



McCormick & Baxter Superfund Site

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY • REGION 9

JULY 1999

EPA Signs Record of Decision & Begins Remedy Design for Cleanup Plan

Introduction

This fact sheet gives you an update on what EPA has done at the McCormick & Baxter Superfund site since our last fact sheet in September 1998. At that time the EPA presented its Proposed Plan for cleaning up soil, groundwater and sediment contamination at the McCormick & Baxter Superfund site in Stockton, California. Also, EPA held a 30-day public comment period September 15 to October 15, 1998, which was extended upon request until November 16, 1998 and held a community meeting on September 28, 1998 to receive comments on the Proposed Plan.

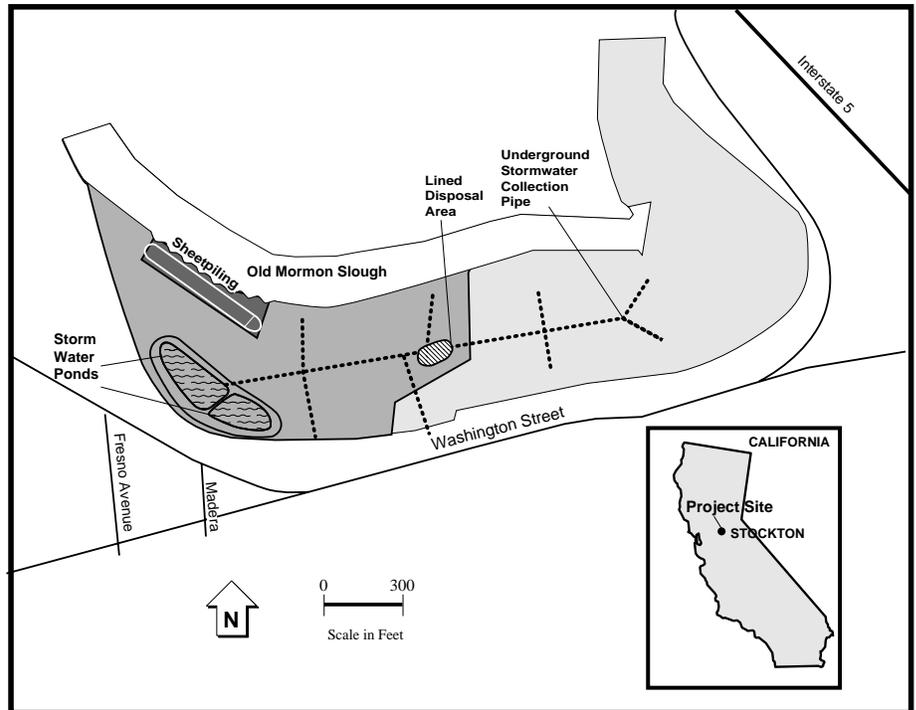


Figure 1: Site location map of the McCormick and Baxter Superfund site in Stockton, CA

After reviewing public comments, EPA signed a Record of Decision (ROD) on March 31, 1999 to select the remedy for the site. The ROD includes final remedies for soil and sediment and an interim remedy for groundwater. These are explained below.

In addition to these remedies, this fact sheet also tells you about EPA's planned activities at the site.

The Record of Decision

- **Soil remedy:** Dig up the shallow soil from the eastern end of the site and consolidate and cap it in the western end of the site. The cap will consist of a layer of asphalt/concrete over an aggregate (base rock) layer and a one-to-three-foot layer of clean imported fill.

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EXTRA FACT SHEETS: Copies of this fact sheet are available at the Boggs Tract Community Center, 533 South Los Angeles Avenue, Stockton, CA, phone Arlene Coffee at 209-468-3978

- *Contingency soil remedy*: Place an asphalt cap over the entire site, without any excavation or consolidation of soil. The addition of the contingency soil remedy is the only difference between the ROD and the Proposed Plan. This was added based on a comment received at the public meeting about possible redevelopment of the site. Because EPA recognizes the importance of returning Superfund sites to beneficial uses in the community, we included this contingency soil remedy as an option for redevelopment of the site for future industrial use. Any redevelopment of the site would be overseen by EPA and the State, and would only be allowed if appropriate for site conditions.

