MARE ISLAND NAVAL SHIPYARD
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB) MEETING MINUTES
HELD THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 2005

The Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) for former Mare Island Naval Shipyard (MINSY) held its regular meeting on Thursday, January 27, 2005, at the J.F. K. Library, Joseph Room in Vallejo, California. The meeting started at 7:14 p.m. and adjourned at 9:28 p.m. These minutes are a transcript of the discussions and presentations from the RAB Meeting. The following persons were in attendance during this month's RAB meeting.

RAB Members in attendance:

- Myrna Hayes (Community Co-Chair)
- Kenn Browne (Community Member)
- Justice Bude (Community Member)
- Mike Coffey (Community Member)
- Jerry Karr (Community Member)
- Diana Krevsky (Community Member)
- Paula Tygielski (Community Member)
- Jeff Morris (Lennar Mare Island)
- Sheila Roebuck (Lennar Mare Island)
- Jerry Dunaway (Navy Co-Chair)
- David Godsey (Navy)
- Gary Riley (San Francisco RWQCB)
- Chip Gribble (DTSC)
- Henry Chui (DTSC)
- Scott Ward (DTSC)
- Cris Jesperson (Weston Solutions)
- Dwight Gemar (Weston Solutions)
- Michelle Trotter (DTSC)

Community Guests in attendance:

- Diji Christian
- Tommie Jean Damrel
- Melissa Diamant

RAB Support from CDM:

- Regina Clifford
- Doris M. Bailey (Stenographer)
- Wally Neville

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

CO-CHAIR HAYES: Hello. Good evening. Henry got a haircut.

MR. CHUI: I need a cap like you.

CO-CHAIR HAYES: I got one too but not quite as short as yours. Yeah, it's a cool cap, huh? Folks are wanting to get another regional park, yet another regional park over in Sonoma county. It's between Sears Point and Lakeville Road, that hill there, there's a former lake, that's where Lakeville Road came, the highway, the name came from, up in those hills. And it was drained like in the twenties and used for agriculture, but it was a Native American kind of a hangout, a place that they lived around that lake, and so the lake is full of Native American artifacts. So these folks, the friends of Tolay Lake want to make a regional park out of this farmland and spend about $8 million to purchase the property. We're lucky we have lots of available property

on Mare Island for parks, we just can't quite get a manager for any of them. Anyway, welcome to the January Mare Island Restoration and Advisory Board meeting. And I'm Myrna Hayes, I'm the community co-chair for those of you who are new to our night. I don't know if there's anybody new here tonight, but welcome. And welcome back to our court reporter.

COURT REPORTER: Thank you.

CO-CHAIR HAYES: And I'll hand the microphone to Jerry.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Thank you, Myrna. Well first, welcome again. And I did want to point out some things we had brought over from the Flyway Festival at the back of the room, maybe you can peruse, if you haven't had a chance to see a map of the Flyway Festival, those are some posters we had made up for our booth. We're talking about, some various things we're doing here at the island. We'll start with introductions around the room and then we'll talk about our roundtable discussion. So Myrna and I already introduced ourselves, why don't we turn it over to Scott.

Attendees introduced themselves as requested.

II. PRESENTATION: How is the RAB Serving the Community Members, Round Table Discussion – Facilitated by Ms. Myrna Hayes (Community Co-Chair) and Mr. Jerry Dunaway (Navy Co-Chair)

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Thank you all. Well, our topic for tonight is not anything technical or any of our projects that we're doing at Mare Island, and hopefully that will be that much less boring or uninteresting. And if you're not into those technical things, we tend to get a little technical on our stuff here. But what we are doing tonight really came out of a focus group meeting with all of, at the latter part of last year, and we talked about doing a roundtable discussion, really to kind of hear from each of the RAB members, community and otherwise folks that attend these meetings, what the RAB does for you guys, what the meetings and the agendas do for you or what they don't do for you. And I put out a series of questions that were just meant to get you to think about what your feelings are about the RAB. But also, we really wanted to hear from you on what does your participation mean and what are you trying to get out of your participation here with regard to the cleanup of Mare Island, how do you feel about the cleanup? How is it going?

There's been an awful lot of change recently from, I guess in the Navy's mind it's been a good change, we think the cleanup has progressed much more rapidly than, say, prior to 2002, but what does, what does it feel like from the community perspective or from any other perspective other than the Navy's? That will certainly be interesting to hear, and we want to take that information and try to make a better RAB out of it.

We, Myrna and I were thinking of trying to maybe break up the session and maybe get groups of folks together to talk amongst themselves, and then present kind of the information to the RAB after that breakout sessions, if you will. But maybe we should take a poll and see if we want to do that. How many folks really have something they kind of already have been thinking about and would like to talk about that, just going around the table? Can I see a show of hands? Mike. Do you folks feel maybe you could talk with, amongst a smaller group of folks, kind of share thoughts and then maybe develop their comments that they want to make and we go around the table at that point? Okay. Chip.

MR. GRIBBLE: Are you talking about the community members going off and talking by themselves and then coming back and presenting?

CO-CHAIR HAYES: Well, I guess Jerry and I had a little conversation about this and I guess we're all kind of family, and while you might want to hear some expose from the community members, I think that folks who are here who are regular participants in our audience, if you will, or our contractors, as well as my opinion is, and I'll just throw it out here, that other folks on the RAB would appreciate breaking out into the, what sounds like we'll do some smaller groups for a little bit and making a contribution too. I mean after all, you have some role you play on the island and in its cleanup, and what would be the point of having you go off in the corner or go over to city hall and wait for us to come up with some news? It's just my opinion, that's all.

MR. GRIBBLE: And I feel that if we broke into, some people may be more comfortable that way, and I don't have any sense about that. But, for having, to have, to have breakout groups when we have, I think it's seven, to my count, of community members here, I'm going to miss significant parts of that whole discussion or comments by the seven people, community members here that I'm, I want to hear from.

CO-CHAIR HAYES: Yeah, but you already saw a show of hands, they don't want to talk, so you're not going to miss anything.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Well the idea is that everyone comes back to the table and shares the significant points or maybe the more important pieces of their conversations with the whole group. So we'll have that discussion. But yeah, we were thinking the regulatory members as well as even folks from the Navy, Lennar, and Weston would participate in the smaller groups Diana.

MS. KREVSKY: Maybe we can mix everybody because it would be interesting to hear everybody's point of view for real, you know, not the things that have been going on and what everybody's used to, but maybe some improvements from, and then if we mix everybody -- you know.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Jerry.

MR. KARR: I don't have a really strong feeling either way, but I think it's a more efficient use of time if we just go in an open session. I don't feel a need to break off smaller, I mean everybody here knows everybody else, and just go round robin and talk about things. It's not that large a group. But whatever the group wants to do is fine with me.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: I think this is a fairly manageable small group, and if folks are willing to do that, I know Mike raised his hand; Jerry, I'm sure you've got a few things to say. Maybe what we can do is start it off with maybe the two of you, kind of kick off the discussion, and then we'll get other people thinking too. Chip, do you have something to say?

MR. GRIBBLE: Yeah, would the community members in the RAB object to Michelle coming up here for this discussion in particular since her role is public participation specialist, and then she can participate also?

CO-CHAIR HAYES: Well actually there's such a gigantic room of people here I don't see why they don't all come to the table. You've got a public participation specialist for the Navy as well as for CH Lennar back here too. I mean, I'd say Dwight is our public participation specialist for Weston, so --

MR. GRIBBLE: I didn't finish. If you'd answer my question, the proposal was then that I could go to the back of the room.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: You have to sit at the table.

MR. KARR: As long as there's no sticky dots or kumbayas, sign me up.

CO-CHAIR HAYES: No group hug.

MR. KARR: No group hug.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Okay, well maybe --

MS. KREVSKY: I have another suggestion. Perhaps the community members can start off, if we're going to stay in a large group, because I would rather hear from us first and then merge with the others.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: That was my thinking too, we wanted to focus this on the community members first and foremost but not exclusively. Why don't we do that now and make use of our time here? Mike, would you like to start off?

MR. COFFEY: Sure. Well first off, I opened up by saying that I was originally brought into this group by another RAB member who I had worked with on a committee in American Canyon in the parks and recreations that my wife was on, Al Iliff. And he had talked to me a great deal about Mare Island, and I didn't even know what Mare Island was. He had talked to me about it, drove me around the island several times. And one of the reasons that I decided to join this board is because I've always been a big fan of or a, had a deep interest in the national trust for historic preservation, and I saw this island as a jewel in the rough. And also, when my, and that was basically, so basically it was a selfish type of thing, I just wanted to find out more of what this was all about. I live so close. Many people say American Canyon is just another part of Vallejo, and in truth American Canyon is actually closer to Mare Island than a lot of parts of Vallejo are.

CO-CHAIR HAYES: It's true.

MR. COFFEY: So I saw very intrinsic necessity for somebody from American Canyon to look into what's going on around here and kind of be a representative. What I have found out in the time since my wife has been running for city council and subsequently won, that there are a lot of people in American Canyon who used to work out at Mare Island, and there are a lot of people who find that they don't have enough information about Mare Island, and there was also a lot of people who don't even know Mare Island exists. So I found that I do play a significant role in my community in disseminating some information about what's going on around here. And it's been a very eye opening experience for myself too because I will admit I was not much of a strong environmentalist when I came into this group, I didn't really know much about anything that had to do with any of this.

And I think that has changed a great deal, to my wide-eyed wonderment, that I never really understood quite what all of this was all about. I've lived in many, many, many communities where naval bases, air bases, military bases have been closed, and listened to all the hullabaloo that went on about the property and the turnover and the waste and all the other problems that go on with these bases. So it has been very wonderful experience and I've liked it a great deal. And I found myself getting a little bit more involved with it now that my wife has won the election, and we have a newspaper. And I bring a little bit of that information, whatever I can, into the

newspaper, and try and let people know in our community what's going on about it. And I think it has a significant and viable part to play in all of our future lives in this immediate area. And since I am fairly new to the area I thought it was a great way to base myself in the community and become an active participant.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: I think it's been about maybe two years, just over possibly since you came on board. Being that you didn't have a whole lot of experience on cleanup issues in the past, how has the information presented here at the RAB helped you understand that, or what parts of it maybe were not very clear?

