

Abbreviated Preliminary Assessment for Genesee Landfill

Latah County



**State of Idaho
Department of Environmental Quality**

December 2012



STATE OF IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

1410 North Hilton • Boise, ID 83706 • (208) 373-0502

C. L. "Butch" Otter, Governor
Curt Fransen, Director

February 20, 2013

Mr. Ken Marcy
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
12928 SW 276th Street
Vashon, WA 98070

Subject: Abbreviated Preliminary Assessment Report for Genesee City Landfill,
Latah County, Idaho

Dear Mr. Marcy:

The Genesee Landfill is located on city property approximately 3/4 of a mile southwest of downtown Genesee, Idaho on Cow Creek Road. The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) requested access to the private property, and received permission from city employees.

Attached are two copies of DEQ's Abbreviated Preliminary Assessment report for the Genesee landfill. As discussed in the report, toxicological risks to human and ecological receptors are unlikely at the site. This is due to the lack of residences or structures, no site workers present, and limited use of this area by the public.

The air, soil, and water pathways are not complete. All historic dump related disturbances are well vegetated and stable. Although no evidence existed of any recent disturbances or activity, the site is accessible. Cow Creek parallels the site and can be observed from the road.

The dump is not located within the source water delineation zone. No drinking water sources, wells, or ground water sources exist on the site.

Based on existing conditions and uses, historic information, observations made during the site visit, and visual analysis; potential pathway of contaminants to receptors and potential exposures to ecological and human receptors do not exist. **DEQ recommends the determination of the Genesee Landfill as No Remedial Action Planned (NRAP).**

A link to the Abbreviated Preliminary Assessment report for the Genesee Landfill can also be found on DEQ's Preliminary Assessment Web page at:

<http://www.deq.idaho.gov/waste-mgmt-remediation/remediation-activities/mining-preliminary-assessments.aspx>

If you have any questions about this site, the report, or DEQ's recommendations, please do not hesitate to call me at (208) 373-0563.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tina Elayer".

Tina Elayer
Mine Waste Specialist

Attachment

cc: City of Genesee
Genesee Landfill PA File

Contents

Introduction.....	3
Section 1. APA Checklist	4
Task 1—Superfund Eligibility Evaluation	4
Task 2—Initial Site Evaluation	4
Task 3—DEQ Site Assessment Decision.....	6
Section 2. Historical Information.....	7
Section 3. Site Conditions and Photographs	7
Section 4. Maps.....	10
Section 5. References.....	16
GIS Coverages.....	16

Tables

Table 1. Site assessment decision guidelines for a site.....	6
--	---

Figures

Figure 1. Location of the Genesee Landfill in Latah County, Idaho.	10
Figure 2. Map of major lithology in the vicinity of the Genesee Landfill.....	11
Figure 3. Domestic well and public water system locations.....	12
Figure 4. Sensitive streams located in the vicinity of the Genesee Landfill.....	13
Figure 5. Plant and nongame animal sensitive species within 4-mile radius and surrounding area of the Genesee Landfill.....	14
Figure 6. Fisheries within 4-mile radius and surrounding area of the Genesee Landfill.....	15

Photos

Photo 1. Current use for the Genesee Landfill site is storage for the road district.	7
Photo 2. Bulk waste is still gathered periodically at the Genesee Landfill and hauled to an approved landfill.....	8
Photo 3. View of gravel storage on the site.	9

This page intentionally left blank for correct double-sided printing.

Introduction

This is an abbreviated preliminary assessment (APA) for the Genesee Landfill near Genesee, Idaho. This document provides the rationale for the No Remedial Action Planned (NRAP) determination and that no additional analysis or site investigation is necessary for the Genesee Landfill. Section 1 provides the APA checklist filled out by the assessor to determine that an APA was warranted and that no further action is required from the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The following sections contain additional relevant information and evidence to support the APA, including historical and geologic information (Section 2), photographs (Section 3), maps (Section 4), and references generated during the site visit or desktop research (Section 5).

Preparer: Dennis Behler **Date:** 12/10/2012
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
1118 F Street
Lewiston, ID 83501
208-799-4370
dennis.behler@deq.idaho.gov

Site Name: Genesee Landfill

Previous Names (aka): Genesee City Dump

Site Owner: City of Genesee

Address: 140 E. Walnut
Genesee, ID 83832

Site Location: Approximately 3/4 of a mile southwest of downtown Genesee on Cow Creek Road.

