

# Contaminated Sites on Reserve, Manitoba Region (CSOR)

- *“An ounce of PREVENTION is worth (more than) a pound of Cure”*

- *What does the statement mean?*

- *How can it be applied in the context of contamination?*

*Prevention of product releases and early detection of releases are presumed to be less disruptive socially & economically than paying for COSTLY alternative/replacement of (water supply, building or land and CLEANUPS*

# Contaminated Sites on Reserve, Manitoba Region (CSOR)

## **Funding Sources**

**Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan  
(FCSAP)**

**Contaminates Sites On Reserve (CSOR)**

# History and Context

- The CSOR Program is a national initiative that supports the assessment and remediation of contaminated sites on reserve lands, and lands under the Department's custodial responsibility.
  - 1992 - Environment Issues Inventory and Remediation Plan (EIIRP)
  - 2003 - Contaminated Sites Management Program (CSMP)
  - **2005 - Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan (FCSAP)**
  - 2015 - Contaminated Sites on Reserve Program (CSOR)
- The CSOR Program is delivered jointly through collaboration with First Nations, providing opportunities for increased capacity for environmental management.

# Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan

- Since 2005, CSOR has been supported by Environment Canada's Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan (FCSAP) Program - a horizontal initiative involving 19 federal departments, agencies and Crown corporations.
  - FCSAP renewed another 15 years (2020-2034) with \$1.16 billion announced for Phase IV (2020-2025)
  - Custodians subject to cost share requirement (80% assessment, 85% remediation)
  - ISC will receive ~\$184 million during Phase IV

# Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan

- **What is it?**

The federal contaminated Sites Action Plan (FCSAP) supports government departments and other agencies to assess, remediate and risk manage contaminated sites under their responsibility

**FCSAP aims to reduce:**

1. Environmental and human health risks from known federal contaminated sites
2. Federal financial liabilities associated with these sites.

# Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan

- **What are the federal contaminated sites?**

These are sites that contain substances at the levels above what is considered safe to human health or the environment.

- a) They are areas owned or leased by the federal government, or
- b) Areas where the government has accepted responsibility for the contamination.

# How Do We Manage a Federal Contaminated Site?

Through the following Five Stages:

## 1. Identification

Finding a potentially contaminated site.

## 2. Assessment

Understanding the source and magnitude of the contamination

## 3. Remediation/Risk Management

**Removing the contaminants through**

On- site treatment

Off-site disposal

**Block exposure**

# How Do We Manage a Federal Contaminated Site?

## 4. Monitoring

Ensuring that remediation/risk management remains effective.

## 5. Closure

Closing a site when risks are reduced to levels that are considered safe to human health and the environment.

There are different risk level depending on the intended land use.

