## Creating a Workplace of Choice: One lean journey

## Jim Pendowski Program Manager, Toxics Cleanup Program



## What the Toxics Cleanup Program Does



Inspect underground storage tanks



Clean up contaminated sites



Support local governments through grants



Involve communities and restore habitat

## The Start of Our Lean Journey: Speeding up the cleanup process

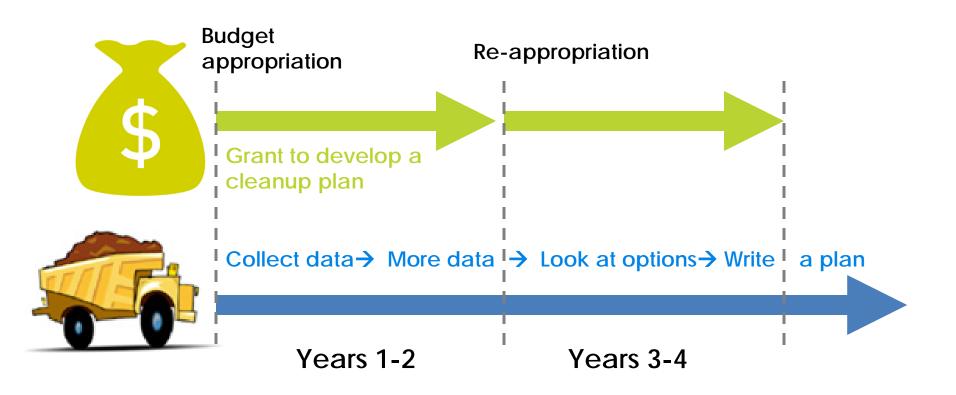


450 complex cleanups

awaiting or in process

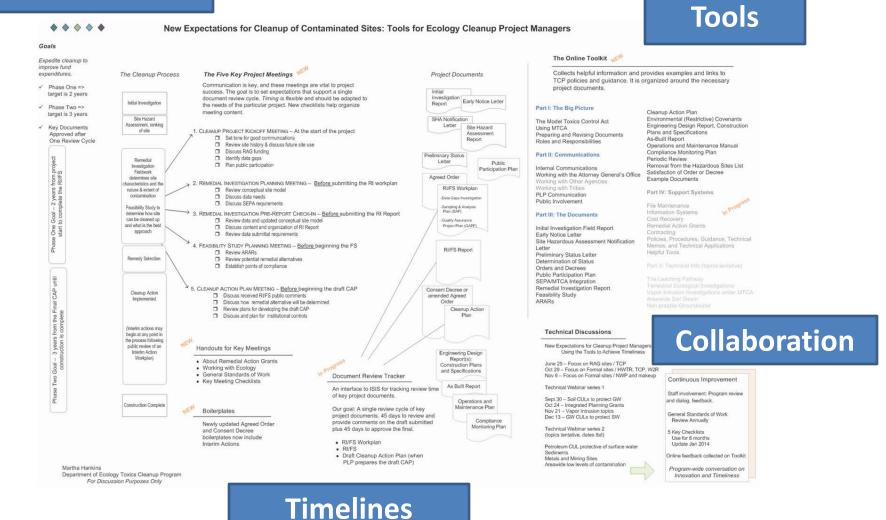
11+ years, on average!

## Grant Spending is Limited by Cleanup Time



### Lean Project

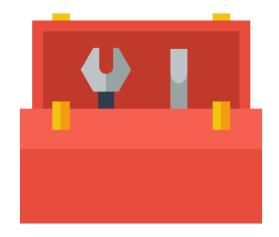
#### Communication



### Tools to Speed Up Cleanup



45 day timelines for reviewing documents



Toolkit on how to clean up contaminated sites



Checklists to standardize work

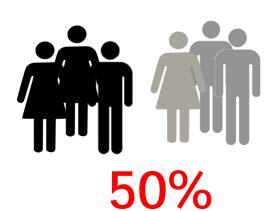


## However, something was still missing...

### Our workforce!



### The People Story



Staff turnover in five years



Up and down employee engagement marks



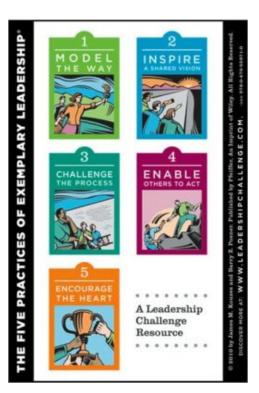
Program survey concerns:
Communication, workload, and training

# Developing a Roadmap to a Workplace of Choice



## Workplace of Choice Projects

Washington State Department of Enterprise Services





www.des.wa.gov

### **Ongoing Commitment**

#### Vision

We envision a clean, healthy, sustainable environment supporting livable communities and a vibrant economy throughout the State of Washington.

#### Mission

Our mission is to protect
Washington's human
health and environment
by preventing and
cleaning up pollution and
supporting sustainable
communities and natural
resources for the benefit
of current and future
generations.

#### **Values**

#### **Healthy Environment**

We improve and protect our quality of life.

#### Respect

We build sustainable, collaborative relationships with each other, our partners, and the public.

#### Innovation

We encourage and support continuous improvement of our work and risk-taking.

#### Informed Decisions

We commit to sciencebased, client-focused, fair, and consistent decisions.

#### Outcome Goals

#### **Detect & Prevent Underground Tank Leaks**

Focus on education and required inspections, compliance, and enforcement to prevent and detect releases.

#### **Clean Up Sites**

Take faster, strong, innovative actions to improve our environment and protect human health.

#### Leverage Site Cleanups to Invest In & Support Communities

Equitably help communities restore polluted sites and reshape the local environment and habitat as they grow their local economies.

#### **Develop the New TCP**

Evolve and rebuild processes, policies, technology, and skills to improve how we serve the public and the people we work with.

#### **Build A Workplace of Choice**

Provide high-quality services to our staff and clients by recruiting, training, mentoring, and retaining skilled professionals.