



# **Final Public Participation Plan: Interim Action for Cleanup of the Levee Zone - February 2006 to December 2006**

## **BNSF Skykomish Site (Former Fueling and Maintenance Facility) Skykomish, Washington**

**Prepared by:**

**Washington State Department of Ecology**

**With BNSF Railway Company,  
Skykomish Environmental Coalition, and  
The Town of Skykomish**

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# Public Participation Plan: Interim Action for Cleanup of the Levee Zone - February 2006 to December 2006

## 1. Introduction

### Overview

The former railway maintenance and fueling facility in the east King County town of Skykomish is owned and operated by the BNSF Railway Company (BNSF). Historical activities since the facility opened in the late 1890s included refueling and maintaining locomotives and operating an electrical substation for electric engines. These activities resulted in the release of petroleum and heavy metals to the surrounding environment. BNSF is conducting a cleanup of the contamination at the site under the oversight of Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology).

During the spring of 2006, BNSF and Ecology will work together to finalize cleanup plans for the Levee Zone, which includes the levee, river sediments, and nearby upland areas. A number of documents detailing the plans will be submitted for public comment in March 2006. After public comment the documents will be finalized and cleanup will take place during the summer of 2006. Concurrent with finalizing cleanup for the Levee Zone as an Interim Action, Ecology and BNSF are preparing documents for cleanup of the site as a whole. Public comment on the overall site cleanup plans is scheduled for fall of 2006.

This public participation plan covers the activities that Ecology, BNSF, the Skykomish Environmental Council (SEC), and the Town of Skykomish (Town) will use to engage the Skykomish community during planning and construction phases of the Levee Zone cleanup. It describes the ways community members can stay informed about cleanup activities and details options for residents who will be impacted directly and indirectly by relocation activities. Ecology has developed this plan with BNSF, the SEC and the Town. The SEC is engaged with the cleanup through a public participation grant from Ecology. The Town is working with both BNSF and Ecology to participate in the decision-making process for cleanup and to ensure that whenever possible that its vision is implemented through cleanup as described in Vision 2010.

This public participation plan is intended to be a guiding document for the participants. It describes activities that will take place during planning and construction of the Levee Zone cleanup, from February 2006 through December 2006.

## **Roles and responsibilities**

Public participation activities for the cleanup are coordinated among Ecology, BNSF, SEC, and the Town. In general, each participant has a unique mission and role. Ecology provides regulatory oversight and conducts public involvement activities. BNSF pays for and conducts the cleanup and public involvement activities. SEC is funded by a public participation grant from Ecology to educate the community so that people can comment effectively on cleanup plans during the public comment periods. The Town provides regulatory oversight and participates in cleanup planning and decisions with technical review of design plans and in incorporating the Town's vision into cleanup.

## **Goals**

Even though the participants to this plan have differing roles and responsibilities, they hold some common goals.

- Provide information and engage in dialogue for the purpose of educating people so that they can contribute to the cleanup decisions in a meaningful and timely way.
- Receive comments on cleanup issues and respond to the needs and concerns of the affected community as related to the cleanup.
- Facilitate communication among participants to this plan and coordination of activities under this plan.
- Respond quickly to public concerns during construction activities.

## **Audience**

Following is a list of the groups of people considered in the preparation of this plan. This plan focuses on the people who are most affected by the outcome of cleanup decisions. Information regarding the cleanup is provided to the broader public through the same mailings and media releases intended for the following groups.

- Property owners of land to be cleaned up
- Residents to be relocated
- Other landowners, residents and businesses in the cleanup area
- Skykomish businesses
- Skykomish School
- Skykomish community not directly affected by cleanup activities
- County, state and federal agencies
- Civic groups
- Visitors and tourists

## **Organization of the plan**

This plan provides the required activities for the formal public comment period for this Interim Action, an overview of the status of the cleanup and a general process and timeline for the remainder of the cleanup planning process and construction. Roles, responsibilities, and goals of the participants are summarized.

The participants to this plan are committed to an open dialogue with the community to ensure that interested people can receive information and provide opinions while cleanup decisions are being made, and that the community is kept informed of upcoming activities and milestones during construction. This plan identifies ways in which that dialogue can take place. This plan describes activities and tools to reach the goals listed above, during different phases of the project. This plan provides a schedule of the planned activities from February 2006 through December 2006.

