INDIGENOUS SERVICES CANADA

Beyond The Bin 2026

First Nations Solid Waste Management Initiative

&

Contaminated Sites on Reserve Program

November 3rd, 2026

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Environment Unit Contact Info

Environment Unit

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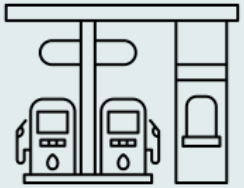
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Treaty 6	Treaty 7	Treaty 8
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Environment Programs

Solid Waste Management (T 6, 7, & 8)	Contaminated Sites (T 6, 7, & 8)	Capital Projects/Natural Resources (Liaison)	Impact Assessment
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Environment Unit Programs

Environmental Review Process (ERP)	Contaminated Sites
• The ERP fulfills the requirements under the *Impact Assessment Act (IAA)* 	• FCSAP and CSOR Funding Programs 
Environment Support to Land Tenure	**Solid Waste**
• ATR, Lease, Permit, Designation, etc. 	• First Nations Solid Waste Management Initiative 

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First Nations Solid Waste Management Initiative (FNSWMI)

Program Summary:

- The Program was established to improve solid waste management on reserve by providing funding for feasibility studies, waste management plans, infrastructure design and construction, and the closure of refuse sites.
- The program objective is to provide sustainable waste management solutions specific to each community.



First Nations Solid Waste Management Initiative (FNSWMI)



What does the FNSWMI fund?



Funding is available for:

- Solid waste management feasibility studies
- Infrastructure – design, tender and construction (waste transfer stations, equipment, garages, etc.)
- Purchase of equipment to support facilities (trucks, household carts, roll-off bins)
- Operations and maintenance of solid waste systems
- Community recycling, composting and waste diversion programs
- Clean-up of former waste disposal sites or dump sites in the community
- Education, training and community capacity building

What does the FNSWMI fund?





- Eligible equipment: skid steers, loaders, waste collection & hauling trucks
- Eligible facilities including waste transfer stations, hazardous materials management
- Eligible studies including feasibility studies, design studies, etc.

What does the FNSWMI fund?

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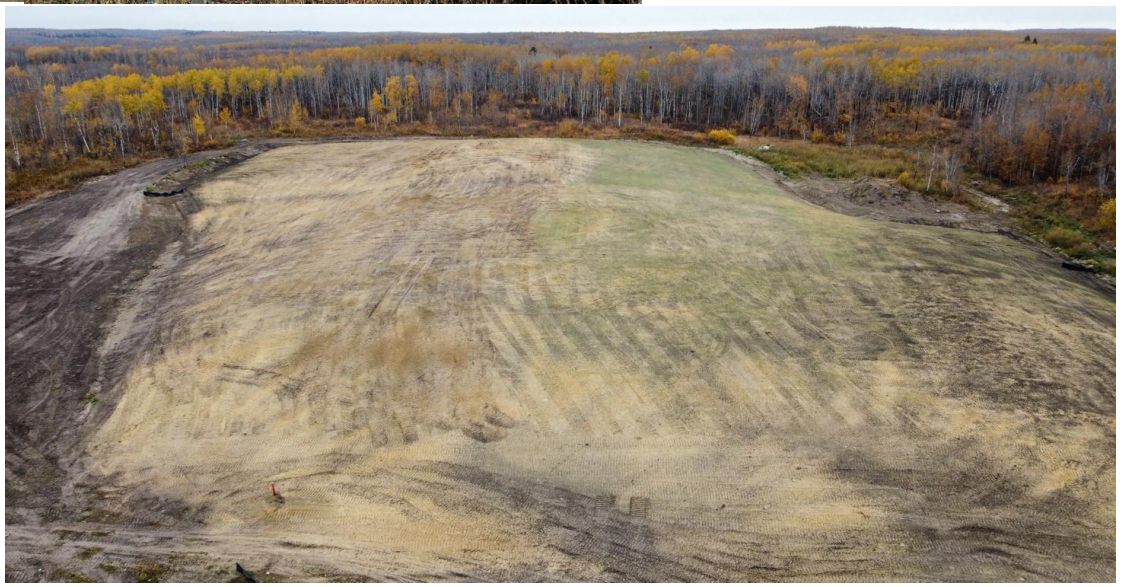


What does the FNSWMI fund?

