

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



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Region V

**Subject:** POLREP #13  
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  
Todd Goeks, NOAA  
Valincia Darby, Department of Interior

**From:** Craig Thomas, On-Scene Coordinator

**Date:** 6/29/2012

**Reporting Period:** 6/23/2012 - 6/29/2012

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Background

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

Site controls, supplies and equipment were demobilized from SA6. Site preparation for dredging operations were completed in Axtell Creek with the installation of two sheet pile coffer dams and a bypass pumping system to divert creek flow around the dredging area. Dredging operations are scheduled to begin in Axtell Creek on July 10.

#### 2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

From June 23 to June 29, EPA, START and ERRS contractors/sub-contractors conducted the following activities:

##### Site Activities - Staging Pad

- Constructed an off-road truck dumping ramp for contaminated sediments on south side of staging pad.

#### Site Activities - SA6

- Received confirmation sample result for grid SA6-14, result was non-detect (less than detection limit of 0.651 mg/kg) PCBs;
- Removed of site controls (i.e., bypass pumping system, frac tanks, wheel wash, heavy equipment, etc.);
- Removed work platform and returned west bank to pre-construction grade;
- Abandoned groundwater dewatering well borings with bentonite clay; and
- Cleaned pavement surfaces in City and School District parking lots.

#### Site Activities - Axtell Creek

- Installed 2 sheet pile coffer dams to isolate dredging area;
- Installed bypass pumping system around excavation area; and
- Installed other site controls and mobilized in heavy equipment/materials to support dredging activities.

#### Site Activities - SA5D

- Installed a sheet pile coffer dam at the Lake Street bridge;
- Constructed a bypass pumping staging pad west of Lake Street bridge; and
- Completed removal of large logs from tree removal operations in Upjohn Park.

#### Project Management Activities

- Continue weekly progress meetings with City of Kalamazoo;
- Bid evaluation for Portage Creek bypass pumping system to isolate dredging areas in SA5D&C;
- Bid solicitation for installation/operation of groundwater dewatering system in SA5D&C;
- Bid solicitation for clearing & grubbing activities on west bank of Portage Creek from Lake Street to Axtell Creek;
- Met with sub-contractor regarding restoration plans for SA5, SA6, and SA7; and
- Continued data validation for post-removal confirmation sediment samples collected from SA6.

#### **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**

<i><b>Waste Stream</b></i>	<i><b>Medium</b></i>	<i><b>Quantity</b></i>	<i><b>Manifest #</b></i>	<i><b>Treatment</b></i>	<i><b>Disposal</b></i>
Shipping pallets	wood	100	none	recycling	Holland Pallet

## **2.2 Planning Section**

Crews will not be working on site during the week of July 4 to avoid interruption of holiday activities in Upjohn Park. A summary of removal activities that will take place once crews return to the site on July 9th include:

#### Site Activities - Staging Pad

- Treat contaminated water in EPA's mobile waste water treatment plant.

#### Site Activities - SA6

- Remove 30" bypass pumping system pipeline on east bank;
- Remove empty clean water storage tank;
- Restore rock ballast along railroad tracks; and
- Complete west streambank stabilization activities.

#### Site Activities - Axtell Creek

- Commence contaminated sediment dredging;
- De-water and solidify excavated sediments for transport; and
- Begin transport of solidified sediments for disposal.

#### Site Activities - SA5D

- No work activities are anticipated in SA5D during the next reporting period.

#### Project Management Activities

- Continue weekly progress meetings with City of Kalamazoo;
- Award contract for installation/operation of creek bypass pumping system in SA5D&C;
- Award contract for installation/operation of groundwater dewatering system in SA5D&C; and
- Complete site-specific restoration plans for SA5, SA6, and SA7 for review by trustees.

### **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**

As indicated in POLREP 12, all post-excavation confirmatory sample results in grids in SA6 were under the performance standard of 10 mg/kg. However, initial confirmatory sampling results at target dredging depths in several grids (SA6-6B, SA6-7, SA6-8, SA6-9, SA6-10, SA6-11 and SA6-12) were above the performance standard goal of 1 mg/kg and required over-excavation as listed below (see table).

GRID	TARGET DEPTH (in)	INITIAL PCB RESULT (mg/kg)	OVERDIG (in)	TOTAL DEPTH (in)	CONFIRMATION PCB RESULT (mg/kg)
SA6-2	30	0.62	NA	30	NA
SA6-3	30	0.775	NA	30	NA
SA6-4	30	< 0.130	NA	30	NA
SA6-5	36	0.875	NA	36	NA
SA6-6A	36	0.53	NA	36	NA
SA6-6B	36	1.22	6	42	0.654
SA6-7	30	1.22	6	36	0.654
SA6-8	18	3.75	12	30	3.75
SA6-9	30	1.13	6	36	1.54
SA6-10	36	1.06	6	42	0.888
SA6-11	30	0.54	12-24	42-54	NA
SA6-12	30	0.72	12	42	NA
SA6-13	30	0.256	NA	30	NA
SA6-14	30	NA	6	36	< 0.651

Grid SA6-14 required immediate backfilling to ensure stability of an immediately adjacent isolation dam and was therefore over-excavated 6", sampled and backfilled without waiting 24 hours for initial confirmatory sampling results. Over-excavation has increased project costs in added expense for personnel, equipment, transportation, disposal, sampling and backfill material.

### 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) tank
- Pressure wash trailer
- Bypass pumps and piping
- Groundwater de-watering pumps, wells 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 serve as safety officer(s). The HASP is reviewed and signed by all site personnel. All new personnel are provided a site orientation and safety briefing. Safety meetings are held each morning with all workers.

#### 2.6 Liaison Officer

Craig Thomas and Paul Ruesch serve as liaison(s) with local officials and interested parties.

#### 2.7 Information Officer

See Section 2.6

#### 2.7.1 Public Information Officer

See Section 2.6

#### 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) - 14  
CMC (sheet pile sub-contractor to EQM) - 5  
START contractor (Dynamac) - 1  
Fulton Trucking (trucking sub-contractor to EQM) - 2

TOTAL PERSONNEL = 24

#### **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  
NRDA - Natural Resource Damage Assessment  
ntu - nephelometric 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>.