

# Anniston PCB Site Operable Unit 4 - Choccolocco Creek



## U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Proposed Plan Fact Sheet

### EPA Announces Proposed Cleanup Plan

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is proposing a plan to clean up contaminated soil, sediment, surface water, and animal and plant life in Operable Unit 4 (OU4, Choccolocco Creek) of the Anniston PCB Site (the Site), in Anniston, Alabama (see Figure 1-1 on page 2). The Proposed Plan describes all the cleanup alternatives evaluated to address contamination in OU4, provides EPA's preferred cleanup methods, and includes other Site-related information. The EPA, in consultation with the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM), will select the final remedies to address contamination in OU4 after reviewing and considering the comments received during the public comment period.

### **WE WANT YOUR INPUT!**

**Public comment period: June 1, 2024, to July 30, 2024**

During the comment period, the EPA is accepting comments on this Proposed Plan, as well as the supporting documents, including the Remedial Investigation, the Feasibility Study, and human health and ecological risk assessments. Mail or email comments to:

Pam Scully  
U.S. EPA Region 4  
61 Forsyth Street, SW  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303  
[scully.pam@epa.gov](mailto:scully.pam@epa.gov)

Angela Miller  
U.S. EPA Region 4  
61 Forsyth Street, SW  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303  
[miller.angela@epa.gov](mailto:miller.angela@epa.gov)

### **Mark your calendars!**

**The EPA is hosting two public meetings to present this  
Proposed Plan and accept public comment:**

6-8 p.m. Tuesday, **June 18, 2024**, Oxford Civic Center, 401 McCullars Lane, Oxford, AL  
6-8 p.m. Tuesday, **July 23, 2024**, Oxford Civic Center, 401 McCullars Lane, Oxford, AL

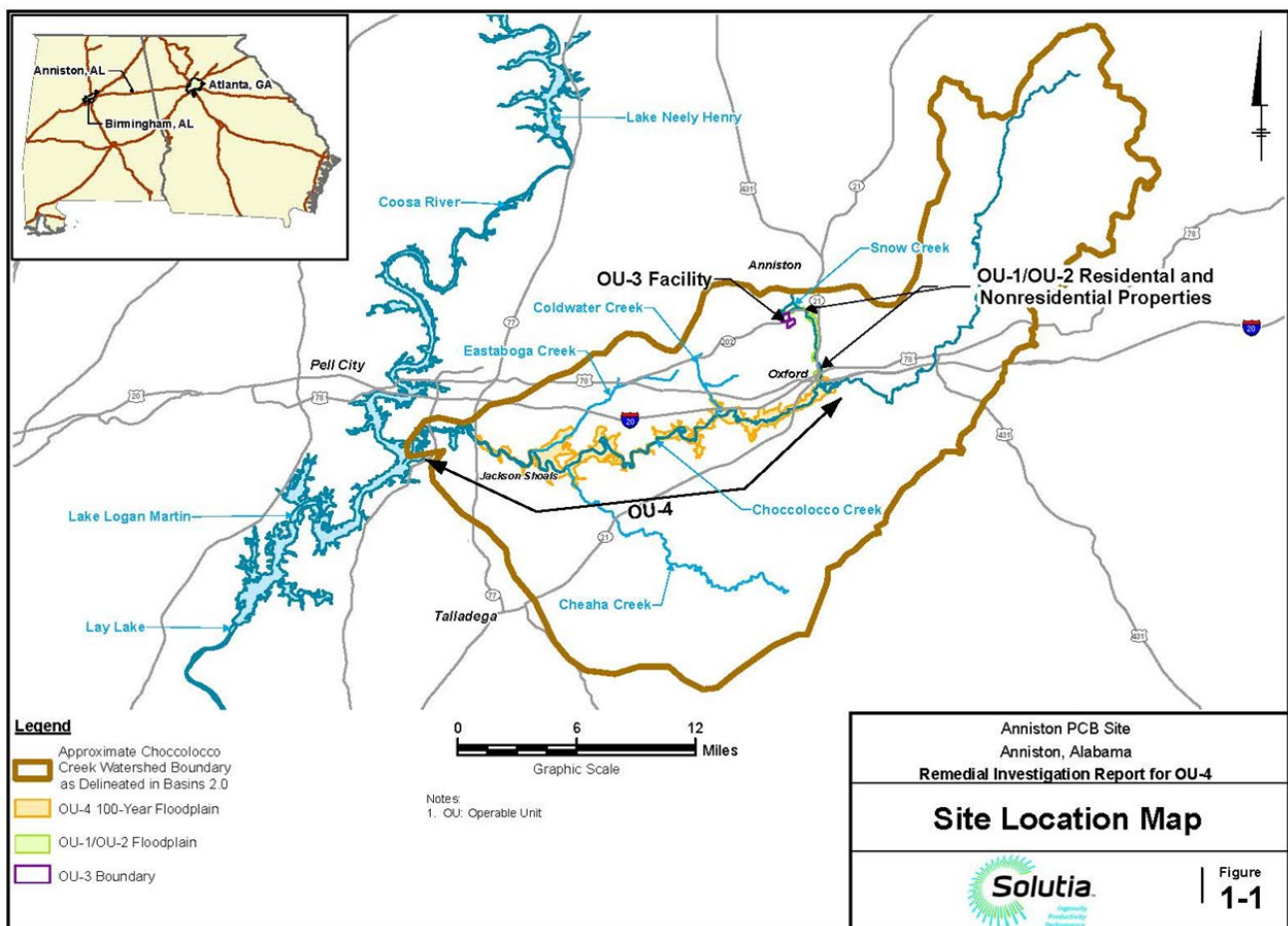
**The EPA will also host an Open House to help  
the community understand the Proposed Plan:**

