

# Port Angeles – Port and City Perspective













# 2007 – Puget Sound Partnership

Gov. Chris Gregoire and the Legislature established the Puget Sound Partnership in 2007 to develop and implement an aggressive action agenda, spur action and ensure measurable success for restoring the health of Puget Sound by 2020.

The goal of the Toxics Cleanup Program is to accelerate cleanups within a half mile of the shoreline and in the water. As part of this effort, seven embayments were chosen as priority cleanup areas. Early actions taken in these embayments will contribute significantly towards efforts to restore the Sound.

### Puget Sound Initiative Priority Embayments

1. Port Gamble
2. Dumas Bay
3. Padilla / Fidalgo Bay
4. **Port Angeles\***
5. **Oakland Bay\***
6. Port Gardner / Port of Everett
7. **Budd Inlet\***

**\*Managed by the Southwest  
Regional Toxics Cleanup Program**



# Harbor Clean Up / Restoration Background - MTCA

- In 2012, Department of Ecology (Ecology or DOE) published a harbor sediment report.

Based on that report, DOE notified the City and Port that they are two of the several Potentially Liable Parties (PLPs) under the Washington State Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) for some portion of the contaminants in the harbor.

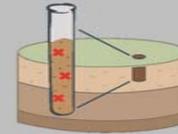
The City and the other entities named as potentially liable parties (PLP) – the Port, Nippon, Merrill & Ring, and Georgia Pacific – joined together to share costs and jointly approved a series of agreements, which included: an Agreed Order, Participation Agreement, and Environmental Services Agreement.

# Harbor Clean Up / Restoration Background - MTCA

- MTCA is Washington state law.
- It is concerned with cleanup of contaminated sites
- It is similar to the federal environmental clean up law -- Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, And Liability Act (CERCLA)

# Harbor Clean Up / Restoration Background - MTCA

## Remedial Investigation



A Remedial Investigation defines the nature, extent, and magnitude of pollution at a site in order to identify the best method for cleanup.

## Interim Action

If the contaminants are found to pose a risk to human health or the environment, Ecology will direct Boeing to take immediate action to reduce this risk. **This happened on the Boeing property in 2004, when an Interim Action was taken to contain a known source for the plume.** Since that time, chemicals found have been at low levels and not expected to pose a risk to human health or the environment.



## Feasibility Study



The Feasibility Study takes the information from the Remedial Investigation to identify and evaluate cleanup alternatives. Then an optimal alternative will be selected and incorporated into the Cleanup Action Plan.

## Cleanup Action Plan



The Cleanup Action Plan specifies cleanup standards, methods, and schedule, describes the steps to be taken, and includes any additional environmental monitoring required during and after the cleanup.

## Cleanup & Monitoring



Implementation of the Cleanup Action Plan includes design, construction, operations and monitoring.

 Opportunities for public comment

# Harbor Clean Up / Restoration Background - NRD

- In addition to MTCA, there is the Natural Resources Damages (NRD) process
- This is under federal law, And not state law
- The purpose of this law is different from MTCA. The purpose of MTCA is to clean up contaminants that have been released.
- In contrast the purpose of NRD is to repair the harm done by the contaminants while they were in the environment.



# Harbor Clean Up / Restoration Background

- Traditionally, The MTCA Process that is the cleanup process is done first - years
- Then, after the cleanup is completed, the parties it then deal with the NRD issues – more years
- Ideally, the cleanup action should satisfy both MTCA and NRD simultaneously.



