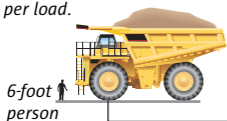


# How much is 24 million cubic yards?


One of the biggest tasks in Elwha Dam removal is managing the controlled release of about 24 million cubic yards of sediment trapped behind it and Glines Canyon Dam. The plan is to let the river do the work, gradually rinsing the material downstream and redistributing it. Taking it away with excavators and trucks was determined to be too expensive and generate too much truck traffic.

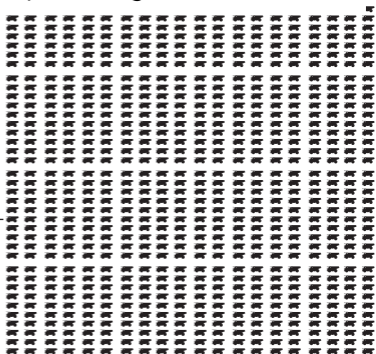
24 million cubic yards = **72,072 mining-truck loads**

The CAT 797B mining truck can carry 333 cubic yards per load.



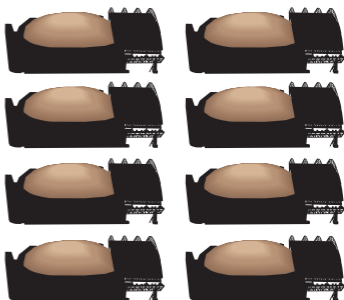
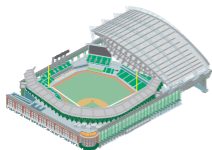
6-foot person

 = 100 loads



24 million cubic yards =

**Eight Safeco Fields filled to the top of the retractable roof**



Sources: NBBJ, architecture and design firm; Caterpillar

**MARK NOWLIN and AMANDA RAYMOND / THE SEATTLE TIMES**