

Bellingham Bay Cleanup



Bellingham Waterfront

Contact & Information

Lucy McInerney Project Lead

WA Department of Ecology
Toxics Cleanup Program
PO Box 330316
Shoreline, WA 98133-9716
425-410-1400

Lucy.McInerney@ecy.wa.gov

Ian Fawley Outreach Planner

WA Department of Ecology
Toxics Cleanup Program
913 Squalicum Way, Unit 101
Bellingham, WA 98225
425-324-5901

Ian.Fawley@ecy.wa.gov

Ecology's Bellingham Bay Cleanup Webpage:

[www.ecology.wa.gov/
BellinghamBayCleanup](http://www.ecology.wa.gov/BellinghamBayCleanup)

2023 Cleanup Update

Cleanup work at 12 contaminated sites located on the Bellingham waterfront (see page 2) is happening at the direction of the Department of Ecology under authority of the state's cleanup law, the Model Toxics Control Act.

This fact sheet:






- Reports the progress made in 2022
- Provides the status
- Describes work planned in 2023

In addition to regulatory requirements, the cleanup work is guided by the Bellingham Bay Comprehensive Strategy completed in 2000 by the multi-agency Bellingham Bay Action Team. The Comprehensive Strategy integrates cleanup of contamination, controlling sources of sediment contamination, habitat restoration and land use on a bay-wide scale. The Action Team is co-managed by Ecology and the Port of Bellingham.

The state has partially funded the cleanup work conducted to date. The Port of Bellingham and the City of Bellingham are the main entities responsible for addressing contamination. As public entities, up to half of their costs may be reimbursed through a state remedial action grant program that helps pay for cleanup work at publicly owned sites. The Legislature funds the grant program with revenues from a tax on hazardous substances.

2022 Progress

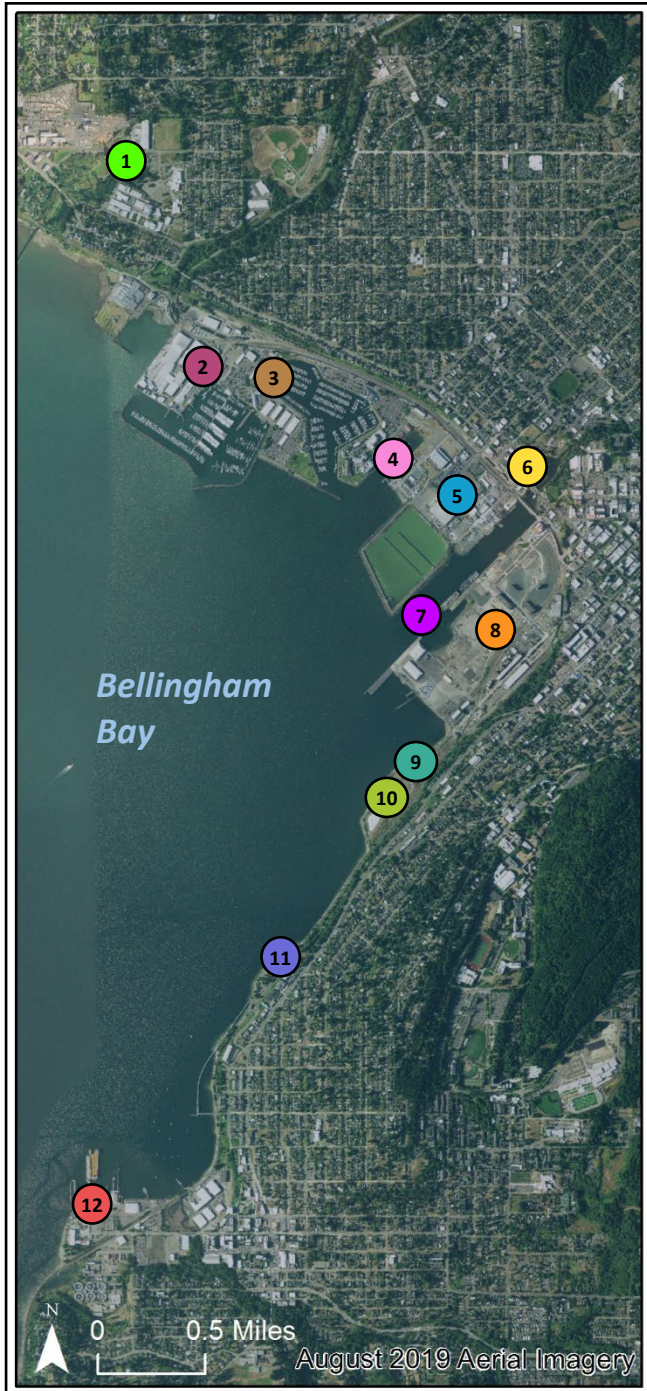
We accomplished the following work in 2022:

-  **2** Legal Agreements amended/created.
-  **1** Cleanup Action Plan created.
-  **6** Pre-Engineering Design Investigations completed.
-  **2** Engineering Design Reports completed.
-  **1** Partial Cleanup Action completed.

