

ENVIRONMENTAL Fact Sheet



Bellingham Mines, Bellingham, Washington

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

November 2004

Investigation Completed at Bellingham Area Mines

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has completed an investigation of seven mines in and around Bellingham, Washington. The investigation revealed that the properties do not pose a threat to public health or the environment. EPA plans no further study or cleanup at these mines.

The mines EPA investigated were:

- Sehome Mine
- Bellingham Coal Mine Company, Mine No. 1
- Whatcom Creek Mine
- Geneva Mine
- Glen Echo Mine
- Manley's Camp Mine
- Blue Canyon Mine

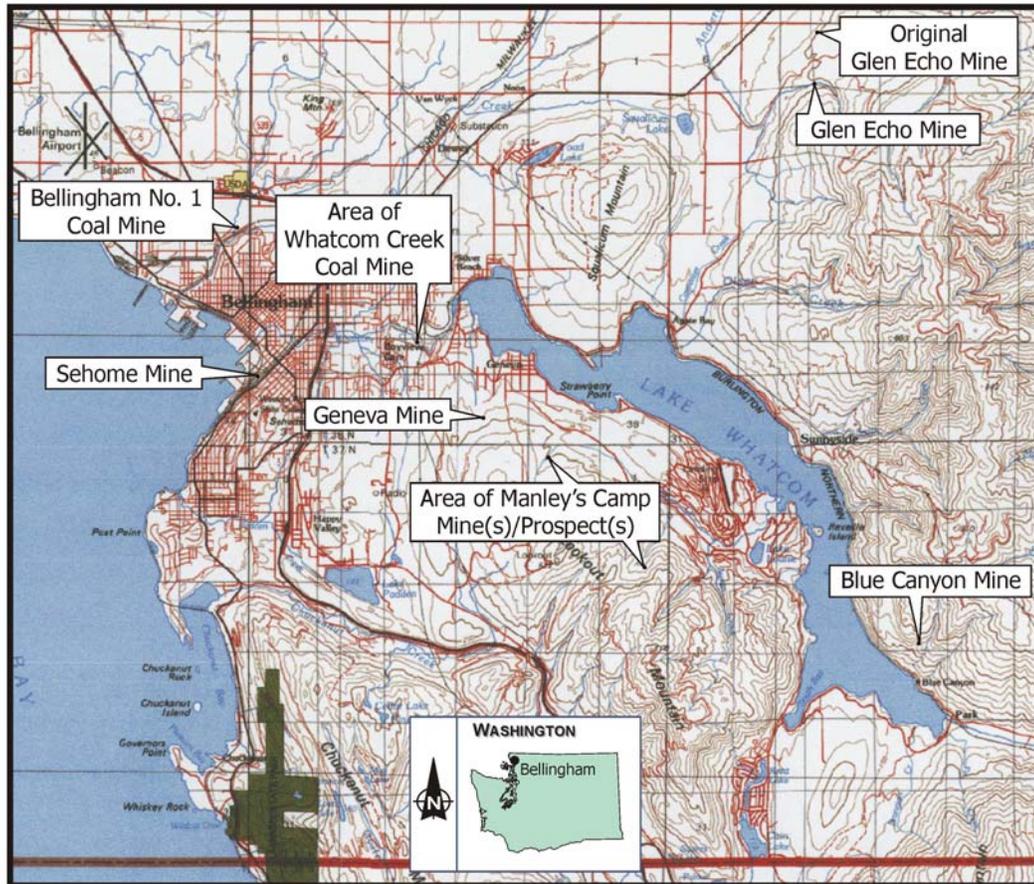
EPA Findings

For each of the mines, EPA reviewed existing files and information about past use, conducted a site visit, and interviewed local government agencies and other parties. At three of the mines—Geneva, Glen Echo, and Blue Canyon—EPA collected and tested soil and sediment samples for heavy metals.

The samples collected from the Geneva and Glen Echo Mines did contain some heavy metals, however, the concentrations were well below state action levels. No contaminants were detected in samples from the Blue Canyon Mine. EPA does not consider the mines to be of concern to human health or the environment.

Four additional mines that EPA originally planned to investigate were not included in this study. While these mines—Prospect, Dellestra, John Manning, and Rocky Ridge—appeared on some maps, historic documentation was limited. More important, field visits did not reveal any evidence of mining activities at the properties.

(See map on page 2)



Bellingham mine locations

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For More Information

To view or download EPA reports for this project, visit:

www.epa.gov/r10earth/, click on *index*, click on *B* for *Bellingham Mines*.

If you would like to discuss the project, contact:

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To request reasonable accommodation for special needs, call Deborah Neal.
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