

Cleanup Plan Available for Public Comment



A PUGET SOUND INITIATIVE site

Reaching the goal of a healthy, sustainable Puget Sound now and forever!

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) has been working on investigating and cleaning up contamination at the Former Irondale Iron and Steel site since around 2001. The Governor's Puget Sound Initiative, an effort to restore the Sound by 2020, is funding site cleanup (see page 4).

The site is located at 526 Moore Street in Irondale. Iron and steel plant operations at the site resulted in contaminated soil, sediment and groundwater.

Ecology has developed a draft Engineering Design Report for the site. It describes in detail how cleanup actions will be implemented and maintained. During cleanup and restoration, Ecology will:

- Remove contaminated soil and sediments (see map on page 3).
- Install a geotextile and soil cap (cover) to prevent exposure to contaminated soil remaining on site.
- Remove slag material—a byproduct of metal smelting—and restore the areas where soil was removed.
- Restore the beach between the former plant and the Chimacum Creek restoration site (see box on page 2).

Ecology Wants Your Input!

Ecology is asking for your comments on the Engineering Design Report. Comments on the report will be accepted **July 20 - August 19, 2011**. The box on the right shows document review locations and how to submit comments.

What Happens Next?

Ecology will review and consider all comments. At the end of the comment period, Ecology will respond to comments in a responsiveness summary. Work at the site may begin in early August. Even after the work has begun, Ecology may make changes to work plans based on public comments.

Comments Accepted

July 20 thru August 19, 2011

Submit Comments and Technical Questions to:

Steve Teel, Site Manager
WA Department of Ecology
Southwest Regional Office
PO Box 47775
Olympia, WA 98504
Phone: (360) 407-6247
E-mail: Steve.Teel@ecy.wa.gov

Public Involvement Questions:

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

DOCUMENT REVIEW LOCATIONS

Jefferson County Library

620 Cedar Avenue
Port Hadlock, WA 98339
(360) 385-6544

Jefferson County Public Works

623 Sheridan Street
Port Townsend, WA 98638
(360) 385-9160

WA Department of Ecology Southwest Regional Office

300 Desmond Drive SE
Lacey, WA 98503
By appointment only:
Contact Debbie Nelson,
Debbie.Nelson@ecy.wa.gov or
(360) 407-6365

Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Website

<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/gsp/Sitepage.aspx?csid=4484>

Facility Site ID #: 95275518

Ecology is scheduling work during months when it will least affect fish. Work will begin after Ecology receives permits and approvals from state and federal agencies. Affected tribes also need to approve plans for monitoring and protecting cultural resources. Work will continue through February 2012.

The cleanup and restoration areas are located in Irondale Beach Park. All or most of the park will be closed during construction. Nearby residents may notice work noise from 7 am - 7 pm.

Site Background

From 1881 to 1919, iron and steel were produced at the site. In 1919, the iron and steel plant closed and the equipment was removed from the site. The site was not cleaned up after closing, and slag and other debris are still present. Some building foundations and the concrete walls of an above-ground fuel tank remain on site.

From 1919 until 2001, the site changed ownership several times but no additional waste was produced. Jefferson County purchased the site in 2001 to use as a recreation area.

In 2005, a park visitor notified Ecology about an oily residue on the beach. Investigations revealed evidence of soil, sediment and groundwater contamination. Contamination was found at locations of former buildings and industrial activities. Ecology held a comment period for a Cleanup Action Plan December 2009 - January 2010.

Archaeological and Historic Features

The site is part of the Irondale Historic District, which is on the National Register of Historic Places and Washington Heritage Register. Ecology is working with state and federal agencies and tribes to identify and protect structures of historical significance.

Ecology will not remove historic building foundations and slabs in the soil cap areas. As much as possible, larger trees will be preserved.



