

Legal Agreement and Cleanup Studies Available for Comment

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) invites you to comment on a proposed legal agreement and studies for the Port of Vancouver (Cadet/Swan) and NuStar cleanup site. See page 3 for a map showing the site location.

Ecology Wants Your Comments!

We are accepting comments from **January 22 through March 9, 2015** on these draft documents:

- An **agreed order**, which is a legal agreement that requires the Port of Vancouver (port) and NuStar Terminals Services, Inc. (NuStar) to draft a cleanup plan. The plan will outline the recommended final cleanup approach.
- Three **remedial investigation reports**, which describe the contamination from three facilities (see below).
- A **feasibility study**, which compares cleanup options for the area-wide groundwater plume (see page 2).
- A **public participation plan**, which describes the tools we will use to inform the public and gather feedback.

The box to the right shows where you can review documents and how to submit comments.

Site Background

The port is cleaning up soil and groundwater polluted decades ago with chlorinated solvents from the Cadet Manufacturing Company (Cadet) and former Swan Manufacturing Company (Swan) facilities (see maps on page 3). The businesses made electric heaters. They used trichloroethylene (TCE), which is a chlorinated solvent, to clean sheet metal parts.

NuStar, a tenant of the port, is cleaning up soil and groundwater polluted with chlorinated solvents from a terminal on the Columbia River. The terminal has been used for storage since 1960. It handled chlorinated solvents until the mid-1990s.

Studies show pollutants in groundwater beneath and southeast of the facilities, the Fruit Valley Neighborhoods, and the port area. Groundwater is water found beneath the Earth's surface. It collects, fills, and flows through open spaces between soil and sediment particles, and through cracks in rock.

Comments Accepted

January 22 – March 9, 2015

Submit Comments and Questions to:

Craig Rankine, Site Manager
WA Department of Ecology
Vancouver Field Office
2108 Grand Blvd.
Vancouver, WA 98661
Phone: (360) 690-4795
Craig.Rankine@ecy.wa.gov

Public Involvement Questions:

Diana Smith
Public Involvement Coordinator
Phone: (360) 407-6255
Diana.Smith@ecy.wa.gov

DOCUMENT REVIEW LOCATIONS

Vancouver Community Library
901 C Street
Vancouver, WA 98660
(360) 906-5106

WA Department of Ecology
Southwest Regional Office
300 Desmond Drive SE
Lacey, WA 98503
By appointment only:
Contact Susie Baxter,
Susan.Baxter@ecy.wa.gov or
(360) 407-6365

Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Website

<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/gsp/Sitepage.aspx?csid=3450>

Facility Site ID #: 1026

Contamination and Past Cleanup

Studies show that the groundwater impacted by these facilities contains TCE, perchloroethylene (PCE), and their breakdown products. River sediments near the shore are also contaminated. Public drinking water is not affected.

The port and NuStar have been doing cleanups called interim actions for many years. Visit our website for more cleanup history (see page 1). These chemicals can be harmful to human health and the environment, so cleanup is important.

Aligning Cleanup Work

Since studies found that the areas of groundwater contamination, called plumes, are so close to each other, they are considered one area-wide plume. The port and NuStar share cleanup responsibility for the entire plume.

Ecology has separate agreed orders with the port and NuStar. In early 2014, we amended each agreed order to align schedules. This allowed the port and NuStar to do a joint feasibility study. The feasibility study compares cleanup options for the area-wide plume.

What Happens Next?

1. After the comment period ends, we will respond to comments. We will then finalize the agreed order, remedial investigation reports, and feasibility study.
2. The port and NuStar will draft a proposed plan for final cleanup and submit it to Ecology. We will use this to develop the public review draft cleanup plan.
3. We will hold a public comment period on the draft cleanup plan and a legal agreement for final cleanup.

Cleanup Options

For the Swan and Cadet areas, the feasibility study recommends using:

