

Gulfoo Marine Maintenance SUPERFUND SITE

Freeport, Brazoria County, Texas

EPA Region 6

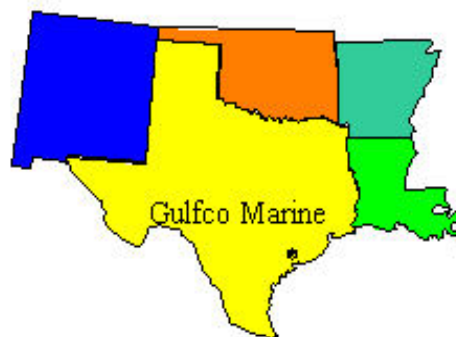
EPA ID: TXD055144539

Site ID: 0602027

State Congressional District: 25

Contact: Gary Miller 214-665-8318

Updated: December 2009



Current Status

A report on the nature and extent of contamination has been prepared by the site Respondents. This report summarizes the results of all the site investigations completed to date. A screening Ecological Risk Assessment and Human Health Risk Assessment for the site have also been prepared and are being reviewed by EPA, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), and the Environmental Trustees.

The first round of fieldwork for the investigation was done in the summer of July 2006 with the collection of soil, ground water, sediment, and surface water samples from the site and the Intracoastal Waterway. Metals, polycyclic-aromatic-hydrocarbons (PAHs), PCBs, and volatile-organic-compounds (VOCs) have all been identified in the soil at the site at levels above the screening values. The next round of sampling was completed in December 2006 when fish sampling and additional sediment sampling was completed.

Other site activities included installation and sampling of ground water monitoring wells in the shallow groundwater zone (Zone A) and the next deeper groundwater zone (Zone B). These shallow groundwater zones, which contain saltwater, are contaminated with a number of organic compounds, including trichloroethene, tetrachloroethene, and metals in concentrations above their screening values. Ground water sampling in Zone C was completed in January 2009 and the results show no contamination except for some chemicals that were well below screening levels. The risk from the site chemicals will be determined by a risk assessment at the completion of the investigation.

EPA and TCEQ are overseeing work of the PRPs to perform a remedial investigation to define the nature and extent of contamination at the site. Following the investigation and risk assessment, a feasibility study will be done to evaluate alternatives for any necessary remediation. This work is being performed under a Unilateral Order that EPA issued to the Respondents in July 2005.

Benefits

Remediation of the contaminated area will reduce human health and ecological risks associated with the contaminants at the site. Further, revitalization of the area will encourage reuse or redevelopment plans.

National Priorities Listing (NPL) History

Proposal Date: September 2, 2002

Final Listing Date: May 30, 2003

Site Description

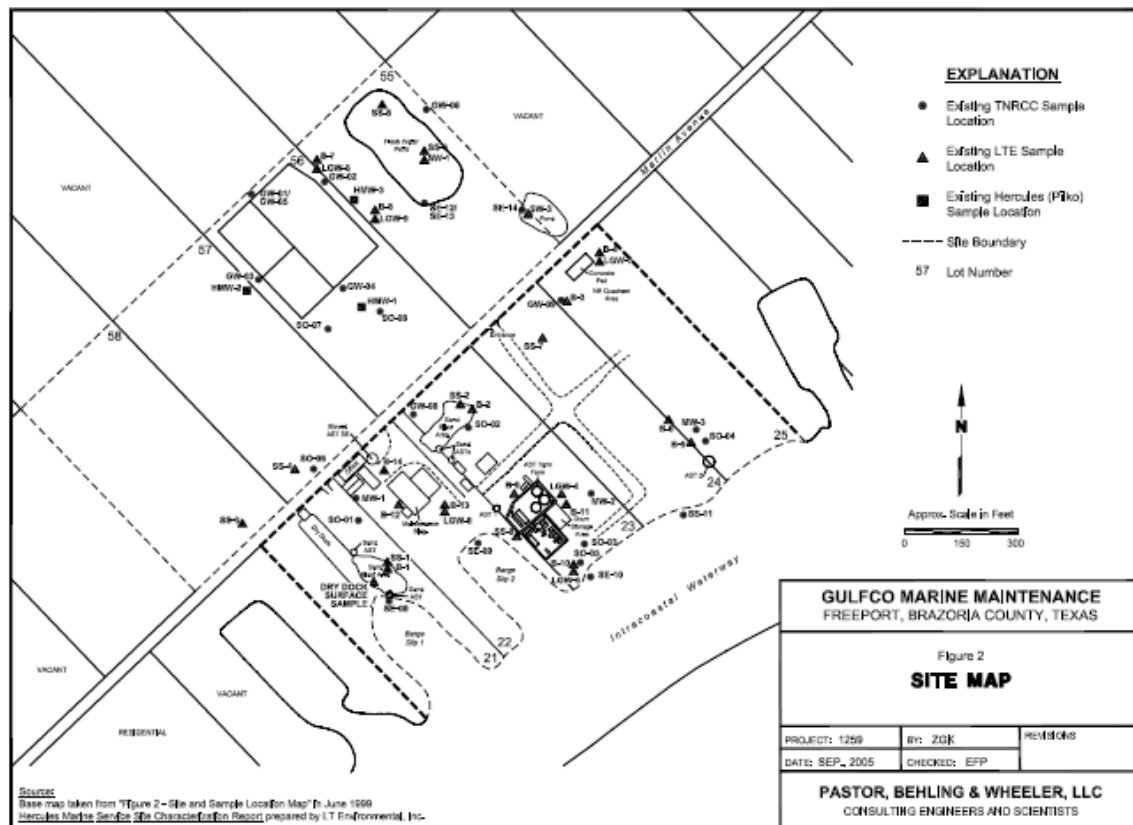
Location: The Gulfco Marine Maintenance facility is located approximately 3 miles northeast of the City of Freeport, Brazoria County, Texas, at 906 Marlin Avenue. The coordinates of the site are 28° 58' 07" north latitude, and 95°17' 23" west longitude.

