



River Corridor Closure Project

Recovery Act Weekly Report

For the week ending November 22, 2009

Contract DE-AC06-05RL14655

Protecting the Columbia River

Overview

Background Summary of Projects that Washington Closure Hanford (WCH) will accomplish using ARRA funds (pending definitization of scope and contract modifications).

A. The Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility (ERDF)

ERDF is the hub of the WCH scope of work and supports a major portion of other Hanford contractor (OHC) waste disposal. Wastes collected from sites around the Hanford complex are brought to ERDF for treatment and disposal. WCH operates the ERDF and is currently using ARRA funds to upgrade and expand its capabilities to meet the needs of Hanford's accelerating mission.

B. The 618-10 Burial Grounds

The trenches at 618-10 have long been regarded as some of Hanford's worst waste sites. Using ARRA funds, WCH will characterize the site. Intrusive and non-intrusive techniques will be used, and the subsequent analysis of data will enable the project to pursue remediation of the site safely and effectively.

C. The 618-11 Burial Grounds

Along with 618-10, the 618-11 Burial Grounds are among the biggest challenges faced by WCH using ARRA funds. The 618-11 characterization work will require special care because of its proximity to the Energy Northwest Generating Facility, north of the 300 Area.

D. Waste Site Remediation

WCH is employing ARRA funds to clean up many failed waste sites not originally part of its contract. Sites in the 100-F and IU 2&6 segments 1&2 are proposed for waste site remediation in the two year period starting in October 2009.

E. Confirmatory Sampling of other new sites

WCH is proposing to complete the early sampling process of 66 potential waste sites using ARRA funds. Confirmatory sampling is performed for sites that require additional information for determining if the site requires remediation. Details including chemicals of potential concern, specific sample locations, frequencies, sampling protocols, and analytical methods are presented in site-specific work instructions. Samples are then collected and analyzed for radionuclide and/or non-radionuclide chemicals of potential concern to determine if the site requires remedial action.

This weekly report will provide evidence of these activities as they occur in support of ARRA.

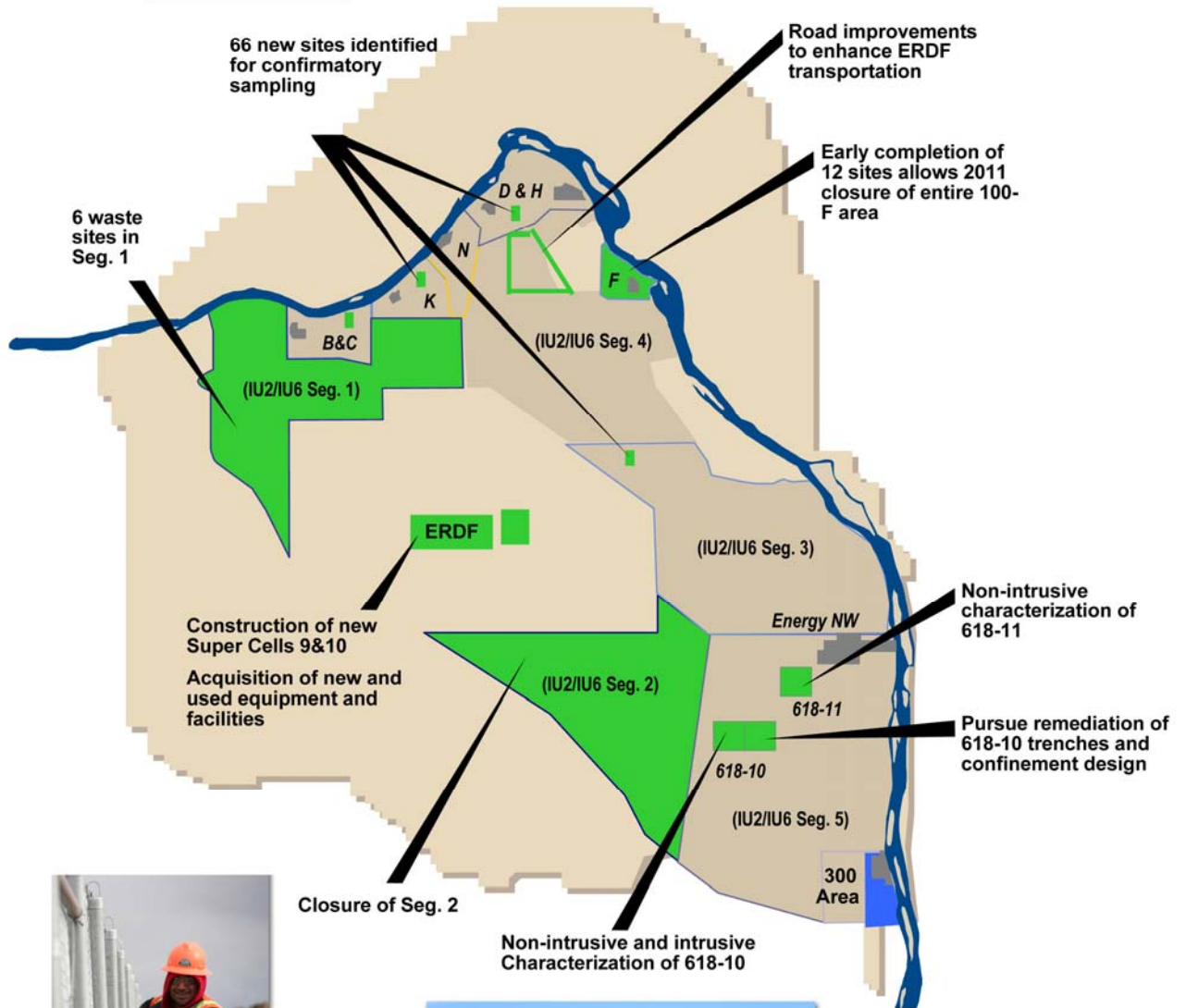
The following figure illustrates the overall scope of WCH's ARRA projects.



