ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT REGIONAL DISTRICT

West Coast Landfill

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Submitted to British Columbia Ministry of Environment and Parks

Prepared by the ACRD Community Services Department

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Report Summary

	Reporting Year 2024	Unit
Waste Tonnage Disposed at WCL	6,057	t
Landfill Airspace Consumed	9,675	m^3
Landfill Airspace Remaining	671,082	m^3
Anticipated Closure Date at Current Fill Rate/Density	Approx. 2062	
Waste in Place at Landfill	182,642	t
Leachate Generated & Treated	Not measured	m^3
Landfill Gas Management	none	
Closure Works Undertaken	none	
Inspection Works	No Ministry inspection in 2024. Ongoing informal inspections.	
Changes from Approved Plans	None	
Ministry Non-Compliances	• Requirement for Active OMRR registration. • MOE missing documentation for leachate overflow piping and contaminated soil.	
Progress on Non-Compliances	• Updated Organic Processing Operational plan submitted August 2024. • Leachate overflow documents and contaminated soil to be included in 2026/27 permit amendment.	

WCL Waste Shed Projects Undertaken in 2024	Future Projects/Initiatives Proposed
Organics Composting Facility - Cover Expansion	3-phase power upgrade
Biosolids Processing	Commercial Organics Diversion
Update of Solid Waste Management Plan Steps 1-3	Design Operations and Closure Plan Update
Landfill Contract Renewal	Operational Certificate Update
Waste Education – Let's Talk Trash (LTT)	Leachate Treatment Facility
SortnGrow Compost – Quality Testing and Distribution	Alternative Cover
Tipping Fee Review	Commercial Waste Rate Incentive Pilot Project
West Coast Working Group	Construction and Demolition Diversion Case Study
Ocean Legacy Buckets	Local Education Resourcing
Rope and Netting Collection	Wildlife Cart Management Enforcement
	Installation of Leachate Flow Monitoring

	Target	Actual
1 - Waste Disposal Rate	< 400 kg/capita	491 kg/capita
2- Diversion of Waste	>50%	29%
3 - Airspace Consumption Ratio	>750 kg/m^3	626 kg/m^3
4 – Capital Contributions	>$70,000/year	$156,725
5 – Water Quality	Meet Requirements	Requirements Met
6 – Landfill Gas Generation	<1,000 tonnes CH_4/year	Est. 373 tonnes CH_4/year

Contents

Background

The Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District (ACRD) operates the West Coast Landfill (WCL) under the British Columbia Waste Management Act Operational Certificate Number OC-5634, issued April 12, 2005. The "waste shed" for municipal solid waste destined for the WCL includes the District of Tofino, District of Ucluelet, Parks Canada, ACRD Electoral District C - Long Beach and the First Nations communities of the Toquaht, Yuułuʔiłʔatḥ, Ahousaht, Tla-o-qui-aht, and Hesquiaht. The WCL is located approximately 9 km northwest of the Tofino-Ucluelet junction, on the east side of the highway, along Alaska Pine Road. The WCL has been operational since 1980.

This report has been prepared to satisfy the annual reporting requirements for the WCL, as required by the Operational Certificate and the 2016 Landfill Criteria for Municipal Solid Waste published by BC Ministry of Environment and Parks (MOEP).

Mission Statement: To protect human health and the environment and maximize value of service by effectively managing the region's solid waste in an environmentally, socially and economically responsible manner.

Waste Quantification

Landfilled

In 2024, the WCL accepted 6,057 tonnes of municipal solid waste (MSW) and construction and demolition (C&D) waste as shown in Table 1. The cumulative waste in place at the WCL as of the end of 2024 is 182,642 tonnes.

Table 1 - Waste disposed in 2024

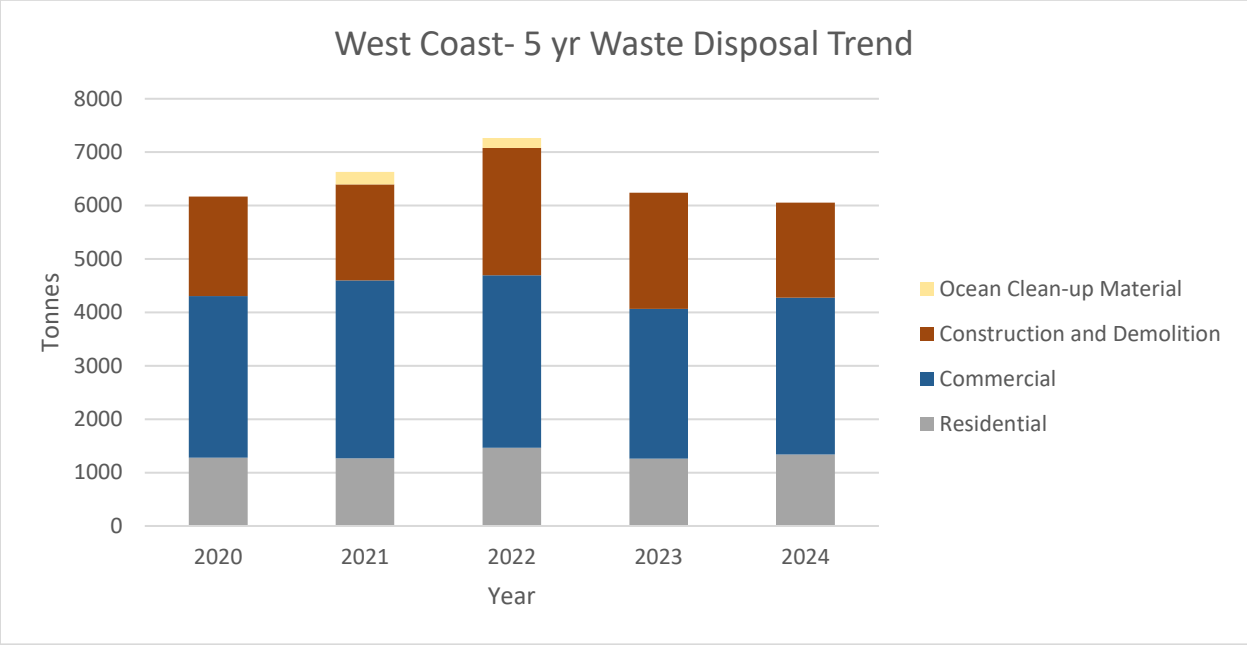
Waste	Tonnes	Percentage
Residential	1337	22%
Commercial	2941	49%
Construction and Demolition	1779	29%
Total	6057	100%

