

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Sulphur Creek Oil Spill - Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region X

Subject: POLREP #3
PROGRESS
Sulphur Creek Oil Spill
Z0EA
Sunnyside, WA
Latitude: 46.3304492 Longitude: -120.0597627

To:
From: Jeffrey Fowlow, On-Scene Coordinator
Date: 3/10/2015
Reporting Period: 3/6/2015 to 3/7/2015

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	Z0EA	Contract Number:	
D.O. Number:		Action Memo Date:	
Response Authority:	OPA	Response Type:	Emergency
Response Lead:	EPA	Incident Category:	Removal Assessment
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	3/2/2015	Start Date:	3/2/2015
Demob Date:		Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:	E15004	RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	
FPN#:	E15004	Reimbursable Account #:	

1.1.1 Incident Category

Oil Spill Response & Removal Assessment

1.1.2 Site Description

The site is comprised of an agricultural and industrial property with a 3,000 gallon above ground storage tank (AST) estimated to have held approximately 2,200 gallons of used oil, of which an estimated 1,500 gallons was released. The released oil flowed overland to a nearby stormwater drain and then through a series of open irrigation ditches and culverts that drain into Sulphur Creek and then into the Yakima River. The irrigation ditches flow through residential, industrial, and agricultural areas, some of which may use this water for irrigation or drinking water purposes.

1.1.2.1 Location

The release location is at 2330 Outlook Road, in Sunnyside, Yakima County, Washington.

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

Used oil discharged through a broken sight-glass on the 3,000-gallon AST, releasing approximately 1,500 gallons. Though the tank release point has been secured, the oil has impacted a stormwater drain, which discharges into an irrigation ditch along Yakima Valley Highway, then into the Sulphur Creek, and the Yakima River. The Yakima River is a navigable waterway of the U.S. and has active fisheries and hatcheries, of which the Yakima Nation Prosser Hatchery is the closest, approximately 8 miles downstream from the point of release. Oil sheen was observed in the vicinity of the hatchery.

Resources at Risk:

Habitat Concerns: Islands, sloughs and wetlands provide critical resting and feeding areas for wildlife and serve as important rearing areas for resident fish. Various deep and shallow water river habitats support freshwater fish including species important to sport fishery such as trout, bass, crappie, and catfish. Additionally, numerous other small generally shallow water species such as dace, stickleback and sculpins occur here and serve as important food sources for birds, larger fish and other wildlife. Their occurrence in shallow water makes them more susceptible to the toxic effects of petroleum. Riparian habitats are heavily used by wildlife including river otter, beaver, muskrat, and raccoon.

Wildlife Concerns: Waterfowl concentrations, great blue heron, and bald eagles nests throughout. River otters, muskrats, and beaver are present and vulnerable to oil exposure.

Fish Concerns: Sloughs are critical rearing habitat for resident fish.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

Seven samples of the oil released were collected at various locations, and submitted to a laboratory for analysis by Ecology. Results indicated lubricating oil and diesel, and PCBs were below the laboratory detection limit. Analytical results for metals and finger printing is expected in the coming days.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

Oil Containment and Recovery: Current operations include deploying boom to contain, control, and collect oil in the stormwater drain, irrigation ditches, Sulphur Creek, and Yakima River. Ecology has mobilized its contractor, NRC, to perform oil containment and recovery. The extent of oil contamination has yet to be fully assessed though initial reconnaissance data is being processed for future operational periods. No geographic response plans are available for the current area of operations. Boom deployments have been prioritized at areas where oil is recoverable or where sensitive resources are known to exist.

Wildlife Response: As reports of additional oiled or dead wildlife are received, Focus Resources will attempt to locate, recover, decontaminate and rehabilitate oiled wildlife.

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

During the time period from 03/06/2015 to 03/075/2015, Ecology and their contractor, NRC; EPA and START, and Yakama Nation staff responded to the site and:

Division A

- Continued investigation for the connection between the spill site and the irrigation piping vaults leading to the outfall at Division B.
- Vacuumed out used oil from the vaults down-gradient of the AST.
- Excavated a trench around the silo vaults to identify preferential pathway for used oil.
- Discovered a leaking underground storage tank (LUST) that contained gasoline.

Division B

- Deployed sorbents in the drainage ditch before reaching the underground irrigation drainage culvert passing through Sunnyside, WA.
- Installed an underflow dam for collection of oil coming from Division A.
- Continued removal of contaminated vegetation within the drainage ditch.
- Continued collection of pooled oil using a vacuum truck.
- Replaced saturated sorbents, when necessary.

Division C

- Continued to monitor and collect the oil accumulating at the underflow dam coming from Division B.
- Replaced saturated sorbents, when necessary.