- Clean-up of former waste disposal sites or dump sites in the community







What does the FNSWMI fund?

- Clean-up of former waste disposal sites or dump sites in the community





Figure 7-1 Pre-Construction Site Conditions | Former Site

Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Funding

- Provides financial assistance to operate and maintain waste facilities and services in alignment with approved policies and standards.
- Funding is provided for management the **household** waste stream.

Objectives of the O&M Program:

- Support investments in physical assets and services that mitigate health and safety risks.
- Ensure assets meet established codes and standards.
- Promote cost-effective asset management to maximize asset lifecycles.
- Ensure environmentally sound and sustainable waste management practices.
- Improve the management of on-reserve community infrastructure and services to align with off-reserve standards.

O&M Funding Distribution



- O&M funding received by each Nation is determined using a regional baseline needs analysis based on the current waste management system and through projections from infrastructure investments, proposals and/or justification documentation such as invoices outlining O&M expenditures.

- Community waste factors taken into consideration include but are not limited to:
  - Type of waste facility utilized
  - Waste generation
  - On Reserve population
  - Regional tipping fee
  - Km’s hauled
  - Labour costs

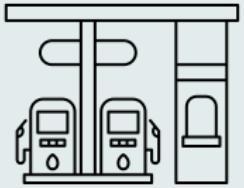
Eligible and Ineligible O&M Activities

- **Site Operations** – equipment fueling, equipment rentals, site monitoring etc.
- **Site Maintenance** – security infrastructure, building maintenance, site snow clearing or road maintenance, fire protection etc.
- **Collection and Hauling O&M** – Fuel, collection and hauling equipment maintenance
- **Overhead** – Utilities, insurance
- **Minor Equipment Purchases** – Health and safety equipment, small tools, bins, signage
- **Services** – Tipping fees, third party contracts
- **Salaries and Wages**
- **Training**
- **Community Education** – Engagement sessions, education materials, community led clean up

- **Planning Studies** – SW management plan, needs assessment, O&M plan etc.
- **Major Equipment Purchases** – Trucks, skid-steers, crushers etc.
- **Capital Infrastructure Construction** – waste transfer stations, landfills, diversion stations, attendants' trailers etc.
- **Environmental Site Assessments**
- **Site Decommissioning Activities** – Design and closure plans, capping etc.
- **Expenses incurred prior to departmental approval**

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Credit: designer29

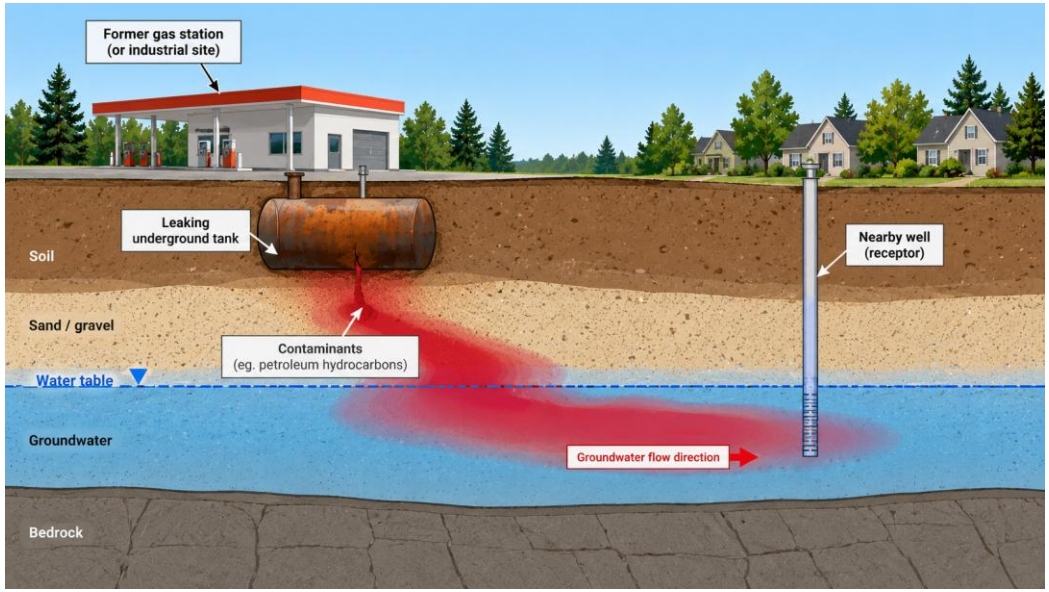
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What is a Contaminated Site?