MR. COFFEY: It is difficult to get over the technical jargon. I mean I will admit that I have to listen very carefully and read through a lot of this and a lot of the stuff that's mailed to me on what some of these folks have to say in their expertise. And I will never admit that I will fully understand what they're talking about. But I feel a lot more comfortable in what has been explained to me, and in my wanderings around the island and asking people about what really this is all about, what role it plays in the environment, in our community.

And now, more particularly, the people who were moving on to this island and making this their community. I see a real parallel going on with some of the things that are happening in American Canyon. Where, you know, we have an enclosed dump that was being turned into active participating, now it's, now we find out that the dump is beginning to ooze. And I find myself getting involved in that now too because I understand what some of these properties are that are oozing out of the dump. So, you know, it does play a part for my community. It does play a part for the future of this community. And it does, you know, concern me a bit more that people are moving onto this island at a fairly quick pace, whereas two years ago I probably wouldn't have given a hoot, it is, to my amazement, that much more important to me now. I find myself becoming a lot more broader based and educated, and at my age I like to be able to think that I can still learn things like this.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Very good. You make a really good point about the new people that will make up the community of Mare Island. Maybe that's a target for us to look at for membership or for those folks who may have a more kind of inherent need to know situation because they are moving on to that island. Maybe that's where some of our future RAB members will come. But thanks, Mike. And we can move on to others, but by no means you don't have to not speak up.

MR. COFFEY: I'll join in.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Jerry, would you like to go next?

MR. KARR: Sure. I have a longtime interest in Mare Island. My dad was a welder here during the war, and I was born in Vallejo in '45 and have been here my entire life, other than Army service and a couple of job postings here and there, but it's always been my home of record. And from ninth grade to today one of my closest friends, he lived in Cortiso and moved to Vallejo, his dad was in the Pentagon and a naval captain, came to the yard and was a comptroller. So Ralph lived in Cortiso and I spent a great deal of time there during my high school days. And it was great. It just, because you could not get on Mare Island. It was, it used to have Navy day. I remember as a little kid going over on Navy day and going down in the submarine and looking out the periscope and that's the greatest thing that ever happened to me. But then, Navy day didn't happen very often. And even as a guest of a resident, it was difficult to get on the yard.

You had to be pre- announced to the guards, and once you were here all kinds of fun things could occur, but getting through the gate was a bit of a process. But even so, you could never get down in the building ways, all of that area that is still areas of concern for reuse was high security areas at those time.

But the O club and the golf course and the rambling around and St. Peters and all of that, that was a cool place to be. And I always, never in my wildest dreams were they ever going to close Mare Island, that's all baloney, that will never happen, but it did. And once it did, it became important to me to get public access to the island. And the potential of a regional park on the southern end, that is really exciting. I mean we've been through this many times, and as I've said many times, all you have to do is get somebody on the top of that hill and it will make a believer out of them. Because there are views of Vallejo, sandy beach, the mouth of the river that you just can't get from anywhere else. They're unique views.

There's a unique woodlands up on the side of that hill. And my long involvement as a bird watcher, that's an interesting trap for birds coming across the bay, it's a great resource. But as we find in the Flyway Festival, I think I've been involved with Myrna since day one, and I've always led trips on Cullinan Ranch on Sunday, and other trips out on the levees and environment on Saturday. And it always amazes me that the majority of people on my walks are from elsewhere, they're not from Vallejo. Sunday morning I had ten people at Cullinan, not a one was Vallejo. In the afternoon I had 34, and there were four of them from Vallejo. So people want to come here, they want to go. And I have the same kind of experience on my tours on the yard, out on the back, on the levees.

The majority of the people are from Walnut Creek, San Jose, San Francisco, very few from Vallejo. That's a whole other discussion in itself. But the point being, people in our area, the Bay Area, want to know about Mare Island, they want access to Mare Island. And I hope to some point make sure that the cleanup is appropriate and thorough.

My birding background and doing some of the environmental inventories on the yard and looking at some of the reports. From my work career I did a lot of the same thing in oil spill response. And you can read all the books and reports and scientific data there is, but your best resource is local knowledge. And I found that all over west coast, all over Alaska that, you know, I've got reams of reports, but ask the home boys, they know what's going on. They know what's there, they know what's not there. One time of the year they show up, those kind of questions. So I hope to be able to bring some of that local knowledge to the process.

I appreciate the technical focus groups because our meetings typically cover a lot of subjects, it's very difficult to cover a subject in depth. Powerpoint's wonderful and it gives you something to take notes on, but to really get into and digest some of these topics, I always have appreciated the different contractors involved hosting these technical focus groups with the other regulators and community members to where we sit down. And often not everyone is comfortable asking how many cubic kilograms per pounds of, to the 15th negative power and all of those wonderful things we get into at times, you know, but we can do that while we're eating pizza and laughing and so forth.

I think the process is a good one, it has some warts. We all don't agree often, but a lot of times we do. And I think we would not be in as good a shape as we are today if we did not have the public participation. And, you know, sometimes it's good to raise hell, sometimes it's not, it's

counterproductive, but there are times when you need to say that's not right, and we need more information and let's revisit this topic. So that's enough for now. Thanks.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Thank you, Jerry, very good. I know one of the things that I made a point of saying from the Navy's side, what we view at Mare Island is, over the past couple of years has been a very good thing from the accelerated cleanup that has occurred, not really from what the Navy is doing, but through the efforts we established with the early transfers. We feel that's a good thing. But on the question of making sure that the cleanup is done right, if folks have concerns about this going too fast and is the quality there, let's hear that too. And let's maybe take a volunteer from the community. Who wants to go next? Justice?

MR. BUDU: I'm pretty new to the RAB and I've been living in Vallejo since about 1991, before that I lived in the city of Detroit for about two, almost three years. And the one place that I'd like to go to was, is Otter Island, similar to Mare Island, it wasn't a Navy island, but it was an amusement park. And it had just about everything. And since I was new to this country and I didn't have anywhere to go, that was my favorite place. And you could see Canada right across the city of Detroit from this island -- I forgot the name of it.

MS. TYGIELSKI: Boblo, Boblo Island.

MR. BUDU: Boblo Island. You can take a boat and go out there and spend all day. And I used to go out there in the winter and watch people skiing on the lake and all that. It had just about everything, natural habitat. It had a big aquarium just like you have at Monterey, something like that. It had a giant slides for children. It had horseback riding, everything, boat, and I enjoyed it. Unfortunately, I didn't like the snow that much so I moved to California. And since I've been here I've lived in Vallejo, as I said. And I enjoy Vallejo because it's unusual for you to move into a city and have the mayor send you a flower basket. I didn't even know the mayor, somebody from his office.

CO-CHAIR HAYES: You're an unusual person, we never got one of those.

MR. BUDU: I'm unusual. And I used to come down to the post office now and look at the bulletin. At the time Mare Island was working still, and I asked some friends about Mare Island and he talked about building submarines and stuff like that. But I was never able to go there as the previous speaker just said because it was a Navy island. And around that time the island closed. And the neighbor right across from me was also working on the island, he was transferred to, I think Texas or Colorado or something like that. And he used to tell me about the history and how he has been working. So around that time I became interested.

Growing up in Africa I've always been close to nature, you know, living on the farm, going to places like that. So it was an opportunity. At the same time I'm in school, I want, my interest was someday becoming consultant in organizational management, so that was, everything came in time. And somebody called, Myrna called, you know, trying to get my vote for somebody, and I expressed my interest in working on the project, and she invited me here. So I, I'm new here, and I don't understand the technical, you know, the beginning of how this started with the cleanup. I became interested in the sense eventually that that part of the presentation will be over and they will get into something like this where I'll be able to speak up and say things that I understand and express my interest, not only for the generation today but for the future, for the children who will come in the future and see that those people who started with the cleanup did

something well for them to enjoy in the future. And hopefully they will also continue with that cleanup and maintain it for the future. That's just for my interest in that, joining this group.

Since I've been here I've been very impressed with the attendance because I've been on several other organizations where the meetings, where only about three or four people are sitting out there and you felt like people weren't really interested in what was going on. But here, my personal observation is that information is readily available, mailed to you, presentations are precise, nothing drags on and on where the participant or member gets bored about it. So my recommendation is that I wouldn't want to change. Yeah, you want to improve things, but the method and the format of this meeting I enjoy and I think it is very professional. Jerry here is very, very eloquent in his presentations, and I like to hear from the Board, I like to hear from the engineers. Hopefully I'll be able to use what I'm learning today in my professional career in the future.

So being out here, a creative person, I try to get my children to come to meetings with me, but they're young so is not on the agenda right now. But personally I hope I'll be able to learn enough so I can pass it on to a future generation. That's just my interest in coming right here. So I thank you all for accepting me here even though I'm new, everybody is supportive of that, and I thank you very much.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Thank you, Justice. I know it's hard to compete with Thursday night television. It's been about a year, just over a year since you joined, so --

CO-CHAIR HAYES: Yeah, because it was an election, before November.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: So we're glad to have you here, very good comments. And yeah, it is difficult to get folks to come to the meetings if they don't have that real need to know. Chip, do you have a comment?

MR. GRIBBLE: Yeah. When Justice was talking about the Boblo Island and the Detroit river there, a lot of reasons why that place went out of business, but one of the reasons, and I don't mean to get into the whole thing, was that as an amusement park the thing had its share of accident, well publicized accidents as a result of insufficient, inadequate regulation and oversight.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Was there more to that, Chip? Did you live in that area? I know you're from the Midwest.

MR. COFFEY: No, but what I wanted to say is that it seems to me that we have an underlying common current in both what Justice and Jerry have said, that it seems to me that the community members have become wards of an island that everybody who has a sense of community and responsibility towards a sense of community have taken on this responsibility. That's one of the things that I have evolved mostly in the last year in realizing that certain people who have that feeling of responsibility, that sense of responsibility, need to stand up and to take an interest for the future, for the present, and for the past, to take an interest in this type of thing and to make sure that this past is done correctly, conveniently, and profitably, I guess, too.