## **Contacts**

Participants to this plan are available to talk with community members regarding activities they are conducting.

- **Ecology**  
Louise Bardy, 425-649-7209 or Susan Lee, 425-649-4486
- **BNSF Railway Company**  
Bruce Sheppard, 206-625-6035 or Angie Thomson, EnviroIssues, 206-269-5041
- **Skykomish Environmental Coalition (SEC)**  
Michael Moore, 360-677-2410
- **Town of Skykomish**  
Chris Yates, 360-677-2388

## 2. Public Comment Requirements

The law that governs cleanups, the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) Chapter 173-340-600 WAC, details the requirements for public review and comment of documents at specific steps in the cleanup process.

This cleanup action for the Levee Zone in an Interim Action conducted under an Agreed Order with BNSF Railway Company. This action is intended to be the final cleanup action for this portion of the site.

### Public Comment Period

A 30-day public comment period is required at specific times and for specific documents in the cleanup process before final decisions are made. This Agreed Order for an Interim Action for the Levee Zone has public comment from **March 3 through April 3, 2006**.

Comments are accepted in writing any time during the public comment period and orally at a public meeting.

- **Documents for review**

The following documents guide this Interim Action and are available for public comment.

- Agreed Order
- Engineering Design Report
- NPDES Permit
- Public Participation Plan
- Environmental Impact Statement

- **Information repositories**

These documents may be found in the information repositories for the site at:

- Department of Ecology, Northwest Regional Office, 3190 160<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE, Bellevue, WA 98008, 425-649-7190 (Please call for an appointment)
- Skykomish Library, 100 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Skykomish, 360-677-2660
- Ecology's website at  
[www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/bnsf\\_sky/bnsf\\_sky.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/bnsf_sky/bnsf_sky.html)

- **Public Notice**

- **Fact sheet**

A fact sheet is mailed to persons and organizations interested in the cleanup of this site. The fact sheet will inform people of the cleanup action being considered, the public comment opportunities, and the public meeting. The fact sheet will be mailed within a week of the beginning of the public comment period.

- **Mailing list**

A mailing list of about 500 addressees has been compiled for this site. The list includes individuals, groups, public agencies, elected officials, private businesses, potentially affected parties, and other known interested parties. The list is maintained at Ecology's Northwest Regional Office and will be updated as needed.

Please contact **Susan Lee at 425-649-4486 or [slee461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:slee461@ecy.wa.gov)** if you would like to have your address added to or deleted from the mailing list.

- **Newspaper Display ads**

Newspaper display ads are placed in the newspapers of largest circulation in the site area at the beginning of the comment period to announce the public comment opportunities for proposed cleanup actions. Newspaper display ads for this cleanup action will be placed in:

- The Seattle Times
- The Everett Herald
- The Monroe Monitor

- **Site Register**

Ecology's also uses its Toxics Cleanup Program *Site Register* to provide information about cleanup efforts to the wider public. The *Site Register* is published every two weeks to inform people of public meetings and comment periods, discussions or negotiations of legal agreements, and other cleanup activities.

A notice regarding this action will be published in the *Site Register* closest to the beginning of the comment period.

The *Site Register* is available on the Internet at:  
[www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/pub\\_inv/pub\\_inv2.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/pub_inv/pub_inv2.html)

- **Website**

Ecology maintains a website for the BNSF Skykomish Cleanup Site. Documents for this proposed action, historical information, and site updates are available at:  
[www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/bnsf\\_sky/bnsf\\_sky.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/bnsf_sky/bnsf_sky.html).

- **Media release**

Ecology will send a release to major media in the site area at the beginning of the comment period. The release and follow-up with media are coordinated by the Public Information Officer in the Ecology's Northwest Regional Office, Larry Altose.

- **Public Meeting**

A public meeting to talk about the cleanup plans and to listen to oral comments will be:

**Tuesday, March 14, 2006  
6:00 pm  
Skykomish Community Center  
208 Railroad Avenue, Skykomish**

- **Availability Meeting**

Ecology will host an availability meeting toward the end of the comment period to receive written comments and to answer questions about the plans for the Interim Action as people finalize their comments.

**Saturday, April 1, 2006  
10:00 am to 1:00 pm  
Skykomish Community Center  
208 Railroad Avenue, Skykomish**

- **SEC Meeting**

The SEC will have a meeting with the community during the public comment period. Their consultant, Daryl Petrarca, will present his review of the cleanup plans and answer questions to prepare the community for submitting comments to Ecology.

