

Lower Duwamish Waterway Outfall Sediment Survey

Public Outreach Plan

Prepared for



Washington State Department of Ecology
Toxics Cleanup Program
Northwest Regional Office
Bellevue, Washington

Prepared by



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February 2011

Table of Contents

	Page
1.0 Introduction.....	1
2.0 Initial Tasks	2
2.1 Identification of Property Owners	2
2.2 Communications Spreadsheet.....	2
2.3 Notification Letters	2
2.3.1 Fact Sheet.....	2
2.3.2 Property Access Agreements	3
3.0 Follow-Up Tasks.....	4
3.1 Initial Follow-Up Phone Calls	4
3.2 Second Follow-Up Phone Calls/Site Visit.....	4
4.0 Schedule of Communications.....	5
 Attachment A Property Notification Letter	
Attachment B Fact Sheet	
Attachment C Property Notification and Access Agreement Form Letter	

List of Acronyms

Ecology	Washington State Department of Ecology
HASP	Health and Safety Plan
LDW	Lower Duwamish Waterway
LDWG	Lower Duwamish Waterway Group
NPDES	National Pollutant Elimination System
RI	Remedial Investigation
SAIC	Science Applications International Corporation
SAP	Sampling and Analysis Plan
QAPP	Quality Assurance Project Plan

1.0 Introduction

Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) has been asked by the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) to assist with a study to better understand the potential for sediment contamination associated with stormwater outfalls in the Lower Duwamish Waterway (LDW). The LDW site is the 5.5-mile portion of the Duwamish River south of Harbor Island. Ecology is leading the efforts to control sources of sediment pollution in the LDW. Source control is the process of finding and stopping or reducing, to the maximum extent practicable (or “as much as is feasible”), releases of contaminants to waterway sediments. The ultimate goal of source control is to stop ongoing sources and prevent sediments from becoming recontaminated after clean up. In order to facilitate this goal, Ecology must determine what source control actions are necessary for each identified cleanup area before remediation can begin.

During a previous Remedial Investigation (RI) for the LDW site (*Remedial Investigation Report, Final, July 9, 2010*) by the Lower Duwamish Waterway Group, a large number of sediment samples were collected from the waterway and analyzed for various chemicals. Appendix H of the RI contains a list of outfalls that discharge to the study area. This appendix includes some information about National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits associated with these outfalls, but there is no discussion of the nature of effluent from the outfalls. There is no examination of sediment contamination in the waterway in relation to most of the outfalls.

There are approximately 250 outfalls into the 5.5-mile portion of the LDW south of Harbor Island. The objectives of the Outfall Sediment Survey include the following:

- Document what is known about the sediments around these outfalls by completing the outfall inventory, amending what was achieved by the RI, and identifying the necessary data gaps.
- Develop and implement a project approach to address the apparent data gaps. The development of this project approach includes a Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP), a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP), a Health and Safety Plan (HASP), and a Public Outreach Plan.

This Public Outreach Plan describes the activities to be conducted to inform the community about survey details, produce and track the property access agreements and notifications, and follow up with the necessary property owners by letters and/or phone calls.

2.0 Initial Tasks

2.1 Identification of Property Owners

SAIC will use the King County Parcel Viewer to overlay existing parcel maps with the updated outfall maps to identify the appropriate parcels that are potentially affected by survey activities, as well as the respective property owners and available contact information. Those outfalls that are located on private property (either directly upland from the waterway or on intertidal/subtidal property), and that will require access agreements, will be noted for such request by Ecology.

2.2 Communications Spreadsheet

SAIC will create a communications spreadsheet to record information obtained for each King County parcel potentially affected by outfall survey activities. This communications spreadsheet shall include the parcel number, property name and/or address, and owner name and/or address.

The following information will be logged for each property owner:

- Dates of property notification letter or access agreement form letter, and fact sheet mailed;
- Certified mail tracking receipt numbers and mailing dates for access agreement forms sent to the owners of properties requiring access agreements;
- Dates of any incoming correspondence from property owners, including a brief summary of the correspondence; and
- Dates of incoming access agreements, noting whether access has been granted or declined.

Upon completion of the project, the final communications spreadsheet will be submitted to Ecology.