I never really realized, and this is kind of a genesis for me, I've never, as an evolution in my own person, to realize that there are times and there are instances and there are places that require people to stand up and be responsible and be involved in something like this. I mean I've never seen anybody's involvement in somebody like Myrna who's taken on this as a major part of her own life. But I'm glad that we can all share in this as an overall and enlarged community to

make sure something like this is of benefit to everyone safely and conveniently for the future. I think it's a great responsibility, and that more people need to realize. And as more information gets out there, realize that they do need to take a responsibility and interest in this for their own benefit. It seems to me that the underlying current is that we're all concerned about its reuse. Its future reuse with all the environmental issues that we deal with, reuse seems to be an underlying factor for everybody.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Thank you, Mike. I know one of the historic legacies of all this cleanup work is found in a real long row of shelves over here in the library, and there's a legal requirement for us to maintain that, but there's end dates. We have essentially a lot of things end after thirty years as far as the way the law is written. But it probably would be great if the community could invigorate the park foundation to take those documents and maintain them as an archive as part of a historic museum for Mare Island. Because I think eventually the library might want to get those shelves back. But very good comments, Mike, and thank you, Justice.

CO-CHAIR HAYES: Jerry, that reminds me that one of the, the key memories I have of being, of becoming involved in the environmental cleanup was when the base was still open and, I don't know who, I think DTSC hosted, maybe with the EPA, an emerging technologies one day conference at the Officer's Club. And one of the speakers there was a young woman from MIT who had just completed her Master's Degree. And what she had done was to take core samples of the river near Lowell, Massachusetts -- or Woburn, Massachusetts which is, was the city that the high cancer rates were found in children which led to CERCLA and the Superfund law. And what she discovered was that the tannery that had been upriver from Woburn had released tremendous amount of all those bad things tanneries do into the river. But it actually wasn't until a redevelopment of that project in the sixties, of that site, that those contaminants were released in significant numbers, amounts, and flowed down the river and got into drinking water supplies throughout the towns downriver from that site.

And I never have forgotten that presentation of hers. It wasn't the actual contaminant and the source of the contaminant, but it was the distribution of it at another time in the name of reuse of that site that actually caused the tremendous damage that it did to the health of the region. So I think that being guardians now of the cleanup is going to serve us well in the future. We are going to have to come out, come back hopefully later, and try to start all over again or have something -- we are lucky, we're lucky we live in California and we're lucky we live in this time. And we might not be able to successfully put Humpty Dumpty back together again, but at least we have consciousness, at least we have a community that cares a bit about that.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Thanks, Myrna. So let's see. Who do we have next? Paula, Diana, Kenn?

MS. TYGIELSKI: I've been looking at your questions on the green paper and the first one is why do you attend monthly meetings? And it's like, okay, I made, I made an obligation for myself to do this, almost eleven years ago now. And my youngest child was a toddler still in diapers at that time. He's now shaving and his voice has changed. So I've spent a lot of years, spent a lot of years doing this. And at the beginning I thought I better sign up for this. And some of the people I work with at the school said, "Well how much you getting paid for that?" "Well it's volunteer." "Well, why do it?" "Well somebody has to, and I know chemistry, so I'll sign up for it because I'm going to know some of the stuff." And most of what we've done over eleven years has gone shoop! But every now and then something just goes, I focus on it and I'll

say something and changes happen, you know. So, you know, because every now and then I get to make an important, what I feel is important, and that keeps me going for all these years.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Well, thank you, Paula. That's the intent of the RAB and that's why they're established. And, yeah, there's not too many other, I guess, public works industries out there that have quite the public participation requirements that the environmental laws require, but that is the end result of all of this effort is to make sure that home boys did have some voice in the process. Let's see, Kenn, Diana?

MS. KREVSKY: Well, I don't have a flowery biography to share. But one thing, when you're talking about preserving the history, just to let everybody know that I've donated all the minutes to the Vallejo Naval Museum so that they have all my copies of the minutes from 1994, I believe, to 2002, at least.

CO-CHAIR HAYES: Probably a safer place.

MS. KREVSKY: Yeah. So somebody's going to know what was going on down the road. Initially I became involved in the reuse process that the City of Vallejo was carrying on before the base closed. And I had moved here just when the base was proposed to be closed, and I have a view of Mare Island. And I knew it was a beautiful place, and I managed to get some tours here and there, and it was an incredible place. And so I wanted to get involved with the reuse, and so this is the common theme that everyone's been saying, and that's what drew me to the process.

And then when the reuse plan was put together and we were virtually ignored, that was a little bit frustrating. But anyway, actually Myrna was the one that spoke in front of the city council inviting people, the public to attend and get the RAB, explained what the RAB was and what was happening, and I saw, oh, my goodness, this is another opportunity to still keep involved. And knowing nothing about the technical aspect of the environment, I was definitely interested in the concept of the environmental cleanup and the importance of taking a beautiful place and returning it to the people.

So anyway, I started to attend kind of, and got very involved. And so it's been over ten years. And I think I know the difference between a RAP and a ROD, CERCLA, it's, I wouldn't vouch for it, but things have kind of materialized and I can grasp what's going on. And I see the light at the end of the tunnel. I mean I see it's going to happen and I'm pleased to be part of it.

So basically the RAB, I think, works and functions, and that it was an opportunity for the public, and still is. And that our, the biggest challenge is getting some other people from the public to learn about this. So I mean I do, once we get into suggestions on how to improve certain things in the RAB, I have some of that. But I do want to say that the RAB is kind of like the connecting fiber for all of us for the community, for the regulators, the Navy, the contractors. I don't think it's often that you get that opportunity to find out what's going on from every viewpoint. So I think that's very important for me. And, again, I guess it's Myrna's motto, the more you know the more you care, in that form. She says it a little differently than that.

CO-CHAIR HAYES: Yeah, I do.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Well if you wanted to talk about your points on improvements, I think that's certainly appropriate now too.

MS. KREVSKY: Well, I'll -- all right. Well basically, not necessarily improvements, but maybe more like additions in the sense of, I personally would have liked to hear discussion about alternative solutions, and expertise from other environmental successes that have happened, which has occurred over the years. But I'd like to hear more about what solutions have been done on other bases, maybe not even bases but other situations. And it's all fine to hear what's going on and I appreciate that, but it tends to be repetitious after a while, you know. All we can do is just catch up, the learning curve is very, so big I need to catch up with just knowing what's going on before I can even get to the point of knowing what can be done. So I find myself always behind.

And I'd like to know more about why the solutions to, certain approaches are taken more than the fact that it's presented, "This is what we're going to do." And that does happen, but I'd like to hear more about that. And I appreciate what's the trend of the visuals, I think they're getting better. And particularly these posters are great. And so the more of that, more visuals and explanations that are tailored to the general public, but not dumbed down, just kind of straightforward, not get too technical.

And I find it also interesting, and this happens sometimes, to hear the viewpoints from the regulators, the Navy, when they're clashing. I find that interesting to hear the differences. So it's okay to air your dirty laundry sometimes. It really is helpful to hear different sides of the argument. And I guess the best of it is when we go on the on site tours and our focus group discussions, those have been the highlights.

And I also would like to hear more from our fellow RAB members, you know, I don't, and I think this is a good opportunity for that. So I'm glad this is happening. And we need a better relationship with the local press. We've talked about that hundreds of times. And I think that will be a way of reaching out to the community, because this is where we've kind of slowed down. It's really hard to make that connection, so like Jerry says, that if only a few people are showing up to the Flyway Festival from Vallejo, you could imagine why they're not showing up for environmental cleanup meetings. So it's the fact that they need to be educated. So that's still a challenge, even though we've, there are improvements, but we can't seem to make a dent. And I don't know, I don't really know what the answer is except for that, to utilize the press more, try to reach out to the community.

And then the media, the printed pieces need to be more inviting and more, more inviting in the sense that the public will be interested in attending the meetings. More explanations of what's going on, not just the title of what we're going to talk about, but kind of what it's all about. It's almost like you have to repeat yourself because a lot of people don't know. And you have to start from day one almost, which can be done in a very concise way and will, I think people might be intimidated by not knowing the technical part and be reluctant to, you know, they come to a meeting and it's like, "Oh, my God, I don't know what's going on," never show up again. So somewhere in there is some improvements.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Well thank you. Good points, Diana. Jerry.

MR. KARR: Yeah, I'd like to tag onto a point that Diana made that I think one of my longest lasting memories, something I'll have of the RAB process was DTSC, the Navy, and EPA debating the lead based paint testing criteria and measurement. That was better than any tennis match I've ever watched.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Well maybe we should bring some of those discussions to the RAB next time. But we haven't gotten down to that level in recent years. Mike.

MR. COFFEY: One of the things I want to tag in with what Diana said, when she's talking about relationships with the press. When Cindy, my wife and I went on this island tour, we took a lot of pictures, took a lot of notes, and we did a little article in the newspaper, our newspaper about this. We got quite a number of phone calls of people who basically called and said, "I didn't know that. I didn't realize that. Oh, my goodness." Cindy and I are both non-technical people, she wrote the article and tried to keep it as non-technical as she possibly could, bringing up a lot of the items, like I didn't know Francis Scott Key' daughter was buried here. I didn't know about the Russian naval, the people that were buried on this island, and a lot of the other little tidbits that fascinated the people who read that article. That was the type of stuff that they were really interested in. And in the last year I have found that the Times Herald and the Napa Register have only one consideration for their articles in their newspapers and that's is it going to sell newspapers and is it going to make them money? I don't think that they're overly concerned about anything that goes on at this island because they don't see where it's going to make them money. So I think if you want to make better relationships with the newspapers, forget about those two papers, they're not interested. They really aren't, they're not interested. You need to focus on more small time local papers, flyers, little articles that any one of us could write. Anything we could put in the paper and put it into those type of locations because you're never going to get the interest of the two major papers, you're just not going to.

CO-CHAIR HAYES: I'd like to follow up on that for just a couple of seconds, Mike, and say actually we do get their interest when we provide something to them that, which we've talked about, Diana said, several of you said is that when the information comes in a non-technical nature and it seems like it's something that you could actually share with a neighbor, then it's, it's a good tool for you. And just like, it's useless to me to share with my neighbor if it's too technical or it's too boring.

