

# BURLINGTON NORTHERN SANTA FE (BNSF) RAILROAD MARCUS SITE



## Site Cleanup Results in Proposed Removal from Ecology's Hazardous Sites List

In January 2003, nearly 3,200 gallons of diesel was released on the BNSF track near the southern part of the town of Marcus at Railroad Mile Post 100.7 to 100.8 in Marcus, Stevens County, Washington (Figure 1). The release occurred on the hillside about 250 feet above and 200-300 feet south of State Route 25. A train hit a rock that had fallen on the tracks, and diesel leaked from three of the locomotive fuel tanks.

BNSF responded to the spill, and nearly 180 cubic yards of petroleum-contaminated soil was removed. Due to the slope and rockiness of the terrain BNSF was unable to remove additional soil. Several assessments were made to determine where contamination had spread and at what depth. Soil and groundwater samples were taken and groundwater monitoring wells were established.

Based on monitoring conducted at the site, it appears that the remaining soil is not a concern. Groundwater monitoring that previously showed varying levels of petroleum contaminants now meets state standards. No impact to the Marcus municipal water supply well has been detected. As a result of cleanup and monitoring conducted at the site, the Washington State Department of

Ecology proposes to remove the site from the Hazardous Sites List.

### Comments Wanted

You are invited to review the site-related documents and comment on the proposed removal from the Hazardous Sites List. Comments will be accepted **July 18 through August 16, 2007**.

### Hazardous Sites List

The Hazardous Sites List is a list of contaminated sites throughout the state that are ranked on a scale of one to five. One represents the greatest potential threat to human health and the environment; five represents the least potential threat. The BNSF Marcus site ranked a five because of the petroleum contaminants found in soil and groundwater.

A site on the Hazardous Site List may be removed from the list after contamination is cleaned up, and the site meets Ecology's cleanup criteria. Ecology proposes to remove the BNSF Marcus site from the Hazardous Sites List based upon the following:

- Review of independent cleanup reports submitted to Ecology.
- Supporting documentation.
- Work completed at the site meets state cleanup requirements.

**Fact Sheet** July 2007

### Comments Accepted

July 18 through August 16, 2007

### Para asistencia en Español

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Если вам нужно помощь по  
русский, звоните

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### Document Review Locations

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### Comments and Technical Questions

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### Community Outreach Questions

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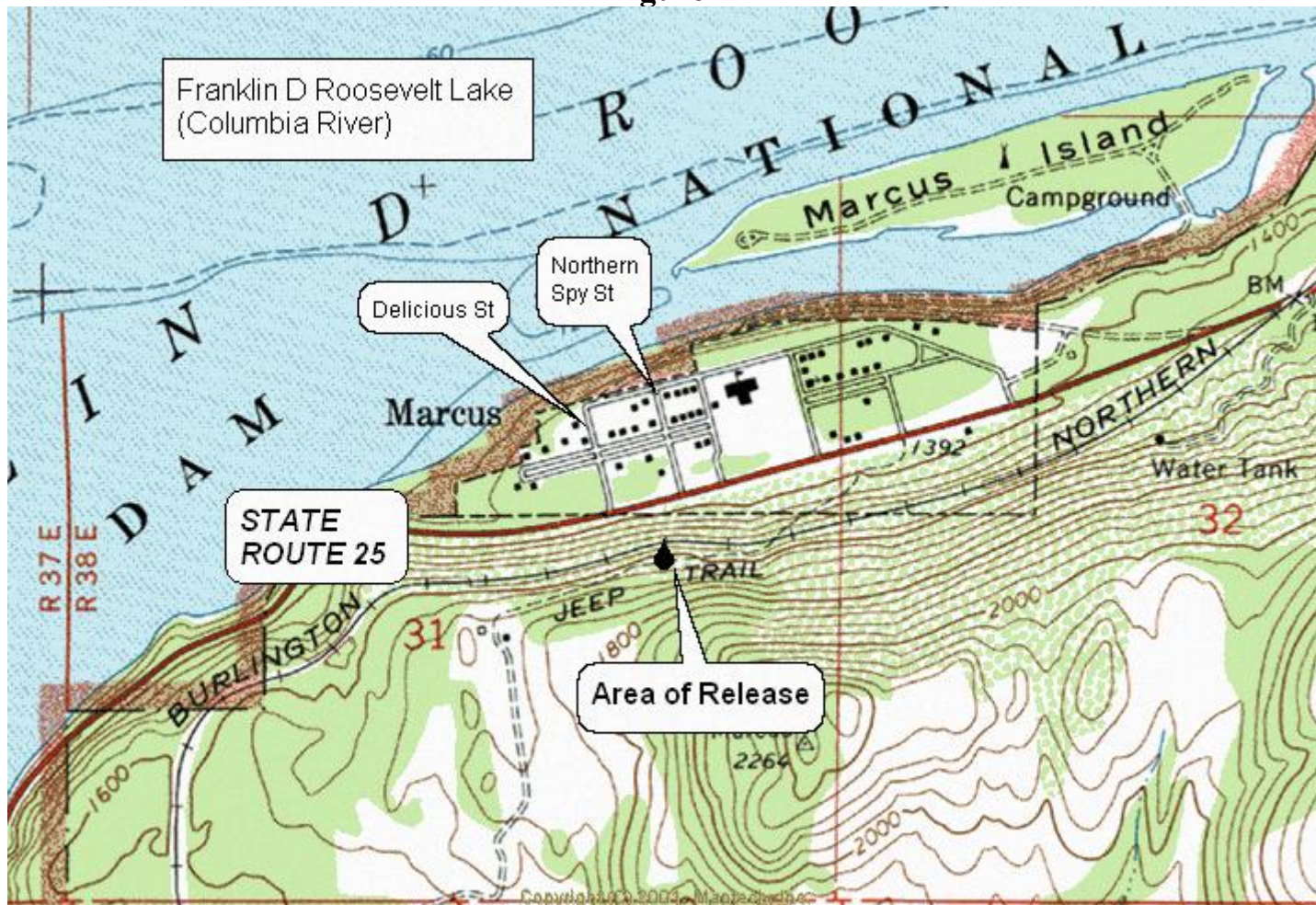
**Facility Site ID No.** 6902023

Ecology also issued a letter to the property owner stating no further action is needed at the site.

### What Happens Next

Ecology will review all comments received during the 30-day comment period. Based upon the responses, Ecology may revise the decision to remove the site from the Hazardous Sites List, if justified.

Figure 1



Map courtesy of Phil Leinart