

# Hungry Whale Grocery Site Cleanup

1680 North Montesano Street, Westport

## Cleanup Plan Documents Available for Public Comment

Facility Site ID: 1127 Cleanup Site ID: 4988

### Comment accepted

**June 2—July 5, 2022**

### Submit comments online

<http://tcp.ecology.commentinput.com/?id=FjchP>

### Or by mail or email

#### Andrew Smith, Site Manager

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Olympia, WA 98504-7775

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### Printed document review

#### Port of Grays Harbor Main Office

111 S Wooding St  
Aberdeen, WA 98520

#### Westport Timberland Library

101 E Harms Drive  
Westport, WA 98595

#### Ecology Lacey Office by appointment

300 Desmond Drive SE  
Lacey, WA 98503

[PublicDisclosureSWRO@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:PublicDisclosureSWRO@ecy.wa.gov)

or 360-407-6365

### Site information

<https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/site/4988>

### Cleanup plans available for public comment

The Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) is entering into a legal agreement called Agreed Order (AO) DE 20344 with the Port of Grays Harbor (port) to clean up contamination at the Hungry Whale Grocery Site (Site). The port is the potentially liable person (PLP) responsible for cleanup at the Site. The port received a \$1.2 million remedial action grant from Ecology for cleanup construction.

Ecology invites you to review and comment on the following documents.

**Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study Report** describes the contamination and where it is located. The report compares choices for how to clean up the contamination.

**Draft Cleanup Action Plan** describes Ecology's plan for cleaning up the contamination.

**Agreed Order DE 20344** is a legal agreement between Ecology and the port. The agreement requires the port to implement and maintain the cleanup described in the Cleanup Action Plan.

**State Environmental Policy Act Determination of Non-Significance** describes Ecology's decision that cleanup activities are not likely to harm the environment.

All the documents are available electronically to view and/or download at Ecology's Site webpage

<https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/site/4988>.

To review print documents, there are options listed in the blue box on the left. Please check to confirm when the Port of Grays Harbor main office is open for walk-in service. Documents are available for viewing at our Southwest Regional Office in Lacey by appointment only.

Comments can be submitted online, by email, or by US Mail during the comment period **from June 2 to July 5, 2022**.

Ecology will consider comments. If there are no changes, then Ecology will approve the cleanup documents and sign the AO. The port will do the cleanup work.

## Background

The port owns the Hungry Whale Grocery property. A portion of the property is leased for a retail gasoline fueling station and convenience store. The convenience store and gas station were constructed in the mid-1970s. The property is in a mixed-use tourist commercial zoning district.

The Site is located at the east corner of the intersection of North Montesano Street and Wilson Avenue. There is one 20,000-gallon underground storage tank (UST) and a gasoline dispenser island at the Site.

In 1985, a petroleum leak was reported from the property's piping and UST fueling system. The leak contaminated soil and shallow groundwater at the Site. In 1991, a 2,000-gallon gasoline UST was removed and a 6,000-gallon gasoline UST was closed in-place. When the older USTs were decommissioned, the 20,000-gallon UST was installed in the southeast part of the property.

## Contamination and possible pathways of exposure

Gasoline contamination of the soil and groundwater needs to be addressed under the state's cleanup law, the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA).

Contaminants in soil and groundwater:

- Gasoline
- BTEX (benzene, toluene, ethyl benzene, and xylene)

**Soil:** Petroleum contamination extends from near the surface to about 13 to 14 feet below ground. Areas covered with asphalt or concrete pavement reduce the chance of contacting the soil contamination. People using earth-moving equipment may be exposed to contaminated soil by directly touching it or accidentally eating it from dirty hands. Contaminated soil extends into the right-of-way beneath North Montesano Street and Wilson Avenue.

**Groundwater:** At the Site, groundwater is shallow, about four to eight feet below the surface. The area of contamination in groundwater is a plume. At the Site, the groundwater plume is generally confined to paved areas. If contaminated groundwater seeps into soil excavations, then people doing the excavating could be exposed to groundwater contamination. Contamination of drinking water is not a concern because the City of Westport (city) supplies water to the Site and there are no municipal drinking water wells in the vicinity.

**Vapor intrusion:** Although soil gas contains volatile organic compounds, testing of indoor air in buildings shows no evidence of potential vapor intrusion risk to people.

## Previous cleanup actions

In 1997 to 1999, the port used enhanced bioremediation (biosparging) to remove groundwater contamination. Biosparging injects air into groundwater to increase biological activity that breaks down contamination. But this treatment was not effective in removing groundwater contamination.

In 2005, a culvert was exposed near the southern corner of the property. About 400 gallons of weathered gasoline and water was removed from the culvert, removing a source of petroleum contamination.

## Proposed plan for cleanup

Ecology's proposed cleanup plan is described in the draft Cleanup Action Plan.

