

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY
RICHMOND BAY CAMPUS
RICHMOND FIELD STATION SITE
MONTHLY SUMMARY REPORT
January 14, 2020

This monthly summary report (MSR) summarizes environmental site investigation and remediation activities conducted on behalf of The Regents of the University of California (UC) at the University of California, Berkeley's Richmond Field Station Site in accordance with Section 6.3 of the California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) Site Investigation and Remediation Order (Order), Docket No. I/SE-RAO 06/07-004, effective on September 20, 2006.

a. Specific actions taken by or on behalf of Respondents during the previous calendar month (December 2019).

- On December 12, 2019 UC Berkeley staff conducted its monthly meeting with DTSC to provide project updates and to coordinate anticipated activities.
- On October 28, 2019 Soil Management Plan Form A was submitted to DTSC for the excavation of a bio-retention stormwater management area as part of the construction of the fourth phase of the Northern Regional Library Complex. Form B and a sampling approach were submitted on November 21, 2019. DTSC provided comments on the sampling approach on November 25, 2019, and a revised approach was submitted December 3, 2019.
- Piezometer MFA was deconstructed on December 24, 2019, in order to allow for the excavation of the mercury-impacted soils adjacent to the piezometer in January 2020. A letter describing the deconstruction was submitted to DTSC on November 26, 2019. The deconstruction activities consisted of drilling out the piezometer with a hollow-stem auger drill rig. The event was conducted under the oversight of the Contra Costa County Environmental Health Department.
- A site visit with DTSC for the five-year review of the 2014 Final Removal Action Workplan, Richmond Bay Campus, Research, Education, and Support Area within the Former Richmond Field Station Site occurred August 15, 2019 at the Richmond Field Station. At the September 12, 2019 monthly DTSC meeting, it was confirmed that there has been no change in the habitat areas at the RFS. On August 30, 2019, a public notice for the five-year review of the RAW was published in the West County Times. The Five-Year Review report was submitted to DTSC on December 31, 2019.

b. Actions expected to be undertaken during the current calendar month (January 2020).

- On January 9, 2020 UC Berkeley staff conducted its monthly meeting with DTSC to provide project updates and to coordinate anticipated activities.
- Phase V Field Sampling Plan investigations for the Bulb, Western Transition Area, and EPA South Meadow were completed November 6 - 13, 2019. Thirty-eight potholes were excavated, sampled, and backfilled throughout the areas, per the final sampling plan. PCB sampling results are expected in January. Based on the field sampling plan, archived samples will be analyzed following review of the initial samples with DTSC and EPA.

- The draft annual groundwater monitoring report for 2018-19 was submitted to DTSC on August 2, 2019. DTSC provided a comment letter on September 23, 2019 requesting the appendix of well monitoring issues identified and corrective actions taken within 45 days. On November 7, 2019 the requested appendix was submitted to DTSC. DTSC approved Appendix E on December 30, 2019. A final hardcopy will be delivered to DTSC and the City of Richmond Public Library in January.
- The Mercury Fulminate Area removal action implementation began on January 7, 2020. The soil is being removed with a large excavator and is being directly loaded into covered trucks for disposal. The work is anticipated to take three to four weeks to complete.

c. All planned activities for the next month (February 2020)

- The next monthly meeting with DTSC to provide project updates and to coordinate anticipated activities will be held February 13, 2020.
- UC Berkeley issued the Final Phase V Sampling Results Technical Memorandum to DTSC on October 15, 2018 and held a multi-agency meeting on November 28, 2018 to review and discuss the report findings. The scope of the technical memorandum was sediment sampling with the original Western Stege Marsh only. In December 2019, to answer questions relating to the viability of the Ridgway's rail population in Western Stege Marsh, UC Berkeley started the design of a rail study for agency review in November. The first draft of the study design is anticipated in February.
- A TSCA PCB risk-based disposal approval for the EPA North Meadow soil pile excavation areas was submitted to EPA on August 15, 2018, with additional certification language submitted on August 29, 2018. EPA sent an approval letter on September 6, 2018. UC Berkeley collected the perimeter confirmation samples on May 15 and 16, 2019 to ensure the proper volumes are included in the draft plans and specifications. Lab results from the perimeter decision unit sampling, indicated step outs were necessary. New perimeter decision units were proposed to DTSC and EPA on June 3. Concurrence was received on June 4, and sampling was completed on June 12, 2019. Lab results from the step-out perimeter decision unit sampling indicated further step outs were necessary. Additional perimeter decision units were proposed to DTSC and EPA on July 8. Concurrence was received on July 9, and sampling was completed on July 19th. An arborist has provided consult on the excavation, and will delineate the tree drip-line as the recommended excavation boundary. Draft plans and specifications will be submitted to DTSC and EPA for review and approval in February.

d. Any requirements under the Order that were not completed.

- None.

e. Any problems or anticipated problems in complying with this Order.

- Completion of the RAW removal actions, continued efforts under the Field Sampling Workplan, and other tasks is dependent on the ability to meet with DTSC staff on a timely basis and may require adjusting schedules and extensions of deadlines.