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## Portage Creek Area

Kalamazoo, MI - EPA Region V

POLREP #16

Progress

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U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
 POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT  
 Portage Creek Area - Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
 Region V

**Subject:** POLREP #16  
 Progress  
 Portage Creek Area  
 059B05  
 Kalamazoo, MI  
 Latitude: 42.2839750 Longitude: -85.5791570

**To:** Mark Mills, Michigan DNR  
 Daria Devantier, MDEQ  
 Bruce Merchant, Kalamazoo City  
 Debbie Jung, Kalamazoo City  
 Lisa Williams, U.S. FWS  
 Todd Goeks, NOAA  
 Valencia Darby, Department of Interior

**From:** Craig Thomas, On-Scene Coordinator

**Date:** 8/17/2012

**Reporting Period:** 8/4/2012 - 8/17/2012

### 1. Introduction

#### 1.1 Background

<b>Site Number:</b>	059B05	<b>Contract Number:</b>	EP-S5-09-05
<b>D.O. Number:</b>	0087	<b>Action Memo Date:</b>	7/5/2011
<b>Response Authority:</b>	CERCLA	<b>Response Type:</b>	Time-Critical
<b>Response Lead:</b>	EPA	<b>Incident Category:</b>	Removal Action
<b>NPL Status:</b>	NPL	<b>Operable Unit:</b>	05
<b>Mobilization Date:</b>	9/26/2011	<b>Start Date:</b>	8/30/2011
<b>Demob Date:</b>		<b>Completion Date:</b>	
<b>CERCLIS ID:</b>	MID006007306	<b>RCRIS ID:</b>	NA
<b>ERNS No.:</b>	NA	<b>State Notification:</b>	Yes
<b>FPN#:</b>	NA	<b>Reimbursable Account #:</b>	NA

**1.1.1 Incident Category**  
 Fund-lead removal action

**1.1.2 Site Description**  
 See POLREP #1

**1.1.2.1 Location**  
 See POLREP #1

**1.1.2.2 Description of Threat**  
 See POLREP #1

**1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results**  
 See POLREP #1

### 2. Current Activities

#### 2.1 Operations Section

##### 2.1.1 Narrative

Dredging operations in Axtell Creek were completed on August 13 and backfilling was completed on August 17. Elevated PCB test results at target excavation depths (see Sections 2.1.2, 2.2 and 2.2.2) required two over-excavations to meet the clean-up performance standard. Crews completed preparations in SA5D and SA5C (Upjohn Park) to begin excavation of contaminated sediments on August 20. Remaining excavated sediments from Axtell Creek were further solidified on the staging pad and shipped for disposal at designated landfills.

**2.1.2 Response Actions to Date**

From August 4 to August 17, EPA, START and ERRS contractors/sub-contractors conducted the following activities:

Site Activities - Axtell Creek

- Completed second over-excavation and backfilling of creek channel and banks;
- Complete final confirmatory sampling at second over-excavation bottom in grids AXC-1 to AXC-5 to determine if cleanup goals were met. Final sampling results from all 5 grids met the performance standard of 10 mg/kg PCBs. Confirmatory sample results from grids AXC-1, AXC-2, AXC-4 and AXC-5 met the performance standard goal of 1 mg/kg PCBs (see table).

GRID	TOTAL ESTIMATED EXCAVATION DEPTH (in)	FINAL CONFIRMATION PCB RESULT (mg/kg)
AXC-1	60	non-detect
AXC-2	66	0.97
AXC-3	60	6.97
AXC-4	66	0.061
AXC-5	36	0.189

- Completed construction of a 12" pipeline to support bypass pumps at John Street and discharge at Vine Street;
- Pumped and treated contaminated contact water in EPA's mobile wastewater treatment system; and
- Conducted stream turbidity and particulate monitoring in work areas with all results below action levels.

