

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
**Kerr-McGee Chemical Corp – Navassa
Superfund Site**
**Revised Proposed Plan Operable Unit 1
Fact Sheet**



Navassa, North Carolina

January 2021



**Join the Virtual Meeting
for the
Revised OU1 Proposed Plan
Thursday, January 28, 2021
5:00 – 6:30 PM**

Type this URL into a browser

<https://tinyurl.com/epanavassameeting>

Meeting ID: 928 6505 9043

Passcode: B8U7EX

or

Join by phone: 1 301 715 8592

Meeting ID: 928 6505 9043#

Passcode: 492124#

For more information:

[https://www.epa.gov/superfund/
kerr-mcgee-chemical-corp](https://www.epa.gov/superfund/kerr-mcgee-chemical-corp)

Introduction

The Region 4 office of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is issuing a Proposed Plan for the Kerr McGee Chemical Corp – Navassa Superfund Site (the Site) in Navassa, North Carolina (**Figure 1**). EPA is issuing the Proposed Plan as part of its public participation responsibilities under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA or Superfund) and the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP). EPA is the lead agency for action at the Site and the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NC DEQ) is the support agency.

The Proposed Plan is posted at:

<https://semspub.epa.gov/work/04/11145248.pdf>

This fact sheet summarizes the proposed plan for cleanup and provides instructions for submitting public comments. Due to public health concerns related to the COVID-19 virus, the EPA will conduct the public meeting via a virtual Zoom platform. The public meeting will explain the Proposed Plan, public comment process, and will answer related questions. The EPA has also posted a Proposed Plan video presentation explaining the history of the site, the Proposed Plan, and how to submit comments online at: <https://www.epa.gov/superfund/kerr-mcgee-chemical-corp>. Through these alternative means, the EPA seeks to provide a full opportunity for public participation and comment without risking public health.

Revised Proposed Cleanup Plan

The EPA released a Proposed Plan for Operable Unit 1 (OU1) in October 2019. It defined OU1 as 21.6 acres with an anticipated commercial/industrial land use. After receiving additional information from the Town of Navassa, the EPA and the State of North Carolina determined the reasonably anticipated land use for OU1 may include residential uses, not only commercial, industrial, or recreational uses. As a result of the change in anticipated land use, additional sampling was conducted in August 2020 to evaluate residential risk. The results were summarized in the OU1 Soil Sampling Technical Memorandum – Residential Criteria Area Delineation, which was approved by EPA and the State in October 2020.

The 2021 OU1 Proposed Plan replaces and supersedes the 2019 Proposed Plan. It revises OU1 from 21.6 acres to 20.2 acres that currently meet the unrestricted use criteria under North Carolina General Statutes § 143B-279.9(b)(1). **The currently proposed 20.2-acre OU1 poses no current or potential threat to human health or the environment under the reasonably anticipated future land uses (residential, commercial, industrial, or recreational); and therefore, meets the EPA’s criterion for a No Action Remedy.** The areas of the original OU1 that do not meet the unrestricted use criteria (approximately 1.4 acres) will be included in OU2 and addressed in a future Proposed Plan.

Due to the 20.2-acre OU1 area being adjacent to the 82-acre “Eastern Upland Area,” the proposed No Action Remedy would create about 100 connected acres available for reuse. The EPA, in consultation with the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NC DEQ), may modify the proposed No Action Remedy presented in this Proposed Plan based on new information or comments received during the public comment period.

Background

The former facility is located on a 154-acre property that is bounded to the north by Quality Drive and the former Rampage Boat Company, to the east by marsh along the Brunswick River, to the south marsh along Sturgeon Creek, and to the west by Navassa Road. The Site consists of the 70-acre former wood treating facility and about 30 acres of the marsh to the south of the former facility. The remainder of the property is about 82 acres, which is not part of the Site and is called the “Eastern Upland Area.” The focus of this Proposed Plan is the 20.2-acre OU1 area located on the northern portion of the Site (Figure 1).