- **Polluted Land or Water:** Area where the soil, groundwater, or surface water contains toxic substances.
- **Legacy of the Past:** Usually caused by historic industrial activities, such as old factories, gas stations, dry cleaners, or landfill dumps.
- **Invisible Hazards:** Contaminants like heavy metals, fuel, or industrial chemicals are often hidden beneath the surface.
- **Risks to Health & Nature:** Can pose serious safety threats to humans, local wildlife, and drinking water supplies if left unmanaged.
- **Opportunity for Recovery:** Most sites can be safely cleaned up, treated, and repurposed for community or commercial use.

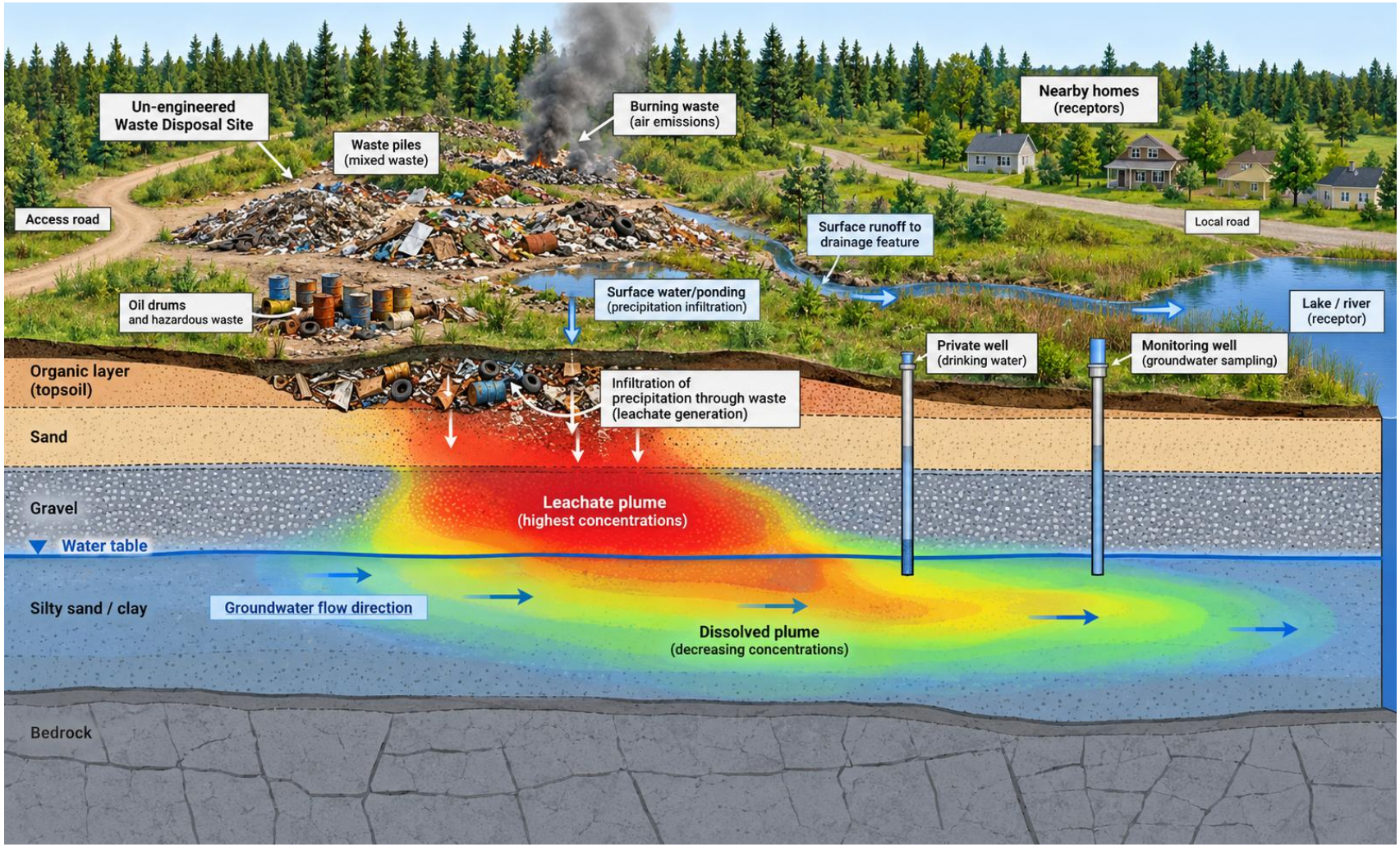
Contaminated Sites On Reserve Program



Program Summary:

- Funded through Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan (FCSAP)
- This program funds the assessment and remediation/risk management of contaminated sites on reserve for which ISC has taken on the responsibility and liability.