Site Activities - Staging Pad

- Solidified and loaded out approximately 450 tons of TSCA (> 50ppm PCBs) contaminated sediments for disposal at Wayne Disposal landfill in Belleville, Michigan;
- Solidified and loaded out approximately 830 tons of non-TSCA (< 50ppm PCBs) contaminated sediments for disposal at C&C Landfill in Marshall, Michigan; and
- Treated 65,369 gallons of contaminated contact water in EPA's mobile wastewater treatment plant, with a total of 445,501 gallons treated to date.

Site Activities - SA6

- Installed new fencing on the west bank which had been removed to facilitate contaminated sediment removal;
- Completed temporary grass seeding and straw placement on east and west banks;
- Replaced gravel on east bank properties impacted by the 30" discharge pipeline; and
- Repaired or replaced asphalt pavement on adjacent parking lots used to access area.

Site Activities - SA5D & SA5C

- Constructed sand-bag coffer dam to facilitate groundwater de-watering between Lake Street and the Upjohn Park footbridge;
- Constructed a wood platform working deck on east bank to support contaminated sediment removal and transport operations; and
- Installed groundwater dewatering system from Lake Street to the Upjohn Park footbridge.

Project Management Activities

- Continued weekly progress meetings with City of Kalamazoo;
- Scheduled restoration work in SA6 and SA7 to begin on September 17;
- Conducted data validation for post-removal confirmation sediment samples collected from Axtell Creek.

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

The major PRP for this portion of the Allied Paper Inc./Portage Creek/Kalamazoo River Superfund site was dissolved through bankruptcy proceedings in April 2010. Other PRPs are being evaluated.

**2.1.4 Progress Metrics**

Waste Stream	Medium	Quantity	Manifest #	Treatment	Disposal
TSCA contaminated sediments	solidified sediment	450 tons (est)	009952883JJK and 009077445JJK to 009077453JJK	disposal	Wayne Disposal, Belleville, MI
Non-TSCA contaminated sediments	solidified sediment	830 tons (est)	NTSCA-88 to NTSCA-100	disposal	C&C Landfill, Marshall MI

**2.2 Planning Section**

A summary of removal activities that will take place from August 18 through August 31 include:

Site Activities - Staging Pad

- Continue de-watering and solidification of excavated sediments for transport;
- Continue transport of solidified sediments for disposal; and
- Continue treatment of contaminated water in EPA's mobile waste water treatment plant.

Site Activities - SA5D & SA5C

- Excavate, solidify and transport for disposal contaminated sediments from Portage Creek between Lake Street and the Upjohn Park footbridge;

- Install groundwater de-watering system between the Upjohn Park footbridge and Crosstown Parkway;
- Remove Upjohn Park footbridge to facilitate access for contaminated sediment excavation operations; and
- Install fencing on east and west banks between Axtell Creek & Crosstown Parkway and between Crosstown Parkway & Vine Street.

#### Project Management Activities

- Continue weekly progress meetings with City of Kalamazoo; and
- Complete pre-excavation assessments of SA5A and SA3A.

#### **2.2.1 Anticipated Activities**

See POLREP #2

##### **2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities**

See above

##### **2.2.1.2 Next Steps**

See above

#### **2.2.2 Issues**

- All confirmatory sample results from the second over-excavation in Axtell Creek grids were under the performance standard of 10 mg/kg. Confirmatory sampling in grid AXC-3 was above the performance standard goal of 1 mg/kg as listed below (see table).

GRID	INITIAL TARGET DEPTH (in)	INITIAL PCB RESULT (mg/kg)	1st OVER DIG (in)	DEPTH (in)	1st OVERDIG PCB RESULT (mg/kg)	2nd OVERDIG (in)	TOTAL ESTIMATED DEPTH (in)	2nd OVERDIG PCB RESULT (mg/kg)
AXC-1	24	27.9	12	36	35.8	24	60	non- detect
AXC-2	30	8.9	12	42	14.3	24	66	0.97
AXC-3	24	16.10	12	36	19.3	24	60	6.97
AXC-4	30	18.7	12	42	22.6	24	66	0.061
AXC-5	24	4.15	6	30	3.93	6-12	36	0.189

- The two additional over-excavations in Axtell Creek resulted in increased costs and added expenses for personnel, equipment, transportation, disposal, sampling and backfill material.