**Wednesday, March 22, 2006  
7:00 pm  
Skykomish Community Center  
208 Railroad Avenue, Skykomish**

## **Response to comments**

After this formal comment period has concluded, all comments received will be reviewed and incorporated into the documents where appropriate and possible. A Responsiveness Summary may be prepared to track how the comments were incorporated.



### 3. Pre-Construction Planning

Throughout the construction planning process, BNSF and Ecology will engage the community to provide information about construction plans, staging, mitigation measures, timelines, and other activities.

#### Activities

During construction planning, the following activities will occur:

- **Community meetings**  
Ecology and BNSF will host community meetings to discuss key issues and critical decision points in construction planning. These meetings will help the community anticipate future construction impacts, as well as provide input on construction planning decisions.
- **Access coordination**  
During construction planning, periodic access to private property will be required to complete sampling work, surveying, or other planning activities. Residents will be contacted prior to such work and their verbal approval to access the site will be requested. The nature of the work and the approximate times the site will be accessed will be described to them.

#### Tools

- **Newsletter**  
Ecology and BNSF will develop a newsletter to distribute to the community during construction planning. This newsletter will inform residents and interested stakeholders of cleanup plans and progress, answer residents' questions and announce upcoming community meetings or activities. This newsletter will be published monthly during the pre-construction phase.
- **Update letters**  
Ecology will continue periodic direct communication by letter to the Skykomish community and other interested parties and agencies with updates on the progress of cleanup.
- **Posted notices**  
Notices will be posted in Skykomish for visitors, tourists and residents who do not receive mail. These notices will include invitations to meetings, updates on cleanup activities and planning, notification of sampling activities, and other items of interest to the general community. Notices will be posted at the Skykomish

Community Center bulletin board, library, post office, Town Hall, and the bulletin boards next to the Whistling Post Tavern and inside the Cascadia Hotel.

- **Media releases**

Media releases may be issued to newspapers and radio and TV stations in King and Snohomish counties as necessary to inform the general public regarding the progress of cleanup.

## 4. Relocation of Residents

Several residents are being asked to relocate during cleanup of the Levee Zone. These residents will be placed into alternate housing while their house is temporarily relocated. BNSF and Ecology will work with residents throughout the relocation planning to ensure a fair and equitable process. A variety of activities and tools will be used to inform property owners of their choices regarding relocation, as well as ensure a smooth transition whenever possible.

Ecology and BNSF will also work with property owners neighboring the construction site to address their concerns about construction impacts.

### Activities

BNSF and Ecology will meet individually with property owners as well as with groups of residents to address relocation issues. The process for relocation planning includes:

- **Informal property owner visits**  
BNSF and Ecology will meet individually with property owners to provide a general explanation of the relocation process. This meeting will also help BNSF and Ecology to understand each resident's unique situation and concerns regarding relocation.
- **Small group relocation meeting**  
Relocated residents will be invited to a public meeting where BNSF and Ecology provide information on the guidelines for relocation. The meeting will also provide information about relocation options, where available, including location and housing options.
- **Meeting with contractor**  
Residents will be provided the opportunity to meet with the house-moving contractor to discuss their concerns prior to relocation.
- **Individual property owner meetings**  
BNSF and Ecology will meet with residents to develop individual agreements for relocation within the established guidelines. The agreements will contain details regarding the following:
  - Individual arrangements for alternative housing.
  - Moving of personal property by professional movers.
  - Transportation of personal property to temporary housing.
  - Storage of remaining personal property in a secure location.
  - Provisions for security of relocated residences.
  - Replacement of residence on existing footprint.
  - Return of personal property to residence.
  - Restoration of existing landscaping wherever possible.

- Rebuilding of outbuildings, driveways, patios, etc. to pre-relocation condition.

Residents who wish to have different arrangements regarding relocation may discuss options with BNSF.

## Tools

A number of tools will be used to ensure effective communication between BNSF, Ecology and relocated residents.

