



Piling Removal Planned on Kitsap Beaches



State to Begin Removing Creosote-treated Materials

During the month of October, the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will remove creosote-treated pilings and debris from several Kitsap County locations including:

- **Norwegian Point Park**
- **Point No Point County Park**
- **Liberty Bay**
- **Sandy Hook**
- **Old Mill Park**
- **Port of Silverdale**
- **Port of Tracyton**
- **Bolin Point**

Creosote has been used as a wood preservative for more than a century to treat telephone poles, railroad ties, piers, docks, floats and more. Thousands of derelict creosote pilings remain in Puget Sound. Many eventually break up and distribute tons of toxic debris onto beaches throughout the Sound. Chemicals in old creosote dock pilings can be harmful to marine species.

The Washington State Department of Natural Resources works with partners in local groups, governments, and private property owners to remove treated wood located on public and private property throughout Puget Sound. DNR and partner agencies—including the state departments of Fish and Wildlife and Ecology— developed best management practices that minimize disturbances to the environment when removing the creosote saturated materials. The goal is to provide healthy, rather than contaminated, habitat. The removal of creosote from the environment is essential to preventing long-term negative effects from these materials persisting in the food web.

Since 2004, 16,000 tons of pilings and derelict beach debris, and more than 250,000 square feet of overwater structures have been removed from Puget Sound shorelines. The Puget Sound Initiative, Washington Department of Ecology, National Oceanographic & Atmospheric Administration and others have provided project funding. The new goal: remove 1,000 more treated piles by 2017.

For more information on DNR's Creosote Removal Program, visit: <http://tinyurl.com/dnr-creosote>

Washington State Department of Natural Resources Contact

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