

Tar Creek Superfund Site: By The Numbers...

30 million acres ceded to the U.S. Government by the Quapaw Tribe in 1818 treaty.

51,000 acres reserved for the Quapaw Tribe in northeast Indian Territory in 1833 treaty.

1891- year during which the first ore discoveries occurred in Ottawa County.

230 ore mills built or under construction by 1918 in the Picher Mining Field.

20,000 residents in the Picher area during the peak of mining operations.

181 million tons of crude ore mined in Ottawa County.

8.88 million tons of zinc concentrate were produced from milling crude ore at Picher.

60% of the world's zinc mining occurred at the Picher Mining Field during the late 1920's.

1.69 million tons of lead concentrate were produced from milling crude ore at Picher.

13 million gallons of water pumped daily from mine workings prior to 1970.

1970- year during which the mine dewatering pumps at the Picher Mining Field were shut off.

1979- year during which the first acid mine water discharges were reported in Commerce, OK.

32 billion gallons of water fill the mine workings at the Picher Mining Field.

1981- year during which the site was added to EPA's National Priorities List (NPL) of Superfund sites.

26,000 acres contained within the site boundaries for Operable Unit 4 (OU-4).

50% of the Quapaw Reservation Land by Treaty is within the OU-4 site boundaries.

197,323 cubic yards of development rock in 189 piles cover 21.3 acres on the site.

31.2 million cubic yards of coarse tailings/chat in 83 piles cover 767 acres on the site.

5.7 million cubic yards of chat remains at the largest tailings pile- the Sooner Pile.

400 foot tall chat pile, the Central Mill Pile, was the largest mine tailings pile in the world.

200 foot tall chat piles remain within the site today.

6.71 million cubic yards of tailings at 243 chat pile bases cover 2,079 acres on the site.

9.16 million cubic yards of fine mill tailings in 63 tailings ponds cover 820 acres on the site.

3.55 million cubic yards of fine mill tailings remain at the 168 acre Central Mill tailings pond.

1.36 million cubic yards of soil with lead concentrations greater than 500 mg lead per kg soil cover 1,162 acres on the site.

25 gallons per minute typical yield from the shallow Boone aquifer.

300 gallons per minute maximum yield in highly brecciated portions of the Boone aquifer.

10.2 billion gallons of water discharged from upper Boone to surface streams each year.

1,064 mine shafts and subsidence features mapped within the site.

157 pounds of Iron enters Tar Creek per day, on average, from an acid mine discharge near Douthat Bridge.

115 pounds of Zinc enters Tar Creek per day, on average, from an acid mine discharge near Douthat Bridge.

35% of the Indian children tested who lived on the site in 1994 had blood lead concentrations exceeding 10 micrograms per deciliter.

\$167,288,000 cost over 40 years for EPA to remedy mine tailings and contaminated soils within the site.

1,542 lead contaminated residential yards remediated from 1996-1998.

19,556 people lived on-site and in communities in proximity to the mining area in 2004.

678 residential properties have been eligible for relocation through the Lead Impacted Communities Relocation Assistance Trust (LICRAT) buyout program

800 residents lived in or around the city of Picher before the May 10th, 2008 tornado.

175 mile per hour winds estimated by the National Weather Service during the May 10th, 2008 EF-4 tornado which struck Picher.

150 people injured, 30 people treated at a local hospital, and 6 fatalities, all from the Picher area.

114 homes in Picher destroyed by the May 10th, 2008 tornado.

Disclaimer

Distributed by the Quapaw Tribe Environmental Office for the purpose of combining a host of statistics previously reported by various public sources. The Quapaw Tribe does not endorse the accuracy or validity of any such statistics contained within this document.

Sources include:

Remedial Investigation Report for Tar Creek OU-4 RI/FS Program, 2005.

Hydrogeologic Characterization Work Plan for Operable Unit 4 at the Tar Creek Superfund Site, 2008.

EPA Fact Sheet, Tar Creek Superfund Site, Ottawa County, OK, February 2008.

EPA Fact Sheet, Tar Creek Superfund Site, Ottawa County, OK, October 2002.

Record of Decision for Operable Unit 4 at the Tar Creek Superfund Site, 2008

Quapaw Tribe Web-Site, 2008.

Oklahoma News Media Web-Sites, 2008.