



**Naval Air Station
South Weymouth, MA
Restoration Advisory Board
Summary of RAB Meeting – July 20, 2006**



NAS South Weymouth Website: <http://nas-southweymouth.navy-env.com>

1. INTRODUCTIONS/ APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

Ms. Mary Skelton Roberts, MA Office of Dispute Resolution, and RAB meeting facilitator (sitting in for Susan Jeghelian), opened the meeting at approximately 7:05 PM. She requested that all attendees, including RAB members, regulators, and audience members, introduce themselves. The sign-in sheet for the meeting is provided as Attachment A to this meeting summary. M. Skelton Roberts asked if everyone had time to read the meeting notes from the prior RAB meeting (May 2006) and asked for comments on them. There were no comments.

M. Skelton Roberts reviewed the guidelines for the meeting. She reminded the participants when asking questions to wait to speak until they are acknowledged, to state their names and affiliations, and to speak into the microphone when they have questions.

The Agenda for the meeting and the Action Item Tracking List are provided as Attachment B to this meeting summary. In accordance with the agenda, the presentation would be followed by the Updates and Action Items portion of the meeting.

2. PRESENTATIONS

M. Skelton Roberts introduced Dave Barney, Navy, who provided a brief update regarding the basewide assessment and the status of the project. He then introduced John Bleiler, ENSR. The following paragraphs summarize the presentation and include references to selected presentation slides in Attachment C. The complete presentation is available in color on the NAS South Weymouth web site: <http://nas-southweymouth.navy-env.com>.

J. Bleiler began the presentation by summarizing the objectives of the basewide assessment study. He reminded the audience that the presentation is an update on the progress of the work to date; a large amount of data have been collected, which they are beginning to analyze, but the work is not complete and conclusions are not yet available. He mentioned the four primary objectives (Slide 2) and noted that most of this presentation was focused on the geochemical and floc evaluation.

The hydrogeological evaluation, which is looking at bedrock conditions basewide, and the aquifers across the Base, should be in a draft report form by mid- to late September. Updates on the human health risk assessment and ecological risk assessment will be provided following a discussion of the geochemical evaluation work to date. He then introduced Doug Simmons, ENSR's lead for the geochemical evaluation.

D. Simmons described the work completed to date. The field work began in December 2005 and was completed in May 2006. The field work included collection of floc, sediment, groundwater and surface water samples; reconnaissance surveys of the entire French Stream corridor; and measurements of depth of water and flow in the stream. Piezometers (used to measure water levels and flow) were installed in couplets, shallow and deep. The various elements of the field effort are summarized on Slide 3. Floc and sediment samples, groundwater seeps, and piezometers were located on both the east and west branches of French Stream (Slides 4, 5). A baseline reconnaissance survey was completed in December 2005 at a total of 61 locations on the east and west branches to characterize the stream and map areas where floc was observed. A second reconnaissance survey was completed in May 2006. In March 2006 both branches of French Stream were monitored for field parameters (dissolved oxygen, iron) and the presence of floc.

The floc was difficult to sample; a turkey baster was used to obtain as much of the solid flocculent material as possible. Surface water was sampled from the stream both above and below the location of each floc sample. Sediment samples were collected below the stream bed, in the deeper sediment layer. During each reconnaissance survey, a field team covered both branches and every 250 ft noted the location and described the stream bottom and the presence/absence of floc. In March 2006 the field team walked the entire stream and noted the locations of groundwater seeps (e.g. groundwater discharging into the stream) as well as floc. Different types of floc were observed in various locations. Gelatinous floc was found near seeps (Slide 6), "flaky" deposits were found in the water column, deposits were found on woody debris in the stream, and slimy deposits were found on the stream bottom (note: color photos are available on the NAS South Weymouth web site).

The field measurements of dissolved oxygen (DO) and iron were plotted for each station along the stream and the presence or absence of floc was noted. These plots were shown for the east and west branches for the December 2005 baseline reconnaissance and the May 2006 reconnaissance. The figures presenting this information were developed as a way of illustrating the data to assess relationships between the types of data collected. Analysis and evaluation of the data are incomplete and thus no conclusions have been drawn at this time.