The same thing applies to the press. I mean really most writers for our local newspapers are people just like you and me. And I've been pleasantly surprised, and I shouldn't be surprised, but there are individuals, I mean the people who fund the festival, I like to say, are individual people who I ask and they say yes. It wasn't their corporation that they allowed them to do that, a lot of times those people actually own that corporation. But the same thing is true with the press. If you can get a relationship going with an individual, I have a person in, at Fairfield that I've had the privilege of working with for thirteen years. And I can pick up the phone and say, "I have a newsworthy topic, I think, that you would have, should have interest in covering." And that's how the Fairfield Daily Republic came out to the landfill and did a tremendous story there. And the Times Herald also sent someone out. But it's always surprising to me how a reporter picks something up.

It may not, I've urged people who are trying to get their message out from the various RP's that it's so important to send a press release. You spend thousands of dollars a year in your ads and your ads may not be reaching anybody. The paper's happy with you to just send ads, but if you will send a press release and you will start to build a relationship or use us as a vehicle for building a relationship, you will be surprised at what you are doing that is newsworthy. And rather than continuing to just ask us and we continue to tell you and you don't do anything about it, that's probably my biggest frustration is it's almost like the responsible parties in many ways are so busy doing the cleanup or don't want the scrutiny of anymore public than the seven of us.

You're comfortable with us, you know us, you know what you think we're going to say, and you're not quite sure how you would handle a response if a, if 200 people asked you a question about Mare Island.

I was very disappointed, I have to say, that Lennar and CH2M HILL, while they were tremendous supporters of the Flyway Festival this year, did not take the opportunity to do one single thing to present any of their environmental cleanup work. And that's an opportunity, as Jerry said, for several thousand people, and they may not live in Vallejo, to learn about what's going on there. And they, I specifically, I had a situation where the welcome center staff was intending to go off on a bird watching trip by themselves in an area that wasn't, that isn't cleared for the public.

I have to get a three day permit for the Navy, they should be informed. And I'm not saying this to point fingers, but I'm saying that it's really important that you use us as resources, as sounding boards, and come to us and, you know, as the home boys, and learn from us what might work and what, you know, and what doesn't work. And then, you know, we won't have to spend quite so much time sort of feeling like we're beating our head against the wall when we spend countless hours on updating community resources, relations plans, and those kinds of things.

And like Mike has offered and Cindy have offered a dozen times for me to write an article in their paper, and I will be privileged, you know, to do that, but I'd also, from what we heard tonight, any one of you could write a fantastic article for them, and then I maybe only have to write one a year, so --

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Thank you, Myrna. But I never know what you're going to say. So one point that hopefully will be viewed as progress in the right direction here, I did talk about in October that our BRAC department broke away from naval facilities engineering command and we're now the BRAC program management office directly under one of the Assistant Secretaries of the Navy. We just hired our own public affairs officer, so we have our own BRAC specific public affairs officer who is just working the BRAC sites. Lee Saunders will handle the operating bases. And it will provide us more opportunity to do things like press releases. So I would definitely like to get a copy of the article because I haven't gotten to see it or browse the internet site to look for it, but if you have an extra copy I'd like to get a copy. Let's see. I think, Kenn, you're up next.

MR. BROWNE: First time I heard about Mare Island was in the sixties when I lived in Marin, my dad worked there for a few years. My dad worked here for a few years in the sixties when we lived in Marin when I was in high school. My wife and I moved to Vallejo in 1977, and we had a lot of friends who worked on Mare Island, and our kids had friends over at Mare Island. The only times I ever got to go there was to take my daughter to visit some friends or to, for a couple of meetings at the school that was over here because I worked for the school district. I was always fascinated with Mare Island and what was going on over here. In the early eighties I got involved with a group Vallejoans for Cost Efficient Growth that sued the city over development plans for Cullinan Ranch.

We didn't want to see development around here or along Highway 37 there, and we won the lawsuit, blocked the development. Eventually that area was added to the refuge, so that really got my interest going as to the lands around the refuge. Then I got involved with the open field and space committee with Mare Island's future task force, see what's going on in Mare Island and get involved, see what we can do with the lands over here. And we developed the concept and

the boundaries of the regional park, of other open space areas, as well as endangered species and habitat around the refuge that was on Mare Island. And I guess I should say I was really interested in preserving the park and the habitats, public access, getting people into the park. It's a great area, like Jerry said, the hill.

It's not really a hike, it's a walk, it's very accessible. Not only to the hill, but also out along the shoreline and out to the pier where you can see the Mare Island Strait, Carquinez Strait, and San Pablo Bay all come together out there. And the hill I think is the last unobstructed hill along the Carquinez Strait, on this side anyway. I think the RAB is a good observation platform to see how the cleanup is going and to see how it's being carried out and to make sure that it's done.

It's also a good platform to see that the reuse plan is implemented, that there's been resistance to that, and we'll try to bring the different things that threaten, at least the part of the plan that I'm interested in, which is the regional park. I think the RAB is a great forum for public discussion of the cleanup and of the reuse and of the oversight that's going on. You can ask questions and get, you know, a lot of information if you know what to ask, which is the hard part. It's also a very educational process.

I've learned a lot about about the history of Mare Island, as well as about all the different governmental agencies involved and how it all interacts to, you know, to bring the base, you know, into reuse. I think while I've been on the RAB I've seen a lot of use, experienced a lot of use on the island. The Flyway Festival from the beginning. My wife and I have been to weddings, concerts, art shows, and other events on the island. With the school district I've had my class over here on field trips to the refuge for several years now. I've been able to lead hikes for Sierra Club up tothe hill along the shoreline. And there's one other, there has been a lot of reuse on the island which has been good. And I think for myself, just being as a community member being involved in the communities and seeing what's going on, and when people ask me, you know, "What does the RAB do? What is it really about?" I start talking about the cleanup for reuse and restoration and they kind of --

MR. COFFEY: Get glassy-eyed.

MR. BROWNE: Yeah. So I say, "Would you like to come over and take a look?" You know, they're interested in coming over and getting onto the island. A lot of people still don't know that the gate is down and you can come over and just walk around.

MR. KARR: The copper guys do.

CO-CHAIR HAYES: Foiled again. I wanted to comment for Adam.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Yes.

CO-CHAIR HAYES: Adam Chavez called today and said he was ill but he wanted to respond to the questions. And he said something that none of you have yet said, I think explicitly anyway, and that is that he actually attends the monthly meetings to show support for the oversight, that there is a group of people who is here and do care, and to show that you're making a difference as a whole, and that we do want it done right. That was his comment.

And then he too had what he hoped to gain from coming to the meetings is to be able to tell what the RAB does, and he brings that up often, as you mentioned, Kenn and others, in the community.

On the sixth question which was, "What additional tools would you like to have in order to help you share the information with the greater community?" He says he doesn't know how to interest Vallejoans in Mare Island or just about anything else, which I think has been echoed here today. Although I like Ken's notion that when people start to kind of get a glazed over look, that by inviting them to the island they can then experience it for themselves, and that something does happen to you is what I've heard tonight too. And that was one of the reasons that we started early on with the festival.

And I have to credit the Navy for two, in two ways; one, that they were very supportive of us holding a conference that the Audubon Society, the Grand Corporation, Jerry and I MC'd the meeting, and it was a one day conference held at the Officers Club in March of '96. And Jerry is credited with its title, Cap Cavender detested the title, but it was really great and I love it to this day, "From Top Secret to Top Attraction." And it was a natural resource historical, cultural resource conference that brought the very best people from the Navy as well as UC Davis, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the archeological division, as well as the biological division of the, of south or EFA west, and brought them together to speak about topics from everything from mosquitoes to burying ordnance.

And then the Navy also hosted the first public event which became the Flyway Festival, it was for four hours in January of '96, ten years ago, and Assistant Commander Becker was the host of that event. So I like, I'm very eager to tell the public about the fact that the Navy actually has two legacies from Mare Island, both environmental, one of 'em has to do with the cleanup, and the other with the permanent wildlife and natural resource and historical areas that you will leave behind too for us as a community.

Adam says that we might get a lucky break and that is that after, I don't know how many years, at least ten years of very dedicated work on the part of the group that formed a non-profit here, they have convinced the city council and the mayor, who has been actively opposing this for all of that time, that the cable televisions does, should be required to provide public access programming on our cable stations.

Many other communities have what some of you might think is a little bit hokey programming, but the FCC requires public education and governmental programming on all cable stations. And Vallejo has been missing two of the three legs of that, we're not a PEG, we're only a gggg, we only have government programming right now. And so it's very exciting to think that maybe within about a year we'll have opportunity to possibly air our programs, some of our, all of our tours, any of our programs on a publicly aired station. And he's looking forward to that. And then his other comment is that he'd like for us to more strictly adhere to the time. Which on that note means that I don't have to contribute anything tonight.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Well yes, I'll look at the clock now.

CO-CHAIR HAYES: But I could take five minutes and say what my reason for being on the RAB and what I think could be better.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Yes, I think you ought to have that opportunity. And then maybe in a real quick way we can ask some of the other participants if they want to contribute too.

CO-CHAIR HAYES: Well, unlike what people might think, I actually wasn't born on Mare Island, but I, and I never worked on Mare Island, but I, my family home in Paradise, California, which my family bought in the early sixties actually was transplanted from Mare Island to

Paradise, and we grew up there. But my, I didn't learn that until I joined the RAB. So a little part of my history that I never would have known if I hadn't joined the RAB.

And I also can tell you that I was the very last person to submit my application to the RAB because, like, I used the fax machine five minutes before the deadline. 65 people were applied, and I think fifteen of us were selected. And I know that Paula and Chip and I have actually been on the RAB since the first day, and many of the rest of you from the second session.

But I had also served on the reuse open space committee, and I had been discouraged by the lack of really legitimate public involvement in that process. And so what you heard me say a lot at the beginning of the RAB, which I don't have to say so much now, is that I believe that the Restoration Advisory Board was the opportunity for democracy to take place, a democratic process to take place in this town. Because it isn't actually a town that's run so much by democracy, though I guess it's following the lead of, our country's following the lead of our city now.

A couple of things that came out tonight that I just couldn't pass up. I thought each one of you had such an unbelievably compelling statement to make that I'm really disappointed that we didn't videotape this session. And I think maybe one of the, I know the marketing center, I'm going to keep on hitting on the welcome center for Lennar, I know they're trying to sell homes and they have a fact sheet that says, that vaguely pretty much answers some of the questions and concerns people might have; but they have a really, really sharp big screen, bigger than life, very well done video that plays, and they involved all of their employees, from their administrative assistants right up to their division president in that video. And it's very, I think it's very well done. And that kind of thing would go a long ways just from hearing from the different voices and the different perspectives from the RAB to educate and inform the public about the environmental cleanup.

