



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Seattle District



# Joint Public Notice

## Application for a Department of the Army Permit and a Washington Department of Ecology Water Quality Certification and/or Coastal Zone Management Consistency Concurrence

US Army Corps of Engineers  
Regulatory Branch  
Post Office Box 3755  
Seattle, WA 98124-3755  
Telephone (206) 764-6960  
Attn: Olivia H. Romano, Project  
Manager

WA Department of Ecology  
SEA Program  
Post Office Box 47600  
Olympia, WA 98504-7600  
Telephone (360) 407-6068  
Attn: SEA Program, Federal Permit  
Coordinator

Public Notice Date: October 17, 2008  
Expiration Date: November 16, 2008

Reference No.: NWS-2008-01128-WRD  
Name: Port of Tacoma

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Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and the Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) have received an application to perform work in waters of the United States as described below and shown on the enclosed drawings.

The Corps will review the work in accordance with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act. Ecology will review the work pursuant to Section 401 of the CWA, with applicable provisions of State water pollution control laws and the Coastal Zone Management Act.

APPLICANT: Port of Tacoma  
Post Office Box 1837  
Tacoma, Washington 98401  
ATTN: Robert Brenner  
Telephone: (253) 592-6704

LOCATION: In Blair Waterway, Commencement Bay, at Tacoma, Pierce County, Washington

WORK: Maintenance dredging to remove of up to 5,600 cubic yards of sediments from an area 40 feet wide and 270 feet long in front of the Washington Untied Terminal Pier. All dredging will occur between -40 and -51 feet Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW) line. The sediments will be removed via clamshell dredging. The area will be dredged to about -51 feet MLLW, the depth of prior dredge authorization in Blair Waterway, with a 2 foot allowable over dredge. Dredging will be done using a barge-mounted dredge with a clamshell bucket.

PURPOSE: To provide adequate berthing depths in front of the Washington Untied Terminal pier so that vessels do not continue to ground during low tides.

PUGET SOUND DREDGED DISPOSAL ANALYSIS (PSDDA):

Dredged Material Testing: The proposed dredged material has been tested according to the procedures specified in PSDDA, a multi-agency program for the evaluation of dredged material proposed for disposal at open-water sites in Puget Sound. The PSDDA evaluations may include both chemical and biological testing of sediments. For this project, the PSDDA agencies determined that all 5,600 cubic yards were suitable for unconfined disposal at the

PSDDA nondispersive (or dispersive) open-water disposal site in Commencement Bay. The sediment testing data are available at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Seattle District, Dredged Material Management Office.

Disposal Site Use Conditions: The following standard site use conditions will be specified by the Corps and the Washington Department of Natural Resources as part of the Federal/State permitting processes: (1) during the periods of tribal fishing in the disposal site area, disposal will only occur during daylight hours; and (2) during the daylight hours, "navigation rules of the road" will apply to the dredger in the event Tribal fishing is occurring at the disposal site. The dredger's permit will state that disposal is to occur when there is no Tribal fishing occurring at the disposal site. Other appropriate special conditions may be added as a result of comments received during the public review period for this public notice.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: The Endangered Species Act (ESA) requires federal agencies to consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and/or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) pursuant to Section 7 of ESA on all actions that may affect a species listed (or proposed for listing) under the ESA as threatened or endangered or any designated critical habitat. Consultation under Section 7 of the ESA has been initiated with NMFS and USFWS.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996, requires all Federal agencies to consult with the NMFS on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency, that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has determined that the proposed action will not adversely affect designated EFH for federally managed fisheries in Washington waters. No further EFH consultation is necessary.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The District Engineer has reviewed the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places, lists of properties determined eligible and other sources of information. There are no recorded historic properties within the permit area. The permit area has been so extensively modified by modern development that little likelihood exists for the proposed project to impinge upon an undisturbed historic property. The District Engineer invites responses to this public notice from Native American Nations or tribal governments; Federal, State, and local agencies; historical and archeological societies; and other parties likely to have knowledge of or concerns with historic properties in the area. This public notice initiates consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act with any Tribe that has information or concerns with historic properties in the proposed permit area.