Four floc samples were collected to determine the types of bacteria present using a DNA analytical technique. Each of the four sample locations had a different type of floc and each contained different types of bacteria. This DNA technique can identify the type of bacteria present but not the quantity. General information about each of the species of bacteria identified in the floc samples is shown on Slide 7. D. Simmons concluded his portion of the presentation and stated that the results of the geochemical evaluation will be presented at a future RAB meeting.

Ishrat Chaudhuri then described the human health risk assessment (HHRA) process and the HHRA portion of the basewide study. As an initial evaluation of past HHRAs, they looked at surface water and sediment data from IR sites along French Stream, specifically West Gate Landfill, Tile Leach Field and Fire Fighting Training Area. This evaluation assumed frequent future resident child/adult exposure to surface water and sediment and concluded that there would be no unacceptable health risks from exposure to surface water and sediment (Slide 8). The planned HHRA for the basewide study will use the new surface water, sediment, and floc data, as well as other available data along the French Stream corridor.

J. Bleiler then described the ecological assessment portion of the basewide study. As an initial evaluation they also looked at data from West Gate Landfill, Tile Leach Field, Fire Fighting Training Area. Available data included tissue samples, chemical data, community information, and toxicity data. This lower trophic level assessment found little to no significant ecological risk (Slide 9). As part of the basewide study they will complete an assessment of the entire French Stream Corridor using existing toxicity and macroinvertebrate data. He presented a histogram from the RDA RI of amphipod and midge survival data from locations along the west branch of French Stream and Old Swamp River, which showed over 80 percent survival. He then described the planned higher trophic level assessment as a holistic evaluation, looking at potential risks to vertebrate receptors with wide ranges. The higher trophic level assessment will update the food-chain model, which will have a greater emphasis on bioaccumulative compounds such as PCBs than on iron (Slides 10, 11).

J. Bleiler then concluded the presentation with an update on the schedule to conclude the basewide assessment (Slide 12). The results of the first two study objectives, covering the geochemical/floc and hydrogeological evaluations, will be covered in a technical memorandum expected to be completed in draft form in late summer. The results of the two risk assessment objectives of the study will be covered in a technical memorandum expected to be completed in fall/winter 2006/2007.

M. Skelton Roberts asked if there were any questions on the presentation.

In response to a question "what is floc?" J. Bleiler described floc as generally found on the bottom of streams, not in the water column. An objective of the basewide assessment study is to determine where the iron that contributes to formation of floc comes from, e.g. is the source naturally occurring from the peat formations at the Base, or is it from site contamination? Iron in the groundwater comes out of solution when it discharges to surface water and mixes with the air. The iron is then available to bacteria which appears to result in floc formation. In addition to the basewide floc samples, floc samples have been collected by EPA. Navy plans to compile EPA's data along with Navy's floc data.

M. Parsons noted that French Stream is an impaired stream which could influence the species present. J. Bleiler commented that they have stations on French Stream at the north and south ends of the Base, and will look at invertebrates (e.g. caddis flies and may flies) to assess if the communities are impaired. She mentioned a thesis that was completed on the caddis fly and offered contact information. J. Bleiler noted that rather than collection of samples, e.g. egg shells, they will complete a food web model using existing data as part of the ecological assessment. M. Parsons commented on observations of turtles with stained shells. J. Bleiler has seen this also and stated that it doesn't appear to be impacting the health of the turtle population as they have seen many turtles on the Base in their years of turtle studies.

P. Scannell expressed a concern about the storm water management plan proposed for the redevelopment of the Base. D. Barney noted that surface runoff from parking lots flows to the TACAN drainage system which ultimately flows to French Stream. P. Scannell asked if the assessments were looking at neurological effects. He stated his concerns about the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MADPH) Study (presented at the May RAB meeting). R. Suggat, EPA, responded that the objectives of the basewide ecological assessment are very different from those of the MADPH study.

D. Galluzzo asked if floc is a Base issue only. B. Olson, EPA, responded that floc is seen all over New England; it has been observed on golf courses, municipal landfills. He noted that it is difficult to identify the source of the floc on the Base since much of the Base was constructed over peat bogs, which have very high iron, and there are also contaminated sites on the Base. In response to a follow-up question from D. Galluzzo, B. Olson stated that it is relatively common to see floc.

