



Environmental report out for review

The Port of Bellingham and Department of Ecology have investigated contamination, evaluated cleanup options, and identified a preferred option for the Blaine Marina, Inc. cleanup site in Blaine. Ecology is making this information available for public review in a draft report, called a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) Report.

Site history & contamination

The Blaine Marina, Inc. site is located in the western portion of the port's Blaine Harbor industrial area. The port has leased this property to Blaine Marina, Inc. for use as a tank farm and fueling facility since the 1950's. In 1955, the tenant installed three aboveground storage tanks to store gasoline and diesel fuel for dispensing at the fueling dock, and also for filling tanker trucks for delivery of home heating oil. The fueling facility now supports commercial and recreational boating activities at the port's Blaine Harbor marina.

Extensive sampling across the Blaine Marina, Inc. site has found petroleum, metals, volatile organic compounds, and naphthalene in groundwater and soil in and around the site. Most contamination at the site appears to be the result of an accidental fueling release by the tenant reported in May 1990.

These contaminants are present at potentially harmful levels and must be addressed under Washington's cleanup law, the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA).

Public Comment Period

May 18 – June 16, 2015

Comments & questions:

Cris Matthews – Site Manager
WA Department of Ecology
1440 10th Street, Ste. 102
Bellingham, WA 98225
Phone: 360-715-5232
Email: cris.matthews@ecy.wa.gov

Review documents at:

Bellingham – Ecology Office

1440 10th St., Suite 102
Bellingham, WA
By appointment. Call Linsay Albin at
360-715-5200.

Blaine Public Library

610 3rd Street
Blaine, WA 98230
Phone: 360-305-3600

Bellevue – Ecology Office

3190 160th Ave. SE
Bellevue, WA
By appointment; call: 425-649-7190

Ecology's Blaine Marina webpage:

www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites
Search Site Name: Blaine Marina

Interim cleanup action

In 2012, a section of bulkhead along the site that supported an overwater building was found to be failing, jeopardizing fuel lines and causing erosion of fill behind the bulkhead. While the site-wide extent of contamination was being studied, an interim cleanup action was done in 2012 to repair this bulkhead.

Environmental investigation

In addition to sampling done at the site, an environmental investigation compiled and evaluated other information including:

- **Physical conditions** such as water depths and movement, natural, historic and cultural resources, and land and navigation uses;
- **Exposure pathways**, or how people, plants and animals could be exposed to contaminants—and the levels of cleanup needed to prevent exposure; and
- **Site boundaries**, or where contaminants exist at levels requiring cleanup.

Cleanup alternatives

After investigating the site, a feasibility study evaluated a range of potential ways to address the contamination. It identified removal, containment, bioremediation, flushing, and natural attenuation as appropriate methods. These methods were then combined into six different cleanup options. Next, the options were evaluated through a cost-benefit analysis, which identified a preferred cleanup option.

Preferred cleanup option

The preferred cleanup option includes:

- Removal of old petroleum storage tanks and adjacent buildings to eliminate potential ongoing contamination and allow direct access to contaminated areas;

- Removal of approximately 3,000 tons of petroleum-contaminated soils;
- Bio-remediation to treat affected soil outside the source removal area;
- Construction of a sheet-pile bulkhead along a portion of the shoreline to prevent erosion and increase effectiveness of treatment efforts;
- Compliance monitoring to confirm cleanup standards are met and maintained.

Cost and funding

The cleanup is expected to cost about \$2.2 million. Ecology will reimburse a portion of cleanup costs to the Port of Bellingham through the state's Remedial Action Grant Program, which helps to pay for the cleanup of publicly owned sites. The Legislature primarily funds the grant program with revenues from a tax on hazardous substances.

