

NEAR SURFACE TEST FACILITY RECLAMATION PLAN - Rev. 1

5.0 IMPLEMENTATION OF RECLAMATION ACTIVITIES

The implementation of the reclamation activities will take place in the following phases:

- o Equipment removal and salvage
- o Facilities removal and demolition
- o Earthwork
- o Revegetation

These phases provide for a logical progression of events. Equipment to be removed includes the underground structures, testing equipment, and the office trailers. Demolition activities include the removal of the above ground utilities and the sidewalks. Earthwork activities will include backfilling the tunnels and box cuts, removing the excess gravel/stone, and recontouring the site.

Revegetation activities will include the preparation of the seedbed as well as seeding and mulching. The general ripping and recontouring will have been completed as part of the earthwork phase.

The removal of NSTF equipment was initiated shortly after the program was cancelled by Congress. The demolition, earthwork and revegetation activities are scheduled to occur during 1988. Figure 8 provides a schedule for these activities.

5.1 Access by States and Tribes

Representatives of the State of Washington and the affected tribes will be allowed access to the areas under reclamation. They must comply with the standard Hanford Site access procedures and be escorted by the contract manager's safety officer or other designated person.

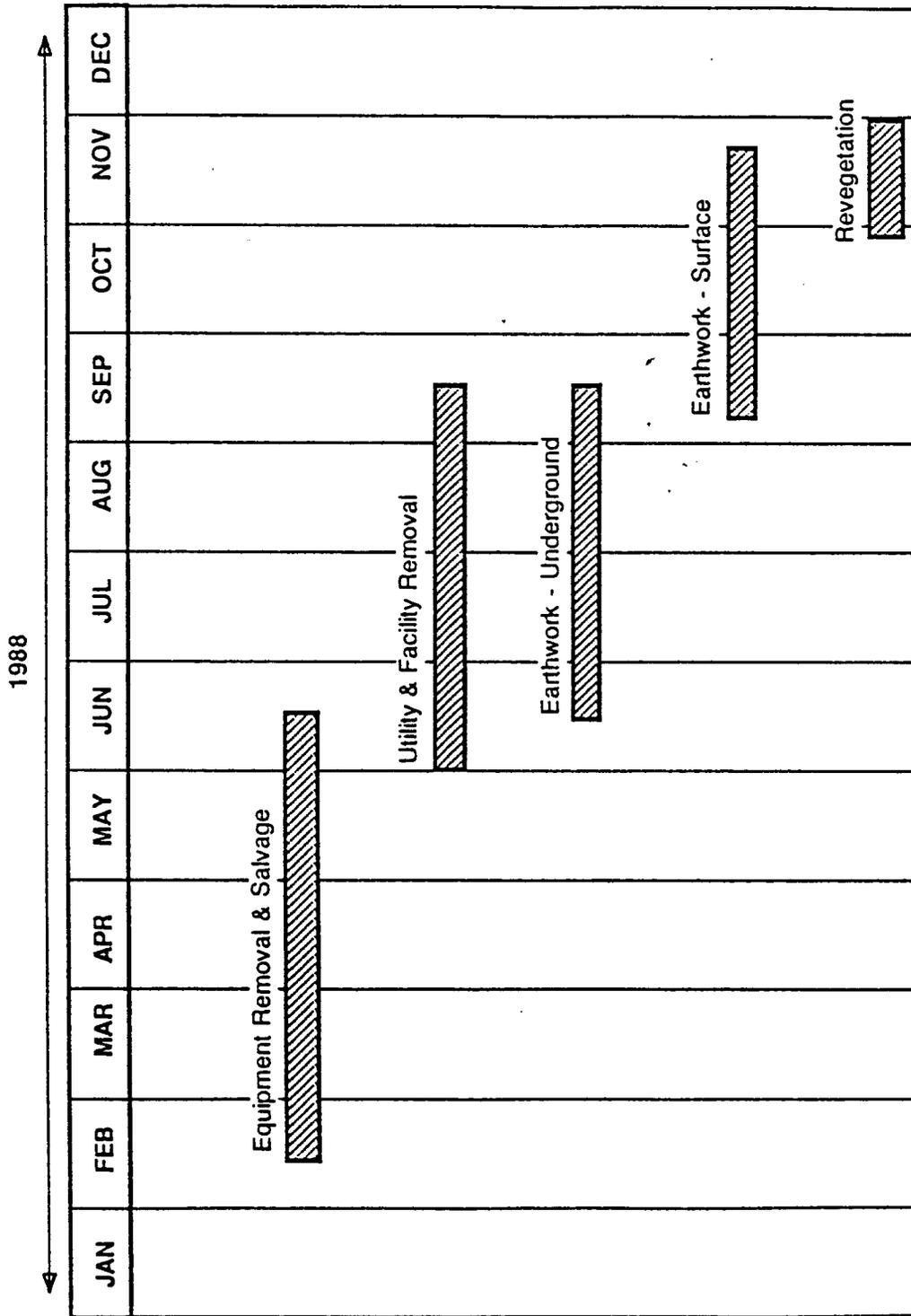


Figure 8. Schedule for reclamation of the NSTF site.

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5.2 Quality Assurance

The Contract Manager (CM) will implement the following verification and documentation program to integrate the verification of compliance with this Reclamation Plan and the field inspection of subcontractor work. The reclamation activities will be executed according to good commercial practice.

The subcontract technical specifications will be developed to implement the reclamation guidelines (Section 4). Since the content of the subcontract technical specifications will be parallel to the guidelines, verification of subcontractor compliance will therefore provide documentation of compliance with the Reclamation Plan.

The CM's personnel will provide routine verification and documentation of specific reclamation activities as they are in process. This verification will be accomplished through observing ongoing reclamation activities and documenting these activities. This documentation will provide evidence of satisfactory compliance with the Reclamation Plan and other program specific requirements.

Representative points of verification may include:

- o Removal of asphalt placements
- o Removal of miscellaneous underground utilities
- o Removal or redistribution of coarse material
- o Emplacement, compaction and contouring of box cuts and associated disturbances
- o Scarification, fertilization, seed mixture and the planting density of vegetation

