

# Former Scott Paper Mill Site

## Draft Consent Decree Available for Public Review and Comment



The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) has prepared this fact sheet to invite public comment on a draft Consent Decree for the northern portion of the former Scott Paper Mill site in Anacortes, Washington. The northern portion includes currently-owned Port of Anacortes property, as well as property owned by Shared Healthcare Systems, Inc. Ecology and the Port of Anacortes have negotiated this draft Consent Decree. The public is encouraged to review and comment on this document and the draft Public Participation Plan between December 23, 2002, and January 21, 2003.

The southern portion of the site, owned by MJB Properties, Inc. since 1989, will be covered under a separate legal agreement which is currently being discussed between Ecology and the Kimberly-Clark Corporation (a successor to Scott Paper Company).

### Location

The area of the site covered under this Consent Decree is located north of an extension of 17th Street, east of Q Avenue, on the west shore of Fidalgo Bay, and south of Cap Sante Boat Haven marina in downtown Anacortes, Washington (see figure). This area is presently the location of Seafarers' Memorial Park, office buildings, and a vacant lot along the Q Avenue frontage. Both upland and marine environments are included in the site.

### Site Background

The Scott Paper Company and other former owners operated lumber mills and a pulp mill from approximately 1925 until 1978. During this period, numerous buildings, sheds, piers, tailings ponds, boilers, fuel storage tanks, a smokestack and burners were

located on the northern portion of the site. The pulp producing plant was located on the southern portion of the mill site.

In 1979, the Port of Anacortes purchased the northern portion of the former mill site from the Scott Paper Company. The Port of Anacortes used part of the property as a log yard from 1991 to 1993. In 1998, this northern portion was replatted into what are currently referred to as Parcels 1, 2, and 3 (see figure):

- Parcel 1 is the vacant lot along Q Avenue;
- Parcel 2 was sold to Shared Healthcare Systems, Inc. in 1998; and
- Parcel 3 was dedicated as Seafarers' Memorial Park.

In 1999, the Port of Anacortes and Shared Healthcare Systems, Inc. conducted an independent cleanup action in Parcel 2 for the soils in the area of the former aboveground fuel storage tanks and tailings ponds for the pulp mill. The cleanup included the removal of petroleum-contaminated soil and wood debris. The independent cleanup action also included installation of a two-foot thick soil cover and storm water controls for the remainder of Parcel 2.

In 2000, Ecology notified the following that they are potentially liable persons for the Former Scott Paper Mill site: Port of Anacortes, Kimberly-Clark Corporation, Shared Healthcare Systems, Inc., and MJB Properties, Inc.

## December 2002

### Comment Period:

**12/23/02 – 1/21/03**

### Public Meeting:

**January 7, 2003**

Municipal Building (City Hall)  
6th Street & Q Avenue, Anacortes  
7:00-8:30PM

### Send Comments to:

Ron Timm, Site Manager  
WA Department of Ecology  
3190 160th Avenue SE  
Bellevue, WA 98008  
(425) 649-7185  
[rtim461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:rtim461@ecy.wa.gov)

### For other questions or to be added to the mailing list:

Rebekah Padgett  
WA Department of Ecology  
3190 160th Avenue SE  
Bellevue, WA 98008  
(425) 649-7257  
[rp461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:rp461@ecy.wa.gov)

### Site documents can be reviewed at the following locations:

Municipal Building (City Hall)  
6th Street & Q Avenue, Anacortes  
(360) 293-1918

WA Department of Ecology  
3190 160th Avenue SE  
Bellevue WA 98008  
Call for an appointment  
Phone: (425) 649-7190

Ecology's Web Site:  
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/sites.html>

For special accommodation needs or language translation assistance, call Rebekah Padgett at (425) 649-7257 (Voice) or 711 or (800) 833-8973 (TTY). Ecology is an equal opportunity agency.

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Remaining contaminants of concern to be investigated in the area of the site covered under this Consent Decree include: petroleum; carcinogenic polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (cPAHs); dioxins/furans; metals; polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs); and deleterious substances (e.g., wood), brick, metal, and slag in the marine environment.

A *Cleanup Action Plan* is a document that describes the cleanup alternative(s) that will be used at the site.

The *Consent Decree* is a legal document, approved and entered by a court, formalizing an agreement between Ecology and potentially liable persons (PLPs). Once signed, a Consent Decree relieves liability of a PLP for known contamination once the cleanup is complete.

*Feasibility Studies* develop and evaluate cleanup options for a given site.

A *Potentially Liable Person* is defined as any individual(s) or company(s) potentially responsible for, or contributing to, the contamination problems at a site. Whenever possible, Ecology requires these PLPs, through administrative and legal actions, to clean up hazardous waste sites for which they may be liable.

A *Remedial Investigation* is used to characterize the site and define the extent of contamination.

## Update

The proposed actions conducted under this Consent Decree will be done in conjunction with remedial actions under a separate legal agreement for the southern portion of the site. The draft Consent Decree for the northern portion of the site includes:

- Completion of a Remedial Investigation for soils and groundwater on the uplands (Parcels 1, 2, and 3) and the marine area;
- Development of a Feasibility Study for soils and groundwater on the uplands (Parcels 1, 2, and 3) and the marine area; and
- If necessary, for Parcel 1 only, preparation of a Cleanup Action Plan and completion of remedial actions for soil.

