

Alder Mill



SHARP Report — Part 1 of 2

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• SHARP first SHARP		v2024.04.29	Ecology Info	
• SHARP rating	Medium		ERTS	none
• SHARP date	09/03/2025		CSID	4720
• EJFlagged?	⊘ - No Override		FSID	412
• LD confidence level	low		VCP	none
• Cleanup milestone	cleanup implementation		UST ID	none
• SHARPster	Justin Rice		LUST ID	none

This section is blank if this is the first SHARP

SHARP Media	Scores	Confidence	Additional Factors
Indoor air	D4	high	multiple chemical types ⊘
Groundwater	B1	low	risk to off-site people ✓
Surface water	D4	low	climate change impacts ✓
Sediment	B4	low	plant/animal tissue data ⊘
Soil	A1	high	

Location and land use info	
, Twisp, Okanogan County, 98856	
Primary parcel	3322180169
Land use	residential
Responsible unit	CRO

Sources reviewed
Integrated Assessment Report, START-2, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10, September 2002



Primary census tract	Associated census tracts
53047971000	none

Local demographics comments
no comments

Source/source area description
<p>The Alder Mill site is a former gold and copper ore processing facility situated on a 75-acre plot about 0.4 mile south of Twisp, Washington. The ore processing facility included a mill building and two tailings impoundments, referred to as the Upper Tailings Pond and the Mill Pond. The Upper Tailings Pond contains an estimated 43,300 cubic yards of mine tailings impounded behind an earthen dam.</p>

Soil comments
<p>Soil samples collected from the Upper Tailings Pond contain concentrations of toxic metals, including antimony, arsenic, barium, copper, lead, mercury, selenium, silver, thallium, and zinc that exceed screening levels.</p>

Groundwater comments
<p>Previous releases from the Upper Tailings Pond has impacted downgradient drinking water well. Arsenic concentrations have been noted as elevated in the site vicinity, although this might be naturally occurring in the vicinity.</p>



Surface water comments

Additional analyses in the Upper Tailings Pond and intermittent stream needed.

Sediment comments

Additional analysis needed.

Indoor air comments

no comments

Additional factors comments

no comments



Site history

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The mill was constructed in the late 1940s to process sulfide ore mined at the Alder Mine, about 3 miles southwest of the mill. The Alder Mill operated between 1949 and 1952. Tailings from the milling process were deposited as a slurry in the Upper Tailings Pond, and to a much lesser extent, the Mill Pond. In 1952, about six months before ceasing operations, the Upper Tailings Pond impoundment reportedly failed due to heavy rain. Waste water and tailings washed down an unnamed intermittent stream. Tailings are still located along the length of the drainage below the impoundment.

Overflow - Site contamination and cleanup history

No overflow

Alder Mill

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First SHARP

SHARP rating — Medium

SHARP Report — Part 2 of 2

Conceptual site model

09/03/2025



Assessment scores by environmental medium

