

**Libby Asbestos Site Operable Unit 5 Briefing**  
**Prepared for the Libby Asbestos Superfund Advisory Team meeting**  
**Thursday, June 28, 2018**

The former Stimson Lumber Mill (400 acres) was operated under various lumber companies from 1946 to 2003. The Expansion Plant was located on the former Stimson property, and included an area used as above-ground storage for uncontainerized vermiculite ore. This area was converted to a parking lot in 1990. A railroad spur was used for shipping raw and processed vermiculite material to and from the Mill. A landscaping nursery also was located along the southern boundary of the property and is believed to have incorporated vermiculite product into fill material and growth medium.

In 2003, most of the property was sold to the Lincoln County Port Authority (LCPA). This area is now mainly used for industrial or commercial purposes, while some portions are used for recreation. Areas within OU5 that are owned by entities other than the LCPA include the motocross track owned by the Millpond Motocross Association Inc.; the Libby Groundwater Superfund Site owned by International Paper and an electrical substation owned by the Flathead Electric Cooperative. It should be noted that while the Libby Groundwater Superfund Site is co-located with the OU5 boundary, it is a separate Superfund Site.

The Kootenai River Development Council was awarded a grant to upgrade the rail spur and electrical system. A walking path and fishing pond have been installed for recreational use. The majority of OU5 is un-vegetated and suitable for industrial development.

Investigation and removal activities have been ongoing on the Libby Asbestos Superfund Site in general, and specifically in OU5, since the EPA began its emergency response in 1999. As a result, much of OU5 had already undergone significant remediation by the time the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study were completed. Given previous removal actions consisting of excavation; off-site disposal and backfill; and the removal of vermiculite insulation and building material followed by re-insulation, it was determined that human health and the environment were adequately protected and that the ROD would require no further remediation at these removal action locations. The removal actions taken in OU5 are summarized in the table below.

The remedy at OU5 was determined to be Operational and Functional (O&F) in March 2018, and is now considered to be in the Operation and Maintenance (O&M) phase. EPA, DEQ, and the LCPA are working together to finalize an Environmental Covenant for the LCPA property to ensure that the remedy remains protective. It is anticipated that this covenant will be completed and filed in fall 2018.

## Chronology of Events at OU5

Date	Event
November 1999	Stimson Lumber Company Plywood Plant and Truck Shop Asbestos Abatement
May 2000	Stimson Lumber Company Finger Joints Lunch Room and Bathroom Asbestos Abatement
December 2002	Stimson Lumber Company Dry Kiln Tunnel Removal Action
May – December 2003	Stimson Lumber Company Central Maintenance Building Removal Action, Stimson Lumber Company Central Maintenance Building Roof Repair Removal Action, Stimson Lumber Company Central Maintenance Building Roof Repair Removal Action
Fall 2004	Former Nursery Area Isolation
February – September 2005	Stimson Lumber Company Finger Joints Lunch Room Removal Action, Central Maintenance Building Removal Action
May – October 2009	OU5 Re-Development Area Removal Action, Libby Creek (OU4 action with possible encroachment in OU5) Removal Action, Quick Response at Central Maintenance Building, Quick Response at Central Maintenance Building, Removal of Contaminated Debris
January – September 2010	Quick Response at Central Maintenance Building, Quick Response at Former Plywood Plant, Quick Response at Valve House at Finger Joints Building
August – November 2011	Quick Response at Former Popping Plant
November 2011 and February 2012	Quick Response at Central Maintenance Building documented jointly
April – October 2012	Quick Response at Port Authority Building, Former Tree Nursery Removal Action, Quick Response at Central Maintenance Building
April – November 2013	Former Tree Nursery Removal Action, Quick Response at International Paper Lean-to, Quick Response at Central Maintenance Building
February 8, 2016	ROD for OUs 4 through 8 Signed
August 2016	Institutional Control Implementation and Assurance Plan (ICIAP) Approval
August 9, 2017	Joint Agency Site Walkthrough
February 2018	O&M Plan Approval
March 2018	Operational and Functional Determination/Start of O&M Phase
Ongoing, planned completion fall 2018	Development of Environmental Covenant
Planned 2019	First Annual O&M Site Inspection and Annual O&M Report
Planned 2020	First Five-Year Site Review

# Lincoln County Port Authority Current Use and 2017 Improvements

