

## Lower Duwamish Waterway (LDW) Roundtable Meeting Summary August 1, 2023 | 5:30-7:30 PM | Virtual Meeting

### Welcome, Introductions, and Where We Left Off

The meeting facilitator, Sophie Glass (Triangle Associates), welcomed participants to the Lower Duwamish Waterway (LDW) Roundtable meeting. She reviewed the purpose and structure of the LDW Roundtable forum and shared that tonight's meeting purpose was for Roundtable members to learn about the near-final cleanup design for the Upper Reach of the Lower Duwamish Waterway, hear the status of source control, and discuss outreach and job opportunities related to the cleanup.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) hosts these Roundtable meetings. Sophie introduced Elly Hale, Remedial Project Manager, EPA, and Laura Knudsen, Community Involvement Coordinator, EPA. Sophie reviewed the Roundtable caucuses, and caucus members introduced themselves via the Zoom meeting chat. She also thanked the Roundtable Steering Committee who helped develop the meeting's agenda.

Sophie summarized the topics of discussion at the last Roundtable meeting on September 28, 2022, which included a discussion about the 30% design for the Lower Duwamish Waterway. During that meeting, Roundtable members provided input on what areas of the Upper Reach of the river might be impacted by the cleanup. At tonight's meeting, Roundtable members will hear how EPA addressed feedback from the Roundtable through elements of the 90% design for the Upper Reach of the Lower Duwamish Waterway.

### Lower Duwamish Waterway Remedial Design Updates

Elly Hale, EPA, presented updates related to the remedial design for the Lower Duwamish Waterway. Her presentation included

- Information about 2023 sitewide seafood sampling
- An update on Upper Reach Design including draft supporting plans
- Changes as a result of Phase 3 sampling
- Information on source control for the Upper Reach
- How questions from the September 2022 Roundtable meeting have been addressed
- An update on the Middle Reach and Pre-Design Phase 1 Sampling

[Click here to see presentation slides for details.](#)

### Comments, Questions, and Answers

*Question:* What should we do if we have additional questions, comments, or information, based on the new information that has been shared with us?

*Answer from EPA:* Contact Elly Hale at [hale.elly@epa.gov](mailto:hale.elly@epa.gov) or 206-553-1215

*Question:* How do the requirements for a cap differ from those for a "residuals management cover"?

*Answer from EPA:* A **residuals management cover** is about 9 inches of clean sand/gravel used after dredging to ensure a clean surface. Material mixes with small amounts of "dredge residuals" near dredge areas. A **cap** is engineered to contain contamination and prevent it from moving upward to the surface.

*Question:* Can you please provide a link that describes the caucuses and contacts?

*Answer from Triangle Associates:* Please email Sophie Glass to be connected to a Caucus Lead - Sglass@triangleassociates.com

<https://www.duwamishwaterwayroundtable.org/membership>

## Community Outreach and Communications Plan

Natalie Graves, Stepherson & Associates, presented on behalf of the Lower Duwamish Waterway Group (LDWG) to share information about the Community Outreach and Communications Plan (Plan) for the Upper Reach. Natalie shared the key aspects of the Plan and how the community can ask questions and share input regarding the Plan.

Visit [LDWG.org](http://LDWG.org) to learn more and to fill out a survey to provide feedback.

## Upper Reach Source Control Sufficiency

Anthony Wenke, WA Department of Ecology, provided an overview of Ecology's work to evaluate source control sufficiency for the Upper Reach and how that relates to the cleanup of the Lower Duwamish Waterway. The Lower Duwamish Waterway Source Control Sufficiency Evaluation Report is available on Ecology's website. [Click here to access the report.](#)

[Click here to see presentation slides for details.](#)

Anthony welcomed participants to contact him with questions on Lower Duwamish Waterway Source Control and Upper Reach sufficiency at [anthony.wenke@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:anthony.wenke@ecy.wa.gov), (425) 515-5993. Please contact David Butler with questions about the Boeing Isaacson-Thompson site at [david.butler@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:david.butler@ecy.wa.gov), (206) 518-3513.

*Question:* How will deferring Area 18 affect the rest of the cleanup in the Upper Reach?

*Answer from EPA:* This will not impact the remaining areas of clean-up in the Upper Reach. We will be doing the cleanup of sediment in areas upstream and downstream of the Boeing Isaacson-Thompson upland site. There will be a 3-to-5-year delay in cleanup of sediments next to Boeing Isaacson-Thompson, but we expect the design and cleanup action to control the source of contaminated groundwater before we finish the third phase of sediment cleanup, the Lower Reach. If source control is done soon enough, we could do the sediment cleanup at the same time we clean up the Middle Reach. The groundwater impacted sediments in the Upper Reach are localized to the area next to the Boeing Isaacson-Thompson site.