- The program has funding for both assessment **and** remediation of sites.

An Exercise in Contaminated Sites



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An Exercise in Contaminated Sites

Conceptual site model | sources → pathways → receptors

This is the link between the dump-site illustration and the FCSAP assessment steps

POTENTIAL SOURCES What could release contaminants?	POTENTIAL PATHWAYS How might they move?	POTENTIAL RECEPTORS Who or what might be exposed?
Oil drums / buried waste	Leachate → groundwater	Private wells / drinking water
Mixed waste / exposed soil	Rainfall runoff → creek	Surface water / aquatic life
Open burning of waste	Smoke / airborne particles	Nearby residents

Steps 2–6 assess potential exposure pathways. Steps 7–10 address risks where needed.

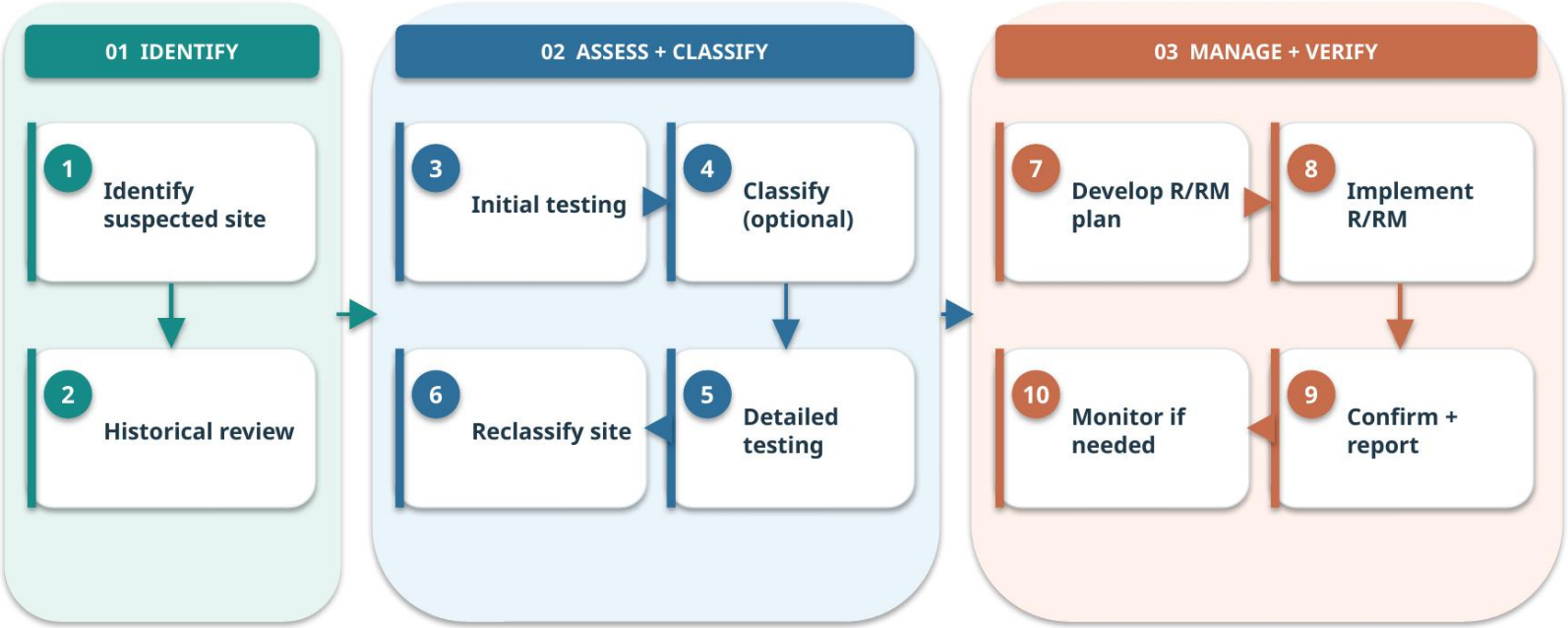
Adapted from the FCSAP Decision-Making Framework (v4.1) and ISC CSOR guidance. Dump-site examples are illustrative.

