



Spokane River Metals Barker Road South Site

Comments Sought on Construction, SEPA, and Substantive Requirements Documents

Fence to Protect Public

The Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) proposes to build a fence around the Barker Road South site near the Centennial Trail. The fence will prevent access to contaminated soil at the bottom of the ravine along the river bank in this area. The site is located immediately south and east of the Barker Road Bridge in Spokane Valley, Washington (Figure 1).



Looking from the river south up the ravine.



Looking east from near the Barker Road Bridge (ravine on right)

Why Cleanup is Necessary

Contaminants known as heavy metals washed downstream from the Idaho Coeur d'Alene Basin. These heavy metals come from historic mining practices in Idaho and include lead, arsenic, zinc, and cadmium. These

contaminants settled in soil and sediments at certain shoreline areas along the Spokane River.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conducted a study of mining contaminants in the Coeur d'Alene Basin. As part of the study, and additional testing by the Washington State Department of Ecology, nine shoreline areas in Washington state were identified for cleanup (Figure 2). Ecology and EPA cleaned up Starr Road in 2006. Ecology completed cleanup at Island Complex and Murray Road in 2007, and the Harvard Road North site in 2008.

The Barker Road South project is being conducted for the following reasons:

- Contamination levels exceed state standards.
- The new fence limits access and prevents contact with contaminated sediments at the bottom of the ravine along the river banks.

Ecology Invites Your Comments

You may review and comment on documents associated with the Barker Road South project August 10, through September 9, 2009. The box at the right

Fact Sheet August 2009
Toxics Cleanup Program

Comments Accepted
August 10 through Sept. 9, 2009

Para asistencia en Español:
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Если вам нужно помощь по русскому, звоните:
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Document Review Locations
WA Department of Ecology
4601 N. Monroe, Spokane, WA 99205
Kari Johnson 509/329-3415

Argonne County Library
4322 N. Argonne, Spokane, WA 99206
509/893-8260

Spokane Valley Library
12004 E. Main,
Spokane Valley, WA 99216
509/893-8400

Spokane Public Library
906 W. Main, Spokane, WA 99201
509/444-5300

Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Website: http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/barkerRdS/barkerRdS_hp.html

Comments and Technical Questions
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Facility Site ID No. 615198
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provides locations for reviewing documents and submitting comments.

Documents available for review include:

- Draft Construction Specifications and Design Drawings.
- State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Checklist and Determination of Non-Significance (DNS).
- Substantive Permit Requirements.

The State Environmental Policy Act, known as SEPA, requires government agencies to consider potential environmental impacts of a project before beginning the cleanup. A Determination of Non-Significance indicates the proposed actions will not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment.

- After review of an environmental checklist and other site-specific information, Ecology determined that building the fence at the site will not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment.
- This action will benefit the environment by limiting access and reducing exposure pathways to contamination in beach sediments.
- Therefore, Ecology has issued a Determination of Non-Significance (DNS).

Proposed Construction

A staging area will be created in a small parking lot south and east of the Barker Road Bridge. Construction materials and equipment will be housed in this area during the project. A fence will be built adjacent to the Centennial Trail around the perimeter of the ravine. The fence will prevent direct contact with contaminated sediments along the river bank.



Looking toward the perimeter of the ravine where the fence will be built.

What Happens Next

Ecology will respond to questions or comments submitted by the public. Ecology may modify the proposed work, if appropriate. Construction is expected to be completed by fall, 2009.