Overview (Continued)

2015 Vision Hanford Site Cleanup River Corridor Cleanup Completion

ARRA Scope



Safety

Safety Accomplishments

As of October 25, WCH and its subcontractors have safely worked more than 79,000 hours of ARRA scope. There have been no safety incidents through November 22, 2009.

Hazard Reductions

As the contractor for the River Corridor Closure (RCC) Project, WCH is charged with continually striving for safety excellence by implementing strategic safety and conduct of operations improvements in response to customer requirements or areas perceived need attention.

In June, WCH kicked off its Safety Ownership Program (SOP) activities designed to raise awareness of important principles that help us work safely, to provide practical tools and exercises designed to help staff know when performance is substandard, and, ultimately, to make improvements. The principles are organized under four SOP tenets:

- Follow the Instruction
- Ask the Question
- Fix it Now
- Own the Result.

On Monday, November 30, WCH management and safety representatives will meet with workers for a “Safety Refocus.” These refocus meetings, held after each holiday vacation, are designed to refresh employees’ focus on job safety. The meetings are meant to reiterate the critical importance of safety. The agenda for the November 30 meeting includes:

- Why Safety Ownership Program?
- How it works
- Safety Ownership Program
- The Four Tenets
- Status
- What does it mean to you?
- Where are we now
- What is our ultimate goal?
- Clean off icy areas
- Use ice-melt and sand on stairs and walking paths
- Wear footwear appropriate for the conditions
- Walk on designated paths.

Note

No report will be issued December 1. The report issued December 8 will include pertinent information that would have been included in the December 1 report.



