Public Comment Period: Solid Wood Inc

Address: 700 W Bay Dr NW, Olympia, Thurston County
Facility Site ID: 94656838 **Cleanup Site ID:** 4228

We are accepting comments from **Thursday, July 9** at 8:00 AM to **Monday, August 10** at 11:59 PM.

Submit your comment:

Online (preferred):
go.ecology.wa.gov/comment4228

By mail or email:
Steve Teel, Toxics Cleanup Program
PO Box 47775
Olympia, WA 98504-7775
steve.teel@ecy.wa.gov

More Information

Learn more and download documents at the project website: go.ecology.wa.gov/4228

Questions? Please reach out to Steve Teel, site manager, at 360-890-0059 or steve.teel@ecy.wa.gov.

Join our email list or request a public meeting: Please email Carolyn Subramaniam at carolyn.subramaniam@ecy.wa.gov.

Read Documents In Person:
Timberland Olympia Library
313 8th Avenue SE
Olympia, WA 98501

The Olympia Center
222 Columbia St NW
Olympia, WA 98507

Ecology Lacey office *by appointment only
300 Desmond Drive SE
Lacey, WA 98503
PublicDisclosureSWRO@ecy.wa.gov
360-407-6365

Solid Wood Inc is a cleanup site in West Olympia. This site was used as a lumber mill from 1925 to 1959. The Port of Olympia bought the site in 1963 and used it to store logs. Then, the Solid Wood plywood veneer mill operated from 1971 until the facility burned down in 2001.

Now, the City of Olympia owns the site and is the potentially liable person responsible for investigating and cleaning up toxic contamination at the site. Ecology oversees cleanup and partially funds the work through a remedial action grant. Removing toxic contamination is an important step towards the city's future vision of West Bay Park.

Three documents are available for public review:

Amendment to Agreed Order No. DE-08-TCPSR-5415 is a proposed change to the legal agreement that Ecology and the City of Olympia entered in 2008. The change would require the city to carry out the interim action plan.

Interim Action Plan is a plan to remove contaminated soil at the site. It is an interim action because it addresses part of the site.

State Environmental Policy Act Determination of Non-Significance is Ecology's determination that the interim action will not cause significant environmental harm. We considered environmental, historical, and cultural factors.



Figure 1. A photo of West Bay Park.



Figure 2. A 1992 aerial photo of the Solid Wood mill on West Bay Drive NW. *Photo from Ecology's Coastal Atlas.*

Draft Interim Action Plan

The interim action, or partial cleanup, proposes removing contaminated soil from four areas in the undeveloped area of the site. Ecology and the city planned the location and depth of excavation areas based on previous sampling work. More sampling work will happen before excavation begins to design the exact excavation areas. Confirmation samples will also be collected after excavation, to confirm that the cleanup is effective. The interim action will also remove about 600 feet of rail track. Please refer to the draft interim action plan for more detailed information and figures.

Soil near the former mill foundation is contaminated with heavy oil and diesel (total petroleum hydrocarbons). About 211 cubic yards of contaminated soil will be excavated up to a maximum depth of eight feet.

Soil along the rail tracks is contaminated with carcinogenic polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (cPAHs) in three areas. About 395 cubic yards of contaminated soil, up to a maximum depth of six feet, will be excavated from the area closest to West Bay Park. About 345 cubic yards will be excavated from the middle area, digging to a maximum depth of one foot. Further south along the rail spur, the last excavation area will be about 275 cubic yards from a maximum depth of one foot.

Groundwater wells along the shoreline did not detect contamination. One groundwater well near the former mill foundation had contaminants, at concentrations below cleanup levels. By removing contaminated soil, the interim action should stop any pollutants from leaching into groundwater.

