

## Site Investigation Documents Available for Public Review and Comment



A PUGET SOUND INITIATIVE site  
Reaching the goal of a healthy, sustainable Puget Sound.

### Ecology Wants Your Input!

Ecology is asking for your comments on the following draft site investigation documents for the March Point Landfill:

- Agreed Order to investigate and develop a cleanup action plan for the site.
- Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) Work Plans.
- Public Participation Plan.

March Point Landfill is one of several sites located on or near the shoreline that will be studied for any needed cleanup under the state's Puget Sound Initiative. It is generally located at 9663 South March Point Road in Anacortes, Skagit County, WA.

You are invited to:

- **Review** the Agreed Order, RI/FS Work Plans, and Public Participation Plan.
- **Send** your comments to Ecology for consideration.  
Comments will be accepted from *October 1 through November 3, 2008*.

### Site Background

The March Point Landfill, also known as Whitmarsh Landfill, operated from 1950 until 1973, first as an unregulated dump and later as a county disposal area. Household, commercial, and industrial wastes were dumped at the Site. Currently, Snow Mountain Company operates a sawmill on the Site.

### Comments Accepted

October 1 through  
November 3, 2008

Submit Comments and Technical Questions to:

Panjini Balaraju - Site Manager  
WA Department of Ecology  
Toxics Cleanup Program  
P.O. Box 47600  
Olympia, WA 98504-7600  
Phone: (360) 407-6161  
E-mail: pbal461@ecy.wa.gov

### DOCUMENT REVIEW LOCATIONS

#### Anacortes Public Library

1220 10th Street  
Anacortes, WA 98221  
Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 11 a.m.-8 p.m.,  
Fri. 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat.-Sun. 12-5 p.m.

#### WA Department of Ecology Headquarters

300 Desmond Drive SE  
Lacey, WA 98503

By appointment only:  
Contact Carol Dorn,  
cesg461@ecy.wa.gov or  
(360) 407-7224

#### Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Website

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

Facility Site ID #: 2662

## March Point Landfill

Sediment and water samples have been collected from the Site since 1985. Results of marine sediment samples showed metals, phthalates, phenols, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), dioxins, and furans contamination. Results of surface and seep samples (from the landfill) showed metals (including arsenic, lead, copper, and mercury), petroleum compounds, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) contamination.

More study is needed to fully characterize the contamination at the March Point Landfill.

### Overview of the Agreed Order

The proposed agreement, called an Agreed Order, is a legal document between Ecology and Texaco Inc., Shell Oil Company, Skagit County, and the Washington State Department of Natural Resources. These parties are known as Potentially Liable Persons, or PLPs. The Agreed Order describes the studies that the PLPs agree to perform on the Site.

The purpose of the Agreed Order is to protect human health and the environment by ensuring that remedial actions will be conducted at a site where a release of hazardous substances has occurred. It ensures that a RI/FS happens in a timely manner and according to Washington State's cleanup law, the Model Toxics Control Act.

### Overview of the RI/FS Work Plans

In the Agreed Order, the PLPs agree to perform tasks to gather information about the March Point Landfill Site. Detailed information about these tasks is provided in

two RI/FS Work Plans. One Work Plan describes the tasks for the upland area and one describes the tasks for the sediments, or "submerged land." Work will be conducted in two phases. Tasks to be completed in the upland area include:

#### Phase I

- Locate, remove, and dispose of buried drums.
- Collect and analyze a limited number of soil samples.
- Install groundwater monitoring wells, then collect and analyze samples.
- Collect surface water and landfill seep samples to determine effects on sediments.
- Determine surface (landfill cap material) and subsurface conditions.

#### Phase II

- Remove and dispose of any remaining buried drums.
- Collect additional soil samples.
- Install groundwater monitoring wells within the landfill and collect samples.
- Analyze soil and groundwater samples to determine the nature and extent of contamination.
- Conduct a study to determine whether tides impact the landfill.
- Determine the boundaries of the impacted areas that may require cleanup.
- Evaluate cleanup alternatives.
- Identify a preferred cleanup alternative for the Site.
- Identify habitat restoration opportunities for uplands.

