



Public Notice

DEQ Requests Comments on the Recommended Remedial Action for Umpqua River Navigation Dry Dock Cleanup Site No. 5361

Date posted: 07/01/26

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality invites the public to submit written comments on the Staff Report Recommended Remedial Action for the Umpqua River Navigation Dry Dock Cleanup Site near Reedsport

How to provide public comment

Facility name: Umpqua River Navigation Dry Dock

Project location: Reedsport, Oregon

Comments due by: Friday, July 31 at 5 p.m.

Submit written comments:

By mail: Margaret Oscilia, Oregon DEQ, 165 E. Seventh Ave., Suite 100, Eugene, Oregon 97401

By email: margaret.oscilia@deq.oregon.gov

Proposal highlights

DEQ is recommending a remedial action for the Umpqua River Navigation Dry Dock site located in Douglas County immediately north of Reedsport. The site is also known locally as the Bolon Island Graving Dock. The recommended remedial action addresses the presence of benzo(a)pyrene in soil and potential migration of contaminants of concern. The action consists of consolidation and encapsulation of contaminated soil in the former graving dock area and implementation of institutional controls.

Background

The site is located on the west side of Bolon Island between Highway 101 and the railroad. Bolon Island is north of Reedsport. The site covers approximately 15 acres. The site is zoned heavy industrial and is bounded by the Umpqua River to the south and southwest, a railroad to the east and southeast, the Umpqua River to the northeast, and undeveloped property to the north and west.

Most of the site is currently undeveloped and heavily vegetated. Approximately 2.2 acres of the site were developed as a graving dock with associated support structures sometime between 1945 and 1954 by Umpqua River Navigation. Changes to the site since initial development have been minimal. The graving dock was acquired by LTM Incorporated, dba Knife River Materials, in May 2000. Since the purchase of Umpqua River Navigation by Knife River Materials in May 2000 the site was used exclusively by Umpqua River Navigation for the maintenance of its river mining equipment, such as dredge and barges, until 2011.

The graving dock was used to maintain dredges and barges, including sand blasting of hulls painted with anti-fouling paint containing various metals including tributyltin. An oil stove was used in the lunchroom. As the result of these activities multiple contaminants are present in soil and sediment at the site. Tributyltin was detected in the estuary sediment at concentrations that exceeded protective ecological and human health concentrations. However, Based on human health and ecological risk assessments reviewed and approved by DEQ, it was determined that tributyltin exposure pathways are incomplete, and it does not pose unacceptable risk to human health and the environment under current and likely future site use scenarios.

Diesel-range hydrocarbons, oil-range hydrocarbons, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, polychlorinated biphenyls, lead, naphthalene and tributyltin were detected in upland soil. Concentrations of benzo(a)pyrene in upland soil are not protective of direct contact to occupational workers in the likely future site use scenario and require remediation.

The recommended remedial action consists of engineering and institutional controls. The existing graving dock will be sealed, backfilled with clean soil or gravel to above the mean high-water elevation. Then contaminated soil will be placed in the graving dock, including soil stockpiles contaminated with tributyltin and benzo(a)pyrene and in-place soil that exceeds the numerical remedial objective. Then a permeable geotextile fabric will be placed over exposed soil and covered with at least six inches of clean gravel.

Institutional controls would include a site management plan and deed restriction. The deed restriction will be in the form of an easement and equitable Servitudes and include requirements to leave the concrete floor within the graving dock in place and prohibit the installation of a water supply well at the Site. The site management plan will include provisions for long-term maintenance of the gravel cap and periodic monitoring and review that will evaluate the performance of the remedy and any changes that may affect the ability of the remedy to meet the remedial action objectives.

For more information

Visit DEQ's Your DEQ Online for more information and to view documents [about the Umpqua River Navigation Dry Dock](#).

If you do not have web access and want to review the project file, contact Margaret Oscilia at 503-726-6522 or margaret.oscilia@deq.oregon.gov to view the documents in person at a DEQ office.

Environmental Cleanup Site Information ID: 5361

The next step

After the formal comment period closes, DEQ will review, respond to, and consider any received comments before finalizing the recommended remedial action. The remedial action will then be required and finalized in a published document titled Record of Decision.

Non-discrimination statement

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