The contingency remedy uses the same type of soil capping technology as the selected remedy. With long-term maintenance of a site-wide cap, the contingency remedy is equally protective of human health and the environment as the selected remedy, and the cost is comparable.

- *Sediment remedy*: In-place capping of sediment in Old Mormon Slough. The cap will consist of a minimum of two feet of clean sand to isolate contaminated sediment.
- *Groundwater remedy (interim)*: Install and operate a groundwater extraction and treatment system. Extracted groundwater will be treated by oil/water separation; biotreatment; filtration; and carbon adsorption. Treated groundwater will be discharged into nearby surface water, in combination with reuse for irrigation or industrial purposes at or near the site, if possible.
- *Monitoring* of the affected aquifer zones to verify that the extraction system is effective in containing the groundwater plume.
- *Access rights* are also included that permit EPA and the State to monitor and maintain the selected remedies.
- *Land use restrictions* that prohibit interference with the selected remedies.



RECORD OF DECISION

A copy of the ROD and the comments that were received on the Proposed Plan are available at the information center at the Stockton Public Library, 605 N. El Dorado Street, Stockton, CA 95203 (phone 209-944-8221).

What's Happening This Summer

(Early July until September)

During the summer, the EPA will perform sampling and conduct studies in order to design the soil and sediment remedies. The following activities will be conducted:

- Site surveying and geophysical investigation
- Soil and groundwater sampling, including deep soil samples (up to 200 ft)
- Non-Aqueous Phase Liquids (NAPLs) investigation
- Old Mormon Slough bank sampling (by boat)
- Installation of new monitoring wells

What You'll See

During the summer, there will be trucks and a drilling rig at the site. A small boat will be used to collect samples from the banks of the Old Mormon Slough. There will be no transport of contaminated soil from the site during these activities. Any dust generated during the sampling will be controlled by spraying the soil surfaces with water, and the air will be periodically monitored on-site. EPA does not anticipate any negative health effects, including noise, to the community resulting from these activities.

QUESTION AND CONCERNS

You may call Marie Lacey, Project Manager at 415-744-2136 or Vicky Semones, Community Involvement at 415-744-2184. You may also call EPA toll free at 1-800-231-3075.

Highlights of EPA's Planned Activity

Spring 1999

- Sediment Cap Design = EPA began the design of the sediment cap for Old Mormon Slough.