PUBLIC HEARING: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

EVALUATION – CORPS - The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts, of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps is soliciting comments from the public; Native American Nations or tribal governments; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition

or deny a permit for the work. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the activity.

The described discharge will be evaluated for compliance with guidelines promulgated by the Environmental Protection Agency under authority of Section 404(b)(1) of the CWA. These guidelines require alternatives analysis for any proposed discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States.

EVALUATION—ECOLOGY: Ecology is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, Native American Nations or tribal governments, State, and local agencies and officials; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this activity. Ecology will be considering all comments to determine whether to certify or deny certification for the proposed project.

ADDITIONAL EVALUATION:

This proposal is the subject of Shorelines Substantial Development Permit is being processed by City of Tacoma.

COMMENT AND REVIEW PERIOD: Conventional mail or e-mail comments on this public notice will be accepted and made part of the record and will be considered in determining whether it would be in the public interest to authorize this proposal. In order to be accepted, e-mail comments must originate from the author's e-mail account and must include on the subject line of the e-mail message the permit applicant's name and reference number as shown below. Either conventional mail or e-mail comments must include the permit applicant's name and reference number, as shown below, and the commentor's name, address, and phone number. All comments whether conventional mail or e-mail must reach this office, no later than the expiration date of this public notice to ensure consideration.

Corps comments: All e-mail comments should be sent to [Olivia.h.romano@usace.army.mil](mailto:Olivia.h.romano@usace.army.mil). Conventional mail comments should be sent to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Branch, Attn: Olivia H. Romano, Post Office Box 3755, Seattle, Washington, 98124-3755.

Ecology Comments: Any person desiring to present views on the project pertaining to a request for water quality certification under Section 401 of the CWA and/or Coastal Zone Management consistency concurrence, may do so by submitting written comments to the following address: Department of Ecology, Attn: SEA program – Federal Permit Coordinator, P.O. Box 47600, Olympia, Washington, 98504-7600, or e-mail to [ecyrefedpermits@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:ecyrefedpermits@ecy.wa.gov)

To ensure proper consideration of all comments, responders must include the following name and reference number in the text of their comments: Port of Tacoma, NWS-2008-01128

