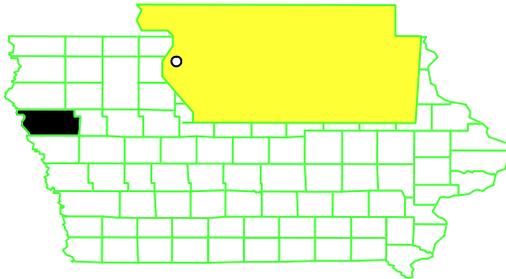


**MID-AMERICA TANNING  
CO.**  
IOWA  
EPA ID# IAD085824688

**EPA Region 7**  
City: 5 miles south of Sergeant Bluff  
County: Woodbury County  
Other Names:

04/08/2009



## **SITE DESCRIPTION**

The Mid-America Tanning Company site, located south of Sergeant Bluff, covers approximately 100 acres and processed hides under several names between 1969 and 1989. In 1979, the Mid-America Tanning Company disposed of an estimated 1,300 cubic yards of tannery sludges containing chromium into two unlined trenches on the property. U.S. Tanning acquired the operation in 1985. Wastes were treated on site. Solids were settled out in concrete-lined basins and unlined impoundments, while liquids were chemically treated and then discharged into an oxbow lake. The site is in the Missouri River flood plain. Approximately 85 people live within a one-mile radius of the site, and 850 people live within three miles.

### **Site Responsibility:**

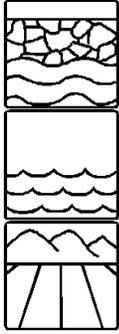
This site is being addressed through Federal and potentially responsible parties' actions.

### **NPL LISTING HISTORY**

<b>Proposed Date:</b>	06/24/88
<b>Final Date:</b>	03/31/89
<b>Deleted Date:</b>	09/24/2004

## **THREATS AND CONTAMINANTS**

Soil was contaminated with heavy metals including chromium. On-site



impoundment lagoons contain contaminated sludge and water. Elevated levels of hydrogen sulfide gas were detected in impoundment sludges.

## CLEANUP APPROACH

### Response Action Status

**Initial Actions:** In 1990, EPA excavated approximately 1,300 cubic yards of contaminated soil and sludge from on-site burial pits. This material was immobilized and capped as part of the final cleanup remedy. Where possible, EPA removed any raw materials found on site and recycled them. These cleanup actions were completed in late 1991. In the spring of 1995, a potentially responsible party (PRP) completed the removal of drum wastes, cleaned two buildings, and secured other buildings on the site.

**Soil:** Due to financial difficulties encountered by the PRP in early 1990, EPA initiated studies into the nature and extent of contamination at the site. EPA completed these investigations in late 1991, and chose on-site immobilization of heavily contaminated soil and sludge, and capping of contaminated areas as the final cleanup remedy. Design of these cleanup remedies began in 1992, and was completed in September, 1993. The additional threat of hydrogen sulfide gas emanating from the sludge was discovered during site investigations conducted in the fall of 1992. Due to potential for release of unacceptable levels of hydrogen sulfide gas, EPA amended the original remedy to address this threat. EPA revised the design and remedial action and construction activities began in June 1999, and were completed by December 1999, with a few minor items completed in May 2000. The site was deleted from the NPL in September 2004, following a five year review in 2003, which confirmed the protectiveness of the remedy.

Following the deletion of the site from the NPL, two additional responses have taken place to ensure the protectiveness of the site. A response action in 2005 addressed a leaking pipe. As a result of the action in 2005, EPA initiated a response action in August 2006, to further reduce potential exposure to contaminants by solidifying sludges. Cleanup at the site is complete. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources has resumed responsibility for operation and maintenance of the remedy at the site. A second five-year review was completed July 14, 2008.

**Site Facts:** EPA issued a Unilateral Administrative Order to a potentially responsible party in late 1989. Due to financial difficulties, the party did not comply with the initial actions specified in the Order. Another responsible party was ordered to secure site buildings, remove drummed wastes, and clean two buildings. EPA entered into a Consent Decree (CD) in 1998, with two of the PRPs for settlement of past and future costs. As part of that settlement, one of the PRPs agreed to conduct a ground water study. The study has been completed and showed no ground water contamination above drinking water standards.

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRESS



In the spring of 2000, EPA completed final cleanup actions to address elevated levels of chromium, arsenic, barium, and lead by excavating and capping buried sludges and soils, and by treating contaminated water on the site. A five-year review was conducted in 2003, and was completed on July 11, 2003. The review determined that the remedy at that time was functioning as designed and was protective of human health and the environment. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources assumed responsibility over the operation and maintenance of the remedial action. In July 2005, a pipe leak at the site caused the release of impoundment waters from the lagoons. The pipe was plugged as a temporary measure to stop the leak. In August of 2006, EPA initiated a response action to solidify the impoundment sludges of the lagoons to further contain potentially harmful contaminants. The response action was completed in June of 2007. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources will again assume responsibility over the operation and maintenance of the site.

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## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

5/03 - Fact Sheet announcing start of first 5-year Review. Display ad notification in the *Sergeant Bluff Advocate* .

10/03 - Fact Sheet announcing availability of first 5-year Review Report. Display ad notification in the *Sergeant Bluff Advocate*.

7/04 - Fact Sheet announcing plans to remove the site from the NPL. Display ad notification in the newspaper. Press Release sent to media outlets.

9/05 - Press Release sent to media outlets announcing deletion from the NPL. Display ad notification in the *Sergeant Bluff Advocate* .

6/06 - Fact Sheet announcing public availability session for time-critical removal action. Display Ad in the *Sergeant Bluff Advocate* . Press Release sent to media outlets.

2/08 - Fact sheet announcing start of the second five-year review. Display ad notification in the *Sergeant Bluff Advocate* .

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## SITE REPOSITORY



Sergeant Bluff City Hall  
401 Fourth Street  
Sergeant Bluff, IA 54054

Superfund Records Center  
901 N. 5th St.  
Kansas City, KS 66101  
Mail Stop SUPR  
(913)551-7166

## REGIONAL CONTACTS

<b>SITE MANAGER:</b>	Shelley Brodie
<b>E-MAIL ADDRESS:</b>	brodie.shelley@epa.gov
<b>PHONE NUMBER:</b>	(913) 551-7706
<b>COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT COORDINATOR:</b>	Fritz Hirter
<b>PHONE NUMBER:</b>	(913) 551-7130
<b>E-MAIL ADDRESS:</b>	hirter.fritz@epa.gov
<b>STATE CONTACT:</b>	Robert Drustrup
<b>PHONE NUMBER:</b>	(515) 281-8900

## MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

<b>STATE:</b>	IA
	077M
<b>CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:</b>	05
<b>EPA ORGANIZATION:</b>	SFD-IANE/SUPR

## MODIFICATIONS

<b>Created by:</b>	Karla Asberry/SUPRFUND/R7/US EPA/US	<b>Created Date:</b>	10/02/97 01:04 PM
<b>Last Modified by:</b>	Fritz Hirter/R7/USEPA/US	<b>Last Modified Date:</b>	04/08/2009 03:58 PM