

Progress Continues on Investigation

Over several years Kaiser has completed many studies and done work to clean up contaminants at the Kaiser Trentwood site. In 2005, Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corporation, LLC (now Kaiser Aluminum Washington, LLC) entered into a legal agreement with the WA Department of Ecology. The agreement required Kaiser to conduct a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study at the site. The site is located at 15000 East Euclid Avenue, Spokane Valley, Spokane County, Washington (see Figure 1).



Kaiser Trentwood

The purpose of the Remedial Investigation (RI) was to obtain a more comprehensive understanding of what contaminants were in soil and groundwater at the site, where they were located, and how much was present.

In 2007 as part of this investigation, Kaiser found PCBs and petroleum contamination in soil at the West Discharge Ravine. This area of the Trentwood site was a former wastewater discharge point. The contamination in the ravine soils exceeded state standards.

Kaiser accelerated the necessary cleanup actions to remove contaminated soil from the ravine. The removal protected surface and groundwater and eliminated a potential source of contamination to the river. Ecology provided the public information and opportunity to comment on the proposed work at the ravine.

Additional Investigations Needed

A report of the overall investigation was completed in 2010 and an update was sent to the community. Since then, Ecology has determined additional investigations are necessary in the ravine area to more clearly define possible sources of PCB contamination in groundwater. This information is necessary to complete the draft Feasibility Study. The Feasibility Study (FS) evaluates information obtained from the RI and will outline cleanup options for contaminants still in soil and groundwater.

The date the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study Reports will be available for public comment has been moved to 2012 to accommodate the new information that will be gathered.

Update April 2011

Para asistencia en Español

Richelle Perez 360/407-7528

Если вам нужно помощь по русский, звоните

Tatyana Bistrevsky 509/928-7617

Technical Questions

Teresita Bala

WA Department of Ecology

4601 N. Monroe St.

Spokane WA 99205-1295

509/329-3543 tbal461@ecy.wa.gov

Public Involvement Questions

Carol Bergin

WA Department of Ecology

4601 N. Monroe St.

Spokane, WA 99205-1295

509/329-3546 cab461@ecy.wa.gov

Document Review Locations

WA Department of Ecology

4601 N. Monroe St.

Spokane, WA 99205-1295

Call Kari Johnson for appointment or CDs of the documents 509/329-3415

Spokane Public Library

906 W. Main, Spokane, WA 99201

Phone: 509/444-5300

Argonne County Library

4322 N. Argonne Spokane, WA 99206

Phone: 509/893-8260

Spokane Valley Library

12004 E. Main

Spokane Valley, WA 99216

Phone: 509/893-8400

Facility Site ID No. 53481373

Cleanup Site ID No. 7093

Why the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study Reports Matter

- The Remedial Investigation (RI) provides scientific data about contaminants in soil and groundwater at the site.
- The RI report evaluates risks to human health and the environment from potential exposure to contaminants.
- Information from the RI report will be used to develop cleanup options.
- The Feasibility Study Report will evaluate information from the RI report and outline possible cleanup solutions.

Site Overview

The site covers nearly 512 acres and lies over the Spokane Valley-Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer. The site is north and east of the Spokane River.

The U.S. Government Defense Plant Corporation created the Trentwood facility in 1942 to produce aluminum for World War II aircraft. Kaiser leased the facility in 1946 and later purchased it along with the property.

The Trentwood facility now operates as an aluminum sheet and plate rolling mill. Polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) oil, petroleum fuels, solvents, and chromium are some of the materials formerly used in connection with mill operations. Some wastes generated during past or present operations include wastewaters, chrome sludge, paint and solvent wastes, and black dross.

The Remedial Investigation Report

The RI Report provides analysis of soil in nine locations and analysis of groundwater at the site. It also includes an evaluation of potential risks to human health and the environment from site-related contaminants.

The report covers a large geographic area. Kaiser property includes northern and southern parcels. These two parcels are separated by a piece of land owned by the Inland Empire Land Company.

The southern parcel houses Kaiser's industrial operations, and the northern parcel is currently undeveloped. The RI Report focuses on the southern parcel and covers the following nine areas:

1. Oil House
2. Industrial Wastewater Treatment Area
3. Oil Reclamation Building and surrounding area
4. Cold Mill/Finishing Area
5. Remelt/Hot Line Area
6. Oil Reclamation to Wastewater Transfer Lines Area
7. Truck Shop Area
8. Discharge Ravines Area
9. Buffer Area

The documents associated with the RI are contained in five binders:

- 1-2 Draft Final Site-Wide Groundwater Remedial Investigation Volumes I and II (Appendix F).
- 3-4 Draft Final Site-Wide Soil Remedial Investigation Volumes I and II (Appendices).
- 5 Draft Final Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessments focused on soil.

Results of the Investigation

The investigation results cover a wide range of historical data and information, breakdown of geographic locations of the investigation, previous cleanup actions taken, detailed analyses and summaries, contaminants of concern, potential exposure issues, and other pertinent details. A brief summary of groundwater and soil results is provided in the following paragraphs.



Groundwater Results

There are some small areas where free phase petroleum product is present on the water table during late summer and fall when the groundwater levels are at their lowest. Kaiser recovered over 4,000 gallons of petroleum product as a result of actions taken since 1994.

Two trails of groundwater contamination called plumes are found at the site. The larger plume contains PCBs and originates in the Remelt area. Current analysis indicates the PCB plume has not reached the river.

The other plume encompasses two areas that are being contained with the current cleanup measures. It contains total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH), which are mostly diesel and heavy oil, along with PCBs. Carcinogenic polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (cPAHs) and metals are also found with the petroleum plume.

