

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Heard County Abandoned Containers - Removal Polrep
Initial and Final Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region IV

Subject: **POLREP #1**
Initial and final
Heard County Abandoned Containers
B435
Franklin, GA
Latitude: 32.0371137 Longitude: -81.1747498

To:
From: Leslie Sims, FOSC
Date: 9/23/2009
Reporting Period: 9/21/2009-9/23/2009

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	B435	Contract Number:	
D.O. Number:		Action Memo Date:	
Response Authority:	CERCLA	Response Type:	Emergency
Response Lead:	EPA	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	9/21/2009	Start Date:	9/21/2009
Demob Date:	9/23/2009	Completion Date:	9/23/2009
CERCLIS ID:	GAN000410472	RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	
FPN#:		Reimbursable Account #:	

1.1.1 Incident Category
Emergency response

1.1.2 Site Description

In response to NRC Report #918373, and at the request of Heard County Fire Department and EMA, EPA OSC Sims, accompanied by ERRS and START contractors, deployed to Franklin, Heard County, Georgia to assist in the recovery of orphan drums washed into the Chattahoochee River due to heavy rains and flooding.

1.1.2.1 Location

Hwy 1 and SR 27 Bridge, Franklin, Heard County, GA

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

Orphan containers (unknown wastestreams) in river due to heavy rains and flooding

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

Two containers, exceeding 250 gallon capacity, were identified in debris piles near the SR 17 and SR 27 overpass. The containers appeared to be in good condition and there was no evidence of leaking or sheen observed in the immediate area of the containers. No labeling was observed on either container but both appeared to be containers typically used to store petroleum products. Heavy rains, debris and extreme river flows prevented immediate and safe access to the containers.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

9/21/2003

OSC Sims, accompanied by ERRS and START, arrived on scene and integrated into incident command (consisting of responders from Heard County Fire Department, EMA and GaDOT). The incident commander requested EPA assistance in retrieving various containers washed into the Chattahoochee River due to heavy raining. Two containers, 250 and 500 gallon capacity, were identified by Heard County responders in debris piles beneath the SR 17 and SR 27 bridges. The containers appeared to be in good condition and there was no evidence observed of leaking or sheen in the immediate vicinity of the containers. Due to

heavy rains, debris and extreme river flows, safe access to the containers was not possible during this reporting period. A command decision was made to stand-down recovery operations until the containers could be safely accessed and retrieved. The IC informed the FOSC that EPA assistance would probably not be needed until waters start to recede. Following debriefing, the OSC demobilized all EPA-contracted resources from the scene. EPA will continue to monitor the situation and remobilize resources to support Heard County cleanup efforts, if needed.

9/23/2009

OSC Sims returned to the site and met with the Heard County Fire Chief. The Chief reported that the containers were observed floating down the river on 9/21/2009 and appeared to be empty. Debris piles were substantial at the SR 27 bridge but no hazmat was observed at this or any of the other locations inspected. Following debriefing with the Fire Chief and determining no EPA assist was required, the OSC demobilized from the site. No further action anticipated. Case closed.

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

Mobilization of resources and site reconnaissance

2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)

n/a

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

n/a

<i>Waste Stream</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Manifest #</i>	<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Disposal</i>

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

Due to heavy rains and flooding, orphan containers observed in the Chattahoochee River could not be safely recovered. Recovery efforts may resume once conditions are safe enough to proceed.

9/23/2009

OSC Sims returned to the site and met with the Heard County Fire Chief. The Chief reported that the containers were observed floating down the river on 9/21/2009 and appeared to be empty. Debris piles were substantial at the SR 27 bridge but no hazmat was observed at this or any of the other locations inspected. Following debriefing with the Fire Chief and determining no EPA assist was required, the OSC demobilized from the site. No further action anticipated. Case closed.

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

None at this time

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

n/a

2.2.2 Issues

Due to heavy rains and flooding, orphan containers observed in the Chattahoochee River could not be safely recovered. Recovery efforts may resume once conditions are safe enough to proceed.

2.3 Logistics Section

n/a

2.4 Finance Section

No information available at this time.

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

According to GaDOT, due to potential safety risks associated with debris accumulation at the base of the SR 17 and 27 bridges, public access to these locations will remain restricted until deemed safe to proceed.

2.6 Liaison Officer

n/a

2.7 Information Officer

2.7.1 Public Information Officer

n/a

2.7.2 Community Involvement Coordinator

n/a

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

Heard County Fire Department, EMA and EPA

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

Heard County Fire and Rescue (2)

Heard County EMA (1)

Law Enforcement (2)

GaDOT (1)

4. Personnel On Site

EPA:

EPA OSC (1)

ERRS (4)

START (1)

5. Definition of Terms

EMA - Emergency Management Agency

EPA - United States Environmental Protection Agency

ERRS - Emergency Response and Removal Services

FOSC - Federal On Scene Coordinator

GaDOT - Georgia Department of Transportation

Hazmat - Hazardous Materials

IC - Incident Commander

START - Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

n/a

6.2 Reporting Schedule

n/a

7. Situational Reference Materials

n/a