

right of way. Traditional Phase I and Phase II Environmental Assessments (ESA) will find the common contaminants but may overlook contamination from spills.

The hazardous substances related to rail use differ from the hazardous substances in a traditional industrial setting. Unlike fixed facilities where spills come from tanks, pipes, or processes that do not change in physical location, the pesticides or combustion by-products distribution can be unpredictable along the right of way. Care must be taken to design a plan of assessment that takes this into account, recognizing that the objective of the assessment is to produce an accurate, useful, and cost-effective data set.

Types of Contaminants: ⁶

- Railroad ties, usually treated with chemicals such as creosote
- Coal ash and cinder containing lead and arsenic
- Spilled or leaked liquids such as oil, gasoline, cleaning solvents, etc.
- Herbicides
- Fossil fuel combustion products (PAHs)
- Roofing shingles (asbestos)
- Air compressors
- Transformers and Capacitors
- Metals

C5. Rail Trails Opportunities for the Delta Trail

To determine which rail corridors in the Delta may be candidates for rails-to-trails or rails-with-trails, the corridor status must be known. Possible sources for corridor status research are noted on the following page.

For information on a corridor's status consult:⁷

- Surface Transportation Board website
- Local and County tax assessors' offices
- City planning departments
- The State Department of Transportation
- Recreational Trails Program State Administrators
- State historic preservation officers and the National Register of Historic Places for corridor's historic significance

Rail trail opportunities in the delta:

- Active rail lines to consider rail with trail in the Delta include:
 - Amtrak Capital Corridor between Martinez-Fairfield-Sacramento
 - Amtrak San Joaquins between Martinez-Antioch-Stockton-Lodi-Sacramento
 - Altamont Corridor Express between Tracy-Lathrop/Manteca-Stockton
 - Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) between North Concord/Martinez-Pittsburg/Bay Point-Pittsburg Center-Antioch
- Transit to trail opportunities existing at all the above locations as well

⁶ <https://www.railstotrails.org/build-trails/trail-building-toolbox/acquisition/environmental-contaminants/>

⁷ <https://www.railstotrails.org/build-trails/trail-building-toolbox/acquisition/corridor-research/>

