

ROCKY FLATS STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

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Jefferson County -- Boulder County -- City and County of Broomfield -- City of Arvada -- City of Boulder
City of Golden -- City of Northglenn -- City of Thornton -- City of Westminster -- Town of Superior
League of Women Voters -- Rocky Flats Cold War Museum -- Rocky Flats Homesteaders
Arthur Widdowfield

Monthly Status Report – November 2013

Board meeting summary

There was no meeting this month.

Legacy Management monthly site inspection summary

DOE reports on the following site activities for October. In addition to routine maintenance and surveillance activities, site personal conducted the following activities:

Groundwater and Surface Water Monitoring

- Completed measuring fourth quarter water levels.
- Continued assessing the impact to surface water sampling stations from the September flooding, and completing repairs.
- Began fourth quarter groundwater sampling.

Evaluation of Surface Water Monitoring Location GS10

- Samples from upstream of GS10 were collected from the four seeps in the former Building 995 area and from Functional Channel 4 (FC-4) in support of the investigation of elevated actinide (Pu, Am and U) levels in surface water at GS10.
- As of the end of October, the seeps have been sampled for six weeks and the Functional Channel-4 locations have been included on alternate weeks.

Groundwater Treatment Systems

- East Trenches Plume Treatment System: DOE reports the air stripper system was turned off pending replacement of the pump; however, the Zero Valent Iron treatment (to remove volatile organic compounds) continued as required. A different type of pump is being evaluated that should have fewer issues with scale buildup.
- Mound Site Plume Treatment System: DOE reports the system is functioning normally. Samples were collected in conjunction with quarterly RFLMA sampling.
- Solar Ponds Plume Treatment System: DOE reports the system is functioning normally.

Ecology

- Completed photopoint monitoring and forb nursery areas evaluations.

- Conducted prairie dog town survey of Central Operable Unit (COU) perimeter and nearby refuge locations. No prairie dogs observed in the COU. There remain some prairie dogs north of pond A-4 on Refuge. No issues observed.
- Installed wildlife fencing around plains cottonwoods and chokecherry that were planted in 2012. Fencing will prevent browse damage from deer and elk grazing.
- Inter-seeded the Present Landfill and A-3 dam breach project where vegetation was still sparse.

Site Monitoring & Maintenance

- Planning for repairs to the Original Landfill (OLF) continued in response to localized slumping and settling resulting from the September flood.
- On October 3, a drain line was installed in the OLF to enhance surface water drainage in the area of subsidence. Design of additional repairs continued through the month of October.

Contact Record 2013-03

Soil Disturbance Review Plan (SDRP) for Regrading the East Perimeter Channel (EPC) and Associated Diversion Berms at the Original Landfill (OLF)

This contact record, which builds on the evaluation discussed in contact record 2013-02, addresses continuation of the consultation process that began on September 18th following the September flood.

As provided in the contact record, “The localized distress resulted in a reportable condition under RFLMA Attachment 2, Legacy Management Requirements. CR 2013-02 provides an evaluation plan and schedule for addressing the reportable condition, which included proposed regrading of the EPC and associated diversion berm ends to reduce slope grades in this area to improve soil cover stability and adding drainage features to further minimize the potential for infiltration of precipitation.”

DOE’s plan requires grading, which entails soil disturbance activities. Such activities are regulated under the Rocky Flats Legacy Management Agreement (RFLMA), requiring DOE to consult with CDPHE. The record provides “CDPHE has reviewed information regarding the proposed soil disturbance and excavation and, after consultation with EPA, has approved the proposed activity and the proposed grading plan. CDPHE has determined that the proposed activity will not compromise or impair the function of the remedy or result in an unacceptable release or exposure to residual subsurface contamination.”

The contact record can be found at http://www.lm.doe.gov/Rocky_Flats/ContactRecords.aspx

Stewardship Council update

Next meetings:

February 3, 2014

April 7, 2014