

## Lower Fox River and Green Bay PCB Cleanup Project Oversight Agencies - Site Closure Fact Sheet

**Overview** The Lower Fox River and Green Bay PCB Cleanup Project (*Cleanup Project*) was recently completed after a 20 year effort to locate and remove over six million cubic yards of sediment contaminated with Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs). Engineered caps were constructed in limited areas over PCB contaminated sediment (*PCB Caps*) to protect human health and the environment. *PCB Caps* are maintained by *Responsible Parties* for the Cleanup Project (i.e., Georgia Pacific, Glatfelter Corporation, and NCR Corporation). Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) work together as the “*Oversight Agencies*” responsible for reviewing all cleanup work and post-closure work in the Lower Fox River.

The approved remedies for the Cleanup Project are dredging, capping, sand cover, and natural recovery. *PCB Caps* isolate contaminated sediment and include “special remedial action” (SRA) caps over utility lines. *PCB Caps* must be protected, much like utility lines that require more caution and care. To that end, the *Oversight Agencies* established a technical review process for proposed work in *PCB Cap* areas. Activities that disturb or interfere with *PCB Caps* may be restricted or prohibited, depending on the outcome of the *Oversight Agencies’* technical review of proposed work plans. Other areas of the river including those with sand cover are not restricted from disturbance. The technical review process described below does not prevent anyone from working in the river so long as the proposed work is protective of *PCB Caps* and reviewed in advance by the *Oversight Agencies*. Those who disturb *PCB Caps* are responsible for damage, including PCB releases and *PCB Cap* repairs caused by that disturbance. **Please follow the process outlined below.**

### **Process for Proposed Projects in Lower Fox River (Little Lake Buttes des Morts to Green Bay)**

1. **Contact your DNR Water Management Specialist (WMS).** For proposed projects in public navigable waterways, contact a DNR WMS to determine if a Wisconsin Statute Chapter 30 permit is required.
  - a. **For waterway projects** in Brown or Outagamie Counties, contact one of these WMS experts:  
Eric Stadig - [eric.stadig@wisconsin.gov](mailto:eric.stadig@wisconsin.gov) or BJ Mahon - [bobbiejo.mahon@wisconsin.gov](mailto:bobbiejo.mahon@wisconsin.gov)
  - b. **For dredging work:** Submit “pre-application” to appropriate WMS before submitting a permit application. For details go to: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Waterways/dredging>
  - c. **Permit exemptions:** review this DNR web page to see if a “Waterway Exemption” applies to your project: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Waterways/Permits/PermitProcess.html>
2. **Check if proposed work is in a PCB Cap area.** Two types of *PCB Cap* maps are available from DNR.
  - a. **“PCB Cap Figures” on BOTW website (PDF format):** Use instructions below to search DNR’s Bureau for Remediation and Redevelopment Tracking System (BRRTS) on the Web (BOTW).
    - i. Go to DNR website: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Brownfields/botw.html> Select **LAUNCH**
    - ii. Scroll down to “**Search Criteria**” box and enter “**BRRTS No.**” below for your project area in the appropriate Operable Unit (OU) 1, 2, 3, 4 and/or 5, then select **SEARCH**
      - BRRTS No. **02-71-582406** for OU1 (Little Lake Buttes des Morts to Appleton Dam)
      - BRRTS No. **02-45-582407** for OUs 2 – 5 (Appleton Dam to river mouth at Green Bay)

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- iii. Scroll down and select PDF document dated 2023-01-01 with title “PCB Cap Figure” to start the download of a zip file to your computer’s “downloads” folder where you can open it. The LEGEND box on each map shows Primary *PCB Caps* in blue and SRA Caps in pink.
- b. **“Remedy Maps and GIS Maps” on Fox River PCB Cleanup Project website**
  - i. Go to <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/FoxRiver/Docs.html> then scroll down to **Technical Documents** and select “**Remedy Maps and GIS Shape Files.**”
  - ii. **Select “Remedy Maps”** to start the download of zip file titled “LFR\_RemediesMaps” to your computer’s download folder where you can open it and review maps of the river.  
**NOTE: Remedy maps are a large file that may take some time to download. These maps** exist only for OUs 2-5 (not OU1) and have multiple layers with a color key for map features. To simplify the map, turn “Off” layers by selecting icon next to map layer in left column and click to turn Off or On. For example, under **Main Map** turn Off “Core Labels” etc. Scroll down further to **Remedy** section and turn Off layers, except leave “On” **SRA Caps** and **Primary Caps**.
  - iii. **Select “GIS Shape Files”** for those who have specialized GIS software to view these files. This selection does not include xyz files that can be obtained from Foth Infrastructure, LLC. Contact Project Manager, [Sharon.Kozicki@Foth.com](mailto:Sharon.Kozicki@Foth.com) Phone: (920) 496-6737.
3. **Restricted activities in PCB Cap areas.** *PCB Cap* disturbance or interference can be caused by various activities (e.g., barge spuds, boat hull contact, tugboat propeller wash, structures like pilings or riprap, loading material on *PCB Cap*, dredging, and more). Those who disturb a *PCB Cap* are responsible for damage and possible PCB releases, including *PCB Cap* repair to restore its integrity.

If your proposed work must be in a *PCB Cap* area, you must submit a technical work plan for review by DNR before doing the work and include details on *PCB Cap* disturbance, subsequent repair, and mitigation of PCB releases. This proposed work plan is a **Post-Closure Modification Request** and must be submitted with applicable fees to DNR’s Remediation & Redevelopment (RR) Program for approval before starting your proposed work. DNR’s review of your work plan will incorporate review by the *Oversight Agencies* for the *PCB Cleanup Project*.

- a. Submit a *Post-Closure Modification Request* for work in the Lower Fox River or Green Bay to DNR’s Environmental Program Associate, Northeast Region: [denise.danelski@wisconsin.gov](mailto:denise.danelski@wisconsin.gov) or deliver to Denise Danelski, Wisconsin DNR, 2984 Shawano Ave., Green Bay, WI 54313
- b. The *Post-Closure Modification Request* process is outlined in the DNR guidance document at this link: [Guidance on Post-Closure Modifications \(wi.gov\)](#).

*PCB Caps* were designed and constructed to remain in place forever to protect human health and the environment. Those who work and live on the river are an important part of protecting the *PCB Caps*. Thank you in advance for your cooperation. If you have questions about this Fact Sheet or the processes it describes for the Lower Fox River, please contact [questions@foxriverpcb.com](mailto:questions@foxriverpcb.com) or call 920-255-7220. For general information, you may also contact DNR customer service at 1-888-936-7463.

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