Township 37 North, Range 5 West, Section 14

Latitude: 46.54634°N **Longitude:** -116.93823°W

Description of release (or potential release) and its probable nature:

The Genesee Landfill was investigated by DEQ on August 23, 2012, for potential releases of heavy metals by airborne, surface water, or ground water pathways. Additionally, DEQ investigated potential discharges of other deleterious materials, such as petroleum products and processing chemicals.

Section 1. APA Checklist

Task 1—Superfund Eligibility Evaluation

Assessor, if all answers are “no,” continue to task 2; otherwise, explain any “yes” answers below and then skip to task 3.

- | | YES | NO |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Is the site currently in the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System (CERCLIS) or an “alias” of another site? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Is the site being addressed by some other remediation program (i.e., federal, state, or tribal)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Are the hazardous substances that may be released from the site regulated under a statutory exclusion (e.g., petroleum, natural gas, natural gas liquids, synthetic gas usable for fuel, normal application of fertilizer, release located in a workplace, naturally occurring, or regulated by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act, or Occupational Safety and Health Administration)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Are the hazardous substances that may be released from the site excluded by policy considerations (i.e., deferred to Resource Conservation and Recovery Act corrective action)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Is there sufficient documentation to demonstrate that there is no potential for a release that constitutes risk to human or ecological receptors (e.g., comprehensive remedial investigation equivalent data showing no release above applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements (ARARs), completed removal action, documentation showing that no hazardous substance releases have occurred, or an EPA-approved risk assessment)? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Assessor, please explain all “yes” answer(s):

Regarding question 5: A site inspection involving direct observations confirmed that contaminants of concern, including hazardous materials and petroleum products, do not exist in concentrations that present a threat to human health or the environment. No contaminants or hazardous substances remain on the site. The closest residence to the Genesee Landfill is downstream approximately 1.5 miles.

Task 2—Initial Site Evaluation

If information is not available to make a “yes” or “no” response below, further investigation may be needed. In these cases, the assessor should determine whether an APA is appropriate.

If the answer is “no” to any of questions 1, 2, or 3, proceed directly to task 3.

- | | YES | NO |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Does the site have a release or a potential to release? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Does the site have uncontained sources containing CERCLA-eligible substances? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Does the site have documented on-site, adjacent, or nearby targets? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

If the answers to questions 1, 2, and 3 above were all “yes,” then answer questions 4–7 before proceeding to task 3.

	YES	NO
4. Does documentation indicate that a target (e.g., drinking water wells, drinking surface water intakes, etc.) has been exposed to a hazardous substance released from the site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Is there an apparent release at the site with no documentation of exposed targets, but targets are on site or immediately adjacent to the site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Is there an apparent release and no documented on-site targets or targets immediately adjacent to the site, but targets are nearby (e.g., within 1 mile)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Are there uncontained sources containing CERCLA hazardous substances, a potential to release with targets present on site or in proximity to the site, but no indication of a hazardous substance release?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Notes:

Located south of the City of Genesee and adjacent to Cow Creek, the Genesee Landfill was an open dump that is currently closed. Potential contaminants typical to a farming community include metals, complex organic compounds, plastics, petroleum products, chemicals, tires and other products commonly found in a landfill.

The current use of the Genesee Landfill is storage for the road district. Bulk waste is still gathered periodically at this location and hauled to an approved landfill. The city may have covered the old landfill. There is a garbanzo bean crop that surrounds the site. There is no vegetation on the landfill area because of current uses. Various piles of asphalt were observed on-site at the time of DEQ’s visit. Cow Creek is located approximately 200 yards south of the property. The landfill area on the site is dry and no surface water pathways were observed on the site or from the site to the creek.

The Genesee Landfill is not located near any occupied dwellings, towns, or inhabitants. No hazardous materials were evident during the site visit. Any human health risks or ecological health risks associated with this site are unlikely.

Table 1 parallels the questions above and should be used by the assessor to make decisions during task 3. Table 1 identifies different types of site information and provides some possible recommendations for further site assessment activities based on that information. The assessor should use Table 1 in determining the need for further action at the site, based on the answers to the questions in task 2. Assessors should use professional judgment when evaluating a site. An assessor’s individual judgment may be different from the general recommendations for a site given below.