# AGREED ORDER

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# Cleanup Sites



# Guiding Principles

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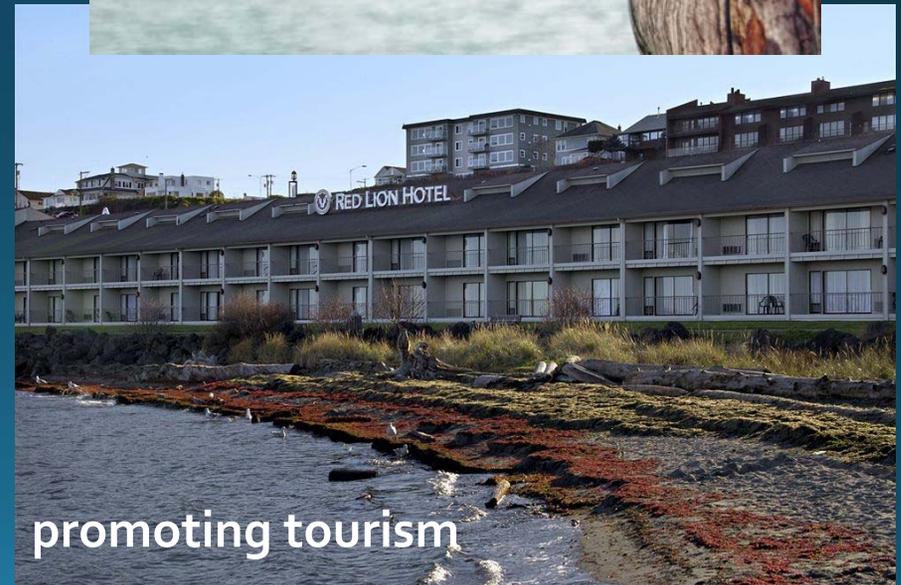
The City and Port view the harbor cleanup as a benefit to our community, our citizens, and our businesses.



# Guiding Principles



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The City and Port adopt a proactive approach to a clean harbor.



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Of utmost importance is a comprehensive approach to harbor cleanup.



# Guiding Principles

Neither the City nor the Port can afford to go through this process more than once.

We need commitment to one process that addresses all MTCA cleanup and NRD restoration issues in our harbor.



# Guiding Principles

All of those who contributed to the contamination should pay their proportionate share of the clean up costs.



# Guiding Principles

- The City and Port view the harbor cleanup as a benefit to our community, our citizens, and our businesses.
- The City and Port adopt a proactive approach to a clean harbor.
- Of utmost importance is a comprehensive approach to harbor cleanup.
- Neither the City nor the Port can afford to go through this process more than once.
- We need commitment to one process that addresses all MTCA cleanup and NRD restoration issues in our harbor.
- All of those who contributed to the contamination should pay their proportionate share of the clean up costs.

# GOALS

Specific

Measurable

Achievable

Realistic

Time Based

The harbor cleanup and the restoration should include well-defined steps that proceed efficiently on a reliable timeline with finality.

The cleanup and the restoration should comprehensively protect human and benthic health, enhance the quality of life in the community.

The cleanup and the restoration should at the same time support a working harbor with a variety of family-wage jobs.

The cleanup action should be based on sound science.

The cleanup action must acknowledge that funds are limited and must be spent wisely.

All stakeholders should work cooperatively to accomplish the cleanup and restoration; they should share technical data with others to reduce duplicative studies and overall costs.

All who contributed to  
contamination should  
contribute to the clean up.

The cleanup action should satisfy both MTCA and NRD simultaneously.

# Goals Summary

**The harbor cleanup and the restoration should include well-defined steps that proceed efficiently on a reliable timeline with finality.**

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# Goals Summary

**Stakeholders should work cooperatively to accomplish the cleanup and restoration; they should share technical data**

**All who contributed to contamination should contribute to the cleanup.**

**The cleanup action should satisfy both MTCA and NRD simultaneously.**

**To accomplish these goals, the City and Port ask the other PLPs, DOE, LEKT, and other interested tribes to work cooperatively with us in a directed and purposeful cleanup.**

# Challenges in Port Angeles Harbor

- Port Angeles is the first sediment site governed by Ecology's new Sediment Management Standards
- With these New rules, Ecology has not yet decided on consistent methods for implementation of them.
- Port Angeles is a very large harbor
- The result of all these factors is a lot of complexity
  
- And, the cumulative effect of all these factors is that our Western Harbor group is about 2 1/2 years behind a schedule that we had set for ourselves.
  
- However, that delay is now coming to an end and we expect that progress will resume at a steady pace in 2017.

