



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

Everett Smelter Cleanup Site Everett, WA

Washington State Department of Ecology
Northwest Regional Office
Toxics Cleanup Program
3190 160th Avenue SE
Bellevue, Washington 98008

August 2016

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1 Introduction

The Asarco smelter, which operated in Everett in the early 1900s, caused widespread arsenic and lead contamination in northeast Everett. In addition to contamination left behind on the old smelter property, particles from the stacks settled on the surrounding areas, contaminating soil. This plan describes public involvement activities Ecology will conduct during the cleanup. It will be updated as needed.

The Washington Department of Ecology managed the cleanup of the most highly contaminated properties from 1999-2007. In 2009, Ecology received funding through a bankruptcy settlement with Asarco to continue with cleanup efforts. Ecology has developed a cleanup plan for the rest of the contaminated properties impacted by the former smelter. Ecology divided the cleanup site into two areas, an Upland Area and a Lowland Area (Figure 1 on page 8). The two areas are on two different cleanup schedules.

This year, Ecology plans to sample approximately 50 properties in the Upland Area.

Uplands Work Completed	
Sampled	309 acres
Cleaned up	277 acres
Remaining Uplands Cleanup Area	227 acres (384 residential properties)
Lowlands Work Completed	
Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study	Finalized February 2016
Draft Cleanup Action Plan	Comment period August 2016

2 Site Background

The Everett Smelter, built by Puget Sound Reduction Company, operated from 1894 to 1912. ASARCO Incorporated (Asarco) purchased the property in 1903 and operated the smelter until 1912 when it was demolished. By 1936, the property had been sold off completely in various parcels. Homes were built on many of the parcels. The highway interchange between East Marine View Drive and State Route 529 was built across the old smelter site in the 1950s.

Ecology discovered the contamination in 1990. A local company notified Ecology when they found elevated concentrations of arsenic and lead in the soil and groundwater during an environmental assessment of their property. Ecology conducted additional investigations of the surrounding area, and found that soil at the Site was contaminated with arsenic, lead, cadmium and other metals.

Ecology began working with Asarco in 1990 to investigate and clean up the site. A Cleanup Action Plan for the Upland Area was finalized in 1999 after extensive discussions with the Everett community. The Upland Area includes about 600 residential properties. Ecology and the Everett Housing Authority cleaned up the most contaminated properties within and immediately around the historic smelter boundary. The cleanup was stopped in 2007 due to lack of funding.

In 2005, Asarco declared bankruptcy. Ecology filed a claim in bankruptcy court for Asarco’s environmental liability at the Everett Smelter site and other sites in Washington State. In December 2009, Ecology received a bankruptcy settlement of \$188 million from Grupo Mexico, a large Mexican mining company that brought

Asarco out of bankruptcy. \$44 million of this settlement was set aside for the Everett Smelter site cleanup. \$10 million of this was used to repay past costs on the site.

Ecology developed a ten-year plan to clean up properties within the two areas of the Everett Smelter site. Ecology is cleaning up the Upland Area by removing contaminated soil that is accessible to people (not under pavement or buildings). The contaminated soil that is removed is then replaced with clean soil, and the landscaping is restored.

The Lowland area of the site is being cleaned up on a separate schedule, and is also funded through the bankruptcy settlement. The Legion Memorial Golf Course was cleaned up through the Voluntary Cleanup Program and is not funded through the bankruptcy settlement.

In 2015, Ecology cleaned up one of three city parks in the upland cleanup area, American Legion Memorial Park. This work was completed with a special legislative appropriation. Ecology has requested additional funding from the legislature to cleanup the other two parks in the cleanup area, Wiggums Hollow Park and Viola Oursler Park .