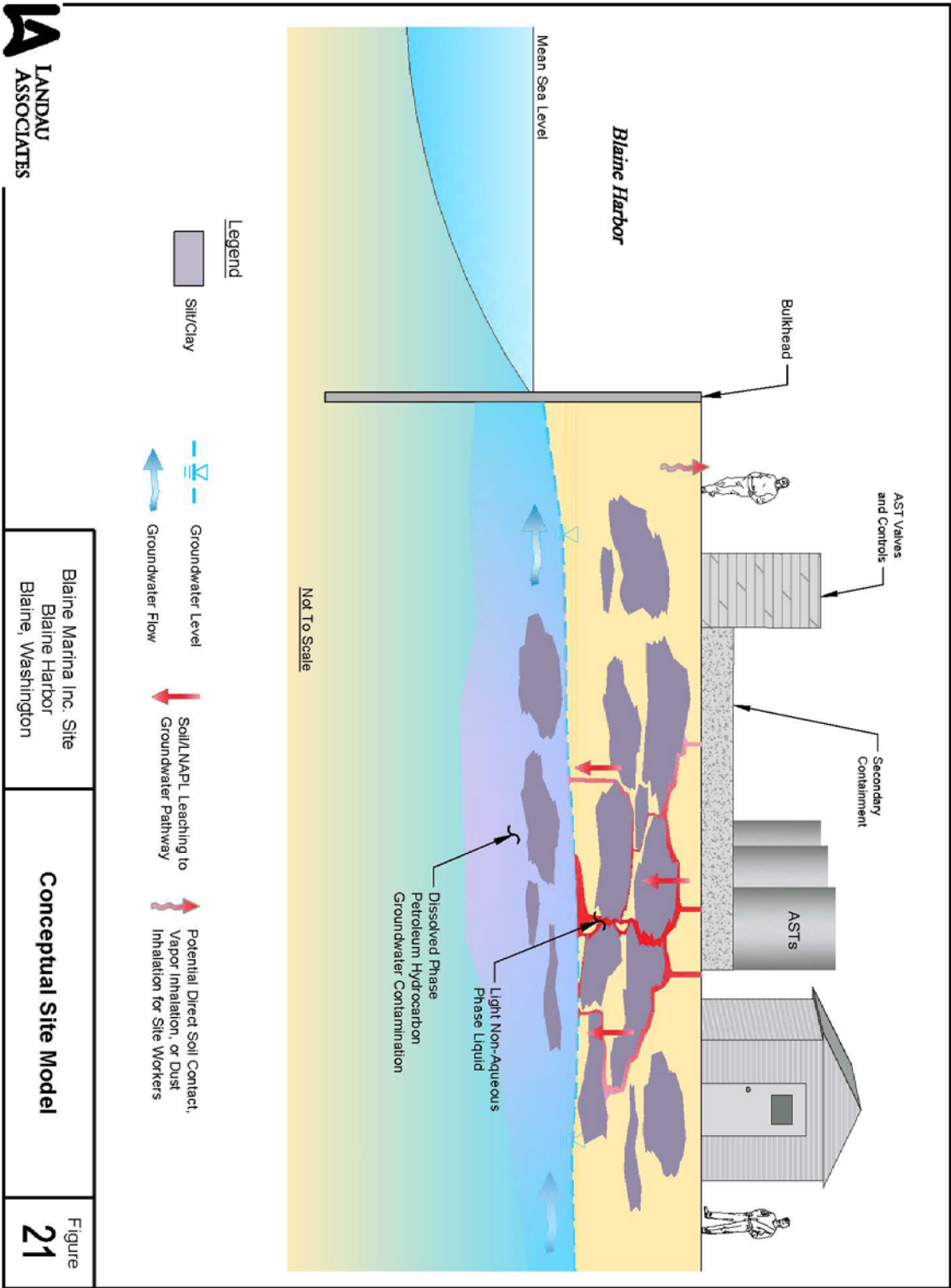
Ecology is asking for comments

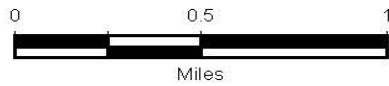
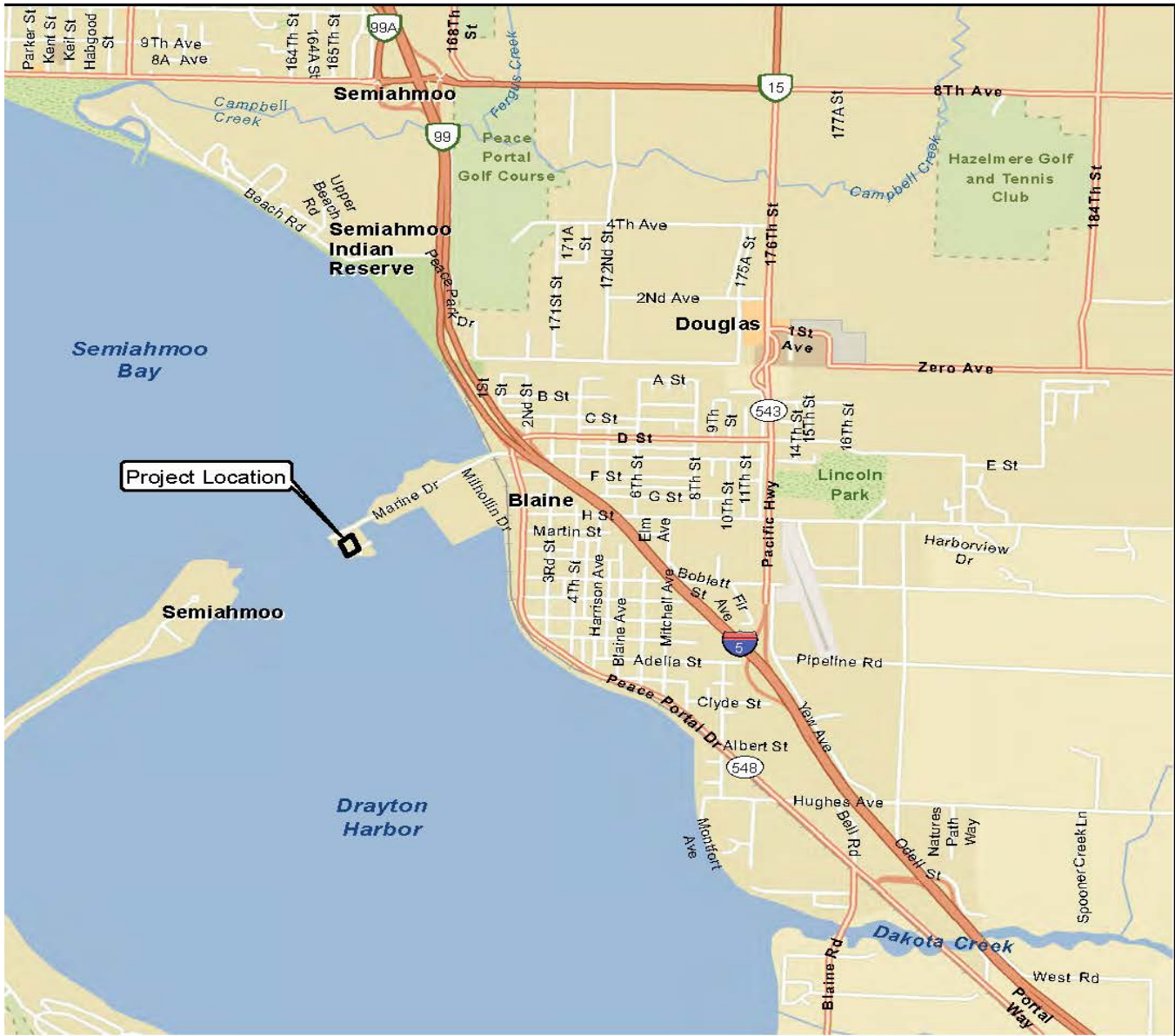
You are invited to review and submit your comments on the draft environmental report from May 18 – June 16, 2015. Ecology will review & consider all comments and respond. If comments result in significant changes to the report, Ecology will issue a revised version for a second 30-day comment period. In addition, if 10 or more persons request a public meeting about this report, Ecology will provide notice and hold a meeting.

Project timeline

- May-June 2015: public comment period for RI/FS.
- 2015: develop Consent Decree & Cleanup Action Plan.
- Early 2016: public comment on Consent Decree & Cleanup Action Plan.
- Early 2016: begin site cleanup.