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FCSAP 10-Step Process

FCSAP 10-step process | overview

Example: an un-engineered waste disposal site with potential impacts to soil, water and nearby homes



Key point: Every site follows a decision-making process, but not every site needs all 10 steps.

Adapted from the FCSAP Decision-Making Framework (v4.1) and ISC CSOR guidance. Dump-site examples are illustrative.

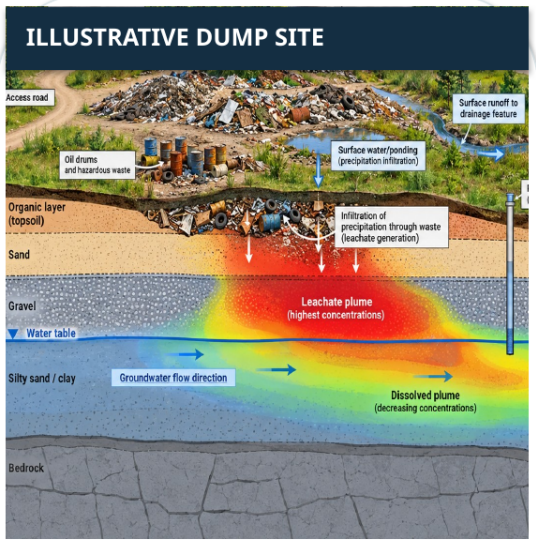
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An Exercise in Contaminated Sites

Steps 1–6 | investigate and understand the site

What is present, where could it move, and does it pose a risk?



Potential sources → migration pathways → nearby receptors

1 Identify suspected site

Waste piles, oil drums, historic disposal.

2 Historical review | Phase I ESA

Records, interviews and aerial imagery.

3 Initial testing | Phase II ESA

Sample soil and groundwater; build the CSM.

4 Classify site | optional

Initial priority ranking and information gaps.

5 Detailed testing | Phase III ESA

Define extent, pathways and exposure risks.

6 Reclassify site

Update priority based on results and risks.

Adapted from the FCSAP Decision-Making Framework (v4.1) and ISC CSOR guidance. Dump-site examples are illustrative.

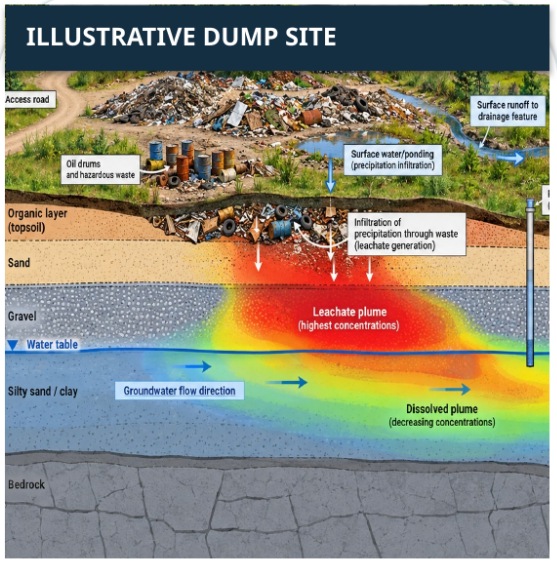
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An Exercise in Contaminated Sites

