Tribal Engagement Plan
Dawn Food Products

6901 Fox Ave S, Seattle, WA 98108
Facility Site ID: 3505, Cleanup Site ID: 16678

Toxics Cleanup Program, Northwest Region

Washington State Department of Ecology
Shoreline, Washington

July 2026

Document Information

This document is available on the Department of Ecology's Dawn Food Products cleanup site page.[1]

Related Information

- Facility Site ID: 3505
- Cleanup Site ID: 16678

Contact Information

Toxics Cleanup Program

Northwest Region Office
David Unruh, Cleanup Project Manager
PO Box 330316
Shoreline, WA 98133
Email: david.unruh@ecy.wa.gov
Phone: 206-459-6287

Website: Washington State Department of Ecology[2]

ADA Accessibility

The Department of Ecology is committed to providing people with disabilities access to information and services by meeting or exceeding the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 and 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, and Washington State Policy #188.

To request an ADA accommodation, contact the Ecology ADA Coordinator by phone at 360-407-6831 or email at ecyadacoordinator@ecy.wa.gov. For Washington Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341. Visit Ecology's website[3] for more information.

[1] https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/site/16678
[2] https://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/Who-we-are/Our-Programs/Toxics-Cleanup
[3] https://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/Accountability-transparency/Our-website/Accessibility

Tribal engagement in contamination cleanup

The purpose of this Tribal Engagement Plan is for the Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) to invite affected Tribes as sovereign nations to learn about and consider their rights and interests for Ecology-conducted and Ecology-supervised cleanup sites.

Ecology's goal is to provide timely information, effective communication, continuous opportunities for collaboration, and when necessary, government-to-government consultation, as appropriate for each cleanup site.

Site information

Dawn Food Products
6901 Fox Ave S
Seattle, WA 98108

This is an Ecology-supervised cleanup site.

Facility Site ID: 3505, Cleanup Site ID: 16678

Ecology's Dawn Food Products cleanup site page[4]

Tribes

Ecology identified the following Tribes as potentially affected by site contamination and cleanup.

Muckleshoot Indian Tribe

Talise Rey, Habitat Program Assistant Director (talise.rey@muckleshoot.nsn.us)

Kelsey van der Elst, Fisheries Division (kelsey.vanderelst@muckleshoot.nsn.us)

Eric Warner (eric.warner@muckleshoot.nsn.us)

Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians

Jody Brown, Water Resources Program Manager (jbrown@stillaguamish.com)

Rainer Luhrs, Natural Resources Technician Specialist 2 (rluhrs@stillaguamish.com)

CC: Sara Thitipraserth, Natural Resources Director (sthitipra@stillaguamish.com)

[4] https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/site/16678

Squaxin Island Tribe

Leila Whitener, Brownsfield Coordinator (lwhitener@squaxin.us)

CC: Scott Steltzner, Environmental Manager (ssteltzner@squaxin.us)

Suquamish Tribe

Alison O'Sullivan, Ecosystem Recovery Program Manager (aosullivan@suquamish.nsn.us)

Denice Taylor, Senior Biologist (dtaylor@suquamish.nsn.us)

Shawn Blocker, Superfund Sites Project Manager (sblocker@suquamish.nsn.us)

Tulalip Tribes

Kurt Nelson, Environmental Department Director (knelson@tulalip-tribes-nsn.gov)

Todd Gray, Environmental Protection Ecologist (toddgray@tulalip-tribes-nsn.gov)

Todd Zackey, Nearshore Program Manager (tzackey@tulalip-tribes-nsn.gov)

CC: Jason Gobin, Executive Director of NCR (jasongobin@tulalip-tribes-nsn.gov)

Aaron Jones, NCR Director (aaronjones@tulalip-tribes-nsn.gov)

Tribal Engagement Process

This Tribal Engagement Plan proposes actions Ecology will take to provide timely and relevant information and offer meaningful engagement opportunities to Tribes during investigation and cleanup of Ecology-conducted and Ecology-supervised contaminated sites.