Encl: Figures 4

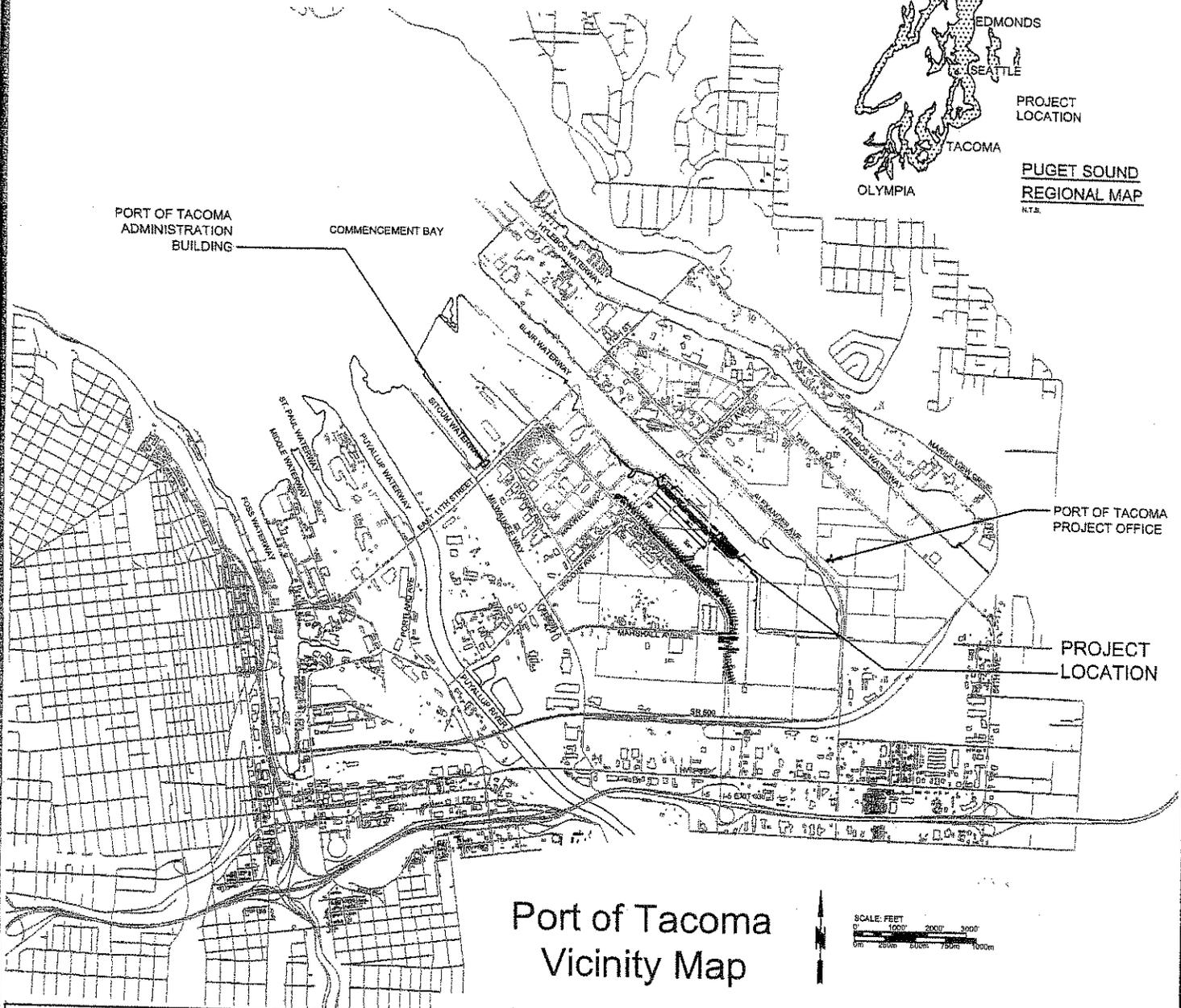
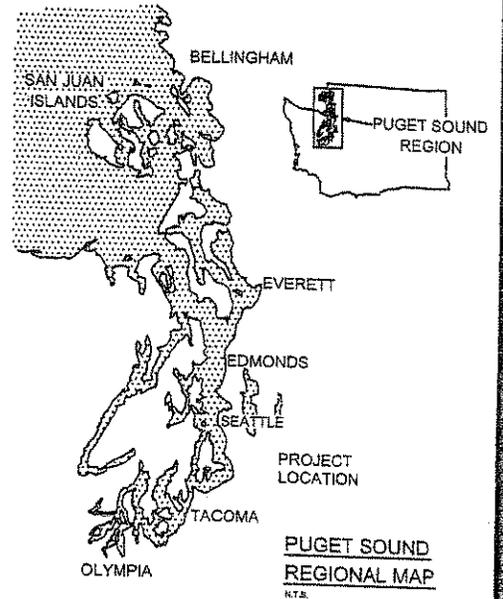
# E8023 WUT BERTH DREDGING

## DIRECTIONS TO THE PORT OF TACOMA ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

NORTHBOUND: EXIT 136B LOOPS UP & OVER FREEWAY ONTO PORT OF TACOMA ROAD  
 SOUTHBOUND: EXIT 136 AND TURN RIGHT AT END OF EXIT ONTO PORT OF TACOMA ROAD  
 FOLLOW PORT OF TACOMA ROAD FOR APPROX. 3 MILES. AT EAST 11TH STREET TURN LEFT  
 AND CONTINUE APPROX. 1/2 MILE. EXIT EAST 11TH STREET TO THE RIGHT JUST BEFORE  
 THE BRIDGE. AT THE STOP SIGN MAKE A HAIR PIN TURN TO THE RIGHT.  
 THE ADMINISTRATION OFFICE BUILDING IS LOCATED TO THE LEFT AT THE HEAD OF SITCUM WATERWAY.