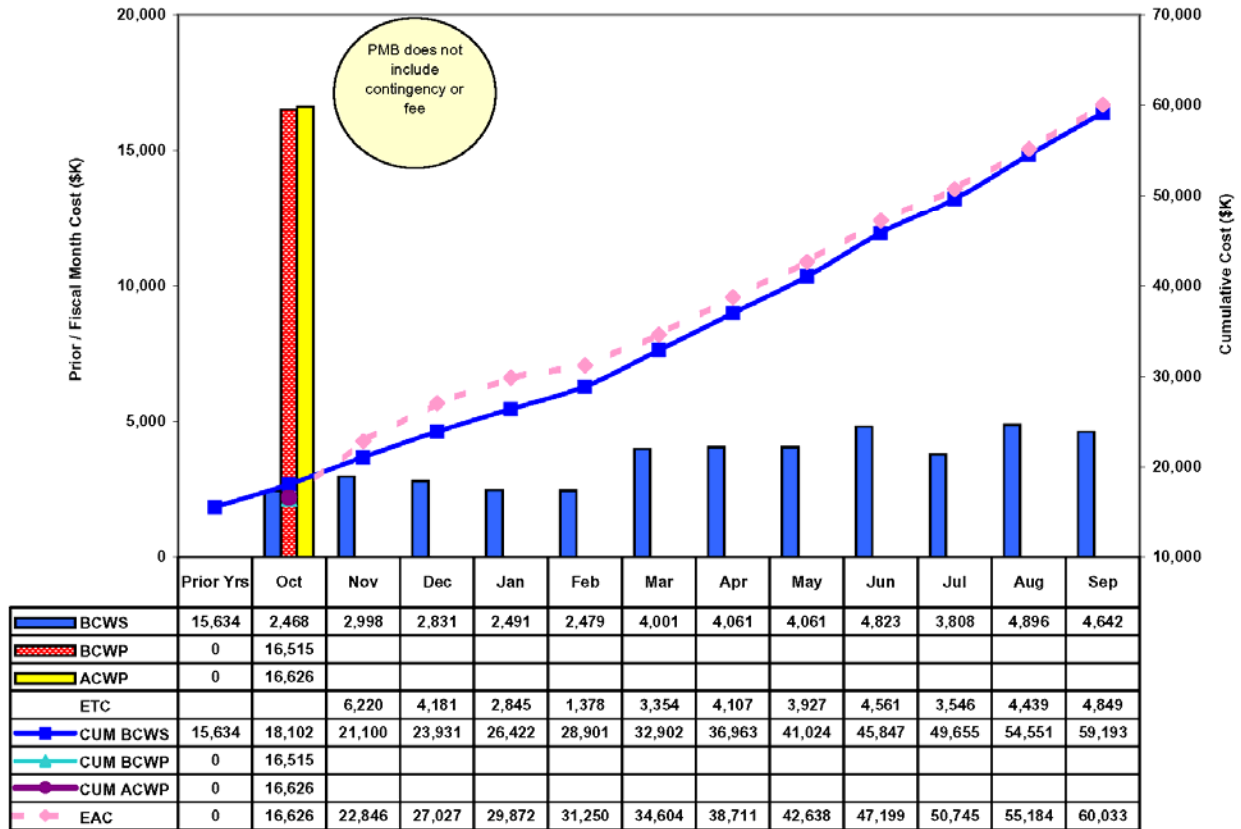
Contract Status

Contract Mod #	Date	Scope	Obligated (\$M) (Inception to Date)	Not to Exceed (\$M) (Inception to Date)
099	4/9/09	ERDF Cell Expansion & Upgrades; 618-10 NIC	\$203.0	\$28.0
105	4/30/09	ERDF Cell Expansion & Upgrades; 618-10 NIC	\$203.0	\$44.5
126	7/23/09	H.37 Clause - Reporting Requirements	N/A	N/A
139	9/3/09	ERDF Cell Expansion & Upgrades; 618-10 NIC	\$253.6	\$44.5
142	9/30/09	ERDF Cell Expansion & Upgrades; 618-10 NIC; Road Upgrades; Remediation of Orphan Sites	\$253.6	\$123.8

Contract Modification #142 is the definition of the Phase 1 scope of work and was incorporated into the Integrated Project Baseline (IPB) (Performance Measurement Baseline) beginning with October 2009 reporting.

Cost

RCC Project - ARRA
Current Performance Measurement Baseline (PMB)
Prior Years / FY10 Fiscal Month



ERDF

Super Cells 9 and 10 Construction

Under subcontract to WCH, DelHur Industries has excavated 1,316,525 cubic yards of material for super cell 9 (including 263,913 cubic yards of stockpile removal). Excavation is 67% complete.

Bids have been received for the excavation of super cell 10 and the construction of super cells 9 and 10. The technical review has been completed. WCH will submit the award package in early December to DOE. Final award is expected in February after the DOE review.

Facility and Equipment Upgrades

DelHur Industries personnel pulled the power to the reader board at the third scale. The reader board, which is part of the waste tracking system, accommodates traffic from the back road into ERDF. The scale is scheduled to begin operation the first week of December.



ERDF (Continued)



The reader board has been installed at the third scale at ERDF. The scale is expected to begin operation in mid-December.

Richland subcontractor George A. Grant Inc. finished subgrading work and began laying 4 inches of gravel on the back road into ERDF. Weather permitting, paving will begin November 30 and the road will be completed by mid-December.