Tasks to be completed in the submerged areas include:

## March Point Landfill

### Phase I

- Collect samples to determine the nature and extent of sediment contamination and potential biological effects within the bay.
- Conduct sediment toxicity tests.
- Describe the physical characteristics of the Site.

### Phase II

- Conduct additional investigations, if needed, to determine the boundaries of the impacted areas that may require cleanup.
- Identify cleanup alternatives.
- Identify a preferred cleanup alternative for the sediment cleanup.
- Identify habitat restoration opportunities for sediments.

## Overview of the Draft Public Participation Plan

Ecology and the PLPs are committed to providing the public with timely information and meaningful opportunities to participate in the RI/FS process. As part of this commitment, Ecology and the PLPs agree to provide a public participation plan. This plan outlines how citizens and interested parties can learn about and provide input on the remedial investigation and feasibility study process.

Your comments and ideas are needed to improve this process. The public participation plan explains how Ecology will do the following:

- Notify the public when and where documents are available for review and comment.
- Notify the public about how they can

become involved.

- Provide public participation opportunities.
- Consider public comments in remedial investigation, feasibility study and cleanup decisions.

## Why This Cleanup Matters

### Protecting and restoring Puget Sound

Governor Chris Gregoire and the Washington State Legislature approved the Puget Sound Initiative. One of the objectives of the Initiative is to protect and restore Puget Sound, cleaning up 50-60 sites within one-half mile of the Sound. One of these is the March Point Landfill Site. These Puget Sound Initiative cleanup actions will help to reduce pollution and restore habitat and shorelines in Puget Sound.

Several baywide areas in the Sound have been identified as high-priority cleanup areas as part of this Initiative, including: Port Gamble, Dumas Bay, Padilla and Fidalgo Bays, Port Angeles, Budd Inlet, and Port Gardner.

Other Fidalgo baywide sites include:

- Cap Sante Marine Site: A boatyard and marina support area, located just north of the Shell Oil Tank Farm.
- Dakota Creek Site: Used for vessel moorage, bulk fuel and oil storage, and shipbuilding activities, located at 155 Q Avenue (northernmost end).
- Custom Plywood Mill Site: A former mill and wood-box factory, located near 35th Street and V Avenue.
- Shell Oil Tank Farm Site: A former petroleum and chemical products storage area, located near 13th Street

## March Point Landfill

and Q Avenue.

- Scott Paper Mill Site: A former lumber and paper mill, located between 17th and 20<sup>th</sup> Streets, east of Q Avenue.

For more information about sites in Anacortes, contact Sandra Caldwell at (360) 407-7209 or [saca461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:saca461@ecy.wa.gov), or go to: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/cleanup.html>.

### What Happens Next?

Once the public comment period ends, Ecology will review and consider all comments that have been received. The Agreed Order, RI/FS Work Plans and draft Public Participation Plan may be modified based upon your comments.

As future documents on the Site are developed, you will be notified of additional public comment periods.

For information about other Ecology comment periods, meetings, and open houses, please visit Ecology's public events calendar at:

<http://apps.ecy.wa.gov/pubcalendar/calendar.asp>.

### What can you do?

1. Read about the remedial investigation and feasibility study in this handout.
2. To get more detailed information, review the supporting documents at the locations listed on the back page.
3. Write down your comments and questions. Send them to the Department of Ecology at the address shown on the back page.

**We appreciate your comments and concerns. *Thank you.***

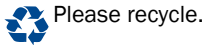
## March Point Landfill

The March Point Landfill Site is generally located at 9663 South March Point Road, in Anacortes, Skagit County, WA.





PO Box 47600  
Olympia, WA 98504-7600



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## **March Point Landfill Site, Anacortes, Skagit County, WA**

### **Ecology Seeks Public Comment on Draft Agreed Order, RI/FS Work Plans, and Public Participation Plan**

**Public Comment Period:  
October 1 through November 3, 2008**

**Facility Site ID #: 2662**

### **Help with other languages and formats?**

If you need this publication in an alternate format, please call the Toxics Cleanup Program at (360) 407-7170. Persons with hearing loss can call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with speech disability can call (877) 833-6341.

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