



Contamination cleanup report ready for review

The Port of Bellingham, with Ecology oversight, has investigated contamination at the Weldcraft Steel and Marine cleanup site on Bellingham's waterfront and identified a preferred cleanup alternative. This report, called a Remedial Investigation / Feasibility Study (RI/FS), is now available for public review.

Ecology wants your comments

You are invited to submit comments on this report during the public comment period from July 30 – August 28, 2014. Your input is an important piece of the overall cleanup process. Your comments will help Ecology understand and address your concerns as we move forward with the cleanup of this site. Details about how to comment are listed in the box to the right.

Once the public comment period ends, Ecology will review and respond to all comments. If comments result in significant changes, the RI/FS report will be re-issued for a second 30-day comment period. In addition, if ten or more persons request a public meeting about this cleanup, Ecology will provide notice and hold a public meeting.

Public Comment Period

July 30 – August 28, 2014

Send comments/questions to:

Mary O'Herron – Site Manager
WA Department of Ecology
1440 10th St., Suite 102
Bellingham, WA 98225
Phone: 360-715-5224
Email: mary.oherron@ecy.wa.gov

Review documents at:

Bellingham – Ecology Office
1440 10th St., Suite 102
Bellingham, WA
By appointment. Call Linsay Albin at
360-715-5200.

Bellingham Public Library
210 Central Ave.
Bellingham, WA
Phone: 360-778-7323
Hours: Mon.-Tues. 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Wed. – Sat. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sun. closed.

Bellevue – Ecology Office
3190 160th Ave. SE
Bellevue, WA
By appointment; call: 425-649-7190

Ecology's Weldcraft web page:
www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites
Search Site Name: Weldcraft

You can use your smartphone to scan the QR code on the back page of this document to be connected to the site webpage.

Site history

The Weldcraft Steel and Marine cleanup site is located at 2652 Harbor Loop Dr. adjacent to Squalicum Harbor on the Bellingham Waterfront. The site began as Weldcraft Steel Works in 1946, and was subsequently used primarily for boat repair, maintenance and fabrication work. Contamination at the site is associated with historic boatyard operations and has no relation to the current Port tenant, Seaview Boatyard North.

The site totals approximately 2.5 acres, 1.9 acres being in water, and .06 acres on land. It is sometimes referred to as the Gate 2 Boatyard.

Project Background

In 2003, the Port entered into a legal agreement with Ecology to complete a remedial investigation and feasibility study for the site under Washington's cleanup law, the Model Toxics Control Act. The legal agreement also included an interim cleanup action to remove contaminated sediment from the site.

Interim Cleanup Action

An interim cleanup action was performed concurrent with Port redevelopment activities in 2004. About 6,800 cubic yards of contaminated sediment were removed and disposed of at a permitted landfill.

Remedial Investigation

Site-wide investigation activities found contaminants exceeding state standards in the soil, groundwater and sediment.

Contaminants include:

- Groundwater: petroleum related chemicals and metals (copper nickel, zinc);
- Soil: petroleum related chemicals and metals (copper, lead, nickel, zinc); and
- Sediment, prior to interim cleanup action: tributyltin, metals (mercury, zinc, copper), and semi-volatile organic compounds.