## Superfund Job Training Initiative (JTI) and Local Hiring

Laura Knudsen and Elly Hale, EPA, presented information about EPA's Superfund Job Training Initiative (JTI) program, the City of Seattle's Priority Hire program, and King County's Priority Hire program that encourage contractors working for the County and City to hire residents of economically distressed areas and to use the program's apprentices for construction jobs in their community.

*Question from EPA to the Roundtable:* Are there qualifications and/or certifications that would be helpful to include in the Superfund JTI program that would help trainees or apprentices find work – cleanup construction or similar jobs - in the Duwamish Valley?

*Answers from Roundtable Members representing industry groups:*

One participant suggested Health and Safety training and any training for mobile equipment (construction equipment on land).

Another participant noted that the company they work for is always looking for truck drivers and equipment operators. A common obstacle for people getting into truck driving is getting their Commercial Driver's License (CDL).

*Answer from a Roundtable Member:*

Another participant said that they will think more about this, but that outreach and community engagement training came to mind, especially multilingual capacity. They shared that it would be a benefit if trainees live in the communities where work is happening, and that project management certification could be useful.

*Question for EPA:* How accessible are these job opportunities to the undocumented community?

*Answer from EPA:* We need to confirm the answer to this, but we are fairly certain that for the Superfund JTI program you need a driver's license. EPA will confirm and get back to you.

*Answer from Jeanne Fulcher, City of Seattle:* Ultimately, the answer to this question depends on the training program and the employer you end up with. When we come back to this with more information, we can look at potential resources the City can share that may help.

EPA shared that they have heard interest in trying to get youth engaged with these career opportunities. EPA is exploring collaboration opportunities with the Port of Seattle Youth Maritime Career Launch program.

Tiffany Sevilla from the Port of Seattle shared that the Port of Seattle Youth Maritime Career Launch is starting this year and is currently accepting applications for youth ages 18-24. More information can be found at <https://www.portseattle.org/programs/youth-career-launch>.

Laura invited anyone to follow up with questions or ideas: [knudsen.laura@epa.gov](mailto:knudsen.laura@epa.gov), 206-643-4299.

## Around the Waterway: Updates from EPA

EPA shared more about cleanup efforts happening throughout the Duwamish Waterway.

- The Fish/Shellfish Tissue Background Compilation Report is a collection of seafood data for contaminants found at the Duwamish from sampling of fish and shellfish in non-urban areas of Puget Sound. EPA had a certain amount of data available to estimate background levels of these contaminants in seafood when they made the cleanup plan. EPA wanted to update the dataset, so they are able to compare site data to a more robust estimate of background tissue data. This report is not finalized yet. It does not affect the cleanup plan.
- EPA is accepting comments on the East Waterway Proposed Plan until Friday, August 11. There will be more information and an opportunity to submit written comments at the Duwamish River Festival on August 5<sup>th</sup>. More information is available on this [fact sheet](#) and at [www.epa.gov/superfund/harbor-island](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/harbor-island).
- Slip 36 Early Action Area is an area of the East Waterway used by the U.S. Coast Guard. EPA is planning a cleanup action that would take place before the rest of the East Waterway is cleaned up based on the (currently proposed) Harbor Island - East Waterway cleanup plan. EPA expects to oversee removal of contaminated sediment, so the Coast Guard can then deepen the slip, and is currently preparing cleanup options for public comment. More information is coming later this year.

- The Lockheed West Superfund Site is a 40-acre sediment cleanup site at the mouth of the waterway on the west side of Harbor Island. Lockheed West is partially within the West Waterway and to the north of Terminal 5 and is its own Superfund site. EPA has been working on the first 5-year review, following the start of cleanup in 2018. The 5-year review is required to make sure Superfund cleanups continue to protect the health of people and the environment when contaminated media (sediments) is left on Site above levels that allow for unlimited use or unlimited exposure. This document should be completed by the end of September and will be available online at [www.epa.gov/superfund/lockheed-west-seattle](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/lockheed-west-seattle). Piper Peterson, Lockheed West Seattle Project Manager, offered to answer any questions - [peterson.piper@epa.gov](mailto:peterson.piper@epa.gov).

## Announcements from Roundtable Caucuses—All Caucuses

Jamie Hearn shared that the Duwamish River Community Coalition is hosting their annual Duwamish River Festival on Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup> from noon to 5 pm at Duwamish People’s Park.

Natalie Graves shared that the Lower Duwamish Waterway Group will be hosting a free, family-friendly boat tour of the Duwamish on Saturday, Aug 26<sup>th</sup>. Guests can register online on the [eventbrite page](#).

