

Sediment cleanup in Port Gamble Bay began in September 2015 following 10 years of comprehensive baywide planning, preliminary cleanup and restoration activities. Pope Resources/OPG Properties, LLC:

- Cleaned up over **120,000 cubic yards** of contaminated sediment and wood waste
- Cleaned up **3,400 feet** of shoreline
- Removed over **8,500** creosote pilings and associated overwater structures

Throughout the cleanup, shellfish tissue and water quality were monitored for impacts to resources in the bay. No significant impacts occurred. Cleanup of the in-water portion of the site was completed in January 2017.

Building on local habitat restoration efforts and preservation success, the Puget Sound Initiative’s baywide approach resulted in improved habitat and a clean Port Gamble Bay. Families will harvest shellfish along beautiful shorelines. Local economies can prosper. Fish and wildlife will thrive.



Before



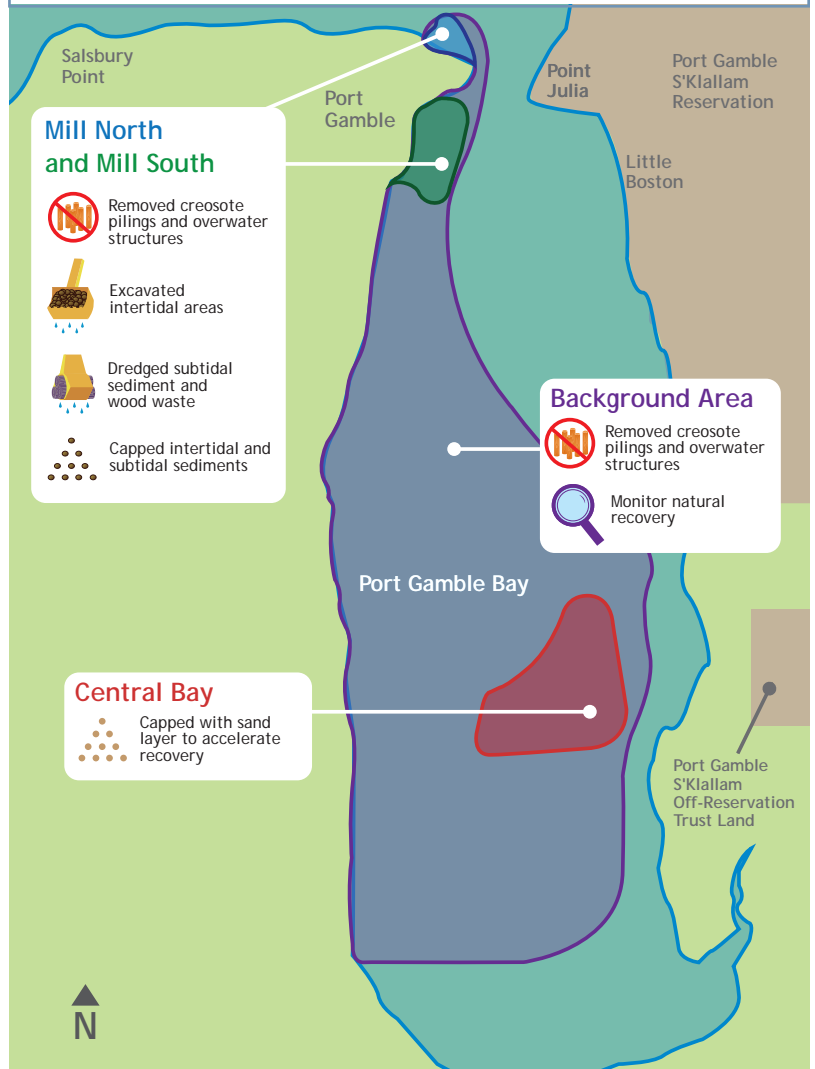
During

Top: Removal of key sources of contamination - creosote piles and wood waste - from the mill area.

Bottom: Cleanup construction along the shoreline.