Table 1. Site assessment decision guidelines for a site.

Suspected/Documented Site Conditions	EPA-Recommended Site Assessment Activities
1. There are no releases or potential to release.	APA
2. No uncontained sources with CERCLA-eligible substances are present on site.	APA
3. There are no on-site, adjacent, or nearby targets.	APA
4. There is documentation indicating that a target (e.g., drinking water wells, drinking surface water intakes, etc.) has been exposed to a hazardous substance released from the site.	APA → SI or PA/SI
5. There is an apparent release at the site with no documentation of exposed targets, but there are targets on site or immediately adjacent to the site.	APA → SI or PA/SI
6. There is an apparent release and no documented on-site targets and no documented targets immediately adjacent to the site, but there are nearby targets. Nearby targets are those targets that are located within 1 mile of the site and have a relatively high likelihood of exposure to a hazardous substance migration from the site.	Full PA
7. There is no indication of a hazardous substance release, and there are uncontained sources containing CERCLA hazardous substances, but there is a potential to release with targets present on site or in proximity to the site.	Full PA

Task 3—DEQ Site Assessment Decision

When completing task 3, the assessor should use task 2 and Table 1 to select the appropriate decision. For example, if the answer to question 1 in task 2 was “no,” then an APA is appropriate and the “NRAP” box below should be checked. Additionally, if the answer to question 4 in task 2 is “yes,” then two options are available (as indicated in Table 1): (1) proceed with an APA and check the “Lower Priority SI” or “Higher Priority SI” box below or (2) proceed with a combined PA/SI.

Check the box that applies based on the conclusions of the APA checklist:

- No Remedial Action Planned (NRAP) Defer to NRC
- Higher Priority SI Refer to Removal Program
- Lower Priority SI Site is being addressed as part of another CERCLIS site
- Defer to RCRA Subtitle C Other: _____

DEQ Reviewer:



 Dennis Behler

December 10, 2012

Please explain the rationale for your decision:

The area surrounding the Genesee Landfill was well vegetated and healthy. The farmland on the site has been converted to vehicle storage and gravel storage for the local road district.

A site inspection involving direct observations confirmed that contaminants of concern, including hazardous materials and petroleum products, do not exist in concentrations that present a threat to human health or the environment. The Genesee Landfill is not located near any occupied dwellings, towns, or inhabitants. No hazardous materials were evident during the site visit.

The closest residence to the Genesee Landfill is approximately 1.5 miles downstream.

As a result of DEQ's research and observations, the department recommends a No Remedial Action Planned (NRAP) designation for the Genesee Landfill. Sections 2 through 5 provide further support for this determination..

Section 2. Historical Information

The Genesee Landfill was closed and capped prior to the promulgation of any solid waste regulations by the State of Idaho in 1974.

Section 3. Site Conditions and Photographs

All of the Genesee Landfill photographs in this section were taken by DEQ on August 23, 2012.



Photo 1. Current use for the Genesee Landfill site is storage for the road district.



Photo 2. Bulk waste is still gathered periodically at the Genesee Landfill and hauled to an approved landfill.



Photo 3. View of gravel storage on the site.

Section 4. Maps



Figure 1. Location of the Genesee Landfill in Latah County, Idaho.
(Source: 2011 Natural Color + IR 1-meter National Agricultural Imagery Program [NAIP] Idaho)