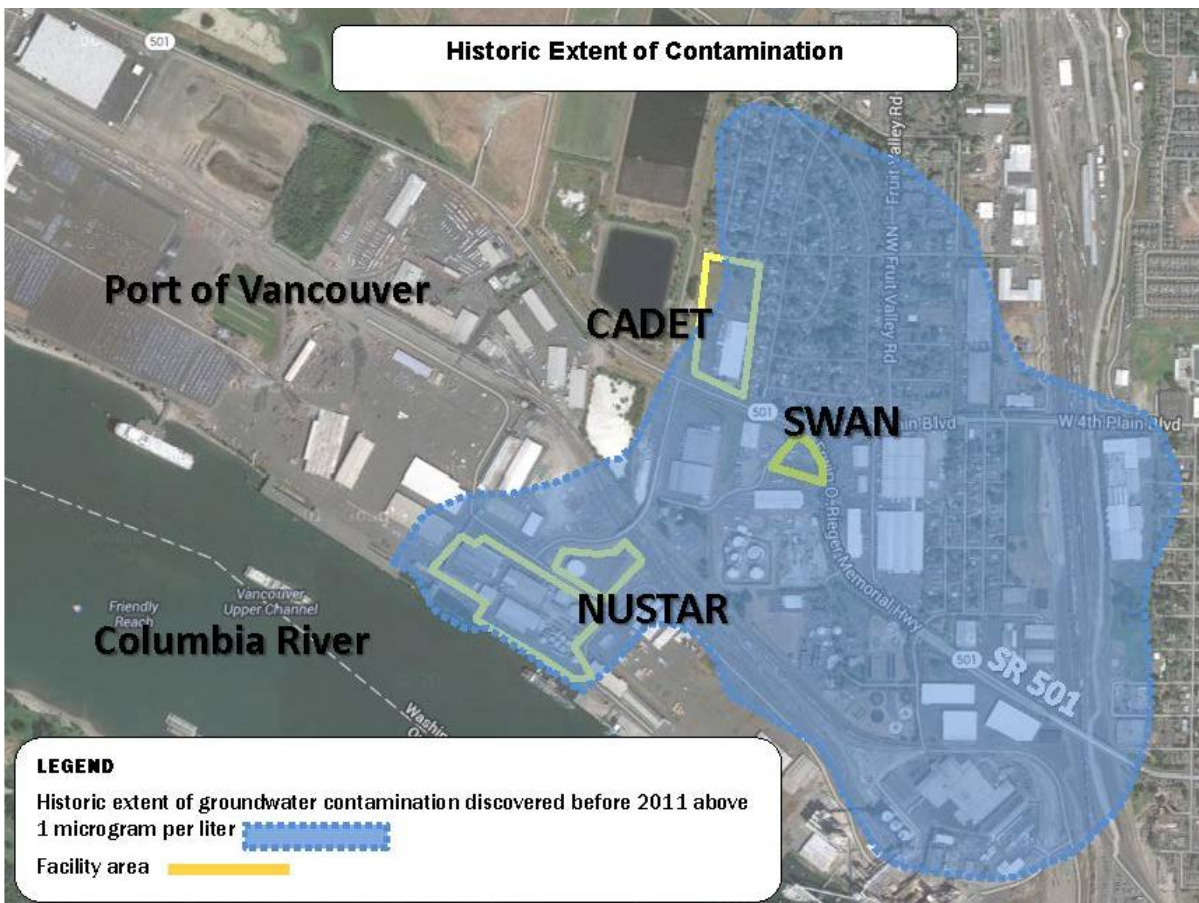
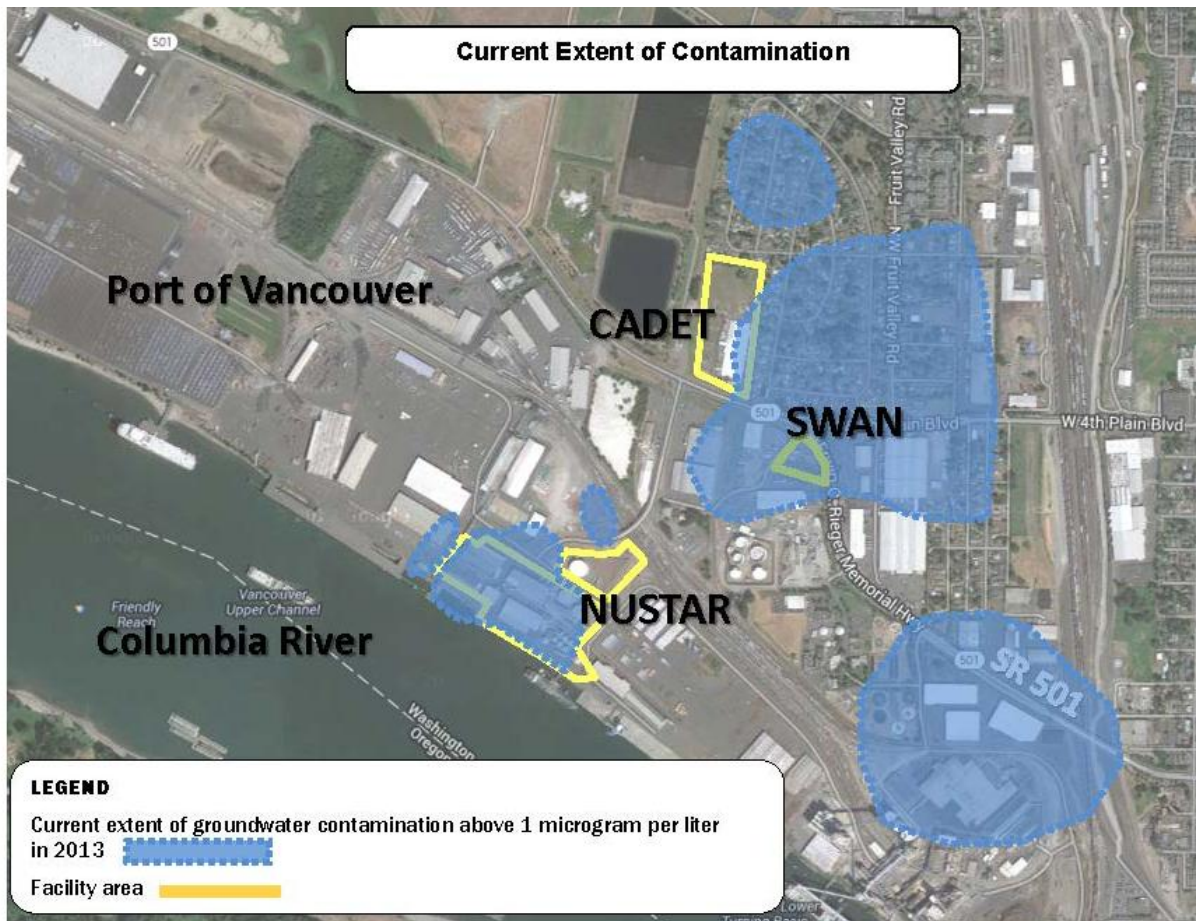
1. The **pump and treat system** that the port has used since 2009. The above-ground system removes pollutants from groundwater using a technology called air stripping. Extracted contaminants are released into the air at safe levels. Clean groundwater is released into the Columbia River.
2. **Institutional controls**, such as recording an environmental covenant on port property to manage impacted groundwater and restrict access to impacted soil.