The year over year comparison of waste processed through the WCL over the past five years is shown in Chart 1. The key trends include:

- Commercial waste (including resorts, hotels, restaurants, retail and other businesses) continues to be the highest waste generator due to the considerable numbers of tourists and supporting commercial sectors resulting in up to 49% of all waste that is landfilled.
- Construction and Demolition waste saw an increase following Covid-19 that is slowly dropping year over year to reflect the overall economic activity in the area.
- Residential waste tonnage increased by 6% from 2023 to 2024. The number of residential services

on the curbside collection program rose from 1878 households (hh) to 1907 hh. However, this increase in service area does not necessarily account for such an increase in tonnage. There is speculation that the increase is attributed to there being a larger number of short-term rentals operating in residential collection zones.

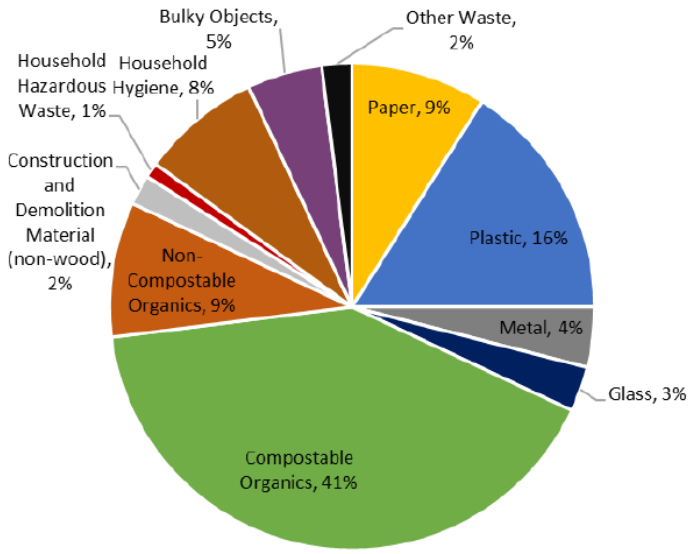
Chart 1 – 5 Year Waste Disposal Trend on the West Coast



Waste Composition

The ACRD has conducted two waste composition audits over the past five years, namely in 2019 and 2023. Over this time, there has been a decrease in the waste disposal rate from 589 kg/capita (2019) to 491 kg/capita (2024) with results from the most recent audit shown below in Chart 2.

Chart 2 – West Coast Landfill Overall Waste Composition 2023



Although the organics collection and composting program has been effective in diverting waste, the largest category of landfilled waste remains compostable organics (food waste/yard waste) at 41%, followed by recyclables (plastics and paper) that account for 25% and 9% non-compostable organics (textiles/dirty wood). As per the 2023 study, there remained over 75% of the waste going into the landfill that could be diverted.

Waste Generation Rate

The estimated population served by the landfill in 2024 was 12,343 based on census data, provincial population growth estimates and equivalent population estimates to account for the high tourism population. This results in a waste disposal rate of 491 kg/capita per annum. This shows significant progress since implementation of the Sort'nGo 3 stream program. Prior to this program, the waste disposal rate was 624 kg/capita in 2022.

