

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



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Region V

**Subject:** POLREP #19  
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:** 9/28/2012

**Reporting Period:** 9/15/2012 - 9/28/2012

## 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>		<b>State Notification:</b>	Yes
<b>FPN#:</b>		<b>Reimbursable Account #:</b>	

#### 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

Dredging and backfill operations continued in SA5D (Upjohn Park). Visible gross contamination and elevated PCB test results at target excavation depths (see Sections 2.1.2 and 2.2.2) required additional excavation to meet the clean-up performance standard. Dredging operations began in SA5C on September 25.

#### 2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

From September 15 to September 28, EPA, START and ERRS contractors conducted the following activities:

##### Site Activities - SA5D & SA5C

- Excavated contaminated sediments from grids SA5D-14 to SA5D-16 (see table below for details) and placed backfill materials / coir logs according to the site restoration plan; and

- Excavated contaminated sediments from grids SA5C-1 to SA5C-3.

GRID	TOTAL ESTIMATED EXCAVATION DEPTH (in)	FINAL CONFIRMATION PCB RESULT (mg/kg)
SA5D-14	60	0.26
SA5D-15	60	ND
SA5D-16	60	0.21
SA5C-1	71	0.93
SA5C-2	54	0.058
SA5C-3	66	0.70

ND: non-detect    dup: duplicate sample location

#### Site Activities - Staging Pad

- Solidified and loaded out 1077.58 tons of TSCA (> 50ppm PCBs) contaminated sediments for disposal at Wayne Disposal landfill in Belleville, Michigan;
- Solidified and loaded out 982.05 tons of non-TSCA (< 50ppm PCBs) contaminated sediments for disposal at C&C Landfill in Marshall, Michigan; and
- Treated 63,909 gallons of potentially contaminated contact water in EPA's mobile wastewater treatment plant, with a total of 542,182 gallons treated to date.

#### Project Management Activities

- Continued weekly progress meetings with City of Kalamazoo;
- Conducted data validation for additional post-removal confirmation sediment samples collected from SA5D;
- Continued development of seasonal site shut-down / demobilization plan; and
- Continued discussions with property owners in SA5A and SA3A regarding site access, preparation and restoration.

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

See POLREP #1

### **2.1.4 Progress Metrics**

Waste Stream	Medium	Quantity	Manifest #	Treatment	Disposal
TSCA contaminated sediments	solidified sediment	1077.58 tons	009077488JJJ - 009077494JJJ & 010588878JJJ- 010588892JJJ	disposal	Wayne Disposal, Belleville, MI
Non-TSCA contaminated sediments	solidified sediment	982.05 tons	NTSCA-159 to NTSCA-177	disposal	C&C Landfill, Marshall MI

## **2.2 Planning Section**

A summary of removal activities that will take place from September 29 through October 12 include:

#### Site Activities - Staging Pad

- Continue de-watering and solidification of excavated sediments for transport;
- Continue transport of solidified sediments for disposal; and
- Continue treatment of contaminated water in EPA's mobile waste water treatment plant.

#### Site Activities - SA5D & SA5C

- Excavate, solidify and transport for disposal contaminated sediments from Portage Creek in grids SA5C-4 to SA5C-6 (between Crosstown Parkway and Vine Street);
- Backfill and install coir logs in grids SA5C-1 to SA5C-6 according to Restoration Plan;
- Attempt to excavate grid SA5D-17 once dam near Crosstown Parkway is removed;
- Remove isolation groundwater de-watering system in SA5C; and
- Begin demobilization of all engineering and environmental controls.

#### Project Management Activities

- Continue weekly progress meetings with City of Kalamazoo;
- Conduct pre-construction sampling and contaminated sediment confirmation sampling of SA5A & SA3A;
- Obtain access agreements for properties on west creek banks in SA5A and SA3A; and
- Meet with Trustees and John Street Staging area property to discuss future restoration of the staging pad property.

### **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**

- Excavation of grids to initial target depths revealed visual paper pulp material. Therefore, many grids were over-excavated until that material was no longer visible. Grids SA5D-14, SA5D-15, and SA5C-1 were sampled at the initial target depths (see table below), to verify that the suspected paper pulp material exceeded project performance standards. All confirmatory sample results from over-excavation in grids SA5D-14 to SA5D-16 and SA5C-1 to SA5C-3 were under the performance standard of 10 mg/kg as well as the performance standard goal of 1 mg/kg as listed below (see table).

GRID	INITIAL TARGET DEPTH (in)	INITIAL PCB RESULT(mg/kg)	OVER DIG (in)	TOTAL ESTIMATED DEPTH (in)	FINAL DEPTH PCB RESULT (mg/kg)
SA5D-14	36	4	24	60	0.26
SA5D-15	54	5.53	6	60	ND
SA5D-16	42	—	18	60	0.21
SA5C-1	36	3.97	25	71	0.93
SA5C-2	36	—	18	54	0.058
SA5C-3	36	--	30	66	0.70

ND: Non-detect    dup: duplicate sample location

- The additional over-excavation in grids SA5D-14 to SA5D-16 and SA5C-1 to SA5C-3 resulted in increased costs and added expenses for personnel, equipment, transportation, disposal, sampling and backfill material.

- A significant rain event occurred on September 22 & 23, causing over-topping of the sheet pile wall at Lake Street and sand bag dam at Crosstown Parkway. Upstream water entered the SA5C excavation area. This event caused further delays, with all activities except water management suspended on September 24.

- A pump failure in a bypass pump occurred the night of September 2, leading to over-topping of sheet pile wall at Lake Street and the sand bag dam at Crosstown Parkway. This allowed water to enter the SA5C excavation area. Although it did not completely shut down excavation activities, additional time was spent managing water from this event.

## 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
- Mixing boxes
- Frac (water) tank
- Pressure wash trailer
- Bypass pumps and piping
- Sheet piling and steel bridge personnel support structures
- Mobile wastewater treatment plant
- Temporary steel bridge
- Monitoring Equipment

## 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, including sub-contractors, are provided a site orientation and safety briefing. Safety meetings are held each morning with all site workers.

### 2.6 Liaison Officer

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

### 2.7 Information Officer

An environmental law class from Michigan State University visited the site on September 26. Approximately 15 students and instructors received an overview of the site, process and viewed field activities.

#### 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 - 3  
ERRS contractor (Environmental Quality Management, Inc) - 13  
START contractor (Dynamac/Weston) - 1  
CMC Contractors (excavation subcontractor) - 1  
Rain for Rent (groundwater extraction subcontractor) - 2  
Katerberg Verhage (restoration subcontractor) - 3  
Baker Pumps - 1

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>.