

Focus on: Field Work at Blakely Harbor



Subsurface sediment sampling in Blakely Harbor, 2021.



Boat collecting photographs of seafloor in Blakely Harbor, 2020. Photo: Port Blakely

Winter 2023 Site Work

Neighbors and visitors to Blakely Harbor Park may notice some additional activity as field crews conduct surveys and collect samples as part of Ecology’s cleanup site investigation. The purpose is to determine if historical mill operations at the site resulted in pollution. 2021 and 2022 sampling and survey results are still being evaluated. This field work is being conducted to collect additional information needed to complete the investigation. Minimal impacts are expected during investigation activities including limited noise during the fieldwork and temporary limited recreational use of some areas during sampling activities. The Fieldwork Summary table shows an estimated timeline for each event, which can be categorized into two types of activities:

1: Upland Site Work

Field staff will utilize hand tools to collect soil samples in the upland areas of the park and nearby land. Activities will take place south of the Mill Pond, the northern areas of Blakely Harbor Park, and north of Blakely Ave NE. The Park will remain accessible during this phase of work.

2 : Harbor Site Work

A boat will be deployed to collect sediment samples from the harbor floor. Access to public mooring buoys in the harbor and kayak areas along the shoreline will remain accessible during this phase of work. Field staff will survey sediment conditions in portions of the outer harbor from a boat.



Field work locations – see fieldwork details in table.

2023 Fieldwork Summary

Location	Description	Expected start	Duration
Upland	Soil samples collected using hand augers	Mid-December	1 week
Harbor	Sediment samples collected using a grab sampler from a boat	Mid-December	1 week

Questions & Answers

Will the park remain open and accessible?

The Park will remain accessible. There may be some temporary limited recreational use of some areas during sampling activities. Access to public mooring buoys in the harbor and kayak areas along the shoreline will remain accessible during this phase of work. For updates, check the Ecology project webpage using the hyperlink listed below.

What do you expect to find in this investigation?

The investigation will determine the amount of chemicals in soil, sediment, and groundwater and obtain other information to learn how the site has been impacted. To learn more about the site, check the Ecology project webpage using the hyperlink listed below.

Ecology Site Webpage

<https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/gsp/Sitepage.aspx?csid=14770>



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To request an ADA accommodation, contact Ecology by phone at 360-407-7170 or email at andrea.flaherty@ecy.wa.gov, or visit <https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility>. For Washington Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341. Visit Ecology's website for more information.