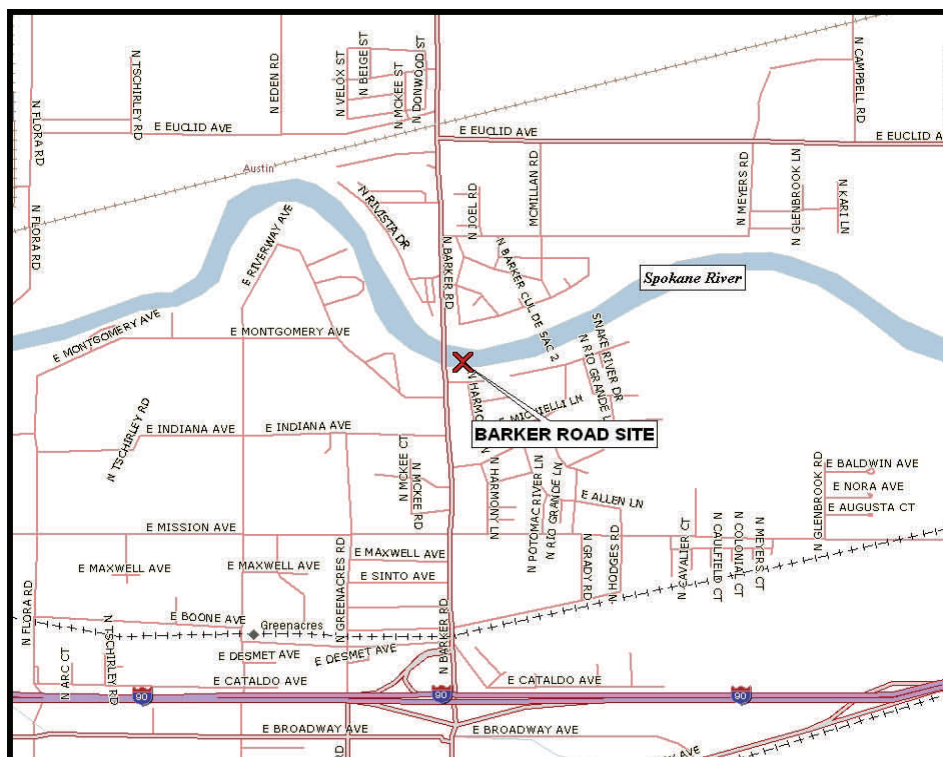


Figure 1

Spokane River Metals Sites

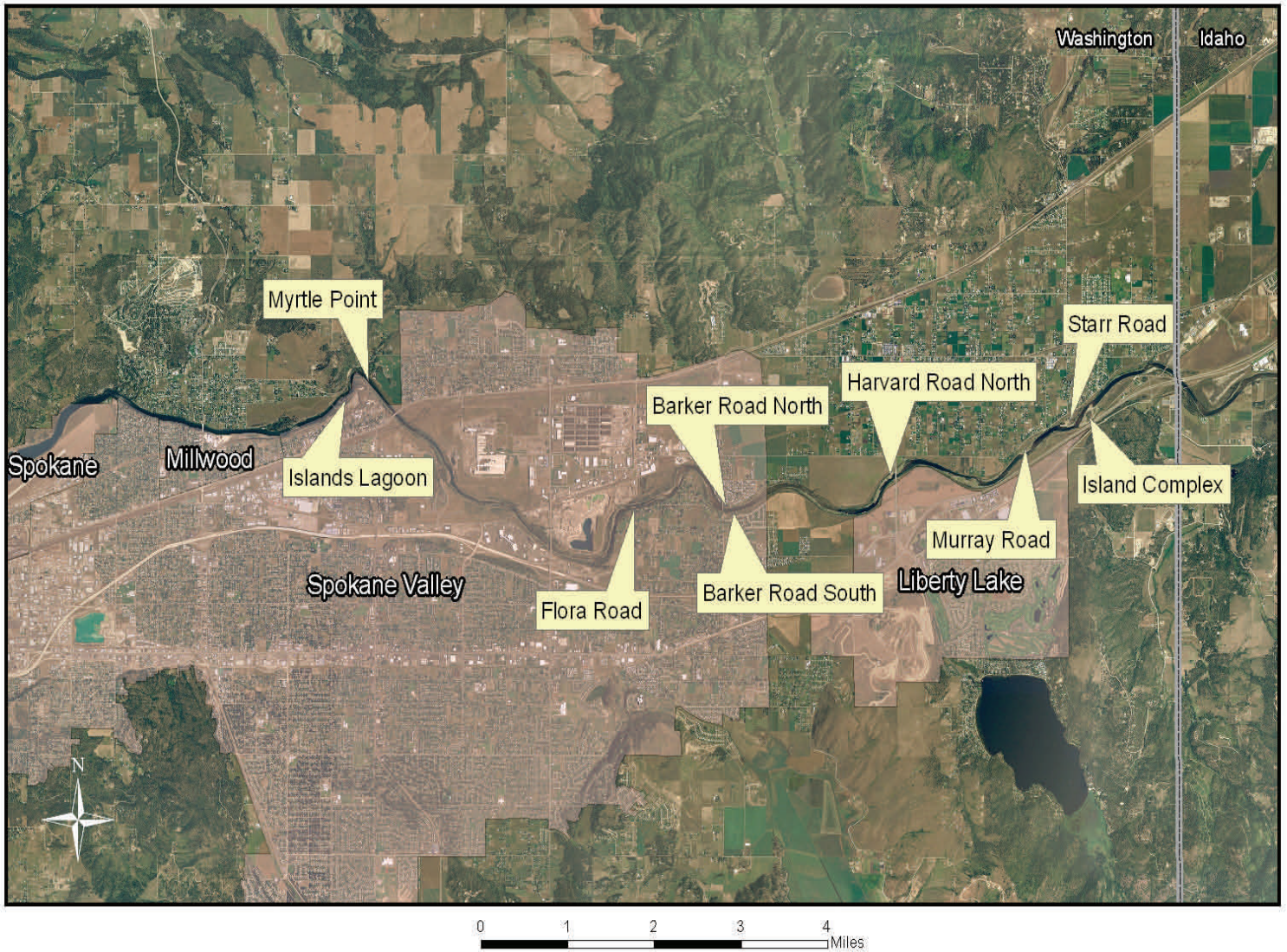


Figure 2

Spokane River Metals Sites

Work Completed

- 2006 Starr Road (WA Department of Ecology and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency)
- 2007 Murray Road (WA Department of Ecology)
- 2007 Island Complex (WA Department of Ecology)
- 2008 Harvard Road North (WA Department of Ecology)

Work Pending

- 2009 Barker Road South (WA Department of Ecology)
- 2009 Flora Road (WA Department of Ecology)
- Barker Road North
- Myrtle Point
- Islands Lagoon