

**United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region X
POLLUTION REPORT**

Date: Sunday, August 26, 2007

From: Kathy Parker

Subject: Initial Polrep

Black Butte Mine

Cottage Grove, OR

Latitude: 43.5789000

Longitude: -123.0686000

POLREP No.:	1	Site #:	10EK
Reporting Period:	08/19/07-08/23/07	D.O. #:	0009
Start Date:	8/20/2007	Response Authority:	CERCLA
Mob Date:	8/19/2007	Response Type:	Time-Critical
Demob Date:		NPL Status:	Non NPL
Completion Date:		Incident Category:	Removal Action
CERCLIS ID #:	OR0000515759	Contract #	EP-R7-07-02
RCRIS ID #:			

Current Activities

8/19/2007 Sunday Mobilized to Cottage Grove:

EPA OSC Kathy Parker

USCG Mike Komeshak, Richard Moore

ERRS RM Joe Ficek, ERRS 4 EO and 1 drivers

8/20/07

Site work: 0700-1730

Mobilized four operators and one truck driver to the site. Equipment drivers took Weyerhaeuser road to site and unloaded heavy equipment on west side of last bridge before site. ERRS equipment operators walked equipment across the bridge. Received the Kobelco, 966 Cat Front End Loader, Service Truck and D6 Dozer on site.

ERRS Safety talk. Site orientation. Grubbed, widened and graded road to site. Repository location chosen. Strategy developed to address waste rock from Main Tailings pile. Grubbed, cleared and graded repository area. Used XRF to determine that material could be used as clean cover in New Furnace area. Used XRF on New Furnace area and identified where clean cover should be placed. Decided to cover New Furnace area with 1.5 feet of material from Main Tailings pile or repository area if mercury in cover material is below 115 mg/kg Hg. Decided to test each batch of cover material to be moved and to test the surface of caps after covering for confirmation. Locked gate with our locks at end of day. Entered XRF mercury data into Scribe and uploaded to Scribe.net.

On site this day: dozer (no cab), front end loader, excavator, water truck, 2 PU

EPA OSC Kathy Parker

USCG Mike Komeshak, Richard Moore

ERRS RM Joe Ficek, ERRS 4 EO and 1 drivers

ODEQ Bryn Thoms

Site Conditions: ground wet, Intermittent showers, 75 degrees

8/21/07 Tuesday

6th Street bridge to London Road closed this morning for at least a year. Crew had to detour and find another way to the site. EQM held its daily safety meeting at 0700 hours. Analyzed Old Furnace Area for mercury using XRF. The Kobelco excavator started grading and laying back the east slope on the Dennis Creek area. The crew loaded the water truck at an approved location on Cottage Grove Lake. Two office trailers were mobilized to the site location, set up and tied down. An electrician was scheduled for power hook up tomorrow. A 45kw generator was received on site and will be used to power the two office trailers. Access roads to the Dennis Creek area, New Furnace area were graded and compacted by the D6 dozer and 966 front end loader. A 8' x 20' Storage Container was received on site. The rental

water truck was filled at an approved location on Cottage Grove Lake. The water in the lake has dropped several feet since last visited in July 2007.

On site this day:

Equipment on site this day: dozer (no cab), front end loader, excavator, water truck, 2 PU 45 kW generator, 2 - 10'x40' office trailers, 8x20m, conex box, 50 ton excavator, service truck

EPA - OSC Kathy Parker

USCG - Mike Komeshak, Richard Moore

ERRS - RM Joe Ficek, ERRS 4 EO (Garry, Mark, Mark, Brent) and 1 (Eric) drivers, 1 tech (Caleb)

ODEQ Bryn Thoms

Site Conditions: ground damp, brush wet, Intermittent showers, 76 degrees cloudy.

8/22/07 Wednesday

Site work: 0700-1730

EQM held its daily safety meeting at 0700 hours. Analyzed East Main Tailings pile for mercury with the XRF. Set up one DataRam in the Main Tailings work area. Recommended changes to the site safety plan. Diesel fuel was delivered to the onsite service truck at 0930 hours. A 30ton haul truck was delivered to the site at 1000 hours. The 9060 Case excavator started excavation on west slope of Dennis Creek. The excavated material was placed and compacted by the 966 Cat loader and D6 Dozer on the top bench of the west slope. Eight loads were hauled to the New Furnace area and used as cap material. The Kobelco excavator continued excavation of the east slope on Dennis Creek. Nine loads were hauled to the New Furnace area and used as cap material. The D6 dozer the excavator in grading and shaping the slopes The water truck provided dust control on the haul roads and excavation areas as well as the material on the New Furnace area. The material hauled to the New Furnace area was compacted by track walking the D6 with three passes over the entire compacted area. The scheduled electrician arrived on site to hook up power to the two office trailers.