So maybe that's what we'll have to apply for a TAPP grant to do. And like Kenn said and Jerry and others, I once wrote that our work, people have said, "Well when is the RAB going to be done? Or when will you know when you're done with your work?" And I believe that we'll be done with our work when the base is fully accessible to the public, when there are no locked gates, when there are no needs for guards or signs that say this is a place you can't go. And so I think because of the early transfers we are getting there faster. I'm concerned that we're not getting there.

Mmy biggest concern about the Restoration Advisory Board today is that, not that we don't have a hundred people showing up at every meeting, because Mark reminded us that a small group of people can get a lot done, in fact that's the only group that ever has gotten anything done. But I am more concerned about not being able to keep track of and do justice to our commitment to the RAB as community members, which is to participate meaningfully in a three way dialogue, and being involved early and often in the decision-making process. And that's the only purpose for the RAB.

And I feel that it's impossible with the accelerated cleanup. And it is accelerated, whether the regulators are trying to put the brakes on so that they can review all the documents or not, the documents still just keep flowing and flooding us. And we just, like Diana said, there's no way that I can even begin to, to even open the packages that come to my door, let alone understand them and make a valuable contribution. So that's something that I feel we need to really work hard on.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Well, thank you, Myrna. And thanks for all the community members' input to this. If we have non-community members who want to make a statement or maybe share their thoughts on what was discussed earlier we can open the floor to that. So if anyone does have a discussion? One of the things I'm thinking about doing with these minutes is taking the verbatim minutes, boiling them down to, say, the points that were made by each of the members by the next RAB meeting so that we can share that and have something that is more of a Reader's Digest version of tonight for our application later on this year in how to improve things here. Anybody have any comments to make? Chip? Gary? Michelle?

MS. TROTTER: Just, just one comment. When we did originally the focus group, it was to kind of assess the RAB's needs. And I want to thank everybody for sharing kind of their viewpoint and so forth. One of my goals is to better communicate, not only to the RAB but to the community at large, what you folks are doing here, what the RAB's role is, what the regulators' roles are. And we're hoping, I would hope, that we can maybe solicit some of you to write articles and maybe do a newsletter.

When I talked with Diana and Myrna a while ago, Diana had alluded that she wrote a newsletter a couple years ago regarding some of the environmental issues and the reuse, so I would like to propose to the group as a whole maybe we can get back on track and do like a year end or a year beginning of what has transpired in 2004 and some of the highlights. It's just kind of throwing it out to the group.

I realize that everybody has their own lives and their own, you know, you're making a commitment. My commitment is partly to make sure that environmental reuse is seen throughout the whole public and not just the RAB, and I'm trying to get the word out to the citizens of Vallejo and abroad. I have been approached by some of the school districts to do presentations and maybe tours, and I would like to get Kenn's input maybe on the tours that you've done here for your school children and maybe how to go about doing something like that for the City of Vallejo School District, maybe an open house Mare Island day, maybe in the spring or summer of this year. But that's just kind of a throw out. I am dealing with a few other closed bases around the area, and there's some good, Hunter's Point is a really good resource where they have had success in their internet service.

And I know Weston has developed the Mare Island internet, and I think we should use that more so trying to put articles or, you know, even a co-chair piece or, you know, or Jerry writing a little piece, or some of the regulators on some of the successes that we've done. I was privy to going to the Flyway Festival this weekend, and I want to thank Myrna for the invitation.

And I think that was a perfect opportunity, not only for DTSC, which I hope next year will be involved, but to do Flyway Festival as far as, you know, I talked to a lot of the folks that they didn't, I didn't go as a regulator I went as kind of a community member to see what the environmental stuff was. So when I went on the walk-through I was just Joe public, and it was very interesting that there wasn't too many people from Vallejo, there was a lot of people from Berkeley and from San Francisco and a couple people from Sacramento that I hooked up with that are just concerned with nature and were very happy that thebase is being reused in such a way. And I asked, you know, "Would it be helpful to talk about what has transpired, how safe is safe, can you go out and bird watch safely?" And there are zones on Mare Island still that are not able to penetrate, if you will. So, and they thought that would be helpful.

In different organizations, like the Sierra Club, having an article about Mare Island and the reuse that's transpired. So I got a few contacts regarding that and they would be, you know, favorable in soliciting an article from the group or just from the public. It's a little hard as a regulator trying to solicit our own articles. We do have a public information officer but, you know, I can't exactly tell her our job. My job is just to listen to the community's concerns and make sure that the RAB, each member goes back to their own community and solicits information and, kind of like you were saying, explains kind of what the function of the RAB is.

So I appreciate everybody's comments tonight. And if we could be of more help, please let us know. I think a news articles would be really good. I know it takes a lot of time and commitment so, you know, I would be more than happy to help do that. It would be, I would hope it would be a joint effort with Weston and Lennar and the Navy. We are three entities, you know, it's not only the RAB, but Lennar and Weston have a responsibility to the community because of the reuse, so I would hope that they would want to be key players in doing a newsletter.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Thank you. I know one of the items we've been trying to develop is a tool since late last year, and really it came out of the community focus group is this postcard that we have copies of at the front desk there. We've gotten comments from a few of you and made improvements to it. I think there's still room for improvements, but these are things that are tools to the community members too. If you want to grab a stack, we have a few there I think we can spread around to the community members. Let us know if there's improvements you think that can be made to it, but also using them with your friends, your family, your co-workers. Share them, and maybe they can solicit to us, the Navy, that they want information or they want to know more about the RAB. Are there any other comments from others?

MS. CHRISTIAN: Are these for guests like?

CO-CHAIR HAYES: Yeah, oh, sure.

MS. CHRISTIAN: I hesitate to take any time, I know you're running so late, I can be very short. I could be very long or I could be very short. I'm going to be very short.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Sure.

MS. CHRISTIAN: Well I don't know, I'm going to talk about the festival first because I'm so thrilled to be a part of it. And I just am amazed, I'm full of wonder about how it got started because it has grown so much and it fills so many needs. And not only does it fill needs, it's fun and it's so much information available as well as experiences. And I'm really grateful. And I know Myrna certainly has been at the root of that from the beginning as far as I know, it seems like it, that's for the last nine years. And so I'm very grateful for it. I just want to express that.

I guess I could write, you know, letters, opinion letters, but I don't do that very much. But I do, I'm very grateful for it. The other, as far as the Restoration Advisory Board is concerned, I come, I don't have good hearing so I don't always hear everybody, I try to get as much as I can. I have tinnitus which is inner ear noise, lots of it. And so, but the reason I, I try to think of the reason that I come is because I know a number of the people, and I feel related to any effort that has to do with restoring, with retaining, with preserving, with -- what's another word too besides preserve?

Anyway, you know what I'm trying to say. Preserving the natural resources and the birds and the fish and the animals and so on. And I, I'm becoming to think that the human race is maybe in

danger of extinction too. So anyway, it's all connected and it all works together. I want to say one thing. As a tour guide I'm recalling that people don't ask about the toxics on the island during the tours. That's interesting. I just happened to think of that, they don't ask about, "Well what are you doing about the chemicals or the toxics or the contamination?" But they do ask, "Whom does this island belong to? Who is in charge here? I mean who actually owns it?" And then I can get into it by mentioning that the entities that are still here and that the state will probably be here forever.

And I'm so sorry about losing the Fish and Wildlife department, that's just heartbreaking. But anyway, I do tell them that property will not be released to the city until it is cleaned up. I think it's very important for them to know that, even if they haven't asked, even if they don't know that there's anything here that needs to be removed. So anyway, it's very helpful to me, there are things that I learn here that I can pass on and I try, want to be very accurate. I do not want to violate any, you know, any statements, I want to give them the truth, so that's why it's very important for me to listen and to be able to hear what you all are saying. Thank you.

CO-CHAIR HAYES: Thank you.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Thank you, Diji. I know from my sitting at the Navy booth next to Weston, we certainly have information about the cleanup. I think there were more kids interested in the puzzles and the gifts that Weston had at their table, they always had a constant flow of puzzle seekers there. They're challenging, I had a hard time figuring them out. But I think it's indicative of what one community member, I believe, said when she came up to the booth. And our booth is distinctly different than the rest of the booths there that were focused on birding and natural and cultural resources as opposed to hazardous waste cleanup.

She asked, "Oh, you guys are doing the cleanup?" And I said, "Yes, we've been doing cleanup for a while." Her response was, "I'm glad it's getting done." And that's really the extent. She just wanted comfort to know that it was getting done. And I think the RAB here and the RAB members have done a pretty good job of making sure that people understand that it's at least getting done.

Maybe folks don't want the details. And I know I personally would love to get involved in a lot of things in my community but just don't have time for it, I'm sure that's the case with most people in most any community, there's just not a lot of time in the day to get into every issue in their area.

Well with that, why don't we close this and take a short break and return to the second half to finish up our agenda.

CO-CHAIR HAYES: Thanks to the Flyway Festival we have leftover salmon spread and liver pate and crackers and cookies and all that good stuff. So those are a couple of additions thanks to the festival. So thank to our sponsors.

(Thereupon there was a brief recess.)

III. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS (Myrna Hayes, Jerry Dunaway)

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Welcome back to the table. Covering what was in the mailout, you have the meeting minutes from the December 2nd RAB meeting that was held over at the marketing center. And for the next RAB meeting, we are skipping the month of February.

Instead of going with our normal schedule of the last Thursday of the month, we are pushing that RAB meeting date out till March 3rd.

The presentation that was supposed to be on December 2nd that Dwight had to fill in kind of on the spot there will be on March 3rd. And that is the TAPP grant professors from San Jose State, Ria Williamson and June Oberdorfer. They will be presenting their followup review comments of the remedial investigation for area H1.

