

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT  
Manweiler Trucking Spill - Removal Polrep  
Initial Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Region VIII

**Subject:** **POLREP #1**  
**Initial Pollution Report**  
**Manweiler Trucking Spill**

**Colorado Springs, CO**  
**Latitude: 38.8220000 Longitude: -104.8380000**

**To:**

**From:** Martin McComb, Federal On Scene Coordinator and Lisa McClain-Vanderpool, Public Information Officer

**Date:** 8/30/2016

**Reporting Period:** August 26-30, 2016

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Background

|                                     |                                          |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <b>Site Number:</b>                 | <b>Contract Number:</b>                  |
| <b>D.O. Number:</b>                 | <b>Action Memo Date:</b>                 |
| <b>Response Authority:</b> OPA      | <b>Response Type:</b> Emergency          |
| <b>Response Lead:</b> EPA           | <b>Incident Category:</b> Removal Action |
| <b>NPL Status:</b> Non NPL          | <b>Operable Unit:</b> n/a                |
| <b>Mobilization Date:</b> 8/26/2016 | <b>Start Date:</b> 8/26/2016             |
| <b>Demob Date:</b> 8/27/2016        | <b>Completion Date:</b>                  |
| <b>CERCLIS ID:</b>                  | <b>RCRIS ID:</b>                         |
| <b>ERNS No.:</b>                    | <b>State Notification:</b>               |
| <b>FPN#:</b> E16804                 | <b>Reimbursable Account #:</b>           |

On August 26, 2016, the Colorado Springs Fire Department (CSFD) reported an accident involving a fuel tanker belonging to Manweiler Transport. The accident happened at approximately 0400 that day near 911 Motor City Drive in Colorado Springs, El Paso County, Colorado. CSFD estimated from the size of the tanker and the amount of recovered material that nearly 6000 gallons of unleaded gasoline and 2000 gallons of diesel fuel were released. CSFD reported that all but a few hundred gallons of this released material had entered into a storm drain that empties into Bear Creek just above its confluence with Fountain Creek. Free product, sheen and a fish kill was witnessed in Fountain Creek.

Colorado Springs Utilities (CSU) closed the intake to the Fountain Mutual Irrigation Canal located near CSU's Las Vegas Water Resource Recovery Facility. CSU also notified downstream agricultural water users to close and/or monitor their intakes. Colorado Springs Utilities did not identify any downstream public water user intakes that required notification.

## 2. Current Activities

### 2.1 Operations Section

CSFD constructed earthen berms on Motor City Drive to contain the material that had not entered the storm drain. CSFD then righted and removed the damaged tanker. CSFD also coordinated with Fountain Fire Department and the trucking company's response contractors to deploy hard boom and absorbent materials downstream on Fountain Creek at a location that was southeast of Fountain Creek Regional Park.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) dispatched Martin McComb to serve as the Federal On Scene Coordinator (FOSC). The FOSC and members of EPA's Superfund Technical Assistance and Response Team (START) arrived on scene at approximately 1000 on August 26, 2016. START began monitoring response activities at the spill site, visiting water intakes to assess impacts and performing general reconnaissance of the impacted water bodies.

The FOSC entered into a Unified Command with CSFD and CSU. CSU is the owner of a power plant across the Fountain Creek and a nearby waste water treatment plant that is downstream on Fountain Creek.

Unified Command directed the trucking company's response contractor to remove all free product from the storm sewer and the sewer outfall on Bear Creek just upstream of its confluence with Fountain Creek. Unified Command also directed the response contractor to remove product that had collected behind the

closed gates at the intake of the Fountain Mutual Irrigation Canal located at CSU's Las Vegas Water Treatment Plant.

The downstream booming team reported difficulty establishing a recovery position. Unified Command requested that a second booming team establish another boom position further downstream at a location that had been pre-determined by CSU in one of their Facility Response Plans. The FOSC visited the first downstream booming location that had been established and determined that the location was less than ideal for effective recovery. In addition, the FOSC witnessed only a moderate amount of sheen passing this first booming location. The FOSC directed that this booming location be demobilized.