Target–1 - Reduce waste disposal to less than 400 kg/capita

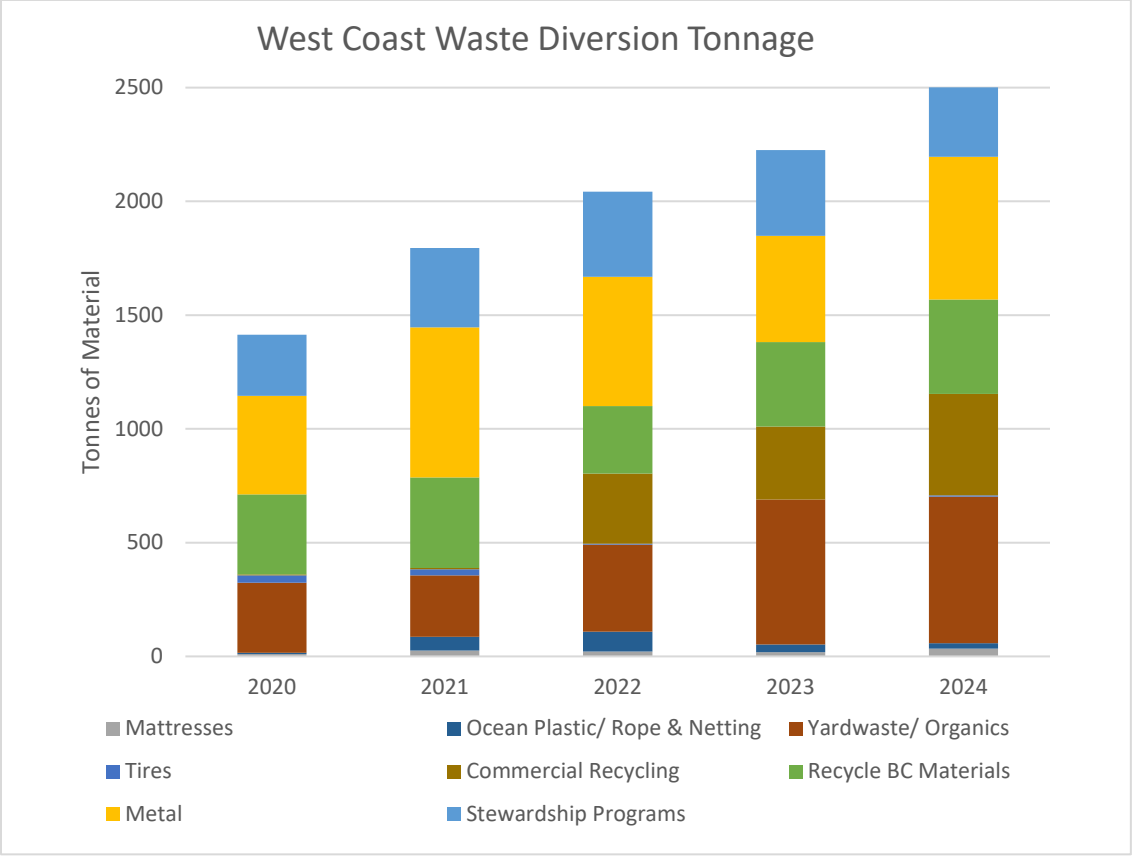
Diversion

2,538 tonnes of material were recorded as being diverted from landfilling in 2024 with 1,338 tonnes collected directly at the landfill. This resulted in a diversion rate of 29.53% (up 3.1% from the 2023 rate of 26.4%). Importantly, the diversion rate does not include materials from private sector sources such as scrap metal recycling and thrift stores.

Table 2 – Diversion by Classification

Diversion	Tonnage
Mattresses	34.60
Ocean Plastic/Rope & Netting	23.87
Yardwaste/Organics from Curbside/Self-Haul	643.37
Tires	5.79
Commercial Recycling	446.75
Recycle BC Materials	413.94
Metal	628.23
Stewardship Programs	341.59
Total	2538.14

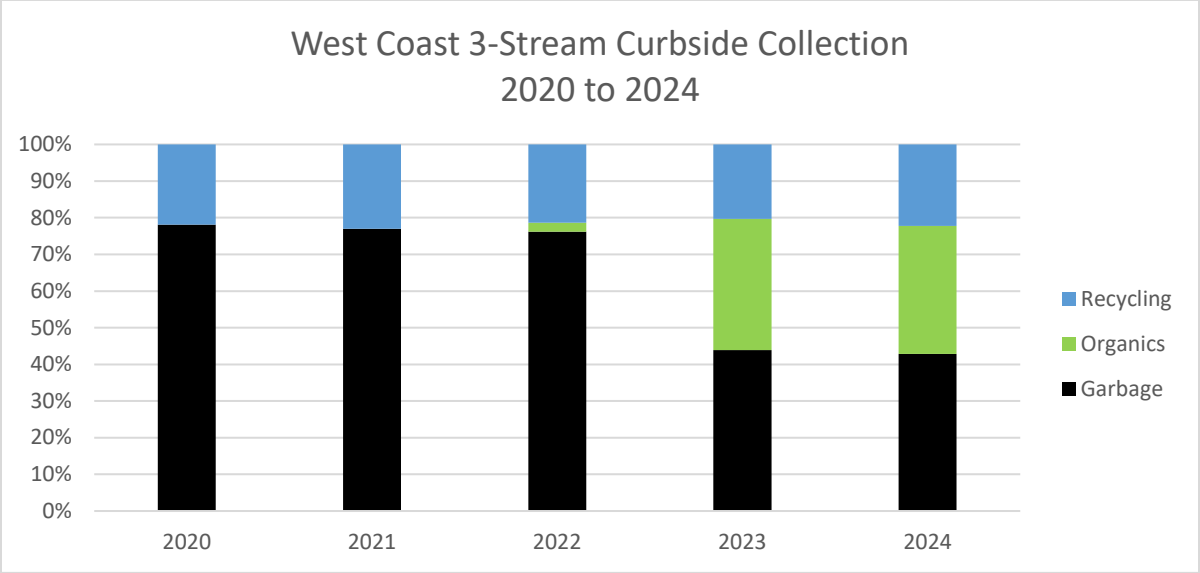
Chart 3 – Reported Annual Waste Diversion



Organics - West Coast Sort'nGo - 3-Stream Curbside Collection

The largest contributor to landfill diversion is organic material with the majority of that collected in the curbside program from west coast communities. This program, introduced in December 2022, services over 1,850 homes. 29 new services were added from 2023 to 2024 and has increased residential diversion from 23% in 2021 (recycling only) to 57% (recycling and organics) in 2024. The program has resulted in a significant increase in waste diversion with the reduction of the frequency of waste collection to biweekly.

Chart 4 –3-Stream Curbside Collection (% by Mass)



The West Coast Landfill Organics Facility has processed over 1000 tonnes of organics material since it was commissioned in 2023. This finished compost material, now branded as SortnGrow Compost, is available for distribution as a Class A soil amendment. Minimal volumes were sold in 2024 as the seasonal timing was not optimal, however staff are working towards plans for successful distribution to residents, first nations, businesses and community organizations.

