

Site Cleanup Documents Available for Public Review and Comment



A PUGET SOUND INITIATIVE Site

Reaching the goal of a healthy, sustainable Puget Sound

Ecology Wants Your Input!

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) is asking for your comments on a proposed Consent Decree and Draft Cleanup Action Plan to clean up and restore Port Gamble Bay (the Property), a portion of the Port Gamble Bay and Mill Site (Site). The Port Gamble Bay and Mill Site has been identified for cleanup under the state's Puget Sound Initiative.

The Site is located in Kitsap County, Washington.

You are invited to:

- **Review** the proposed Consent Decree (Decree), Draft Cleanup Action Plan (DCAP), draft State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Mitigated Determination of Non-Significance (MDNS) and checklist, and draft Public Participation Plan (PPP).
- **Send** your comments to Ecology for consideration. Written comments will be accepted through *November 12, 2013*.
- **Attend** an open house / public hearing on October 29 to learn more about this cleanup. *Public testimony will be accepted during the Hearing.*

See the box on the right for details about where to review documents and submit comments. More information on the October 29 open house/public hearing can be found on page 4.

Site Background

The Site consists of the Property, together with the former sawmill area and the uplands areas to the west and south of the former sawmill area. The Property was used by Pope & Talbot, Inc. and its predecessors to transfer and raft logs used in the manufacturing of forest products for 142 years from 1853 to 1995. In 1985, Pope & Talbot, Inc., transferred ownership of the sawmill, uplands and adjacent tidelands to Pope Resources. Pope & Talbot continued wood products manufacturing at the Site until 1995 under a lease

Comments Invited

October 11 – November 12, 2013
Open House / Public Hearing
October 29, 2013

Submit Comments and Technical Questions to:

Russ McMillan - Site Manager
Department of Ecology
Toxics Cleanup Program
PO Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600
Phone: (360) 407-7536
Russ.McMillan@ecy.wa.gov

Document Review Locations

Poulsbo Library

700 NE Lincoln Street
Poulsbo, WA 98370
Phone: (360) 779-2915
<http://www.krl.org/poulsbo>

Town of Port Gamble

House 11 - 32159 Rainier Ave NE
Port Gamble Weddings & Events Office
Port Gamble, WA 98364
Hours: 7:30am – 4:00pm, Mon-Fri

Little Boston Library

31980 Little Boston Road, NE
Kingston, WA 98346
Phone: (360) 297-2670

Department of Ecology Headquarters

300 Desmond Drive SE
Lacey, WA 98503
By appointment only:
Contact Carol Dorn
Carol.Dorn@ecy.wa.gov or
(360) 407-7224

Port Gamble Bay and Mill Website

<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/gsp/Sitepage.aspx?csid=3444>

Facility Site ID #: 93937775

Port Gamble Bay and Mill Site

with Pope Resources. The Property includes the portions of the Bay shown in the figure on page 5. Ecology has worked with Pope Resources to develop documents that describe the cleanup to be performed at the Property.

Sawmill

The Site is located at the mouth of Port Gamble Bay, on the east end of NE View Drive, in Port Gamble, Kitsap County, WA. The mill was removed in 1997 and was leased for log sorting, wood chipping, materials handling, and marine research. Historical operations at the mill released pollutants, including cadmium, petroleum hydrocarbons, carcinogenic polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (cPAHs), and dioxins/furans. Some of these contaminants have been found in soil surrounding the mill and sediments at the Property. In addition to the chemicals released, wood waste impacts to the marine sediments have been found. When wood waste breaks down, it releases sulfide and ammonia, which are harmful to animals in the mud. In addition, wood waste can cause impacts to sediment by smothering aquatic habitat and animals, such as clams. Other chemicals that may accumulate in shellfish tissues are present in low concentrations throughout the Bay, and include arsenic, cadmium, carcinogenic PAHs and dioxins/furans.

Former Lease Area

The Former Lease Area is a part of the Property and is located at the southwest end of the Bay. This area was leased to Pope & Talbot, Inc. by the Washington Department of Natural Resources from 1974 to 1995. During that time, the log transfer and rafting activities conducted on the Property deposited wood waste on the bed of Port Gamble Bay.

Ecology has investigated wood waste impacts from historical log handling operations throughout the Bay.

