Grain Handling Facility at Freeman Site July 2024 Interim Action Update

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Toxics Cleanup Program
Eastern Region



Brief Background

- Historic operations at the grain handling facility released carbon tetrachloride
- Those releases contaminated the groundwater
- Well water at the Freeman School District and some residences is contaminated and being treated
 - Treated drinking water is safe and sampled routinely

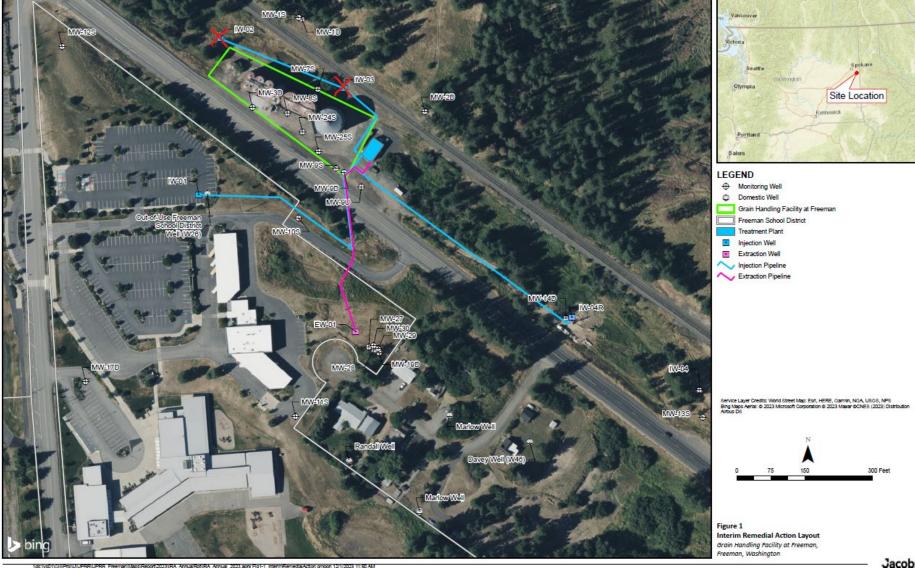


Interim Action

- Pump contaminated groundwater from the center of the plume to a treatment building at the grain handling facility
 - One extraction well east of bus barn
- Use carbon filters to remove contaminants
- Return treated clean water into the aquifer
 - Two infiltration wells; one in parking lot west of bus barn, one south on SR27



Interim Action System

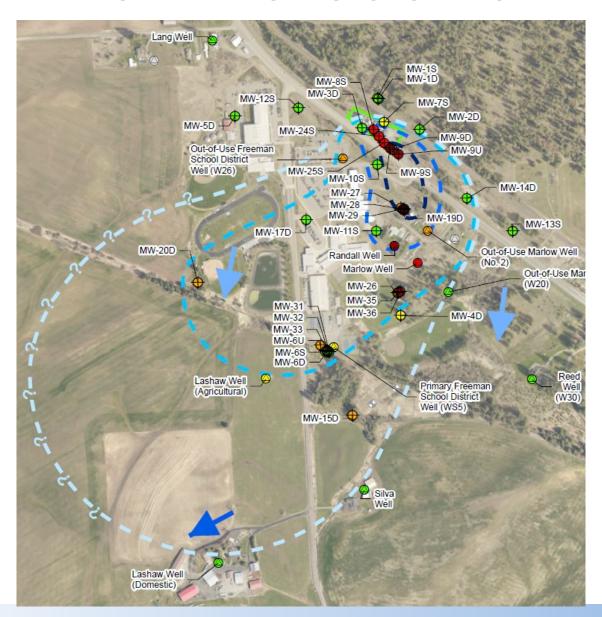


System Performance

- System operational July 2021
- 13 kilograms (2.2 gallons) of carbon tetrachloride removed – enough to contaminate almost 5.5 billion gallons of water (over 8,000 Olympic pools)
 - 0.79 kg chloroform
 - 0.01 kg carbon disulfide
- Reductions in groundwater concentrations
- No adverse impacts to aquifer/water supply

