

## Draft Cleanup Action Plan And Investigation Reports Available for Public Review and Comment



### A PUGET SOUND INITIATIVE site

Reaching the goal of a healthy, sustainable Puget Sound now and forever!

The Department of Ecology has been working on investigating and cleaning up contamination at the Former Irondale Iron and Steel site since around 2001. The Governor's Puget Sound Initiative, an effort to restore the Sound by 2020 (See page 2), is funding the site cleanup work.

Ecology conducted a site investigation to determine the extent of contamination. A Feasibility Study was conducted to examine possible cleanup options. Ecology is proposing to clean up the site by:

- Removing contaminated sediments.
- Excavating and removing contaminated soil from an area of the site.
- Installing a geotextile and soil cap to prevent exposure to contaminated soil remaining on site.
- Removing slag material and restoring the areas where soil was excavated.

In addition, Ecology did a State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) review of the cleanup actions to make sure they would not have a significant adverse impact on the environment. A Determination of Non-Significance and the checklist are now available for comment.

### Ecology Wants Your Input!

Ecology is asking for your comments on the Cleanup Action Plan. You are invited to:

- **Review** the Cleanup Action Plan, SEPA Checklist, SEPA Determination of Non-Significance, the Remedial Investigation Report and the Feasibility Study Report.
- **Send** your comments to Ecology for consideration. **Comments will be accepted until January 22, 2010.**

### Comments Accepted

December 14, 2009  
through January 22, 2010

### Submit Comments and Technical Questions to:

Steve Teel, Site Manager  
WA Department of Ecology  
SWRO Toxics Cleanup Program  
P.O. Box 47775  
Olympia, WA 98504-7775  
Phone: (360) 407-6247  
E-mail: stee461@ecy.wa.gov

### Public Involvement Contact:

Meg Bommarito  
Phone: (360) 407-6255  
E-mail: mbom461@ecy.wa.gov

### Document Review Locations

Jefferson County Library  
620 Cedar Avenue  
Port Hadlock, WA 98339  
Phone: (360) 385-6544

WA Department of Ecology  
Southwest Regional Office  
300 Desmond Drive SE  
Lacey, WA 98503

By appointment only:  
Contact Debbie Nelson,  
dene461@ecy.wa.gov or  
(360) 407-6365

### Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Website

[http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/irondale/irondale\\_hp.htm](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/irondale/irondale_hp.htm)

**Facility Site ID # 95275518**

### What Happens Next?

- Ecology will review and consider all public comments received during the comment period.
- These comments, and Ecology's responses, will be published in a Responsiveness Summary and sent to all who commented and posted online.
- Cleanup work will begin when funding becomes available. Notice will be sent out to the community before the cleanup begins.

### Site Background

The Former Irondale Iron and Steel site is located at 526 Moore Street in Irondale. From 1881 to 1919, iron and steel were produced at the site by various owners. Steel plant operation during this time resulted in contamination of soil, sediment and groundwater.

In 1919, the plant closed and the equipment was removed from the site. The site was not cleaned up after closing, and slag and other debris are still present. Some building foundations and the concrete walls of an above-ground fuel tank remain on site.

From 1919 until 2001, the site changed ownership several times but no additional waste was produced. Most recently, the site was used as a log storage yard by a nearby chipping facility (1977-1999).

Jefferson County purchased the site in 2001 to use as a recreation area. An initial investigation revealed evidence of hazardous materials such as petroleum and metals. Ecology then conducted a site investigation. Analysis of samples taken during this study showed that contamination was below Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) cleanup levels for total petroleum hydrocarbons and metals. Ecology concluded that the site did not pose a significant threat to human health or the environment.

In November 2005, a park visitor notified Ecology about an oily residue on the beach at this site. Ecology determined that there was evidence of

contamination along the beach and Jefferson county closed the beach to begin an investigation.

In 2007, Jefferson County sampled along the beach area and near the above-ground fuel tank and found levels of petroleum contamination and metals in soil that exceeded MTCA cleanup levels.

### Results of the Investigation

Investigations from 2007-09, revealed evidence of soil, sediment and groundwater contamination. Contamination was found at locations of former buildings and industrial activities and in an area surrounding a former ground fuel storage tank. A Feasibility Study examined possible cleanup options. Based on this study, Ecology has drafted a plan to clean up and manage contamination.

### Why is This Cleanup Important?

Decades of industrial, municipal, and naturally occurring pollution have damaged the quality, condition and ecology of Puget Sound. In May 2007, Governor Chris Gregoire and the Washington State Legislature approved the Puget Sound Initiative to begin work restoring the health of the Sound by 2020.

**One of the objectives of the Initiative is to protect and restore Puget Sound by cleaning up contaminated sites within one-half mile of the Sound.** These cleanup actions will help to reduce pollution and restore habitat and shorelines in Puget Sound.