Overview of the Proposed Consent Decree

In the proposed Decree, a formal legal document, Ecology and Potentially Liable Parties (PLPs) - Pope Resources LP and Olympic Property Group LLC - agree upon the cleanup actions needed to protect human health and the environment. The proposed Decree requires the PLPs to carry out specifically identified cleanup actions. A DCAP is among the exhibits to the Decree.

Overview of the Draft Cleanup Action Plan

This DCAP describes the selected cleanup action for a portion of the Site. Specifically, this DCAP selects a cleanup action for the Property.

This DCAP uses information from the 2012 Partial Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study report (PRI/FS) to identify a preferred cleanup action and a schedule to remediate the contamination at the Property. After the PRI/FS was completed in 2012 the PLPs prepared a DCAP under Ecology oversight. The DCAP recommends the following cleanup actions for its Sediment Management Areas (SMAs):

Sediment Management Areas

SMA-1 (North Mill):

- Dredging and capping.
- Removing creosoted pilings and overwater structures as a source control measure and to allow excavation of contaminated sediments.
- Removing approximately 5,000 cubic yards (cy) of contaminated intertidal sediments and 10,000 to 15,000 cy of wood waste.

- Long-term sediment monitoring.

SMA-2 (South Mill):

- A combination dredging, capping and enhanced monitored natural recovery (EMNR).
- Removing creosoted pilings and overwater structures as a source control measure and to allow excavation of contaminated sediments.
- Excavating approximately 9,000 cy of contaminated intertidal sediments and 20,000 to 30,000 cy of wood waste.
- Capping non-dredged areas with clean sand and use of institutional controls.
- Long-term sediment monitoring.

SMA-3 (Central Bay):

- Conducting EMNR by placing 90,000 to 100,000 tons of clean sand.
- Long-term monitoring.

SMA-4 (Former Lease Area):

- Removing creosoted piling.
- Conducting EMNR by placing 20,000 to 25,000 tons of clean sand.
- Long-term monitoring.

SMA-5 (cPAH Background Area):

This SMA surrounds and includes all of the other SMAs, serving as the boundary for remedial action in the sediments. Creosoted pilings will be removed as source control and monitored natural recovery will be used to confirm recovery.

Land Acquisition and Future Use

Separate from the cleanup work planned for the Property, Ecology received funds appropriated by the Legislature for source control, habitat preservation, and cleanup

sustainability. These funds will be used to purchase land for conservation and to conduct other environmental restoration and preservation projects. Funding decisions are being made through a separate process and these decisions are not a subject of this comment period. More information about this can be found on the project website referenced on page 1.

Overview of the Draft SEPA Mitigated Determination of Non-Significance and Checklist

SEPA makes sure that environmental values are considered during agency decision-making. A draft SEPA checklist was prepared to identify potential environmental impacts of the project on the surrounding environment. Ecology determined that use of best management practices and related measures to avoid, minimize and mitigate adverse impacts during the environmental cleanup of the Property will not result in a probable significant adverse impact on the environment (Mitigated Determination of Non-Significance). The checklist and determination are both available for public comment.

Overview of the Draft Public Participation Plan

Ecology is committed to providing the public with timely information and meaningful opportunities to participate in the cleanup process. As part of this commitment, Ecology has developed a draft PPP. This draft PPP outlines how citizens and interested parties can learn about and provide input on the cleanup.

Your comments and ideas are needed to improve the cleanup. The draft PPP explains how Ecology will do the following:



Port Gamble Bay and Mill Site

- Notify the public when and where documents are available for review and comment.
- Notify the public about how they can get involved.
- Provide public participation opportunities.
- Consider public comments in cleanup decisions.

Why This Cleanup Matters

Protecting and restoring Puget Sound

In 2007, Washington State established the Puget Sound Initiative to protect and restore Puget Sound. Several baywide areas in the Sound have been identified as high priority cleanup areas as part of this Initiative, including Port Gamble, Dumas Bay, Padilla and Fidalgo Bays, Port Angeles, Budd Inlet, and Port Gardner Bay. This work includes cleaning up 50-60 sites within one-half mile of the Sound, including the Port Gamble Bay and Mill Site. These cleanup actions will help reduce pollution and restore habitat and shorelines in Puget Sound.

For more information about other sites, go to:

www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites_brochure/psi/overview/psi_baywide.html

Learn more about controlling toxic chemicals in Puget Sound through this link:

www.ecy.wa.gov/puget_sound/toxicchemicals/index.html

What Happens Next?