You'll remember that they came out about a year ago and presented their initial comments to the draft remedial investigation. They reviewed the draft final remedial investigation report, you got a copy of their comments, the hard copy version in the packet for the December 2nd meeting. So they're rescheduled for March 3rd, that is our next RAB meeting. And I already talked about the information postcard, please help yourself and grab a stack of cards on your way out tonight. And let us know if you see any room for improvements there and we'll continue to refine it. For focus group reports, Diana, did you have anything you wanted to comment on?

IV. FOCUS GROUP REPORTS

a) Community (Diana Krevsky)

MS. KREVSKY: Huh-unh.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: We had quite a bit of discussion in the Roundtable, so you can make it short if you want.

MS. KREVSKY: Yeah, I'm just going to make an announcement. More of a personal announcement, and sorry to say that I'm going to retire from the RAB officially, but not, I mean informally I'm still going to follow everything and hope to attend some of the meetings, but most likely I'll be moving in March, and not sure where yet, but probably out of Vallejo. So I decided to just, you know, give my notice. And I would read the letter I sort of addressed to Myrna and Jerry and the RAB.

CO-CHAIR HAYES: Jerry and I only had one comment. We were hoping that you could delay your departure until the March 3rd RAB meeting, give us two more days of your service so that we could maybe have a chance to honor you.

MS. KREVSKY: Oh, in a way I was trying to avoid that. Well my, I think I might be traveling in March, but if I'm still here I'll come in on March 3rd because I didn't really know about that meeting when I wrote the letter. So --

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Let us know.

MS. KREVSKY: Yes. Thank you. I'll spare everybody the letter.

CO-CHAIR HAYES: We can pass the letter around, how's that?

MS. KREVSKY: Okay.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Thank you, Diana, and thank you for your years of volunteer work on the RAB here too. I know your volunteer work goes well beyond my years here at Mare Island, so thank you again.

MS. KREVSKY: Thank you.

b) Natural Resources (Jerry Karr)

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Natural resources, Jerry Karr.

MR. KARR: No, nothing to report other than just a continuing very successful Flyway Festival the past weekend. I think Myrna and, primarily Myrna had a slap for the last month trying to get everybody lined up for that, and many of us involved with that it kind of took all of our energies recently. But it's just great to get so much community interest in this place. And it parrots what Diji said about the, losing the Fish and Wildlife Service. And, you know, I understand that's still a work in progress so I'm not going to pass out at the moment, but it, it is something that's very near and dear to me and the community.

It's going to be difficult when the service relocates to Sonoma County. And it is a very positive draw to this community having the presence of Fish and Wildlife Service on Mare Island. There's many people, and I'm one, that travel the country going from refuge to refuge. You could spend the rest of your days just going to wildlife refuges in this country and not see them all. And that draws you into the community and you spend money in the community and make friends. It's a, it's a loss to Vallejo. And I hope it can be sorted out. I don't know if it's terminal yet, but it sure sounds that way. And it's not as much a loss to Mare Island as it is to the City of Vallejo.

CO-CHAIR HAYES: Just a followup on Jerry's natural resource report. There's no way that one person, any one person could do a festival or any activity of the size that we put on this last weekend. And the police department staff, again pretty confident that we had between, at least close to 6,000 people on the island, and then we also did have 53 outings throughout the day. We would not have been at the building we're at, and we would not have a festival, but particularly this year we would not have electricity at that building if Lennar hadn't stepped up to the plate and funded not only their normal contribution, which Weston is also up there with them on, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service coastal program; but Lennar stepped up to the plate at the very last minute and contributed more money, in the thousands of dollars, and told me that basically I was on my own, go find, if you can figure out how to put power on building 897 then you can use that, otherwise we'll happily let you use one of our buildings.

So we were lucky enough to have a City of Vallejo employee, who has to remain anonymous because he did it as a gift outside of work, help us get the power onto the building. But then Lennar and Ghilotti Construction Company and Weston Solutions went on to help us do things like get the generator in and in place, and get it refueled, it doesn't just operate from air. And they put in hundreds of gallons of diesel over the week to upkeep that up, and that's what allowed us to have the headquarters again on Mare Island. And as the Fish and Wildlife Service is finding, it is very challenging to stay on Mare Island. It is very inviting to go to another town where you are welcomed with open arms, where there are first rate facilities.

We now have competition, if you will. Napa thought that we did such a great festival they're putting on their own bird watching festival. And they will have a first rate festival with megabucks pouring in, first rate facilities, and we have struggled along with next to nothing for ten years, and there's no hope in sight for any change. And that's the discouraging part about being a part of this process. We're working the work to do the environmental cleanup to make it possible to reuse the facility, but the things that we do, and there are, virtually

everybody in this room volunteered on that festival this year, and for hours and hours of time. Diji doesn't give herself enough credit. But we are still crippling along in a building that we had to paste together for electricity, we have no running water, we have no HVAC, we have nothing except for the generosity of the City of Vallejo who donates us the building and then says, "By the way, we wouldn't mind if you burn it down."So, you know, it is going to be a tremendous loss to see the Fish and Wildlife Service leave Mare Island, but what this does is it demonstrates, the festival demonstrates that there's still a need.

There's still two million people who do not have a permanent environmental facility education open year-round. I'd like to see instead of three days a year 363 days a year open facility, and I think that's the right and the privilege of the people who live in the North Bay and value the natural resources, and that's why people like us serve on this RAB. But it's going to take a huge effort to move us from three days to 363 days a year. And it is going to take substantial support from all the organizations that support the festival three days a year, and many, many, many other people.

And as many people have alluded to, the citizens of Vallejo don't know what a tremendous treasure they have in their own backyard or their own front yard. The Fish and Wildlife Service is not going to go away, but they are going to leave, very likely leave to another county. We tried it for eleven years, and because of bureaucratic squabbles, which is what very often our lives get controlled by, they aren't going to be able to stay. But let's hope that we can get some other public access and some other alternatives going. But again, thank you to our sponsors, particularly Weston and Lennar Mare Island this year, and the countless others that give the hundred dollars and the $300, like Napa Solano Audubon Society. CH2M HILL is a big sponsor again this year, year after year. And it really does add up to make it possible to do that first rate event. So thank you.

c) Technical (Paula Tygielski)

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Thank you, Myrna. Thank you, Jerry. Paula, did you have any technical report you wanted to make?

MS. TYGIELSKI: Technical group did not meet this month, but Myrna, after the Flyway Festival is over you always look so energized.

CO-CHAIR HAYES: Fifteen hours of sleep helps.

d) City Report (Ray Leftwich)

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Thank you, Paula. I don't see Ray here tonight so we'll skip the city report. And Lennar, Jeff.

e) Lennar Update (Jeff Morris)

MR. MORRIS: Hopefully everyone got a copy of the handout. Just briefly looking at the map portion on the left, point out that we're doing some lead and soil removal actions around structures in what we call east of Azuar, east of Azuar area which we call D1.2, it's kind of the green colored portion of investigation area D1. We'll be doing that work well into the spring. Also in the Touro University area as well.

And then other cleanup work is related to the flushing and cleaning of what's known as IR 14 which is the former industrial wastewater treatment line. There are some photos there of that work. Looking at the text, just a couple things to point out that I think are new since the last

update. There's a draft remedial action plan for investigation area C3 which is along the waterfront. And that will be going into DTSC review probably next week. And that will have an associated public comment period fact sheet later in the year, May is what we're targeting right now. And the more immediate public comment period is beginning in February, hopefully February 7th, and that is going to be a public comment period on the work plan for PCB sites, cleanup of PCB sites. Actually we've had that on the radar screen for almost a year now, I've mentioned from time to time that it would be available, and I think we're finally to that point now, so.

In the way of milestones, we did get seventeen of the PCB sites closed in the last month. It says by U.S. EPA and EPA, it would be more accurate to say by U.S. EPA and DTSC. So that's it.

f) **Weston Update (Cris Jespersen)**

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Thank you, Jeff. If there are no questions, how about Cris, your Weston update.

MR. JESPERSEN: Thanks. We've held a number of meetings with the Fish and Wildlife Service to attempt to resolve some issues with the salt marsh harvest mouse as well as wetlands mitigation. The most recent one was in December and as you may recall during some pass presentations we've discussed there may be some wetland areas within the landfill cap that would be described as far as capping the landfill.

You can see those on the diagram there in the red. There's areas potentially of habitat that may hold the salt marsh harvest mouse. We've been discussing with the Fish and Wildlife Service about doing some trapping to see, A, if they are there; and B, if they are there can we relocate them to the wetlands habitat before we have to destroy the wetlands. And we've also been discussing with the Corps of Engineers and the Wildlife Service potential areas that we have to destroy as part of the cap. And those you can see in the blue hatched areas. And these discussions are ongoing, we haven't finalized anything, but we'd like to keep the ball moving since we would like to be able to conceivably get started on the cap here this summer if all the other appropriate regulatory documents fall in place.

Speaking of regulatory documents, we've got two that we're working on resolving here in the area H1, our remedial investigation had several conference calls in December to try to resolve the last of the comments, the draft final documents. We've also put out for review the feasibility study for area H1, and we are expecting comments back from the agency on Monday.

And then following the resolution of comments on those two documents, we're looking forward in several months to start putting together a draft remedial action plan for selecting the appropriate remedial remedy which we're thinking is going to be a cap system, and formalizing those documents in late spring or early summer.

And then finally we've also been doing some testing programs for the landfill. We've been doing some geotechnical work, specifically what's called a test pad where we mound up soil to about seven feet high, and it's a geotechnical process where it will settle as part of the cap system. We are seeing minor settlement at the seven feet four to six inches, and that's monitored on a weekly basis for a variety of properties.

We also in December installed some soil gas monitoring wells in the landfill, and did find some methane in the landfill itself which is perhaps to be expected. But as we moved out towards the perimeters and outside the perimeter of the slurry wall we did not find the methane. So that's all we've got. Any questions?

g) **Regulatory Agency Update**

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Okay, thank you, Cris. Regulatory agency updates, Carolyn is not here from EPA, I notice, so it's between Gary and Chip.

MR. RILEY: Yeah, just quickly a few things that have been happening from the Water Board perspective. We closed out a number of underground storage tank sites in December which are highlighted in Jerry's Navy update. So we reached closure on, I believe, seven or eight more of the underground storage tank sites for which the Navy still has responsibility.