Recycling

There are two Recycle BC depots on the West Coast, one located in Tofino operated by Ozzard Environmental and the other located in Ucluelet operated in conjunction with the Return-it Bottle Depot.

Target 2 - Increase Diversion of Waste to 50%

Other waste diversion programs contributing to decreasing waste disposed trends include the recycling of ocean plastic debris. This program started in 2021 and is facilitated through partnerships between the ACRD, Ocean Legacy and the Surfrider Foundation. Surfrider spearheads ocean debris collection from coastline clean up events. Rope, netting and ocean plastics debris is diverted through the Ocean Legacy consolidation depot located at the WCL. The diverted material is sent for recycling and turned into feedstock to make new products such as the 5-gallon buckets used for the West Coast SortnGrow Compost and other items including park benches, signboards and other products. As a result of these efforts, 24 tonnes of ocean plastics and rope and netting were collected in 2024.

Mattress recycling began in mid-2021, in partnership with Recycle Matters, and saw another 35 tonnes of mattresses diverted from landfilling in 2024 compared to 19 tonnes the previous year. This diversion is important not only for environmental reasons, but also because mattresses are difficult to manage in landfill disposal. To date, nearly 3,671 mattresses have been diverted from landfilling, an important success in a region with a strong hospitality industry.

Bicycles are diverted for reuse. A dedicated storage shed is provided so that bikes may be reused whole or in part. The tonnages are small, but it is an important statement that they may be reused and are not disposable items.

The largest diversion opportunities on the West Coast are capturing commercial material such as recycling and organics and increasing residential diversion. Other opportunities for diversion streams on the West Coast include increasing reuse options due to the high tourism and resident turnover and construction and demolition waste (residual drywall wood, gypsum and other building materials). These options are included as future strategies in the update to the Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) Options and Feasibility Report for consideration.

Landfill Capacity

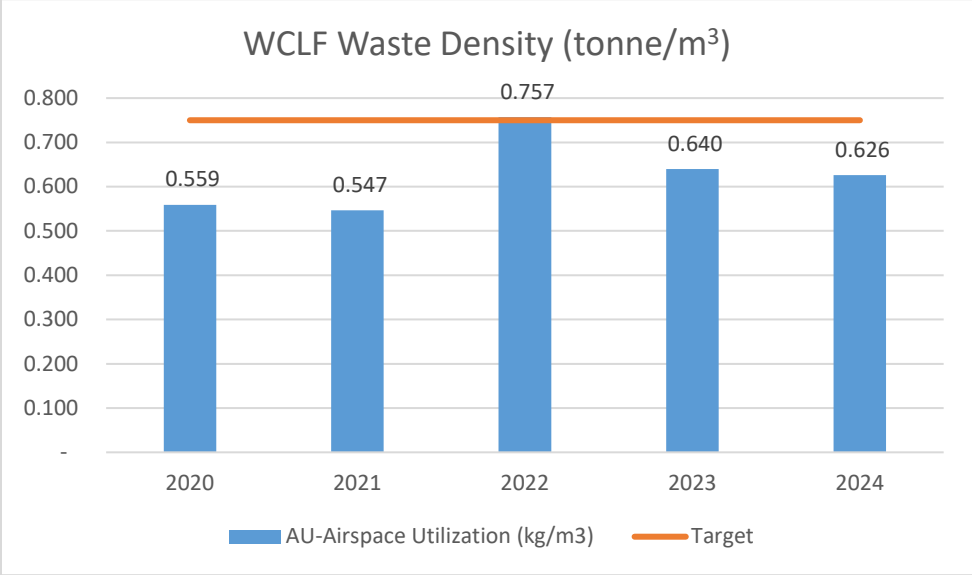
Airspace Utilization

In 2024, 9,675 m^3 of airspace was consumed by waste and cover material. This value is based on the annual topographical survey completed at year end.

Target 3 – Minimum Airspace Consumption Ratio of 750 kg/m^3

With a total tonnage disposed of 6,057 tonnes, this results in an airspace consumption factor of 626 kg/m^3 (waste tonnage divided by airspace consumed by that waste and associated cover material).

Chart 5 –Airspace Utilization/Consumption Ratio



The ACRD and landfill contractor continue to explore best practices and innovative solutions to increase compaction, conserve airspace and reduce costs.

Remaining Life

Based on the airspace consumed in 2024, there is an estimated 671,082m^3 of airspace remaining at the WCL. Based on the current population growth rate of 3%, waste generation of 491 kg/capita and airspace consumption ratio of 626 kg/m^3, the landfill will reach capacity near 2062. However, if the target for reducing waste disposal to 400 kg/person is met and minimum airspace consumption ratios continues to be met or exceeded, the landfill lifespan has the potential to extend to 2070 or beyond.

Correction of 2023 Reporting

Tonnage of waste in place and remaining airspace listed in the 2023 Annual Report have been corrected. At the end of 2023 an estimated 176,585 t of waste were in place and 680,757 m^3 of airspace remained.

Operations

Conformance to SWMP

The most recently adopted Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) from 2008 listed several initiatives to meet the targets in the report. Most of these initiatives have been actioned, including

the implementation of residential curbside organics diversion for west coast communities. However, the remaining leverage for organics diversion is implementation of diversion programs for the commercial sector.

The ACRD has undertaken Steps 1 to 3 of the SWMP update in 2024 (see full update in projects section of this report). This outlines eight draft strategies that focus on the service area gaps throughout the west coast and wider ACRD and supports increased diversion from the commercial and residential sectors. The SWMP update also includes a residual management strategy for the West Coast Landfill including updating the DOCP to support the expansion of the organics processing facility and management of biosolids from the Tofino Wastewater Treatment Plan (WWTP).