# The 10-step process

**Step 1:** Identify Suspect Site

**Step 2:** Historical Review

**Step 3:** Initial Testing Program

**Step 4:** Classify Site (optional)

**Step 5:** Detailed Testing Program

**Step 6:** Re-Classify Site

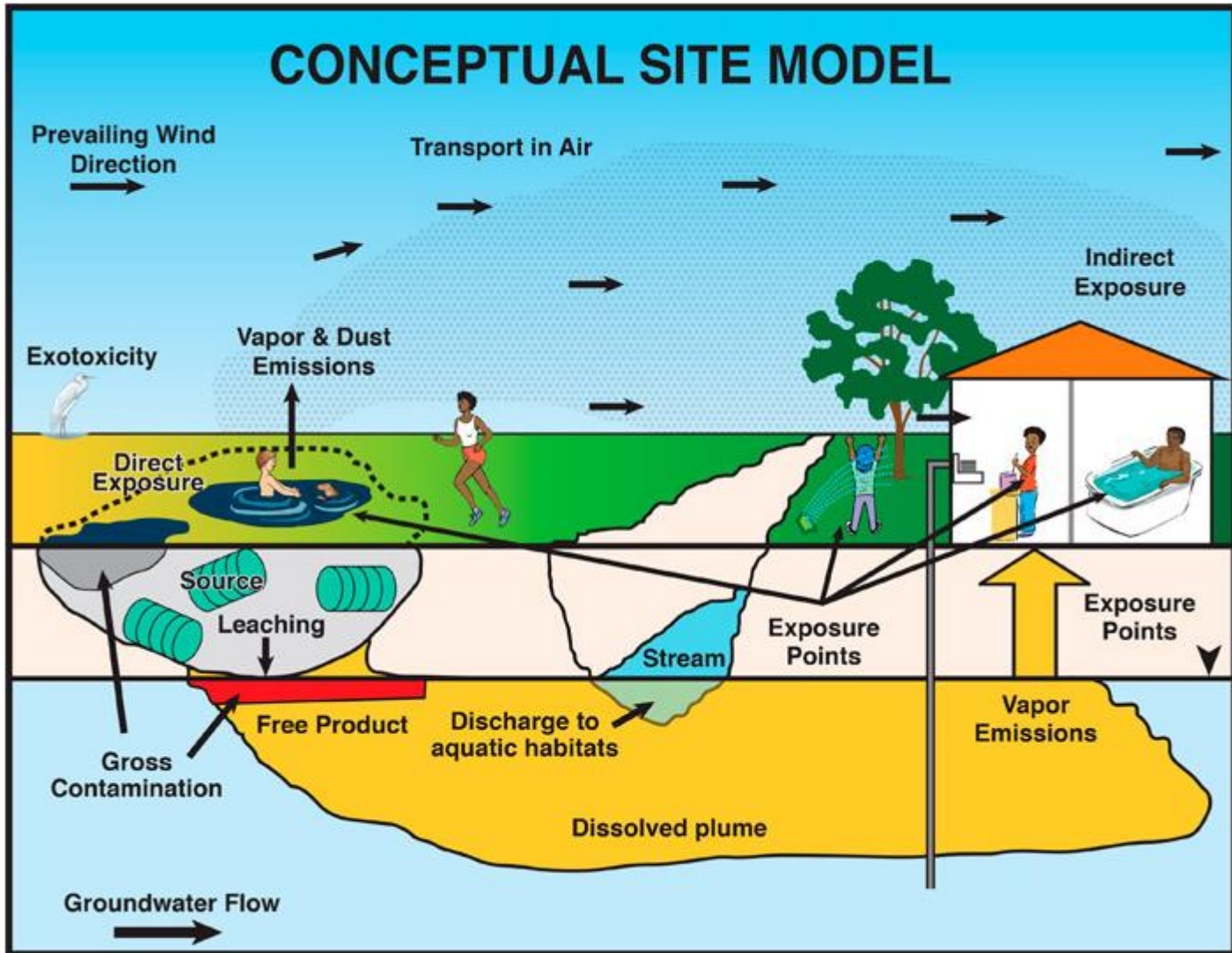
**Step 7:** Develop Remediation/Risk Management Strategy

