

## COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN NEMO WORK CENTER CLEANUP

### PROJECT OVERVIEW


The USFS Workcenter at Nemo, South Dakota has been reported to be a burial site for left over pesticide from a project to combat mountain pine beetles in the early 1960s. The amount and location of buried materials are uncertain. The material is buried in metal barrels and jerry cans.

This Workcenter has been in use by the USFS since the early 1920s, the area of concern has been use as a "bone yard", for storage of equipment and materials as well as a horse pasture since that time.

A survey of the potential burial sites will be done using a magnetometer which will locate buried metal. This survey may be complicated due to the past practices of burying rubble material at the work center. Only rubble material generated from USFS activities would be buried at the site. The site was never used as a community dump for household garbage.

After the sites containing metal are defined on the ground. A contract will be issued for a site clean up by a certified contractor who is experienced in this type of work. If and when hazardous materials are located appropriate removal actions will be implemented.

### PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT



Discussions were held with Spearfish/Nemo Ranger District staff to determine the amount of public involvement that this action would involve. This action is not subject to rules and regulations of the National Environmental Policy Act but rather under the rules and regulations of CERCLA (40 CFR 300.4). Due to the large amount of uncertainty about how much or if any hazardous material may have been buried at the work center it was determined that public involvement would be limited to the Nemo area and in particular the adjacent landowners. Adjacent landowners are described as those next to the USFS property line and south west of Boxelder Creek. A legal notice will be published in the Lead-Deadwood local newspaper for 3 consecutive days.

Letters will be sent to the adjacent landowners. These letters will describe the project and describe how we would like to sample their wells to ensure that there is no pesticide contamination from the USFS site and that the project does not contaminate their water system. Water well sampling will take place prior to the project, during the project and after the project is completed. Analysis will be performed by a qualified laboratory that is certified to perform analysis for these type of compounds. Landowners will be given a copy of the water analysis. Individual contact with each landowner will be made prior to sampling. If landowner does not wish to allow us to sample their well, this will be documented.

The letters will also indicate that during the excavation and removal portions of this project that the site will be closed and unavailable for public use as well as USFS activities. Other than crossing the fence and walking into the area all access is controlled through the main entrance of the Nemo Workcenter. This site is used for pasturing USFS horses, but will be unavailable during excavation and removal.

When removal action is started an updated letter will be sent to adjacent landowners with another posted in the Nemo Post Office informing the public of what actions are taking place and what has been located.

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