**SECTION, TOWNSHIP, AND RANGE**  
 SECTION: 35  
 TOWNSHIP: 21N  
 RANGE: 3E

**PORT PARCEL**  
 25 = DESCRIPTION



Port of Tacoma  
Vicinity Map

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NWS-2008-01128-WRD



**PORT OF TACOMA**  
 P.O. BOX 1837 TACOMA, WA 98401  
 (253)383-5841

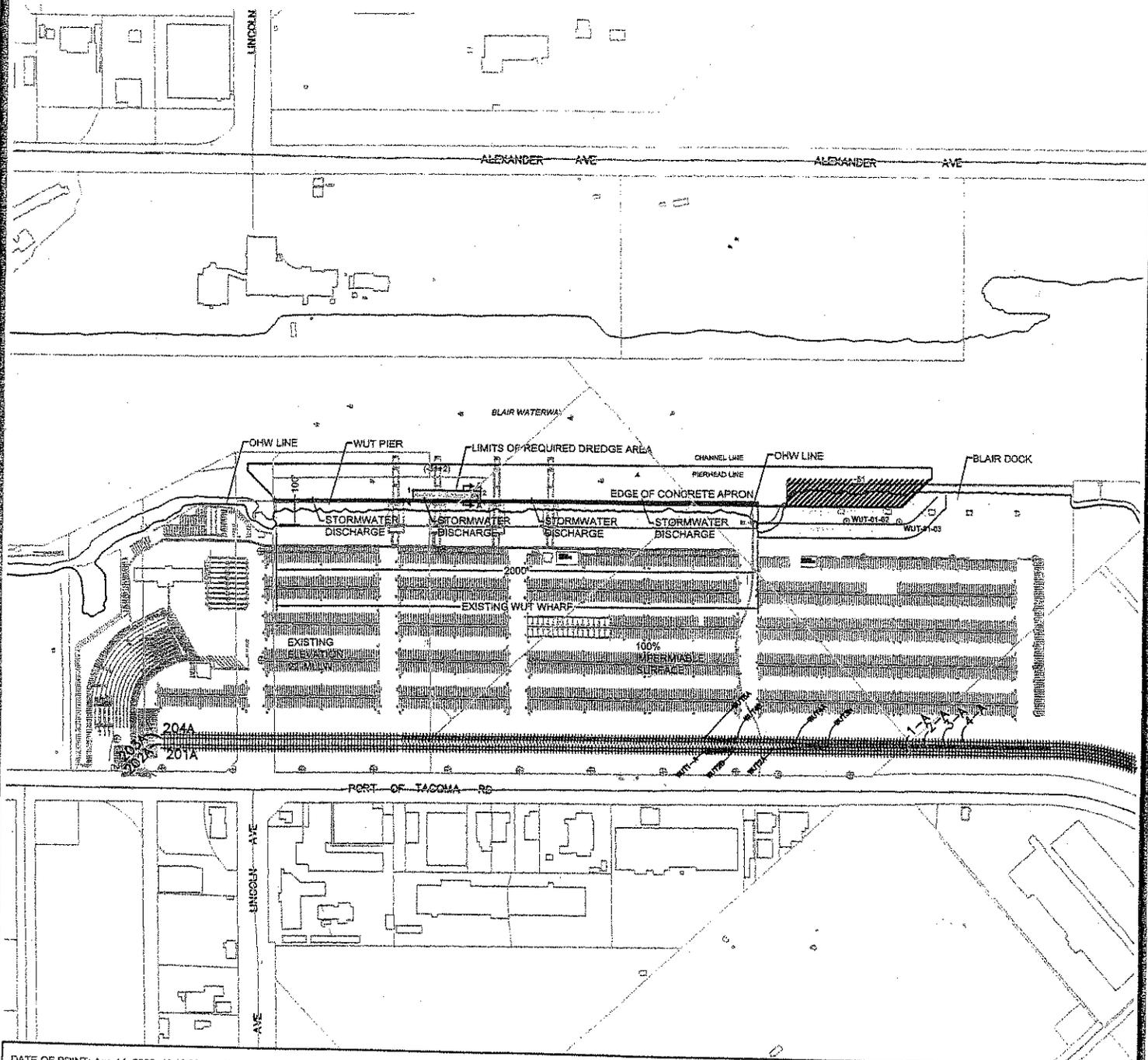
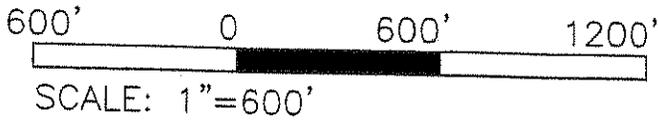
## FIGURE