**Step 8:** Implement Remediation/Risk Management Strategy

**Step 9:** Confirmatory Sampling and Final Reporting

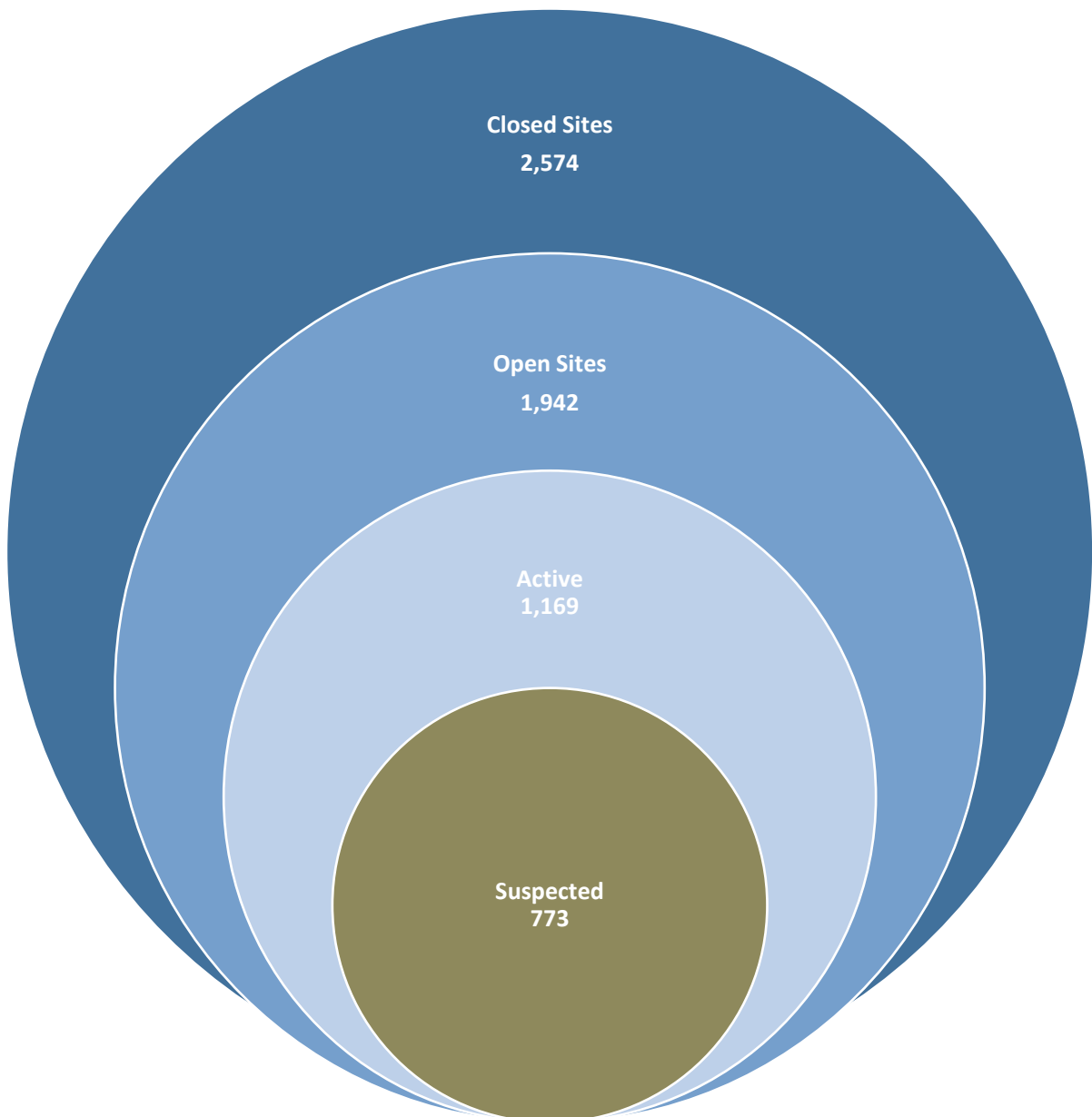
**Step 10:** Long-Term Monitoring (if required)

# Conceptual Site Model showing the migration pathways of petroleum from source to receptors



# CSOR PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

- Program Liability = \$337M
  - Average Site Liability = \$472K
- (Figures as of March 31, 2023)***



## CSOR Site Activity by Year



# FCSAP Phase V 2025- 2030

- **Increased focus on prevention**
- Continued funding for assessment
- Focus on results – closing ‘stale’ projects
- Final funding allocations announced from Treasury Board
  
- **Challenges**
  - Remote sites – increasing unreliability of Winter Road
  - Lack of confirmed Prevention Funding – and a Direct line of O&M for Fuel Assets
  - Developing a vision to support the replacement of polluting energy sources with greener energy sources
  - Incorporation of Indigenous Knowledge and Science into contaminated sites management
  - Engaging Indigenous People in a meaningful way

# CSOR - PREVENTION

## Roundtable Discussions on Prevention Strategies & Measures

- Who is or should be responsible for protecting Reserve lands from environmental degradation?

Answer:

- C & C
- Land Manager
- Individual community members
- Federal Govt
- All of the above

# CSOR - PREVENTION

- Application of 2008 Regulations
  - Emergency Response
  - Registration and Approval to install new system
  - Design and Installation of New System
  - Upgrading new system
  - Withdrawal from Service of Non-compliant system
  - Operation and Maintenance
- Capacity Building
  - Exercising Authority – by-laws
  - Spill response
  - Spill Response Training