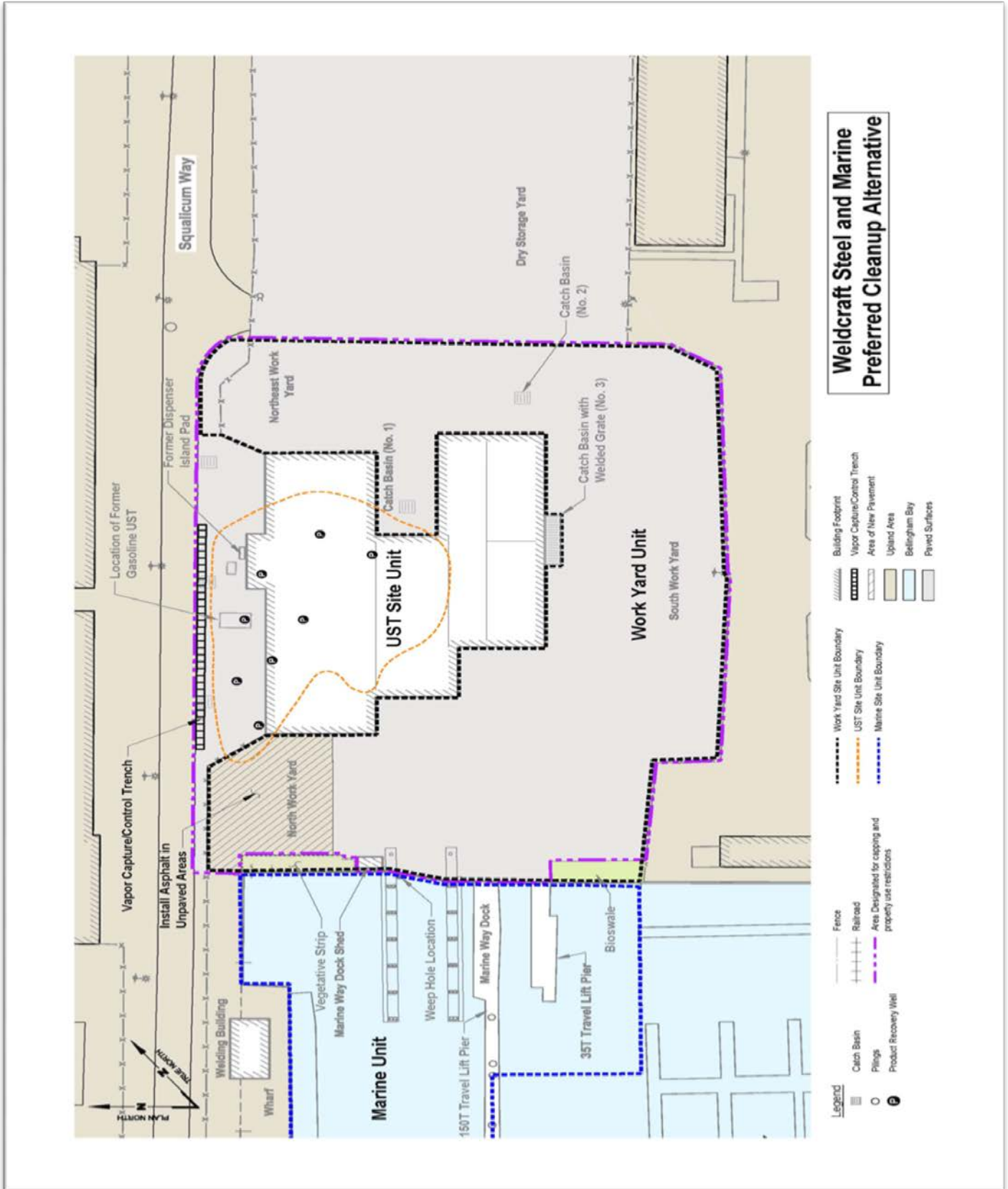
Feasibility Study

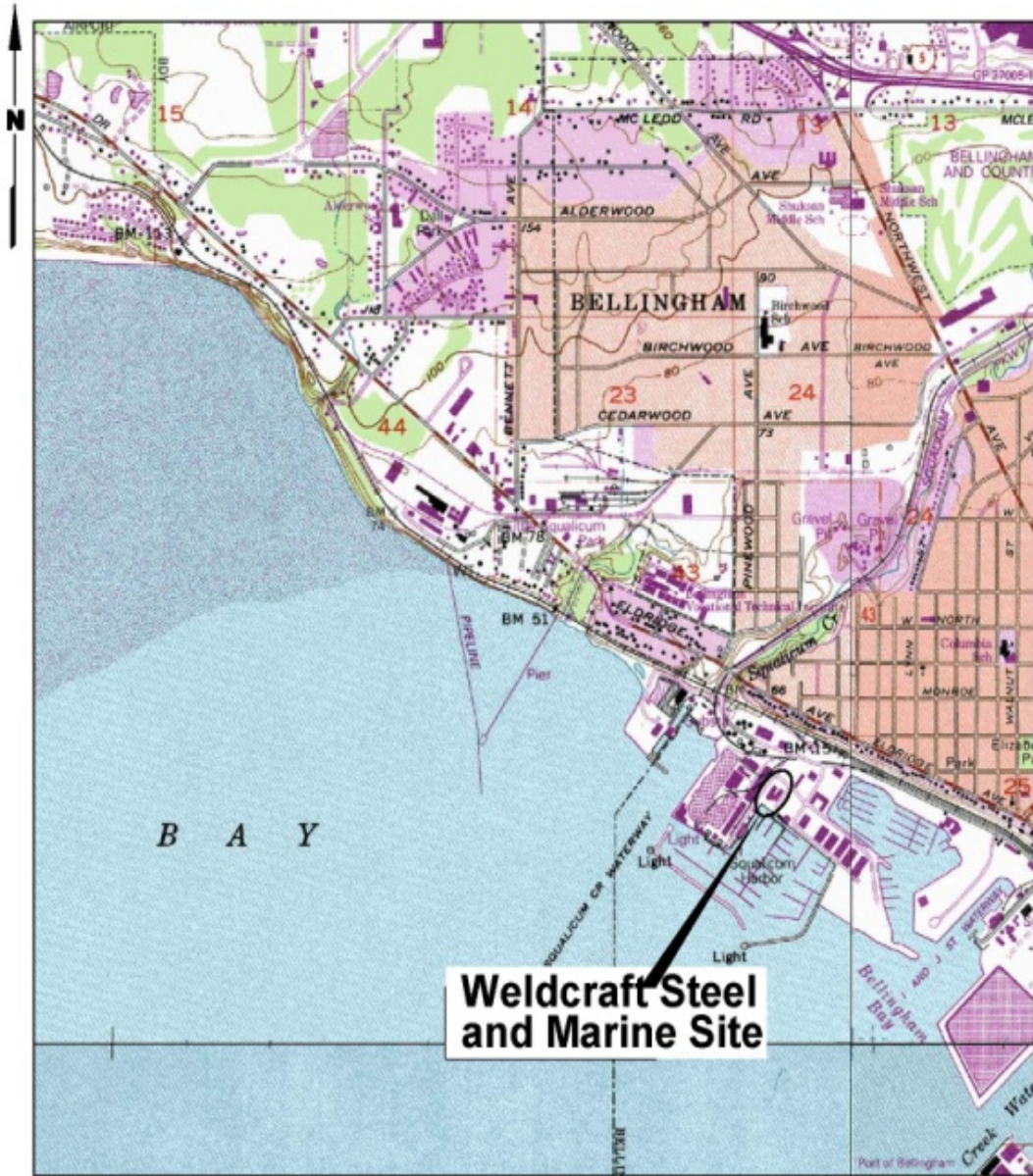
Based on the results of the remedial investigation, specific units were defined within the site: the Underground Storage Tank (UST) Unit, the Work Yard Unit, and the Marine Unit. Four cleanup options addressing contamination in these units were evaluated and a preferred cleanup alternative was identified. The preferred alternative includes:

Underground Storage Tank (UST) Unit consisting of the former UST area (soil, soil vapor and groundwater):

- Capping of contaminated soil with existing buildings, foundations, and pavement. Soil vapor control if needed;
- Removal of petroleum product from the groundwater, if possible;
- Reduction of vapor migration potential through petroleum product removal and a vapor control system;
- Soil, groundwater and soil vapor compliance monitoring;
- Property use restrictions to maintain the soil cap, restrict groundwater use and manage any contamination disturbed during future intrusive activities.

Site Map





Vicinity Map

Map from Maptech Terrain Navigator 2002

Work Yard Unit consisting of the North, South and Northeast work yards (soil and groundwater):

- Capping of contaminated soil with existing and new pavement;
- Soil, groundwater and soil vapor compliance monitoring;
- Property use restrictions to maintain the soil cap, restrict groundwater use and manage any contamination disturbed during future intrusive activities.

The Marine Unit consisting of the aquatic area (marine sediment):

- Interim action and compliance monitoring completed.
- Need for more sediment quality monitoring to be considered during future cleanup action plan development.

Costs and funding

The cleanup of the Weldcraft Steel and Marine site is estimated to cost about \$610,000.

Ecology will reimburse the Port of Bellingham up to half the cost of cleanup through the state's Remedial Action Grant program, which helps pay for the cleanup of publicly owned sites. The Legislature funds the grant program with revenues from a tax on hazardous substances.

Project timeline

- July 30 - August 28: public comment period;
- Early 2015: public review of a Consent Decree which will include a Cleanup Action Plan.

Help with other formats?

To ask about obtaining this document in a version for the visually impaired, call Brad Petrovich at Ecology, 425-533-5537.

Persons with hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service.

Persons with a speech disability, call 877-833-6341.

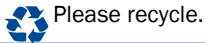
Información en español:

El Departamento de Ecología del Estado pide comentarios del público sobre el documento que propone la limpieza del sitio Weldcraft Steel and Marine. El documento, llamado Investigación Correctiva y Estudio de Factibilidad (RI/FS por sus siglas en inglés), está disponible para ser examinado por el público. Ecología aceptará comentarios del público a partir del 30 de julio hasta el 28 de agosto.

Para preguntas o comentarios, favor de llamar a Mary O'Herron del Departamento de Ecología al (360)715-5224 o email al mary.oherron@ecy.wa.gov. Usted puede ver el documento y mas información sobre esta limpieza en el sitio de Internet de Ecología: www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites - busque el nombre del sitio: Weldcraft.



3190 160th Avenue SE
Bellevue, WA 98008-5452



Please recycle.

Weldcraft Steel and Marine Cleanup Site Bellingham Waterfront

The Department of Ecology is asking for public comment on an environmental report for the Weldcraft Steel and Marine cleanup site on Bellingham's waterfront.

The report (a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study) includes an investigation of contamination at the site and a preferred option for cleaning up the entire site.

Ecology will accept comments from July 30 – August 28, 2014.

Read inside for more details about how you can review the document and provide comments to Ecology.



Scan this QR Code with your smartphone to visit Ecology's website for more information!

Or:

*www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp
Search Site Name: Weldcraft*