Removal of contaminant sources in soil and groundwater should reduce the amount of groundwater contamination at the Site. The cleanup plan is a combination of soil excavation and groundwater removal. The port will demolish the convenience store and remove the UST and fuel dispensing equipment. About 5,200 cubic yards of contaminated soil will be excavated and properly disposed of off-Site (see Figure 1). Any contaminated soil that might extend beneath the street right-of-ways will not be removed.

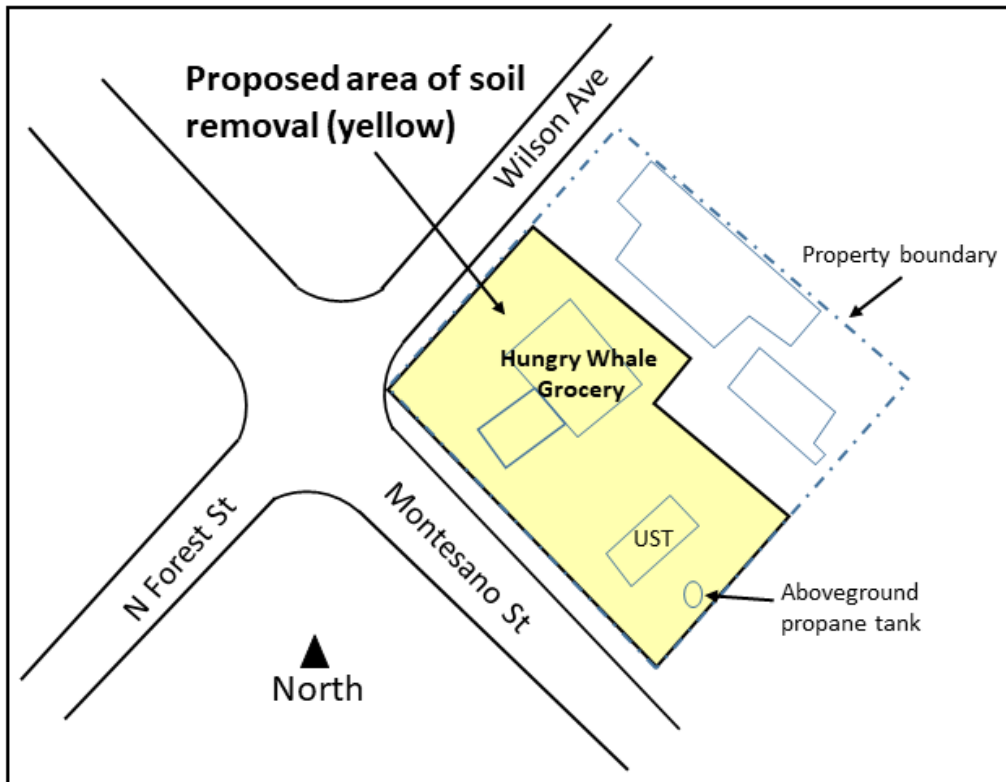


Figure 1. The yellow area shows where contaminated soil, buildings, and structures will be removed. Areas are not exact.

Groundwater entering the soil excavation will be pumped out. The port will treat the pumped water at an on-Site temporary facility. After treatment, tests will confirm the water is clean enough to release into the city's stormwater ditch.

The port will backfill the excavation with clean soil after groundwater treatment.

After the contaminant source is removed, concentrations in soil and groundwater will decrease from biological activity, called natural attenuation. Conditions will be monitored to make sure the contamination decreases in groundwater.

The port will file an environmental covenant with the county. Among other restrictions, the covenant will likely restrict groundwater use at the Site. As long as the covenant is in place, Ecology will review conditions at the Site every five years.

After cleanup, the property will be ready for redevelopment.

Toxics Cleanup Program  
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Olympia, WA 98504-7775

## Hungry Whale Grocery Site

1680 North Montesano St, Westport

Public comment period June 2 to July 5, 2022.

**Why did I receive this mailing?** You live near the Hungry Whale Grocery Site or have expressed interest in the cleanup. This fact sheet informs you about the proposed work and the opportunity for public comment.

**What can I do?** Please review the Site documents and submit your comment, question, and concerns.

**¿Habla Español?** Unáse al diálogo sobre Hungry Whale Grocery Site. Cuando el período de comentarios termine, revisaremos los comentarios y haremos cambios antes de finalizar los documentos. Para más información en español llame al 360-489-4971 y solicite un intérprete.

**ADA accessibility.** To request an ADA accommodation, contact Ecology by phone at 360-489-4971 or email at [nancy.davis@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:nancy.davis@ecy.wa.gov), or visit [ecology.wa.gov/Accessibility](http://ecology.wa.gov/Accessibility). For Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341.