Variations from DOCP

The current Design, Operations and Closure Plan (DOCP) was completed in 2012 by McGill and Associates Engineering and requires an update.

Exceptions from the 2012 plan include overflow ("decant") events from the leachate holding lagoon. The current system was designed to capture the leachate generated on site. That leachate is then applied to an irrigation field. In 2015, level loggers were installed in the overflow pipes from the leachate lagoon to record overflow events.

Inspections

No formal inspections were conducted by MOEP in 2024. Regular site inspections and reporting requirements have been incorporated in the updated operations contract. The landfill operations staff perform regular monthly site inspections, coupled with monthly site (quarterly in 2025) meetings with ACRD staff.

Public Feedback on Landfill Operations

The ACRD and the landfill operations contractor work hard to minimize potential nuisances from the site, such as odor, noise and litter. Feedback is encouraged via feedback@acrd.bc.ca as well as the ACRD's Sort'nGo line (250-736-SORT). The ACRD Recollect/ Sort'nGo app and web-based platform received 211,000 material searches however this data includes inquiries from both Alberni Valley and West Coast waste sheds. Additionally, the west coast working group and regular check-ins with the local hauler is a source of feedback on site operations. It is beneficial that the landfill is located a significant distance from any residential communities, although staff engage with Parks Canada as the immediate neighbour to the landfill site.

Finances

Operating Expenses

Target 4 – Annual Capital Contributions meet Funding Requirements

In 2024, the total operating expenses for the WCL were $1,518,732 as detailed in the table below. There are a number of revenue streams resulting from payment for the recycle materials collected including metal and stewardship program materials that are included in recoveries.

Table 3 – West Coast Operating Costs

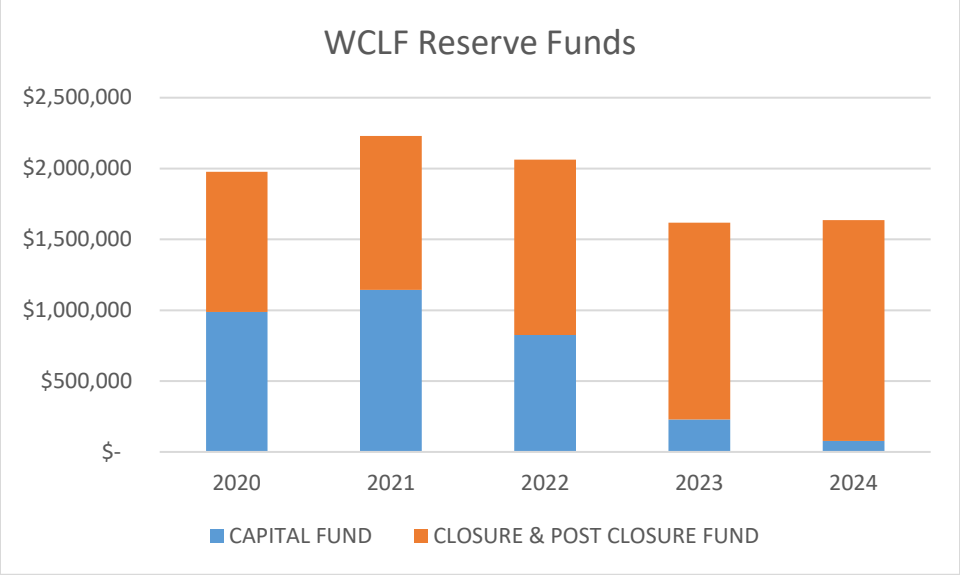
	2024
Landfill Operating Costs	877,211
Admin & Education Costs	204,632
Recycling/Organics	436,889
Total Costs	1,518,732
Recoveries	761,326
Net Cost	757,407

Capital and Closure Funding

The 2012 West Coast Landfill Design, Operations and Closure Plan (DOCP) identified the need for a fund of $5,600,000 for closure and post-closure activities and recommended that the ACRD contribute a base amount of $70,000 annually. The annual contribution has been consistently greater than recommended in the DOCP. This year it was $100,000. The combined contributions to the Capital and Closure/Post Closure funds in 2024 were a total of $156,725. Chart 8 displays the combined Capital and Closure and Post Closure Reserve Balances which in 2024 were $1,560,890.66. The significant decrease from 2022-2023 reflects the use of capital reserve funds for the construction of the West Coast Organics Facility.

Since the current DOCP was completed, the BC Landfill Criteria have undergone significant changes. Additionally, climate change has necessitated amendments to runoff estimates, rendering previous design assumptions behind the valuation outdated and unreliable. Furthermore, a compost facility has been added to landfill operations. These are all factors that need to be considered for adequate closure and post closure funding allocations and will be reviewed during the DOCP update process.

