

ADDENDUM TO  
FINAL PHASE I DAMAGE ASSESSMENT PLAN (JANUARY 2009)  
FOR SOUTHEAST MISSOURI LEAD MINING DISTRICT: BIG RIVER MINE  
TAILINGS SUPERFUND SITE,  
ST. FRANCOIS COUNTY AND VIBURNUM TREND SITES, REYNOLDS AND  
IRON COUNTIES

January 2010

## INTRODUCTION

Releases of cadmium, lead, zinc and other metals associated with mining and smelting activities in southeast Missouri have potentially injured natural resources on the Mark Twain National Forest. Under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended (CERCLA), and implementing regulations, the Director of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), The U.S. Department of Interior (DOI) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service (USFS) are Trustees for the natural resources in the Southeast Missouri Lead Mining District. Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration is the process by which Trustees evaluate injuries to natural resources associated with releases of hazardous substances and determine appropriate compensation for those injuries.

The National Contingency Plan, 40 CFR § 300.615 requires when there are multiple trustees because of coexisting resources or concurrent jurisdiction, the trustees must coordinate and cooperate in carrying out assessment and restoration activities. As a result, the existing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the MDNR and the DOI was modified to include the USFS. The MOU ensures cooperation and coordination among the Trustees in the preparation of assessments as well as the pursuit of natural resources damage claims. Additionally, the MOU ensures that jointly recovered damages from responsible parties are used to restore, replace, rehabilitate, or acquire the equivalent of the natural resources and their services injured, destroyed, or lost. Effective November 4, 2009, the USFS is a member of the Missouri Trustee Council. The USFS will coordinate and cooperate with its co-trustees in assessing and quantifying injuries to resources within the management boundaries of the Salem and Potosi/Fredericktown Ranger Districts.

The USFS, in conjunction with its co-trustees, will assess injury to natural resources held in trust by the USFS. In addition to the study plans detailed in the January 2009 Damage Assessment Plan, the USFS will coordinate with the other Trustees to conduct additional assessment studies. These studies will include, but are not limited to, more extensive soil sampling and vegetation analysis on National Forest System (NFS) lands adjacent to smelters, tailing ponds, and haul routes.

As a result of these studies, the Trustee Council will determine if injuries have occurred to USFS trust resources and develop a Damage Assessment Plan that will be used to seek compensation for injured resources and services.