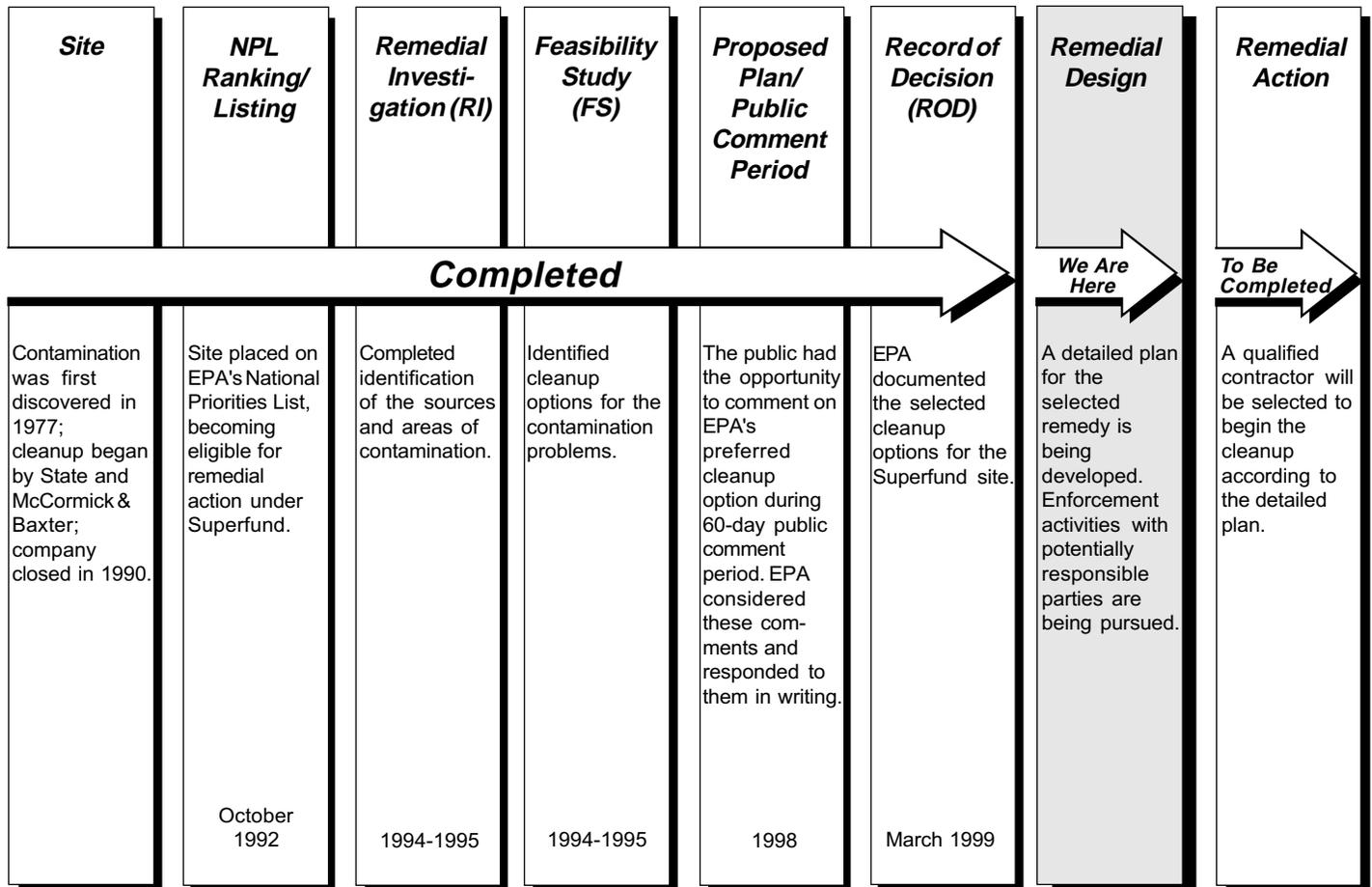
Summer 1999

- Groundwater Remedy / Field Studies = EPA will conduct these studies to collect more information for selecting a final groundwater remedy.
- Sediment Cap / Sampling = Because the banks of the Old Mormon Slough have been found to be eroding at some locations, EPA will take samples there to determine if the banks need to be reinforced before the sediment cap is installed.

Fall 1999

- Groundwater Remedy / Lab studies = EPA will conduct laboratory studies to evaluate the potential

THE SUPERFUND PROCESS - WHERE WE ARE



of steam technology as a potential final groundwater remedy.

Spring 2000

- Groundwater Remedy / Evaluation = EPA will complete the first phase of its evaluation of steam technology as a potential final groundwater remedy.
- Sediment Cap Construction = EPA will begin construction of the sediment cap in Old Mormon Slough. (Because some endangered/threatened fish species may be in the area of the site, EPA is working with other federal and state environmental agencies to schedule this work at a time when there will be the least impacts to these fish. Therefore, this date could change.)

Note: Before work begins on the sediment cap, EPA will send out another public update and hold a public meeting or workshop, if necessary, to explain the activities that will be taking place at the site during the cap construction and to give a progress report on the soil and groundwater remedies.

Dates to be Set

No start dates have been set at this time for constructing the soil cap or the interim groundwater pump and treat system. These will be scheduled after EPA has completed the steam technology evaluation and has evaluated the site's redevelopment potential.

In the meantime, there is no current human health risk from groundwater beneath the site because it is not used (and was not used in the past) for human consumption. EPA continues to monitor the groundwater regularly. The only known current risk from surface soil at the site is to trespassers who come in contact with contaminated soil.



MAILING LIST

Call us at 1-800-231-3075 to add your name to EPA's mailing list or make corrections to your address.

Inside:

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*EPA Signs Record of Decision &
Begins Remedy Design for
Cleanup Plan*

En esta edición:

*La EPA comenzará a diseñar las
medidas de corrección después de
firmar el Acta de Decisión para el
plan de limpieza*

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