

There are significant Environmental Justice (EJ) concerns within the Harbor Island area since residents of color, low-income residents, and subsistence fishers all rely on or interact with Harbor Island.

What Has Been Done to Clean Up Harbor Island?

EPA divided the Site into seven Operable Units (OUs) to better address Site cleanup. To date, cleanup decisions were made by EPA for five OUs and by the Washington State Department of Ecology at the Tank Farm OU. East Waterway is the only remaining OU without a cleanup decision by EPA. Within the East Waterway OU, there are two areas (Terminal 25 and the U.S. Coast Guard Slip 36) where early action cleanups are being done by the Port of Seattle (for Terminal 25) and the U.S. Coast Guard (for Slip 36) under EPA oversight.

Action Plan

This Community Involvement Plan has the following goals and associated actions that EPA will take to support community involvement in the cleanup of Harbor Island. Please review the full EPA Harbor Island CIP for more details regarding each of these goals and actions.



Increase Awareness of the Harbor Island Superfund Site

Conduct online outreach, in-person outreach, and create easy-to-understand educational materials.



Build Trust

EPA will attend local events, hold informal chats, work with trusted partners, connect with stakeholders, increase transparency, coordinate with agencies, and to build trust and understanding.



Mitigate Cleanup Construction Impacts

Consult with Tribes and communicate with community members, businesses, and fishers before disruptive construction periods.



Integrate outreach for the Harbor Island Superfund Site into EPA’s broader efforts in the Duwamish Valley.

Connect out Connect outreach and communication across the Harbor Island, Lower Duwamish Waterway, Lockheed West Seattle, and Pacific Sound Resources Superfund Sites.



Invest in Communities

Communicate and promote job opportunities related to the Site cleanup and provide information on grants to local community members and organizations.