#### **2.3 Logistics Section**

The current resources present on site during this reporting period include:

- Office trailers
- Portable restrooms and hand-washing stations
- Portable generators
- Submersible pumps
- Equipment storage container
- ERRS work crews and subcontractor work crews
- START sampling contractor
- Heavy equipment
- Water truck
- Street sweeper
- Mixing boxes
- Frac (water) tank
- Pressure wash trailer
- Bypass pumps and piping
- Sheet piling and steel bridge personnel support structures
- Mobile wastewater treatment plant
- Temporary steel bridge

#### **2.4 Finance Section**

##### **2.4.1 Narrative**

See table

#### **2.5 Other Command Staff**

##### **2.5.1 Safety Officer**

Craig Thomas and Paul Ruesch serve as safety officer(s). The HASP is reviewed and signed by all site personnel. All new personnel, including sub-contractors, are provided a site orientation and safety briefing. Safety meetings are held each morning with all site workers.

##### **2.6 Liaison Officer**

Craig Thomas and Paul Ruesch serve as liaison(s) with local officials and interested parties.

##### **2.7 Information Officer**

See Section 2.6

##### **2.7.1 Public Information Officer**

See Section 2.6

##### **2.7.2 Community Involvement Coordinator**

Don DeBlasio - U.S. EPA

### 3. Participating Entities

#### 3.1 Unified Command

N/A

#### 3.2 Cooperating Agencies

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality  
Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development  
Michigan Department of Natural Resources  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
City of Kalamazoo:  
Department of Public Services  
Parks and Recreation Department  
Economic Development Department  
Community Planning & Development  
Public Safety Department  
Fire Department  
Police Department  
ReDevelopment Department  
Bronson Methodist Hospital  
Kalamazoo Nature Center

### 4. Personnel On Site

U.S. EPA - 2  
ERRS contractor (Environmental Quality Management, Inc) - 14  
START contractor (Dynamac/Weston) - 1  
CMC Contractors (excavation subcontractor) - 1  
Rain for Rent (groundwater extraction subcontractor) - 2  
Farm & Garden (fencing subcontractor) - 2

TOTAL PERSONNEL = 20

### 5. Definition of Terms

C&D - Construction and Demolition (waste)  
ERRS - Emergency and Rapid Response Services  
FOOSC - Federal On Scene Coordinator  
U.S. FWS - United States Fish and Wildlife Service  
HASP - Health and Safety Plan  
HDPE - High density polyethylene (plastic)  
mg/kg - milligrams per kilogram  
mg/m<sup>3</sup> - milligrams per cubic meter  
MDARD - Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development  
MDEQ - Michigan Department of Environmental Quality  
NA - Not Applicable  
NOAA - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NPL - National Priorities List  
NRDA - Natural Resource Damage Assessment  
ntu - nephelometric turbidity units  
PCB - polychlorinated biphenyl  
ppm - parts per million  
PRPs - Potentially Responsible Parties  
RTK GPS - Real Time Kinematic Global Positioning System  
SA - Slope Area  
START - Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team  
U.S. EPA - United States Environmental Protection Agency

### 6. Additional sources of information

#### 6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

See the project website at <http://www.epaosc.org/portagecreekarea>.

#### 6.2 Reporting Schedule

The next POLREP will be generated in approximately 2 weeks.

### 7. Situational Reference Materials

See the project website at <http://www.epaosc.org/portagecreekarea>.

Additional information on the overall Kalamazoo River Project can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/Region5/cleanup/kalproject/index.htm>.

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