

Measuring Land Revitalization at RCRA Corrective Action Facilities

Tom Rinehart

Corrective Action Programs Branch

U.S. EPA – Office of Solid Waste

Developing Revitalization Measures

- 2003 – One Cleanup Program Initiative and U.S. EPA Strategic Plan (2004-08) efforts.
- 2004 – Workgroup created to develop framework of cross program cleanup and revitalization measures (EPA HQ, Regions, States).
- August 2005 – Draft report on status of reporting in EPA clean-up programs and discussion of possible land revitalization measure framework.
- 2005 – OSWER AA direction to develop a baseline and implement at least one cross-program measure by October 2006.

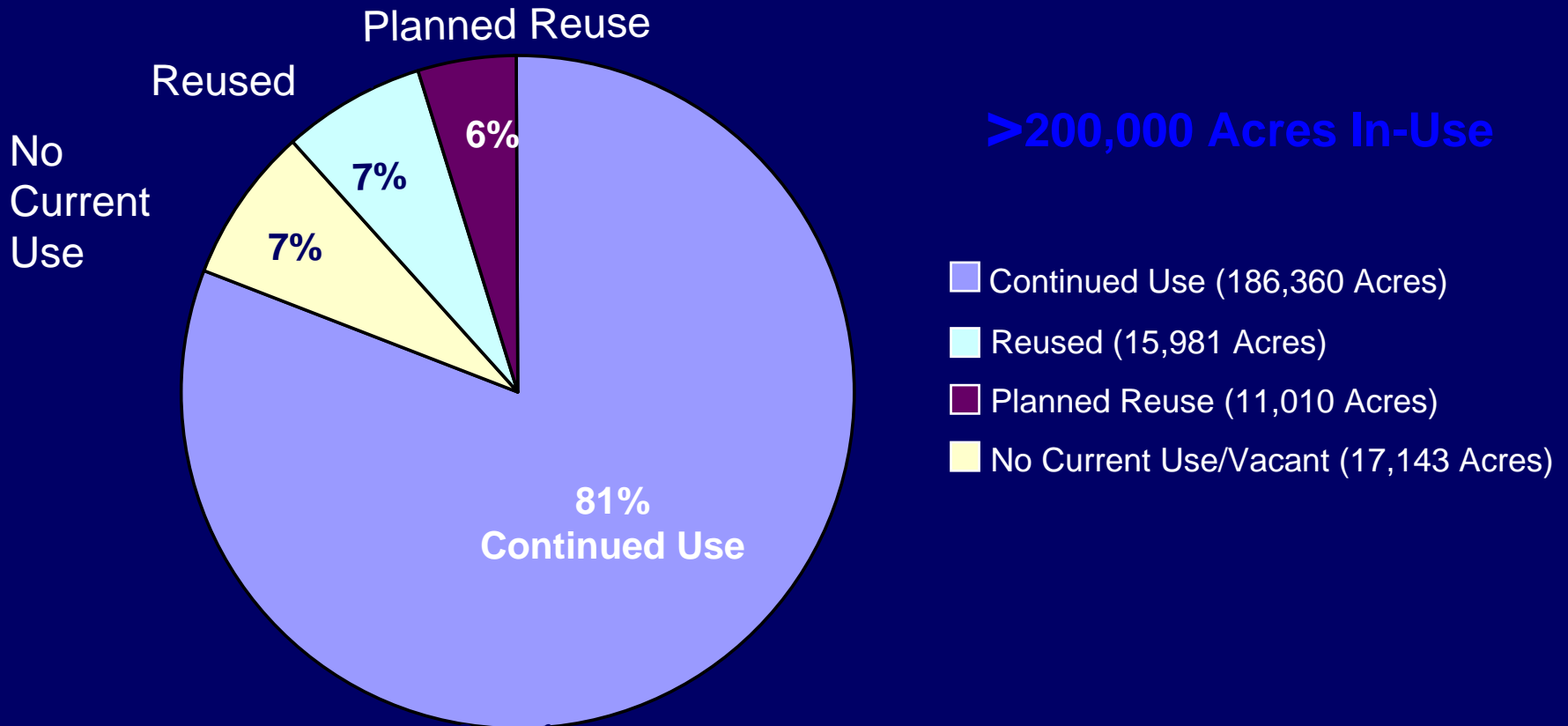
Developing Measures (continued)

- Spring '06 - OSWER AA Direction - Develop acres-based cross-program performance measure addressing the following two principles:
 - Achieving goals needed to ensure protection of land use
 - Appropriate controls (if needed) in place
- Ongoing - Regional Pilots collecting land use information at clean-up sites
 - Regions 1, 3, 5, 9

Results from Region 3's Project

- Over 500 RCRA CA, Superfund NPL and Federal Facilities sites totaling approx. 230,000 Acres

