

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Portage Creek Area - Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region V

Subject: POLREP #10
Progress
Portage Creek Area
059B05
Kalamazoo, MI
Latitude: 42.2839750 Longitude: -85.5791570

To: Mark Mills, Michigan DNR
Daria Devantier, MDEQ
Debbie Jung, City of Kalamazoo
Lisa Williams, U.S. FWS
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Valincia Darby, Department of Interior

From: Craig Thomas, On-Scene Coordinator

Date: 5/26/2012

Reporting Period: 5/13/2012 - 5/26/2012

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	059B05	Contract Number:	EP-S5-08-02
D.O. Number:	0087	Action Memo Date:	7/5/2011
Response Authority:	CERCLA	Response Type:	Time-Critical
Response Lead:	EPA	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	NPL	Operable Unit:	05
Mobilization Date:	9/26/2011	Start Date:	8/30/2011
Demob Date:		Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:	MID006007306	RCRIS ID:	NA
ERNS No.:	NA	State Notification:	Yes
FPN#:	NA	Reimbursable Account #:	NA

1.1.1 Incident Category

Fund-lead removal action

1.1.2 Site Description

See POLREP #1

1.1.2.1 Location

See POLREP #1

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

See POLREP #1

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

See POLREP #1

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

Crews completed installation of sheet pile coffer dams to isolate 3 separate dredging areas between Stockbridge Avenue and Lake Street in SA6. A large bypass pumping system is now in operation 24 hours/day to divert creekwater around the entire SA6 dredging area. A sand bag dam was installed at the Lake Street bridge, where the bypass pumping system discharges. Dredging operations commenced on May 21, with contaminated sediment removal and backfill completed in grids SA6-2 through SA6-6 by May 26. Dredging operations are expected to be completed in SA6 by the end of June.

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

From May 13 to May 26, EPA, START and ERRS contractors/sub-contractors conducted the following activities:

Site Activities - SA6

- Completed installation of remaining sheet piling to isolate 3 dredging areas;
- Completed testing and started creek bypass pumping system to divert creekwater around dredging area, which is now running 24 hours/day;
- Excavated and stabilized contaminated sediments from SA6-2, SA6-3, SA6-4, SA6-5 and SA6-6;
- Initiated truck and equipment decontamination procedures utilizing power sprayers and a wheel wash;
- Completed confirmatory sampling in the first isolation area to confirm cleanup goals were met. Results from 6 composite samples ranged from non-detect to 0.875 mg/kg, well below the cleanup performance standard goal of 1 mg/kg;
- Upon confirmation of cleanup objectives, the creek channel in grids SA6-2 through SA6-6 was backfilled to pre-excavation grade with a combination of 'backrun' sand/gravel mix, 'river rock' stone, and 'rip rap,' underlaid by a geotextile fabric;
- Eradicated Japanese Knotweed from the banks of SA6 in accordance with recommended procedures;
- Installed 3 turbidity meters in the creek (1 upstream and 2 downstream of dredging area) to monitor for the release of sediments during dredging operations;
- Conducted turbidity monitoring in the creek upstream and downstream of the excavation area, with results in downstream monitors staying below the action level of 2 times the upstream turbidity;
- Conducted personnel air monitoring on crews working near excavation, mixing, and loading activities;
- Established a sampling circuit in the neighborhood around Stockbridge Avenue to measure noise levels; and
- Conducted work area perimeter air monitoring. Results continue to be below the action level of an average of 2.5 mg/m3 sustained for 1 minute.

Site Activities - Staging Pad

- Received and further solidified contaminated sediments excavated from SA6;
- Loaded out trucks of solidified sediments for disposal at the C&C Landfill in Marshall, MI; and
- A frac tank was taged frac tank along the staging pad sump area to support operation of EPA's mobile wastewater treatment plant.

Project Management Activities

- Conducted weekly update meetings with Kalamazoo City on site progress;
- Provided input on a community fact sheet for a public meeting scheduled for May 31;
- Provided night security for bypass pump system and dredging equipment in SA6;
- Conducted door to door outreach to residents near the Stockbridge Avenue bridge regarding noise generation from creek bypass pumps, which are diesel powered;
- Pre-sampled borrow sources for backfill aggregates used to restore the creek channel;
- Finalized plans for installation of creek de-watering system in the second and third dredging isolation areas;
- Conduct data validation for post removal construction sediment samples collected from SA6; and
- Submitted Substantive Requirements Document (SRD) to MDEQ to ensure compliance during operation of EPA's mobile wastewater treatment plant.

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

The major PRP for this portion of the Allied Paper Inc./Portage Creek/Kalamazoo River Superfund site was dissolved through bankruptcy proceedings in April 2010. Other PRPs are being evaluated.