Steps 7–10 | address risks and verify outcomes

If action is needed, select a strategy, carry it out and confirm it works



Options depend on actual contamination, site use and assessed risk.

7 Develop remediation / risk management strategy

Compare options: remove waste, control runoff, contain or monitor.

8 Implement remediation / risk management

Carry out the selected actions and manage hazards during work.

9 Confirmatory sampling + final reporting

Verify objectives were met and document remaining conditions.

10 Long-term monitoring | if required

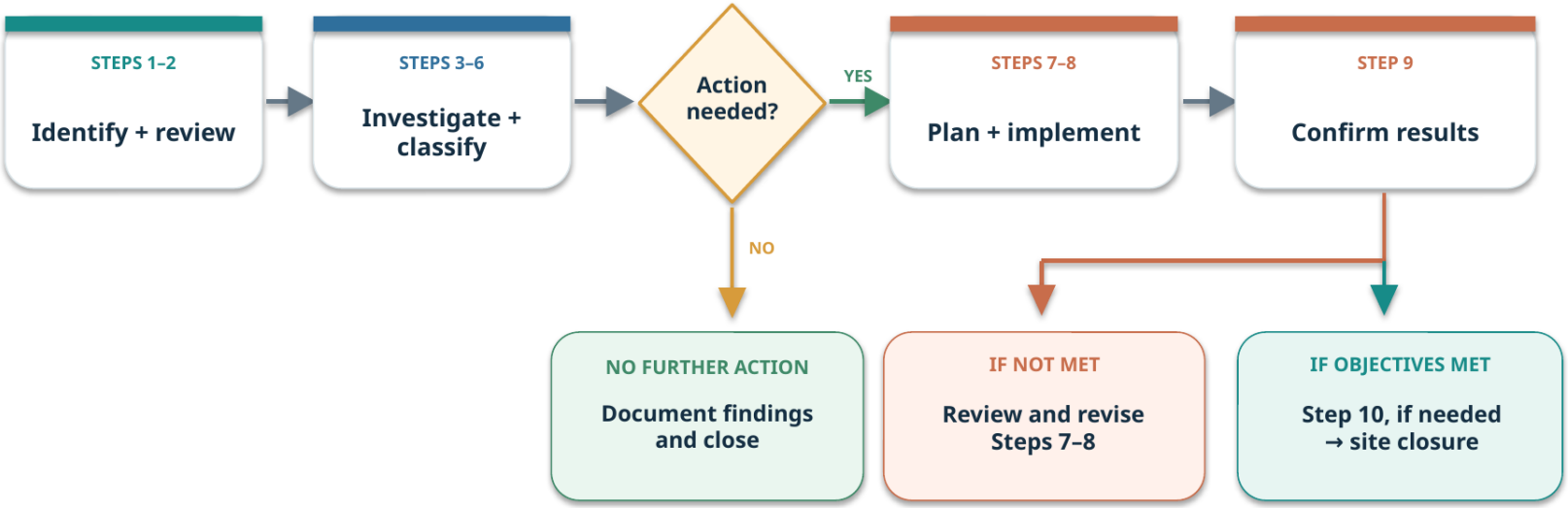
Track groundwater, surface water or controls until closure criteria are met.

Adapted from the FCSAP Decision-Making Framework (v4.1) and ISC CSOR guidance. Dump-site examples are illustrative.

An Exercise in Contaminated Sites

FCSAP decision points | when can a site close?

