

Weyerhaeuser Mill A Cleanup Site



Comments Accepted:

July 25 to September 8, 2024

How to Comment:

Online:

<https://tcp.ecology.wa.gov/commentinput.com/?id=PkEU5eiRC>

By mail:

Ryan Hardwick, Site Manager
Department of Ecology
PO Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600
360-280-3895
ryan.hardwick@ecy.wa.gov

Site Information:

<https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/site/2146>

Facility Site ID: 1884322

Site Cleanup ID: 2146

Review Documents

Department of Ecology

300 Desmond Drive SE
Lacey, WA 98503

To schedule appointment:

tcpqh_public_disclosure@ECY.WA.GOV

Everett Library

2702 Hoyt Avenue
Everett, WA 98201
(425) 257-8000

Aerial view of Weyerhaeuser Mill A site.

Ecology wants your input!

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) invites comments on the Draft Agreed Order Amendment No. DE8979, Draft Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) and Draft Cleanup Action Plan for the Weyerhaeuser Mill A site located at 3500 Terminal Avenue in Everett, Snohomish County, Washington.

We invite you to review and submit your comments to Ecology on the following draft documents:

- **Draft Agreed Order Amendment No. DE8979:** An amendment to the formal legal agreement between Ecology and the potentially liable persons (PLP), the Port of Everett, and Weyerhaeuser, for cleanup actions needed at the site.
- **Draft Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study Report:** An assessment of the risks of contaminants at the site, an analysis of different cleanup options, and a recommendation for cleanup approach.
- **Draft Cleanup Action Plan:** This document describes the work planned to clean up the site.

Site Background and Contamination

The site on Port Gardner Bay is one of several sites located on the waterfront that is planned for cleanup under the state's Puget Sound Initiative. This site was formerly used for a range of industrial activities including pulp manufacturing, saw milling, ship building, shingle milling and log handling, and was in operation from the 1890s to the early 1980s. The Port purchased the property in 1983 and, in 1987, developed the property for use as a log yard. Log handling operations were performed there until around the mid-2000s. The site is currently being used as a cargo terminal.

Past environmental investigations at the site (prior to 2010) have documented the presence of hazardous substances in soil, groundwater, and marine sediments. The hazardous substances are listed below:

- Soil – Carcinogenic polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (cPAHs), naphthalene, and total petroleum hydrocarbons in the gasoline range (TPH-Gasoline).

- Groundwater – Metals, cPAHs, TPH-Gasoline, bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate, and carbazole.
- Sediment – Metals, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), PAHs, other semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), wood waste and its breakdown products, and dioxins/furans.

In April 2024, Ecology held a public comment period for an interim action in the upland area of this site. This work is expected to start later this year and will reconfigure and upgrade the existing stormwater collection and treatment system within the upland area of the site.

The current work covered in the documents provided for this public comment period are for the cleanup of the in-water area. The majority of the in-water contamination will be dredged. Several smaller areas will be capped or scheduled for monitored natural attenuation. A confined disposal facility will be built to contain the contaminated sediment while also allowing for expansion of the cargo terminal.

Draft Agreed Order Amendment No. DE 8979

An Agreed Order is a legal agreement. The original Agreed Order requires the Port of Everett, Weyerhaeuser, and Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to conduct a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study, and develop a draft Cleanup Action Plan for the site. This draft amendment allows for work to continue on the project with the Pre-Remedial Design Investigation and the Engineering Design aspects of the project. This draft amendment also removes the Department of Natural Resources from the list of potentially liable persons due to a Washington Supreme Court ruling.

Draft Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study

This report outlines the contaminants that are present in the in-water area of the site, along with a site history and evaluation of the site conditions. Additionally, it includes an analysis of ten different alternatives for cleanup of the contamination identified and makes a recommendation on which alternative is most feasible for the in-water area of the site.

Draft Cleanup Action Plan

The Draft Cleanup Action Plan documents the conditions of the in-water area of the cleanup site and outlines Ecology's plan for cleanup of the in water area. It details the types of contamination present, the requirements for each one and the plan for how they will be addressed. The cleanup action plan proposes dredging a large portion of the in-water contamination. A confined disposal facility will be built to contain the dredged contaminated sediment while also allowing for expansion of the cargo terminal. Several small areas are proposed to be capped and other areas are proposed for monitored natural attenuation.

Why it Matters

The contaminants identified in the soil and groundwater at this site are hazardous chemicals and some, like benzene and PAHs, are carcinogenic (potentially cancer causing). These substances pose a potential threat to human health and the environment. Cleaning them up decreases the risk of them spreading and contaminating other areas or being more difficult to clean up later.

Ecology’s Cleanup Process

The Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) is Washington’s environmental cleanup law. It provides requirements for contaminated site cleanup and sets standards that protect human health and the environment. Ecology enacts the MTCA and oversees cleanups. The MTCA Site cleanup process is completed in steps (see below) over a timeline that may change from project to project.

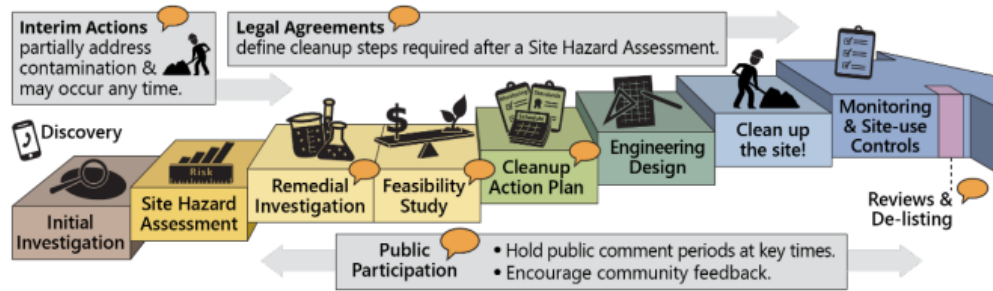


Figure 1.

The MTCA Site cleanup process is completed in steps. This site is in the third and fourth step in Washington's cleanup process.

What Happens Next

Ecology will review and consider all comments received and respond accordingly. Ecology will make appropriate revisions (if any) to the draft documents and then finalize the Agreed Order Amendment No. DE8979, the RI/FS and the Cleanup Action Plan.

Where to Find the Documents

You can find the Draft Agreed Order Amendment, the Draft Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study, and the Draft Cleanup Action Plan in person at the Department of Ecology or the Everett Library, listed on the first page of this fact sheet. Or you can view them and other project documents on the project website at:

<https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/site/2146>



Figure 2: Map of Weyerhaeuser Mill A location. In-water work area is located to the west of the of the red line.



Figure 3: Weyerhaeuser Mill A map that shows both the in-water area and the attached uplands. *Photo courtesy of GeoEngineers.*

Toxics Cleanup Program
Attn: Andrea Flaherty
PO Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

Weyerhaeuser Mill A

Dates of Comment Period: July 25 – September 8, 2024

Contact Information

Ryan Hardwick, Site Manager

ryan.hardwick@ecy.wa.gov

360-280-3895

ADA accessibility

To request an ADA accommodation, contact Ecology by phone at 360-407-7170, or email at andrea.flaherty@ecy.wa.gov, or visit ecology.wa.gov/Accessibility. For Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341.