Division D

- Completed SCAT. Based on SCAT team recommendations, the UC directed NRC to remove debris holding black oil, and continue the use of a combination of boom types, including sorbents, at various access points.
- Continued use of sorbent boom, and hard boom at confluence of Sulphur Creek and Yakima River.
- Replaced saturated sorbents, when necessary.

Division E

- Completed SCAT. Based on SCAT team recommendations, the UC directed no further cleanup activities on the Yakima River. Although the river is highly valued, the quantity and character of oiling does not present enough of a threat to water quality or wildlife to justify removing oiled material along the river.
- Given the location, quantity and thinness of the oil, USFWS, WDFW and Focus Wildlife determined it was not a hazard to wildlife.
- Continued monitoring Yakima River for presence of oil and/or sheen.
- Continued use of hard boom and sorbent at the Mabton Road Bridge.
- Replaced saturated sorbents, when necessary.

Division F

- Conducted SCAT. Identified one 10' by 20' area of black oil accumulation and one 2' by 2' oil accumulation area. The wetland is in a State Fish and Wildlife managed wetland, where water enters from Sulphur Creek. Fish and Wildlife representatives stated water has been turned off to allow the wetland to dry as typical with operations this time of year, but the inlet was open during initial release.
- Based on SCAT team recommendations, the UC directed NRC to deploy sorbent boom, pads, and pom-poms to absorb the oil.
- Replaced saturated sorbents, when necessary.

Wildlife

- Collected 13 live birds and 19 dead birds.

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

The responsible party has been identified and has integrated into Unified Command.

2.1.4 Progress Metrics Waste collected for disposal as of 3/7/2015

Waste Stream	Medium	Quantity	Manifest #	Treatment	Disposal
Oil and Water	Liquid	42,000 gal			
Absorbent and Boom	Solid	40 yd ³			

The responsible party has been identified and has integrated into Unified Command. Waste collected for disposal as of 3/7/2015

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

Division A

- Clean-up and removal of spilled oil and absorbent on asphalt surrounding the AST and leading down to the catch basin and potential removal of the contaminated asphalt and underlying soil.
- Removal of oily solid waste from the silo vaults.
- Emptying and potentially removal of gasoline UST.
- Locate and track the piping path from the source AST to off-site collection locations (irrigation system).
- Perform a dye test to confirm connections between the piping and vaults of the irrigation system.
- Potentially excavate the contaminated concrete from the silo pads and associated soil.

Division B

- Continue deploying and recovering sorbents in the drainage ditch.
- Continue removal of contaminated vegetation within the drainage ditch.
- Continue collection of pooled oil using a vacuum truck.

Division C

- Continue collection of used oil migrating downstream from Division B.

Division D

- Continue use of sorbent boom, hard boom at confluence of Sulphur Creek and Yakima River.

Division E

- Continue use of hard boom and sorbent at the Mabton Road Bridge.

Division F

- Continue use of sorbent pads and pom-poms to collect pooled oil.
- Monitor effectiveness of the sorbents in place to determine if further action is needed.

Wildlife

- Continue wildlife rehabilitation in Mobile Response Unit set up in Pasco, WA.
- Continue collection of oiled water fowl, and other wildlife identified for decontamination and rehabilitation.
- Potentially perform collection of the oiled non-native water fowl adjacent to Division D for decontamination and rehabilitation.

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

2.2.2 Issues

The Sunnyside Valley Irrigation District will begin discharging water through the irrigation canals on or about March 17th, which includes Sulphur Creek. The volume of water discharging through the system expected to double or triple current volumes which will likely make capturing any remaining residual oil more difficult.

2.3 Logistics Section

N/A

2.4 Finance Section

2.4.1 Narrative

A Pollution Removal Funding Authorization (PRFA) was established by the EPA Federal On-Scene Coordinator (FOSC) and the Ecology and the Yakama Nation. Please see POLREP 1 for details regarding respective scopes of work.

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
Cooperative Agreements/Letter Contracts	\$552,500.00	\$504,000.00	\$48,500.00	8.78%
TAT/START	\$50,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	50.00%
Intramural Costs				
USEPA - Direct	\$20,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$12,000.00	60.00%
Total Site Costs				
	\$622,500.00	\$537,000.00	\$85,500.00	13.73%

* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

Bob Hyke - NRC

2.5.2 Liaison Officer

2.5.3 Information Officer

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

EPA Region 10 – Jeff Fowlow, FOSC

DOE – Jeff Lewis, SOSC

Yakama Nation – Elizabeth Sanchez, Tribal OSC

Luke Deaton – PRP representative

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

US Fish and Wildlife

Washington Fish and Wildlife

4. Personnel On Site

EPA – 2

Yakama Nation - 8

EPA START – 3

DOE – 3

NRC – 20

US Fish and Wildlife – 1

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife – 1

5. Definition of Terms

No information available at this time.

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

No information available at this time.

6.2 Reporting Schedule

No information available at this time.

7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.