

December 2008 Update

**Idaho Pole Company Superfund Site**  
Bozeman, Montana  
(Five-Year Review Date: September 29, 2005)

**Brief Site History:** The Idaho Pole Company Site is located near the northern limits of Bozeman, Montana (approximately 32,414 inhabitants in 2004) and occupies approximately 60 acres in a light industrial area of Gallatin County in the Rocky Creek floodplain.

The Idaho Pole Company wood treating facility began operation in 1945 using creosote to preserve wood. In 1952 the company switched to pentachlorophenol in carrier oil (similar to fuel oil) for the wood treating solution. Idaho Pole continued wood treating using a pressurized heated retort and butt dipping vat until September 1997 when they ceased wood-treating operations.

The site was added to the National Priorities List in June 1986.

**Cleanup Activities Completed:** Construction completion for the site was achieved March 26, 1998. A Record of Decision selecting the site remedy was issued in September 1992. The remedy consists of biological treatment of contaminated soil and groundwater. Soil was excavated from the former roundhouse area, from the area north of the plant buildings and from the pasture area north of Interstate 90. Excavated soil was placed in a land treatment unit, where contaminants were treated by naturally occurring microorganisms. Soil treatment was completed in 2002 and the land treatment unit was closed.

Groundwater is treated at the surface through a Granulated Activated Carbon Unit and re-injected after oxygen and nutrients are added to enhance bioremediation of the groundwater plume.

**Current Status:** Idaho Pole samples a series of monitoring wells quarterly at the site. Residential wells are also sampled annually for PCP. Source removal, the groundwater treatment system and interceptor trench have successfully reduced the migration of wastes through the groundwater. Contaminated soils have been removed from contact with groundwater and have been biologically treated *In Situ*. Waste has been left in place above levels that allow for unlimited exposure and unrestricted use, requiring institutional controls. Since the underlying groundwater is not suitable for domestic or municipal use and groundwater withdrawals for industrial and agricultural uses may cause contamination migration, a Controlled Groundwater Area has been

placed on the Idaho Pole property, including a buffer zone extending 320 feet from the contaminant plume. The surface and subsurface soil component of the property south of I90 will be deleted from the NPL in 2009.

**Summary of Protectiveness:** The five-year review of the remedial actions for soil and groundwater at the Idaho Pole Company Site has resulted in the determination that the remedial actions are protective of human health and the environment.

**Issues Impacting Protectiveness:** There are no deficiencies.

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Five-Year Review Update Table  
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Issues	Recommendations/ Follow-up Actions	Follow-up Actions (Status/Due Date)	Status of Follow-up Actions 12/08	Responsible Party
1. Site water quality standards not synchronized with the State of Montana.	Montana Department of Environmental Quality -7 Numeric Water Quality Standards should be evaluated for inclusion as site remediation levels.	Looked at this issue in fall 2008.	- Complete - Protectiveness of remedy has been deemed appropriate as existing Pump and Treat System can meet new standards. No Decision Document amendment is necessary.	EPA and Montana DEQ
2. Future land use could compromise the integrity of the remedy at Idaho Pole Company site.	Assure that future use of the property does not compromise the soil and groundwater components of the remedy.	File an Environmental Protection Easement and Declaration of Restrictive Covenants with Gallatin County (2009)	Deed notification in place but it has been determined to not be protective of the remedy. An Environmental Protection Easement and Declaration of Restrictive Covenants will be filed with Gallatin County that follows Montana Code Annotated 76-7-201 ( <a href="http://data.opi.mt.gov/bills/mca/76/7/76-7-201.htm">http://data.opi.mt.gov/bills/mca/76/7/76-7-201.htm</a> ) before the soil and subsurface soil component south of I90 can be deleted from the NPL	EPA, Montana DEQ, Gallatin County and Responsible Parties