

# Former Scott Paper Mill Site, Anacortes



## Draft interim action work plan available for public review and comment

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) has prepared this fact sheet to invite public comment on proposed cleanup work to be performed this fall at the northern portion of the former Scott Paper Mill site in Anacortes, Washington. You are encouraged to review and comment on this draft work plan between November 10 and December 9, 2004.

### Location

The northern portion of the site 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 (see figure on page 3). This portion 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 this portion of the site.

### Proposed interim action

An *interim action* (terms in italics are defined in the "Cleanup Terms" box on page 2) is planned to occur this fall to stabilize a portion of the shoreline in a Seafarers' Memorial Park. This work will be conducted under the existing *consent decree* for this portion of the site.

Currently, the southern end of this shoreline portion (see figure) is exposed and eroding into the bay. The Port of Anacortes plans to temporarily protect the shoreline, park building, and the beach area from erosion that occurs during very high tides and

winter storms. The proposed work also will prevent debris and potentially contaminated soil from coming into contact with people and the marine environment.

The work plan calls for 100 to 200 cubic yards of 6- to 18-inch-diameter rocks and 20 to 25 cubic yards of gravel fill to be placed over permeable fabric sheeting along this area of the shoreline. The rocks and gravel will be placed in such a way as to create a low, irregular, approximately 150-foot-long wall that will cover and protect the eroding soil. Construction equipment will be on site and sidewalk access may be temporarily restricted. Some wood and metal debris will be removed from the beach and disposed of off site during this work. The work is expected to be completed this fall.

The Port of Anacortes held a public comment period on the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) environmental checklist and Determination of Non-Significance (DNS) for this interim action in May/June 2004. The Port determined that no significant environmental impacts will be caused by this cleanup work.

### Next steps

The Port of Anacortes is investigating the extent of contamination at both the uplands and marine areas of the northern portion of the site (called a *remedial investigation*). Once this study is complete, cleanup options will be developed (called a *feasibility study*) to address the contamination.

**November 2004**

**Public Comment Period:**  
11/10/04-12/9/04

### Technical questions and written comments:

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

### To update the mailing list:

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WA Department of Ecology  
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### Documents can be reviewed at the following locations:

Anacortes Public Library  
1220 10th Street, Anacortes  
(360) 293-1910

WA Department of Ecology  
Northwest Regional Office  
3190 160th Avenue SE  
Bellevue, WA 98008  
(425) 649-7190  
(Call for an appointment)

Ecology's Web Site:  
[http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/sites\\_information.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/sites_information.html)

These studies are being done in conjunction with those for the southern portion of the site.

A public comment period will be held on the draft remedial investigation/feasibility study report. After addressing any comments received during the public comment period, a *cleanup action plan* will be developed for this portion of the site. This document will also be subject to public review and comment.

### **Public comment on the draft interim action workplan**

Ecology is holding a public comment period from November 10 through December 9, 2004, during which you may comment on the draft interim action work plan. This draft document is available at the information repositories listed on the first page of this fact sheet.

Once the public comment period ends, Ecology will review all comments received and will make recommendations for any suggested changes. If no significant changes are made, the interim action will proceed. You will have future opportunities to review and comment on draft reports regarding the extent of contamination, cleanup options, and on any cleanup plans for the site.

A public meeting is not planned for this public comment period. However, one will be held if 10 or more people so request.

### **Ecology would like your input!**

You have an opportunity to review and provide comments on the draft interim action work plan for the northern portion of the site. Please send your comments before December 9, 2004, to Ecology's Site Manager, Ron Timm, at the address in the box on the first page of this fact sheet. Comments may be sent by mail or e-mail and should include "Scott Paper Mill" in the subject line.

For information about other Ecology public comment periods, meetings, hearings, workshops, and open houses, please visit Ecology's public events calendar at: <http://apps.ecy.wa.gov/pubcalendar/calendar.asp>. Read *Frequently Asked Questions about Effective Public Commenting* at this link to learn more about the public comment process.

### **Site background**

The Scott Paper Company and other former owners operated lumber mills and a pulp mill at the site 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 three parcels.

In 1999, the Port of Anacortes and Shared Healthcare Systems, Inc. (owner of Parcel 2 since 1998) 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 2-foot thick soil cover and stormwater 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: the Port of Anacortes; Kimberly-Clark Corporation; Shared Healthcare Systems, Inc.; and MJB Properties, Inc.