And a couple of other issues before my agency right now, we're working on a formal correspondence to Lennar. The deadlines that were established in the initial site cleanup requirements order for the underground storage tanks in Lennar's parcel were set back at the time of early transfer, and since then the consent agreement with DTSC has been revised to alter those deadlines into a later compliance schedule based on a lot of unknown conditions, new sites that were discovered along the way, and some complexities of the program. So we'll be issuing correspondence that doesn't alter our original dates, because we don't have that ability to directly alter compliance dates that the Board has set up at a formal Board hearing, but the letter will describe that we do not plan to take any enforcement provided the new schedule is met.

And a couple of other issues that are important, and DTSC has been working on this as well. Relating to investigation area C3 for Lennar, which Jeff alluded to a remedial action plan coming out probably in May. DTSC and the Water Board are both talking at some length with CH2M HILL and Lennar about what institutional controls will be in place on that industrial property following the cleanup. And the particular interest is in those areas where there may be some amount of contamination remaining at depth that doesn't present a risk to people under an industrial reuse scenario, we'd like to see mechanisms in place to make sure that oil stays there. In other words, that if it's dug up for some reason it won't just end up in someone's backyard or in Myrna's backyard, somewhere like that. So we'll be creating something probably called a risk management plan to make sure that the remedy stays in place which is industrial use in that area. And I'll leave it at that to make things move along.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Thank you, Gary.

MR. GRIBBLE: Well, I just have a few things briefly. But I don't know if we have time for a couple of questions, but I passed out, I think everybody got a copy, if they didn't I've got a few more copies here of the letter that we just issued today on the H1, investigation area H1 landfill, talking about the regulatory requirements as the basis for this fence issue that we talked about at the last December RAB meeting. If anybody didn't get a copy and wants one, let me know. The idea here is to give you the foundation for that, the regulatory requirement that relates to the fence or some equivalent, and use that as a basis for a focus meeting that we had talked about in December also. We don't have any dates set for the focus meeting, but I guess we're still working on trying to come up with a few dates for February. The Fish and Wildlife Service, I know some people here are more than familiar about, with the issue

between the Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department of Defense, but I don't know that everybody is. Can somebody, Myrna or Jerry or someone else, give a very short summation as to what the problem is and why, why it is that the Fish and Wildlife Service is about to leave Mare Island?

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Well, I guess from the Navy's perspective the issue lies in their ability to accept the property. And much of the Fish and Wildlife Service's concern is about contamination that may be found in the future. To date we have not gotten any formal correspondence from the service giving us a withdrawal of the request for the property. On the books right now they still have requested the property from us, although indications from Christy and from Marge through e-mails and through some statements they've made indicate that they're planning to not take the property and vacate by May. If that turns out to be the case, we're still expecting to hear from them on their formal withdrawal of their request for the property. But because of their concerns with contamination in the future and the way the Navy has proposed to arrange the transfer to them, that they take on responsibility for future discoveries after the Navy has left the area, they've essentially based their, their inability to accept the property on that condition.

CO-CHAIR HAYES: And I just want to point out and stress that this is a national issue, that it is in no way singling out Mare Island. There's no, nothing unique about the Mare Island situation that is making this an isolated case. It probably got started with Skaggs Island and it certainly, you know, Mare Island is another example, but nationwide the Department of Defense and the Department of Interior are basically at loggerheads over this issue. And it's my understanding that it really comes down to the Navy's belief or and the, the Department of Defense's belief that because they don't actually do a property transfer, a deed transfer on these properties because they're all federally owned, that they aren't bound by the requirements of CERCLA to in perpetuity to take care of any environmental issues that might arise, and that the federal agency who acquires the property could just as easily get an appropriation in their budget or a special appropriation from Congress to take care of the problem if it comes up. Is that pretty much right?

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Yeah, that's a fair way of saying it.

CO-CHAIR HAYES: And the Department of Interior, particularly the refuge system but DOI in general would say that they don't have the capacity, the political capacity that they believe that the Department of Defense has to mount a campaign to go back to Congress or go to its own budget and earmark money for environmental contaminants that might come up. So it's a cost saving measure on both agency's part you might say.

MR. GRIBBLE: So that if the property were otherwise, that contamination were otherwise adequately remedied today, as of today, even with use restrictions, that even then the Fish and Wildlife Service would not be willing to accept the property?

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: That's our understanding is that actual use restrictions makes the property less attractive to them.

MR. GRIBBLE: Or even no use restrictions because there's always a possibility that something could be found in the future, is that the case?

CO-CHAIR HAYES: Yeah, in the case of Mare Island and Skaggs Island it has something to do with use restrictions, but that is not the whole story. It really is long term liability and

the capacity of, at least in the case of the refuge system, their ability to pull together the kind of resources they might need to remedy a future find. And for example, I mean I've said this many times, they have a $2 billion backlog in O&M on their hundred million acres that they manage for the people of the U.S. already, and so I think they're just trying to be the most conservative as they can be, particularly in the times, political and economic realities of the times that we currently live.

MR. GRIBBLE: Okay. My other question has to do with the Marine Corps Firing Range, and it has to do with the DRMO scrapyard. And what we are working on now is a, developing a removal action to, to do part of the cleanup at that site, basically a surface or shallow cleanup, and the deep contamination issues for another day. And what the Navy is proposing in this draft document is, is soils screening to remove metal fragments and that. And, and I, I don't understand why the Navy would think that this would be, would be practical here when it hasn't been shown to work at the Marine Corps Firing Range. And in fact, if we, you know, recall all of our history here at Mare Island, it didn't work before that with ordnance sites when John Randall was involved, and they tried soil screening on other ordnance sites as well. So how is it that it's, that -- is this a simple question that you can address here now, Jerry?

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Not really. I guess I'd like to see your comments first. But we're not doing a soil screening there as the removal action, we're trying to remove lead and PCBs in shallow soils as deep as four feet, six feet in some cases.

MR. GRIBBLE: Okay. Well it's --

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: But the screening you're talking about has to do with addressing the potential for munitions within that soil as well as doing screening of the bottom of the excavations after we've removed that soil. And we think that's a process that has worked in the past, excavation, soil screening of the excavated soil as well as magnetometers screening of the excavated, excavation bottoms. So to get into the specifics I'd really need to see what you're referring to in the ECA or the engineering evaluation.

MR. GRIBBLE: Okay.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Okay. I think you wanted to propose a focus group meeting to discuss this?

MR. GRIBBLE: No, what I had, I'm, what I've anticipated is for us, DTSC to come up with a couple dates or a few dates that our representatives from the department who would be coming to the meeting to address the issue, for us to come up with a few dates where they would be available and then see if any of those would work. And we haven't been able to establish those yet. That's the way I was, I have envisioned trying to come up with a date. I guess if, you know, Weston or the RAB want to approach it differently in the meanwhile, since we don't have any dates to offer, I guess that's up to you at this point. We're still working on trying to come up with a few dates.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: For those who weren't at the December 2nd meeting, the fencing around the landfill was an issue that came up, and it was discussed at length. And I think fallout from that was to have a focus group meeting to discuss the fencing. And it sounds like after DTSC and Weston talks about it, maybe the Navy and Weston can host a focus group meeting at that time. Does that sound about like what you were thinking?

MR. GRIBBLE: Yes.

V. CO-CHAIR REPORTS

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Okay. Well in the meantime, thanks for providing the memo, and this will be helpful for, I think, Weston as well as for the Navy too. Okay. Onto our co-chair reports and I'll make mine brief. Myrna, do you want to go first?

CO-CHAIR HAYES: I don't have anything, I don't think, to say that I haven't already probably said two different ways.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Okay. Thanks. Here's the Navy report, if you haven't gotten one already.

CO-CHAIR HAYES: Except to thank you again to the Navy for participating in the festival, as well as Weston. And definitely invite CH2M HILL and Lennar to take a serious involvement in it at our tenth anniversary event. I know you were as supporters, but it would be a nice vehicle for you to inform the public about your work here.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: For the Navy's update you'll see our monthly progress report here. Tommy Jean pulled down a picture from the U.S.S., actually the USNS Mercy, this is the ship that left San Diego about two weeks ago to go help tsunami victims down in the Indian Ocean. For our work in the past month, we've basically been working with Weston to come up with an approach on the Marine Corps Firing Range. A week from Monday we will be submitting a proposed set of revisions to the work plan for the Marine Corps Firing Range. That will go to the regulatory agencies, and you will see a copy of the transmittal letter. And then we'll have discussions with DTSC and the Water Board and EPA to see how we can make progress on that and get out to the field. Our target is to hit the field by this springtime. Chip.

MR. GRIBBLE: Can I offer a specific on that? The main part, as we understand it now is, with the Navy's proposal, that they want, the Navy is proposing to take the hazardous waste soil from the Marine Corps Firing Range, and with the change to, and put it at the, in their investigation area H1. This is, this presents a major issue for DTSC in that we've steadfastly said that this, we didn't think that was something we could agree to since we denied the permit to operate the landfill in 1987, I think it was. So currently we're reviewing that proposal to take the hazardous waste soil from the Marine Corps Firing Range and consider having that placed at the landfill, likely, in all intents and purposes for ultimate disposal at the landfill. We haven't made a determination on that yet, but we're actively discussing that, debating that internally as we're working on it.

CO-CHAIR DUNAWAY: Yeah. And for those of you who attended the RPM meeting on January 6th, we pitched that idea in the presentation. We're still preparing the documentation so we appreciate your advance consideration of it. But it wouldn't be at the landfill that was denied back in 1989, it would be in other parts of H1 still underneath the landfill cap. So that will be a topic of kind of discussion between the Navy and the regulatory agencies in February and probably into March and April too.

Other work is that we are trying to kick off the documentation for the DRMO removal action, it's not spelled out here in this monthly progress report, but I did want to bring up that that is another removal action we want to pursue this year. So those are two cleanups that are basically on the

Navy's plans for this year. And we hope to make those both happen and both finished by the end of the year.

We were very happy to get regulatory closure letters from Gary on eight UST sites, two of them at the Fish and Wildlife Service parcel, and six of them down in the ordnance manufacturing and production area. So those are spelled out in the text there.

On early transfer, we know the city is interested in talking to us on some approaches to address the early transfer. We're hoping to meet in February to get with them and maybe see how the change with the area one redevelopment or development agreement may affect the early transfer, and hopefully we can make some progress at that point. That's it for my update. And if there are no other comments, why don't we call meeting adjourned. Thank you.