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

Waste Stream	Medium	Quantity	Manifest #	Treatment	Disposal
Non-TSCA contaminated sediments	solidified sediment	1073.18 tons	NTSCA-012 to NTSCA-032	disposal	C&C Landfill, Marshall, MI

2.2 Planning Section

A summary of removal activities that will take place in the upcoming week(s) include:

Site Activities - Staging Pad

- Receive, dewater and load out contaminated sediments excavated from SA6 for disposal;
- Stage and support heavy equipment, materials and supplies for dredging and restoration operations; and
- Set up, test and begin operation of EPA's mobile water treatment system for treatment of drainage water.

Site Activities - SA6

- Construct working surface along creek banks to support dredging equipment;
- Install creek de-watering system for second and third dredging areas;
- Complete excavation, solidification and transport of contaminated sediments;
- Complete stream channel and streambank restoration activities (backfilling, streambank stabilization);
- Continue turbidity monitoring upstream and downstream in the creek channel; and
- Conduct noise, perimeter and personnel air monitoring near site activities.

Project Management Activities

- Continue weekly progress meetings with City of Kalamazoo;
- Complete necessary repairs and testing on EPA's mobile wastewater treatment plant prior to deployment;
- Complete site-specific restoration plans for SA5, SA6, and SA7 for review by trustees; and
- Participate in a public meeting on May 31 on the Kalamazoo River cleanup project.

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

See POLREP #2

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

See above

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

See above

2.2.2 Issues

None

2.3 Logistics Section

The current resources present on site during this reporting period include:

- Office trailers
- Portable restrooms and hand-washing stations
- Portable generators
- Submersible pumps
- Equipment storage container
- ERRS work crews and subcontractor work crews
- START sampling contractor
- Heavy equipment
- Water truck
- Street sweeper
- Truck wash
- Mixing boxes
- Frac (water) tanks
- Pressure wash trailer
- Bypass pumps and piping
- Sheet piling

2.4 Finance Section

No information available at this time.

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

Craig Thomas and Paul Ruesch, U.S. EPA FOSCs, are serving as safety officer(s).

The HASP is reviewed and signed by all site personnel. All new personnel arriving on site are provided a site orientation and safety briefing. Safety meetings are held each morning with all workers to ensure safe daily operations.

2.6 Liaison Officer

Craig Thomas and Paul Ruesch, U.S. EPA FOSCs, are serving as liaison(s) with local officials and any other interested parties.

2.7 Information Officer

A Fact Sheet was developed on the status of the project to provide information in advance of a public meeting to be held on May 31. The Fact Sheet is posted in the 'documents' section of the website. U.S. EPA FOSCs will participate in the meeting, which will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the Radisson Plaza Hotel in Kalamazoo to provide a status update on the project.

2.7.1 Public Information Officer

See Section 2.7

2.7.2 Community Involvement Coordinator

Don DeBlasio - U.S. EPA

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

N/A

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
Michigan Department of Natural Resources
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
City of Kalamazoo:
Department of Public Services
Parks and Recreation Department
Economic Development Department
Community Planning & Development
Public Safety Department
Fire Department
Police Department
ReDevelopment Department
Bronson Methodist Hospital
Kalamazoo Nature Center

4. Personnel On Site

U.S. EPA - 2

ERRS contractor (Environmental Quality Management, Inc) - 12
Terra Contracting (subcontractor to EQM) - 1
START contractor (Weston/Dynamac) - 1

5. Definition of Terms

C&D - Construction and Demolition (waste)
ERRS - Emergency and Rapid Response Services
FOSC - Federal On Scene Coordinator
U.S. FWS - United States Fish and Wildlife Service
HASP - Health and Safety Plan
HDPE - High density polyethylene (plastic)
mg/kg - milligrams per kilogram
mg/m3 - milligrams per cubic meter
MDARD - Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
MDEQ - Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
NA - Not Applicable
NOAA - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NPL - National Priorities List
ntu - natural turbidity units
PCB - polychlorinated biphenyl
ppm - parts per million
PRPs - Potentially Responsible Parties
RTK GPS - Real Time Kinematic Global Positioning System
SA - Slope Area
START - Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team
U.S. EPA - United States Environmental Protection Agency

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

See the project website at <http://www.epaosc.org/portagecreekarea>.

6.2 Reporting Schedule

The next POLREP will be generated in approximately 2 weeks.

7. Situational Reference Materials

See the project website at <http://www.epaosc.org/portagecreekarea>.

Additional information on the overall Kalamazoo River Project can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/cleanup/kalproject/index.htm>.