2.3 Notification Letters

Property notification letters will be sent to each property owner related to parcels identified as potentially affected by survey activities. A general property notification letter, to be sent to all properties adjacent to the LDW and upcoming survey activities, is included in this Public Outreach Plan as Attachment A. A notification letter and a Fact Sheet, described below, will briefly explain the Outfall Sediment Survey details; notify owners of their proximity to the project study area, and request permission for property access where necessary.

2.3.1 Fact Sheet

An informational fact sheet will be included in the notification letters. The fact sheet is included in this Public Outreach Plan as Attachment B. The fact sheet will be multi-purpose, as it is intended to be used as an insert with the notification letters as well as a public flyer. The fact sheet is intended to accomplish the following:

- Introduce the community to the project and its purpose.
- Briefly explain the details of the Outfall Sediment Survey and the sampling activities.
- Indicate the contaminants of concern to be evaluated.
- Feature a map of the sampling area.
- Provide contact information.

2.3.2 Property Access Agreements

Property access agreement form letters will be sent to the owners of specific parcels where the outfall is located on private property, either directly upland from the waterway or on intertidal/subtidal property. The property access agreement has been included in this Public Outreach Plan as Attachment C. Each property owner identified as requiring an access agreement will receive via certified mail a packet containing a personalized letter, fact sheet, an access agreement form, and a pre-addressed/stamped envelope in which to return the signed agreement. The personalized letter will stress the importance of returning a signed agreement so that permission for property access is granted for sampling as soon as possible. This access agreement letter shall be approved by Ecology before any notifications are sent out.

For those properties that may require federal access agreements, SAIC will defer to Ecology to seek these agreements. Ecology will make the initial contact with the Lower Duwamish Waterway Group (LDWG) as well as any tribes, or other public agencies. Access agreements with other governments and agencies may be in a form other than the access agreement.

Original signed access agreements and the tracking database will be submitted to Ecology.

3.0 Follow-Up Tasks

3.1 Initial Follow-Up Phone Calls

Follow-up phone calls will be made to property owners who do not respond within one week of receiving the access agreement in the mail. The purpose of the follow-up call is to encourage owners to return the agreement and to allow sampling at their property. Callers will review the project with the owners at this time and answer any questions they may have concerning the access agreement. If necessary, a second agreement will be sent to property owners and SAIC will work closely with the property owner through the subsequent process. Gathering correct contact information based on street address and/or tax parcel information may require research to verify the correct owner has been contacted in the initial mailing.

3.2 Second Follow-Up Phone Calls/Site Visit

Property owners who remain unresponsive for two weeks after receiving an access agreement packet, and who have not returned the access letter/agreement, will receive a second phone call and/or a site visit. This additional communication may be required to address property owners' questions or concerns and/or collect access agreements. If the property owner is not available, a door flyer or information packet may be left for their review. It is assumed that no more than half of the properties requiring access agreements will require a second phone call or site visit. Attempts will be made to consolidate site visits into one trip to the area.

4.0 Schedule of Communications

The proposed schedule for communicating with property owners/tenants along the LDW associated with the outfall study area is presented in the table below. This schedule is primarily intended to serve the purpose of providing a sequence of events that need to take place in coordination with the owners of private property where access is necessary during sampling activities. However, this structure is not intended to limit the flexibility of the sampling schedule, as there are several variables to take into consideration in the process of gaining access to private properties. The tentative schedule of public communication is outlined in the table below:

Date	Task	To Be Completed By:
January 26, 2011	Identification of property owners	SAIC
January 26, 2011 to June 30, 2011	Communications spreadsheet	SAIC, Ecology
February 15, 2011	Approval of the Public Outreach Plan and Notification Letters	Ecology
February 17, 2011	Begin public notification to all property owners	SAIC, Ecology
February 25, 2011	Begin sampling activities on public properties, and on private properties as allowed	SAIC
February 28, 2011	Initial follow-up with properties requiring access agreements	SAIC
March 7, 2011	Second follow-up with properties requiring access agreements	SAIC
June 30, 2011	Submittal of communications spreadsheet to Ecology	SAIC

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Attachment A
Property Notification Letter

February XX, 2011

John Doe
1111 Main Street
Seattle, WA 98000

Dear Mr. Doe,

Re: Notification of Sediment Sampling in the Lower Duwamish Waterway Near Your Property

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) is conducting a stormwater outfall study as part of the effort to identify and control contamination sources in the Lower Duwamish Waterway. Previous studies have shown that stormwater outfalls to the LDW may be a source of contaminants to the sediments. Stormwater outfalls have been identified on or near your property that may need to be sampled as part of this survey. Ecology will be conducting the sediment survey in February and March 2011.