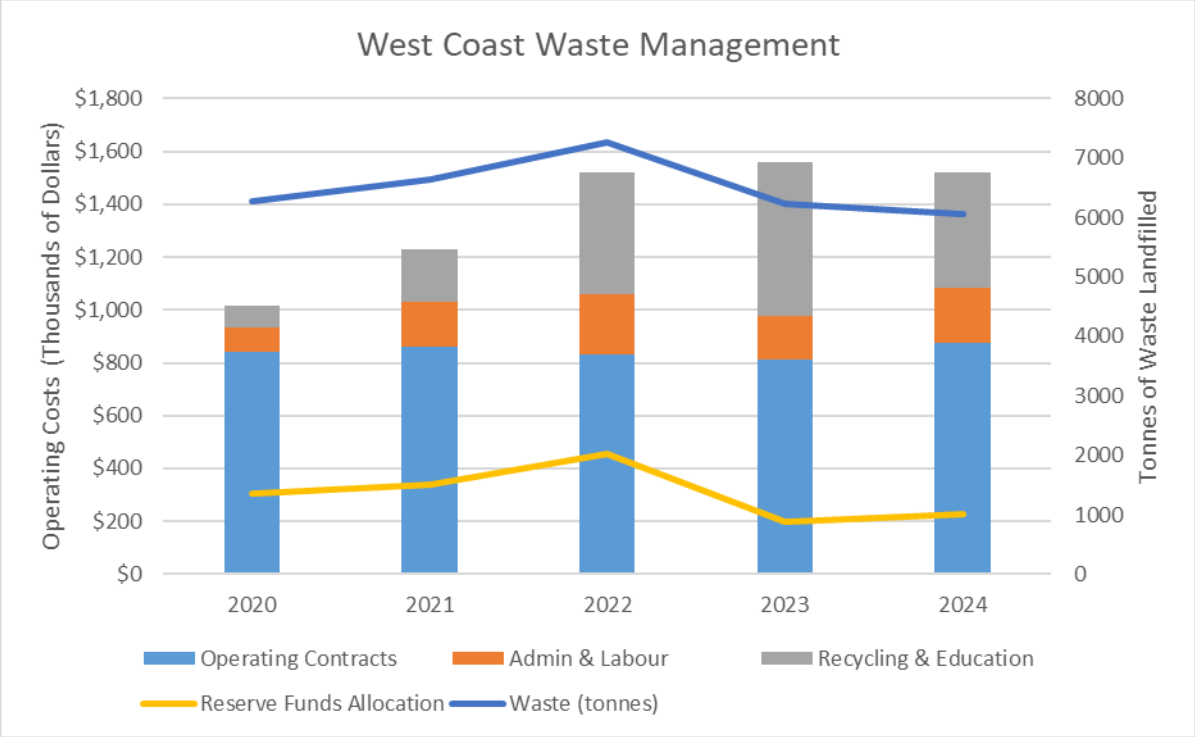
Chart 8 – Value of Reserve Funds



Operational Efficiency

Chart 9 below shows the total operating costs including WCL operations, administration and education, curbside collection program and diversion programs to manage waste for the West Coast. The costs are influenced by inflation and economic factors as well as the volume of materials that must be managed by the ACRD each year.

Chart 9 - Annual Costs and Tonnages



In 2024, costs appeared relatively stable compared to previous years. This stability follows higher expenditures in 2022 and 2023 due to the implementation of the three-stream system and the establishment of the organics processing facility. Additionally, there was no third-party grinding of wood waste in 2024 and that also contributed to the reduced costs. However, it is important to note that staff anticipate additional costs in 2025 as wood waste grinding resumes and increased inflation and rising operational costs are expected to impact future years.

Environmental Monitoring

Target 5 – Confirm leachate collection and treatment meets requirements

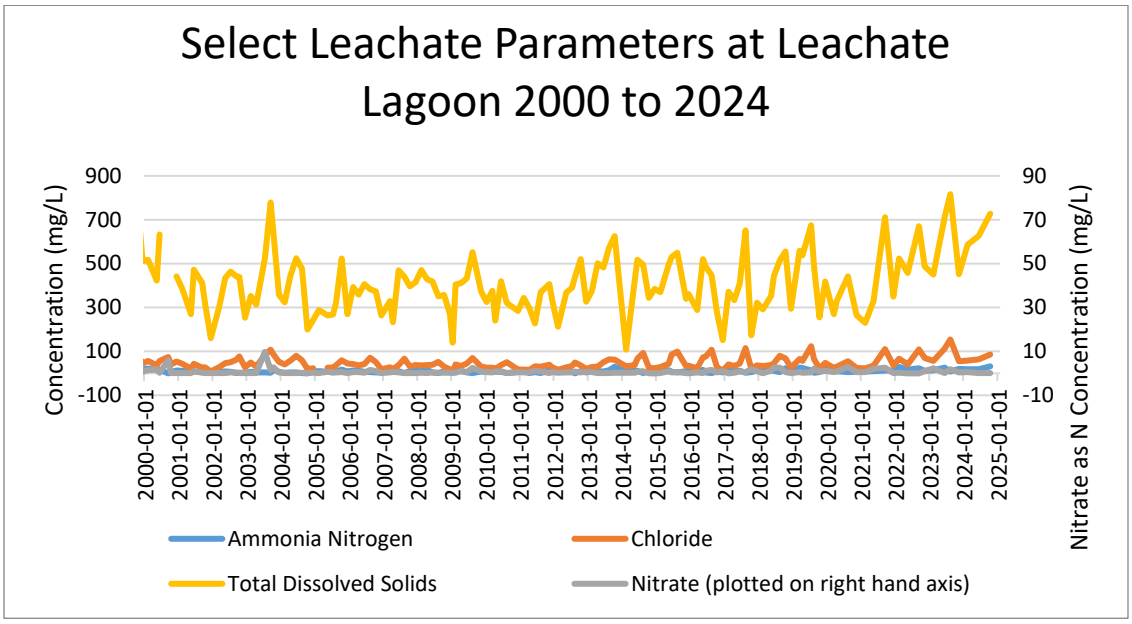
Leachate Monitoring

Leachate is generated when rain falls on the waste mound and encounters the buried waste. The leachate is contained within the waste mound because of the low hydraulic conductivity of the marine clay foundation soils. The leachate is collected by ditches located at the perimeter of the waste mound.

