# Barbee Mill Company Site

Barbee Mill site today (4101 Lake Washington Blvd North, Renton, WA).

## Comments accepted

August 25, 12:00 a.m. -
October 8, 11:59 p.m., 2025

## Submit comments

**Online at:**

https://go.ecology.wa.gov/commentbbmill

**Or by mail to:**
Cliff Nale, Site Manager
WA Department of Ecology
PO Box 330316
Shoreline, WA 98133-9716
425-725-0438
Cliff.Nale@ecy.wa.gov

## Document review

https://go.ecology.wa.gov/bbmill

Newcastle Library
12901 Newcastle Way
Newcastle, WA 98056

## Site info:

Facility Site ID: 76716221
Site Cleanup ID: 2368

## Public Outreach Contact

Meredith Waldref, Outreach Planner
Meredith.Waldref@ecy.wa.gov
425-229-3683

## Documents ready for public review

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) invites you to review the following documents for the Barbee Mill Company site (Site) in Renton:

- **Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS)**: describes previous and remaining cleanup work, evaluates cleanup options, and proposes an option.
- **Cleanup Action Plan (CAP)**: describes Ecology's selected cleanup option based on the information in the RI/FS.
- **Consent Decree (legal agreement)**: requires Barbee to monitor groundwater as described in the cleanup action plan and maintain existing site use controls.
- **State Environmental Policy Act-Determination of Non-Significance (SEPA-DNS):** Ecology's determination that the cleanup work is not likely to harm the environment.

The RI/FS and CAP are part of a legal agreement between Ecology and the Barbee Mill Company. While the majority of the cleanup work is already completed, this plan calls for continuing ground water monitoring and maintains controls on how the land is used to protect human health and the environment.

Read the above documents and submit comments by visiting the site's webpage or scanning the following QR code.

You may request a public meeting or hearing about the proposed documents. Ecology will hold a meeting or hearing if ten or more people request one. To make a request, contact Meredith Waldref by October 8. Contact information to the left.

**Español** (página 2) **中文** (見第 2頁)

## Location

The Site is located at 4101 Lake Washington Boulevard North, Renton, WA. The approximately 37-acre Site includes the former Barbee Mill property and a portion that overlaps with the adjacent Quendall Terminals property (Quendall Property), and a portion of state-owned aquatic land located in Lake Washington immediately next to the Barbee Mill Property and the Quendall Property.

## Background

From the 1920's to the early 2000s, the Site was used for various lumber mill operations including a sawmill, a wood treatment facility, and log rafting. These past industrial activities resulted in contamination of soil, groundwater and sediment on the Barbee Mill Property, overlapping on a portion of the Quendall Property to the north, and on state-owned aquatic lands of Lake Washington to the west. Contaminants included metals (arsenic and zinc), pentachlorophenol (PCP), and total petroleum hydrocarbons (diesel- and oil-range hydrocarbons).

Multiple cleanup actions completed between 1999 and 2011 largely addressed contaminated soil and groundwater on the Barbee Mill Site and completely addressed contaminated sediment. Arsenic-contaminated soil and groundwater remain.

Learn more about the Quendall Terminals Superfund Site[1] overseen by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency by visiting the site's webpage (purple area on Figure 1).

Aerial of the Barbee Site, 1976

Figure 1 Approximate Site area.

### Language Information

**Español**: Para ver una copia de esta hoja informativa en español, visita https://go.ecology.wa.gov/bbmill, el Newcastle Library, llama al (360) 742-1554, o manda un correo electrónico a preguntas@ecy.wa.gov.

**中文**: 要查看 中文 情况说明书，请访问西雅图公共图书馆南公园分馆 https://go.ecology.wa.gov/bbmill, the Newcastle Library, 致電(425) 229-3683, 或電子郵件 sunny.becker@ecy.wa.gov.

[1] https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/SiteProfiles/index.cfm?fuseaction=second.Stayup&id=1000875#Stayup

## Previous cleanup actions and remaining areas requiring remediation

As detailed in the RI/FS and summarized below, previous cleanup actions have largely addressed contaminated soil and groundwater on the Barbee Mill Site, and completely addressed contaminated sediment. Arsenic-contaminated soil and groundwater remain on the Barbee Mill and Quendall Properties.