Historically, the 154-acre property provided housing, jobs and recreation for the community. The property was a rice plantation prior to the American Civil War. After the Civil War, the community developed a rural-industrial economy. A bluff adjacent to the property allowed barges to unload freight and became the location for a rail line connecting Wilmington to the rest of the United States. The bluff was used by the Navassa Guano Company, which imported guano from the Caribbean island of Navassa. Eventually, four fertilizer companies operated in the vicinity of the Site. A railyard developed in Navassa, as did other wood treating companies. While the Brunswick River was central to the history of the community, the entirety of the community’s riverfront is currently occupied by three industrial parcels; this Site, an empty fertilizer plant which is vacant but ready for reuse, and an industrial parcel that is under contract for light industrial use.

Site Ownership

The plant was built by Gulf States Creosoting Company in 1936. American Creosoting purchased the facility in 1958 and sold it to Kerr-McGee in 1965. Kerr-McGee discontinued Site operations in 1974. Kerr-McGee decommissioned and dismantled the plant in 1980.

Kerr-McGee owned the property as a 244-acre parcel until 1991. In 1991, Kerr-McGee transferred 92 acres of marsh to the State of North Carolina, after which Kerr-McGee’s property totaled about 152 acres. Historical real estate documents incorrectly reported the total acreage as 300 acres.

In March 2006, Kerr-McGee created Tronox, LLC (Tronox) as a spin-off corporation, and Tronox assumed responsibility for the Site. Anadarko Petroleum acquired Kerr-McGee in August 2006. In January 2009, Tronox filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in federal court.

In February 2011, the Tronox bankruptcy settlement established the Multistate Environmental Response Trust to own and assume responsibility

We want your comments!

The EPA depends on public input to make sure the concerns of the community are considered in selecting an effective cleanup. The public is encouraged to comment on the documents from:

January 25, 2021

until

February 26, 2021

to

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for hundreds of Tronox-owned sites, including this Site. Greenfield Environmental Multistate Trust LLC (Multistate Trust) is the Trustee of the Multistate Environmental Response Trust. The Multistate Trust operates pursuant to the Tronox Bankruptcy Consent Decree and Environmental Settlement Agreement and pursuant to the February 14, 2011, Environmental Response Trust Agreement.

In 2016, the Multistate Trust purchased two 1-acre residential parcels in the interior of the Eastern Upland Area, increasing the property's size to 154 acres.

Public Comment

The EPA relies on public input to ensure the concerns of the community are considered in selecting a successful remedy for the Superfund Site. **The public comment period runs from January 25, 2021 through February 26, 2021.** The Administrative Record is available at: <https://semspub.epa.gov/src/collection/04/AR66131>. The EPA established a local **Information Repository** at two locations where the public may review the online Administrative Record at:

- Navassa Community Center, 338 Main Street, Navassa, North Carolina, 28451; and
- Leland Library, 487 Village Road NE, Leland, North Carolina, 28451.

An online Zoom Proposed Plan Meeting will take place on January 28, 2021, from 5:00 until 6:30 PM.