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The CM's personnel will document daily activities on a daily report noting the accomplishment of specific verification activities. The daily report will also provide narrative description of the daily monitoring of the ongoing NSTF reclamation activities. These documents will be used to provide evidence of compliance to the Reclamation Plan and the appropriate appendices. These daily reports will be compiled to generate a weekly report providing the archival record and evidence necessary to produce the final reclamation compliance package for the BWIP NSTF. The CM will be responsible for maintaining adequate documentation.

5.3 Reclamation Success

The reclamation verification process (Section 5.2) will document compliance with the reclamation plan. This will provide evidence that the equipment removal and salvage, demolition, earthwork, and revegetation activities were carried out properly. Natural processes, such as precipitation, also influence the success of the reclamation effort. As a result, additional monitoring of the reclaimed area is desirable.

The NSTF site and associated disturbed areas will be restored to conditions similar to natural plant communities near the disturbed areas. One of the important considerations for revegetation is the Native American concern that Gable Mountain be restored as nearly as possible to its preexisting condition. The primary goals will be to establish self-sustaining vegetation and to produce cover that is comparable to the conditions prior

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to the disturbance. Restoration will be dominated by the re-establishment of native plant species found in the nearby communities and the control of invading exotic species. Disturbed sites located entirely within communities dominated by exotic species will not be required to be reclaimed with native species.

The mix of vegetation to be established at the NSTF site and recommendations for specific revegetation activities will be developed at a later date.

The recovery of natural vegetation on disturbed sites and restoration success will be evaluated one year after completion of the reclamation activities and a determination will be made relative to the need for additional reclamation work. Success will be based on predetermined criteria measured in undisturbed plant communities that will serve as controls. Control sites will be selected for each natural plant community type found in the BWIP area of disturbance. Evaluation of revegetation success on disturbed areas will be compared to parameters measured on control sites.

If the desired density of target species is not present, reseeding, mulching, or fertilizing will be performed as appropriate.

Natural vegetation is defined as the pre-existing vegetation of disturbed sites prior to disturbances and can generally be determined by the plant communities surrounding a disturbed site.

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INFORMATION RELEASE REQUEST

References:
WHC-CM-3-4

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