

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Areas of Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge were placed on the Superfund National Priorities List (NPL) in 1987. The NPL is a national list of hazardous waste sites which are prioritized for investigation and cleanup. A Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study was completed in 1988 for the Refuge and four separate OUs were designated for further investigation. A removal action was added later as the fifth project. In 1991, the USEPA, IEPA, Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department of the Army entered into a Federal Facilities Agreement for remedial investigation and actions at the Refuge. The FFA allows agencies to cooperatively investigate Superfund environmental problems caused by past waste disposal operations, conduct necessary cleanup and long term monitoring, and ensure protection of public health and the environment.

As a bureau of the Department of Interior, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service protects, preserves, enhances and restores fish and wildlife resources throughout the Nation. Region 3 of the Service has responsibility for 31 National Wildlife Refuges, 5 National Fish Hatcheries, 8 Fishery Resources offices, 8 designated Wilderness Areas, 9 Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Offices and an Environmental Management Technical Center within the states of Minnesota, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, Ohio, Michigan and Indiana.

NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS:

NEWS CONFERENCE ON CRAB ORCHARD SUPERFUND INVESTIGATION

A news conference will be conducted at 6:45 pm on Tuesday, April 5, 1994 at the Visitor's Center on the Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge. Informational materials will be distributed. Representatives from USEPA, IEPA, USFWS and the Army will be present to respond to questions regarding the Miscellaneous Areas Operable Unit environmental investigation at the Refuge. If you have any questions regarding this news conference please contact Vanessa Musgrave at the Refuge at 618-997-5491 or, on the night of the news conference, at the Visitor's Center at 618-997-3344.



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