The City of Seattle shared that the City's Duwamish Valley Program is hoping to work on several efforts in 2024 that might be pertinent to the Superfund cleanup:

- 1) A Duwamish Valley workforce development strategy (most likely focused on green jobs).
- 2) A purchasing and procurement strategy for goods & services in the Duwamish Valley.

## Opportunity for Comments and Questions from Observers

There were no comments or questions from observers.

## Next Steps

- Roundtable members can continue to provide feedback to EPA about the Superfund Job Training Initiative and EPA will confirm information about how accessible job opportunities are to undocumented communities.
- Roundtable members can reach out to any of the presenters with questions or comments.

## Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

## Comments from Post-Meeting Debrief (Shared with EPA for Consideration)

One participant shared that they appreciated the meeting and that it was a lot of information to digest so they will go back to the presentation to review the information again.

## Attachment A: Roundtable Members and Participants

This list of participants was generated from the Zoom User report and does not include the names of phone participants who did not identify themselves or participants who had anonymous participant IDs (e.g., "iPhone user").

Participant Name	Affiliation
1. Katy Gross	Anchor QEA
2. Tom Wang	Anchor QEA
3. Alberto	City of Seattle
4. Jeanne Fulcher	City of Seattle
5. Ai Nguyen	Community Health Advocate
6. Cindy GAL	Community Health Advocate
7. Dalis	Community Health Advocate
8. Emma Maria	Community Health Advocate
9. Noe Luz	Community Health Advocate
10. Quan Phan	Community Health Advocate
11. Rath	Community Health Advocate
12. Sophorn Sim	Community Health Advocate
13. Soun Hour Pov	Community Health Advocate
14. Kate Elliott	Consultant for Seattle Public Utilities
15. Anthony Wenke	Department of Ecology
16. David Butler	Department of Ecology
17. Scarlet Tang	Department of Ecology
18. Jamie Hearn	Duwamish River Community Coalition
19. Elly Hale	EPA
20. Laura Knudsen	EPA
21. Meshach Padilla	EPA
22. Piper Peterson	EPA
23. Mike Ehlebracht	Haley & Aldrich
24. Linn Gould	Just Health Action
25. Tracie Friedman	Khmu National Federation
26. Debra Williston	King County
27. Jeff Stern	King County
28. Terill Hollweg	NOAA
29. Phone [phone number on record but not included]	Not Provided
30. Phone [phone number on record but not included]	Not Provided
31. Phone [phone number on record but not included]	Not Provided
32. Phone [phone number on record but not included]	Not Provided
33. Phone [phone number on record but not included]	Not Provided

Participant Name	Affiliation
34. Augie Nuszer	Not Provided
35. Bob Piniewski	Not Provided
36. CH	Not Provided
37. Clark Davis	Not Provided
38. Derek Nanninga	Not Provided
39. Dominga	Not Provided
40. Don	Not Provided
41. Edgard Soto	Not Provided
42. Emily Guyer	Not Provided
43. Emily Jones	Not Provided
44. Hoang Nguyen	Not Provided
45. iPhone (2)	Not Provided
46. iPhone (3)	Not Provided
47. iPhone của Jacda	Not Provided
48. iPhone Dave S	Not Provided
49. Joanna	Not Provided
50. John Smith	Not Provided
51. Kayla Aughenbaugh	Not Provided
52. Kevin Duong	Not Provided
53. Kim Johannessen	Not Provided
54. Kizz Prusia	Not Provided
55. Matilda	Not Provided
56. Molly Taptich	Not Provided
57. Pete Stoltz	Not Provided
58. Roxana y Carlos	Not Provided
59. Sam Somphet	Not Provided
60. Tan Pham	Not Provided
61. Thao Thach	Not Provided
62. Tiffany Sevilla	Not Provided
63. Yeau Standes	Not Provided
64. Yusuf Pehlivan	Not Provided
65. Patrick Jablonski	Nucor
66. Shirlee Tan	Public Health Seattle King County
67. Natalie Graves	S&A Communications
68. Abbey Burnett	Seattle Public Utilities
69. Fernando Platin	Seattle Public Utilities
70. Pete Rude	Seattle Public Utilities
71. Lauren Lundberg	SODO BIA
72. Colleen Henn	Stepherson & Associates
73. Rebeca O'Dell	TIG Environmental
74. Tracianne Torklep	US Coast Guard

**Facilitation Team**

Cheryl Klotz	Triangle Associates
Annalise Ritter	Triangle Associates
Melanie del Rosario	Triangle Associates
Sophie Glass	Triangle Associates

**Interpretation Team**

Carla Miranda	Interpreter
Tammy Dang	Interpreter
James Heng	Interpreter