The Consent Decree may be amended to cover additional actions for Parcels 1, 2, and 3, as well as the marine area.

## Public Comment on the Draft Consent Decree

Ecology is holding a public comment period from December 23, 2002, to January 21, 2003, during which you may comment on the draft Consent Decree and draft Public Participation Plan. These documents are available at the information repositories listed on the first page of this fact sheet.

Ecology will hold a public meeting on January 7th at the Anacortes Municipal Building (City Hall), 6th Street and Q Avenue. The meeting will start at 7:00PM. After a brief presentation, Ecology staff will take questions from the public.

Once the public comment period ends, Ecology will review all comments received and will make recommendations for any suggested changes to the documents. If no significant changes are made, the Consent Decree and Public Participation Plan will be considered final and the site investigation will begin. You will have future opportunities to review and comment on draft Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Studies, when completed, and on any cleanup action plans for the site.

## Ecology would like your input!

You have an opportunity to review the draft Consent Decree and draft Public Participation Plan and to comment on these documents. Please send your comments before January 21, 2003, to Ecology's Site Manager, Ron Timm, at the address below. Comments may be sent by mail or e-mail.

### For more information:

Ron Timm, Site Manager  
WA Department of Ecology  
3190 160th Avenue SE  
Bellevue, WA 98008  
(425) 649-7185  
rtim461@ecy.wa.gov



3190 160th Avenue SE  
Bellevue, WA 98008-5452

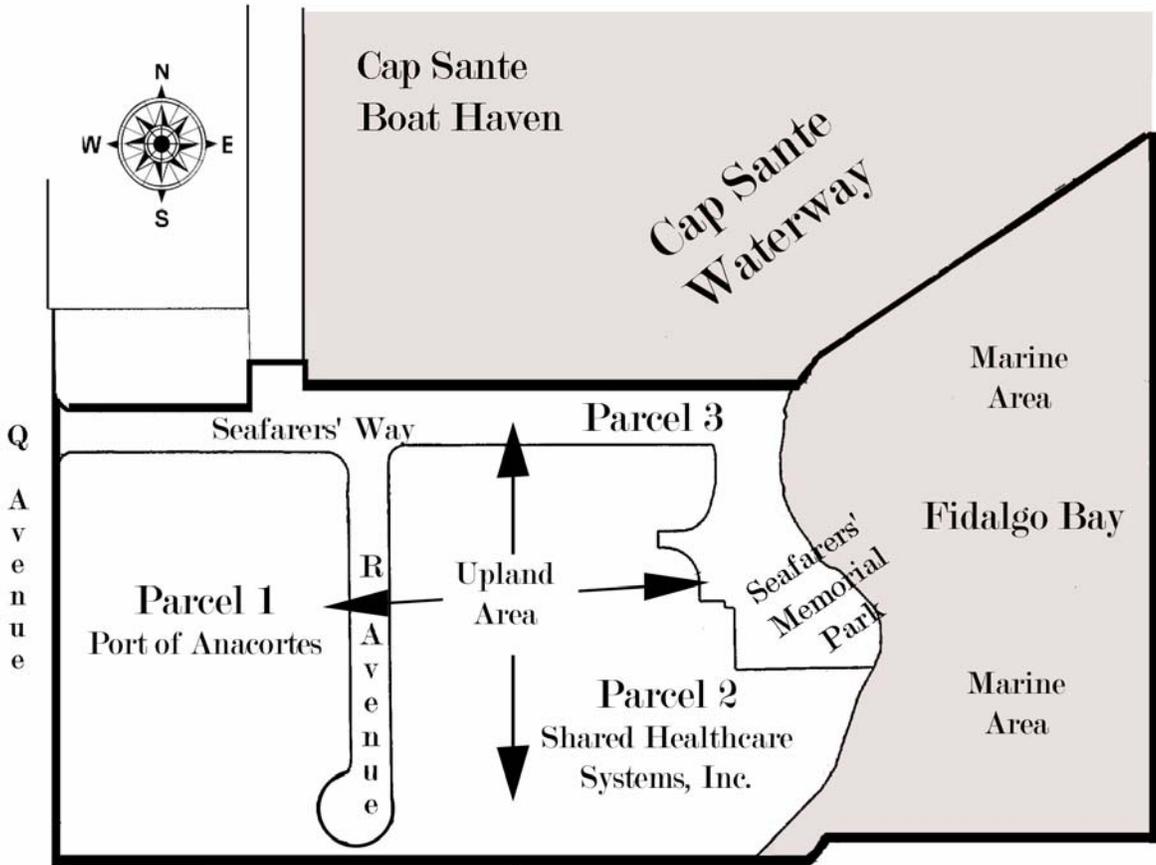
**Former Scott Paper  
Mill Site:**

Ecology Seeks Public Comment  
on Draft Consent Decree

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Public Comment Period  
12/23/02 - 1/21/03

Consent Decree Area:  
Northern Portion of the Former Scott Paper Mill



Boundary between northern and southern portions of the site