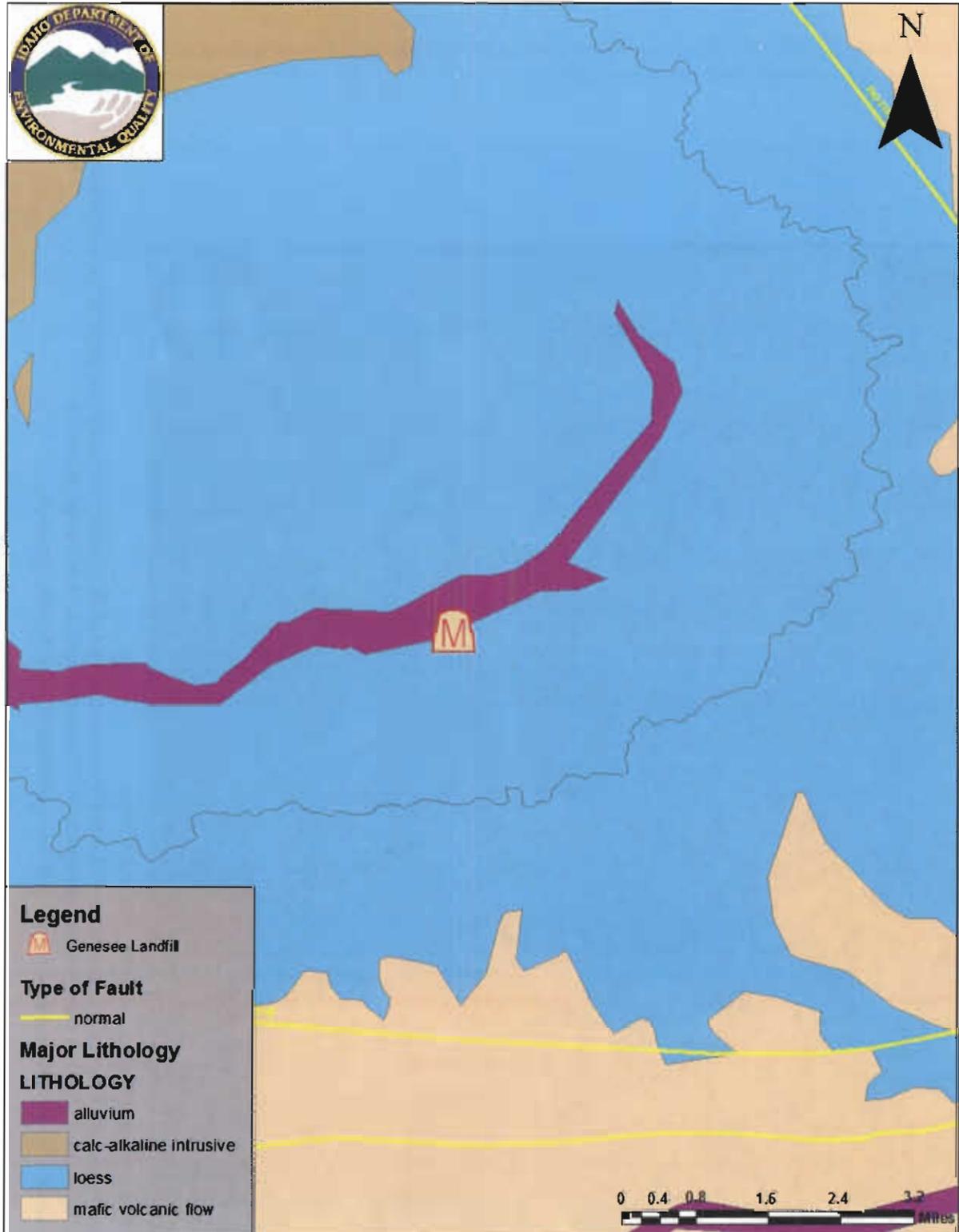


Figure 2. Map of major lithology in the vicinity of the Genesee Landfill.

(Source: SDE Feature Class, USGS 1995. Idaho GIS ArcSDE 9.2 Geodatabase)