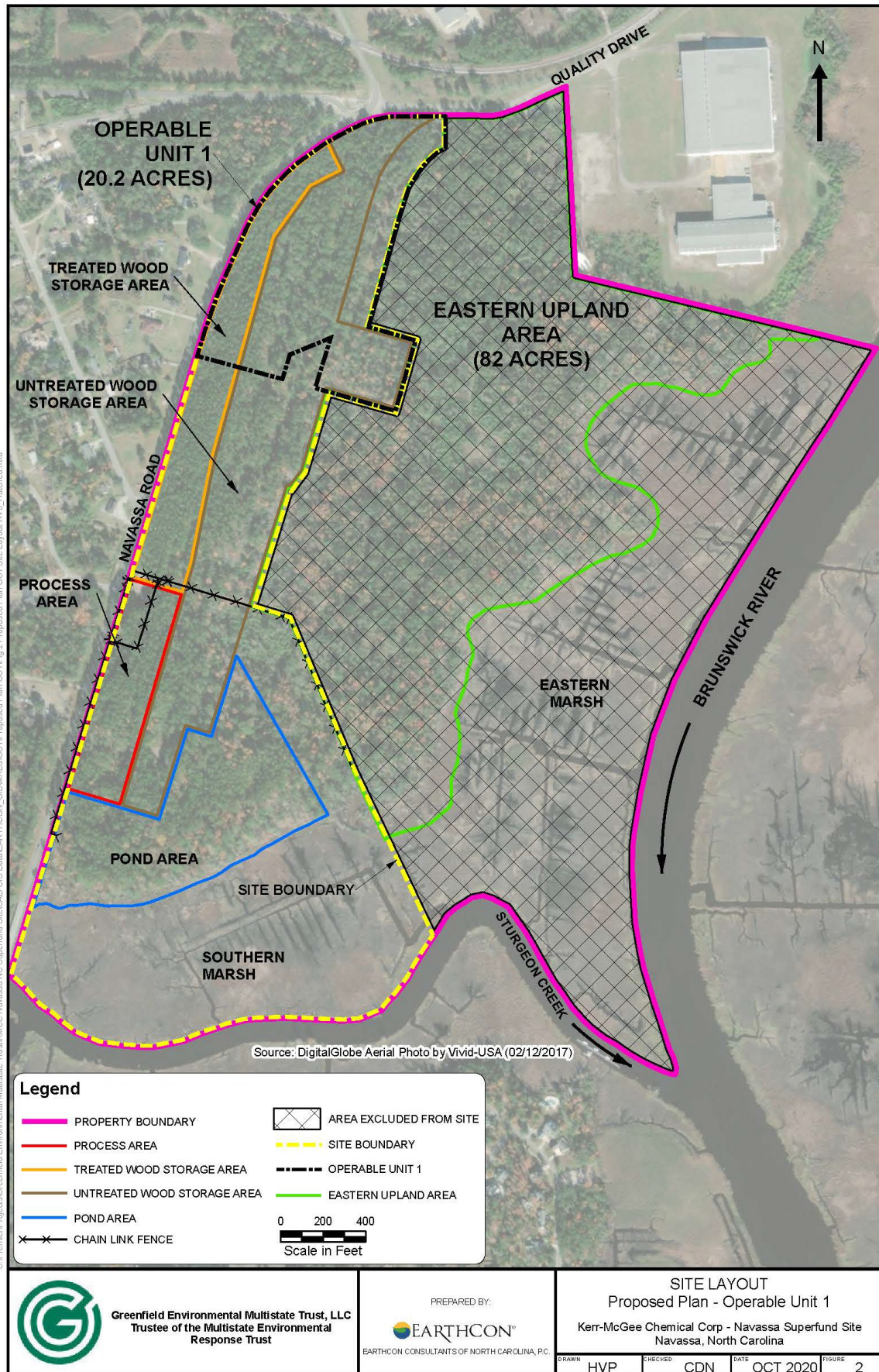
Please check the following link for information to participate in the virtual meeting :

<https://www.epa.gov/superfund/kerr-mcgee-chemical-corp> In order to access the video presentation or Zoom Meeting, you will need a smart phone, tablet, or computer with web access and sound capability.

The EPA has also posted a video presentation of the Proposed Plan by the Remedial Project Manager. You may view the presentation, with closed captioning, at <https://www.epa.gov/superfund/kerr-mcgee-chemical-corp>.

If you cannot access the EPA website, please contact EPA Community Involvement Coordinator L'Tonya Spencer-Harvey at 404-562-8463 or Spencer.LaTonya@epa.gov to arrange to receive the information in another format.

Figure 1: Extent of Site, Operable Unit 1 and Eastern Upland Area





FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & CONTACTS

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EPA Site Profile Page

<https://www.epa.gov/superfund/kerr-mcgee-chemical-corp>

Information Repositories

Navassa Community Center
338 Main Street
Navassa, North Carolina 28451

Leland Library
487 Village Road NE
Leland, North Carolina, 28451

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Place
Stamp
Here

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