

Former Scott Paper Mill Site, Anacortes



Draft agreed order available for public review and comment

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) has prepared this fact sheet to invite public comment on a draft *agreed order* (site cleanup terms in italics are defined in the "Cleanup Terms" box on page 2) for the southern portion of the former Scott Paper Mill site in Anacortes, Washington. The agreed order is between Ecology and Kimberly-Clark Corporation (a successor to Scott Paper Company).

The agreed order requires that Kimberly-Clark Corporation complete a *remedial investigation* of the southern portion of the former mill site to determine the nature and extent of contamination. It also requires that a *feasibility study* be completed to evaluate cleanup alternatives, and that activities be coordinated with other *potentially liable persons* for the site.

You are encouraged to review and comment on this document between September 29 and October 28, 2004.

Location

The southern portion of the site, covered under this agreed order, is located south of an extension of 17th Street, east of Q Avenue, north of 20th Street, on the west shore of Fidalgo Bay in downtown Anacortes (see figure on page 3). This area is presently the location of industrial storage facilities and a storage yard. Both upland and marine environments are included in this portion of the site.

Site Background

Lumber mills operated at the site beginning in the late 1800s. A pulp mill operated at the site from approximately 1925 until 1978. During this period, the pulp mill was located on the southern portion of the site. Numerous buildings, sheds, piers, tailings ponds, boilers, fuel storage tanks, a smokestack, and burners were located on the northern portion of the site. Scott Paper Company purchased the site in the 1940s.

In the early 1980s, the southern portion of the site was used as a staging area for oil field equipment, boat manufacturing, and storage. In 1990, MJB Properties, Inc. purchased the southern portion of the site and this portion of the site has since been used as an assembly yard for modular houses.

In 2000, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency conducted an investigation of the southern portion of the site and found wood and sulfur waste in soil, metals and petroleum in soil and groundwater, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in sediments.

In 2002, Ecology and the Port of Anacortes negotiated a *consent decree* to address the northern portion of the site. Specifically, the agreement included plans for studies on the extent of contamination at the site and cleanup options. The legal agreement with the Port of Anacortes was available for public comment in winter 2002-2003.

September 2004

Public Comment Period:
9/29/04 - 10/28/04

Technical questions and written comments:

Ron Timm, Site Manager
WA Department of Ecology
Toxics Cleanup Program
3190 160th Avenue SE
Bellevue, WA 98008
(425) 649-7185
E-mail: rtim461@ecy.wa.gov

To update the mailing list:

Rebekah Padgett, Public Involvement
WA Department of Ecology
Toxics Cleanup Program
3190 160th Avenue SE
Bellevue, WA 98008
(425) 649-7257
E-mail: rp461@ecy.wa.gov

Documents can be reviewed at the following locations:

Municipal Building (City Hall)
6th Street & Q Avenue, Anacortes
(360) 293-1918

Anacortes Public Library
1220 10th Street, Anacortes
(360) 293-1910

WA Department of Ecology
Northwest Regional Office
3190 160th Avenue SE
Bellevue, WA 98008
(425) 649-7190
(Call for an appointment)

Ecology's Web Site:
http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/sites_information.html

The work proposed under the current agreed order will be done in conjunction with work conducted on the northern portion of the site under the consent decree.

Public Comment on the Draft Agreed Order

Ecology is holding a public comment period from September 29 through October 28, 2004, during which you may comment on the draft agreed order. This draft document is available at the information repositories listed on the first page of this fact sheet.

Once the public comment period ends, Ecology will review all comments received and will make recommendations for any suggested changes. If no significant changes are made, the agreed order will be considered final and the site investigation will begin. If additional significant changes are made to the document, an additional public comment period will be held. You will have future opportunities to review and comment on draft reports regarding the extent of contamination, cleanup options, and on any cleanup plans for the site.

A public meeting is not planned for this public comment period. However, one will be held if 10 or more people so request.

Ecology would like your input!

You have an opportunity to review and provide comments on the draft agreed order for the southern portion of the site. Please send your comments before October 28, 2004, to Ecology's Site Manager, Ron Timm, at the address in the box on the first page of this fact sheet. Comments may be sent by mail or e-mail and should include "Scott Paper Mill" in the subject line.

For information about other Ecology public comment periods, meetings, hearings, workshops, and open houses, please visit Ecology's public events calendar at: <http://apps.ecy.wa.gov/pubcalendar/calendar.asp>. Read *Frequently Asked Questions about Effective Public Commenting* at this link to learn more about the public comment process.

