

## A Suite of Options at Tar Creek<sup>1</sup>

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**Abstract:** The Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma was the first tribe in the nation to assume the lead over an EPA Superfund site. The Tar Creek Superfund Site is in Northeast Oklahoma<sup>3</sup>, and is a former lead and zinc mine. Closed in the 1960's, Tar Creek was listed on the National Priorities List in 1983. Since that time, more than 35 teragrams of mine tailings have been identified, and the 100 square kilometer site is undergoing active remediation. A suite of options has been developed for use at Tar Creek, where top soil is scarce. These include the use of soil amendments with short- and long-term performance measures, utilizing ecological-risk cleanup goals, and GIS mapping utilizing kriging, in addition to the traditional excavation approach. Working with landowners, EPA, and state officials, the Tribe determines the best approach on a site-by-site basis, so that the remediated site can be returned to productive use.

Additional Key Words: CERCLA, Tri-State Mining District.

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  3. Work reported here was conducted near 36° 58' 21" N; 94° 49' 52" W.