Tribal Engagement for this site is separate from and in addition to public involvement. Tribes and indigenous peoples are welcome to also participate in Ecology's public involvement process. Ecology's Public Participation Plan[5] for the site has more information about that process.

Ecology invites each Tribe to share their perspective on what constitutes meaningful engagement for this site, enabling Ecology to develop a more effective process.

[5] If a public participation plan exists for this site , then in can be found in the 'Documents' section of the site webpage. If there is no Public Participation Plan listed on the site's webpage, then it has not yet been prepared. https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/document/124917

Ecology's Tribal Engagement Responsibilities under the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA)

Ecology will initiate engagement with affected Tribes before a remedial investigation or an interim action at a site, or as early in the investigation and cleanup process as possible.

Ecology will seek to maintain meaningful engagement with Tribes throughout the cleanup process.

This Tribal Engagement Plan is publicly available on the cleanup site page.[6]

[6] https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/site/16678

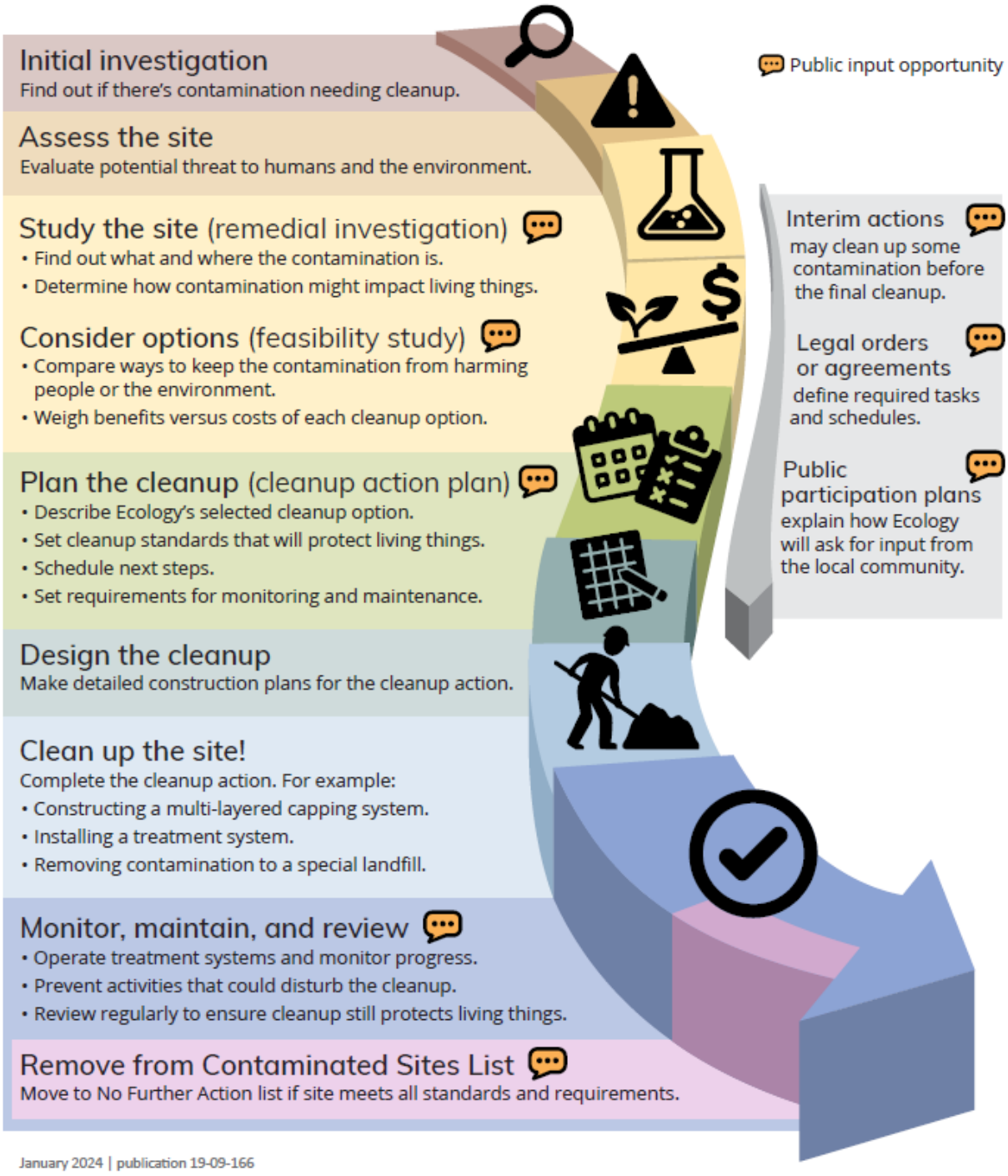

Figure 1. Washington's Cleanup Process under the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA)[7]

[7] https://ecology.wa.gov/spills-cleanup/contamination-cleanup/cleanup-process

Ecology's Tribal Engagement Plan proposed actions:

- Invite potentially affected Tribes as early as possible in the cleanup process to share and discuss information about the site and to understand the Tribes' concerns.
- Provide a copy of the Tribal Engagement Plan to potentially affected Tribes for review and comment.
- Tribes, at any time, may propose any changes to this Tribal Engagement Plan.
- Provide early notifications and opportunities for collaboration and input at specific points in the cleanup process, including Remedial Investigation Work Plans (see Table 1).
- Communicate project timelines, review timeframes, and comment period deadlines[8].
- Provide Tribes with at least as much time to provide input as provided to the public in each stage in the process. When possible, more time will be provided (30 extra days).
- Meet with interested Tribes on a regular basis for updates based on the location of this Site within the Lower Duwamish Waterway source control area.
- Notify potentially affected Tribes when Ecology identifies a potentially liable person under WAC 173-340-500.