Habitat Restoration

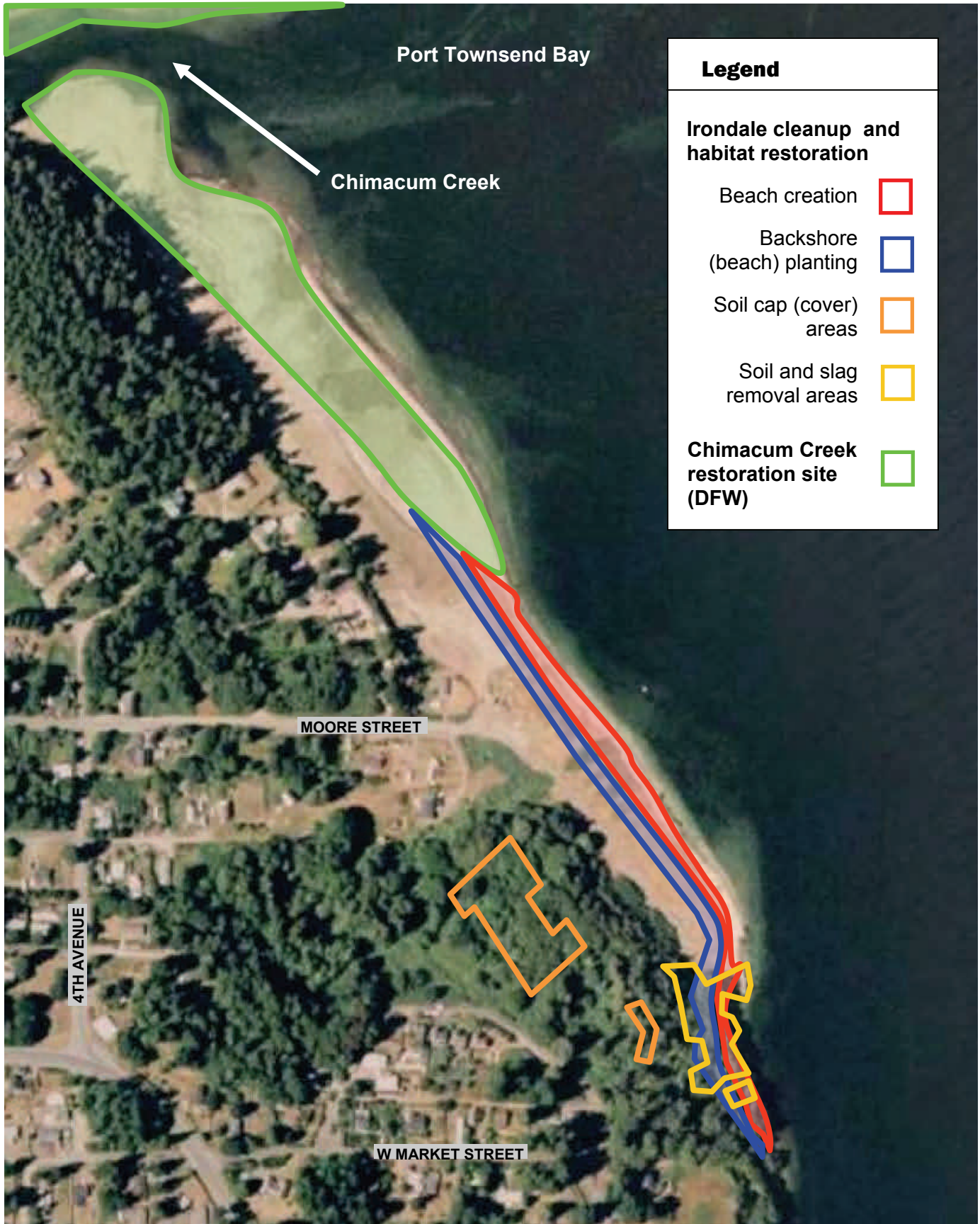
Ecology will restore the shoreline from the cleanup area to the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife's (DFW) Chimacum Creek restoration site. This will provide long-term benefits for salmon and other fish, and birds that use Irondale Beach Park. Ecology will:

- Remove old fill material, sand, between the former plant and the Chimacum Creek site. New beach will be created in this area (red and blue areas on map).
- Use clean sand from the area between the former plant and the Chimacum Creek site to backfill areas where contaminated soil was removed (yellow area on map).
- Place large woody debris, such as logs and stumps, on the new shoreline to create backshore (beach) habitat (blue area on map).
- Plant upland areas with native shrubs and trees, and new shoreline habitat with American dunegrass.
- Remove invasive, non-native plants.

About 56,100 square feet of new intertidal habitat and 71,700 square feet of new backshore beach habitat will be created.

Community members will be able to help with restoration this fall or winter. Check Ecology's website (see page 1) or blog (<http://ecologywa.blogspot.com>) for updates and more information.

Former Irondale Iron and Steel

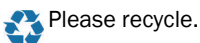




DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY
State of Washington

PO Box 47775

Olympia, WA 98504-7775



Former Irondale Iron and Steel Jefferson County, WA

Ecology Seeks Public Comment on Cleanup Plan

Public Comment Period:
July 20 – August 19, 2011

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Why Cleanup Matters

Decades of industrial, municipal and naturally occurring pollution have damaged the quality and ecology of Puget Sound. In 2007, Governor Gregoire and the Washington State Legislature approved the Puget Sound Initiative to protect and restore the health of the Sound by 2020.

One of the Initiative's objectives is to clean up contaminated sites within one-half mile of Puget Sound. The Former Irondale Iron and Steel cleanup will help reduce pollution and restore habitat and shorelines in Puget Sound.

To be removed from the mailing list:

Contact Diana Smith, Public Involvement Coordinator at Diana.Smith@ecy.wa.gov or (360) 407-6255.