### Upland Area

Between 2006 and 2023 multiple cleanup actions (shown on the figure below) occurred:

- **Soil Removal:** Removal of approximately 34,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil
- **Groundwater Treatment and Monitoring:**
  - Installation of an amended soil zone containing finely divided iron particles which act to bind the arsenic in groundwater as it travels towards Lake Washington.
  - Installation of a pump and treat system that removed about 16 million gallons of arsenic-contaminated groundwater containing about 37 pounds of arsenic.
  - Monitoring to assess arsenic concentration reductions over time.
- **Environmental Covenants:** Recording of deed restrictions on each lot within the Site to protect the cleanup action, provide access for monitoring and maintenance, and prevent groundwater from being used.

### Sediment Area

In 1999 and in 2002, cleanup actions removed about 26,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediment and wood debris. Remaining sediment within the Sediment Area meets cleanup requirements. No further cleanup is necessary.

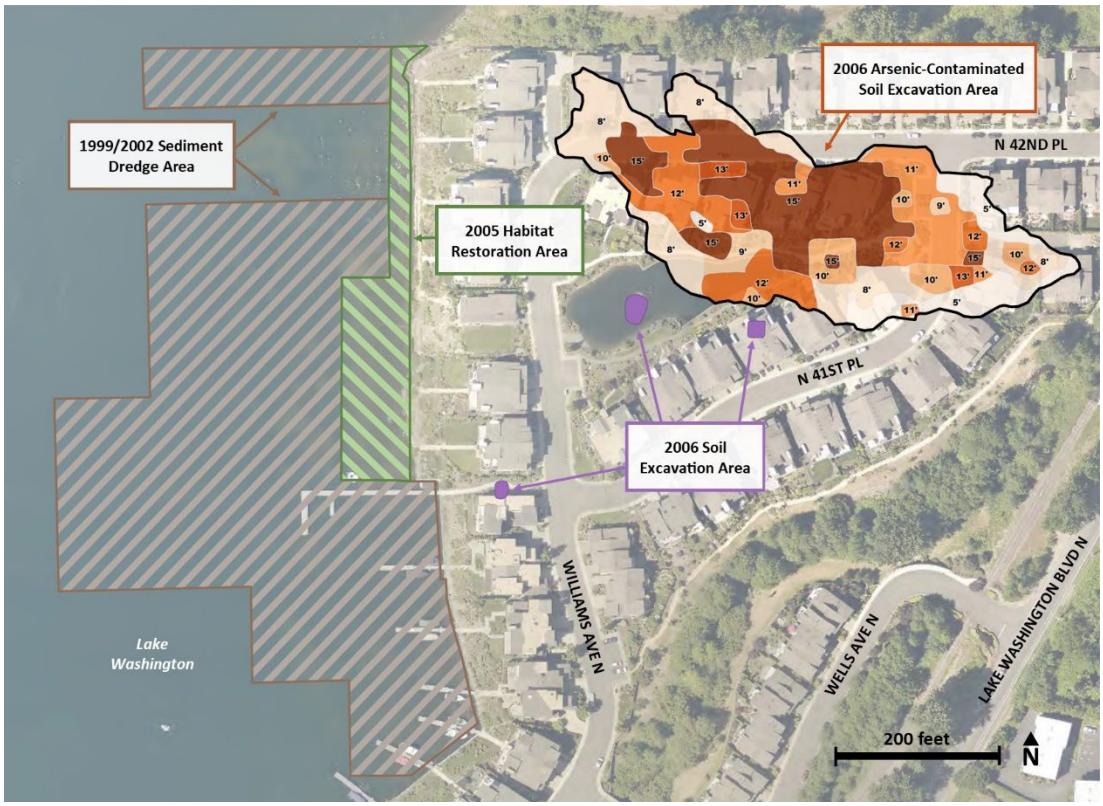



Figure 2 Approximate locations of previous cleanup actions at the Barbee Mill site.

A more detailed version of this figure can be found on page 37 of the draft Cleanup Action Plan (Figure 5: Completed Remedial Actions, Soil and Sediment).