- **Access agreements**  
Residents will sign an access agreement to their property that will include: access for cleanup and monitoring following cleanup, relocation agreements for house and residents, and restoration agreements for the property.
- **Resident check-ins**  
Ecology and BNSF will establish regular communications with residents during relocation to provide updates on construction status, changes in schedules for relocation, or other issues.
- **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) sheet**  
BNSF has written a question-answer sheet of frequently asked questions regarding relocation to inform people being relocated and the community how the relocation will take place. The fact sheet will be updated as new issues arise.
- **Addressing concerns**  
BNSF and Ecology are available to address any concerns regarding relocation and will work together with the residents to resolve any problems.

Contact: For Ecology: Louise Bardy at 425-649-7209 or Susan Lee at 425-649-4486 or cell 360-790-9959. For BNSF: Bruce Sheppard at 206-625-6035 or Angie Thomson at 206-269-5041.

- **Closeout checklist**  
When relocation is complete, residents will be provided with a final checklist to ensure the process has been completed satisfactorily. This checklist will allow BNSF and Ecology to determine where additional work is required to restore homes and properties to their pre-construction condition.

## 5. Construction

During construction, BNSF and Ecology will work together to provide on-site construction communications support for the community.

### Activities

- **Daily on-site construction staffing**  
BNSF and Ecology will work together to provide on-site staffing during construction activities. This will provide a consistent, responsive point of contact for residents, community members and visitors who have questions about construction activities.
- **Construction update meetings**  
BNSF and/or Ecology will attend construction team meetings to gather activity and schedule updates on a daily or weekly basis. These updates will be provided to the community in a variety of ways, including a construction newsletter, weekly activity update, website update, and posted notices.
- **Media outreach**  
Ecology will host an event at the beginning of the construction work to give media the opportunity to see the site, receive a packet of information regarding the site, and photograph the site at the beginning of the work.

### Tools

- **Newsletter**  
BNSF and Ecology will distribute a community update newsletter during construction activities. The newsletter will highlight construction progress and milestones, and notify the community of upcoming activities and meetings. The newsletter will be published as frequently as bi-weekly as construction activities warrants.
- **Posted notices**  
Each week, BNSF and Ecology will post weekly construction updates to provide up-to-the-week updates of planned activities, road closure and detours.
- **Sign for visitors and tourists about cleanup**  
Large signs will be posted at strategic locations near the construction site to provide general information about cleanup activities to visitors and tourists. This

sign will also provide contact information for people who have additional questions or concerns about the work underway.

- **Call Line**

BNSF and Ecology will provide a call line, staffed 24-hours each day. Project staff will address the reported concern as quickly as possible.

- **Website**

A project website will be established to facilitate communication between BNSF, Ecology, Town leaders and the community. This website will include the weekly activity updates, the construction newsletter, posted notices, activity calendar, contact information, and links to both the Ecology project website and the Town of Skykomish website. The website address is: [www.SkykomishCleanup.com](http://www.SkykomishCleanup.com)

A number of the plans that are required for the levee cleanup will be developed as the work proceeds (for example; Cultural Resources Monitoring and Discovery Plan, Site Specific Health and Safety Plan, Air Monitoring Plan, Traffic Plan). Notice of the availability of these plans will be given through the cleanup website and sent as a newsletter or posted in Town.

This website will also be used to host an internal contact log, which will facilitate internal communication between BNSF and Ecology during construction activities.

## 6. On-going communications

### Activities

- **Updates to Town Council and School Board**  
Ecology and/or BNSF will provide an update to the Town Council or School Board at their monthly meeting. These updates will include cleanup planning updates and/or construction activity updates. These meetings will also be an opportunity to address key issues in a timely way, as well as highlight key action areas or decisions required from either group.
- **Town technical coordinator**  
After the Town has hired a technical coordinator, there may be activities the Town, through that position, would like to provide for the community that will be coordinated with these public involvement activities.

### Tools

- **Walk Through Town**  
Members of the SEC will walk through Town and informally talk with people for the purpose of advertising events, gathering information, and keeping in contact with people who are not able to participate in other cleanup-related activities. Staff of Ecology or BNSF may be invited to join SEC depending on the current issue being addressed.
- **Information repositories**  
The King County Library in Skykomish currently contains the community information repository for the BNSF Skykomish Cleanup Site. However, the library has limited space for document storage and for people to sit while reviewing lengthy documents, and the hours of operation in the library are limited. For these reasons, information repositories can also be found in the Skykomish Town Hall and in the home of Michael Moore for the SEC.

Complete site files are kept at Ecology's regional office in Bellevue and available for public review by appointment.