Cleanup Goals for Port Gamble Bay

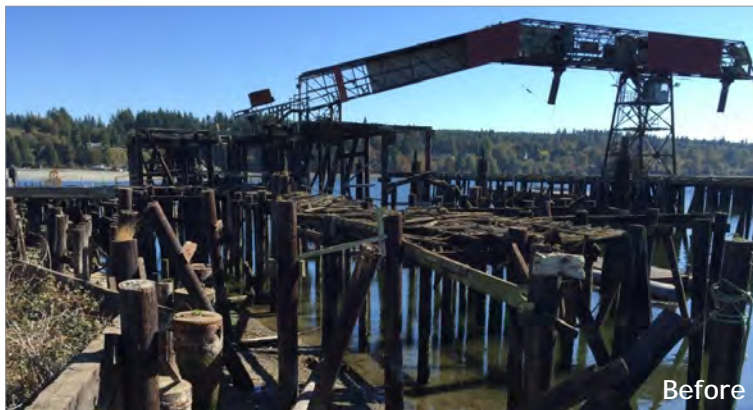
- Removed wood waste and contaminated sediment to protect human health and support habitat for marine life
- Capped contaminated areas with clean material to enhance the natural recovery of sediment and provide habitat for subtidal geoduck populations
- Removed piles contaminated with creosote to improve the overall health of the bay for shellfish, fish, and people



Baywide cleanup is finished. Monitoring will continue through 2030.

For more information about the Port Gamble Bay cleanup and restoration, visit Ecology’s website at www.ecy.wa.gov/cleanup/3444.html

Cleanup along the bay



Before



After

The Alder Chip Mill, before and after cleanup.

2015-2017 Cleanup by the Numbers

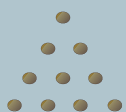
About **13,531** total truckloads needed for cleanup!



77,247 cubic yards
subtidal sediment and wood
waste dredged



33,240 cubic yards of
intertidal sediments excavated



224,091 tons clean
capping and habitat
materials placed



5,632 tons of steel,
concrete and other debris
removed and recycled

Number of
Truckloads



8,500+ piles removed

January 2017



Photo: Port Gamble Museum

Historic mill operations.



Before cleanup.



Photo: Eyes over Puget Sound

Nearing the end of in-water cleanup action.

What's next for the cleanup?

Approximately 110,000 cubic yards of contaminated dredged sediments remain temporarily on the former mill property in Port Gamble. By March 2018, the remaining sediment will be moved to an approved landfill. A permit application has been submitted to construct a limited-use landfill at the Model Airplane Field near Port Gamble. An alternative approved disposal location will be used if the Model Airplane Field is not permitted.

Ecology and Pope Resources/OPG will make sure the long-term remedy for the bay—including sediments and shorelines—continues into the future. Periodic monitoring will occur in the in-water portion of Port Gamble Bay through 2030. Final cleanup of the site includes removing remaining sediment stockpiles from the former mill area and determining any additional cleanup that may be needed on upland portions of the former mill site.



Photo: Orion Marine Group

Stockpiled sediment.

From the Site Manager

As the active cleanup work in Port Gamble Bay comes to a close, we have an opportunity to reflect on the incredible work that went in to the planning, design, and conducting of the work in the bay. Before the first shovel hit the dirt, Ecology, Pope Resources, the Port Gamble S'Klallam, Suquamish, and several other tribes worked tirelessly to design a cleanup plan that would protect people and the environment and help restore habitat to support a healthy ecosystem.

Countless meetings, studies, reports and documents helped us understand the extent of the contamination and the best approach to removing it. We hosted community meetings and received comments from the public to help inform our selection of a cleanup alternative.

Together, we developed and implemented a cleanup plan that has made an incredible difference in Port Gamble Bay, both above and below the surface. Coupled with the restoration and purchase of shoreline and upland forest, this has been a truly remarkable effort and has resulted in a cleaner and healthier bay for future generations.

Contact information

Visit: www.ecy.wa.gov/cleanup/3444.html



A PUGET SOUND INITIATIVE Site

Reaching the goal of a healthy, sustainable Puget Sound

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Facility Site ID #: 93937775 | Cleanup Site ID #: 3444

Help with other languages and formats?

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