Currently, actions are being taken to contain the PCB TPH plume and recover petroleum product.

Soil Results

Several contaminants found in soil still exceed state standards. Some contaminants exceed these standards throughout the site, others only in certain locations. The contaminants include:

- Diesel and heavy oil
- Gasoline
- PCBs
- cPAHs
- Metals (arsenic, chromium, lead, iron and manganese)

Additional cleanup actions that may be necessary to address containments in groundwater and soil will be discussed in the Feasibility Study which will be available for review early 2012.

Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessments

As part of the Remedial Investigation, a human health and ecological risk assessment was conducted at the site. Twenty-five areas within the site were examined. The purpose of this assessment was to determine potential exposure to contaminants in soil. Potential exposure to groundwater contaminants are considered separately in the Remedial Investigation Report.

Results confirmed that more work needs to be completed to reduce potential human exposure to contaminants in soil and groundwater. Results also indicate there are no exposure risks to wildlife at the 25 areas studied within the site.

What Happens Next?

- Additional investigations will be conducted near the West Discharge Ravine area.
- The Feasibility Study will be completed.
- The Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study Reports will be made available for a formal public comment period in 2012.

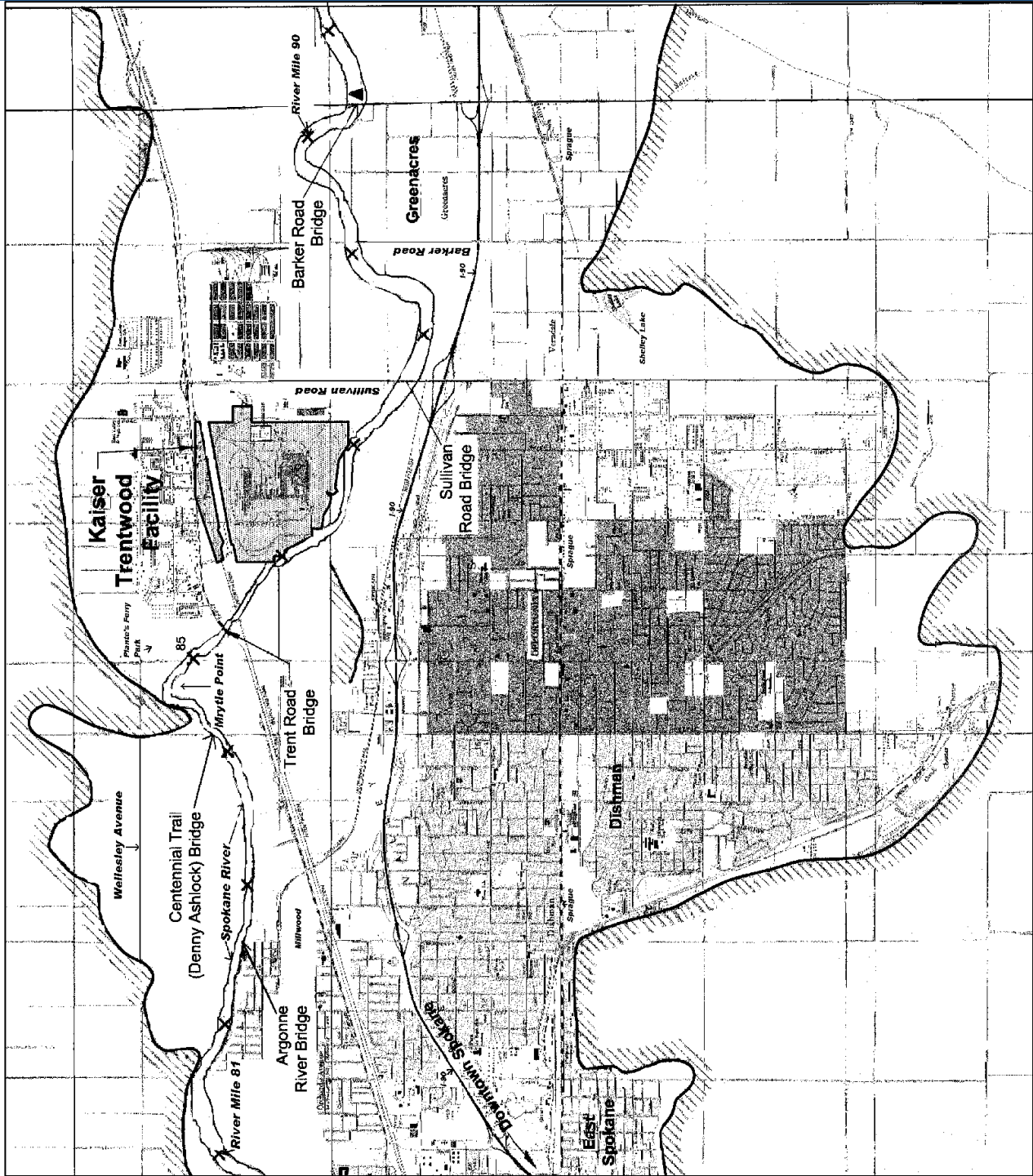
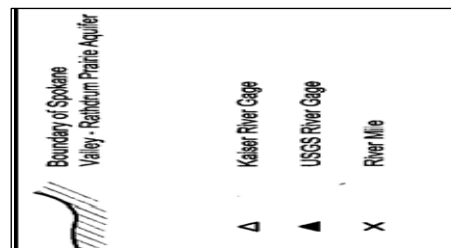


Figure 1 Kaiser Trentwood Facility Map



If you need this publication in an alternative format, call Carol Bergin at 509/329-3546. Persons with hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with speech disability call 877-833-6341