



Beckholmen

A Highly Contaminated Active Shipyard in the Urban National Park in Central Stockholm

Beckholmen, a small island in Stockholm harbor, is a hub of activity for ship repair and renovation. The island seems idyllic, adjacent to Djurgården in the Urban National Park. But on and beneath the ground surface can be found hundreds of tons of wastes - mainly rock, soil and building materials - derived from almost 400 years of industrial operations. The wastes are highly contaminated with tar, oil, solvents and heavy metals. Some of this is leaking out into Saltsjön, the innermost arm of the Baltic Sea.

An investigation carried out in 2004-2005 determined that the contamination posed significant risks to human health and the environment. A number of remedial actions were proposed.

The first of these, carried out in 2005, entailed removal of the most highly contaminated soil from two small areas and replacement with clean soil. Later on, there are plans to excavate and replace additional large volumes of polluted soil, and encapsulate the remainder to stop most of the ongoing discharge to Saltsjön.

A grant application for financing the remedial works has been submitted to the County Administrative Board. At present, it is hoped that the remedial works can be carried out starting in 2009.

WSP has carried out some of the investigations on the site and is managing the remedial project on behalf of the Royal Djurgården Administration.

Project Name: Beckholmen
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