These ditches collect leachate that seeps from the edges of the landfill and transport it to a lagoon located on the southwest side of the property. The contents of the lagoon are pumped to the north of the landfill to a spray irrigation field. This field is designed to allow the leachate contaminants to attenuate prior to entering the eventual receiving waters of Sandhill Creek.

Since the marine clay sediments that make up the foundation are of such low hydraulic conductivity, environmental monitoring is focused on surface water and leachate. The ACRD monitors multiple sites in the leachate collection and irrigation field as well as background locations. The samples are analyzed by an independent laboratory for metals, VOCs, inorganic compounds, pH levels, conductivity, and other water quality parameters from the FWAL (Fresh-Water Aquatic Life) protection criteria. All monitoring data is directly reported to our environmental consultants, Piteau Associates Consulting (Piteau), for their review and reporting to MOEP. The Piteau report (2024 Monitoring Report West Coast Landfill) accompanies this report.

Chart 10 – Leachate Parameter



Leachate Pond Overflow Monitoring

The west coast of Vancouver Island receives some of the largest recorded annual rainfall in Canada. Much of this precipitation occurs during winter storms. The leachate pond is subject to overflowing (decant events) during and immediately following these intense winter storm events. When this occurs, the lagoon decants to the north through pipes installed for that purpose by bypassing the irrigation field. Information from dataloggers that are downloaded twice per year record the number of overflow events and the duration. Two overflow events from the leachate storage lagoon were recorded at the WCL in 2024 following periods of heavy rainfall. Water quality results from the overflow event when samples were collected indicate that there was no measurable effect to Sandhill Creek at SW-1. Three short duration overflow events are inferred to have potentially occurred based on water level readings recorded in the overflow pipe.

A future design project is planned to enhance the leachate management system and will build upon the previously executed feasibility study.

Overview of the Monitoring Program

Detailed analysis of monitoring data (provided in the 2024 Monitoring Report West Coast Landfill, Piteau and Associates) concludes that "Water quality in Sandhill Creek (SW-1) has generally been within the allowable FWAL guidelines, and/or typical background concentrations for the area. Monitoring data for the lower reach of Sandhill Creek at Highway 4 do not exhibit any indication of leachate effect. The report recommends continuing the environmental monitoring program and improvement of flow monitoring with the installation of new dataloggers, meters and data recording. The report also recommends partial capping of the landfill.

Target 6 - Landfill Gas Generation Less than 1,000 tonnes/year of methane

Landfill Gas Monitoring

A supplementary gas report was completed in 2023 as per Section 15 of the Landfill Gas Management Regulation. Using the required provincial model, the report estimated that the WCL produced 373 tonnes of methane in 2024. This methane is generated by the waste in place. However, the diversion of current and future organic wastes from the landfill will reduce emissions over time.

Other Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Landfilling operations require the use of motorized equipment including small machinery such as power washers, small utility vehicles (ATVs), and pickup trucks, as well as heavy duty machinery such as compactors, graders, and excavators. The fuel used for this equipment is primarily diesel. In 2024, the contractor burned approximately 14,512 liters of diesel in the operation of the landfill which produced the equivalent of 0.405 tonnes of methane.

Illegal Dumping

Many different types of wastes are involved in illegal dumping including yard waste, leaves and branches, household wastes, abandoned RV's and cars. These items are often found on logging roads surrounding west coast communities. In 2024, 3.92 tonnes of wastes under this category were collected through community clean-up events typically undertaken by various community and volunteer groups. Community clean-up programs will continue to be supported with financial support from the ACRD and other community sponsors to encourage these efforts.

Projects Completed In 2024

Organics Composting Facility

In 2024, two fabric-covered buildings were installed to protect the finished compost from weather and improve the curing process.

Biosolids Processing

In August 2024, the Tofino Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) was commissioned and the WCL began receiving biosolids at the site. This material is currently being passively composted on the landfill to ultimately be used for final cover for the landfill. Various processing options are being explored to maximize operational efficiency and fulfill regulatory requirements. This will be further explored during the DOCP update process.

Sort'nGrow Compost

Since the Sort'nGo program was launched in December 2022, the WCL Organic Processing Facility has processed approximately 1,000 tonnes of organics material through the residential collection program. In the Fall of 2024, the finished compost was quality tested to ensure it met the requirements to be offered as a sale product. As a result, the material is ready for sale and distribution which will be a key communication and education initiative during the 2025 Spring growing season.

Ocean Legacy – SortnGrow Buckets

A new Ocean Legacy initiative was explored in 2024 that recycles ocean plastic litter recovered from beach clean ups and other methods into new plastic material and made into buckets. These buckets have been designed with logos to offer for purchase along with the Sort'nGrow Compost.

Waste Reduction Education Program

In 2024, waste education aimed at the waste prevention hierarchy was carried out through contractors and partnerships on the West Coast using different approaches and strategies. Focus was on public engagement through presentations and community booths, along with building online interaction through the application of social media and other tools.

Annual Survey

An aerial survey is conducted annually to provide a current site plan and topography. This allows airspace consumption to be calculated and allows improved planning of landfill operations. This used to be done by ground-based teams, but now an unmanned aerial vehicle survey is conducted using experienced operators.

West Coast Working Group

The West Coast working group met in 2024 to collaborate, provide feedback and discuss current west coast related initiatives, including the post implementation of the Sort'nGo program, education opportunities and annual reporting information. The West Coast working group includes members from various local businesses and organizations who are interested in waste management and waste diversion.

