

PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
DENVER, CO
PERMIT NO. 4292



ROCKY MOUNTAIN ARSENAL • FALL 2010 • Website: www.rma.army.mil

POSTAL PATRON

This is a joint publication produced by:



Demolition Work Concluding

Recycling of Steel, Scrap Metal Continues

The last of more than 750 structures identified for demolition under the Record of Decision will be dismantled this fall. The Record of Decision outlines the overall framework and rationale for the environmental cleanup of the Rocky Mountain Arsenal. As part of the cleanup, the Arsenal has demolished structures used during past chemical manufacturing at the site.



Demolition of Building 318 began in early September.

Over the years, the Arsenal has demolished the South Plants and North Plants manufacturing facilities and recycled as much material from them as possible. To date, the Arsenal has recycled more than 11,000 tons of steel and 234,000 pounds of scrap metal.

With the manufacturing facilities gone, the final demolition projects involve structures built to support the cleanup. Building 318, the final facility identified in the

Record of Decision, was constructed in 1992 to treat wastewater and decontaminate equipment. The treatment plant has also been used for groundwater treatment related to specific cleanup projects.

Crews began the demolition in September. Much of the above-ground portions of the facility, including tanks, siding, piping and fencing, will be separated

and recycled at an off-site location. After the structure is demolished, crews will regrade and reseed the area with native vegetation so it will blend in with the surrounding shortgrass prairie. The area lies within the 1,000 acres that will be permanently retained by the Army and will not join the Refuge.

The Arsenal will also demolish a few other structures this fall that were not identified in the Record of Decision. Those structures are no longer needed to support the cleanup, and they have no future use for the Refuge. All demolition work will be completed by the end of 2010. ■

Photo by Rich Keen/DPRA Inc.

Ceremony to Mark Fulfillment of Vision for RMA

End of Fieldwork, Refuge Expansion Signal Transformation Complete

Elected officials from all levels of government will gather this October at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge to mark the final significant land transfer from the U.S. Army to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The ceremony will make official the completion of the Refuge and the end of all significant environmental cleanup. All fieldwork related to the cleanup of soil and structures concludes this fall, within budget and a year ahead of schedule. Documentation related to the completion of the program will conclude in 2011. The Army and Shell Oil Co. conducted the cleanup at a total cost of \$2.1 billion.

“This celebration has been decades in the making, and everyone associated with the site feels a tremendous sense of pride about what we have accomplished,” said Charlie Scharmann, U.S. Army program manager at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal.

“The vision of transforming the Arsenal from an environmental cleanup site into a premier urban national wildlife refuge has been fulfilled. Thanks to the collaboration of the community and regulatory agencies, generations of Coloradans will enjoy the Refuge we created together.”

Refuge Expands Acreage and Visitor Services

During the October ceremony, the U.S. Army will officially transfer another 2,500 acres of Arsenal land to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to manage as part of the



Restored prairie in the new northeastern section of the Refuge.

Photo by Rich Keen/DPRA Inc.

Refuge. The transfer will bring the Refuge to its final size of roughly 15,000 acres.

The Army is able to transfer land because the Environmental Protection Agency has certified that cleanup work in the area was complete. Following the EPA's determination, the land was deleted from the National Priorities List of environmental cleanup sites, enabling the Army to transfer it to the Service.

The land joining the Refuge lies primarily in the northeast and central interior areas of the Arsenal. The acreage includes rolling prairie, a historic ditch built in the 1800s to irrigate farmland and land that was once part of a wagon trail that extended from Ft. Morgan to Denver.

Vision for RMA continued on next page.

INSIDE

■ Five-Year Review Draft Report Soon Available for Review

■ Saddle Up for Refuge Roundup 2010



■ Demolition Work Concluding

Rocky Mountain Arsenal
Community Information Line
303.289.0136

Vision for RMA continued from front page.

In the coming years, the Service will expand the route for its "Wild Ride" guided tours through the northern part of the site, allowing visitors to experience the new sections of the Refuge. The Service has also increased the opportunity for visitors to connect with nature by adding more nature and environmental programs and opened for visitation six days a week. (The Refuge is closed Mondays.)

