

# Kanawha River Removal Response Action – July 25, 2018

## Kanawha River, West Virginia

Project Fact Sheet

KANAWHA RIVER LOOKING NORTH TOWARD I-64 BRIDGE

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) continues to oversee the cleanup of the fourteen-mile stretch of the Kanawha River between the Coal River and the Winfield Dam (the Study Area). This Fact Sheet provides the community with an overview of the cleanup activities that have occurred and that are planned for 2018 and beyond.

### Project Background

Since 2004, EPA has overseen an investigation of the extent of 2,3,7,8-tetrachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin (2,3,7,8-TCDD) impacts within the Study Area. Activities included:

- ▶ An evaluation of pre-2004 sampling data
- ▶ Identification of potential 2,3,7,8-TCDD sources to the Study Area,
- ▶ Surface water sampling,
- ▶ Fish tissue sampling,
- ▶ A sediment bathymetric and geophysical survey,
- ▶ Development of a conceptual model, and
- ▶ Evaluation of 2,3,7,8-TCDD recovery trends for the Study Area.

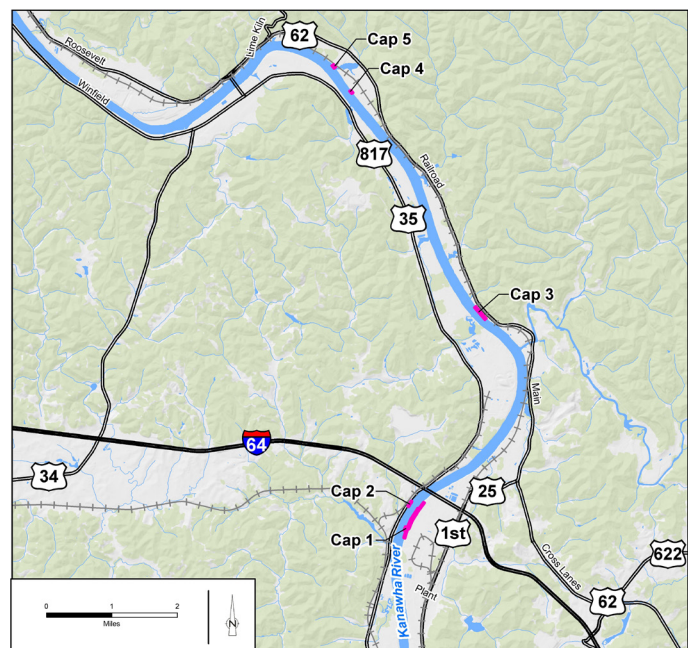
This work is memorialized in:

- ▶ Preliminary Report, Phase I Extent of Contamination (EOC) Study, Kanawha River, Nitro, West Virginia, Conestoga-Rovers & Associates, December 9, 2005.
- ▶ West Virginia, Conestoga-Rovers & Associates, December 9, 2005. West Virginia, Conestoga-Rovers & Associates, December 9, 2005.

Building on the investigation, EPA evaluated the effectiveness, implementability and cost of an array of cleanup alternatives. A 30-day public comment period was initiated on August 25, 2016. EPA considered the comments received prior to selecting its preferred alternative in January 2017.

These activities are documented in:

- ▶ Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis Report, Kanawha River, Nitro, West Virginia, Conestoga-Rovers & Associates, February 25, 2015.
- ▶ Action Memorandum, USEPA, dated January 9, 2017.
- ▶ 100% Design Report, Kanawha River, Nitro, West Virginia, GHD, June 6, 2018.



CAP PLACEMENT LOCATIONS

## Selected Removal Action

The selected removal action for the Study Area consists of the following major components:

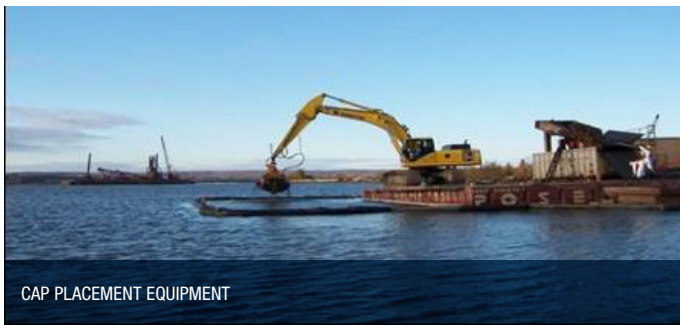
1. Installation of armored capping in five locations. The caps will all be constructed below the normal water level of the River and do not impact the navigation channel of the River. The total area to be capped is approximately 12 acres. Each cap will include, from bottom to top:
  - A 6-inch sand isolation layer
  - A 6-inch gravel filter layer
  - An 18-inch rip rap armor layer
2. Best Management Practices (BMPs) including engineering controls such as turbidity curtains, a Broadcast Capping System using satellite navigation in conjunction with multibeam bathymetry to ensure proper placement and thickness of the Cap.
3. Long Term Monitoring and Maintenance to inspect and if necessary, repair armored cap areas and monitor the natural recovery in the Study Area through periodic fish tissue, sediment and surface water sampling.

4. Institutional Controls (ICs) such as adding the cap locations to navigation charts to protect the caps from future damage by barge traffic and other river operations. ICs are administrative or legal controls to prevent potential for human exposure to contamination and/or protect the integrity of the remedy.

## Upcoming Activities Summary

Cap installation is planned for 2018. The cap locations are near the shore, away from the main navigation channel, and should not impact the use of the river by recreational boaters, fishermen, or commercial traffic. Once the project is underway, a series of barges will traverse the Kanawha River and begin shipping cap materials to the remediation site. Residents may notice an increase of activity within the river channel once the project begins. Following initial mobilization, cap placement will utilize water-based construction equipment working from barges. Residents may observe equipment such as backhoes or clamshells working from the barges to place the cap materials. The contractor's activities will be coordinated with the US Army Corps of Engineers and the US Coast Guard.

Information on the project can be found at [response.epa.gov/kanawhariverdioxin](https://response.epa.gov/kanawhariverdioxin).



## Contact Information

If you would like more information about this project, please contact the following:

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