3 Public Involvement Activities

Ecology will use a variety of methods to keep community residents and stakeholders informed and involved in the Everett Smelter cleanup project. We will continue to try to find new ways to share project information and expand our audience. This plan will be edited and updated as appropriate. Public involvement activities include the following:

Public Meetings and Hearings

Ecology will hold public meetings at key points in the cleanup process. Each biennium, Ecology will host one community meeting to report on cleanup work that was completed over the previous years and what is planned for the next. In addition, Ecology will also hold smaller meetings for the groups of property owners whose properties are scheduled for cleanup that year. These meetings will be held before the cleanup begins to orient owners to the process and introduce key staff that will be working on cleanup. Meetings will be held at locations convenient to the community. If 10 or more people request an additional public meeting, one will be scheduled. Otherwise, meetings will be scheduled as needed.

Information Repositories

Information repositories are places where the public may read and review site information.

The Repositories Ecology will use for this cleanup site are:

- Everett Public Library, 2702 Hoyt Avenue, Everett, WA 98201. Phone (425) 257-8010.
- Washington State Department of Ecology, Northwest Regional Office, 3190 160th Avenue SE, Bellevue, WA 98008. Please call (425) 649-7190 for an appointment.
- Ecology's Web Site:

http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites_brochure/asarco/es_main.html

Site Register

Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Program uses its bimonthly *Site Register* to announce all of its public meetings and comment periods, as well as many other activities. To receive the *Site Register* in electronic or hard copy format, contact Erika Bronson (509) 329-3546 or email her at Erika.Bronson@ecy.wa.gov. It is also available on Ecology's website:

http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/pub_inv/pub_inv2.html .

Mailing List

Ecology has compiled a mailing list for the site. The list includes individuals, groups, public agencies, elected officials, private businesses, and other known interested parties. The list will be maintained at Ecology's Northwest Regional Office and will be updated as needed. Please contact our project hotline (425) 446-1024 to have your address added to or deleted from this mailing list.

Fact Sheets

Ecology will mail fact sheets to inform the community and other interested parties of public meetings and important site activities, including project milestones and status updates.

Brochures and Posters

Ecology has developed brochures and posters that contain information about potential health risks associated with smelter contamination. These materials are free to the community and can be requested by phone (425) 446-1024 or email at brad.petrovich@ecy.wa.gov.

Local Information Line

Questions or concerns about the project can be directed to the local information line at (425) 446-1024. This line is a local number and calls are free of charge to Everett residents. An Ecology staff member will respond to your call within 24 hours. This line will be checked on weekends.

Office Hours

During the cleanup each year Ecology staff is on site in Everett. Staff will be available to share schedule information and answer questions. Ecology is available during business hours to answer questions.

Home Visits

Ecology staff will meet with property owners during the year their property is scheduled for cleanup. This will typically happen each fall. Ecology's contractor will call property owners to set up an appointment with Ecology staff. During these meetings, Ecology will go over the sampling results and the cleanup options for each property.

Site signage

Large signs displaying information about construction status, traffic impacts and health risks will be installed near construction areas. These signs contain inserts which will be updated as needed (weekly or bi-weekly during construction season).

Community Group Meeting Presentations

Ecology staff will present information about the smelter cleanup when requested by the Everett neighborhood associations. Residents can request an Ecology presentation for their neighborhood association or other community groups by calling our project hotline at (425) 446-1024.

Ecology Website and Blog

Ecology will maintain a website with site information at http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites_brochure/asarco/es_main.html. This site will be updated regularly and will hold information available for comments and other relevant documents and information.

In addition, Ecology will post blogs on a regular basis with information about the cleanup. Blogs pertaining to the Everett Smelter cleanup can be found at <http://ecologywa.blogspot.com/search/label/Everett%20smelter>.

Newspaper Display Ads

Ecology may place ads in the Everett Herald to announce public meetings and other events related to the smelter cleanup.

Plan Update

This public participation plan may be updated as the project proceeds. If an update is necessary, and constitutes a substantial change in the plan, it will be announced via site register and the website.

Public Participation Grants

As part of the Model Toxics Control Act, Ecology developed a public participation grant program to promote public participation during cleanups. Public Participation Grants provide funding to community groups that help involve the public in the cleanup process. The grants also help develop programs that promote the state's solid or hazardous waste management priorities.