Once the public comment period ends on November 12, 2013, Ecology will review and consider all comments received. The Decree, DCAP, MDNS and PPP may be modified based on your comments. As future documents on the Site are developed, you

will be notified of additional public comment periods.

For information about other Ecology public comment periods and events, please visit Ecology's public events calendar at:

<http://apps.ecy.wa.gov/pubcalendar/calendar.asp>

Come to the open house and public hearing on October 29

A community open house and public hearing will be held on Tuesday, October 29, 2013 from 5 – 8:30 p.m.

Come learn about the plan to clean up Port Gamble Bay, a portion of the Port Gamble Bay and Mill Site.

The open house begins at 5 p.m. followed by a presentation and Q&A session at 6 p.m. *Public testimony will be accepted during the Hearing after the presentation and question and answer period.*

Location information

Hood Canal Vista Pavilion
4740 NE View Drive
Port Gamble, WA

We hope you can join us and we welcome your comments.



Port Gamble Bay and Mill Site

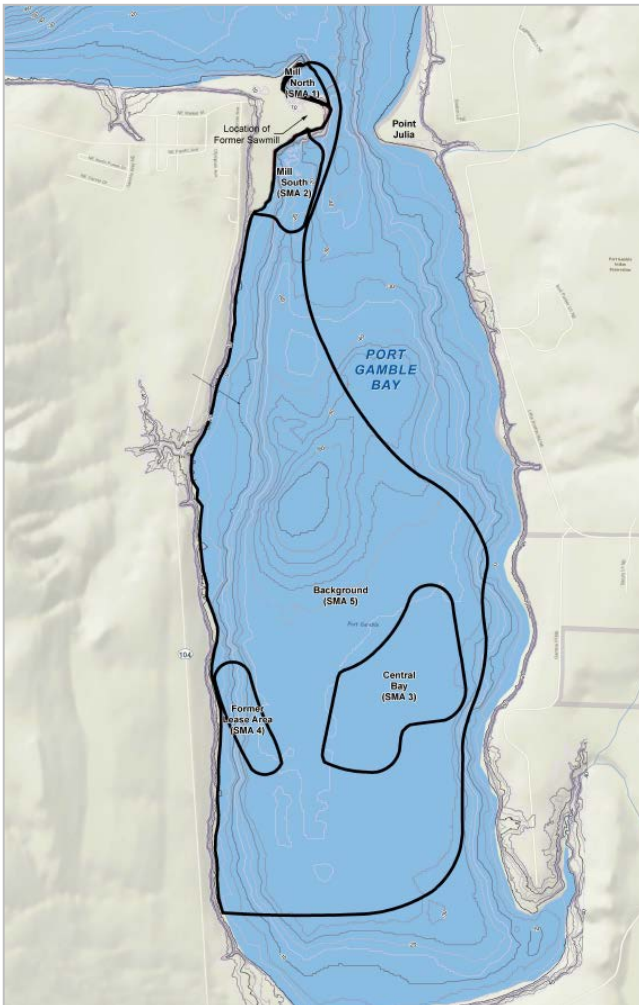
What can you do?

1. Read about the cleanup in this handout.
2. Review the supporting documents at the locations listed on page one.
3. Send your comments and questions to the Department of Ecology at the address shown on page one.
4. Come to the open house / public hearing from **5 - 8:30 p.m. on October 29 in Port Gamble.**

We appreciate your comments and concerns.
Thank you.



Aerial view of Port Gamble Bay.



The Property and SMAs located in Kitsap County, WA.



Photo of the Pope & Talbot, Inc. sawmill.



Toxics Cleanup Program
c/o Russ McMillan
PO Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

Port Gamble Bay, a portion of the Port Gamble Bay and Mill Site, Kitsap County, WA

Ecology Seeks Public Comment on Site Cleanup Documents

Public Comment Period:

October 11 – November 12, 2013

Open House / Public Hearing:

October 29, 2013 | 5 - 8:30 pm

Hood Canal Vista Pavilion

4740 NE View Drive

Port Gamble, WA 98364

Presentation at 6 pm.

Facility Site ID #: 93937775

Cleanup Site ID #: 3444

Help with other languages and formats?

If you need this publication in an alternate format, please call the Toxics Cleanup Program at (360) 407-7170. Persons with hearing loss can call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability can call (877) 833-6341.