



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

Budd Inlet Sediments

Olympia, Washington

Prepared by

Washington State Department of Ecology
Southwest Regional Office
Toxics Cleanup Program
300 Desmond Drive
Olympia, Washington 98504-7775

May 2007

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	3
SITE BACKGROUND	3
Site Description	3
Site History	3
Current Activity	3
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ACTIVITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES	4
Public Involvement Activities	4
Information Repositories	5
Points of Contact.....	6
FIGURES	
Figure 1. Site location.....	7
Figure 2. Budd Inlet Investigation and Cleanup Stages and Opportunities for Public Involvement.....	8

INTRODUCTION

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) has developed this public participation plan pursuant to the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) to promote meaningful community involvement during the investigation and cleanup of Budd Inlet sediments. This plan outlines and describes the tools that Ecology uses to inform the public about site activities and identifies opportunities for the community to become involved.

Ecology has begun investigations to determine the extent and possible sources of dioxin contamination in Budd Inlet. As part of this process, Ecology has completed a review of historical sediment data and has prepared a summary of historical data and a sampling and analysis plan for sediment characterization. Sampling and analysis are underway.

LOCATION

The Budd Inlet sediments site is located in Olympia, Washington in the southeastern arm of the Puget Sound (see Figure 1). Sampling and cleanup activities will occur in various locations throughout Budd Inlet.

SITE BACKGROUND

Ecology began investigation of Budd Inlet sediments after elevated levels of dioxins were discovered by the Port of Olympia in an area scheduled for routine maintenance dredging. Although dioxins were found in areas throughout the inlet, the highest levels were found in sediments near stormwater discharge pipes and the Port's shipping berths. The specific source of dioxins is unknown.

This cleanup work is currently being funded by the state of Washington. The Budd Inlet sediment cleanup is part of the Puget Sound Initiative, Governor Gregoire's effort to protect and restore the Puget Sound. This program has provided funding necessary to begin the investigation at this site.

CURRENT SITE ACTIVITY

After review of historical data, a Sampling and Analysis Plan was developed. This Plan was available from April 5 through May 15 for public review and comment. Sediment sampling began on April 2 because of the need to complete this work before the end of the budget year (June 30, 2007). Ecology values public input and therefore extended the public comment period to 45 days. The sampling has been completed and the analysis is underway. Ecology will consider both the results of the sampling and public comment to help determine if additional sampling is needed.

If more sampling is needed, a new scope of work will be drafted and available for public comment and review. If enough data has been gathered, as determined by sampling results and public comment, a feasibility study will begin and will identify possible cleanup alternatives.

The Port of Olympia is currently negotiating an agree order with Ecology to complete maintenance dredging of their #2 and #4 berthing areas as part of cleanup efforts. The dredging will be considered an interim action and will assist with Ecology efforts to remove contaminated sediments from this area. Port dredging is only a small part of the overall cleanup effort.

Please see Figure 2 for information about the cleanup stages and opportunities for public involvement during this process.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ACTIVITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The purpose of this Public Participation Plan is to promote public understanding and participation in the cleanup process for this site. This section of the plan addresses how Ecology will keep the public informed about site activity and provide opportunity for comment and involvement.

Ecology will use a variety of tools to facilitate public participation in the planning and cleanup of this MTCA site. Ecology will consider and implement input provided by the community whenever possible. The following is a list of the public involvement activities that Ecology will use, their purpose and a description of when and how they will be used in this site cleanup.

Formal Public Comment Period

Comment periods are the primary method Ecology uses to get feedback from the public on proposed cleanup decisions. Comment periods usually last for 30 days and are required at key points during this cleanup process before final decisions are made. During a comment period, the public can comment in writing (email or letter) or in person (during a public meeting or hearing).

Public Meetings and Hearings

Public meetings may be held at key points during the investigation and cleanup process. Ecology may also offer public meetings for actions expected to be of particular interest to the community. Also, if ten or more people request a public hearing during the 30 day comment period, Ecology will hold a public hearing for the purpose of taking oral comments on draft documents.

Responsiveness Summaries

After every public comment period, Ecology reviews and may respond to all comments received, both oral and written. This may be compiled into a responsiveness summary. Ecology considers changes or revisions based on the input from the public. If significant changes are made, then a second comment period is held. If no significant changes are made, then the draft documents will be finalized. If a responsiveness summary is created, it will be available upon request and included with the other pertinent site documents in the Information Repositories listed on the next page.