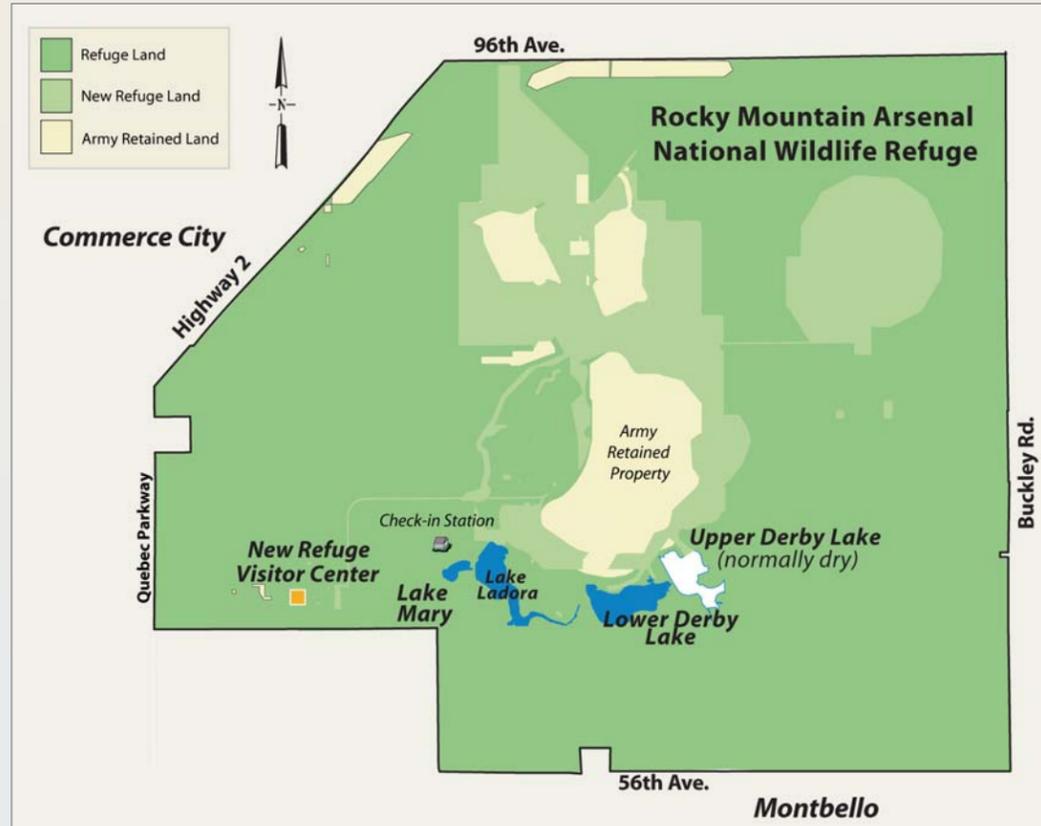
Arsenal Committed to Long-Term Protectiveness

Although the Refuge is expanding, the Army will permanently retain 1,000 acres containing its landfills and consolidation areas. The Army will provide long-term monitoring and maintenance of those areas to ensure the environmental cleanup performs as designed and remains fully protective of public health and the environment. These areas are not accessible to the public.

Groundwater treatment will continue until all groundwater leaving the Arsenal meets federal and state standards. In addition, the Army will work with the EPA, Colorado Department of Public Health

and the Environment and Tri-County Health Department to complete a comprehensive evaluation of the cleanup every five years.

"Our commitment to the long-term protection of public health and the environment is unwavering," Scharmann said. "We look forward to talking to the community in the coming months about how we will fulfill that commitment." ■



Five-Year Review Draft Report Soon Available for Review

Report to Give Comprehensive Evaluation of Cleanup

A draft final report of the Five-Year Review for the Rocky Mountain Arsenal will be available for public review in the next few months.

The draft final report will be publicly available at the Arsenal's Joint Administrative Records and Document Facility in Building 129, at the EPA's Record Center in Denver, and online at the Arsenal's Website at www.rma.army.mil.

The purpose of the Five-Year Review is to complete a comprehensive assessment of how the environmental cleanup program is performing and evaluate its ongoing protectiveness of human health and the environment.

During each review, a multiagency team examines documents, conducts data review and analysis, completes site inspections and community interviews, and provides an overall evaluation of the cleanup program and any applicable changes to environmental standards.

The agencies involved in the review are the U.S. Army, Shell Oil Co., U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, EPA, Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment and Tri-County Health Department.

A public notice will appear in local papers and be posted on the Arsenal Website when the report is ready for review. ■

Saddle Up for Refuge Roundup 2010

Free Event to Feature Live Animals, Hayrides, Performances, Crafts and More

Flying raptors and dancing horses will take center stage at Refuge Roundup 2010 on Saturday, Oct. 16, at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge.

This free family event will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and give roughly 2,000 visitors an opportunity to celebrate National Wildlife Refuge Week and our Western heritage. The 2010 event will include more live animals than ever before and feature a variety of exciting and educational activities for children and adults, including free fishing on the final day of the season.

If you've ever wanted to learn archery, throw a lasso, watch sharp-shooting demonstrations or hear Western music, then Refuge Roundup 2010 is for you. A variety of live animals, including eagles, hawks, falcons and horses, will also be at the Refuge event.

Visitors can stop by throughout the day to watch raptors from HawkQuest and the Colorado Hawking Club, enjoy musical performances by Rudy Grant and the Branded Band and watch shooting tricks by Buffalo Bill and Annie Oakley. Also featured will be an exhibition by Jose Torres

and His Dancing Horses and live cavalry drills by the Buffalo Soldiers of the American West. In addition, cowboys from An Open Range Experience will give lessons on roping and wrangling, and the South Platte Valley Historical Society will help visitors master archery.

Western crafts and games for children of all ages will be offered throughout the day, and visitors can participate in activities on a drop-in basis, without making reservations. Bison tours and hayrides will be offered all day on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Other groups featured at the event include Plains Conservation Center, City of Aurora Parks, Recreation and Open Space and Commerce City Historical Society.

Snacks and refreshments will also be available for a small fee, courtesy of the Friends of the Front Range Wildlife Refuges.

Refuge Roundup 2010 takes place at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge at 56th and Havana. For more information, call the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at 303.289.0930, or visit www.fws.gov/rockymountainarsenal. ■



Refuge Roundup will include raptors, dancing horses and more live animals than ever, as well as roping, archery and more.