

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Muskingum Island - Removal Polrep
Initial Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region III

Subject: POLREP #1
Assessment
Muskingum Island
Z3NA
near Boaz, WV
Latitude: 39.3704000 Longitude: -81.5028000

To:
From: Michael Towle, On-Scene Coordinator
Date: 8/13/2015
Reporting Period: through 8/13/2015

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	Z3NA	Contract Number:	
D.O. Number:		Action Memo Date:	
Response Authority:	OPA	Response Type:	Time-Critical
Response Lead:	EPA	Incident Category:	Removal Assessment
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:		Start Date:	5/7/2015
Demob Date:		Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:		RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	
FPN#:	E15313	Reimbursable Account #:	

1.1.1 Incident Category

The incident is the threat of a minor discharge of oil into the Ohio River from an abandoned oil production facility.

1.1.2 Site Description

The Site is located on and alongside Muskingum Island. The island is in Wood County, West Virginia and is part of the Ohio River Islands NWR. The Site includes an unknown number of abandoned oil wells. Some of the wells are located within the Ohio River. Some of wells have been found to contain oil within their casings at or near River level. One well was found with a very slight discharge causing a minor sheen event.

1.1.2.1 Location

The abandoned oil facility is located on Muskingum Island which is in Wood County, WV.

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

Some of the wells have been found to contain oil within their casings at or near the level of the River. Some of these wells have compromised casing which would allow the oil to discharge to the River as the level of the River rises above and then below the compromised portions of the casings. At least one well was found to be discharging a very minor sheen to the River. The magnitude of the threat cannot be completely determined at this time without thorough inspection of the wells and facility. The Ohio River is a navigable waterway. The wells are located in the River and along its bank.

The OSC is not yet able to make a determination of substantial threat and continues assessment.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

On May 7, the OSC accompanied WVDEP and USFWS personnel to Muskingum Island. Previous visits enabled WVDEP to identify numerous abandoned wells some of which were found to be leaking. The OSC observed 3 wells in or immediately adjacent to the bank of the River. Two of these wells had compromised casing and oil within. One well was discharging a very minor sheen of oil. The amount of oil which might discharge could not be determined and the OSC estimated that about 1 gallon of oil could imminently

discharge and that 1 BBL of oil could discharge from all wells combined.

A more detailed assessment is required in order to evaluate the threat and would need to be coordinated with multiple parties.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

No operations or response actions are underway or planned beyond continuing assessment.

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

None.

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

The OSC has begun to evaluate deeds and leases and relating information to try and identify a potential Responsible Party. At this time, the OSC knows that the land is owned by the U.S. Government and that the facility once belonged to the Henderson Oil Company of Marietta Ohio.

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

<i>Waste Stream</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Manifest #</i>	<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Disposal</i>

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

The OSC is evaluating deeds and leases and relating information to find a potential Responsible Party. Additionally, the OSC will coordinate with WVDEP, USFWS and others to evaluate the frequency with which the wells might flood, the discharge potential, and other factors to help determine whether or not this incident poses a threat to the Ohio River.

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

2.2.2 Issues

USFWS has mussel beds alongside the island. The Site is only accessible by boat. The wells are sometimes submerged. The island is a wildlife refuge without trails or other infrastructure.

2.3 Logistics Section

No information available at this time.

2.4 Finance Section

No information available at this time.

2.5 Other Command Staff

No information available at this time.

3. Participating Entities

No information available at this time.

4. Personnel On Site

No information available at this time.

5. Definition of Terms

No information available at this time.

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

www.epaosc.org/muskingum

6.2 Reporting Schedule

7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.