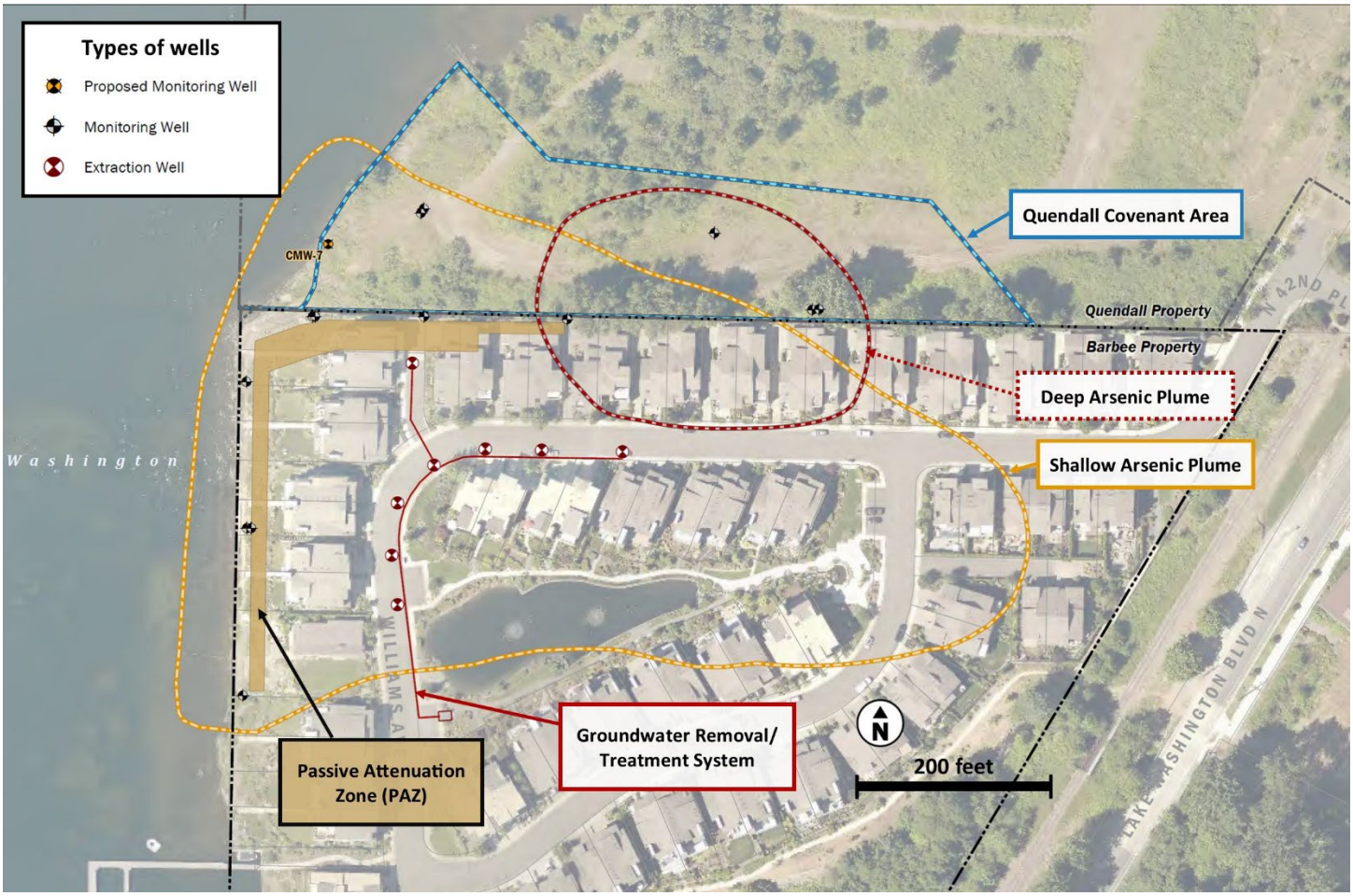



Figure 3 shows the details of the Ecology selected cleanup action for the site. The cleanup actions described are already in place. A more detailed version of this figure can be found in the draft Cleanup Action Plan on page 41 (Figure 9: Remedial Alternative 1 Conceptual Layout).

