
Budd Inlet Sediments Site Cleanup
Olympia and Thurston County
Amendment to Agreed Order and Public Participation Plan
Documents Available for Public Review and Comment
Facility Site ID: 3097108 Cleanup Site ID: 2245

Comments accepted
June 9 – July 10, 2023

Submit comments online

<https://tcp.ecology.commentinput.com/?id=FgD3rdYR6>

Or by mail or email

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Printed document review

Olympia Timberland Library

313 8th Avenue SE
Olympia, WA 98501

Ecology Lacey Office by appointment

300 Desmond Drive SE
Lacey, WA 98503

PublicDisclosureSWRO@ecy.wa.gov
or 360-407-6365

Site information

<https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/site/2245>

Documents available for public comment

The Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) and the Port of Olympia (Port) are amending Agreed Order (AO) DE 6083 for the Budd Inlet Sediments cleanup site (Site). The Port of Olympia (Port) is a potentially liable person (PLP) responsible for cleanup at the Site. This legal amendment is the second to this AO between Ecology and the Port for the Site.

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

Amendment 2 to Agreed Order DE 6083

Under this second amendment to the AO, the Port will:

- Complete an Interim Action (partial cleanup) Plan
- Plan and perform additional investigations to gather data needed to design the interim action
- Prepare engineering designs and permitting documents for the interim action

Revised Public Participation Plan (PPP)

The PPP describes how Ecology informs the community about cleanup at the site. The plan encourages community involvement in cleanup decisions.

To review print documents, options are listed in the blue box on the left. Please check to confirm when the Olympia Timberland Library is open for walk-in service. Documents are also available at our Southwest Regional Office in Lacey by appointment only.

You can locate digital copies of documents at Ecology's Site webpage. The webpage is shown in the blue box on this page. Comments can be submitted online, by email, or by US Mail from June 9 – July 10, 2023.

This comment period is running concurrent to the effective date of this amendment. Ecology will consider comments made during this comment period on the amendment.

Background

Budd Inlet is a Puget Sound Initiative Site. It is one of the bays Ecology has prioritized for cleanup for a healthy Puget Sound. The Budd Inlet Sediment project deals with contamination of sediment—the sand, mud, and silt under the water—throughout the inlet, rather than contamination from one specific source.

Ecology began a Budd Inlet sediment investigation in April 2007 after the Port of Olympia found elevated levels of dioxins in an area scheduled for maintenance dredging. Dioxins and Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) were found above state cleanup levels in some areas of the inlet (see Figure 1).

Most likely, the contamination came from historical industries located on shore from the 1920s to 1980s. Previously, there were several lumber industries in the area. Historical sawmills, plywood manufacturing, a veneer factory, and other lumber-related facilities often burned salt laden wood, which is a source of dioxin contamination. A wood treatment facility used a wood treatment chemical called pentachlorophenol, which was a source of dioxin contamination. Historical stormwater runoff has also been a likely source of contamination. A Sediment Dioxin Source Study available on the Site webpage provides more detailed information.

Details on contamination and pathways for exposure

What are dioxins and PAHs? Both are groups of many chemicals that have a similar effect on living things. They are made when burning coal, gas, garbage, or other organic (carbon-containing) substances and are a byproduct from the manufacture of pentachlorophenol. With exposure in large amounts and over time some of the chemicals are carcinogenic (cancer causing), others have possible effects to reproduction or child development.

Dioxins and PAHs do not break down easily in the environment and as a result, are found everywhere. Most people are exposed to very small amounts as they go about their daily lives. The main way people can be exposed to these contaminants in the sediment is by eating fish or shellfish raised in the contaminated area. A second way is by having skin contact with the contaminated mud.

Previous cleanup actions

In 2008, the Port and Ecology signed Agreed Order DE 6083 that requires the Port to investigate contamination, evaluate possible cleanup actions, and develop an interim action plan for cleanup in some areas of the Site. In compliance with the AO, the Port completed two remedial actions: (a) an Interim Action to remove elevated concentrations of dioxin in sediment from portions of the berth area adjacent to its docking facility in West Bay of Budd Inlet (see Figure 2), and (b) a pilot study assessment of the characteristics of the in-place sediments and analysis of the benefits of proposed dredging technologies for future cleanup of Budd Inlet.

The First Amendment to the AO was signed in 2012. Under the AO, the Port has conducted additional remedial actions including investigations into the nature and extent of contamination in the Study Area, investigation into potential sources of contamination to sediments in the vicinity of the Port's peninsula in Budd Inlet, and preparation of an Investigation Report. The Port is preparing an identification and analysis of remedial action alternatives to address sediments containing contaminants above applicable cleanup levels in the Study Area. The First Amendment to the AO also includes preparation of a draft Interim Action Plan to address sediment contamination at the Study Area within the Site.