Rope and Netting Project

This is a continuation of a project with Ocean Legacy to sort and ship out rope and netting for recycling. This project is intended to establish an effective diversion system for these materials that can be used as a template for other coastal landfills in BC. In 2024, 24 tonnes of Rope & Netting and Ocean Plastics have been collected by Ocean Legacy and utilized as plastic feedstock for manufacturing signboards, benches and other items.

Update of Solid Waste Management Plan – Steps 1-3

In October/November 2024, the ACRD completed Phase 2 of the Engagement Plan, focused on sharing targets, goals, and proposed strategies with their feasibility for feedback/prioritization. Twenty meetings were held in 10 communities during the engagement period. Participants were encouraged to complete the survey online, fill out a printed survey, or comment on one of 13 display boards, featuring details of the timeline, process, guiding principles, goals, targets proposed strategies, and next steps. Each meeting included a presentation, opportunities to ask questions, and was supported by staff who could answer questions and note feedback.

Tipping Fee Review

Staff conducted a rate review of tipping fees and costs of managing of waste materials which resulted in a bylaw update to increase tipping fees in July 2024 for most materials.

Landfill Contract Renewal

The previous operating contract for Berry and Vale Contracting ended on June 30, 2024. The ACRD initiated a public procurement process. Berry & Vale was awarded a new 5-year contract to operate the landfill, from July 1, 2024, until June 30, 2029, with an option to renew.

WildSafeBC BC – Sort'nGo Carts Improvements

ACRD staff along with partners from WildSafeBC and Tlaoquiaht, provided educational support and awareness for residents regarding the storage and proper use of carts. Additional cart maintenance was provided to better help secure carts in troublesome locations. Staff will continue to provide support in 2025.

Projects Upcoming 2025 +

3-Phase Power Upgrade (Phase 1)

With the installation of landfill upgrades, the compost facility, as well as a new cellular tower, the landfill site requires power upgrades. In partnership with Rogers, staff are facilitating this upgrade to 3-phase along Alaska Pine Rd.

3-Phase Power Upgrade (Phase 2)

Once the primary installation of landfill power upgrades are complete, 3-phase power from the main source on Alaska Pine road will need to run to the compost facility. The goal is to ensure sufficient power to support all current and future anticipated infrastructure upgrades to the site.

Design Operation and Closure Plan Update

The current DOCP was created in 2012 and requires updating to reflect the upgrades to the tipping area, the addition of organics and biosolids processing onsite, the leachate system operation, cover usage concerns and generally provide enhanced direction for the development of the landfill. The Province has created new landfill criteria since the DOCP was implemented, and there are several areas identified that need to be improved to meet the new criteria. An important part of the new DOCP will look at runoff diversion with the completion of each stage of final cover as well as the addition of contact water from the Organics facility.

Operational Certificate Update

There have been multiple changes to the infrastructure on site as well as identified non-compliance advisories, which will be addressed through an amendment of the site operating permit once the DOCP update has been completed.

Operational and Environmental Monitoring Enhancements

The 2024 Monitoring Report made the following recommendations, and these will be actioned in 2025:

- The dataloggers used around the site are at the end of life and will be replaced.
- The feasibility of creating a flow gauging site downstream of SW-11 will be considered.
- A flowmeter will be installed on the leachate irrigation system.
- The staff gauge and culvert elevations will be surveyed.
- Overflow event sampling will continue.

Leachate Treatment Facility

Leachate Treatment will be considered as part of the DOCP update.

Alternate Cover Options

Partial capping will be considered as part of the DOCP update.

Commercial Waste Incentive Program

A significant amount of waste is generated from the commercial and tourism sectors as the west coast is a popular destination. Staff will be exploring options to pilot a program that looks at commercial waste going to landfill and leveraging economic factors such as additional fees or rates for garbage that can contribute to grants or incentive programs that will assist in minimizing and diverting unnecessary waste from these sectors.

Commercial Organics Diversion

With the success of the residential organics diversion program, the next step is to move forward with exploring options for organic wastes from commercial and other sources. Staff are working on this and other initiatives as part of the Solid Waste Management Plan update.

Construction and Demolition Diversion Case Study (C&D) Synergy Foundation Partnership

In September 2024, the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District Board supported the Synergy Foundation's VI-Coast Ecosystem (VICE) application for grant funding. This initiative aims to explore innovative waste management strategies in the C&D sector, to enhance recycling and waste diversion. This has the potential to reduce costs and environmental impact.

ECCC Gas Regulation Implications

In 2024, ECCC introduced new regulations to reduce methane emissions from landfills, aiming to cut emissions by 50% by 2030 (from 2019 levels). Staff will continue to work with other Regional Districts and working groups to advocate for supportive policies at the provincial and federal levels to help ensure that the new regulations are practical and achievable for the ACRD.

Waste Education Assessment

Building on the current education framework, staff will explore options to move the education service in-house as an internal position. This approach aims to better align with local opportunities, enhance community engagement, and ensure consistent delivery of educational programs. By having an in-house waste educator, the organization can leverage local knowledge and provide dedicated support for ongoing initiatives, ensuring a cohesive and integrated approach to waste education.

Wildlife Cart Management Enforcement

As part of the Sort'nGo curbside collection program education program and wildlife management strategies, ACRD staff and WildSafe BC have determined that the next phase of cart storage compliance should consider enforcement mechanisms. As the number of wildlife and cart interactions rise due to improper cart usage and storage, ACRD Staff, along with District partners and WildSafeBC will explore options for enforcement mechanisms along with support from the current education program.