Population: A residential area is located near the site to the southwest. Approximately 78 people live within the one square mile area surrounding the Site, and 3,392 people live within 50 square miles of the Site. The population of the City of Freeport is 12,800.

Setting: The Gulfco site lies along the north bank of the Intracoastal Waterway between Oyster Creek to the east and the Old Brazos River Channel and the Dow Barge Canal to the west. It is approximately 40 acres in size. The site property north of Marlin Avenue consists of undeveloped land and closed surface waste impoundments. The property south of Marlin Avenue was developed for industrial uses with two barge slips connected to the Intracoastal Waterway. A fence has been installed around the property south of Marlin Avenue to restrict land access. A wetland area is located north of the site.

Hydrology: The two primary hydrogeological units beneath the site are the Chicot and Evangeline Aquifers. The shallower Chicot Aquifer is subdivided into two zones: the Lower and Upper Chicot. The Upper Chicot is made up of interconnected sands that are found within 300 feet below ground surface. Ground water flow in the aquifer is reported to be to the southwest. A shallow, briny ground water zone also exists within a few feet of the surface.

Site Map



Wastes and Volumes

A barge cleaning, sand blasting, and repair facility operated at the site from 1971 to 1998. As part of this operation, residual product recovered from the barges was stored in tanks and sold. Wash waters from barge cleaning were stored in three surface waste impoundments in the north area until closed in 1982. Following closure of the impoundments, the wastewater was stored in a floating barge or storage tanks at the site.

Surface storage tanks located in the concrete berm area contain volatile organic compounds including benzene, chloroform, dichloroethane, and trichloroethylene. Site contaminants include polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, pesticides, chlorinated hydrocarbons, and metals. The nature and extent of contamination at the site will be determined during the remedial investigation.

Health Considerations

There is a potential health risk from direct contact with contaminated soils on-site or from the chemicals stored in the tanks. The contaminants also pose environmental risks to the adjacent wetlands via surface runoff or contaminated ground water migration into the wetlands.

The site's Environmental Indicator status is currently "insufficient data" to determine the human exposure under control and ground water migration under control indicators.

Record of Decision

No Record of Decision has been signed for the site. The final remedy (cleanup alternative) for a site is published in a Record of Decision (ROD). The ROD is the official documentation of how the EPA considered the remedial alternatives and why the EPA selected the final remedy.

Before a ROD can be finalized, the EPA must provide a Proposed Plan for public review and comment. This plan summarizes the remedial alternatives presented in the analysis of the remedial investigation and feasibility study, and identifies the preferred alternative, the rationale for that preferred alternative, and documents that support the EPA's decision. The general public will be notified when the Proposed Plan is open for public review and comment.

Community Involvement

Community Involvement Plan:	November 2004
Open Houses:	October 2005; August 22, 2003
Proposed Plan:	Following completion of remedial investigation & feasibility study.
Public Meeting:	Following development of the Proposed Plan
Technical Assistance Grant:	September 26, 2002 and May 15, 2003 No Final Applications received
Information Repository:	Freeport Branch Library 410 Brazosport Boulevard Freeport, Texas 77541 (979) 233-3622

Site Contacts

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