Equipment on site: 2 excavators, 1 dozer, 1 loader, 1 haul truck, 1 water truck, 1 service truck, 2 - 10x40' trailers, 20' conex, 45KW generator.

EPA - OSC Kathy Parker

USCG - Mike Komeshak, Richard Moore

ERRS - RM Joe Ficek, 4 EO, 1 driver, 1 tech, 1 PAS

ODEQ - Bryn Thoms

START - Bryan Vasser

Dataram D422 readings:

Time: 0739-1700

Temp high-low: 73-64F

Humidity high-low: 71-54

Average Mass: 0.012 mg/m3

Max Mass: 0.098 mg/m3

Log Period: 00:00:20

Site conditions: AM cloudy and cool, PM clear and warm, 79 degrees

8/23/07 Thursday

Site work: 0700-1730

EQM held its daily safety meeting at 0700 hours. Continue excavation of material off east and west slopes of Dennis Creek. Hauled the material to a designated stockpile by the repository area. The area at the New Furnace location is 60% graded and capped. We now have the second truck driver on site and he will be driving the 30ton haul truck. The roads, excavation areas and stockpile locations are getting dusty and requires more water. Set the satellite dish on the roof of the EPA trailer. 506 gallons of diesel fuel was delivered to the site today. Estimate will use approx. 350 gallons of fuel per day until finished with the excavation on the slopes at Dennis Creek. Analyzed Furnace Creek for mercury with the XRF. Collected soil samples for Lumex analysis from same area. Set up DataRam in the Main Tailings work area.

Equipment on site: 2 excavators, 1 dozer, 1 loader, 1 haul truck, 1 water truck, 1 service truck, 2 - 10x40' trailers, 20' conex, 45 KW generator.

EPA - OSC Kathy Parker

USCG - Mike Komeshak, Richard Moore

ERRS - RM Joe Ficek, 4 EO, 2 driver, 1 tech, 1 PAS

ODEQ - Bryn Thoms

START - Bryan Vasser

Dataram D422 readings:
Time: 0843-1700
Temp high-low: 97-63F
Humidity high-low: 70-29
Average Mass: 0.035 mg/m3
Max Mass: 0.278 mg/m3
Log Period: 00:01:00

Site conditions: AM cloudy and cool, PM clear and warm, 83 degrees

8/24/07 Friday

Site work: 0700-1730

EQM held its daily safety meeting at 0700 hours. Received the small mini excavator for work around any structures and areas that the large excavator could not work. The cap at the New Furnace area is nearing completion. The drainage bench on the east slope is nearing completion. The west slope is about half done. The haul truck transported 54 loads to the repository and 17 loads to the New Furnace area. The water truck was having mechanical problems and was demobed to be replaced the next day (8/25/07). Analyzed Furnace Creek for mercury with the XRF. Set up one DataRam in the Main Tailings work area.

Equipment on site: 2 excavators, 1 dozer, 1 loader, 1 haul truck, 1 mini-excavator, 1 water truck, 1 service truck, 2 - 10x40' trailers, 20' conex, 45KW generator.

EPA - OSC Kathy Parker

USCG - Mike Komeshak, Richard Moore

ERRS - RM Joe Ficek, 4 EO, 2 drivers, 1 tech, 1 PAS

START - Bryan Vasser, Erin Lynch

Dataram D422 readings:
Time: 0754-1700
Temp high-low: 98-60F
Humidity high-low: 76-24
Average Mass: 0.031 mg/m3
Max Mass: 0.331 mg/m3
Log Period: 00:00:20

Site conditions: AM clear and cool, PM clear and sunny, 84 degrees

Planned Removal Actions

- Continue shaping Main Tailings piles.
- Continue covering New Furnace area.
- Continue covering Old Furnace area.
- Delineate areas of Furnace Creek that need excavation.

Next Steps

- Determine new projected cost for removal action and amend action memo.
- Locate source for rock.

Key Issues

- Stability of Main Tailings piles
- Mercury levels in tailings used for capping
- Artifacts in Old Furnace area that will be affected by working there
- Extent of contamination in Furnace Creek and above the creek
- Stream restoration issues for Furnace Creek

response.epa.gov/BlackButteMineRemoval