

NEW REGULATIONS FOR SOIL RELOCATION



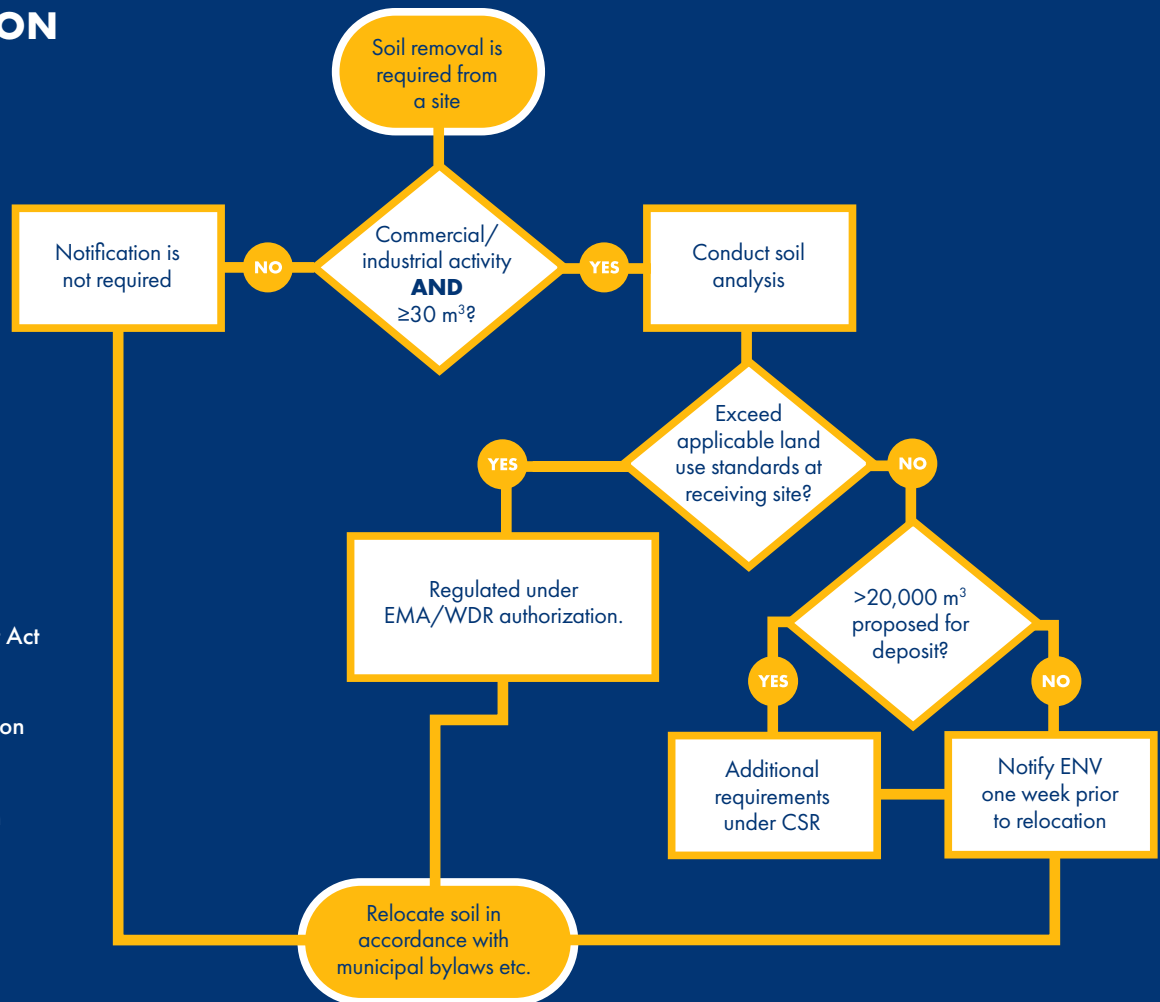
WHAT IS SOIL RELOCATION?

The soil relocation process is a series of legal provisions in the Environmental Management Act (EMA) and Contaminated Sites Regulation (CSR) that ensure non-waste quality soil is characterized before it is relocated to receiving sites for beneficial re-use. The process includes provisions for notification and for registration of high volume receiving sites.

