



Cleaning up the Lower Duwamish

The Lower Duwamish Waterway Group (LDWG) is a partnership among King County, the City of Seattle, the Port of Seattle, and The Boeing Company. LDWG supports a healthy waterway and community. It has worked with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) for more than 12 years to study the contamination in the waterway, evaluate cleanup options, and protect the community with early cleanup actions.

LDWG has invested more than \$190 million in scientific studies throughout the waterway and early cleanup of 29 acres of sediment. The early cleanup is reducing half of the PCB contamination in the waterway in advance of the Superfund cleanup.

LDWG is working with EPA on two studies to better protect people who eat fish and seafood that lives in the waterway year-round, and to improve the overall design of EPA's remedy. The fishers survey will facilitate a better understanding of fishing practices in the Duwamish Waterway. A pilot study will measure the effectiveness of activated carbon, similar to household water filters, as a cleanup tool.

In December 2014, EPA released its final cleanup plan, called a Record of Decision or ROD. The ROD was based on EPA's proposed cleanup plan, which the public had a chance to comment on in 2013.

In the ROD, EPA concluded that people will be able to safely eat more fish and seafood and 90 percent of the pollution in the sediment will be addressed after the cleanup is completed. However, fishing advisories will remain in effect in the Lower Duwamish, which is consistent with other urban waterways such as Lake Washington and urban bays of Puget Sound.

We look forward to working with EPA and the community to continue the cleanup of the waterway. In addition, King County, the City of Seattle, and Port of Seattle will continue to work with Ecology on source control strategies to keep new pollution out of the waterway.

LDWG supports a plan that results in a historic cleanup of the river that is cleaner than almost any other Superfund Site in the nation, of which EPA, the state, and the other parties can point to as a real success. This means a cleanup that:

- Reduces human health risks and achieves cleanup goals as quickly as possible.
- Encourages participation of potential responsible parties.
- Provides greater certainty around a cleanup timeframe.
- Minimizes construction impacts to the community, businesses, and the environment.
- Results in an effective and permanent cleanup of the waterway.
- Preserves the regional economy through implementable, cost-effective, and minimally disruptive solutions.

We're already halfway there

Early cleanup and source control reduce risks quickly while still providing for an economical and effective cleanup for the Lower Duwamish. These early actions will reduce PCB sediment concentrations by 50 percent.

Norfolk CSO remediation

5,190 cubic yards of contaminated sediment removed; 6,700 cubic yards of clean material added.

Duwamish Diagonal

68,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediment removed; clean material added.

Slip 4

9,800 cubic yards of sediment removed; 3.5 acres of clean material added and habitat restored.

Boeing Plant 2

Removal of 165,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediment is underway and the restoration of nearly one mile of fish and wildlife habitat is complete; more than 170,000 native plants now occupy five acres along the water's edge.

T-117

Removal of over 13,000 cubic yards of sediment and cleanup of the facility and residential yards, parking strips, alleys is complete. Cleanup on streets is underway.

The City, County, and Port are also working with businesses to keep new and ongoing sources of pollution out of the river.

TODAY, THE DUWAMISH WATERWAY IS HOME TO:

100,000 jobs **25%** of King County manufacturing **38,000** residents

Businesses that handle **7.2 million tons** each year of domestic and international traffic, valued at **\$7.5 billion**.



For more information:

LDWG's website: www.ldwg.org

EPA's website:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/r10/cleanup.nsf/sites/lduwamish>