10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Saturday, **June 22, 2024**, Anniston Meeting Center, 1615 Noble St, Anniston, AL  
10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Saturday, **July 20, 2024**, Lincoln City Center, 140 Jones St, Lincoln, AL

The Proposed Plan, a recording of the Proposed Plan presentation, and other supporting documents can be found on the Site webpage: [www.epa.gov/superfund/anniston-pcb-site](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/anniston-pcb-site). Community members needing a computer for accessing these documents can use these local libraries:

- Calhoun County Public Library West 10th Street, Anniston, AL.
- Carver Branch of the Calhoun County Public Library West 14th Street, Anniston, AL.
- Oxford Public Library, 110 E 6th St, Oxford, AL.
- Lincoln Public Library, 47475 US-78, Lincoln, AL.

The Site has been divided into several OUs, which were selected based on geographic location and complexity (Figure 1-1). OU4, Choccolocco Creek, is the subject of this proposal. OU4 includes Snow Creek and its floodplain downstream of Highway 78 to where it meets the Snow and Choccolocco Creeks, and Choccolocco Creek from the backwater area upstream of Snow Creek to Lake Logan on the Coosa River.



## Preferred Cleanup Alternatives

The EPA preferred methods to cleanup Choccolocco Creek includes removal of PCB contaminated soil and sediments and disposal offsite at an approved landfill. The estimated cost for the proposed cleanup is \$85.2 million and will be paid by the Potentially Responsible Parties. The preferred cleanup of each of the four areas will include:

| Area                              | Proposed Cleanup Methods  |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Residential Soil                  | Excavation and disposal of surface soil with PCB levels above 1.0 mg/kg and subsurface soil PCB levels above 10.0 mg/kg   |
| Oxford Lake Park Interim Measures | Long-term monitoring, maintenance and soil management   |
| Non-Residential Soil              | Excavating soil 0 to 6 inches of soil, offsite disposal, Institutional Controls, and implementation of a <b>Soil Management Plan</b>  |
| Creek Banks and Sediment          | Creek bank soil source control for contaminated areas with erosion, <b>Dredging</b> of sediment in fast- and slow-moving waters, Backfill dredged areas, Offsite disposal for excavated soil and dredged sediment, <b>Monitored Natural Recovery</b> of sediment, <b>Long-term monitoring</b> , <b>Institutional Controls</b> , and Implementation of <b>Soil Management Plan</b> |

To further explain some of the proposed cleanup methods listed in the above table, here are some short descriptions:

- **Dredging:** used to excavate sediments at the bottom of the creeks.
- **Monitored Natural Recovery:** a remedy for contaminated sediment that typically uses ongoing, naturally occurring processes to contain or reduce levels of contamination.
- **Long-term monitoring:** collection of samples over a long period of time to ensure final cleanup goals are met.
- **Institutional Controls:** administrative processes for placing restrictions and conditions on land use to maintain the remedy.
- **Soil management plan:** a plan to assist property owners that dig in potentially contaminated areas.

