

NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST (NPL)

Final Site

March 2012

SOUTHEASTERN WOOD PRESERVING | **Canton, Mississippi**
*Madison County*** Site Location:**

The Southeastern Wood Preserving site is a 25-acre property located in the northernmost part of the City of Canton, Mississippi. The site is bordered on one side by Batchelor Creek.

 Site History:

Between 1928 and 1979 several companies conducted wood treating operations at the site. Coal tar creosote and pentachlorophenol (PCP) were used as wood preservatives. Three unlined wastewater treatment surface impoundments were constructed for disposal of wood preserving treatment sludges and process wastewater. Prior to 1977, the facility reportedly discharged approximately 50,000 gallons of wastewater directly into Batchelor Creek.

 Site Contamination/Contaminants:

Soil, sediment and ground water are contaminated with creosote and creosote-related compounds. Investigations have identified that free-phase creosote is entering Batchelor Creek along a stretch of approximately 700 feet. The downstream extent of sediment impact was determined to extend at least 4,500 feet downstream. Ground water sampling found 17 chemicals at levels above three times background and above Mississippi Target Remediation Goals (TRGs) or the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Act Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs).

 Potential Impacts on Surrounding Community/Environment:

Creosote and creosote-related contamination has been documented in Batchelor Creek, which flows through a city park, a residential area and downtown Canton before it enters Bear Creek. Batchelor Creek is used for fishing and recreational purposes by residents. The original site area extends into what are now residential properties and it is not known if contamination exists on or under these properties.

 Response Activities (to date):

The EPA excavated and stabilized approximately 8,000 cubic yards of contaminated sludge found in the three impoundments. A containment cell was constructed to contain the soil. The EPA has excavated contaminated sediment from Batchelor Creek adjacent to the site and has constructed a second containment cell for this material. A slurry wall was constructed to prevent any additional creosote from flowing into Batchelor Creek.

 Need for NPL Listing:

The State of Mississippi referred the site to the EPA because of soil contamination and the large area of contaminated sediments in Batchelor Creek. Other federal and state cleanup programs were evaluated, but are not viable at this time. The EPA received a letter of support for placing this site on the NPL from the state.

[The description of the site (release) is based on information available at the time the site was evaluated with the HRS. The description may change as additional information is gathered on the sources and extent of contamination.]

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 <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaq.html> or by telephone at 1-888-42-ATSDR or 1-888-422-8737.