

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
West Creek Tanker Spill - Removal Polrep
Final Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region VIII

Subject: POLREP #3
Final POLREP West Creek Tanker Spill FPN E13803
West Creek Tanker Spill

Gateway, CO
Latitude: 38.6824780 Longitude: -108.9714690

To:
From: Craig Myers, OSC
Date: 1/9/2014
Reporting Period:

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	Z8EK	Contract Number:	
D.O. Number:		Action Memo Date:	
Response Authority:	OPA	Response Type:	Emergency
Response Lead:	EPA	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	1/25/2013	Start Date:	1/25/2013
Demob Date:		Completion Date:	8/30/2013
CERCLIS ID:		RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	
FPN#:	E13803	Reimbursable Account #:	

1.1.1 Incident Category

Emergency

1.1.2 Site Description

On January 25, 2013, at approximately 6 a.m. a tanker truck hauling 6,000 gallons of gasoline and 2,000 gallons of diesel went off Highway 141, flipped over the guardrail, and went down a steep embankment into West Creek, approximately 20 feet below the highway. Both tanks on the tanker were breached and a fire ensued. The Gateway-Unaweep Volunteer Fire Department and the Grand Junction Fire Department responded to the accident and fire. Initial reports from the fire department indicated a three quarter mile running fuel fire down the creek. The fire department deployed sorbent boom at approximately 1 mile and established another boom location approximately 2 miles downstream. The product in the tanker was allowed to burn.

There was an initial fish-kill of approximately 200 fish according to the Colorado Department of Parks and Wildlife(CDPW). On Monday, January 28th, an additional 50 fish (approximately) were recovered.

West Creek enters the Dolores River approximately 10 miles downstream from the site.

The site is located approximately 30 miles southwest of Grand Junction, Colorado.

1.1.2.1 Location

8 miles east of Gateway, CO.

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

As of July 2013, there were very few remaining locations where fuel could be re-floated by disturbing sediments. See the Operations Sections for more details.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

Please see POLREPs 1 and 2 for this information.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

Containment and recovery sites were established at 4 locations on the creek:

- 1.) Bridge Site - immediately below the crash site at Hwy 141 milepost 120
- 2.) Survey Marker Site - at milepost 118.8
- 3.) West Creek Picnic Area Site - at milepost 116.9
- 4.) Beaver Pond Site - at milepost 116.3

During the intervening time since the last report, crews finished removal work identified in POLREP 2 below the highway bridge.

The Responsible Party's contractor, Environmental Management Inc, along with the OSC and a START member, mobilized to the site in July of 2013 to conduct the additional assessment of the stream that was discussed in POLREP 2. Details of this sampling event can be found in both the EMI Report and the START Trip Report in the documents section on the <http://epaossc.org/westcreektanker> site.

The ultimate conclusion from the sample results and the OSC's observations on scene was that the response is complete, and that any remaining hydrocarbon related issues are best resolved through the Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) process already underway.

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

Groendyke Trucking is the owner and operator of the vehicle that crashed.

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

None.

2.2.2 Issues

None.

2.3 Logistics Section

Not Applicable.

2.4 Finance Section

No information available at this time.

2.5 Other Command Staff

Not Applicable.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

Not Applicable.

Responding Agencies:

Gateway-Unawep Volunteer Fire
Grand Junction Fire HAZMAT
Colorado State Patrol (CSP)
Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT)
Colorado Department of Parks and Wildlife (CDPW)
U.S. Bureau of Land Management (USBLM)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)

4. Personnel On Site

All personnel have demobilized from the site.

5. Definition of Terms

No information available at this time.

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

www.epaossc.org/westcreektanker

www.startview.org/wc

6.2 Reporting Schedule

This is the final report.

7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.