- Meet with Tribes upon request.
- Keep effective communication open throughout the cleanup process, including communicating project timelines, reviewing timeframes, and comment period deadlines.
- If long-term monitoring is required for the cleanup, learn from the Tribes what level of engagement is preferred during monitoring.
- Meet annually or as requested with Tribes to make adjustments to the engagement process as needed.
- If a Tribe requests government-to-government consultation, engage Ecology leadership and facilitate that process.

[8] Ecology aims to finalize documents shortly after close of comment periods.

Table 1: Ecology documents and cleanup actions where Tribes will be invited to review and comment.

	Document or Action
	Interim action plans
	Legal Orders or Agreements • Consent decrees & amendments • Agreed orders & amendments • Enforcement orders & amendments
	Remedial investigation work plans
	Remedial investigation reports
	Feasibility study reports
	Cleanup action plans (CAPs) *(which may or may not include institutional controls*[9]*)*
	Engineering design reports
	Implementation plans substantially changing cleanup action plans
	Periodic review reports
	Amendment of institutional controls
	Removal of institutional controls
	Removal of sites from contaminated sites list

[9] Institutional controls are legal and administrative tools that help protect people from exposure to contaminants. Examples include prohibiting use of groundwater for drinking, requiring maintenance of a barrier to prevent exposure, and zoning and property use restrictions among others.

Other Tribal engagement opportunities

In addition to engagement through MTCA, Ecology will also contact Tribes for the following purposes when relevant to the cleanup.

- Cleanup activities, especially those that disturb the ground, can affect or reveal cultural resources that may need to be assessed for protection or preservation, called a Cultural Resource Review.[10]
- Identifying and analyzing environmental impacts associated with governmental decisions as required by the State Environmental Policy Act[11] (SEPA) and associated SEPA rules.[12]
- Implementing Washington's Environmental Justice Law (HEAL Act).[13]

[10] https://ecology.wa.gov/about-us/payments-contracts-grants/grants-loans/find-a-grant-or-loan/area-wide-groundwater-investigation-grants/cultural-resources-review
[11] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review
[12] https://apps.leg.wa.gov/wac/default.aspx?cite=197-11
[13] https://ecology.wa.gov/about-us/who-we-are/environmental-justice/heal