Non-profit groups or groups of three or more unrelated individuals can apply for grants to fund efforts for the community that is impacted by cleanup activities. Grant funds may be used to pay for technical experts who help people understand cleanup issues. They can also be used to hold meetings, workshops and other events. In addition, printing and distribution of reports, brochures and other materials may be covered.

For more information about this grant program, visit <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/swfa/grants/ppg.html>

4 Points of Contact

If you have questions or need more information about this plan or the cleanup project, please contact;

General project information or public involvement:

Sandra Matthews, Project Manager
Washington State Department of Ecology
Northwest Regional Office
3190 160th Avenue SE, Bellevue, WA 98008
Phone: (425) 649-7206
Email: Sandra.Matthews@ecy.wa.gov

Technical or construction questions:

Katie Kulha, Uplands Site Manager
Washington State Department of Ecology
Northwest Regional Office
Phone: (425) 649 - 7287
Email: Katie.Kulha@ecy.wa.gov

Sandra Matthews, Lowlands Site Manager
Washington State Department of Ecology
Northwest Regional Office
Phone: (425) 649 - 7206
Email: Sandra.Matthews@ecy.wa.gov

Health concerns:

Jim White, Toxicologist
Washington State Department of Ecology
Headquarters Office
Phone: (360) 407-7324
Email: jawh461@ecy.wa.gov

Washington Department of Health
Toll free 1-877-485-7316

Mike Young, Senior Environmental Health Specialist
Solid and Toxic Waste Program
Environmental Health Division
Snohomish Health District
3020 Rucker Ave., Everett, WA 98201
Phone: (425) 339.5250
Email: myoung@shd.snohomish.wa.gov

