Remedial Branch update: evening 9/10/17

All 43 Federal Superfund NPL Sites in the affected area have been assessed. Of these, 41 sites have been cleared, and two sites (San Jacinto Pits and US Oil Recovery) require additional follow-up.

EPA directed potentially responsible parties or independently started collecting samples at 34 Texas Superfund Sites to confirm no releases due to storm impacts. Two EPA field teams arrived on September 8, 2017, and will be joined by three additional field teams on September 11, 2017. Sampling has been completed at 16 sites. The sampling is part of a longer-term assessment that will be used to transition sites to their normal cleanup operations. Sampling will be complete by September 13, 2017, with preliminary un-validated results expected by September 16, 2017.

US Oil: The PRP Group continues to pump down Lift Station #1 to maintain freeboard and continues to coordinate repair/replacement of the damaged/displaced plugs in the piping in the lift station and sand filter. The freeboard level in the lift station is close to being stabilized.

San Jacinto: Cap repairs are complete on the western part of Southern Berm while repairs continue on the remaining berm sections. Manual probing of capped areas, with oversight by EPA Dive Team, continues and is expected to be completed September 11, 2017. Three areas on the northwest part of the cap have been identified for further investigation. The Dive Team is planning to enter the water September 11, 2017. The Dive team will collect sediment samples from areas identified as having missing armor stone while additional sediment samples will be collected from the western cell.

Figure 1: San Jacinto Pits: Completed repairs on the western portion of the Southern Berm.

Figure 2: San Jacinto Pits: The potentially responsible party continues with cap repairs on western cell and central berm.