

# **BNSF Parkwater Railyard Cleanup Complete**



### Comments accepted:

May 16 - June 15, 2022

#### Submit comments:

Online at:

http://tcp.ecology.comment input.com/?id=5kWhY

Or by mail or email to: Sandra Treccani, Site Manager 4601 North Monroe Street Spokane, WA 99205 sandra.treccani@ecy.wa.gov Questions? 509-329-3412

### Document review locations:

https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/site/1318

Please contact Erika Beresovoy at erika.beresovoy@ecy.wa.gov or 509-385-2290 if you need printed documents.

Facility Site ID: 676 Site Cleanup ID: 1318

Site address: 5302 E. Trent Ave.

Spokane, WA 99212

# Public invited to comment on 5-year review report and proposal to remove railyard from Hazardous Sites List and the restrictions on groundwater use

The Washington State Department of Ecology requests your comments on the draft periodic review report for the BNSF Parkwater Railyard cleanup site. We complete a periodic review at least every 5 years after cleanup construction is complete when institutional controls are part of the cleanup. Institutional controls are required if some contamination remains. The review evaluates site conditions to ensure people and the environment are protected.

Some contaminated soil was covered with protective caps and a treatment system decreased groundwater contamination, but unsafe levels of contaminants remained, so environmental covenants (an institutional control) were filed for soil and groundwater. The covenants restricted groundwater use and prohibited disturbing contaminated soil.

Ecology reviewed six years of monitoring data and found soil and groundwater now meet state standards. No further cleanup is required, except maintaining soil caps, so we are proposing to remove the site from Washington's Hazardous Sites List and the groundwater covenant.

# **Railyard history**

The site is an active railyard covering about 130 acres. BNSF Railway Company and other railroads have run the railyard since the early 1900s. Until 1959, it supported railyard operations including fueling,



maintenance and repair, intermodal operations, and switching. When the roundhouse was demolished in 1959, these activities continued in a lesser capacity until 2004 when most fueling moved to a new facility in Hauser, Idaho.

From 2004 through today, refueling, maintenance, and switching operations continue. Western Fruit Express Company's maintenance facility is also on site. The facility is used for rail car and equipment storage and maintenance. About 3 acres of the site were leased to other industries, including Koch Materials, Tri-State Oil, Continental Coal Company, Service Asphalt, and Blackline.

The site had underground and aboveground storage tanks, primarily for diesel fuel but also for waste oil, gasoline, and cleaning solvent storage. Only above-ground storage tanks remain: one 5,000-gallon waste oil, one 1,000-gallon lubricating oil, two 1,000-gallon waste oil, one 300,000-gallon diesel, one 25,000-gallon lubricating oil, and one 22,000-gallon waste oil. Six smaller above-ground tanks holding gasoline, diesel, heating oil, and waste oil are used at the Western Fruit Express facility.

## **Contamination and cleanup**

Petroleum products were found in groundwater and a variety of contaminants were found in soil: construction debris, metals, naphthalene, petroleum products, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, and polychlorinated biphenyls. Groundwater cleanup began in March 2009. A treatment system used air sparging (increases oxygen flow) and soil vapor extraction (vacuums contaminants) to decrease the petroleum plume. By June 2010, petroleum had decreased significantly. In January 2012, the system was shut down to see if petroleum would increase. Remaining petroleum still required cleanup, but significant increases didn't occur. So the groundwater treatment system was permanently shut down and monitoring continued.

Soil cleanup occurred between September 2013 and February 2015. One contaminated area was covered with an asphalt cap, and two more were covered with 6-inch gravel caps. Contaminated soil from all other areas was excavated and disposed at a landfill. Ecology filed environmental covenants for soil and groundwater. We approved the final cleanup report in 2017.

## **Next steps**

Ecology will respond to all the comments we receive by June 15, 2022, and publish our responses. We will hold an online public meeting if 10 or more people request it. After we consider public comments, the draft periodic review report will become final, or if we significantly revise the report in response to comments, another draft version will go out for public review for 30 days. If not, Ecology will remove the site from the Hazardous Sites List and the groundwater covenant on the property.

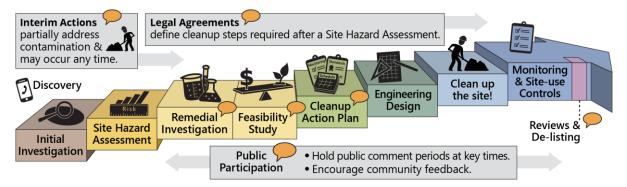


Figure 1. The BNSF Parkwater Railyard cleanup is in the last step of Washington's process.



2296110\*21 Figure 2

Former Koch Area Gravel Cap Diesel Shop Area Asphalt Cap East and West Debris Area Gravel Cap Legend Notes:

1. All locations are approximate. Kennedy Jenks Parkwater Railyard Capped Areas Spokane, Washington - Property Boundary BNSF Parkwater Railyard Site Map

Figure 2. BNSF Parkwater Railyard site map



Toxics Cleanup Program 4601 North Monroe Street Spokane, WA 99205

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# **Public comment period**

May 16 – June 15, 2022

The Washington State Department of Ecology invites you to comment on the draft 5-year review report, and our proposal to remove the railyard from Washington's Hazardous Sites List and the restrictions on groundwater use.

**Review documents:** https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/site/1318

**Submit comments:** http://tcp.ecology.comment

input.com/?id=5kWhY

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**Accommodation Requests:** To request Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accommodation, or printed materials in a format for the visually impaired, contact the Ecology ADA Coordinator at 360-407-6831 or ecyadacoordinator@ecy.wa.gov, or visit https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility. People with impaired hearing may call Washington Relay Service at 711. People with speech disability may call TTY at 877-833-6341.