01

STATE: WA  
 COUNTY: PIERCE  
 CITY/PORT: PORT OF TACOMA  
 LOCATION: BLAIR WATERWAY  
 PURPOSE: IMPROVEMENTS

PROJECT NO: E8023  
 SHEET: 1 OF 24

Revised 9/3/08  
 DATE: 07/17/2008



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NWS-2008-01128-WRD



**PORT OF TACOMA**  
 P.O. BOX 1837 TACOMA, WA 98401  
 (253)383-5841

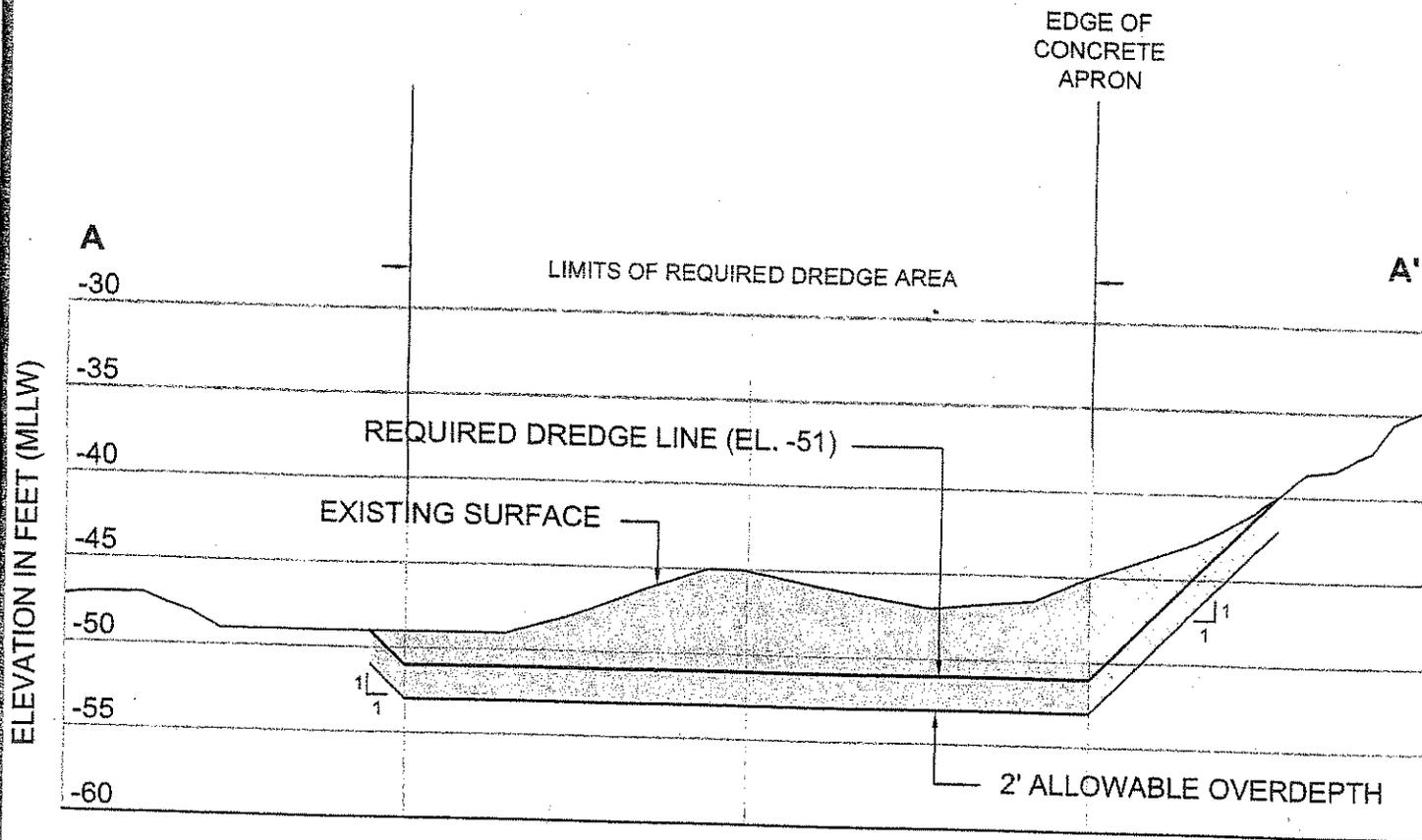
**FIGURE 02**

STATE: WA  
 COUNTY: PIERCE  
 CITY/PORT: PORT OF TACOMA  
 LOCATION: BLAIR WATERWAY  
 PURPOSE: SEPA

PROJECT NO: E8023  
 SHEET: 2 OF 24

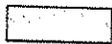
Revised 9/3/08  
 DATE: 07/17/2008

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CROSS SECTION A-A'



