

Malcolm Cumming

The Edmonds Marsh is a significant environmental asset to the waters of Puget Sound. The best solution for its long term contribution to the ecosystem health of both the marsh itself and to Puget Sound is to remove the contaminated soils. Simply burying them will only temporarily prolong the time it takes for them to reach the surface and continue their damaging effects. Rising sea levels will certainly hasten the day that buried contaminants are released again. The contamination costs should be borne by the existing wealthy corporation (Chevron) that knowingly created and dumped them in the first place.

I live on Whidbey Island where much marshland has also been isolated from Puget Sound waters (e.g., the Maxwellton Watershed and Marsh). Whether or not the Maxwellton drainage system is repaired, it is critical that other watersheds around Puget Sound are restored - particularly the Edmonds Marsh.