

US Army Corps of Engineers® St. Louis District

Information Paper

St. Louis Airport Site Vicinity Properties (SLAPS VPs) Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP)-Remediation



Figure 1: Remedial activites in Coldwater Creek after St. Louis County removed the McDonnell Blvd Bridge

Contact

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Location

The St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS) Vicinity Properties (VPs) are primarily located in the cities of Hazelwood, Berkeley, Florissant, Black Jack, and unincorporated North St. Louis County, Missouri (MO). Coldwater Creek (CWC) is a SLAPS VP that extends for approximately 14.2 miles from Banshee Road through northern St. Louis County until it discharges into the Missouri River.

Description

The Record of Decision (ROD) for the North St. Louis County Sites was issued in September 2005 and includes the SLAPS, SLAPS VPs and Latty Avenue Properties. SLAPS VPs consists of residential, recreational, and commercial properties, including the former ballfields, Norfolk Southern Railroad properties, and transportation corridors and haul roads and their adjacent properties. Low-level radioactive contamination at SLAPS VPs is linked to both the SLAPS and the Latty Avenue Properties. In 1966, Continental Mining and Milling Company of Chicago purchased uranium-bearing residues from the Manhattan Engineer District (MED) and transported them from SLAPS to the Hazelwood Interim Storage Site (HISS) on Latty Avenue. Contamination at the VPs resulted from spillage during transportation and subsequent airborne and/or waterborne dispersion. Rainwater runoff from affected areas contaminated CWC sediment. Floods moved the contaminated sediment within the floodplain as well as downstream.

Status

An Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) to the ROD is in development to add the >608 adjacent CWC adjacent properties. Contamination was found on some adjacent properties due to CWC flooding. SLAPS VPs consists of >756 properties and >2100 acres. The USACE has released 570 properties to date and shipped >281,150 cubic yards of contaminated material to an offsite licensed disposal facility. Another ESD is in development that modifies the selected remedy to authorize excavation and offsite disposal when conditions warrant. As hazardous materials are left on-site, Five-Year Reviews (FYRs) are required by Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). FYRs are conducted to ensure that human health and the environment are being protected by the response action being implemented. The fifth FYR is due August 2025. The USACE team holds in-person Public Meetings twice a year and virtual Citizen Outreach meetings twice a year.

Importance

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 7 is the lead regulator for the St. Louis Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP) sites. USACE works directly with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (MDHSS), the Department of Energy's Office of Legacy Management (DOE-LM) and local stakeholders. All this coordination helps to execute the approved ROD allowing for protection of human health and the environment while minimizing adverse effects on area residents and business operations.

Authority

The authority to investigate and remediate FUSRAP sites was transferred from DOE to USACE under the 1998 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act (Public Law 105-62).

Schedule

Remediation at the SLAPS VPS, including CWC and adjacent properties is projected to be complete in 2036, with turnover to DOE-LM for long-term management in 2038.

Activities for FY25

Remediate Latty Avenue/VP-38; 6 Coldwater Creek (CWC) adjacent properties and CWC; and finalize remedial decisions for Cades Cove Properties.

Activities after FY25

Continue remediation at CWC and adjacent properties.

Congressional Interest

Senate: Schmitt and Hawley (MO) House: Bell (MO-1), Wagner (MO-2) State: Boykin (MO 070), Clemens (MO 072), Rush (MO 067), Proudie (MO 073), Mosley (MO 075), STL CO Webb (D-4)

Financial

FY25 Presidents Budget: \$35,000,000 Federal Funds Allocated to Date: \$411,970,000