

South Park Information and Resource Center  
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EPA Proposed Plan to Clean up the Lower Duwamish Waterway  
Superfund Site  
EPA Region 10  
1200 6th Ave – Suite 900 ECL- 111  
Seattle WA 98101

### South Park Information and Resource Center Comments

The South Park Information and Resource Center works closely with members directly affected by the well-being of the Duwamish River. Our mission is to strengthen our community by connecting people to resources. For those reasons we ask that EPA strengthen the final plan for cleaning the 5.5-mile Lower Duwamish Waterway Superfund Site.

The final cleanup plan should achieve a level of cleanliness in the Duwamish River that will:

- Assure that there will be no need to return for further cleanup in the future; it is more cost effective to spend more upfront than to leave enough pollutants that indefinite sampling will continue to be required
- Allow safe eating of resident fish and shellfish

To achieve these goals will require

- Dredging of larger areas of the riverbed than in the present plan
- Enhanced capping of additional areas
- Adding to the plan requirements to control Green River recontamination

The Duwamish River forms the longest boundary of the South Park neighborhood of Seattle. The neighborhood has demonstrably lower life expectancies than other Seattle neighborhoods. The synergistic contributions of numerous unhealthy exposures all play a part. This poor, highly diverse neighborhood deserves vigorous efforts to protect a most vulnerable population. The largest percentages of South Park residents are children who should live where it is safe to play on the mud flats at low tide without shortening their lives. And, finally, their parents deserve special efforts to provide them with livable-wage jobs. The clean-up efforts should provide some of those jobs. Thank you for weighing these comments heavily in EPA's response.

Sincerely,

Dinorah Flores, SPIARC Program Manager