

Kenmore Area Lake Washington & Sammamish River Sediment Sampling and Water Characterization Results – November 2012

Sediment Results Preliminary Summary Points:

- Testing depths and methods were conducted under the direction of the Department of Ecology and in accordance with scientifically proven and accepted best practices. Sampling locations were selected with public input before the testing began.
- Results represent an important and successful step in evaluating current sediment conditions in northeastern Lake Washington, Kenmore and Lake Forest Park.
- Dioxin/furan concentrations are below the state's health-based soil cleanup standards at public parks and boat launch areas. State Department of Health will also perform a health consultation.
- Public park and boat launch location results for other chemicals do not exceed freshwater screening criteria except for phthalates, which are found throughout urban areas. The phthalates screening level is based on environmental protection of sediment-dwelling organisms.*
- Results from the Kenmore Navigation Channel are consistent with other background levels in the area and provide data needed to evaluate sediment disposal options for proposed maintenance dredging and final requirements will be determined in later steps.
- Two private marinas showed elevated levels of metals, phthalates, benzoic acid, dioxin, and one occurrence of PCBs above screening criteria. Ecology will work with the marina owners to follow up on these findings, using the process under the state's cleanup law.
- Sediments off Lakepointe (also called Kenmore Industrial Park site), in the Sammamish River lower reaches, and the Navigation Channel do not appear to be sources of PCBs and dioxin/furans.
- Pesticides were all below detection, showing pesticides are not chemicals of concern in the area's sediments. Likewise, poly-aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) were all below screening criteria and do not represent a threat to people, pets and the environment in the Kenmore area.

Surface Water Characterization Preliminary Results:

- All chemicals tested are below water quality standards, and, compared to state cleanup regulations, do not pose a threat to human health or the environment.

Preliminary Source(s) of Dioxin and PCBs:

- The dioxin "footprint" as now understood is specific to the two private marinas. Current results are lower than the 2011 results, suggesting that the dioxin source is historic and local to the two marina locations. Note that the sampling methods are different. The results suggest that dioxin is not an on-going, continuous source impacting the area.
- Dioxin and PCBs do not appear to be migrating from the former landfill now called Kenmore Industrial Park site, nor Sammamish River, nor from the Navigation Channel.

Sediment SSAP Preliminary Results Open House, January 23, 2013

* Phthalates are widespread in urban areas and reoccur after cleanup via atmospheric deposition and see "Sediment Phthalates Work Group – Summary of Findings and Recommendations prepared by City of Tacoma, City of Seattle, King County, Ecology, EPA with assistance from Floyd Snider, September 2007.