Figure 1. Everett Smelter Cleanup Site Boundary

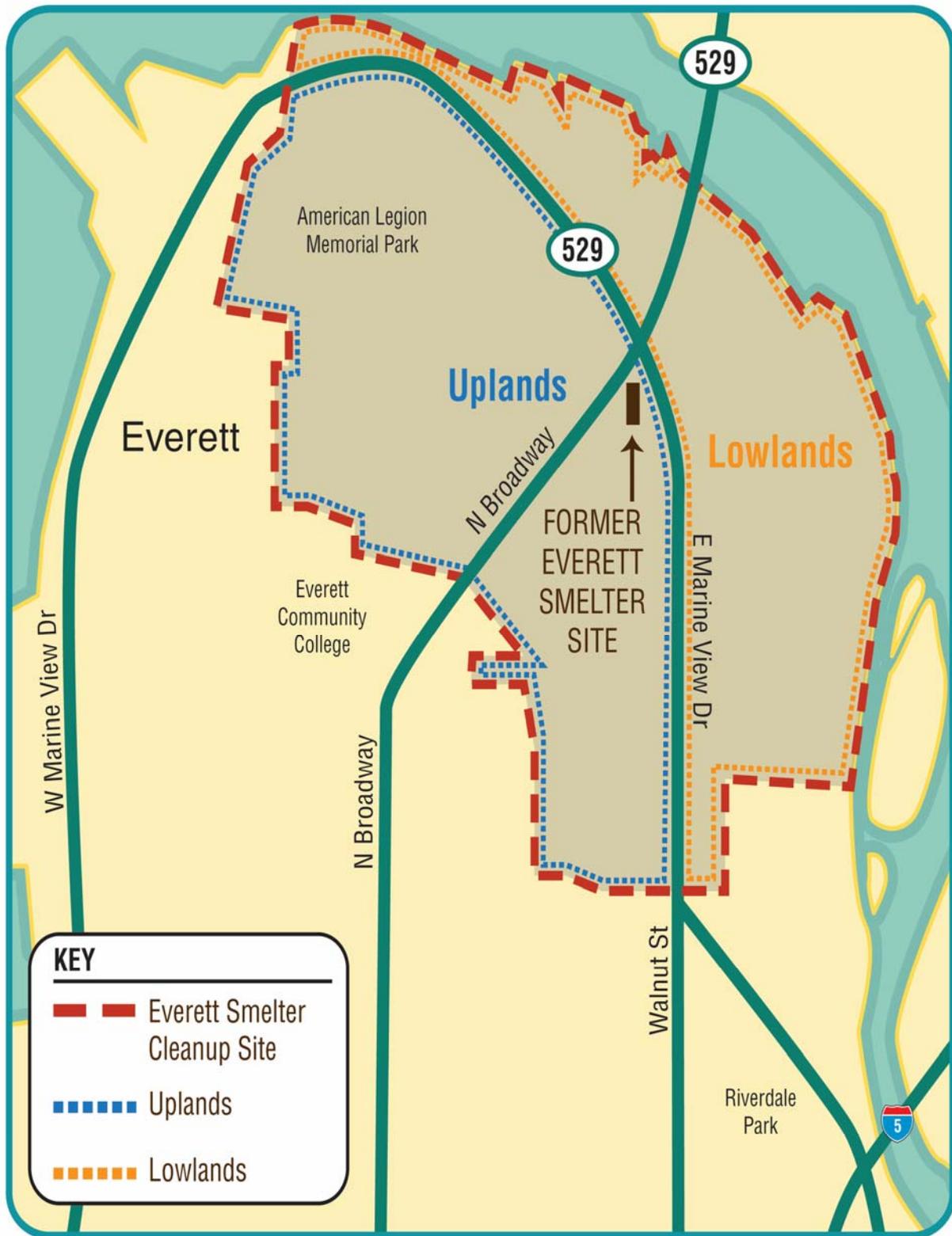
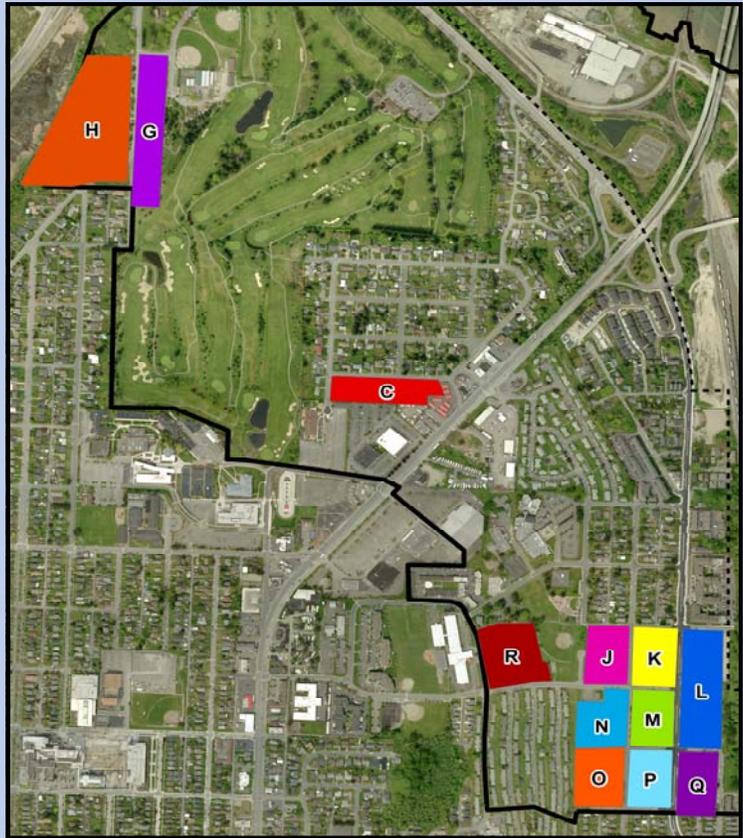


Figure 2. Planned sampling scheduled.

Uplands Cleanup Area

Twelve groupings of properties remain to be sampled. The number of parcels per group varies.

62 parcels are scheduled for sampling in 2016.



Lowlands Cleanup Area

Summer 2016

Make draft Cleanup Action Plan (CAP) available for public comment.

Fall 2016

Make draft CAP available for public comment.

Spring 2017- Summer 2017

Complete an Engineering Design Report.