Notification is required when:

- Relocating 30 m³ or more of non-waste quality soil; and
- Relocating soil from sites with a history of specific industrial or commercial uses.

SOIL RELOCATION PROCESS



- EMA**
Environmental Management Act
- CSR**
Contaminated Sites Regulation
- WDR**
Waste Discharge Regulation
- ENV**
Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

THE NEW SOIL RELOCATION PROCESS

Changes to EMA and the CSR will come into effect on March 1, 2023. These changes will bring the relocation of non-waste quality soil under increased ministry oversight. Persons relocating 30 m³ or more of non-waste quality soil must follow the new soil analysis and notification requirements. Procedures for compliance verification and enforcement are also being implemented.





WHAT IS REQUIRED IF RELOCATING SOIL FROM SCHEDULE 2 SITES?

If a person intends to relocate 30 m³ or more of soil from a site where a Schedule 2 industrial or commercial use occurred, they must first:

- Analyze the soil to determine if it is non-waste quality in relation to the receiving site; and
- Submit a soil relocation notification form through an online system.

Requirements for soil relocation do not apply when:

- the receiving site is outside of BC;
- the receiving site is on federal land, other than a reserve;
- quarry material has been extracted under a Mines Act permit and is transported directly to a receiving site;
- pre-load soil originates from non-Schedule 2 use site;
- the soil is winter maintenance sand; and
- the total volume is less than 30 m³ for the same project over 2 years (for non-high risk sites).

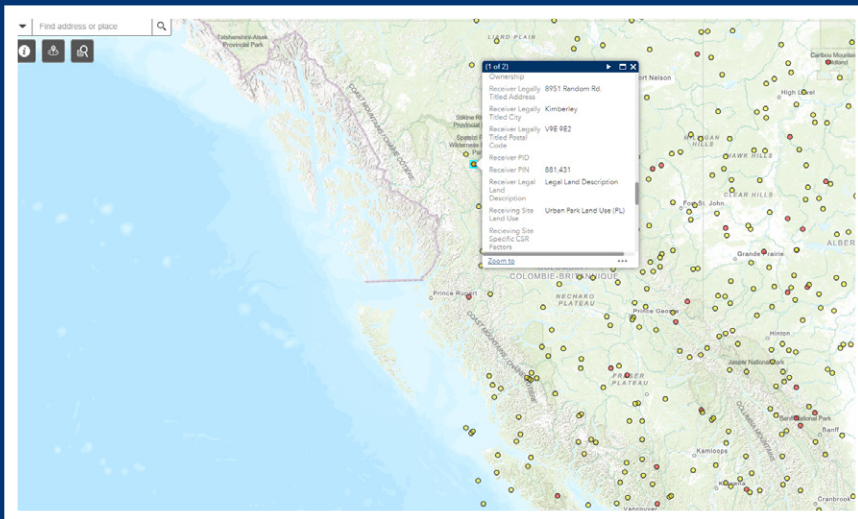
HIGH VOLUME SITES

Sites that receive more than 20,000 m³ of non-waste quality soil are called high volume receiving sites. The owner of a high volume receiving site is required to register the site by submitting a High Volume Receiving Site Registration Form to ENV. Owners are further required to implement a soil management plan developed by a Qualified Professional and signed by an Approved Professional. High volume receiving sites must be managed in accordance with that soil management plan until the site is closed. In addition, soil containing organic substances is not allowed within 10 metres of a water body.

High volume site requirements do not apply when:

- The soil being relocated is low impact soil (residential, urban park, agricultural or wildlands soil qualities);
- The soil being relocated for the purpose of constructing or maintaining linear infrastructure including a highway, transit system, pipeline, sewage collection system, a drainage collection system that is below ground, a water distribution system, an electricity transmission or distribution system, a telecommunications line or tower, a right of way required for infrastructure, or a dyke or other structure constructed to prevent flooding or erosion.

SOIL RELOCATION INFORMATION SYSTEM



A Soil Relocation Information System (SRIS) has been established to allow Indigenous Nations, local governments and other interested parties to access information on soil relocation.

