

The NPL is designed primarily for informational purposes and to assist EPA management.

IV. Basis for Site Deletion

The V&M/Albaladejo Site is located off State Road No. 160, Kilometer 4.2 in the Almirante Norte Ward of the municipality of Vega Baja, Puerto Rico. It is reached via a dirt road extending about one mile west from Route 160. The exact Site acreage is unknown but generally consists of two farms, the V&M property and the Albaladejo Farm. The area is rural and characterized by rugged, heavily-vegetated, hilly terrain with small farms located in the valleys. The region is sparsely populated within a one-mile radius of the Site. Fewer than 100 residents are estimated to live within one-quarter mile of the Site.

The Site was used for burning and/or dumping of plastic-coated electric cables, electrical equipment, and car batteries. Wire and other materials were burned to recover the copper, aluminum, and lead contained therein. No containment (i.e., berm, liner) system is known to have been used nor has any been observed. It is not known when the burning activity began at the Site. One of the farm owners reported that trucks had been entering the Site carrying wastes since 1985. Burning reportedly ceased on the V&M property in 1986 when it was purchased by its current owner, but continued on the Albaladejo Farm into 1988. The total quantity of waste disposed and burned at the Site is unknown. Four historical waste disposal/burn areas were identified.

In August 1988, the Puerto Rico Environmental Quality Board (EQB) conducted a preliminary assessment at the Site. In January 1989, EPA conducted a site investigation which found elevated levels of copper and antimony in surface soil samples at the Site.

In June 1996, the V&M Site was proposed to the National Priorities List (NPL), with the final listing on December 26, 1996.

A time-critical removal action was conducted from January through June 1998. Based on previous sampling information, contaminated soils were excavated from the four zones. In total, approximately 5,565 cubic yards of contaminated soils were excavated, stockpiled, and stabilized on-Site in a designated area prior to their removal and proper off-Site disposal. The removal action was completed in June 1998.

Confirmatory testing of burn area soils after the excavation of contaminated soils indicated that the concentrations

of lead generally had been reduced to below an average concentration of 400 ppm, a level EPA has determined to be protective of children in a residential environment.

Between March and November, 1998, EPA collected four rounds of groundwater samples from six on-Site monitoring wells during the Remedial Investigation (RI) for the V&M Site. Results indicated a decrease in detection of inorganic analytes in the groundwater, coinciding with the completion of the soil removal action. The decrease in levels of inorganics indicated the successful removal of contaminated soil, the source of groundwater contamination. Round 4 sample results were all below drinking water standards.

On September 29, 2000, EPA issued a Record of Decision, selecting No Further Action as the remedy for the Site. It was determined that site-related groundwater contamination does not pose a significant threat to human health or the environment; therefore, remediation is not necessary.

The EPA, with concurrence of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, has determined that all appropriate responses under CERCLA have been completed, and that no further response actions under CERCLA are necessary. Therefore, EPA is deleting the Site from the NPL.

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 300

Environmental protection, Air pollution control, Chemicals, Hazardous waste, Hazardous substances, Intergovernmental relations, Penalties, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Superfund, Water pollution control, Water supply.

Dated: August 2, 2001.

William J. Muszynski,
Acting Regional Administrator, U.S. EPA,
Region II.

For the reasons set out in this document 40 CFR part 300 is amended as follows:

PART 300—[AMENDED]

The authority citation for part 300 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 33 U.S.C. 1321(c)(2); 42 U.S.C. 9601–9675; E.O. 12777, 56 FR 54757, 3 CFR, 1991 Comp., p. 351; E.O. 12580, 52 FR 2923, 3 CFR, 1987 Comp., p. 193.

Appendix B—[Amended]

2. Table 1 of Appendix B to part 300 is amended under Puerto Rico (PR) by removing the site name “V&M/

Albaladejo” and the city “Almirante Norte Ward”.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

50 CFR Part 17

RIN 1018–AE92

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Establishment of Nonessential Experimental Population Status for 16 Freshwater Mussels and 1 Freshwater Snail (Anthony's Riversnail) in the Free-Flowing Reach of the Tennessee River below the Wilson Dam, Colbert and Lauderdale Counties, AL; Correction

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Final rule; correction.

SUMMARY: The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) published in the **Federal Register** of June 14, 2001, a document concerning the establishment of nonessential experimental population status for 16 freshwater mussels and 1 freshwater snail (Anthony's Riversnail) in the free-flowing reach of the Tennessee River below the Wilson Dam, Colbert and Lauderdale Counties, AL. The “When Listed” numbers in the table of species information was inadvertently omitted in the rule. This correction amends that table to include the “When Listed” numbers.

DATES: Effective on August 21, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Renne Lohoefer at 703/358–2171; facsimile 703/358–1735; and e-mail Renne_Lohoefer@fws.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Service published a document in the **Federal Register** of June 14, 2001, (66 FR 32250) that inadvertently omitted the “When Listed” numbers in the table of species information provided in the rule. This correction amends the table to include the previously missing “When Listed” numbers.

The number 709 represents the “When Listed” number for each of the 16 Federally listed freshwater mussel species and the 1 Federally listed freshwater snail species. The “When Listed” numbers correspond to footnotes at the end of 50 CFR 17.11 and 17.12 that indicate the date and **Federal Register** citation of when animal and plant species were added to the “List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife.”

In rule FR Doc. 01-14878 published on June 14, 2001, (66 FR 32250) make the following corrections. On page 32258 through page 32263, the series of periods (.....) found in the "When

Listed" column (column 5) of the species information table should be removed and replaced with the number 709.

Dated: July 24, 2001.

Joseph E. Doddridge,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.

[FR Doc. 01-21071 Filed 8-20-01; 8:45 am]

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