Information repository locations, contacts, and hours of operation are listed below.

<p>King County Library Skykomish Branch 100 5th Avenue N. Skykomish, WA 98288 360-677-2660</p> <p>Hours: Monday and Thursday, 1 – 7 PM, Friday, 1 – 5 PM Saturday, 10 AM – 2 PM</p>	<p>Washington State Department of Ecology 3190 160th Ave., S.E. Bellevue, WA 98008 Call for an appointment: Sally Perkins 425-649-7190 (425) 649-4450 FAX E-mail: <a href="mailto:perk461@ecy.wa.gov">perk461@ecy.wa.gov</a></p> <p>Hours: Monday – Thursday, 8 AM to 12 PM and 1 - 4 PM</p>
<p>On weekends, call for an appointment at the Skykomish Environmental Coalition in Skykomish, WA Michael Moore Phone: 360-677-2410 Lorna Goebel Phone: 360-677-2812</p>	<p>Skykomish Town Hall 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue N Skykomish, WA 98288 360-677-2388</p> <p>Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM to 3:30 PM</p>



## 7. Schedule

The following is a list of the activities and schedule to meet public participation goals for February 2006 to December 2006.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Audience</b>
On-going		Cleanup - Community group briefings	BNSF/Ecology	Community groups
On-going		Cleanup - Sampling and surveying notifications	BNSF	Skykomish community
February 21	10-12	Septic Summit	Ecology	Agencies
February 28	10-12	Septic Summit Meeting	Town	Septic summit committee
March 3 – April 3		Public Comment Period	Ecology	Skykomish community, Skykomish valley, agencies, elected officials, other interested parties and the general public
March 14	6 pm	Public Meeting	Ecology	Skykomish community, Skykomish valley, agencies, elected officials, interested parties and the general public
March 22	7 pm	Community Meeting	SEC	Skykomish community

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Audience</b>
April 1	10:00 - 1:00 pm	Availability Meeting	Ecology	Skykomish community, Skykomish valley, agencies, elected officials, interested parties and the general public

This schedule will be updated on an ongoing basis as activities are developed for the purpose of informing people and coordinating with cleanup plans.

## 8. Glossary

**Agreed Order:** An order issued by Ecology under WAC 173-340-530 with which the potentially liable person receiving the order agrees to comply.

**All Relevant and Appropriate Requirements (ARAR):** All cleanup standards, standards of control, and other human health and environment requirements, criteria, or limitations established under state and federal law that, while not legally applicable to the hazardous substance, cleanup action, location, or other circumstance at a site, Ecology determines address problems or situations sufficiently similar to those encountered at the site that their use is well suited to the particular site.

**Bunker C:** Heavy fuel oil mixture that predominantly contains diesel and lubricating-oil range petroleum hydrocarbons.

**Cleanup:** Actions taken to deal with a release, or threatened release of hazardous substances that could affect public health and/or the environment. The term "cleanup" is often used broadly to describe various response actions or phases of remedial responses such as the remedial investigation/feasibility study.

**Cleanup Action Plan (CAP):** A document that explains which cleanup alternative(s) will be used at sites for the cleanup. The cleanup action plan is based on information and technical analysis generated during the remedial investigation/feasibility study and consideration of public comments and community concerns.

**Cleanup Level (CUL):** The concentration of a hazardous substance in soil, water, air, or sediment that is determined to be protective of human health and the environment under specified exposure conditions.

**Comment Period:** A time period during which the public can review and comment on various documents and proposed actions. For example, a comment period may be provided to allow community members to review and comment on proposed cleanup action alternatives and proposed plans.

**Contaminant:** Any hazardous substance that does not occur naturally or occurs at greater than natural background levels

**Diesel:** A mid-range petroleum product that is composed of hydrocarbons that are distilled between 200-325 degrees C.

**Feasibility Study:** This study develops and evaluates cleanup options for a given site.

**Free Product:** A nonaqueous phase liquid that is present in soil, bedrock, groundwater or surface water as a distinct separate layer. Under the right conditions, if sufficient free

product is present, free product is capable of migrating independent of the direction of flow of the groundwater or surface water.

**Groundwater:** Water found beneath the earth's surface that fills pores between materials such as sand, soil, or gravel. In some aquifers, ground water occurs in sufficient quantities that it can be used for drinking water, irrigation and other purposes.