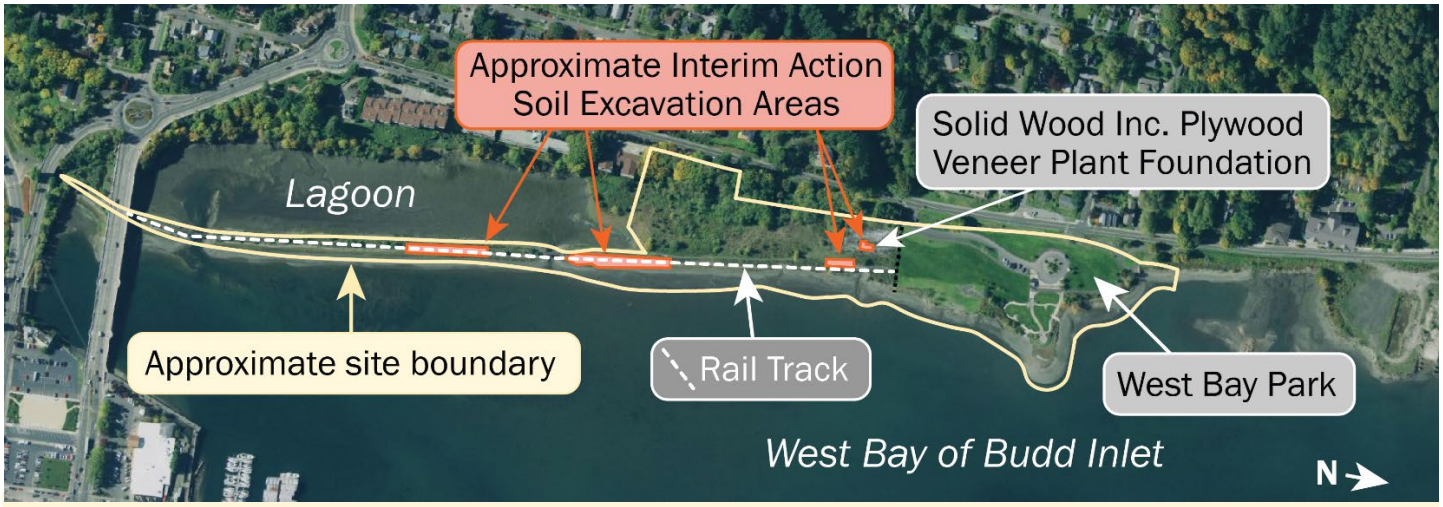


Figure 3. A diagram showing the proposed interim action work.

Project Permits

To help cleanup projects move more quickly, state law allows cleanup work to be exempt from the procedural requirements of some permits and approvals. This means that the project can skip some administrative steps relating to permitting. The project **must still follow all permit requirements**, overseen by Ecology.

So far, the following permits might apply to the proposed interim action:

- **Ecology Construction Stormwater General Permit** (contamination cannot flow off-site when it rains)
- **Waste Disposal Authorization** (approval to safely dispose contaminated soil off-site)
- **City of Olympia Shoreline Substantial Development Permit** (approval of construction work within 200 feet of Budd Inlet)
- **City of Olympia Site Development Permit** (approval to excavate and grade soil at the site)
- **City of Olympia Tree Removal Permit** (approval to remove vegetation along the berm)

Ecology and the city may identify more permit requirements to comply with as the project planning continues.

Interim Action Schedule

August 2026: Ecology will review and respond to comments from the public comment period. Ecology may change the documents based on public input.

August - September 2026: Remedial Design Investigation work, including:

- Collecting soil samples to confirm the precise areas and depths to excavate soil
- Checking the structural integrity of the trestle bridge, to make sure the cleanup work along the rail spur can be done safely

October 2026: The city will submit detailed plans and specifications for the interim action to Ecology.

January 2027: The city will find a contractor to do the interim work through a bidding process.

March 2027: Interim action cleanup construction starts!

Public Participation During Washington's Cleanup Process

The Model Toxics Control Act is Washington's environmental cleanup law. It works to protect people's health and the environment, and to preserve natural resources for the future. State law requires 30-day public comment periods throughout the cleanup process. **Currently, we are accepting comments on an update to a legal agreement and an interim action.**

Cleaning up contamination at the site is just one step towards the future of West Bay Park. For information about the park design, please visit the City of Olympia's website.

You can now receive automatic updates from our system when documents are uploaded to our website. To get these updates, please go to the cleanup site webpage (go.ecology.wa.gov/4228) and click the blue "Subscribe" button in the top right. The system will email you when a new document is uploaded, or when a public comment period is open.

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
State of Washington

Toxics Cleanup Program
PO Box 47775
Olympia, WA 98504-7775



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State of Washington

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Thursday, July 9, 2026, at 8:00 AM to
Monday, August 10, 2026, at 11:59 PM.

The City of Olympia and Ecology propose excavating contaminated soil from areas of the Solid Wood cleanup site. This work will support the city's vision for West Bay Park.

An updated legal agreement, interim action plan, and environmental review are available for public comment.

To request a public meeting, please contact carolyn.subramaniam@ecy.wa.gov. Ecology will hold a meeting if 10 or more people request it.

ADA Accessibility: To request an ADA accommodation, call (564)-250-0563, email carolyn.subramaniam@ecy.wa.gov, or dial 711 to call through the Washington Telecommunications Relay for services like text telephone (TTY).

Visit ecology.wa.gov/ADA for more accessibility information.

Language Services: We offer translation and interpretation services at no cost. To request them, email carolyn.subramaniam@ecy.wa.gov or call 564-250-0563. If you call, ask for an interpreter to be connected with one.