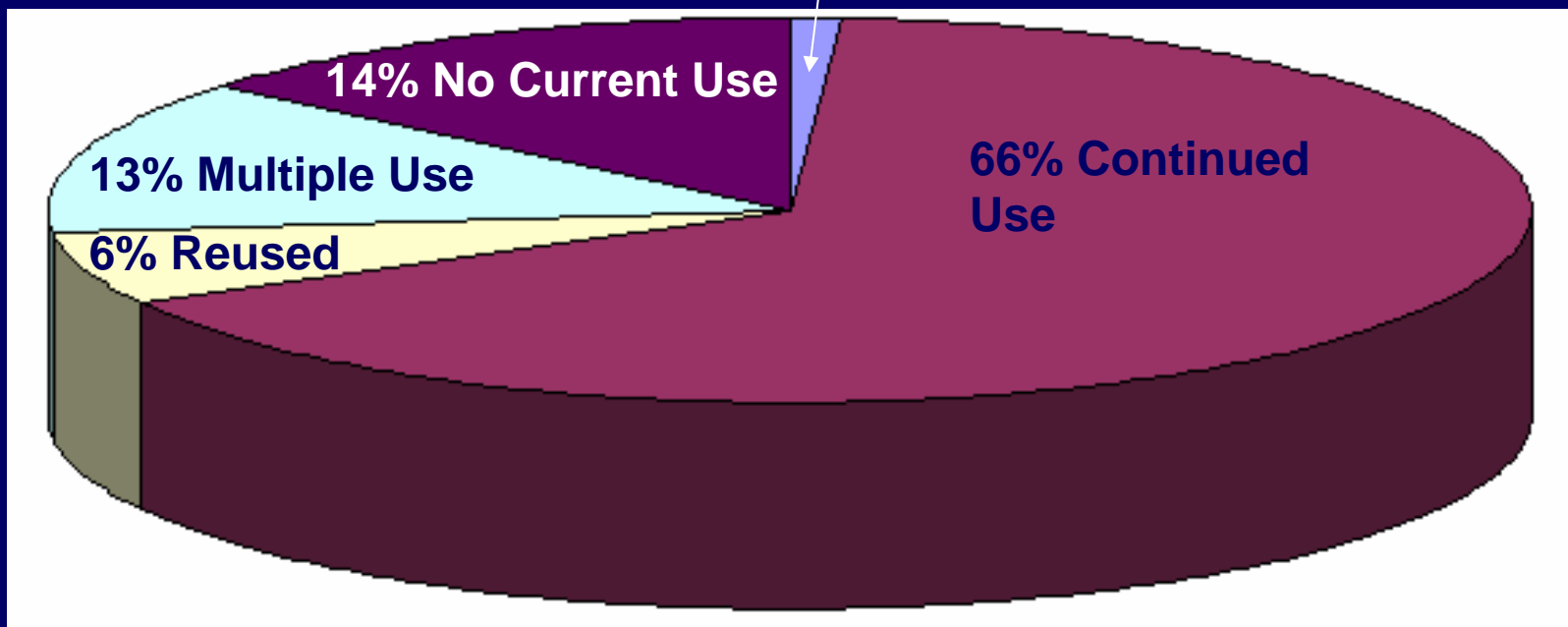
Region 3 Cleanup Sites - Current Land Use



Region 3 RCRA CA GPRA 2005 Sites

Number of Sites = 280

1% Planned Use



Current Efforts to Develop Acres-Based Performance Measure

- Program-Specific Approaches
 - Superfund and BFs Program currently track acres "ready for reuse," will be revising their 2004 guidance.
 - Underground Storage Tanks (UST) looking at assumption based approach (one release cleaned up equals \approx one acre)
 - RCRA Corrective Action Program evaluating approaches
- Roll-up acre based accomplishments into new cross-program measure called?
 - Suggestions include - Acres confirmed protective for current use, revitalized acres, Acres suitable for use, Acres determined protective for limited use...

What is Being Measured?

- The purpose of a revitalization measure is to show that enough clean-up work has been done so that a facility can be safely used or turned over to a new use.

Option RCRA Program is Considering

Tiered Approach

- For FY 07 - Report acres using HE EI as milestone
- For FY08 and beyond, RCRA implements a two pronged approach:
 - For operating facilities
 - Continue reporting HE EI
 - For non-operating facilities, report facilities that meet:
 - Cleanup goals met for all but GW contamination and sediment, where not relevant to new uses
 - Some type of appropriate controls in place – a permit would be considered as one example of an appropriate control.
- A mechanism for States and Regions to report this milestone for parcels if they choose.
- Talking with FFRRO about how best to track federal facilities.

Next Steps

- Continue to develop approach, get input from State and Regional RCRA Programs during July
- Provide draft guidance language for implementation of FY07 Measure by Aug 1, 2006.
- Finalize draft guidance language by end of Aug. 2006
- Continue to develop methodology for reporting further measures throughout FY07