Details of the second amendment to AO DE 6083

Amendment 2 to AO DE 6083 amends the AO expanding the work that is to be performed at the Site. Under this second amendment to the AO, the Port will:

- Prepare a draft version of the Interim Action Plan for public review
- Prepare a final version of the Interim Action Plan
- Prepare a memorandum and investigation work plan on the pre-remedial design data gaps
- Perform the pre-remedial design investigation described in the work plan
- Prepare a pre-remedial design data report
- Prepare engineering design and permitting documents for the interim action

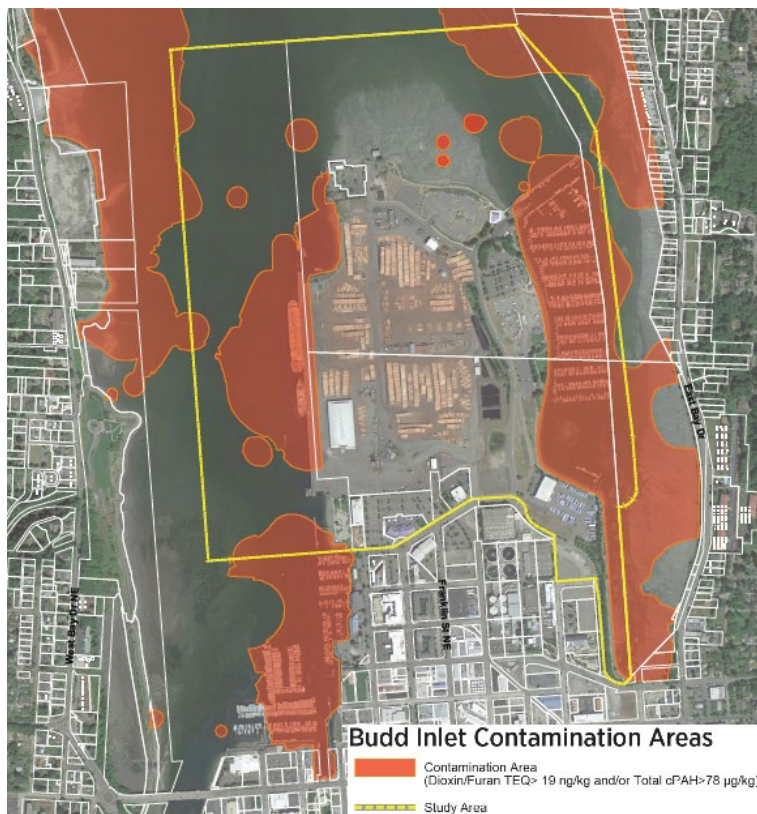


Figure 1. Map of Budd Inlet indicating areas where contamination in sediment exceeds regional background levels. The yellow line indicates the boundaries of the Study Area that was created with the 2012 Agreed Order (DE 6083) Amendment 1.

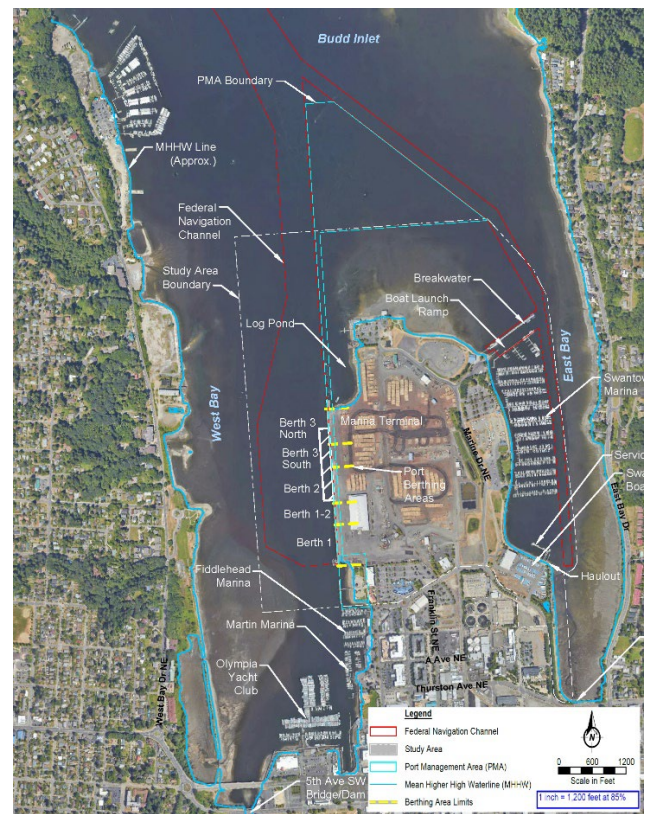


Figure 2. Map of Budd Inlet indicating the Port Management Area (PMA), the Study Area as well as the Federal Navigation Channel and berthing area limits. Visit the site webpage for more information:

<https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/site/2245>

Toxics Cleanup Program
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Budd Inlet Sediments Site Olympia, Thurston County

Public comment period June 9 – July 10, 2023

Why did I receive this mailing? You live near the Budd Inlet Sediments 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 comments, questions, and concerns.

¿Habla Español? Unáse al diálogo sobre Budd Inlet Sediments 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 360-485-5340 y solicite un intérprete.

ADA accessibility. To request an ADA accommodation, contact Ecology by phone at 360-485-5340 or email at matt.fuller@ecy.wa.gov, or visit ecology.wa.gov/Accessibility. For Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341.

