

Duwamish Waterway Park



SHARP Report — Part 1 of 2

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• SHARP first SHARP		v2024.04.29	Ecology Info	
• SHARP rating	Critical		ERTS	none
• SHARP date	04/20/2026		CSID	15139
• EJFlagged?	✓ – No Override		FSID	49919
• LD confidence level	medium		VCP	NW3279
• Cleanup milestone	remedial investigation		UST ID	none
• SHARPster	Anthony Wenke		LUST ID	none

This section is blank if this is the first SHARP	

SHARP Media	Scores	Confidence	Additional Factors	
Indoor air	B2	low	multiple chemical types	✓
Groundwater	C2	high	risk to off-site people	✓
Surface water	A1	medium	climate change impacts	✓
Sediment	A1	high	plant/animal tissue data	⊘
Soil	A1	high		

Location and land use info	
7900 10th Avenue, Seattle, King County, 98118	
Primary parcel	7327901195
Land use	recreational
Responsible unit	NWRO

Sources reviewed
Draft V3 Interim Data Summary Report, Remedial Investigation for Agreed Order DE21443. Prepared by Herrera for City of Seattle. January 15, 2025.
Duwamish Waterway Park - Final Agreed Order DE21443. Ecology. November 13, 2023.
Duwamish Waterway Park - NW3279 VCP Opinion Letter. Ecology. October 27, 2021.

Primary census tract	Associated census tracts
53033010900	Not Applicable

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 properties were primarily used for residential and agricultural purposes until the 1960-70s when they were developed into a park and adjacent commercial/industrial property (known as the Park Addition property). Throughout the Site's development history, placement of fill of unknown quality and origin occurred in the central and shoreline portions of the park. The fill material is a suspected source of contamination to soil and groundwater. Additional on-site releases of contaminants into upland media have likely occurred due to the historical commercial/industrial operations. Those impacts appear to be confined to the uplands and are not impacting the waterway. Additional suspected sources to the upland portions of the site are being evaluated in the Remedial Investigation (RI) that is currently underway.

Soil comments

Various contaminants exceeded the most stringent preliminary screening levels selected in the draft RI: metals (antimony, arsenic, barium, cadmium, copper, lead, mercury, silver, and zinc), THP-O, PCBs, VOCs (methylene chloride) and cPAHs. Areas of exceedances include the shoreline areas and capped-ports of the park. While these contaminants exceed the draft screening levels--they risk to the public is low. Surface soils are either capped, inaccessible, or were replaced during a previous independent interim action. Full delineation of the lateral and vertical depth of these exceedances will be completed in the RI.

Groundwater comments

Various contaminants exceeded the most stringent preliminary screening levels in shoreline seeps and/or groundwater, including: metals (arsenic, copper, lead, mercury, and zinc), VOCs, cPAHs. Further delineation of the lateral and vertical extent of these exceedances is being completed in conjunction with the RI in 2026. With regards to seep sampling results, most COCs on site exceeded seeps during the first quarterly monitoring event and were trending below screening levels in follow up monitoring events. Additional monitoring is being conducted during the RI to complete assessment of COCs in seep media.

Surface water comments

Contaminants may leach from soil into groundwater, which subsequently discharges to surface water bodies such as the LDW. This pathway poses risks to benthic and aquatic species, as well as to humans through direct contact and seafood consumption. Arsenic, copper, and mercury exceeded their respective preliminary screening levels in surface water grab samples. Concentrations of cPAHs were either not detected above detection limits or showed concentrations below their respective screening levels in surface water grab samples. Additional monitoring is being conducted in the RI to track the trend in surface water.

Sediment comments

Sediment investigations were overseen by the EPA under the Superfund cleanup. Independent investigation of sediments were performed by the City prior to the Agreed Order DE21443. Based on these sampling events, PCBs are the only contaminant to exceed the Sediment Cleanup Objective (SCO). The EPA selected Monitored Natural Attenuation for the in-water area, since clean sediments are expected to bury contamination over a 10 year time-frame. Current seep data indicate groundwater impacts to sediments are unlikely. Soil erosion impacts may occur, depending on the stability of the contaminated shoreline soil areas.

Indoor air comments

Vapors from contaminated soil and groundwater may migrate into enclosed buildings, posing inhalation risks to occupants. Two enclosed buildings exist at the Park Addition, and future redevelopment of the property into the park is expected to reduce or fully eliminate this pathway via full removal or remediation and re-use of those buildings. Additional sampling in soil and groundwater is proposed for the Phase 2 Remedial Investigation to determine if this exposure pathway is complete.

Additional factors comments

The South Park neighborhood is a historically industrial and low-income residential neighborhood of Seattle, where the community has faced significant environmental justice issues. The park is one of few green spaces available and serves an important recreation service to the community. Additionally, the City aims to expand the park and improve the quality of shoreline habitat for wildlife--setting the stage for a long-term remedy focused on improved habitat and recreation with climate resiliency.

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The City of Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation (City) has operated a park in this location since 1975. Prior to 1975, the Park area was primarily residential with some possible agricultural use. The Park can be generally divided into three areas: the Central Meadow, the Northeast Meadow, and the Beach. In 1989, the Northeast Meadow area was added to the Park. It was previously a single-family residence. There is also a play area with playground equipment located adjacent to the Central Meadow area in the southeast corner of the Park. Historically, and currently, the Park Addition has been occupied by commercial businesses. Additional industrial operations occurred at the addition property from 2003-2021. In 2019, the City purchased the Park property from King County. Preliminary soil investigations occurred at the site in 2014 and 2019, documenting soil contamination of lead and arsenic. Ecology was notified of the discovery of contamination in spring of 2019, and an Initial Investigation was completed in January 2020. In July 2020, the City entered into the VCP (NW3279). Ecology received a revised independent RI in August 2021 that reported remedial interim actions performed by the City. Interim actions at the site included selective soil excavation, removal, and replacement with clean fill; construction of concrete pathways, placement of vegetation and laying of sod material, and installation of various capping technologies. In October 2021, Ecology's issued an opinion letter to the City for the independent interim cleanup actions performed, noting additional activities that must be performed to reach a No Further Action determination. Based upon the growing complexity of the Site cleanup, Ecology terminated the VCP project in September 2022 and initiated legal negotiations with the City for an Agreed Order. In November 2023, Ecology entered into an Agreed Order with the City to perform a RI and Feasibility Study and drafting a Cleanup Action Plan. Currently an Ecology-supervised RI is underway. Phase I of the RI fieldwork is complete and data gaps have been identified for further investigation. At the time of this assessment, the PLP and Ecology are planning phase II fieldwork. Fieldwork for the RI is expected to last at least through 2026.

Overflow - Site contamination and cleanup history

The 2.9-acre Site includes the existing 1.4-acre Park, 1.0-acre Park Addition, 0.2-acre Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) Right-of Way, a 50-square-foot Port of Seattle parcel, and about 4,000 square feet of uplands that are within the commercial waterwat district. This RI/FS focuses on parcels owned by the City (Park: 7327901195, 7327902335; Park Addition: 7327901515, the adjoining SDOT Right-of-Way (no parcel number)), and the small Port of Seattle parcel in the Park’s northeast corner (7327902346). Mixed historical and current land usages also include industrial, residential, agricultural and commercial.

Duwamish Waterway Park

15139 Duwamish Waterway Park 20260420

First SHARP

SHARP rating — Critical

SHARP Report — Part 2 of 2

Conceptual site model

04/20/2026



Assessment scores by environmental medium