Information Repositories

Information repositories are convenient places where the public can go to read and review site information. The information repositories are often at libraries or community sites. During the comment period, the site documents will be available for review at each repository. Each site will have at least two repository sites established. Site information will remain at repositories for the duration of the cleanup. Ecology's Central files can also make copies of the documents for a fee.

The information repositories for this site are:

Washington State Department of Ecology

Southwest Regional Office
Toxics Cleanup Program
300 Desmond Dr.
Lacey, WA 98503
(360) 407-6365

Timberland Olympia Library

313 8th Avenue SE
Olympia, WA 98501-9300
(360) 352-0595

Mailing list

Ecology has compiled a list of interested parties and organizations and residents living in proximity to the cleanup site. This list will be used to disseminate information via mail (fact sheets, site updates, public notices). If you wish to be added to the mail list, please contact Meg Bommarito at 360-407-6255 or mbom461@ecy.wa.gov.

Site Register and Public Events Calendar

Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Program uses its bimonthly Site Register and web-based Public Involvement Calendar to announce all of its public meetings and comment periods as well as additional site activities. To receive the Site Register in electronic or hard copy format, contact Linda Thompson at 360-407-6069 or by email at ltho461@ecy.wa.gov. It is also available on Ecology's website at http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/8801/8801_hp.html.

Fact Sheets / Updates

Ecology will mail out fact sheets to persons and organizations interested in the Budd Inlet site to inform them of public meetings and comment periods as well as important site activities. Ecology may also mail an update about the progress of site activities.

Newspaper Display Ads

Ecology may place ads in the local paper to announce public comment periods and public meetings or hearings for this site. The Olympian will be used to publish information about this site.

Ecology Web Site

Information related to this site and materials available for public comment will be posted on Ecology's web site at http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/budd_inlet/budd_inlet_hp.htm

Public Participation Grants

Grants may be available to neighborhood committees, non-profits, and other groups near the site. These funds may be used to provide additional public involvement, to receive technical assistance, and/or enhance the public's understanding of the cleanup process. For more information, please contact Kathy Seel at (360) 407-6061 or Ksee461@ecy.wa.gov, or visit Ecology's Solid Waste and Financial Assistance Program website: www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/swfa/grants.html

Translation Service

Ecology will provide translation services to any resident who requests them. This service can include written material, live translation during public meetings or telephone inquiries. Please contact Meg Bommarito, Public Involvement Coordinator at (360) 407-6255 or mbom461@ecy.wa.gov for a translated copy of this or any other documents related to this site.

Plan Updates

This Public Participation Plan is meant to be a dynamic guide for informing and involving the community in the decision-making process at the Site. This plan may be updated as the project proceeds.

Public Points of Contact

For project-related questions, contact Rebecca Lawson at the Washington State Department of Ecology at (360) 407-6241 or by email at rlaw461@ecy.wa.gov.

For copies of this document or other fact sheets and information about public involvement, contact Meg Bommarito at the Washington State Department of Ecology at (360) 407-6255 or by email at mbom461@ecy.wa.gov.