Several areas in the south Sound have been identified as high priority cleanup areas for the Toxics Cleanup Program as part of this initiative. Early actions in these areas will contribute significantly to the restoration of Puget Sound. **Sediment investigations in Port Gamble, Dumas Bay, Padilla and Fidalgo Bay, Port Angeles Harbor, Oakland Bay, Port Gardner and Budd Inlet are underway, planned or completed.**



# Former Irondale Iron and Steel

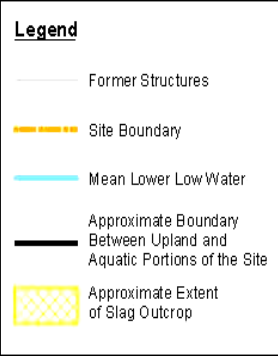


Figure 1. Former Irondale Iron and Steel site boundary

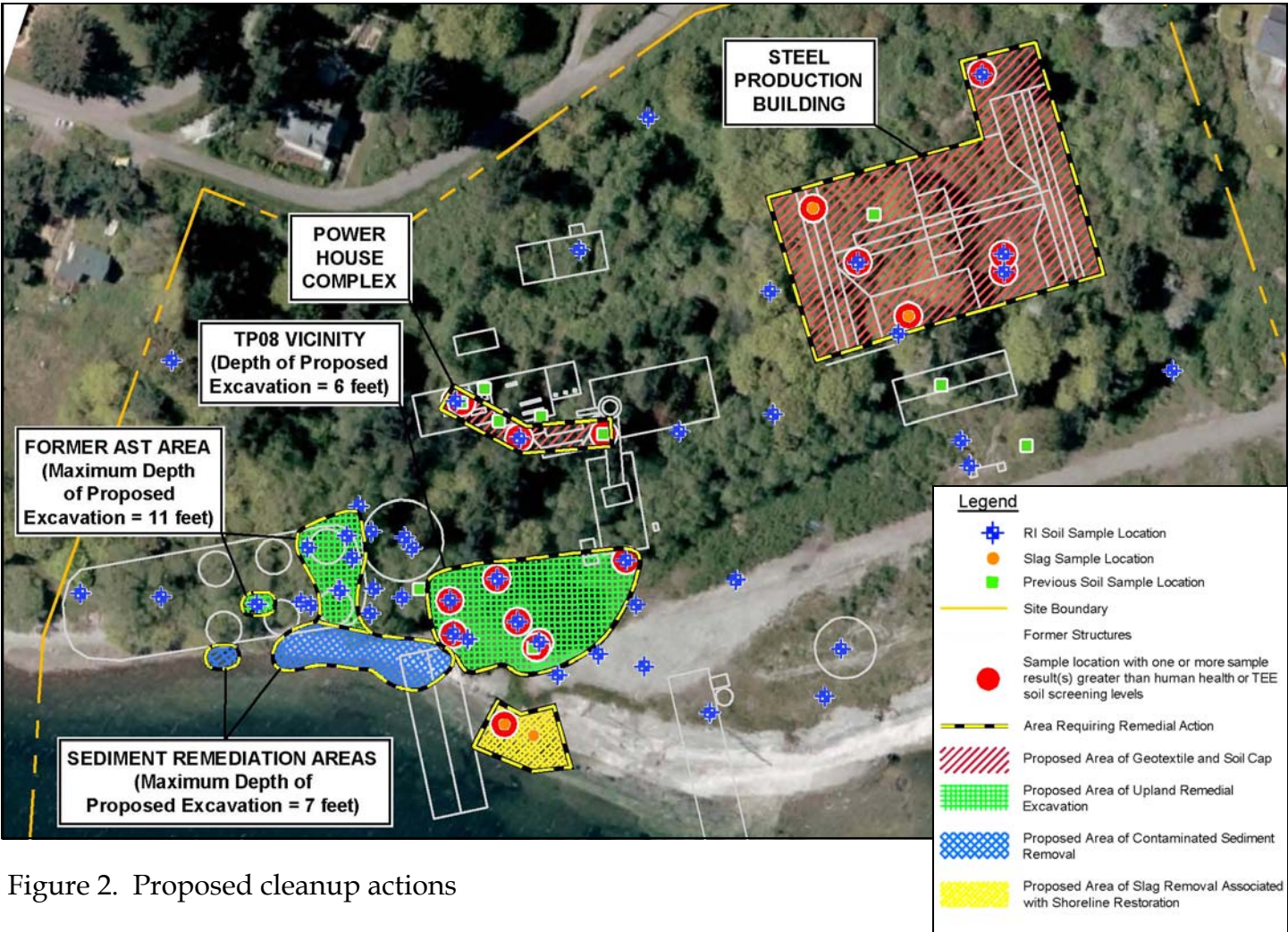


Figure 2. Proposed cleanup actions



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## Former Irondale Iron and Steel Irondale, WA

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#### Public Comment Period:

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January 22, 2010

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526 Moore Street, Irondale

