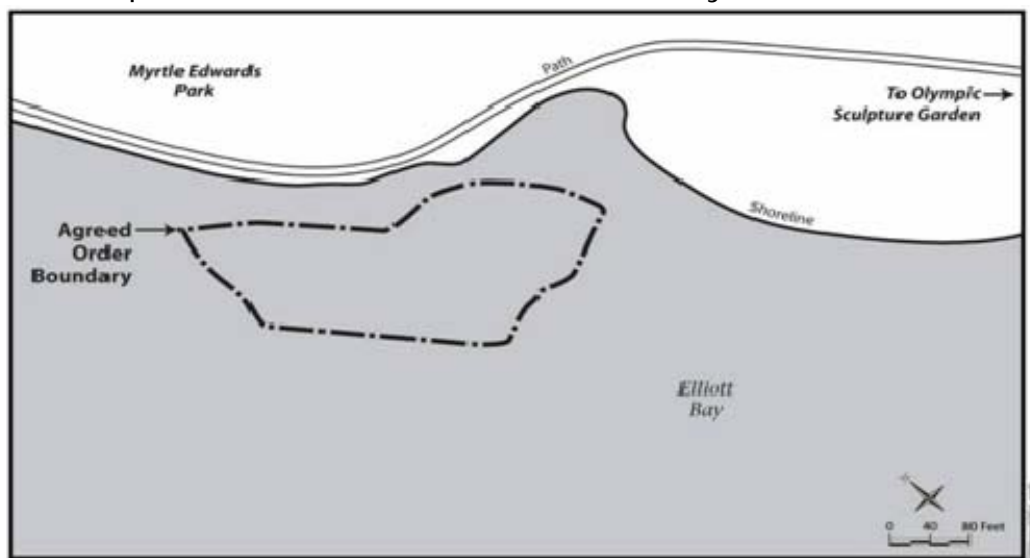




King County sediment cleanup project in Elliott Bay begins Nov. 29

To protect public health and the environment, King County contractors began dredging and replacing about an acre of contaminated sediment just offshore Myrtle Edwards Park on Thursday, November, 29. The cleanup is part of King County's ongoing efforts to remove contamination from combined sewer overflows (CSO) in local water bodies and restore habitat.

The sediment to be cleaned up was contaminated over decades by stormwater and sewage overflows discharging through an outfall pipe known as the Denny Way CSO. This outfall has since been removed, and a 2005 King County project now controls sewage and stormwater overflows near the shoreline.



About 20,000 cubic yards of material contaminated with PCBs and mercury must be removed. The county contractor will use a mechanical dredge on a barge to excavate the area and load contaminated sediment onto a second barge. This second barge will transfer the sediment to trucks for transport by rail to a landfill. The excavated area will be backfilled with clean sand and gravel to match the seabed's existing grade and improve the site as shallow-water nearshore habitat.

To limit sediment disturbances, King County project managers are ensuring dredging crews use careful dredging methods to meet environmental standards. Under Department of Ecology oversight, county inspectors will regularly monitor water quality around the work area to verify that the environment is properly protected.

This cleanup is part of a legal agreement with the Washington State Department of Ecology to remove sediments that do not meet state sediment quality limits. King County worked closely with the Department of Ecology, the Muckleshoot Tribe, NOAA Fisheries and other agencies in planning the project. Stakeholders weighed in on best management practices, cleanup methods and restoration.



King County

Department of Natural Resources and Parks
Wastewater Treatment Division

Denny Way CSO Sediment Cleanup
November 2007 - February 2008

WHAT TO EXPECT:

- Dredging equipment and barges offshore Myrtle Edwards Park.
- Staging equipment, vehicles and workers in and around the plaza near the King County facilities in Myrtle Edwards Park.
- The project will last about 10 weeks, until mid-February 2008.
- Work hours will generally be 6 a.m. - 6 p.m. on Monday-Saturday.
- King County urges park users to use caution near the work site.

For More Information:

Call the 24-hour construction hotline: 206-205-9305

Request e-mail updates by sending a message to: doug.marsano@kingcounty.gov

Visit project web sites:

http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/denny_way/dw_hp.htm

<http://dnr.metrokc.gov/wtd/sediment/denny/index.htm>

Alternate Formats and Disability Accommodations:
Call 206-684-1714 or TTY Relay 711

King County thanks you for your patience during construction!