(Thereupon the foregoing was concluded at 9:28 p.m.)

LIST OF HANDOUTS

The following handouts were provided during the RAB meeting:

- Weston Solutions Mare Island RAB Update January 2005
- Lennar Mare Island Mare Island RAB Update January 2005
- Navy Monthly Progress Report Former Mare Island Naval Shipyard January 2005

Mare Island RAB Update

January 2005

INVESTIGATION AREA (IA) H1 WETLANDS MITIGATION

A meeting was held on December 10, 2004 with US Fish and Wildlife Service and US Corps of Engineers to continue discussions of the proposed wetland mitigation activities. Trapping is proposed within the planned wetland impact areas (red areas in figure below), in the late spring or early summer, to determine the presence or absence of the endangered salt marsh harvest mouse (SMHM). Relocation to the tidal marsh is proposed if SMHM are found to be present. Soil samples were taken for salinity and nutrients within the proposed wetland creation (blue hatched) boundaries and found to be similar to soil conditions in the adjacent pickleweed wetland areas. Discussions are continuing with the agencies to obtain agreement on the proposed approach.

IA H1 RI/FS INVESTIGATION/ FEASIBILITY STUDY

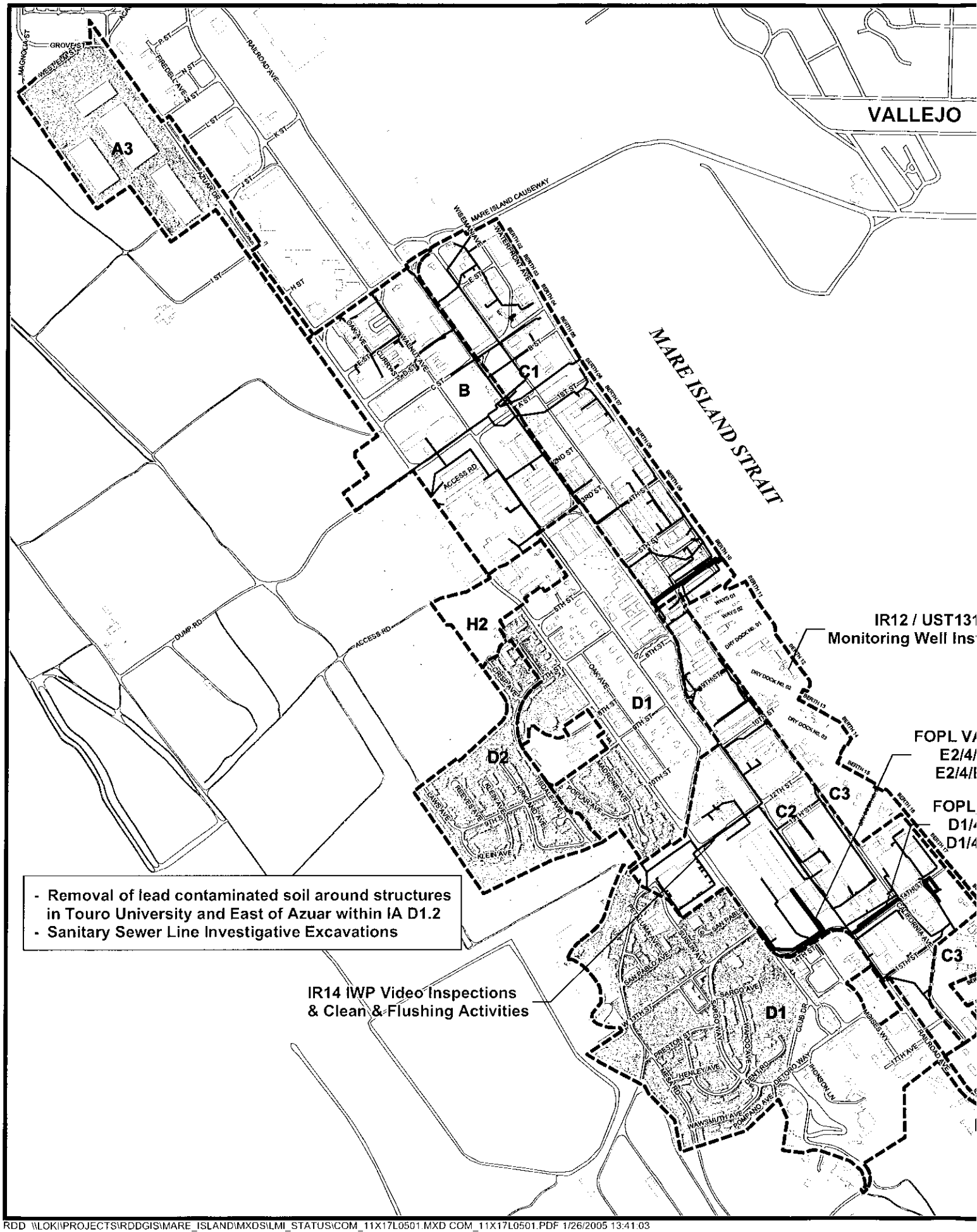
Several conference calls were held between WESTON and the agencies to discuss proposed responses to comments on the Draft Final IA H1 Remedial Investigation report (RI). General agreements have been obtained on most of the outstanding comments for the RI. The goal is to finalize the RI by the end of February.

Comments on the Draft IA H1 Feasibility Study are anticipated from the agencies by January 31, 2005. The Feasibility Study outlines the remediation objectives, remediation alternatives, and an evaluation of each alternative. A Proposed Plan and Remedial Action Plan will then be developed for public review summarizing the proposed remedy selection for each of the three primary areas within H1. These areas consist of the landfill groundwater containment area, upland areas outside containment, and the existing wetland areas within IA H1.

IA H1 PRE-DESIGN TESTING

To facilitate preparation of the [illegible] remedial design [illegible] prepared [illegible] Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis to install [illegible] pad [illegible] walls within [illegible] [illegible] hours. [illegible] [illegible]

Landfill Soil Gas Monitoring Probe Installation



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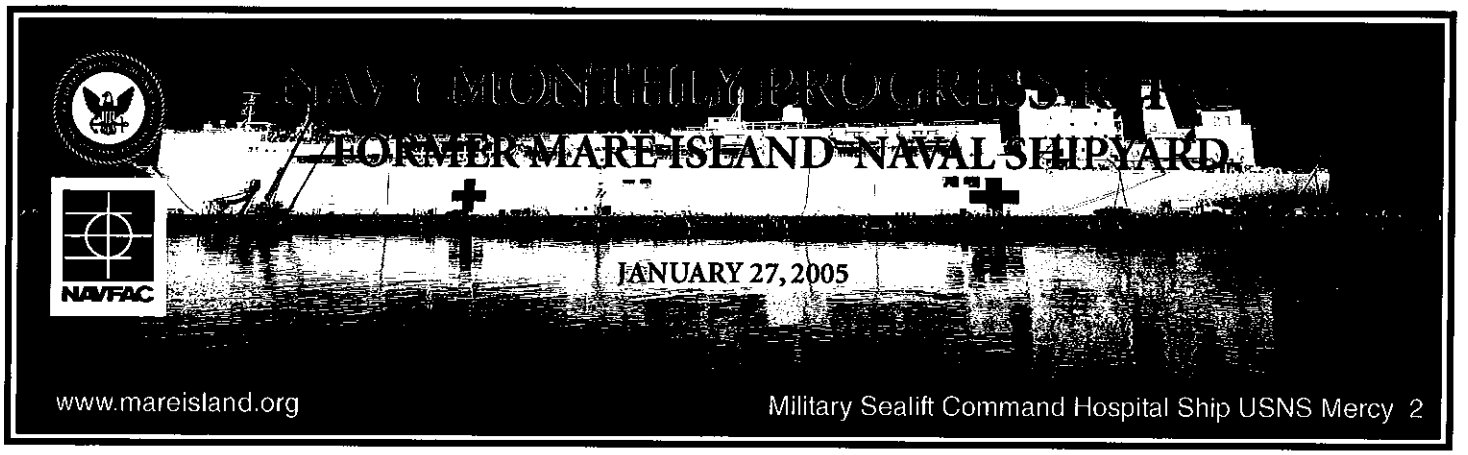

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Department of the Navy (Navy) prepared this monthly progress report (MPR) to discuss progress and issues in relation to the environmental cleanup of the former Mare Island Naval Shipyard in Vallejo, California. This MPR does not discuss cleanup work performed by the City of Vallejo and its developers, Lennar Mare Island and Weston Solutions, through the Navy's Environmental Services Cooperative Agreements. The work completed under the Navy Environmental Services Cooperative Agreements is reported separately by each respective party. This MPR discusses progress made during the reporting period from December 3, 2004 through January 27, 2005. The information provided below includes updates to field work and removal actions; document submittals; and the progress of regulatory reviews, issues associated with Navy environmental programs, and Remedial Project Manager (RPM) and Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meetings.

2.0 FIELD WORK AND REMOVAL ACTIONS

During the December/January reporting period the Navy did not conduct any field work.

The Navy awarded a new contract to Weston Solutions on November 24, 2004 for the completion of the removal action cleanup at the Marine Corps Firing Range. The work includes soil cleanup for lead from bullets and the cleanup of munitions at a former dredge pond outfall. The Navy will be submitting proposed revisions to the Work Plan in early February 2005. The revisions are based on our recent experience performing cleanup work at this site during the past 15 months.

The Blue Goose from the National Wildlife Refuge System made an appearance at the Flyway Festival

3.0 COMMUNITY OUTREACH AT THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY FLYWAY FESTIVAL

On January 22, 2005, the Navy hosted a booth at the San Francisco Bay Flyway Festival, held at Mare Island. Jerry Dunaway (Navy RAB Co-chair) attended the festival and was present to speak with community members about the Restoration Advisory Board and to answer any questions about the Navy's environmental investigations at Mare Island. Community members were able to view poster boards explaining offshore sediment and geophysical investigations, planned work for 2005, and a summary of recent perchlorate investigations at Mare Island. Participants were also given a post card with website and contact information, and were invited to add their names to the Mare Island mailing list.

Jerry Dunaway talks to a community member at the Navy's booth during the Flyway Festival