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

### **Cleanup Terms**

A *cleanup action plan* 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 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.

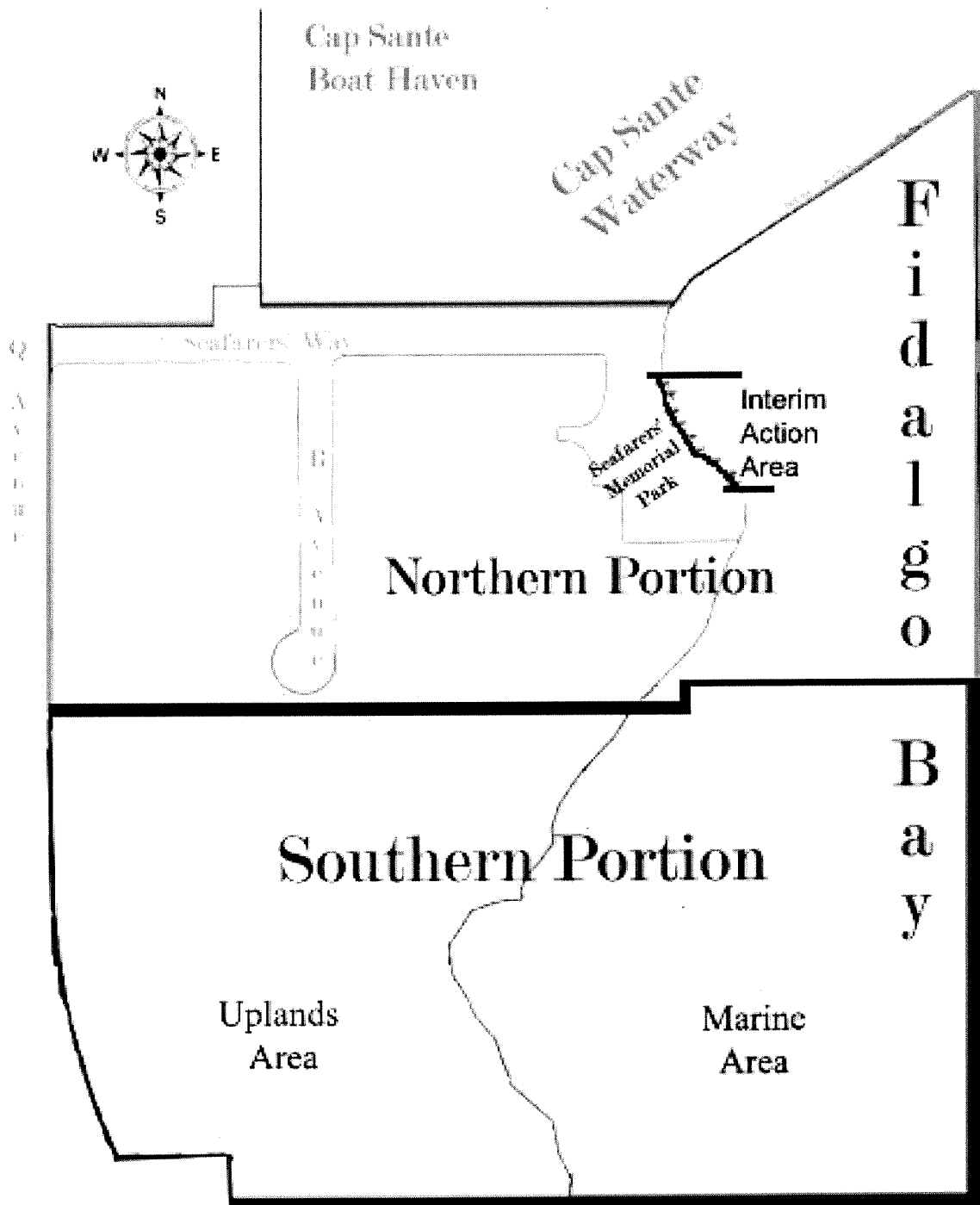
An *interim action* partially addresses cleanup at a site. It may be needed to protect human health or the environment.

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.

# Interim Action Area

## Former Scott Paper Mill Site





WASHINGTON STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF  
**E C O L O G Y**

3190 160th Avenue SE  
Bellevue, WA 98008-5452

**Former Scott Paper Mill Site**

Ecology Seeks Public Comment  
on Proposed Interim Action

Public Comment Period  
November 10 – December 9, 2004