



**Toxics Cleanup Program**

**July 2013**

**Clean-up of Low-Level Radiological Contamination at Warren G. Magnuson Park - former US Naval Station Puget Sound**

The Washington Department of Ecology invites comments on plans to clean-up low-level radiological contamination at Warren G. Magnuson Park in Seattle, formerly Naval Station Puget Sound at Sand Point. This site is located near 7700 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115.

Ecology is inviting you to review and comment on the cleanup actions and investigation results as documented in the:

- Final Action Memorandum Time-Critical Removal Action (TCRA), May 24, 2013.
- Final Radiological Remedial Investigation Report, May 2011.
- Final Radiological Removal Action Workplan, July 2013.
- Draft Ecology Public Participation Plan, July 2013.

Send your written comments to Ching-Pi Wang at 3190 160<sup>th</sup> Ave SE, Bellevue, WA 98008, email [cwan461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:cwan461@ecy.wa.gov) or call (425) 649-7134. The 45-day comment period is July 18 - August 31. Responses to written comments will be part of a Responsiveness Summary that will list all the written comments received and responses. The TCRA may be modified during the cleanup based on comments received. If necessary, further environmental investigations may be done depending on the results of the TCRA and written comments received.

**Public Meeting on July 18, 2013**

Open House:	6:00 - 6:30 p.m.
Panel Presentations and Q&A:	6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Hearing with comments recorded:	8:00 - 9:00 p.m.

You will have an opportunity to talk with staff members of the Department of Ecology, Department of Health, US Navy, and City of Seattle Parks & Recreation to get answers to questions or concerns you may have regarding the site.

Location: The Mountaineers Headquarters  
7700 Sand Point Way NE  
Seattle, WA 98115

**Comments Accepted  
July 18 to August 31, 2013**

**Submit Comments and Questions to:**

Ching-Pi Wang, Site Manager,  
Washington Department of Ecology,  
Toxics Cleanup Program  
3190 160<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE  
Bellevue, WA 98008  
Phone: (425) 649-7134  
E-mail: [cwan461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:cwan461@ecy.wa.gov)

John Martell, Manager, Radioactive Air Emissions Section  
Washington Department of Health  
309 Bradley Blvd, Suite 201  
Richland, WA 99352  
Phone: (509) 946-3798  
E-mail: [John.Martell@doh.wa.gov](mailto:John.Martell@doh.wa.gov)

Cindy O'Hare, BRAC Environmental Coordinator,  
NAVFAC Northwest  
1101 Tautog Circle, Suite 203  
Silverdale, WA 98315  
Phone: (360) 396-0014  
E-mail: [cindy.ohare@navy.mil](mailto:cindy.ohare@navy.mil)

**Document Review Locations  
NE Branch of Seattle Public Library**  
6801 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, Seattle 98115  
Phone: (206) 684-7539

**Department of Ecology  
Northwest Regional Office**  
3190 160<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE  
Bellevue, WA 98008








By appointment only:  
Contact Sally Perkins  
Email: [sally.perkins@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:sally.perkins@ecy.wa.gov)  
Phone: (425) 649-7190  
Hours: Tuesday – Thursday  
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Website**  
<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/gsp/Sitepage.aspx?csid=1359>

Cleanup ID #: 1359

## Introduction



-  PLANNED SOIL CLEANUP AREAS
-  PLANNED BUILDING CLEANUP AREAS
-  STORM DRAIN AND SINK DRAIN INVESTIGATION AREAS
-  MANHOLE
-  CATCH BASIN
-  CONTRACTOR CONTROLLED AREA
-  TRAFFIC ROUTING

The time critical removal action (TCRA) for the former Naval Station Puget Sound at Sand Point begins the summer of 2013. Focus areas for this TCRA are the central portion of the second floor of Building 2 and limited piping under the first floor; the “south shed” of Building 27; the catch basins south of Building 27; and adjacent soils around Buildings 2, 12 and 27. Both Building 27 south shed and portions of Building 2 where contamination was identified are currently vacant. The main hangar area of Building 27 is an indoor multi-sport facility, operated by Arena Sports and open to the public; Building 2 is mainly vacant, with the exception of the hangar that is used for storage by the City of Seattle Parks and Recreation Department. The north wing houses offices and workshops for the Seattle Conservation Corps job training program. Building 12, a former power plant, is vacant.

The TCRA will address radium-226, cesium-137, and/or strontium-90 contamination found during the 2010 investigation of Buildings 2, 12, and 27. The TCRA will remove radiological contamination in these areas.

Prior to the discovery of the radium room and renovation of Building 27, the building was frequently vandalized. When Seattle Parks managers discovered the radium room early in 2009, they secured entry points into the south shed. Vandalism regularly occurred in the hangar and north offices until arena Sports construction began in May 2011.

This TCRA is being conducted in accordance with the Department of Navy’s Environmental Restoration Program using Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). The TCRA will follow federal requirements of CERCLA and the National Oil and Hazardous Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP) (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 300.5). The Navy will address the substantive requirements of the Washington State Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA,

## Former US Naval Station Puget Sound

Washington Administrative Code 173-340-515). To accomplish cleanup, Department of Navy's environmental restoration team is working with various stakeholders including state and federal regulators.

