



# 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:**  
Gretchen Newman 360/407-6097

**Если вам нужно помощь по русскому, звоните:**  
Tatyana Bistrevsky 509/928-7617

**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](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/barkerRdS/barkerRdS_hp.html)

**Comments and Technical Questions**  
Mr. Dave George  
Ecology Toxics Cleanup Program  
4601 N. Monroe, Spokane, WA 99205  
509/329-3520  
E-mail: [cgeo461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:cgeo461@ecy.wa.gov)

**Community Outreach Questions**  
Ms. Carol Bergin  
Ecology Toxics Cleanup Program  
509/329-3546  
E-mail: [cabe461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:cabe461@ecy.wa.gov)

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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.

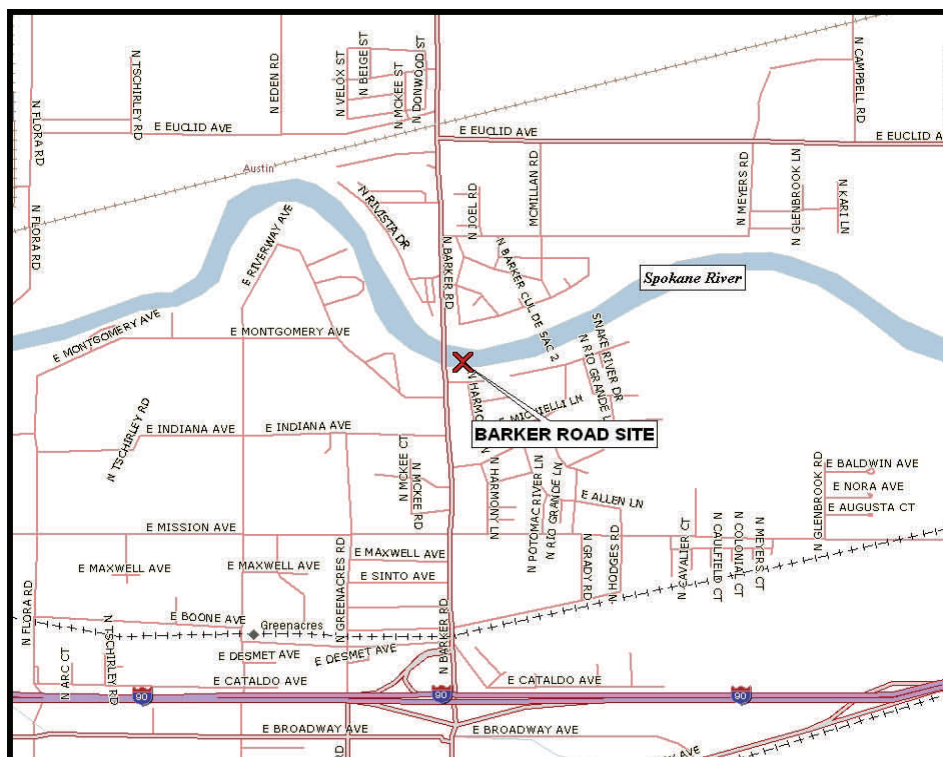
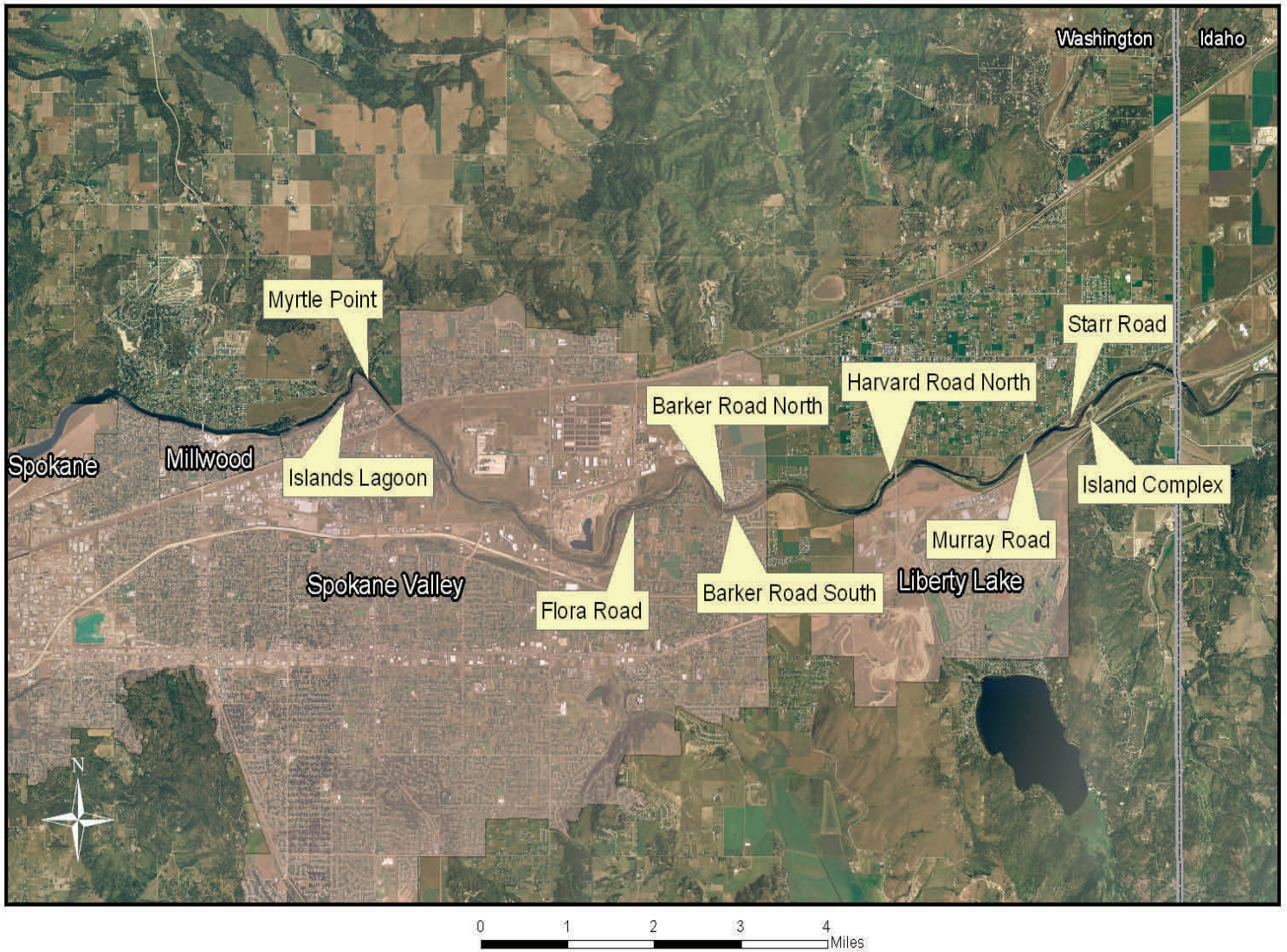


Figure 1



## 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