

# Weyerhaeuser NR Company (Cosmo)



SHARP Report — Part 1 of 2

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• SHARP first SHARP		v2024.04.29	Ecology Info	
• SHARP rating	Low		ERTS	none
• SHARP date	03/02/2026		CSID	2375
• EJFlagged?	⊘ - No Override		FSID	32
• LD confidence level	low		VCP	none
• Cleanup milestone	remedial investigation		UST ID	none
• SHARPster	Ha Tran		LUST ID	none

**This section is blank if this is the first SHARP**

SHARP Media	Scores	Confidence	Additional Factors	
Indoor air	D4	low	multiple chemical types	✓
Groundwater	C4	low	risk to off-site people	⊘
Surface water	B2	low	climate change impacts	⊘
Sediment	B3	low	plant/animal tissue data	⊘
Soil	B2	low		

Location and land use info	
1701 1st St, Cosmopolis, Grays Harbor County, 98537	
Primary parcel	417091431003
Land use	industrial
Responsible unit	Industrial

Sources reviewed



Primary census tract	Associated census tracts
53027000900	53027000800

**Local demographics comments**

A zero was applied to all EJscreen parameters because the EJscreen website was not available at the time of rating.

**Source/source area description**

The Site is in Cosmopolis, Washington and the main mill portion is located on the south bank of the Chehalis River.

**Soil comments**

no comments

**Groundwater comments**

no comments



**Surface water comments**

no comments

**Sediment comments**

no comments

**Indoor air comments**

no comments

**Additional factors comments**

no comments



**Site history**

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Weyerhaeuser constructed the pulp mill at the site in 1957. The mill made paper grade products until 1962, when Weyerhaeuser converted production to dissolving and specialty grade pulp. The mill made pulp by using magnesium sulfite to cook wood chips, then bleached the pulp using chlorine dioxide and other chemicals.

Weyerhaeuser operated the mill until September 2006, when production shut down. The company mothballed the facility the following year in preparation of selling the mill. In May 2011 the mill resumed operation as Cosmo Specialty Fibers (Cosmo), owned by Gores Group, LLC. In December 2022, Cosmo shut down its production and transferred ownership to Charlestown Investment. The mill has remained shut down while the new owner pursues investors to re-start mill operations. However, chemicals used for the pulping process remain stored at the site. Staffing at the site has significantly reduced during that time and both power and water were shut off in the fall of 2024. Cosmo stores about 800,000 gallons of chemicals at the site in preparation for the re-start.



**Overflow - Site contamination and cleanup history**

Constructed in 1957, the facility predates environmental laws and regulations, including the 1976 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and the 1989 Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA). Over the years, there have been documented releases, including the following:

- Liquid chlorine leak from a chlorine car on October 27, 1979.
- Release of magnesium oxide dust from a recovery bypass valve on December 1, 1979 for a duration of 5 hours.
- Spill of about 1,000 gallons of red liquor to the stormwater system on February 6, 1980. Red liquor is a mixture of spent pulping chemicals and organics specific to the sulfite pulping process.
- Spill of sodium hydroxide from a railcar off-loading in February 1995, resulting in groundwater exceeding the pH 12.0.
- Spill of acidified water to the ponds on January 6, 1998, resulting in pH measurements as low as 1.0 in the adjacent ditches.
- About 16 leaks in the wastewater pipe over the last 10 years, with the most recent leak discovered on September 12, 2023 at the residential area. The pipe is made of wood stave and runs about 2.5 from the mill through the town of Aberdeen and Cosmopolis.

In addition to documented spills, the November 2017 Sediment Study found elevated levels of dioxin and furans in the vicinity of the mill's outfalls.

### Assessment scores by environmental medium