### Action Memorandum Time-Critical Removal Action

The TCRA will focus on the following tasks.

- Building 27 south shed: Remove radiological contamination in the south shed, conduct radiological tests to ensure all contamination has been removed, and contaminated materials disposed as Low-Level Radiological Waste (LLRW). Demolish residual portions of the south shed and restore the common wall between the hangar and the south shed.
- Building 2: Remove radiological contamination, conduct radiological tests to ensure all contamination has been removed, and contaminated materials disposed as LLRW.
- Additional testing outside of Buildings 2, 12, and 27 to ensure all radiological contamination has been identified and removed and contaminated materials disposed as LLRW.
- Additional testing of storm and sanitary drain system components, remove and replace of radiological contaminated components of the storm drain system associated with Buildings 2 and 27, conduct radiological tests to ensure all contamination has been addressed, and package contaminated materials for disposal as LLRW.
- Transport and disposal of uncontaminated waste in a permitted landfill. Transport and disposal of contaminated waste in a licensed LLRW waste disposal facility.

### Project Schedule

The TCRA is expected to be completed in less than six months. Field work planned to begin in July 2013 and is expected to be completed by December 2013. Further work at and around Building 27 will continue into 2014.

### Site History

The former Naval Station Puget Sound was initially named Naval Station Seattle. Portions of the facility were built in 1925 on land donated by King County. Many of the major buildings were constructed prior to World War II, including Building 2 (1929) and Building 27 (1937). Further construction and remodeling took place in later years, including adding the south shed to Building 27 in 1944. During World War II, the facility supported air transport and ship outfitting and personnel for the Alaskan and Western Pacific theaters of operations.

Aircraft assembly and repair shops were closed in the early 1980's. Aviation activities ended on June 30, 1970. Between 1970 and 1977, the Navy conveyed considerable portions of the former base to the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the City of Seattle. The remainder of the property was retained by the Navy until it was listed for closure under the Base Realignment and Closure Act in 1991, and formally closed in 1995.

The City of Seattle applied to receive additional property for recreational uses through the Department of Interior, National Park Service. The Navy ultimately assigned the requested property to the National Park Service. By 2002, the City of Seattle was the owner of these additional lands that comprise the areas of Magnuson Park, which is the subject of this TCRA.

### Radiological History

To support transfer to the National Park Service, the Navy conducted several environmental investigations and cleanup actions on portions of former naval station (1988-1995). No radiological surveys were conducted during that time.

While planning the proposed renovations to Building 27 in 2009, the City of Seattle reviewed historical drawings and identified rooms labeled “Radium Room” and “Instrument Shop” in the south shed of Building 27. Following this discovery, the City of Seattle then reviewed drawings for Building 2 and identified a space labeled “Instrument Shop”. From the late 1930s through the 1950s, radioluminescent (glow-in-the dark) paint was used to maintain and repair aircraft dials, gauges, and compasses. Navy records confirm that the naval station received routine shipments of radium-226, which was used to make the radioluminescent paint. These operations were commonly conducted in instrument shops, and paint facilities like those identified in Buildings 2 and 27.

The City of Seattle completed an initial radiological survey in 2009 to confirm radiological contamination and contacted the US Navy. In 2010, the Navy investigated the extent of radiological contamination in and outside of Buildings 2 and 27.

### Radiological Remedial Investigation Results

The 2010 investigation found radiological contamination in and around the instrument shops in Building 2, and within the south shed of Building 27. These findings require cleanup under federal criteria. Radiological contamination was also found in piping in Buildings 2 and 27, in catch basins associated with Building 27, and in soil just outside these buildings and Building 12.

### Public Participation Plan

A Public Participation Plan is designed to promote meaningful community involvement during the cleanup process. The plan outlines and describes the methods that Ecology will use to inform the public about site activities, and to encourage citizens to be involved. The public is invited to comment on the draft Public Participation Plan.

The Washington State Department of Ecology encourages the public to comment on the proposed TCRA and supporting documents for the former Naval Station Puget Sound at Sand Point described in this fact sheet. Written comments on the action memorandum and supporting documents may be submitted using the comment form below. The comment period is July 18 – August 31, 2013. If additional space is needed, comments may be written neatly on plain white paper. Please send written comments to the Department of Ecology. The action memorandum and other relevant documents are available here:

**Ecology’s Website:** <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/gsp/Sitepage.aspx?csid=1359>

**U.S. Navy Website:** <http://goo.gl/t4JKw>

**Northeast Branch of the Seattle Public Library** at 6801 35th Ave N.E, in Seattle.

**Washington State Department of Ecology**, 3190 160<sup>th</sup> Ave SE, Bellevue, WA 98008.



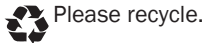




DEPARTMENT OF  
**ECOLOGY**  
State of Washington

3190 160<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE  
Bellevue, WA 98008

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**Cleanup ID #: 1359**

If you need this publication in an alternative format, call (425) 649-7117. Persons with hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with speech disability call (877) 833-6341.

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