Cleanup Terms

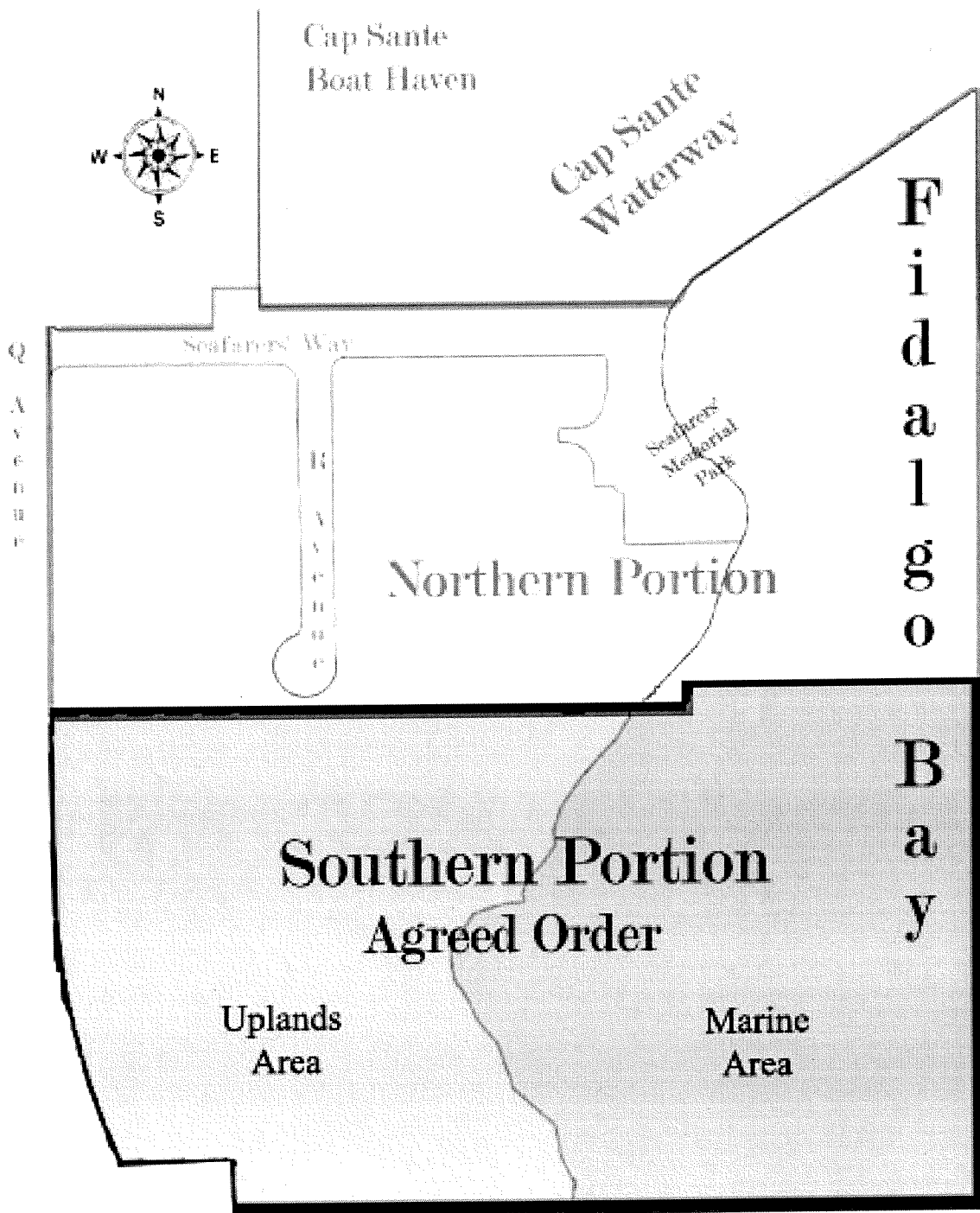
An *Agreed Order* is a legal agreement between Ecology and a potentially liable person (PLP) to conduct work toward a cleanup.

The *Consent Decree* is a legal document, approved and entered by a court, formalizing an agreement between Ecology and PLPs. Once signed, a Consent Decree relieves liability of a PLP for known contamination once the cleanup is complete.

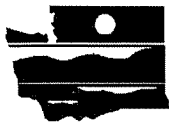
Feasibility Studies develop and evaluate cleanup options for a given site.

A *Potentially Liable Person* is defined as any individual(s) or company(s) potentially responsible for, or contributing to, the contamination problems at a site. Whenever possible, Ecology requires these PLPs, through administrative and legal actions, to clean up hazardous waste sites for which they may be liable.

A *Remedial Investigation* is used to characterize the site and define the extent of contamination.



Agreed Order Area:
 Southern Portion of the Former Scott Paper Mill Site



WASHINGTON STATE
DEPARTMENT OF
E C O L O G Y

3190 160th Avenue SE
Bellevue, WA 98008-5452

Former Scott Paper Mill Site

Ecology Seeks Public Comment
on Agreed Order

Public Comment Period
September 29 – October 28, 2004