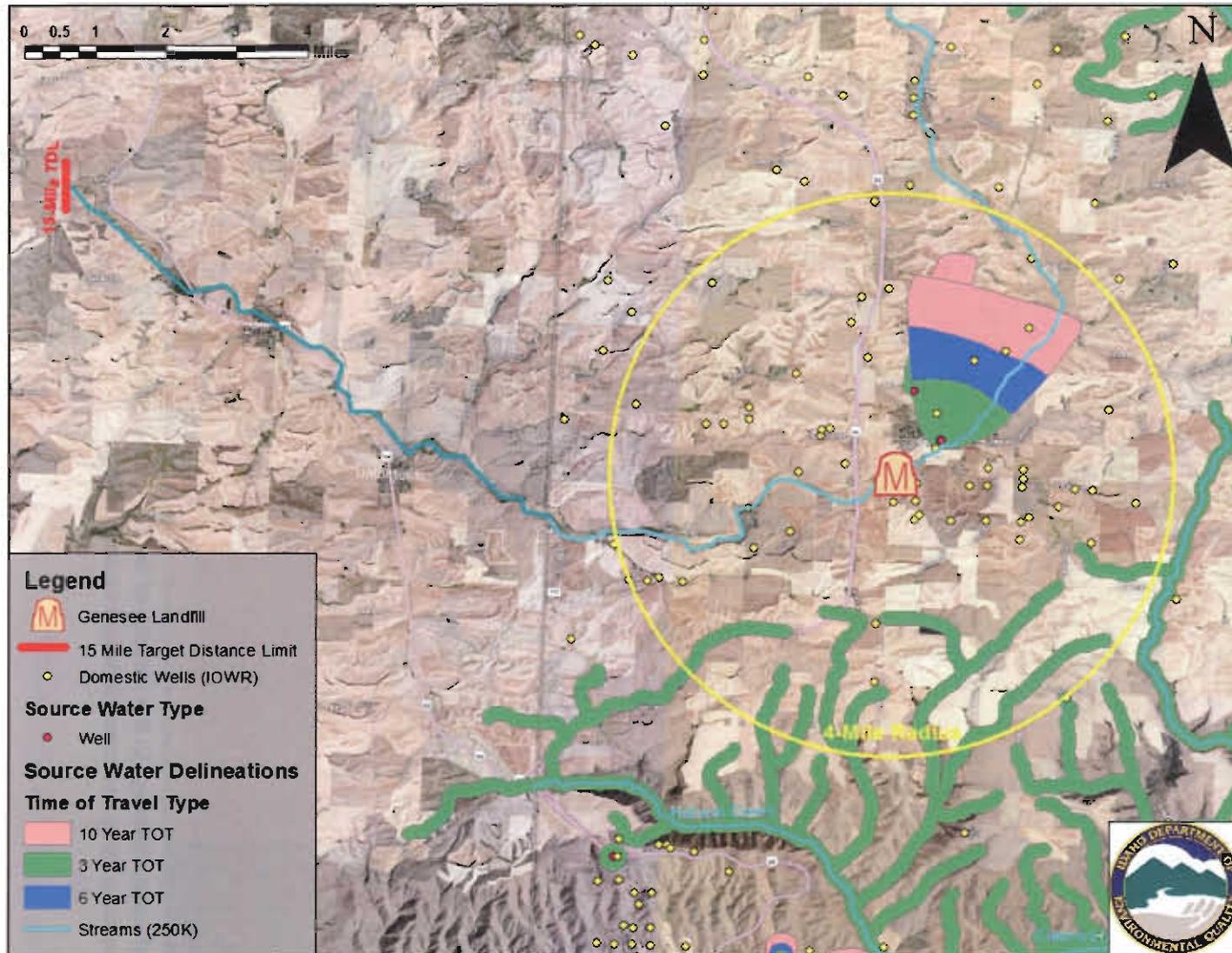


Figure 3. Domestic well and public water system locations.

There are approximately 58 domestic well locations and 3 public water systems (PWS) within the 4-mile radius (PWS are located upgradient from the Genesee Landfill site). There are no significant wetlands within a 2-mile radius or in the general area.

(Source: Idaho GIS ArcSDE 9.3 Geodatabase, Microsoft Virtual Earth Aerial with Labels © 2009 Microsoft Corporation)

