



Eatonville Landfill Site Responsiveness Summary

Comment Period: August 26 to September 26, 2021

Cleanup Site ID: 15271
Facility ID: 85933
Address: Nisqually State Park Entrance Mashel Prairie Rd, Eatonville, WA 98328
County: Pierce

Documents for review and comment

Agreed Order No. DE 20072
Public Participation Plan

Background

The Town of Eatonville leased the land from the Weyerhaeuser Company to use as a landfill from 1950 until about 1980. The parcel where the landfill is located is about two acres in size with the refuse covering less than a quarter of the parcel. It is located on a very steep slope. Municipal solid waste, appliances, car parts, empty drums, tires, and other waste were disposed of at the landfill. Waste burning occurred at the site.

Sample results show metals (iron, lead, and zinc) contamination above water quality standards. Suspected contaminants include polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), petroleum products, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) that may adversely affect surface water, sediment, and/or groundwater.

Ecology held a comment period from August 26 to September 26, 2021, for public review of a legal agreement and the public participation plan for the site. The legal agreement is Agreed Order No. DE 20072 between Eatonville, Weyerhaeuser, and Ecology. The Agreed Order requires Eatonville and Weyerhaeuser to prepare documents to plan for cleanup of the site. The public participation plan describes how Ecology informs the community about the cleanup.

Ecology received three comments during the comment period. There were no changes to the Agreed Order and public participation plan based on the comments received.

Cleanup Process

With Agreed Order No. DE 20072, Eatonville and Weyerhaeuser will prepare a Remedial Investigation (RI) report. The RI report will identify the type of contamination and where it is found at the site. They will also prepare the Feasibility Study (FS), which compares cleanup methods. Ecology will review, provide comments, and approve the RI/FS report. They will also prepare a preliminary draft cleanup

action plan and Ecology will use the preliminary plan to prepare the draft Cleanup Action Plan (dCAP). The RI/FS report and the dCAP will be available for a 30-day comment period, which will be your opportunity to provide comments on these documents (see Figure 1).

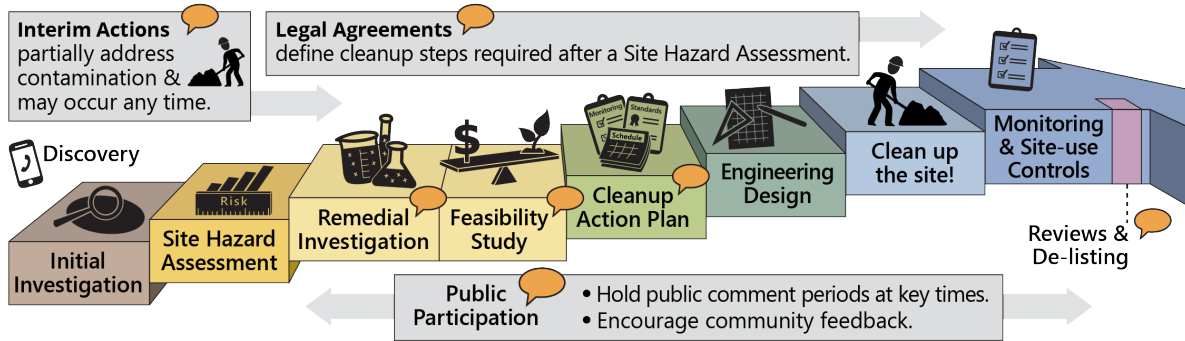


Figure 1. The Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) is Washington’s cleanup law. There are several steps in the MTCA cleanup process. The comment bubbles indicate major milestones in the process when there is an opportunity for public comment.

A new legal agreement, likely an Agreed Order, to carry out the Cleanup Action Plan will also be available for a 30-day public comment period.

You can follow the progress of cleanup at the [Eatonville Landfill webpage](https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/gsp/sitepage.aspx?csid=15271).¹

Prepared by

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¹ <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/gsp/sitepage.aspx?csid=15271>

Comment from Leonard Throop

I'm not sure why this issue wasn't taken care of long ago, like before the state purchased the land from Weyerhaeuser. I hope this gets done quickly.

Response from Ecology

Thank you for your comment. Weyerhaeuser Company still owns the property. The landfill parcel is surrounded by Nisqually State Park property. The park has plans to develop areas of the park near the site.

The MTCA cleanup process takes several steps and some time to make sure the contamination is properly remediated.

Comment from Joe Hagen

I am highly interested in being involved in any way I can, on this project. As a long time resident of Eatonville, the whole Nisqually-Mashel State Park plan intrigues me too. My contact # is 253-389-5646 Thank you.

Response from Ecology

Thank you for your interest in being involved in the cleanup. Typically, the responsible parties hire specially trained contractors for environmental cleanup work. The cleanup sometimes requires working with hazardous materials and under hazardous conditions. For these reasons, volunteers do not clean up contaminated sites.

If you would like to get involved in activities at the Nisqually State Park, we suggest that you contact the park directly.

Comment from Washington State Department of Natural Resources

The landfill site is located on a steep slope surrounded on three sides by an occurrence of a high-quality forested plant association:

Douglas-fir - Western Hemlock / Western Swordfern - Redwood Sorrel Forest

- Conservation Status: Vulnerable globally and in WA (G3G4/S3)
- Occurrence Rank at this Site: EO Rank = "B-", Good Estimated Viability

Remediation of the landfill site will likely have a positive impact on the long-term viability of the surrounding plant community. However, any disturbance required as part of the remediation should ideally be restricted to the landfill area itself and the relatively young forested plantations on the top of the plateau. Care should be taken to maintain slope stability and to not promote additional erosion into the surrounding areas.

Thank you,
Jasa Holt

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Response from Ecology

Thank you for your comment. We agree that any land disturbance should be restricted to the landfill area when possible. We have informed the Town of Eatonville and Weyerhaeuser that any disturbance required as part of cleanup should be confined to the parcel where the landfill is located. For future site access and cleanup, road and path building is likely needed and may affect some areas immediately adjacent to the landfill. Care will be taken to keep the slope stable during the remedial activity and after the activity is completed. Work will be designed and engineered so it should not promote additional erosion into surrounding areas.