## Cleanup Action Plan

To address remaining arsenic contamination, the RI/FS evaluates five cleanup options and proposes an option. Based on the information in the RI/FS, Ecology has selected the proposed option as the cleanup action for the site. This cleanup action is described in the Cleanup Action Plan (CAP) and includes:

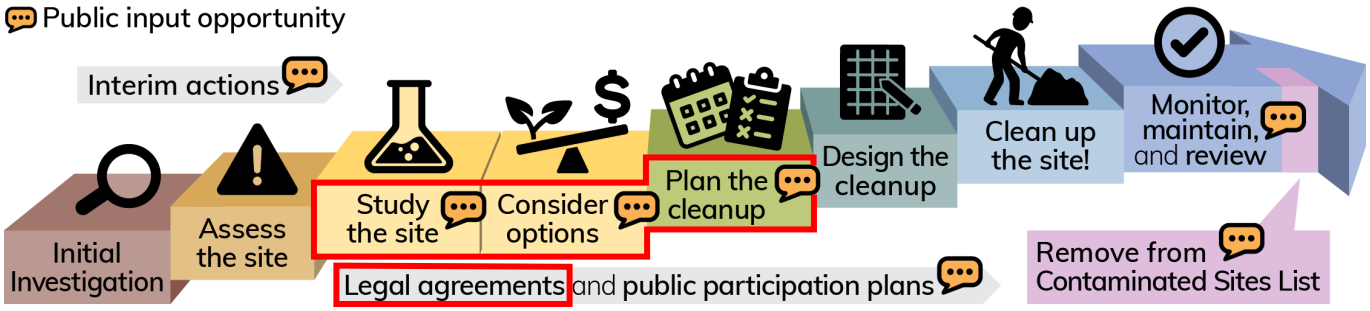
- **In Situ Passive Attenuation Zone (PAZ)**: continued use of the existing permeable wall of reactive material in the aquifer that removes contaminants from groundwater flowing through the wall.
- **Groundwater Monitoring**: Monitor groundwater to assess anticipated continued reductions in arsenic concentrations overtime.
- **Environmental Covenants**: Retain the existing environmental covenants on the Barbee Mill Company Site (including the Quendall Property) that restrict groundwater use, disturbance of contaminated soil, interference with remedial elements including the PAZ, extraction wells, and monitoring wells, and maintaining the integrity of the pond liner.

Remaining arsenic-contaminated soil is isolated under clean soil on the Barbee Mill Property. Although this arsenic-contaminated soil is impacting groundwater, arsenic concentrations in groundwater decrease to below cleanup levels prior to reaching the lake.

## Ecology's cleanup process

The Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA[2]) is Washington's environmental cleanup law. It provides requirements for contaminated site cleanup and sets standards that protect human health and the environment. Ecology is responsible for administering MTCA, including oversight of cleanups. The MTCA cleanup process[3] is completed in steps (see graphic below) over a variable timeline.

This Site's review documents are each outlined below in red.




Washington's formal cleanup process

## Automatic site updates

You can subscribe from the site webpage.[4] You'll receive a weekly email if we change the site's status, add documents to the site's webpage, or open a comment period.

## What happens next?

Since most of the Barbee Mill site has already been cleaned up and for efficiency, we have combined public review of the RI/FS and CAP. The timeline for remaining cleanup work is outlined below:

- **August 25, 12:00 a.m. – October 8, 11:59 p.m., 2025:** Public comment period
- **2025:** Review comments and finalize Cleanup Action Plan
- **2025-2045:** Compliance monitoring of groundwater conditions

Barbee Mill Site, July 2016.

[2] https://ecology.wa.gov/mtca
[3] https://ecology.wa.gov/Spills-Cleanup/Contamination-cleanup/Cleanup-process
[4] https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/site/2368

Toxics Cleanup Program
PO Box 330316
Shoreline, WA 98133-9716

# Barbee Mill Company Site

## Documents ready for public review

***Información en español incluida (página 1)***
有關清理工作的中文信息 (見第 1頁)

### Public comment period

**August 25, 12:00 a.m. – October 8, 11:59 p.m., 2025**
**https://go.ecology.wa.gov/bbmill**

Aerial map of Barbee Mill Site.

### ADA accessibility

To request an ADA accommodation, contact Ecology by phone at 425-229-3683 or email at meredith.waldref@ecy.wa.gov, or visit ecology.wa.gov/Accessibility. For Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341.