

## **Ecology invites comments on revised Former Maloney Creek-East (FMC-E) Wetland cleanup plan under the existing Consent Decree**

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) prepared this fact sheet to provide you with information about the BNSF Railway-Skykomish Cleanup Site. The site is located in the Town of Skykomish, Washington.

In October 2007 Ecology and BNSF Railway (BNSF) entered into a legal agreement called a Consent Decree that formally described their working relationship and outlined a scope and schedule of work under a Cleanup Action Plan (CAP). Under that plan and a previous Interim Action, a new levee was installed in 2006, an underground hydraulic control and containment system was installed along the rail yard in 2008, 14 structures were successfully moved to allow removal of contaminated soil and returned to their properties, and approximately 100,000 gallons of Bunker-C oil were removed.

### **Ecology, BNSF, and Town propose revised plans to clean the FMC-E Wetland**

In 2009, Ecology, BNSF, and the Town of Skykomish began exploring a revised cleanup plan for the FMC-E Wetland. The current plan in the CAP calls for the excavation and restoration of the wetland. It does not address issues such as habitat restoration outside of the wetland, flooding in Skykomish, or land uses envisioned by the citizens of Skykomish in 2005 when they developed the Vision for Skykomish document, which was a major driver of the CAP. This new proposed cleanup plan incorporates those elements and is

### **Comments Accepted**

May 12 – June 11, 2010

#### **Submit comments and technical questions to:**

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3190 160<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE

Bellevue, WA 98008

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E-mail: [bp461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:bp461@ecy.wa.gov)

#### **DOCUMENT REVIEW LOCATIONS**

##### **King County - Skykomish Library**

100 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Skykomish, WA 98288  
(360) 677-2660

##### **Washington State Department of Ecology Northwest Regional Office**

3190 160<sup>th</sup> Ave SE  
Bellevue, WA 98008

Call Sally Perkins for an appointment:

Phone: (425) 649-7190

E-mail: [sper461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:sper461@ecy.wa.gov)

##### **Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Website**

[http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/bnsf\\_sky/bnsf\\_sky.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/bnsf_sky/bnsf_sky.html)

##### **BNSF – Skykomish Cleanup Web site**

<http://www.skykomishcleanup.com>

Cleanup Call Line: 1-800-228-1849

Facility Site ID #: 2104

more consistent with the original vision of the citizens of Skykomish by taking a more global approach to the cleanup of the FMC-E Wetland. Major elements of the plan are:

### *BNSF will:*

- Excavate FMC-E Wetland contaminated soils to clean State levels, and restore it as an upland;
- Pay \$800,000 to the Town of Skykomish for a habitat restoration and sediment control project on Maloney Creek;
- Pay approximately \$380,000 to the Skykomish Habitat LLC Mitigation Bank to mitigate the loss of the wetland;
- Provide the Town with clean soil disposal services for the habitat restoration project at no cost to the Town.

### *The Town of Skykomish will use \$800,000 to:*

- Perform habitat restoration, sediment removal, and flood control work on Maloney Creek.

### *Ecology will:*

- Ensure that all State environmental cleanup standards are met;
- Ensure that work be started by 2011, subject to the Town securing necessary permits.

## **Ecology invites public comment on proposed changes to CAP**

Ecology will be seeking the public's input on these proposed changes to the CAP. A Public Meeting was conducted on March 30, 2010 in cooperation with BNSF to present these changes. The public comment period will be from May 12 to June 11, 2010.

## **Site background**

In 1893, train service to Seattle started along the Great Northern Railway, and the Town of Skykomish became a center for railroad operations. Skykomish is located on the west side of the Cascade Mountains, approximately 16 miles west of Stevens Pass. The rail line running through Skykomish was and remains one of the main transcontinental rail transportation corridors.

A maintenance and fueling facility operated in Skykomish from the 1890s until 1974. Over the decades, discharge to the environment of Bunker-C and diesel fuel from railyard operations continued. The petroleum flowed downward to the water table, and then horizontally along the water table under the Town of Skykomish to the south fork of the Skykomish River. Seasonal fluctuation of the water table resulted in the smearing of petroleum across the zone of fluctuation. Sediments in the river and Former Maloney Creek (FMC) were contaminated with petroleum. Free product exists at the groundwater table and in the smear zone, and groundwater contains dissolved petroleum constituents. Soil throughout the Site is contaminated with petroleum.