-  BERTH DREDGE PRISM
-  UNDERPIER DREDGING

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NWS-2008-01138-WRD



PORT OF TACOMA  
P.O. BOX 1837 TACOMA, WA 98401  
(253)363-5841

FIGURE

03

STATE: WA  
COUNTY: PIERCE  
CITY/PORT: PORT OF TACOMA  
LOCATION: BLAIR WATERWAY  
PURPOSE: SEPA

PROJECT NO: EB023  
SHEET: 3 OF 4

Revised 9/3/08  
DATE: 07/17/2008

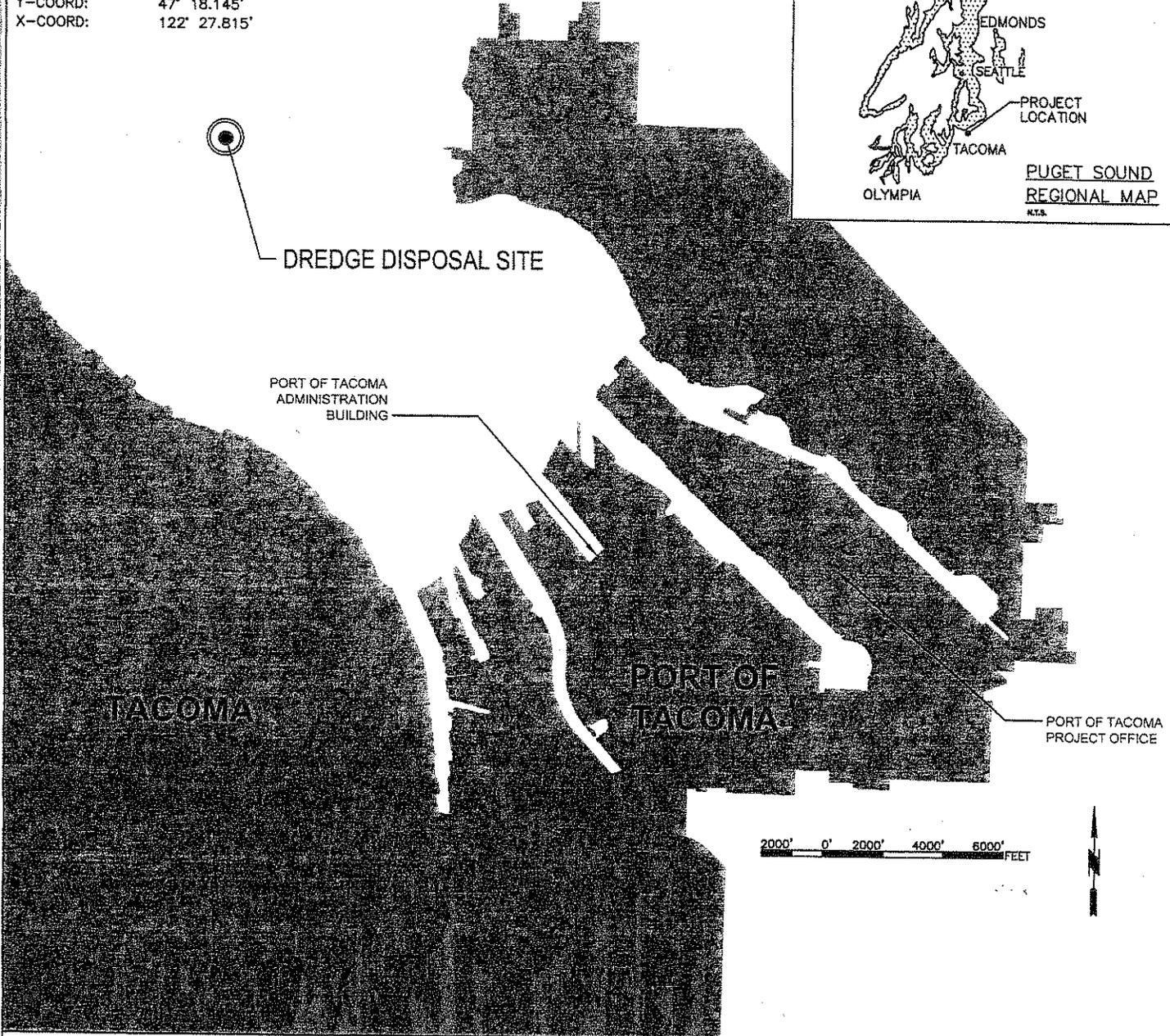
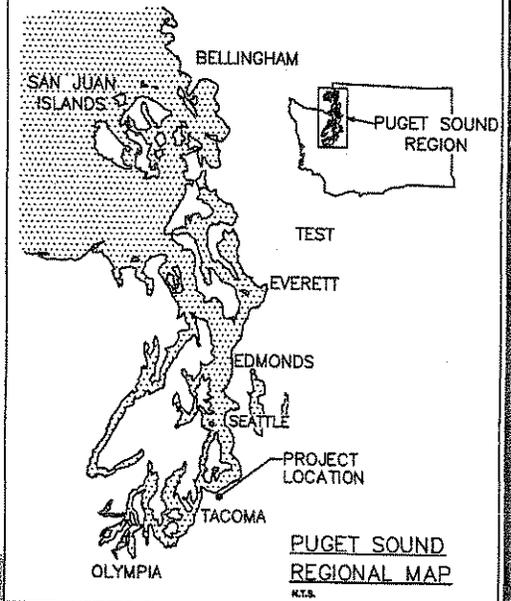
# E8023 - 2008 DREDGE REPORT VICINITY MAP

STATE PLANE - WA83-SF

NORTHING: 724148.978  
EASTING: -1153274.677

LATITUDE & LONGITUDE

Y-COORD: 47° 18.145'  
X-COORD: 122° 27.815'



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FIGURE 01

E8023 - 2008 DREDGE REPORT  
VICINITY MAP

NWS-2008-01128-WAD



PORT OF TACOMA  
P.O. BOX 1837 TACOMA, WA 98401  
(253)383-5841

COUNTY: PIERCE  
STATE: WA  
PURPOSE: DREDGING DISPOSAL SITE  
DATUM: MLLW = 0.00 FEET (NOS)  
LOCATION: COMMENCEMENT BAY  
AT: PORT OF TACOMA  
APPLICATION BY: PORT OF TACOMA  
PROJECT NUMBER: E8023  
SHEET: 4 OF 4  
DATE: 09-03-08