Site, for example if background contamination drops significantly.

Over time, EPA may re-evaluate fish consumption assumptions that serve as the basis for this cleanup level and adjust the cleanup level as appropriate. This cleanup goal is consistent with ARARs, attains EPA's risk management goals for remedial action, and is protective of human health.

b. Performance Standard for Thin Layer Cap

The Performance Standard for the enhanced natural recovery component of the remedy (i.e., the thin-layer capping) is to apply thin layer capping material to that portion of Reach 3 which uniformly exceeds 10 parts per million (on average) of mercury in the surficial (top 6 inches) sediment. This area is referred to as Segment 5 in the WASP computer model evaluation and is the area between the Fountain Street bridge and the Framingham Reservoir No. 2 dam. As noted above, the six-inch layer is an approximate measure; some mixing of the newly introduced material with the underlying sediment is expected to occur and would not be considered to be inconsistent with the goals of the Selected Remedy. Materials will be selected during remedial design based on evaluation of sediment stability, velocity, stream flow and other factors described above (refer to the section above on "Remedial Design and Pre-Design Studies").

L. THE SELECTED REMEDY

1. Summary of the Rationale for the Selected Remedy

The selected remedy is a comprehensive remedy which utilizes a combination of technologies to address the only unacceptable risk (consumption of mercury-contaminated fish) in Operable Unit 4. The major components of the remedy are as follows:

- Enhanced Natural Recovery (ENR) in a portion of Reach 3 (i.e., Framingham Reservoir 2).
- Monitored Natural Recovery (MNR) in Reaches 2, 4, 6, 9, and 10.
- Limited Action for Reach 8. This includes monitoring of contamination levels in fish, to determine the impact of the selected remedy and of ongoing atmospheric deposition on fish tissue. However, fish tissue contamination levels in Reach 8 are not expected to decline to levels that would permit consumption in quantities assumed for a recreational angler.
- "Institutional Controls" throughout the river – i.e., community outreach as well as posting and maintenance of signs advising against the consumption of fish where they are unsafe for regular consumption.
- No Action for Reaches 5 and 7 since there are no unacceptable risks to either a child or an adult recreational angler in these reaches.
- Periodic Five-year Reviews.

2. Description of Remedial Components

The selected remedy is consistent with EPA's preferred alternative outlined in the June 2010 Proposed Plan, and is consistent with Alternative 3B as described in the June 2010 Public Comment Draft Feasibility Study. Following is a detailed description of each of the components of the selected Remedial Alternative.

Enhanced Natural Recovery (ENR)

Enhanced Natural Recovery consists of the placement of a thin layer of sand (or any similar material determined to be more effective at sequestering mercury and/or re-colonization of benthic habitat) over existing contaminated river bottom sediment that uniformly exceeds a mercury concentration of 10 mg/kg (or ppm) in surface sediment. This area is an approximately 84-acre section of Reservoir 2, located in Reach 3 between Fountain Street and the Reservoir No. 2 Dam (referred to previously and included as Figure J-2). This is the only part of the river, other than Reach 8, where natural processes alone are not expected to be adequate over a reasonable period of time (i.e., less than 30 years) to eliminate unacceptable risks from the consumption of mercury-contaminated fish.

The 10 ppm sediment concentration indicates areas that are targeted for the thin sand layer but it is not a "cleanup level"; the cleanup levels for the selected remedy are based solely on fish tissue concentrations of mercury (see below). The placement of sand in this quantity is anticipated to

EPA NEW ENGLAND
REGION 1

RECORD OF DECISION

NYANZA CHEMICAL WASTE DUMP SUPERFUND SITE, OPERABLE UNIT 4 (SUDBURY RIVER)

ASHLAND, FRAMINGHAM, SUDBURY, WAYLAND, LINCOLN AND CONCORD, MASSACHUSETTS

SEPTEMBER 2010