For the NuStar area near the Columbia River, the feasibility study recommends using:

1. A **soil vapor extraction system**, which NuStar has used since 2008. The system removes solvent vapors in soil that come from groundwater. The solvent is captured and disposed of off site.
2. **Enhanced bioremediation**, which NuStar has used since 2008. This uses a type of vegetable oil to improve the ability of naturally-occurring bacteria to break down pollutants in groundwater.
3. **Sediment source control**, which means using the above methods to clean up the groundwater. As groundwater pollution decreases, we expect that sediment can be naturally cleaned up.

The port and NuStar continue to monitor contaminant levels in groundwater to make sure cleanup is occurring. They will sample sediment periodically to show that contaminant levels are decreasing.

Port of Vancouver (Cadet/Swan) and NuStar

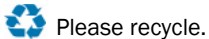




DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY
State of Washington

PO Box 47775

Olympia, WA 98504-7775



Port of Vancouver (Cadet/Swan) and NuStar Clark County, WA

Ecology seeks public comment on
cleanup studies and legal
agreement

**Public Comment Period:
January 22 — March 9, 2015**

Facility Site ID #: 1026

To request ADA accommodation,
including materials in a format for the
visually impaired, call Ecology at
(360) 407-6300.

Persons with impaired hearing may
call Washington Relay Service at 711.
Persons with speech disability may
call TTY at 877-833-6341.

¿Habla Español? Si necesita esta información en español, contáctenos al (360) 407-6084 o a preguntas@ecy.wa.gov. Este boletín informativo explica información importante acerca del agua subterránea contaminada en y cerca del Puerto de Vancouver y en el vecindario Fruit Valley. Del 22 de enero al 9 de marzo del 2015, el Departamento de Ecología del Estado de Washington le invita a revisar y comentar sobre los reportes acerca de la contaminación y las opciones para limpiarla. Usted puede leer los documentos escritos en inglés en las localidades listadas en la página 1.

Вы говорите по-русски? Если вам нужна эта информация на русском языке, свяжитесь с нами по телефону (360) 407-6255. В данном информационном бюллетене содержатся важные сведения о загрязненных подземных водах в порту Ванкувер и его окрестностях, а также в районе Фрут Вэлли. С 22 января по 9 марта 2015 года Департамент штата Вашингтон по вопросам экологии приглашает вас представить свои комментарии об отчетах по поводу загрязнения и способов ликвидации его последствий. Местонахождение данных документов на английском языке указано на странице 1.