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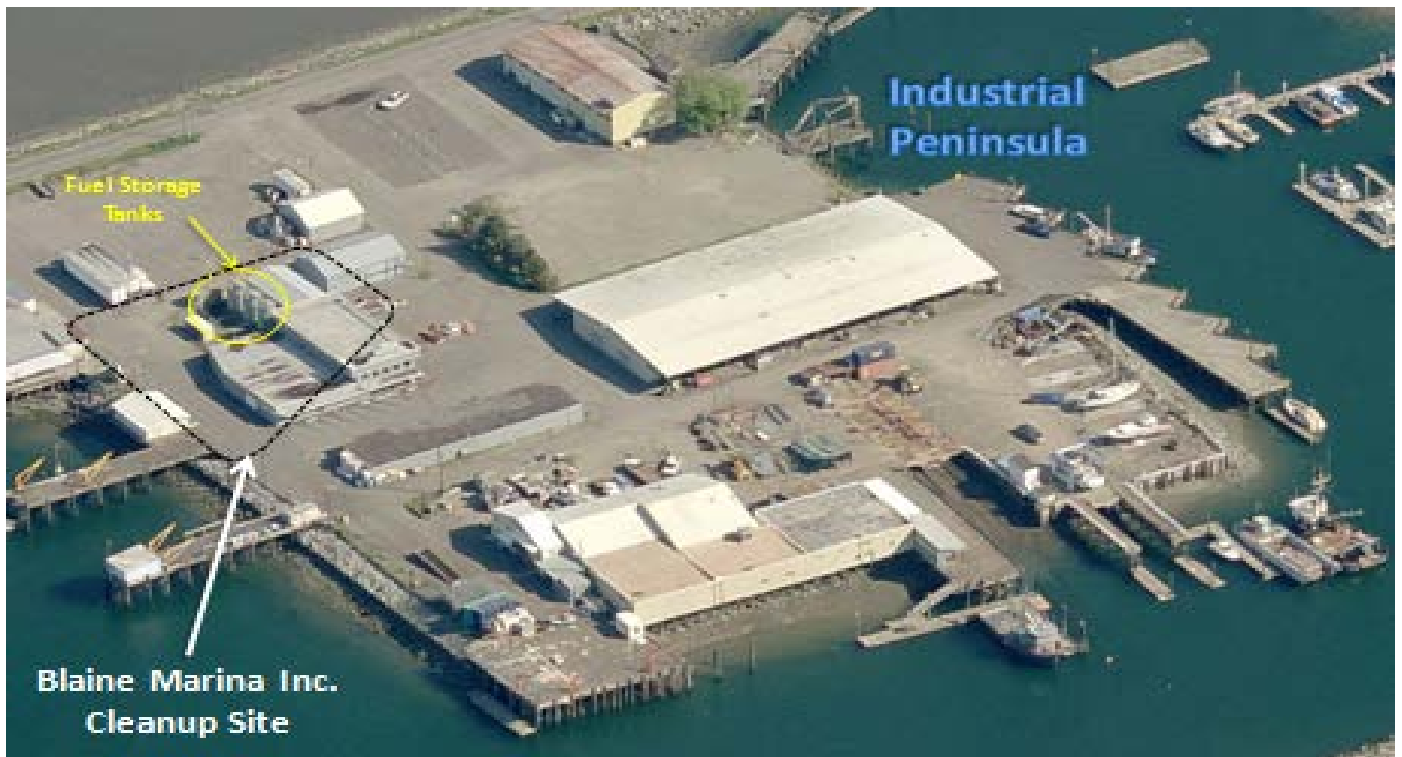
Data Source: Esri 2012



Blaine Marina Inc. Site
Blaine Harbor
Blaine, Washington

Vicinity Map

Figure
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Información en español:

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Persons with hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service.

Persons with a speech disability, call 877-833-6341.

Ecología invita comentarios sobre un reportaje medioambiental para el sitio contaminado de Blaine Marina

El Puerto de Bellingham y el Departamento de Ecología han investigado la contaminación en el sitio de la Marina Blaine. Ellos han identificado una opción de limpieza para el sitio ubicado en Blaine. Ecología está haciendo esta información disponible para la examinación del público por medio de un borrador del informe conocido como Informe de Investigación Correctiva/Estudio de Factibilidad (RI/FS, por sus siglas en inglés).

El informe hizo una evaluación de seis alternativas diferentes para limpiar el sitio, y recomienda solo uno. Este alternativo consiste de remoción de tanques de petróleo y edificios, remoción de tierra contaminada, y el proceso de remediación biológica (biorremediación) para limpiar el sitio.

Puede obtener más información al visitar el sitio del internet de Ecología dedicado a la limpieza de la Marina Blaine:

www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp

Haga una búsqueda del nombre: "Blaine Marina"

Ecología aceptará comentarios públicos sobre este Borrador del Informe desde el 18 de mayo hasta el 16 de junio, 2015. Se puede mandar los comentarios o preguntas al Cris Matthews, Department of Ecology, (360) 715-5232, o por correo electrónico al cris.matthews@ecy.wa.gov. Para obtener más información en español, favor de comunicarse con Gretchen Newman, 360-407-6097 o por correo electrónico al preguntas@ecy.wa.gov.



3190 160th Avenue SE
Bellevue, WA 98008-5452

Blaine Marina Inc. Cleanup Site

Blaine, WA

An environmental report that details contamination and a preferred cleanup option for the Blaine Marina Inc. site on Blaine's waterfront is available for review and comment.

Extensive environmental sampling found contamination throughout the site. To prevent people, plants and animals from being exposed to contaminants, six cleanup options were evaluated, and a preferred alternative was identified.

Ecology will be accepting comments on the report from May 18 – June 16, 2015. See inside for more details about how to review documents and submit comments.



Scan this QR Code with your smartphone to visit Ecology's website for more information!

Or:

www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp

Search Site Name: Blaine Marina