

Department of the Interior  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
Western Washington FWO  
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# News Release



For Release on May 27, 2009

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## **Point Wells Oil Spill Draft -Restoration Plan Available for Public Comment**

Federal, State and Tribal officials responsible for restoring damages from a 2003 oil spill in Puget Sound have announced the release for public comment of a Draft Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment for the Foss 248-P2 Oil Spill (Plan). The Plan was prepared by a committee of State, Federal and Tribal Trustees including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Suquamish Indian Tribe and the Washington Departments of Ecology, Fish and Wildlife, and Natural Resources. The public is invited to review and comment on the proposed restoration plan for 30 days. Comments will be accepted until midnight, June 26, 2009.

On December 30, 2003, an accident at a Foss Maritime Company tank barge docked at the Point Wells Asphalt facility near Seattle, released approximately 4,637 gallons of bunker fuel #6 into the marine waters of Puget Sound. Injuries to birds, mammals, fish, shellfish and their habitats, as well as to recreational activities, were documented in the aftermath of the spill. In a settlement under the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 Foss agreed to pay \$338,281.00 to restore, rehabilitate, replace or acquire equivalent natural resources to those damaged by the oil. The Plan released today provides a suggested roadmap for restoring to natural resources damaged by the spill.

In the draft Plan, the Trustees have selected a preferred alternative which includes five restoration projects to address resources damages from the spill. These include: log and debris removal and invasive species management in the Doe-Kag-Wats Marsh, which was heavily damaged during the spill; restoration of a marsh in the Indianola Waterfront Preserve; shellfish enhancement in areas effected by the event; acquisition of tidelands to protect shellfish habitat and provide enhanced public recreational access and shellfish harvest opportunity; and enhancement of the Doe-Kag-Wats Beach Berm to protect, restore and enhance the ecological function of upland habitats damaged by spill-related clean-up activities.

The document is available on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Washington Fish and Wildlife Office website at:

[http://www.fws.gov/westwafwo/newsroom/Draft\\_PWOS\\_Environmental\\_Assessment.pdf](http://www.fws.gov/westwafwo/newsroom/Draft_PWOS_Environmental_Assessment.pdf) .

Written comments concerning this notice should be addressed to:

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You may also submit written comments electronically to: [FW1FWFO-oilspill@fws.gov](mailto:FW1FWFO-oilspill@fws.gov)

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