Other alternatives were carefully considered as options to clean up OU4. Based on information currently available, the EPA expects the Proposed Remedy to be protective of human health and the environment, comply with specific environmental requirements, be cost effective, and utilize treatment technologies that will be most successful for the long-term.

After the selected methods are implemented, long-term monitoring of the sediment will occur to meet cleanup goals. This is to ensure the cleanup stays protective of human health and the environment. The EPA will evaluate the Site every five years.

## How to Comment

The EPA encourages the public to review the Site-related documents and comment on the documents and this Proposed Plan. An extended 60-day comment period has been approved at the request of the Site’s Community Advisory Group (CAG). **The comment period begins on June 1, 2024, and ends on July 30, 2024.**

You can provide comments on the Proposed Plan by doing one of the following:

- **Verbally at one of the public meetings offered on June 18, 2024 or July 23, 2024.**
- **Write a letter and mail to:** U.S. EPA Region 4, Attention: Pam Scully, 61 Forsyth Street, SW, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.
- **Write an email to:** [scully.pam@epa.gov](mailto:scully.pam@epa.gov).

When providing your written comments, please include the phrase “Anniston PCB Site”. Comments must be received or postmarked Tuesday, July 30, 2024.

## Next Steps

All comments received become part of a Responsiveness Summary in the Record of Decision (ROD). The ROD is the next step following the Proposed Plan. It will define the selected cleanup methods, and once finalized, will be published on the Site webpage. A Public Notice will also be published in the local newspaper(s) to inform the community once the ROD has been signed and placed on the website.

| Site Contacts for the Anniston PCB Site        |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| Organization                                   | Name   | Mailing Address  | Phone  | Email  |
| U.S. Environmental Protection Agency           | Pam Scully, Project Manager                      | U.S.EPA, Region 4<br>61 Forsyth St, S.W.<br>Atlanta, GA 30303  | (404) 562-8935                               | <a href="mailto:scully.pam@epa.gov">scully.pam@epa.gov</a>                       |
|  | Angela Miller, Community Involvement Coordinator |  | (678) 575-8132                               | <a href="mailto:miller.angela@epa.gov">miller.angela@epa.gov</a>                 |
|  | EPA website                                      | <a href="http://www.epa.gov/superfund/anniston-pcb-site">www.epa.gov/superfund/anniston-pcb-site</a> |  |  |
| Alabama Department of Environmental Management | Marwa Sabeeh Project Manager                     | 1400 Coliseum Blvd.<br>Montgomery, AL 36110  | (334) 274-4168                               | <a href="mailto:marwa.sabeeh@adem.alabama.gov">marwa.sabeeh@adem.alabama.gov</a> |
| Technical Advisory Group                       | Bertrand Thomas, WAF Technical Advisor           | 2138 Harmony Lakes Cir.<br>Lithonia, Ga. 30058   | Office (256) 238-9900<br>Cell (678) 772-1146 | <a href="mailto:bertrandthomas10@att.net">bertrandthomas10@att.net</a>           |
| Community Advisory Group                       | Cindy Calix, Administrator                       | 1812 Wilmer Ave.<br>Suite B Anniston, AL 36201   | (256) 741-1429                               | <a href="mailto:ccalix@annistoncag.org">ccalix@annistoncag.org</a>               |
| PRP Group                                      | Gayle Macolly, Project Manager                   | 702 Clydesdale Ave.<br>Anniston, AL 36201  | (256) 831-8404                               | <a href="mailto:egmaco@eastman.com">egmaco@eastman.com</a>                       |
| Northern District Court                        | Tom Dahl, Technical Special Master               |  |  | <a href="mailto:todayhl@comcast.net">todayhl@comcast.net</a>                     |