Figure 1. Budd Inlet Sediments Site Location

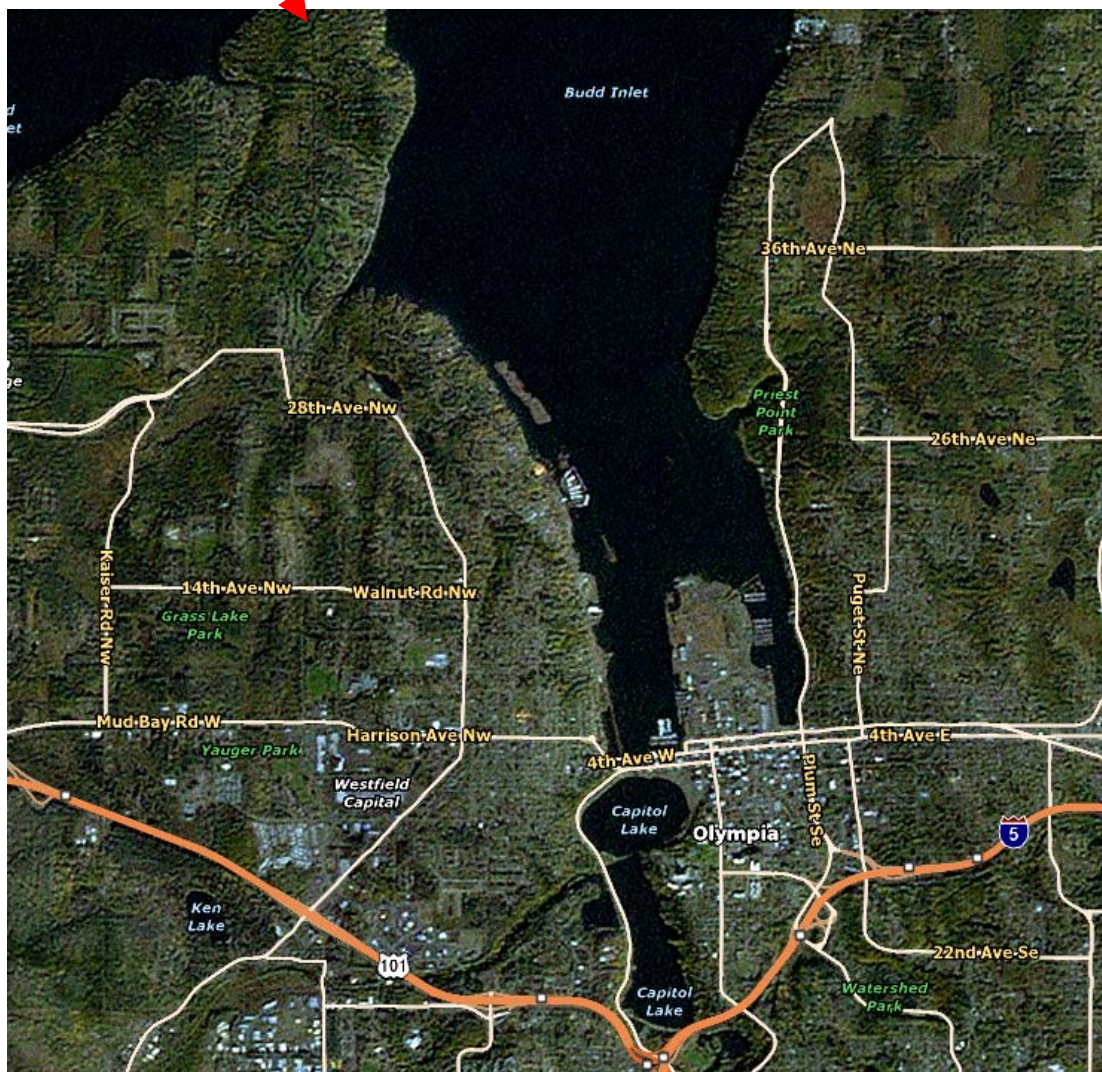
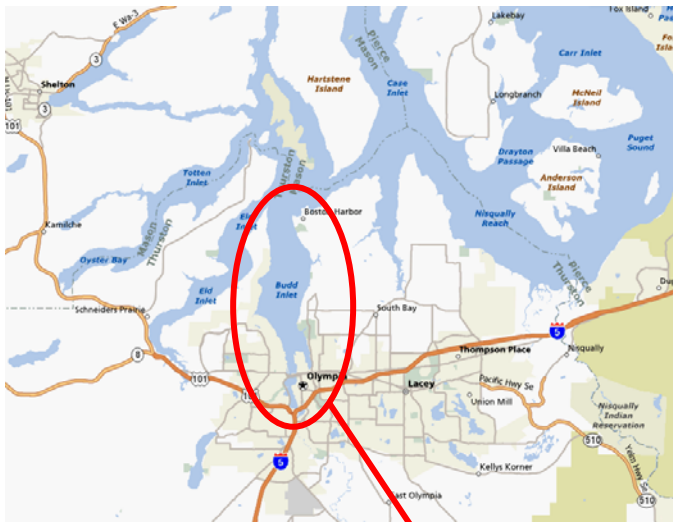


Figure 2. Budd Inlet Investigation and Cleanup Stages and Public Involvement Opportunities

