

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

**Date:** Monday, August 11, 2008

**From:** Dominic Ventura

**Subject:** Elkton Farm Firehole  
183 Zeitler Rd., Elkton, MD  
Latitude: 39.6292184  
Longitude: -75.8681150

<b>POLREP No.:</b>	66	<b>Site #:</b>	A3DH RV
<b>Reporting Period:</b>	07/26/08 - 08/08/08	<b>D.O. #:</b>	
<b>Start Date:</b>		<b>Response Authority:</b>	CERCLA
<b>Mob Date:</b>		<b>Response Type:</b>	Time-Critical
<b>Demob Date:</b>		<b>NPL Status:</b>	Non NPL
<b>Completion Date:</b>		<b>Incident Category:</b>	Removal Action
<b>CERCLIS ID #:</b>		<b>Contract #</b>	
<b>RCRIS ID #:</b>			

**Site Description**

Work Mission Statement:

Safely and efficiently investigate and remove Munitions and Explosives of Concern (MEC); Materials Potentially Possessing an Explosive Hazard (MPPEH), Munitions Debris (MD) and explosively contaminated soil(TNT) from the Elkton Farms Firehole Site, as defined in EPA's geophysical study.

**Current Activities**

The site was remobed on January 28, 2008 with a limited crew. One UXO team from USA Environmental was mobilized. The UXO team supports both the trommel sifting activity and the firehole excavation as per SOW and AHA. On July 7, 2008 additional UXO technicians were mobed to the site (total of twelve on site) in anticipation of implementation of Appendix K of the Work Plan. Appendix K outlines the implementation of a pan scraping approach to the remaining 30 grids and is to be implemented by the property owner's operator and his equipment under an AOC. Initiation of work described in Appendix K of the Work Plan is scheduled for August 11, 2008.

Contractors continued trommel sifting activities and excavation of the firehole as per SOW and AHA. Magging and digging activities also continued in several grids. During this reporting period two grids were finalized.

The following materials have been processed/recovered to date:

1. Total Grids Cleared Gov't QA: 84
2. Total MEC/MD found: 48,210 (MEC items include detonators, grenade fuse, blasting caps, tracer elements, incendiary bomblets, flares etc. etc.)
3. Firehole MEC found: 6,330 (incl. 6,166 tracers)
4. Total MD found: 18,083 lbs.
5. Scrap metal found: 9,999 lbs.
6. Total Phase II processed soils: 14,089 cy

**Trommel Sifting Activities:**

On 5/2/08 the trommel mechanical sifter was mobilized to the site. Of the approximately 17,924 MEC items recovered off the trommel since it was mobilized, 17,673 are tracers. In addition 19 fused 40mm and 38 fused 20mm artillery items were found via this sifting operation and placed in the on site explosive magazines.

**Firehole Excavation Activities:**

Excavation and coarsing of the fireholes continued. It is anticipated that one week of excavation activities remain within the fireholes. Large quantities of debris (metal, plastic, glassware and fragments thereof) greater than 4 inches is collected and staged causing delays in the completion of excavation activities. Approximately 8,203 cu yds of soils have been excavated, coarsed and moved to the trommel

pad area. Excavation to 5-6ft depths continue and scraping around the lip of the fireholes down to approximately 4 feet is ongoing. A total of 6,330 MEC items have been found. A total of 9,952 lbs. of scrap have been removed and staged on site from the fireholes thus far. Suspected friable ACM was double bagged as per the SOW and placed in drums (12). These drums will not be disposed of by EPA as per Action Memorandum.

EPA and GES are evaluating disposal options for the MEC wastestream which may include the large quantity of tracers. It is anticipated that at least 60 drums of this material will be generated.

Sampling and monitoring for airborne asbestos fibers and particulate continued on dry days as per AMSAP. So far no site standards have been threatened for both asbestos and the particulate.

On July 17, 2008 22 drums of munitions debris was transported off site for disposal at a smelter. This material was not hazardous waste.

#### **Next Steps**

Pan scraping activities are scheduled to begin on 08/11/08 in accordance with Appendix K of the work plan.

[response.epa.gov/elktonfarmfirehole](http://response.epa.gov/elktonfarmfirehole)