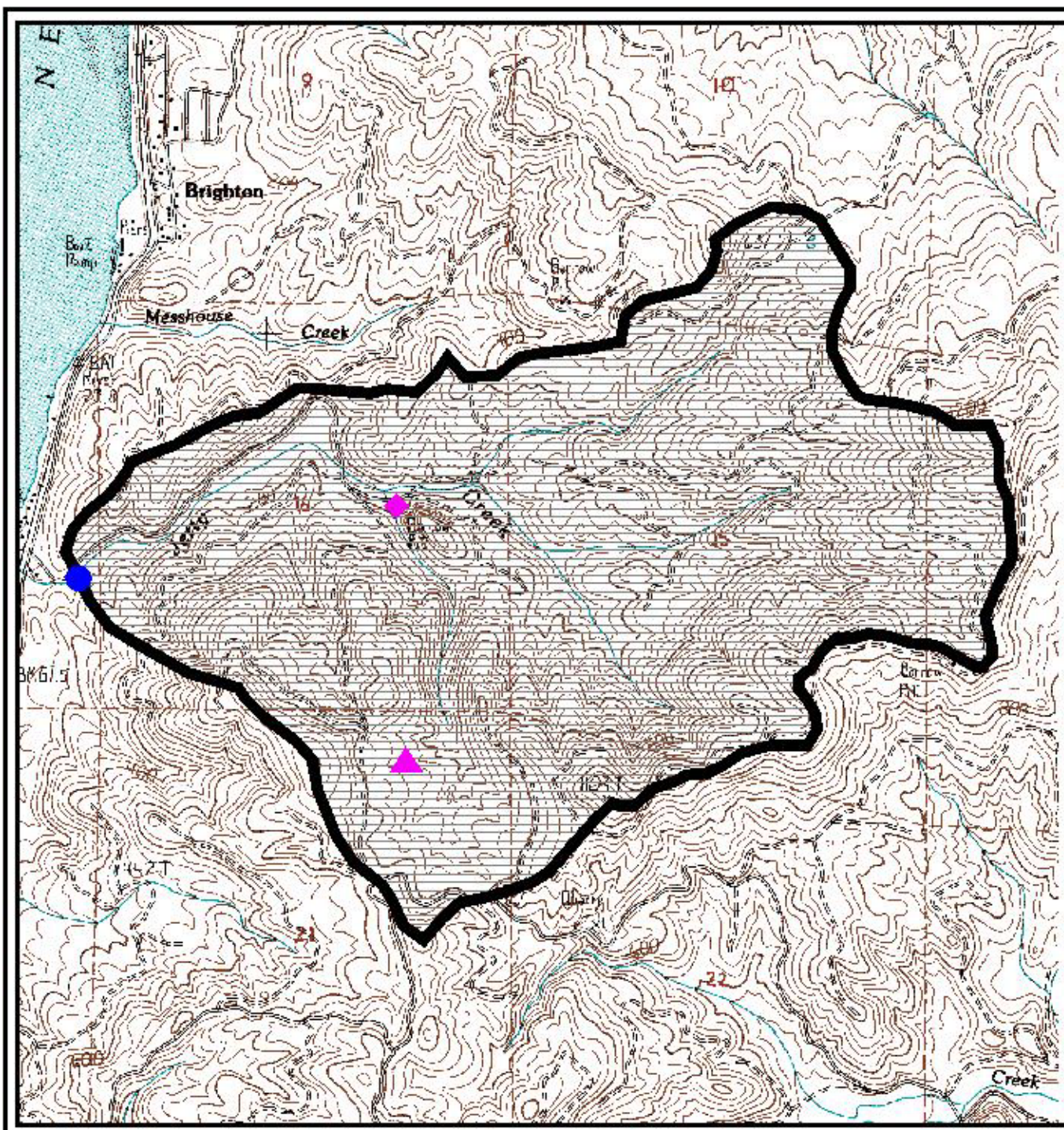
WHAT ARE THE RISKS FOR OUR SYSTEM?

Two potential contaminant sources were identified in Rockaway Beach Water Department's drinking water protection area. Both of these are located in the sensitive areas and are high- to moderate-risk sources within "sensitive areas". The sensitive areas within the Rockaway Beach Water Department drinking water protection area include areas with high soil permeability, high soil erosion potential, high runoff potential and areas within 1000' from the river/streams. The sensitive areas are those where the potential contamination sources, if present, have a greater potential to impact the water supply. The information in this assessment provides a basis for prioritizing areas in and around our community that are most vulnerable to potential impacts and can be used by the Rockaway Beach Water Department community to develop a voluntary Drinking Water Protection Plan.





NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Rockaway Beach Water Department's Source Water Assessment Report provides additional details on the methodology and results of this assessment. The full report is available for review at:

Contact Rockaway Beach Water Department staff if you would like additional information on these Source Water Assessment results.




Source Water Assessment Results
Rockaway Beach Water Department's Drinking Water Protection Area with Sensitive Areas and Potential Contamination Sources
PWS 4100708

-  Drinking Water Protection Area
-  Drinking Water Intake - Surface Water
-  Sensitive Areas
-  Area Feature (see Note 2)
-  Point Feature (see Note 2)

Notes on Potential Contaminant Sources

Note 1: Sites and areas noted in this Figure are potential sources of contamination to the drinking water identified by Oregon drinking water protection staff. Environmental contamination is not likely to occur when contaminants are used and managed properly.

Note 2: Feature identification markers correspond to the potential contaminant source numbers in the SWA Report. The area features represent the approximate area where the land use or activity occurs and is marked at the point closest to the intake. The point features represent the approximate point where the land use or activity occurs.



Meters: 0 100 200 300 400 500 600 700 800

Feet: 0 1000 2000

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TABLE 2. INVENTORY RESULTS - LIST OF POTENTIAL CONTAMINANT SOURCES

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Reference No. (See Figure)	Potential Contaminant Source Type	Name	Approximate Location	City	Method for Listing	Proximity to Sensitive Areas	Relative Risk Level (1)	Potential Impacts	Comments
1	Managed Forest Land - Clearcut Harvest (< 35 yrs.)	Clearcuts	Southeast of Intake	Rockaway	Field-Observation Interview	Within sensitive area. for JETTY CREEK	Higher	Cutting and yarding of trees may contribute to increased erosion, resulting in turbidity and chemical changes in drinking water supply. Over-application or improper handling of pesticides or fertilizers may impact drinking water source.	Two clearcuts are within the watershed. PWS contact indicates that the landowner will be logging various parts of the watershed in the immediate future. The watershed is closed to public access, and gated, except during hunting season.
2	Mines/Gravel Pits	Borrow Pit	East of Intake	Rockaway	Field-Observation Interview	Within sensitive area. for JETTY CREEK	Moderate	Spills, leaks, or improper handling of chemicals and wastes generated in mining operations or from heavy equipment may impact the drinking water supply.	Risk reduced to Moderate because the borrow pit is very small, currently inactive, and is used for local logging roads

Note: Sites and areas identified in this Table are only potential sources of contamination to the drinking water. Environmental contamination is not likely to occur when contaminants are used and managed properly.

(1) Where multiple potential contaminant sources exist at a site, the highest level of risk is used.

(2) See Table 3 for database listings (if necessary).