



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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**STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT
MITIGATED DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE**

Date of Issuance: February 27, 2020

Lead agency: Department of Ecology, Toxics Cleanup Program

Agency Contact:

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Description of proposal:

The proposed final cleanup action will be conducted for the March Point Landfill Site (Site; FS ID 2662) under a Consent Decree (CD) between the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology), Shell Oil Company, Texaco Inc., and Skagit County. The proposed project site encompasses approximately 15 acres of uplands property where ownership is described as follows:

- The properties found at Skagit County Parcel Numbers P19713 and P19676 are owned by Snow Mountain Land Company, LLC; the State of Washington owns the aquatic lands waterward of the 1890 meander line (est.) abutting P19713 and P1967 to the railroad right-of-way.
- The Charles Moon Credit Trust and the Estate of the late M. Ellen Moon, Trustee, own the property found at Skagit County Parcel Number P19684.
- Per Skagit County Assessors records, the late Ralph Hillestead owns the property found at Skagit County Parcel Number P19761.

The proposed final cleanup action includes environmental cleanup of the Site area as described below.

MITIGATED DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

Page 2 of 2

February 27, 2020

Landfill removal, re-grading and containment of solid waste: The Site (former Whitmarsh Landfill) was an unregulated public dump in the 1950s, and was operated by Skagit County as a landfill from 1961 until its closure in 1973. The Site slopes down to tidelands on the northeast and east sides and to drainage channels along the north and south sides. The tidelands on the northeast and east sides consist of the inner lagoon and outer lagoon, with an estuarine stream running along the eastern boundary continuing out toward Padilla Bay.

Data collected during the remedial investigation showed low levels of contamination discharging from the landfill to Padilla Bay. The selected remedial alternative involves removing some solid waste from the right-of-way, regrading some solid waste on site, and covering the landfill with a low-permeability liner and cover materials. Grading will ensure stormwater runs off the landfill while the cover materials protect the low-permeability liner. The liner will prevent infiltration of water and discharge of groundwater and leachate contained beneath the landfill.

Additional project activities include:

- Demolition of the existing structures on site (remaining structures from former saw mill facility).
- Re-constructing and enhancing the perimeter drainage swale system.
- Installation of a landfill gas passive venting system.
- Installation of eight monitoring wells.
- Vegetating the shoreline to create a new habitat with irrigation system, hydroseeding the remainder of the site, maintaining vegetation through a maintenance plan, and installing perimeter security fencing.

The Draft Cleanup Action Plan provides more information about the selected remedial alternative. A complete description of the project is provided in the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Environmental Checklist for the Site.

Location of proposal: The proposed project site is located just east of March Point Road, North of Whitmarsh Junction, near the eastern boundary of the City of Anacortes generally at 9663 South March Point Road.

Applicant/Proponent:

Former Whitmarsh Landfill Potentially Liable Parties (PLP) Group
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MITIGATED DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

Page 2 of 2

February 27, 2020

Ecology has determined that this proposal will not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). We have reviewed the attached Environmental Checklist, draft Cleanup Action Plan, and draft Consent Decree. These are available at: <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/gsp/Sitepage.aspx?csid=304>

This determination is based on the following findings and conclusions:

The regrading and capping will limit and/or eliminate the potential pathway for contaminated groundwater and leachate to reach Padilla Bay. Contaminated media created during construction will be properly contained on site or properly managed and disposed off site. Construction design and best management practices outlined in the cleanup action plan will prevent contamination reaching Padilla Bay. It also prevents potential damage to adjacent marine habitat by operating during the lowest tides of the year.

The potential impact to Great Blue Heron and their adjacent rookery will be mitigated through application of local City of Anacortes ordinance protections. This includes a plan with best management practices designed to minimize impacts such as excessive noise during construction activities. The plan will be completed under consultation with the City of Anacortes and other relevant parties.

The comment period for this DNS corresponds with the comment period on the March Point Landfill Site DRAFT Cleanup Action Plan and DRAFT Consent Decrees and will end on April 8, 2020 to correspond with the comment period on the March Point Landfill Site DRAFT Cleanup Action Plan and DRAFT Consent Decrees.

Responsible official:

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Signature



Date

3/3/2020