**Hazardous Substance:** Any material that poses a threat to public health and/or the environment. Typical hazardous substances are materials that are toxic, corrosive, ignitable, explosive, or chemically reactive.

**Information Repository:** A file containing current information, technical reports, and reference documents available for public review. The information repository is usually located in a public building that is convenient for local residents such as a public school, city hall, or library.

**LNAPL:** A light **NAPL** which floats.

**Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA):** Legislation passed by citizens of the State of Washington through an initiative in 1988. Its purpose is to identify, investigate, and clean up facilities where hazardous substances have been released. It defines the role of Ecology and encourages public involvement in the decision making process. MTCA regulations are administered by the Washington State Department of Ecology.

**NAPL "Nonaqueous phase liquid":** A hazardous substance that is present in the soil, bedrock, groundwater or surface water as a liquid not dissolved in water.

**PAH or Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons:** Hydrocarbon molecules composed of two or more fused benzene rings. PAHs (carcinogenic) or cPAH are polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon molecules identified as known or probable human carcinogens.

**PCBs:** A group of toxic, persistent chemicals (poly chlorinated biphenyls). Due to their non-flammability, chemical stability, high boiling point and electrical insulating properties, PCBs were used in hundreds of industrial and commercial applications including transformers and capacitors for insulating purposes, and in gas pipeline systems as a lubricant. PCBs are a serious threat to public health because they have been proven to cause cancer in animals. In 1977 they were made illegal to produce, yet large amounts still remain in the environment.

**Petroleum Hydrocarbons:** Hydrocarbons are chemicals in petroleum that contain only carbon and hydrogen atoms. Hydrocarbons are refined from petroleum because they combust easily and cleanly.

**Potentially Liable Person:** Any individual(s) or company(s) potentially responsible for, or contributing to, the contamination problems at a site. Whenever possible, Ecology requires these PLPs, through administrative and legal actions, to clean up sites.

**Public Notice:** At a minimum, adequate notice mailed to all persons who have made a timely request of Ecology and to persons residing in the potentially affected vicinity of the proposed action; mailed to appropriate news media; published in the local (city and county ) newspaper of largest circulation; and the opportunity for the interested persons to comment.

**Public Participation Plan:** A plan prepared to encourage coordinated and effective public involvement designed to the public's needs at a particular site.

**Remedial Action:** Any action or expenditure consistent with the purposes of chapter 70.105D RCW to identify, eliminate or minimize any threat posed by hazardous substances to human health or the environment including any investigative and monitoring activities with respect to any release or threatened release of a hazardous substance and health assessments or health effects studies conducted in order to determine the risk or potential risk to human health.

**Remedial Investigation:** A study that characterizes the site and defines the extent of contamination.

**Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study:** Two distinct but related studies. They are usually performed at the same time, and together referred to as the "RI/FS." They are intended to:

- Gather the data necessary to determine the type and extent of contamination;
- Establish criteria for cleaning up the site;
- Identify and screen cleanup alternatives for remedial action; and
- Analyze in detail the technology and costs of the alternatives.

**Remediation Level (REL or RL):** A concentration (or other method of identification) of a hazardous substance in soil, water, air, or sediment above which a particular cleanup action component will be required as part of a cleanup action at a site. Other methods of identification include physical appearance or location.

**Responsiveness Summary:** A summary of oral and/or written public comments received by Ecology during a comment period on key documents, and Ecology's responses to those comments. The responsiveness summary is especially valuable during the Cleanup Action Plan phase at a site when it highlights community concerns.

**Risk:** The probability that a hazardous substance, when released into the environment, will cause an adverse effect in the exposed humans or living organisms.

**Sediments:** Settled particles located at the bottom of a lake, river or in wetlands. Sediment(s) also includes settled particulate matter exposed by human activity (e.g., dredging) to the biologically active aquatic zone or to the water column.

**Site:** Any building, structure, installation, equipment, pipe or pipeline (including any pipe into a sewer or publicly owned treatment works), well, pit, pond, lagoon, impoundment, ditch, landfill, storage container, motor vehicle, rolling stock, vessel, or aircraft; or any site or area where a hazardous substance, other than a consumer product in consumer use, has been deposited, stored, disposed of, or placed, or otherwise come to be located.

**Toxicity:** The degree to which a substance at a particular concentration is capable of causing harm to living organisms, including people, plants and animals.