

NPL Site Narrative for Whitewood Creek

WHITEWOOD CREEK

Whitewood, South Dakota

Conditions at listing (October 1981): Over 100 years worth of gold mining and mill tailings have discharged into approximately 20 miles of Whitewood Creek near Whitewood in the Black Hills area of South Dakota. Heavy metals contaminate soil, ground water, and surface water.

This is the top priority site in South Dakota.

Status (July 1983): Under a voluntary agreement, EPA, the State, and Homestake Mining Co., which has operated in the area, are proceeding with a remedial investigation along the contaminated segment of the creek. The investigation will identify the location and condition of tailings materials, the existence and forms of the contaminants, and the potential for human health or environmental problems. The work is scheduled to be completed in the fourth quarter of 1984.

For more information about the hazardous substances identified in this narrative summary, including general information regarding the effects of exposure to these substances on human health, please see the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) ToxFAQs. ATSDR ToxFAQs can be found on the Internet at [ATSDR - ToxFAQs](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/index.asp) (<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/index.asp>) or by telephone at 1-888-42-ATSDR or 1-888-422-8737.