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Hatchery Cleanup:

Concrete Raceways at the lower Big Springs Hatchery Facility consist of three sections, the canal, the short raceways and the long raceways. The short raceways and canal were painted with three paints starting in the early 1960's and continued through the late 70's. The paints used in the 60's (blue green) were high in PCBs and the paints in the 70's were low levels of PCBs. The long raceways were painted later (early 70's to late 70's) with paints containing much lower concentrations of PCBs (red paint)

- On September 10, 2004 EPA gave FWP tentative approval or FWP's proposed plan for raceway cleanup. With minor changes to the plan as suggested by EPA will be incorporated into the final proposal and plans, sent to EPA on September 15, 2004, and EPA will send in writing their approval by September 24, 2004.
- FWP is finalizing the specifications and bid package to be sent out to bid for the cleanup project. This will be ready for distribution on September 24, 2004.
- Bids and contractor selection should occur in late October and work should commence early to mid November.
- The Raceway cleanup is contingent on bid prices and available funding.
- Fish production at Big Springs Hatchery is dependant on the time line associated with the contractor and the price of the cleanup, which is estimated to be between $500,000 and $1,000,000.

Health Testing:

On August 16th and 17th , CDC and Health and human services combined to take human tissue from 105 people from the Lewistown area to determine the level of PCBs in the local population and the individual tested. CDC is paying for all the tests and results should be available in October.

Risk Assessment:

FWP has hired a consultant to perform a Risk Assessment encompassing Big Springs Creek to determine potential risk factors that are involved in the contamination in the creek. CDM (Camp, Dresser and McKee) have been hired to identify the receptors that are at risk and will look at Ecological receptors and Human Health. The Rick Assessment will then be used to do a feasibility study to determine options for Cleanup. The Risk assessment has already started and a draft should be done by mid to late October. A final document will be available by the end of the year or early in 2005.

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Feasibility Study:

The feasibility study will identify the options that will reduce and or eliminate the risk factors associated with Big Springs Creek and PCB contamination. This process will be based on the results and conclusions found with the Risk Assessment. The Feasibility Study will begin in early 2005 and will progress dependant on available funding. The Feasibility study will identify a preferred alternative for the cleanup of the creek.

Cleanup of Big Spring Creek:

Both DEQ and EPA will review and approve any plans before implementation.