ERDF (Continued)



George A. Grant Inc. completed subgrading the back road to ERDF and is scheduled to begin paving November 30.

Mission Support Alliance began work to repair several Hanford Site roads used by haul trucks to transport radioactive and mixed waste for disposal at ERDF. A 900-foot section of broken-up asphalt on Route I will be scraped and a 2-inch overlay will be applied. Potholes on Route 1 and Federal Avenue also will be fixed. The repairs will keep roads operational through winter, with more extensive repairs to be made next spring.

ERDF (Continued)



Road crews begin to scrape a 900-foot section of Route 1 that will require a 2-inch overlay of asphalt.

The engineering staff continues to develop a scope of work and specifications necessary for issuing a request for proposals (RFP) to expand the truck maintenance facility, and construct new equipment maintenance and container maintenance facilities. An RFP is expected to be issued by the end of the year.

Preparations also are being made to issue a RFP to build a new onsite refueling station and a new septic system. The refueling station will service about 65 vehicles, ranging from passenger vehicles to tractor-trailers.

Two more haul trucks were received, bringing the total to 14 of 20. Twelve waste containers also arrived, raising the total to 122 of 150 received to date. The trucks are from Peters and Keats of Lewiston, Idaho, and the containers are from Rule Steel of Caldwell, Idaho.

Upcoming Activities

- Continue excavation of super cell 9. Excavation is on schedule to be completed in January.

Profile

The Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility is a beehive of activity. Haul trucks, water trucks, bulldozers, and dump trucks are in constant motion at Hanford's low-level radioactive and mixed-waste landfill. And, as increasing amounts of cleanup waste are disposed by WCH and other Hanford contractors, expansion and upgrades are in high gear, too.

All the commotion makes Tim Wintle feel right at home.

"I like the fast-paced projects," said Wintle, who joined WCH in July as a senior engineer. "We plan the project, start the job, and get it done."

Wintle's opportunity to work in such an environment was created by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. He previously worked for a Boise engineering firm specializing in residential and commercial subdivision projects but was unemployed at the time he was hired. He found out about WCH through a friend who is tied into the Project Management Institute network.

"I guess I'm a poster boy for ARRA," said Wintle, who holds a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from California State University in Chico, California.

Wintle describes his new job as "working on all the small projects" in support of ERDF operations. These projects include the construction of access ramps and preliminary designs for relocating a water-fill station, as well as building a new septic system, fueling station, and main entrance to ERDF.

Wintle also provided construction and engineering support for the creation of a container transfer area used by other Hanford contractors. One of his latest projects was the pavement design of the back road into the facility, which will improve safety and traffic flow for other Hanford contractor waste shipments for disposal.



Profile (Continued)



Tim Wintle joined Washington Closure Hanford in July as a senior engineer. His job was created through Recovery Act funding.

618-10 Burial Ground

618-10 Non-Intrusive Characterization/Trench Remediation Project

North Wind Inc. continues to install cone penetrometers around the vertical pipe units (VPUs). Cone penetrometers are long steel tubes that will accommodate the multi-detector probe (MDP) instrumentation used to determine the type, amount, and distribution of radioactive materials within the 23 waste trenches and the 94 vertical pipe units (VPUs). Typically, VPUs are five open-ended 55-gallon drums welded together end to end. During the mid-1950s to the early 1960s, high activity waste was dumped into the VPUs.

Four cone penetrometers are being installed 6 to 8 inches around each of the 94 VPUs to support radiological characterization with the MDP instrumentation. The cone penetrometers will be driven to a target depth of approximately 3 feet below each VPU. An inclinometer is a device inserted into the first 8 feet of cone penetrometers to verify their vertical orientation before driving them to the target depth. Because of inclinometer equipment problems encountered during initial installation last week, the cone penetrometers were installed to a depth of 8 feet awaiting inclinometer repair. Through November 18, North Wind has installed 236 cone penetrometers to a depth of 8 feet. An inclinometer has been repaired, is back in service, and workers have resumed driving the 236 cone penetrometers to their targeted depth.



North Wind Inc. has installed 236 cone penetrometers to a depth of 8 feet at the 618-10 Burial Ground.

618-10 Burial Ground (Continued)

Road work at 618-10 was completed last week. Crews installed entrance and exit lanes, paved the median, and restriped the road.



Road crews completed paving the median and the entrance/exit lanes at the 618-10 Burial Ground.