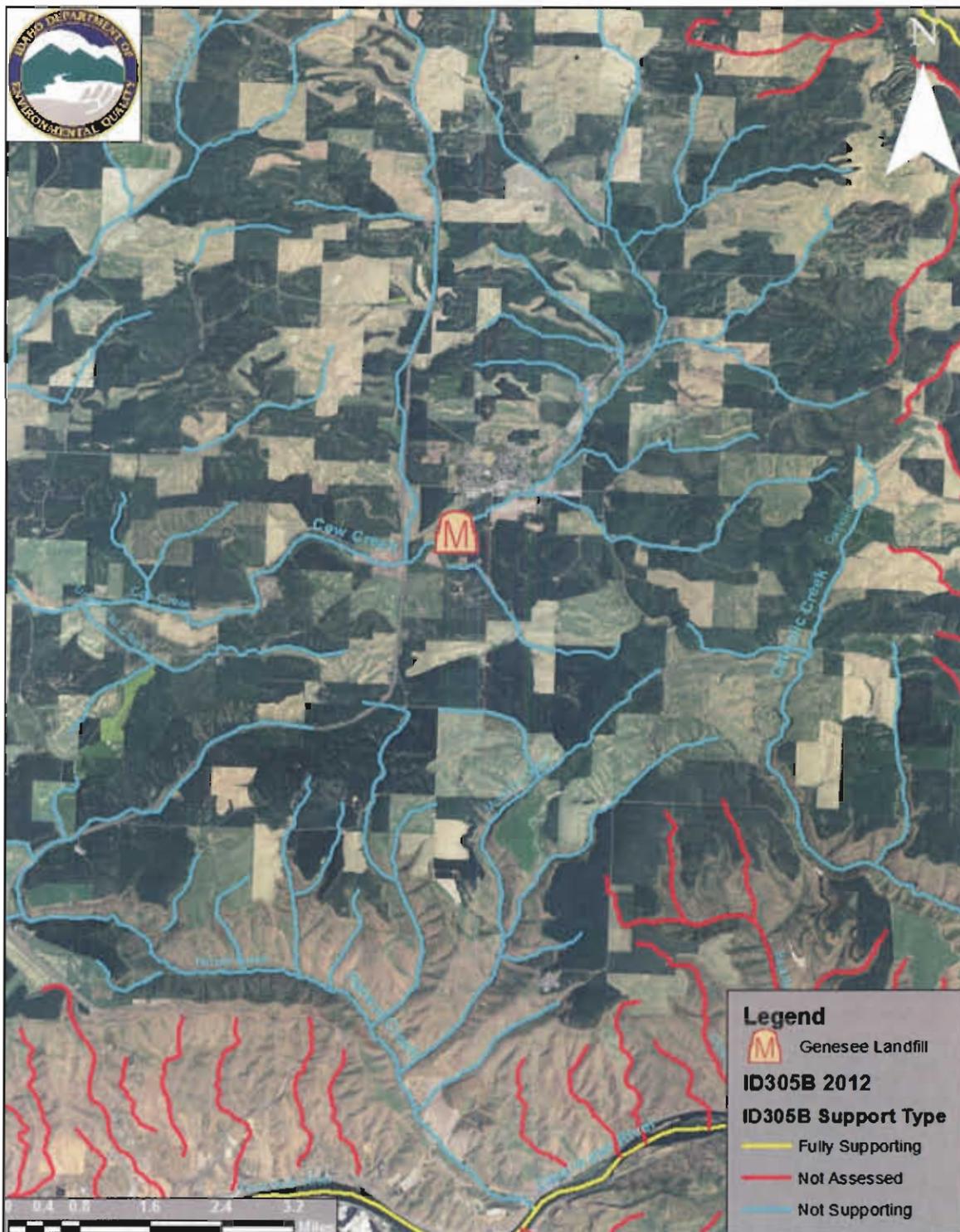


Figure 4. Sensitive streams located in the vicinity of the Genesee Landfill.

Cow Creek (source to Idaho/Washington border) is listed as "not supporting" for cold water aquatic life. The causes are: nutrient/eutrophication biological indicators, physical substrate habitat alterations, temperature, and water.

(Source: SDE Feature Dataset, Animal Conservation Database. Idaho GIS ArcSDE 9.2 Geodatabase)

