

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY
RICHMOND BAY CAMPUS
RICHMOND FIELD STATION SITE
MONTHLY SUMMARY REPORT
April 15, 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 (March 2020).

- On March 12, 2020 UC Berkeley staff conducted its monthly meeting with DTSC to provide project updates and to coordinate anticipated activities.
- On January 31, 2020 a near surface sediment sample was collected from the Western Stege Marsh as part of continued annual monitoring for worker protection and evaluation of current near surface sediment conditions consistent with the March 2008 Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry Public Health Assessment and California Department of Public Health findings and recommendations. A report on the sampling was submitted to DTSC and EPA on March 3, 2020.
- On December 31, 2019 a Five-Year Review report of the 2014 Final Removal Action Workplan, Richmond Bay Campus, Research, Education, and Support Area within the Former Richmond Field Station Site was submitted to DTSC on December 31, 2019. On March 30, 2020, EPA provided comments. It is anticipated all comments on the Five-Year Review will reviewed and addressed in May following receipt of DTSC comments.

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

- Due to the shelter-in-place order, the April monthly meeting with DTSC was canceled.
- 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 were received in January. A draft analysis of the results, and a proposal of archived samples to analyze was provided to EPA and DTSC via email on February 7, 2020. A meeting with EPA and DTSC to review proposed archived samples was held on April 14, 2020, and DTSC provided additional archive samples to be analyzed via email on April 15, 2020. Archived samples will be analyzed in April in accordance with the field sampling plan and consistent with comments received from EPA and DTSC.
- UC Berkeley issued the Final Phase V Sampling Results Technical Memorandum, Western Stege Marsh to DTSC on October 15, 2018 and held a multi-agency meeting on November 28, 2018 to review and discuss the report findings. In response to questions regarding the rail population in Western Stege Marsh, UC Berkeley is completed three active rail surveys prior to better understand the stability and viability of the rail population. All three active surveys

were completed in spring 2020, and a fourth passive survey was conducted in early April. A report summarizing these findings will be prepared in summer 2020.

- 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 provided consult on the excavation on March 10, 2020, and will delineate tree driplines. Draft plans and specifications will be submitted to DTSC and EPA for review and approval in April.

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

- The next monthly meeting with DTSC to provide project updates and to coordinate anticipated activities will be held May 14, 2020.
- Annual groundwater monitoring, which typically occurs in early April was delayed due to the shelter-in-place order, and will be rescheduled to summer 2020.
- An application for a risk-based PCB cleanup for the Corporation Yard and B150 Transformer Area Removal Action Workplan excavation areas was submitted to EPA August 8, 2017. The application was approved by EPA on September 1, 2017. The Corporation Yard removal action was completed from October 10, 2017 to November 1, 2017 after which the excavation areas were lined with filter fabric and filled with clean soil. Step-out soil sampling in portions of the Corporation Yard was completed during the week of January 16, 2018. On September 11, 2018, B120 concrete floor was sampled in order to determine if it can be re-released for use by the RFS Facilities Management or whether remediation of the floor is needed. Additional data gap sampling for residual PCBs was completed September 25-30, 2019. The data gap sampling results letter was submitted to DTSC and EPA on November 22, 2019. Following a meeting with DTSC and EPA to discuss the data gap sampling results on April 14, 2020, UC Berkeley will further analyze the results.
- The Mercury Fulminate Area removal action described in the July 2014 RAW, and updated in the October 21, 2019 Excavation Update Summary, began on January 7, 2020 and was completed on January 28, 2020. Approximately 1,900 cubic yards of mercury contaminated soil was disposed of offsite. Waste water pumped from the excavations soil were disposed of offsite. All remaining cubic yard boxes of mercury contaminated soil were transported offsite for disposal on February 21, 2020. Final site finishing activities, including placement of woodchips over disturbed areas will be completed this month. A permanent fence replacing 100ft of temporary fencing along the external boundary of the MFA will be installed in May. The draft removal action summary report will be completed in spring 2020.
- 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. The revised approach was approved March 13, 2020. It is anticipated that the sampling will be completed in May 2020.

- 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. UC Berkeley will provide a recommendation to DTSC to replace the deconstructed piezometer MFA at the original location.

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.