

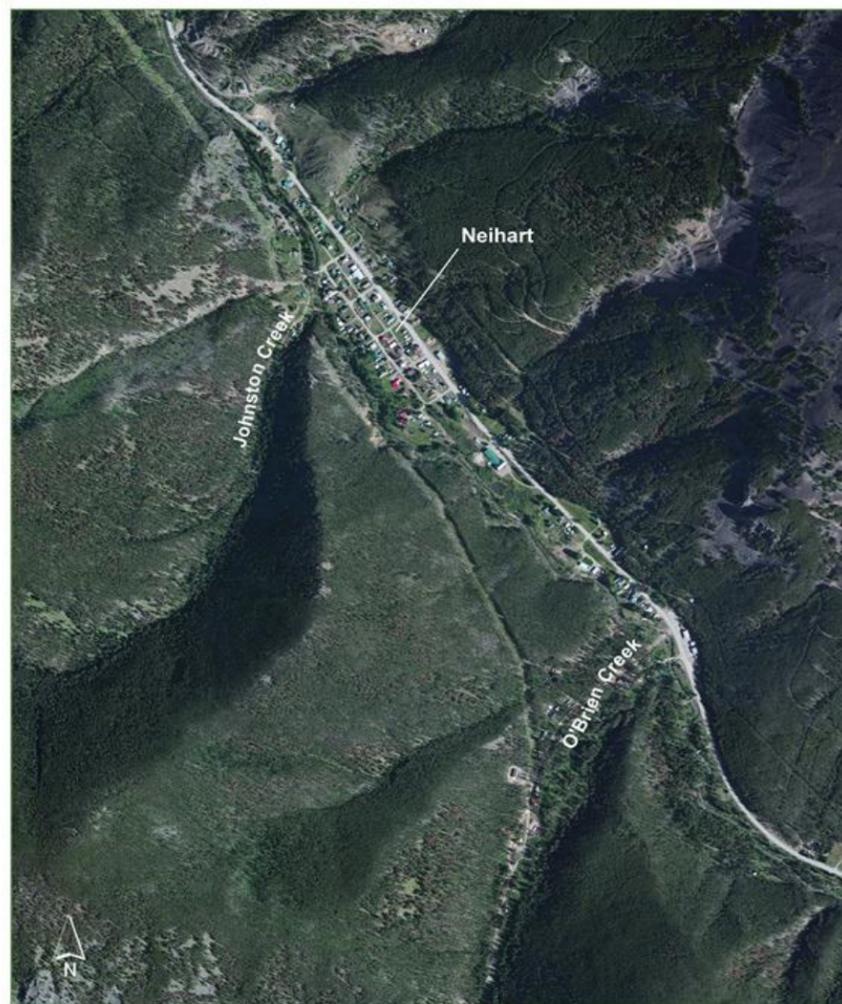
Neihart Community Soils Operable Unit 1 Fact Sheet

Neihart Operable Unit 1 Background

EPA identified the residential soils for the Town of Neihart and nearby residential properties as the CSCMD Neihart Community Soils Operable Unit 1.

A Record of Decision for the Neihart Community Soils Operable Unit 1 was issued in 2009. Field efforts in 2011 resulted in the completion of approximately 50% of Remedial Design for the properties and roads in Neihart. Further Remedial Design field efforts are planned for 2013 with the target of completing Remedial Design for Operable Unit 1 so that the entire project will be ready for implementation when Remedial Action moves forward.

Remedial Action is contingent upon selection of a qualified repository which is being evaluated by EPA under activities for CSCMD Operable Unit 2.



Neihart Community Soils Operable Unit 1 including O'Brien Creek and Johnston Creek Areas

Introducing EPA's Pre-Remedial Assistance for Property Owner's Soil Management (EPAOSM)

The EPA's Pre-Remedial Assistance for Property Owner's Soil Management (EPAOSM) was developed in response to residents' concerns around the need to perform property modifications and improvements while awaiting the EPA Remedial Action. The EPA's objective is to assist property owners, as well as their contractors, by providing education concerning health risk and training for proper handling of contaminated soils which they excavate during projects. Through these efforts, the EPA is attempting to prevent improper relocation of soils with metals concentrations above EPA established action levels. Relocation of these soils throughout the town of Neihart presents health risks and potential Superfund liabilities. Under this program, the EPA will assist the property owner's, and/or their contractors, by providing potential stockpiling locations on their property where contaminated soils being excavated can be placed until the EPA can address them under Remedial Action. For properties where stockpiling of the excavated contaminated soils cannot be performed due to size restrictions of the property or all other areas of the property are confirmed to be below Remedial Action levels, the EPA will provide a dumpster in which the property owner, or their contractor, can place the excavated contaminated soils. Once in the dumpster, the contaminated soils will be amended with an appropriate material. The amended soils will then be sampled by the EPA to determine the appropriateness of transport and disposal. Replacement materials, backfill and topsoil, will be identified by the EPA so that property owners can obtain the material for use during their projects. The materials will only be available to property owners that conduct their projects using the EPAOSM program. The program is only available for properties located within CSCMD Operable Unit 1. The EPA will implement the program until resources and funding are no longer available or Remedial Action begins and the EPAOSM transitions to Institutional Controls.