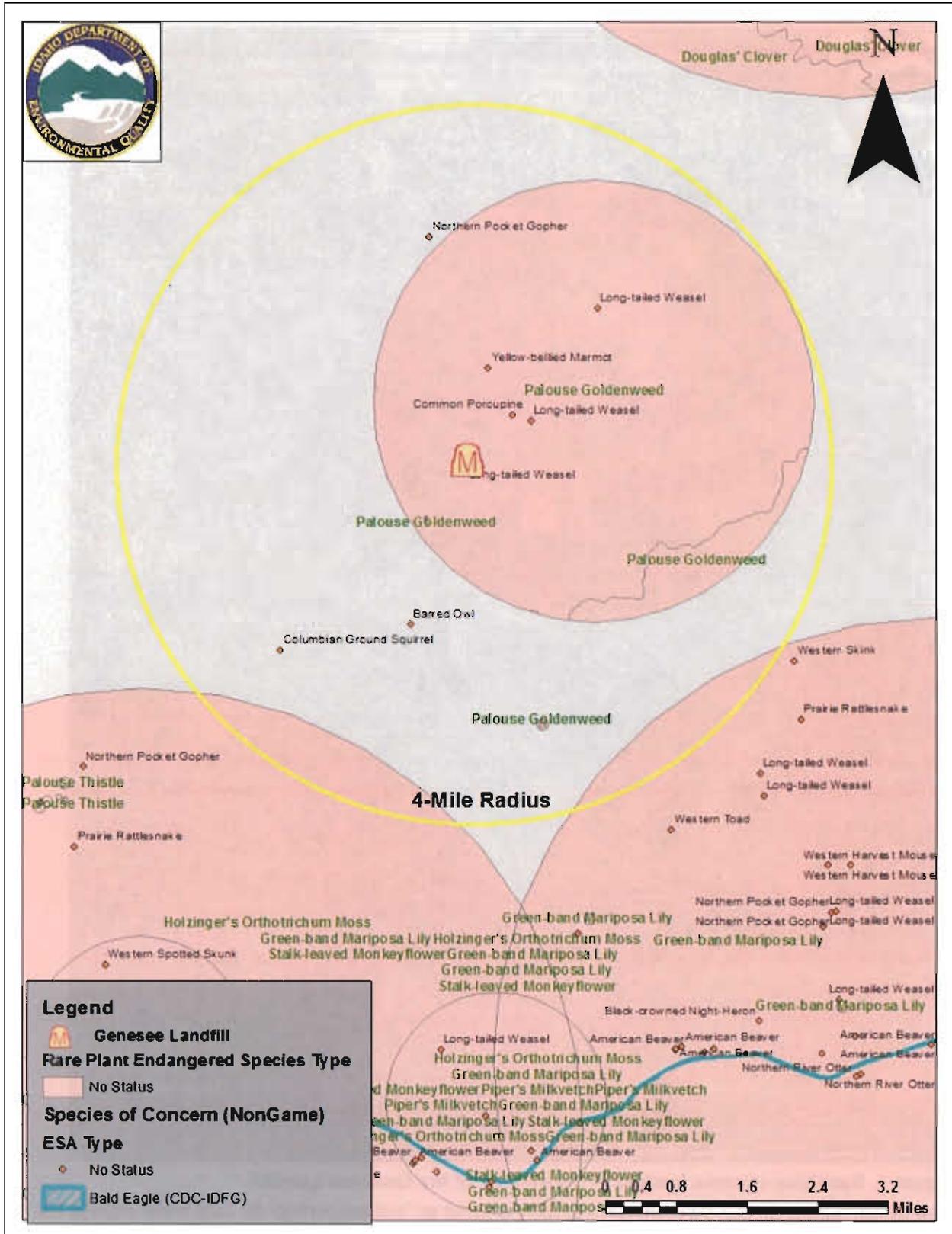


Figure 5. Plant and nongame animal sensitive species within 4-mile radius and surrounding area of the Genesee Landfill.

(Source: SDE Feature Dataset, Animal Conservation Database. Idaho GIS ArcSDE 9.2 Geodatabase)