The work is risk-based: move forward only when the available information supports it



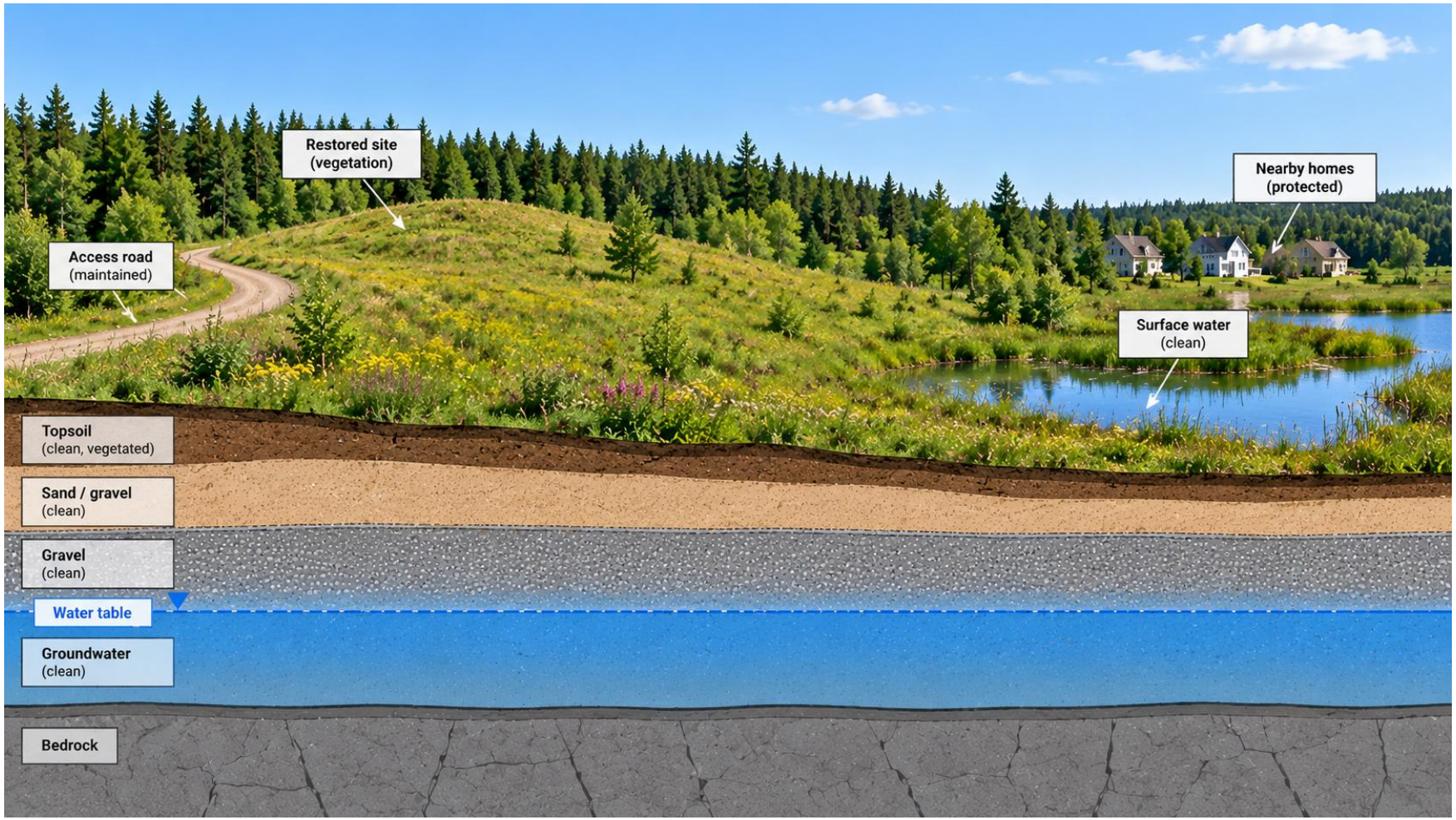
Step 4 is optional. Long-term monitoring (Step 10) is required only where needed. Closure may happen earlier.

Adapted from the FCSAP Decision-Making Framework (v4.1) and ISC CSOR guidance. Dump-site examples are illustrative.

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An Exercise in Contaminated Sites



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Thank you.

Discussion