Administering the EPAOSM

Ultimately, the EPA has the responsibility of implementation and management of the EPAOSM program, either through contractors/consultants or Cooperative Agreements with other Agencies where provided resources and funding are available. The Cascade City-County Health Department (CCHD) will act as the Contact Center for the Program. The CCHD will collect, distribute, and manage soil information and support communication between the residents, the EPA, the EPA's consultant, and the Town of Neihart. The CCHD will assist the property owner in determining if the area of proposed excavation is adversely impacted by lead or arsenic from either historical sample results or by having the area sampled.

Property owners wishing to participate in the EPAOSM have a responsibility to contact the CCHD with their plans to excavate, move, dispose of or relocate any soil or other earthen materials on their property as well as potential backfill soils located nearby and in the Neihart Community. Failure to contact the CCHD prior to starting a project will eliminate EPA's ability to assist the property owner or their contractors. The CCHD, EPA, and their contractor are ready to respond quickly to a property owner's schedule. Of course, early planning and communication support a successful project.

Basic Steps for participating in the EPAOSM

1 --Property owners scheduling improvements and modifications should contact the Cascade City-County Health Department (CCHD)/Contact Center:

Sandy Johnson,
R.S. Environmental Health Manager
Cascade City-County Health Department
115 4th St South
Great Falls, MT 59401
Direct Line: 406-791-9275

2 --Upon initial contact with the contact center at CCHD, the property planned for modification will be researched to identify results from past sampling campaigns. If no sampling results are available for that property, soil sampling will be performed.

3 --If it has been determined through recent or historical sampling that property soils are above EPA established action levels (400 mg/kg for lead and 100 mg/kg for arsenic), the contact center will forward information from property owners scheduling soil movement to the EPA and an EPA consultant. An interview with the property owner will be scheduled to determine details of the proposed property improvements and modifications.

4 --The EPA will then determine if soils can be stockpiled on the property or must be removed from the property. If applicable, an EPA consultant will coordinate delivery of dumpster for those soils requiring removal from the property. Management of excavated soils placed in dumpsters will be performed by the EPA or an EPA consultant.

5 -- A backfill identification material, orange safety fencing, will be provided to property owners for placement in excavated areas so the depth of backfill can easily be determined if the soils are disturbed in the future. EPA will identify backfill material for property owners, or their contractors, to use. A maximum of 18 inches in depth or to the extent of the Utility/Infrastructure specification depth is considered protective.

The EPA is very interested in providing local contractors the opportunity to become involved with the EPAOSM program as well as the pending Remedial Action. **Working with soils above EPA action levels requires 40 hours of Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) training.** The EPA is arranging for this specialized training at minimal cost to the contractors. **This training is scheduled for the week of February 25, 2013 through March 1, 2013.** The training will be held in the Monarch-Neihart Senior Community Center. Local contractors from the Neihart Community and their employees will be provided first opportunity to register for this training. Based on interest and available capacity the HAZWOPER training may be opened to property owners wishing to audit the class or full certification will be available for a small administrative fee. Interested property owners or contractors from the Neihart area are asked to contact the CCHD for more HAZWOPER training information.

Property owners with soils metals concentrations above EPA action levels, wishing to participate in the EPAOSM, must perform any required soils removal themselves or utilize a HAZWOPER certified contractor. Property owners that have not contacted the CCHD with soil movement intentions, have not utilized a HAZWOPER certified contractor or have not placed an excavated soil barrier material will be considered not participating in the EPAOSM program and will be ineligible for backfill materials.

Community Meeting Information

The EPA plans to sponsor a community meeting before the construction season this year to discuss the Pre-Remedial Assistance for Property Owners Soil Management Program. Residents and stakeholders will receive a postcard announcing the meeting and a notice will be placed in the Great Falls Tribune.

Further Information

For more details regarding the Pre-Remedial Assistance for Property Owner's Soil Management Program, the Program's Administrative Work Plan and Implementation Work Plan are available for your review at any of the following locations:

EPA Records Center – EPA Montana Office

Cascade City-County Health Department

USFS Belt Ranger Station

Great Falls Public Library

Monarch-Neihart Senior Center

www.epa.gov/region8/superfund/mt/carpenter_snow_creek



This Sheet Contains Important Facts about:

- ✓ *The Neihart Community Soils Operable Unit 1*
- ✓ *EPA's Pre-Remedial Assistance for Property Owner's Soil Management Program*
- ✓ *Ways to learn more about the Carpenter Snow Creek Mining District Site, the Neihart Community Soils Operable Unit 1 and the Program*
- ✓ *Contact Information for Program representatives*

Contact Information

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