Upcoming Activities

- Continue installing cone penetrometers around VPUs.
- Continue reviewing subcontractor submittals.
- Initiate trench radiological characterization activities.
- Continue preparation of the records search summary report.
- Continue confinement design criteria development activities.
- Continue soil sampling project startup review development activities.

100-F Area

A walkdown of remediation sites was completed at the 100-F Area. The walkdown included U.S. Department of Energy and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency project managers, environmental and archeological specialists, and engineers preparing the design.

The purpose of the walkdown was to develop a common understanding of the remediation scope of work for the sites and to begin identifying potential cultural and ecological limitations. The remediation sites are: 100-F-26:4 pipeline, 100-F-26:7 pipeline, 100-F-44:8 piping, 100-F-44:9 pipeline, 100-F-45 riverbank pipeline, 100-F-47 substation, 100-F-48 coal pit debris, 100-F-49 maintenance garage, 100-F-51 fish lab, 100-F-55 ash layer, 100-F-56 scattered surface debris, 100-F-57 pump house pipe cradle debris, and 100-F-58 scattered ACM debris.

Design drawings have been drafted and are in the review stage. Preparation of nuclear safety documents are expected to begin next week.



An ecological walkdown was conducted of the 100-F Area sites that have been identified for remediation.

100-F Area (Continued)

Video

[Click here to view video of walkdown of 100-F Area remediation sites.](#)

IU 2 & 6 Segment 1

Work continues on fire protection evaluation and scope of work documents. Cultural and ecological reviews also continue. Design activities are expected to be completed in mid-January.

The sites at IU 2&6 Segment 1 are smaller than those found at 100-F Area and contain mostly surface debris that must be removed and transported to an approved disposal facility. The strategy for this overall effort is to utilize the onsite capabilities of an existing subcontractor who will be tasked with remediating the sites beginning in March 2010. Full remediation, including transportation and disposal of excavated waste, sampling and waste site closeout documentation, backfill, and revegetation is to be completed by February 2011.



Confirmatory Sampling

Initial planning has been completed for confirmatory sampling of 66 sites near the Columbia River. Some sites were used as burn pits and tar dumps, while others were used to store batteries or are suspected of housing dichromate facilities. It's not clear what the remaining sites might contain.

The team continued drafting sampling instructions for waste sites at the 100-D Area. Development of sampling instructions includes conducting historical research and consulting regulatory documents, developing a list of contaminants of potential concern to be sampled, and determining potential sample locations for review by DOE and Hanford Site regulators. Initial drafts of seven other sampling instructions have been completed and are being reviewed by WCH subject matter experts and sampling personnel.

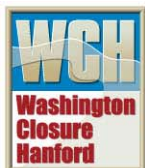
The team also completed drafting closure documentation for two waste sites. The sites have historic data or information gained during remediation of other nearby sites to support closure without further sample collection. After review by WCH subject matter experts, the documentation will be submitted to DOE and Hanford Site regulators for review.

Planning for 100-D Area pipeline waste sites continued. The sites consist of many pipe segments that are frequently not related to one another. Therefore, pipeline sites are usually broken into smaller, more manageable subsites based on usage, location, and relationship to other waste sites. Individual sampling instructions are then drafted for each subsite.

As specific excavation and sampling details are finalized, readiness checks will be completed to ensure all field work will be performed in compliance with environmental and safety laws, DOE directives, and best work practices. Most of the readiness checks require the process to be further along, but planning has started with the various subject matter experts who will support the work, particularly ecological and cultural resource specialists.

Work also continues on developing a scope of work and other procurement documentation. In late 2009 or early 2010, WCH will issue a request for proposals for a company to provide excavation and sampling support for the 66 sites. Sites that pass the confirmatory sampling process will be closed out and no further action will be required under the existing interim record of decision. Those that fail will be recommended for cleanup to meet regulatory standards.

Sampling of the sites is expected to begin in spring 2010.



General

Mentoring/Training

No significant activities this week.

Media, Visits, Press Releases

No significant activities this week.

Contracting Actions

- Issued Construction Quality Assurance Request for Proposal for ERDF super cells 9 and 10.
- Issued ERDF septic system improvements request for proposal.
- Announced intent to award request for proposal for ERDF super cells 9 and 10 construction.
- Two used Caterpillar dozers were delivered.