Cleanup Status and Planned Work in 2023

The 12 Bellingham Bay cleanup sites are in various stages of the cleanup process as shown on Page 3. For detailed information about each cleanup site, visit Ecology’s webpage for individual weblinks:

<http://www.ecology.wa.gov/BellinghamBayCleanup>



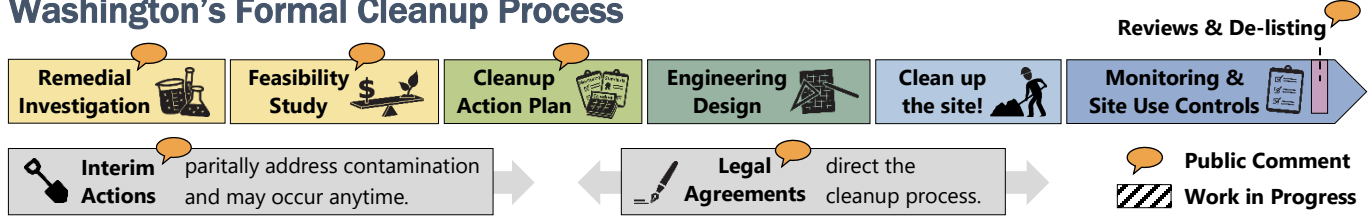
Bellingham Bay cleanup sites, 2019 aerial image

Cleanup Site Information

1	Eldridge Municipal Landfill Contaminated soil due to former municipal landfilling activities.
2	Weldcraft Steel & Marine Contaminated soil, sediment, and groundwater associated with former shipyard practices.
3	Marine Services NW Contaminated sediment associated with past boatyard practices.
4	I & J Waterway Contaminated sediment associated with former industrial practices.
5	Central Waterfront Contaminated soil and groundwater associated with former municipal landfilling and industrial activities.
6	Holly Street Landfill Contaminated soil due to former municipal landfilling activities.
7	Whatcom Waterway Contaminated sediment associated with past pulping operations.
8	Georgia-Pacific West Contaminated soil and groundwater associated with former industrial operations.
9	RG Haley Contaminated soil, groundwater, and sediment associated with former wood treatment facility.
10	Cornwall Avenue Landfill Contaminated soil, groundwater, and sediment associated with past municipal landfilling activities.
11	South State St. Manufactured Gas Plant Contaminated soil, groundwater, and sediment associated with a former gas manufacturing facility.
12	Harris Avenue Shipyard Contaminated soil, groundwater, and sediment associated with former industrial activities.

Toxics Cleanup Program

Washington's Formal Cleanup Process



Sites	Current Status	Planned Work in 2023
1 Eldridge Municipal	Cleanup action, monitoring, and site use controls complete	No activities planned
2 Weldcraft Steel & Marine	Cleanup Action Plan under development	Amend Legal Agreement; complete Cleanup Action Plan; begin Engineering Design
3 Marine Services NW	Legal agreement pending to initiate cleanup process	No activities planned
4 I & J Waterway	Engineering Design underway	• Create new Legal Agreement and complete Engineering Design
• Sediment Cleanup Unit 1	Engineering Design pending	• Pending Sediment Cleanup Unit 1 Engineering Design completion
• Sediment Cleanup Unit 2	Engineering Design pending	
5 Central Waterfront	Engineering Design underway	Amend Legal Agreement; continue Engineering Design; begin Interim Action
6 Holly Street Landfill	Cleanup action, monitoring, and site use controls complete	Begin periodic review to ensure cleanup action remains protective
7 Whatcom Waterway	Cleanup action complete; Site Use Controls under development; Monitoring underway	• Complete site use controls (legal controls to ensure the cleanup is not compromised) and continue Monitoring
• Phase 1 Areas	Engineering Design underway	• Amend Legal Agreement; complete Engineering Design; complete a portion of the cleanup action
• Phase 2 Areas	Engineering Design underway	
8 Georgia-Pacific West	Cleanup action & site use controls complete; Monitoring underway	• Continue monitoring
• Northern Area	Engineering Design underway; portion of cleanup action completed	• Continue Engineering Design
• Southern Area	Engineering Design underway; portion of cleanup action completed	
9 RG Haley	Engineering Design and coordination with Cornwall site underway	Complete Engineering Design and continue coordination with Cornwall Avenue Landfill site Engineering Design
10 Cornwall Avenue Landfill	Engineering Design and coordination with RG Haley site underway	Complete Engineering Design and continue coordination with RG Haley site Engineering Design
11 South State Street Manufactured Gas Plant	Engineering Design underway	Complete Engineering Design
12 Harris Avenue Shipyard	Engineering Design underway	• Complete Engineering Design
• Upland Area	Engineering Design underway	• Engineering Design completion pending completion of Upland Area cleanup action
• In-water Area	Engineering Design underway	

Toxics Cleanup Program
913 Squalicum Way, Unit 101
Bellingham, WA 98225

2023 Bellingham Bay Cleanup Update

Cleanup work at 12 contaminated sites located on the Bellingham waterfront (see page 2) is happening at the direction of the Department of Ecology under authority of the state's cleanup law, the Model Toxics Control Act.

This fact sheet:

- Reports on the progress made in 2022.
- Provides the current status.
- Describes work planned in 2023.

2022 Progress

- 2 Legal Agreement amended/created.
- 1 Cleanup Action Plan completed.
- 6 Pre-Engineering Design Investigations completed.
- 2 Engineering Design Reports completed.
- 1 Partial Cleanup Action completed.

ADA accessibility

To request an ADA accommodation, contact Ecology by phone at 425-324-5901 or email at ian.fawley@ecy.wa.gov, or visit <https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility>. For Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341.



*Bellingham Waterfront, December 2014.
Photo courtesy of Public Domain.*