Sediment samples will be collected at specified distances from each outfall in the survey area, depending on the characteristics of the outfall. The sampling will be conducted directly from a research vessel on the waterway. Therefore, it is likely we won't need to access your property and you won't need to be present during sampling activities.

The results of this study will be posted on Ecology's website at http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/lower_duwamish/lower_duwamish_hp.html

If you have any questions or concerns, then please contact me at 425-649-7023 or by email at daca461@ecy.wa.gov. Rick Thomas is also available to answer questions at 425-649-7208 or email rith461@ecy.wa.gov.

Thank you for your cooperation.

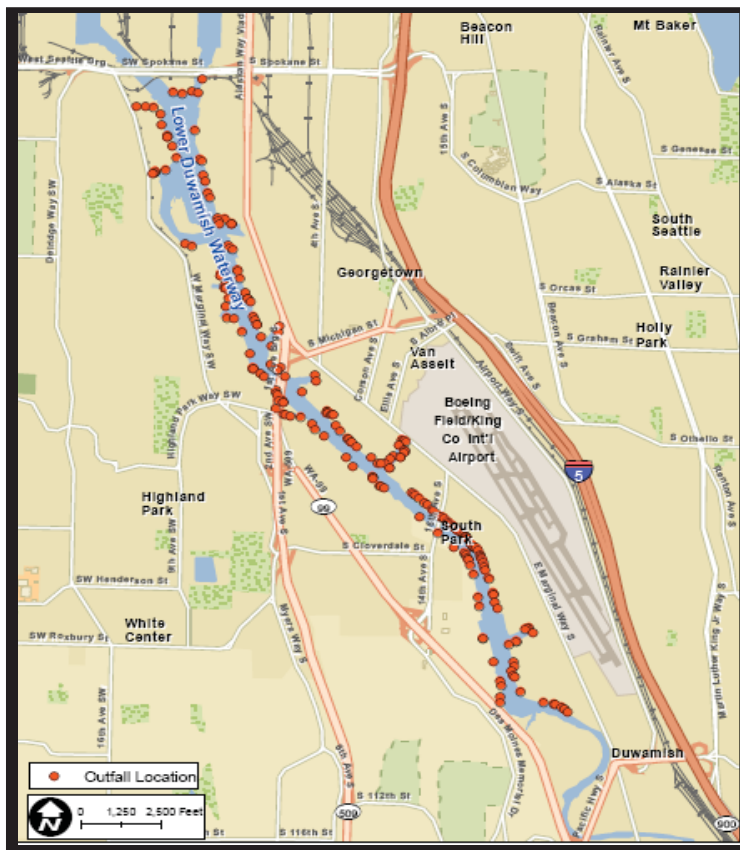
Sincerely,

Dan Cargill
Washington Department of Ecology
Source Control Project Manager

Attachments:
Survey Fact Sheet

cc: Rick Thomas, Ecology

Attachment B
Fact Sheet



Outfall Survey and Sediment Sampling Area

Access Agreements

If your property extends into the waterway, Ecology will not collect sediment samples without your permission. If your property is selected for sampling, you will receive an access agreement by mail. By signing the access agreement, you are giving Ecology permission to collect one or more sediment samples on your property. You do not need to be present during sample collection.

If you receive a request for access and are willing to participate in the survey, please sign and return your access agreement as soon as possible. The LDW sediment survey is expected to be conducted in late February or early March 2011.

Results of the Survey

A sampling report will summarize the results of the survey, and will include recommendations for sampling of stormwater at specific outfalls. The report will be made available to the public on Ecology's website during summer of 2011.

For more information

For more information about Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Program in the LDW, please visit:

http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/lower_duwamish/lower_duwamish_hp.html

For questions regarding source control in the Lower Duwamish Waterway or access agreements, please contact:

Dan Cargill, Source Control Project Manager
425-649-7023

E-mail: daca461@ecy.wa.gov

Outfall Survey and Sediment Sampling

Lower Duwamish Waterway
Source Control Program

Winter 2011



DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY
State of Washington

Project Background

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are working to clean up contaminated sediments in the Lower Duwamish Waterway (LDW), with Ecology leading the effort to control sources of contamination.