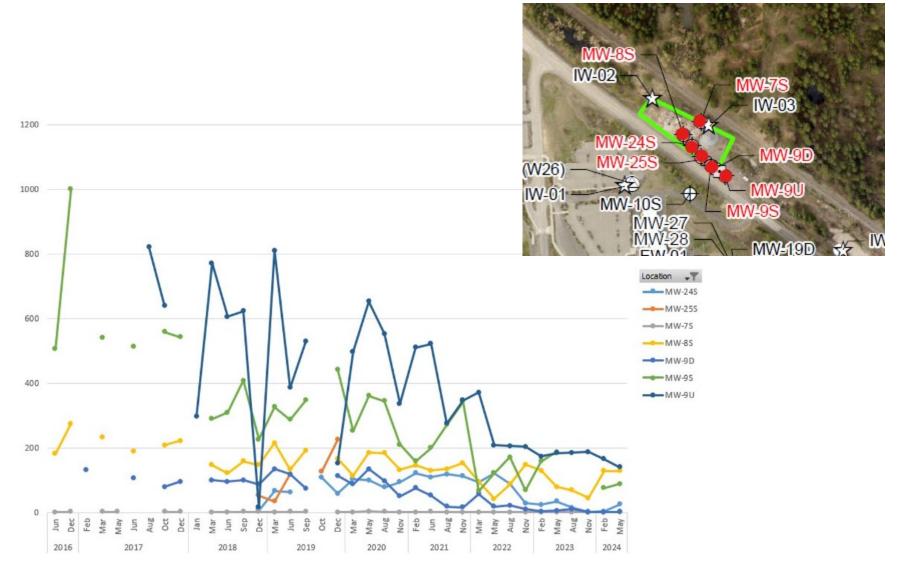


Groundwater Plume before interim action





Wells Near Release



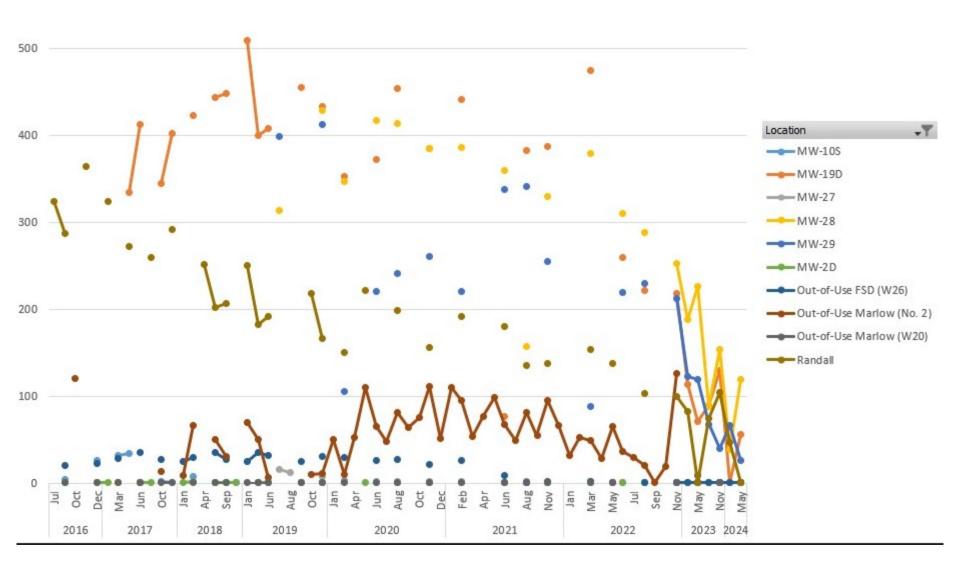


Wells Mid-Plume





Wells Mid-Plume



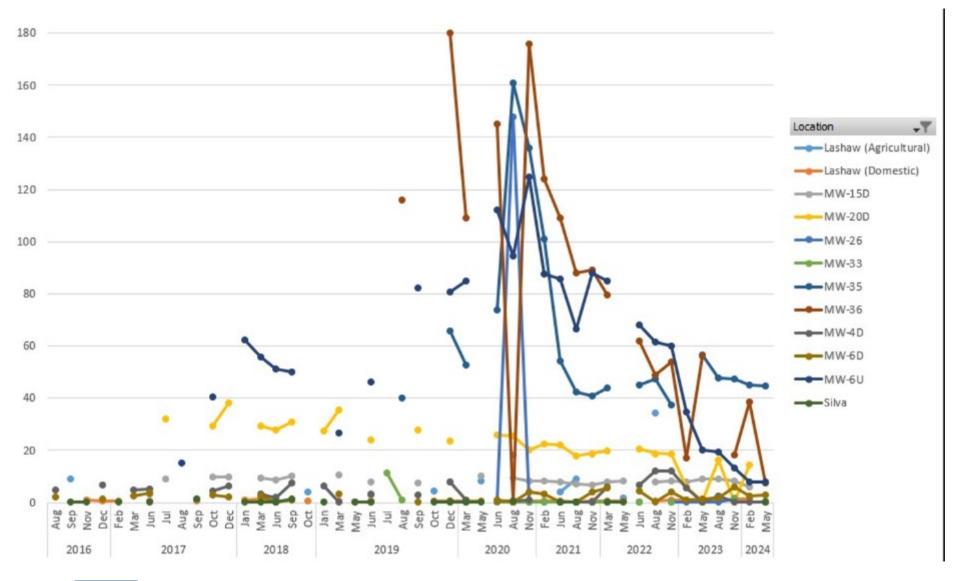


Wells Far-Plume



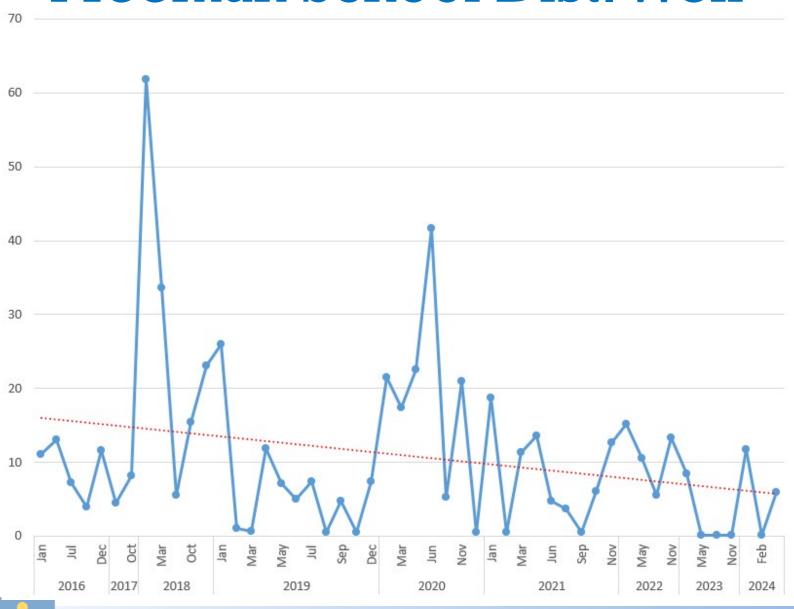


Wells Far-Plume

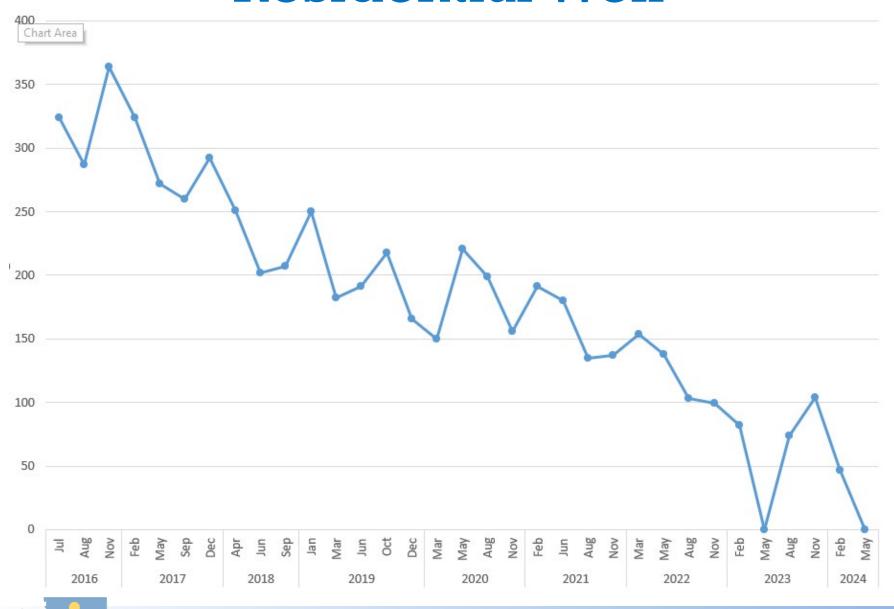




Freeman School Dist. Well



Residential Well



System Evaluation

- Purpose of using an interim action is to evaluate performance:
 - Optimal pumping rates
 - Performance and location of extraction well
 - Performance and location of infiltration wells
 - Impacts to concentrations/plume
 - System tweaks well fouling, vault flooding, flow limit valves
 - Impacts to water supply



Schedule Change

- Previously had planned to complete the Cleanup Action Plan (Ecology decision document) this year
- That will be delayed to give us more time to optimize the system
- Provides better flexibility to make system modifications and ensure no adverse impacts
- Committed to public outreach during this period



Next Steps

- Continue to operate interim action, with continual reevaluation of performance
- System may be adjusted as needed to determine best operational parameters
- Cleanup Action Plan will be delayed to allow for maximum flexibility
- Regular updates to the community
- Expected at least another 2–3 years of interim action



Thank you!

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