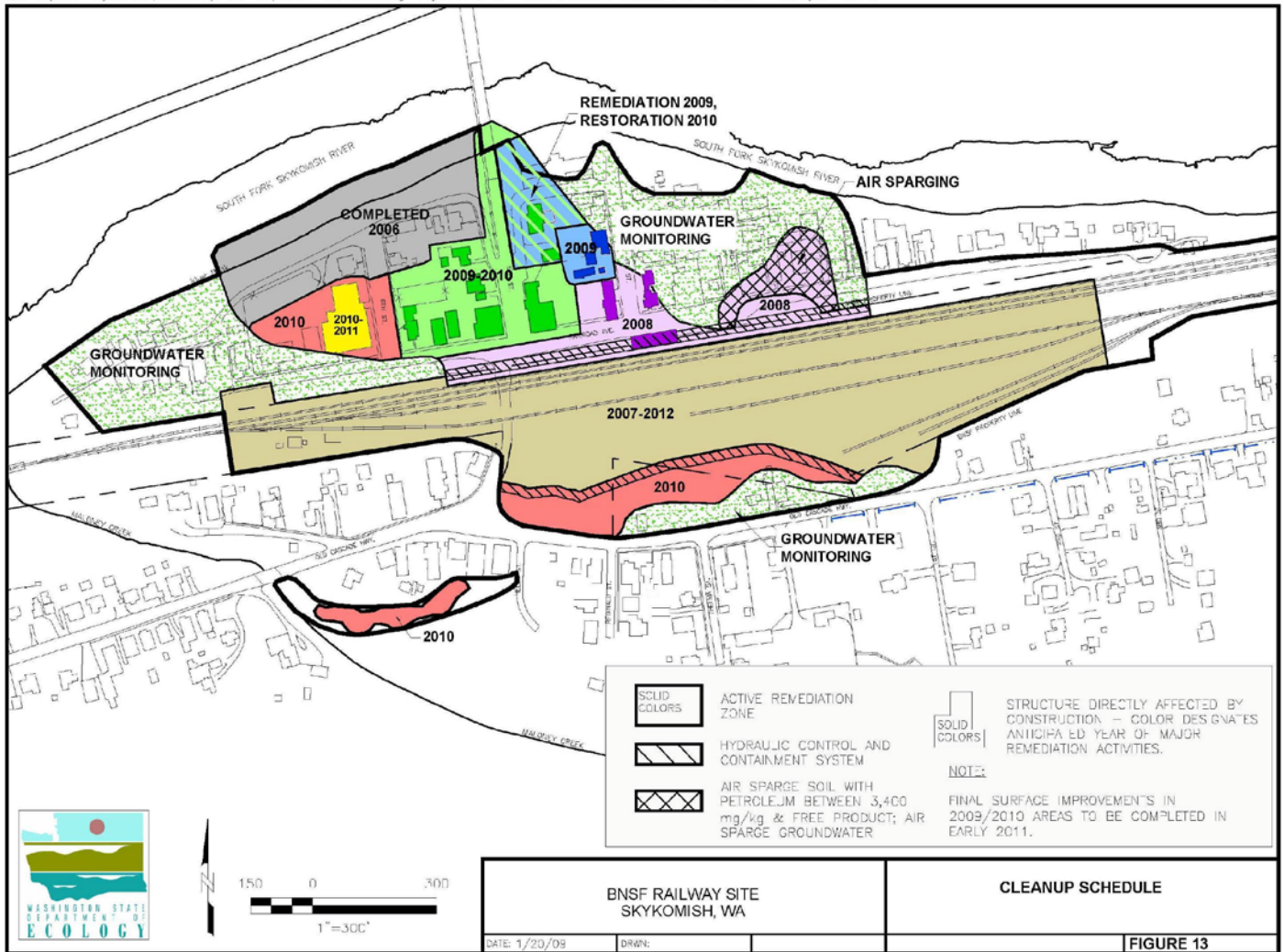
The railroad is now owned by BNSF. BNSF and Ecology have been investigating the Site since 1993. Sufficient findings resulted in two Interim Actions, and a Consent Decree that was finalized between Ecology and BSNF in 2007. Cleanup work has proceeded since that time.



**What happens next?**

After the 30-day public comment period, Ecology will review all comments received and make recommendations for any suggested changes. If no significant changes are necessary, Ecology will approve the revisions to the CAP and BNSF will proceed with the cleanup accordingly.

*File: L:\BNSF-Skykomish\ECOLOG\1-20-09\FIG\_13-SCHEDULE.dwg Layout: FIG 13 User: MarshallE Plotted: Feb 06, 2009 - 12:48pm Kref's:*



**Site Zone Map (Figure 13 of CAP)**

3190 160<sup>th</sup> Ave SE  
Bellevue, WA 98008

**BNSF-Skykomish Site,  
Skykomish, WA**



**Ecology seeks public comment on the proposed revision to the Cleanup Action Plan**

**Public Comment Period**

**May 12 - June 11, 2009**

**Public Meeting**

**March 30, 2010, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.**

**Masonic Hall,  
Skykomish, WA**

Facility Site ID #: 2104

If you need this publication in an alternative format, call Brad Petrovich at (425) 533-5537. Persons with hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with speech disability call 877-833-6341.