In February and March 2011, Ecology will conduct a sampling survey of surface sediments near outfalls to identify potential sources of contamination.

Previous studies have shown that stormwater may be a source of contaminants to LDW sediments. There are approximately 250 stormwater outfalls in the 5.5-mile portion of the LDW south of Harbor Island. Currently, there is limited information about contaminant concentrations in sediment close to many of these outfalls.



Sediment Sampling

Sampling Survey Details

A field reconnaissance will be conducted in the LDW to assess logistics prior to sampling activities. The reconnaissance and sampling will be conducted directly from a research vessel in and along the waterway. Some nearshore samples may be collected on foot during low tide. Up to 280 surface sediment grab samples will be collected and analyzed for PCBs, metals, and semivolatile organic compounds. About 40 samples will also be analyzed for dioxins/furans.

The sampling results will be compared to the Washington Sediment Management Standards. A data report will be available for public review.

Potential Sources of Pollution

The Duwamish River contains a wide range of contaminants due to years of nearby industrial activity and run-off from residential areas. Solids found in sediments and storm drains in the LDW have shown concentrations of PCBs, heavy metals, and other contaminants, though the sources in most cases are currently unknown.



Stormwater Outfall

Attachment C
Property Notification and Access Agreement
Form Letter

February xx, 2011

John Doe
1111 Main Street
Seattle, WA 98000

Dear Mr. Doe,

Re: Property Access Agreement to Sample Stormwater Outfall Sediments on property located at xxxxxxxxxxxx, Seattle, Washington

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) is conducting a stormwater outfall study as part of the effort to identify and control contamination sources in the Lower Duwamish Waterway. Previous studies have shown that stormwater outfalls to the LDW may be a source of contaminants to the sediments. Stormwater outfalls have been identified on or near your property that may need to be sampled as part of this survey. Ecology will be conducting the sediment survey in February and March 2011.

Sediment samples will be collected at specified distances from each outfall in the survey area, depending on the characteristics of the outfall. The sediment sampling will be conducted directly from a research vessel on the LDW. However, some nearshore samples may be collected on foot during low tide. In addition, where the outfall is located on private property, either directly upland from the waterway or on intertidal/subtidal property, an access agreement is required in order to successfully collect the proposed sediment samples. In any case, you will not need to be present during sampling activities.

We would like to include your property at 1111 Main Street in the survey. Included with this letter is a property access agreement. By signing the agreement, you are allowing Ecology staff and their sampling contractor, Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), to collect sediment samples on your property. Ecology will not collect samples from your property without a signed and submitted access agreement from you. If you agree to participate in this study, please submit your signed access agreement as soon as possible by using the enclosed stamped envelope. You may also find the enclosed informational materials helpful should you like more information about the sampling survey.

In order to accomplish the sediment sampling on your property as part of this study, we would appreciate receiving your approval by March 1, 2011. If you have any questions, then please contact me at 425-649-7023 or daca461@ecy.wa.gov. You may receive a follow-up call in the next few weeks to confirm that you have received the access agreement.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Dan Cargill
Washington Department of Ecology
Source Control Project Manager

Attachments:
Survey Fact Sheet
Consent for Sediment Sampling Collection

**CONSENT FOR ACCESS TO PROPERTY
SEDIMENT SAMPLE COLLECTION**

The undersigned Owner or Tenant hereby gives consent to the Department of Ecology (Ecology), and its agents, employees, contractors, and subcontractors, to have access to enter the property at the below location(s) for the purpose of collecting sediment samples.

Sample collection activities are estimated to occur during February and March 2011, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. The property owner is not required to be present during sampling activities. The property owner and tenant will be notified at least seven (7) calendar days in advance of accessing the property.

The final sampling report will be provided to the property owner upon request. The sampling report will also be posted on Ecology's website for the public to review.

Property Owner's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Name (Please Print): _____

Property Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: (H) (W) _____

E-mail address: _____

Special Access Issues: _____

_____ (initial) I would like a copy of the data report.