Unified Command was dissolved at approximately 1330 and Incident Command was transferred to the FOSC. The FOSC directed the trucking company's response contractor to maintain the absorbent material that had been placed on site and wash out the storm drain using pressurized water and no additives/detergents. The response contractor collected all water and product generated during this washing process using vacuum trucks.

The FOSC participated in a conference call with the City of Pueblo Fire Department and the Pueblo County Sheriff just after the FOSC assumed responsibility for Incident Command. The FOSC provided a briefing to these officials who then requested that another, third booming location be established closer to the Pueblo city limits. The FOSC redirected the response contractor and resources who had been supporting the first booming location to help the Pueblo officials establish a third boom location on Fountain Creek.

The FOSC visited the second downstream boom location that the Unified Command had established earlier in the day. The FOSC witnessed only a very small amount of sheen passing this location and decided to demobilize this boom due to the lack of recoverable product, the inability of boom in general to recover sheen, and the health and safety concerns associated with maintaining boom overnight.

The FOSC proceeded to the third boom location that was being established by Pueblo Fire and Pueblo County Sheriff with support from the trucking company's response contractor. The FOSC briefed Pueblo Fire and Pueblo County Sheriff that both upstream boom positions had demobilized and that the Pueblo position could expect only a small amount of sheen. Pueblo officials expressed concern that a pocket of product might still release and requested to continue deployment of the boom. The FOSC agreed but directed the booming team to stop excavating a collection basin in the creek bed. At approximately 9:30pm, the FOSC directed all personnel to exit the river and stop deploying the boom due to health and safety concerns. A small crew was left on-scene overnight to monitor the river at this location. No impacts to the river from the spill were witnessed and all resources were demobilized from the location the following morning.

The FOSC and START performed a reconnaissance of the site including the Pueblo booming location early on August 27, 2016. Small amounts of sheen were witnessed below the sewer outfall and downstream to just below the confluence of Bear and Fountain Creeks. The FOSC directed the trucking company's response contractor to recover a small amount of product upstream of the closed gate at the Fountain Mutual Irrigation Canal. All response resources associated with the Incident Command demobilized at noon on August 27, 2016.

## **2.2 Planning Section**

START collected water samples from Fountain Creek near known water intakes and at several of the boom locations. These samples were submitted for analysis for both Gasoline Range Organics (GRO) and Diesel Range Organics (DRO). Preliminary results are due back from the laboratory at the end of the day on August 30 as well as September 1, 2016. Results will be posted at <https://epaossc.org/ManweilerTruckingSpill>.

## **2.3 Logistics Section**

EPA resources mobilized to the site on August 26, 2016, stayed in both the Pueblo and Colorado Springs areas overnight and demobilized on August 27, 2016.

## **2.4 Finance Section**

No information available at this time.

## **2.5 Other Command Staff**

Lisa McClain-Vanderpool was designated as EPA's Public Information Officer (PIO) and is coordinating closely with the FOSC.

## **3. Participating Entities**

Belfor Environmental (response contractor)

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

Colorado Springs Fire

Colorado Springs Utilities

Colorado Springs Office of Emergency Management

Custom Environmental Services (response contractor)

El Paso County Office of Emergency Management

Pueblo County Sheriff

Pueblo Fire

United States Coast Guard

United States Environmental Protection Agency

#### **4. Personnel On Site**

1 FOSC

4 START

#### **5. Definition of Terms**

CSFD: Colorado Springs Fire Department

CSU: Colorado Springs Utilities

FOSC: Federal On Scene Coordinator

START: Superfund technical Assistance and Response Team

#### **6. Additional sources of information**

<https://epaosc.org/ManweilerTruckingSpill>

#### **7. Situational Reference Materials**

A map of the response can be viewed at:

<https://r8.ercloud.org/manweilertruckingspill/>