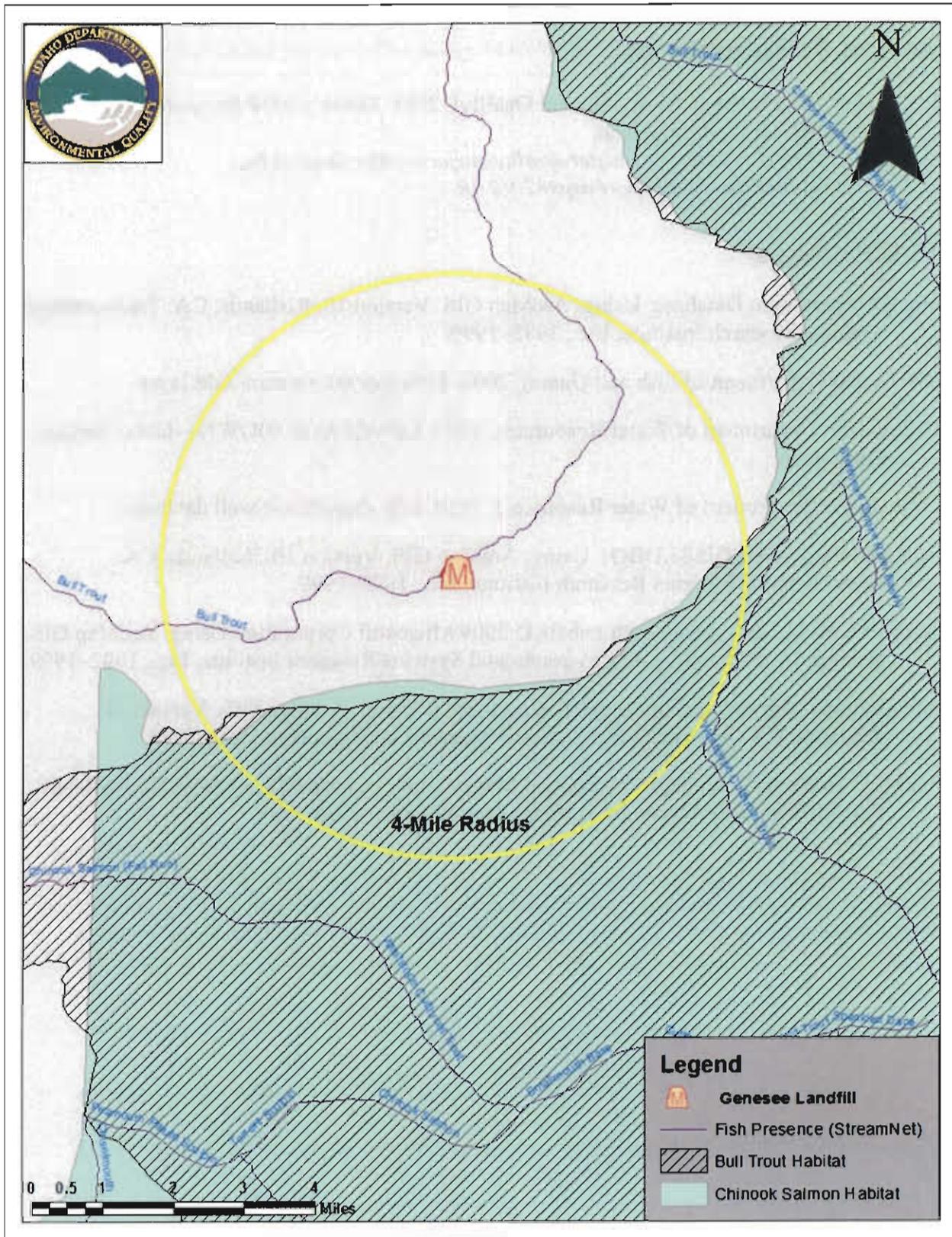


Figure 6. Fisheries within 4-mile radius and surrounding area of the Genesee Landfill.

(Source: SDE Feature Dataset, Animal Conservation Database. Idaho GIS ArcSDE 9.2 Geodatabase)

Section 5. References

DEQ (Idaho Department of Environmental Quality). 2011. *Idaho's 2010 Integrated Report*. Boise, ID: DEQ. Available at:
<http://www.deq.idaho.gov/water-quality/surface-water/monitoring-assessment/integrated-report.aspx#2012-IR>.

GIS Coverages

Animal Conservation Database. Using: ArcMap GIS. Version 10. Redlands, CA: Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc., 1992–1999.

IDFG (Idaho Department of Fish and Game). 2002. Fisheries information GIS layer.

IDWR (Idaho Department of Water Resources). 1997. COVERAGE IDOWN—Idaho Surface Ownership.

IDWR (Idaho Department of Water Resources). 2010. GIS shapefile of well database.

Major Lithology (DEQGIS83.DBO). Using: ArcMap GIS. Version 10. Redlands, CA: Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc., 1992–1999.

Microsoft Virtual Earth Aerial with Labels © 2009 Microsoft Corporation Using: ArcMap GIS. Version 10. Redlands, CA: Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc., 1992–1999.

NAIP (National Agricultural Imagery Program). 2011. Using: ArcMap GIS. Version 10. Redlands, CA: Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc., 1992–1999.

USGS (US Geological Society). 100K Quad Map. Using: ArcMap GIS. Version 10. Redlands, CA: Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc., 1992–1999.