D. Galluzzo stated his concern that PCB's and arsenic may have seeped into the runways from jet fuel and thus could be present. He stated that the 1995 EPA report indicated that mercury and lead is a problem. Since the developer plans to breakup the runways and use the materials for road beds on the Base, he is concerned about the possibility of contaminants in the material. D. Barney stated that Navy would discuss this with EPA and MADEP to see if this concern warrants sampling the material.

In response to a question from K. Hayes, D. Barney confirmed that some concrete has been tested for asbestos.

D. Chaffin, MADEP commented that the developer will have to work with MADEP regarding plans to reuse any concrete and runway materials.

Members of the audience offered additional comments about floc: floc has been seen in disturbed areas; in vernal pools where there is no development; at the south end of the Base; but less floc is seen in Old Swamp River and further south of Spruce Street.

In response to a comment, J. Bleiler stated that sediment samples for the CERCLA risk assessments were collected from the top 6 inches. For the basewide assessment, they used a piston corer to get deeper sediments. At approximately four locations they collected sediment to a depth of 24 inches; the highest concentrations were found in the sample located at the north end of the Base, near Route 18.

M. Byam commented that the development plans would change the swale at French Stream and use the area for infiltration of treatment wastewater. Soil from along the edge of French Stream would then be used elsewhere. D. Barney responded that the data from soils along the stream appear to indicate no issues with contaminants.

S. Woods asked if groundwater travel time was calculated as part of the basewide assessment. D. Simmons responded that it was not part of the scope. D. Barney commented that at Building 81 the travel time was estimated at about 5 feet/year; but that rate isn't representative of the entire Base. S. Woods suggested that an evaluation of the entire watershed be completed, e.g. a wider area than just the French Stream corridor (the area covered in the basewide assessment).

In response to a comment from M. Bromberg about other recently collected data, B. Olson, EPA, responded that a first look at the USGS and Navy basewide data shows similar results. The EPA data showed very high iron, manganese and zinc. Also there were no obvious differences between the sediment samples collected on and off the Base.

P. Scannell expressed a concern about the developer's plans to scarify the runway concrete, resulting in dust issues, etc. He suggested that the developer should wait until the Navy's work is done to ensure that the Base, when redeveloped, is a safe place for children. D. Barney stated that property is transferred only when Navy has documented that the property is safe for transfer. B. Olson added that no residential use would be allowed until EPA feels that the area is clean.

A number of concerns were expressed about the quick pace of the state environmental review process for the redevelopment and plans to place homes right next to the West Gate Landfill. B. Olson commented that such development would happen only when EPA is comfortable with it. He also noted that EPA is open to either capping West Gate Landfill or its removal. Others commented on concerns about construction activities, dust, who will oversee the construction, etc.

3. UPDATES AND ACTION ITEMS

M. Skelton Roberts then reviewed the three action items listed on the Action Item Tracking List (see Attachment B) for this RAB meeting:

1. P. Scannell to provide the reference for the 1995 EPA study to D. Barney - This will be retained as an Action Item.
2. Contact Dr. Knorr regarding access to the NAS South Weymouth EGIS – D. Barney contacted MADPH.
3. Distribute monthly Navy program status/administrative items update - D. Barney stated that there were copies of the June update available at the back of the room. [Note: this update will be posted on the Weymouth website.]

M. Skelton Roberts then asked each of the Leads to provide updates to the list of Update Items.

RAB Administrative Actions: No update.

MADEP Update: D. Chaffin noted that MADEP approved the Small Landfill Corrective Action Alternatives Analysis and that MADEP is waiting to receive notice from Navy regarding the commencement of excavation at Fire Fighting Training Area (FFTA).

P. Harting-Barrat suggested that the public could apply for a Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) from EPA and offered EPA contact information for the TAG program. K. Hayes asked if the TAG could be used to hire an engineer to oversee construction activities during the redevelopment of the Base. B. Olson noted that TAGs are generally used for CERCLA cleanups.

Coast Guard Update: No update.

IR Program Site Update: D. Barney mentioned the June Update, and stated that the Sewage Treatment Plant Feasibility Study would be issued soon and that the remedial investigations at Buildings 81, 82 and the SRA were underway and would continue into the fall.

MCP Update: D. Barney noted that one more quarter of groundwater monitoring at the Jet Fuel Pipeline Site was scheduled for August. The Release Abatement Measure at FFTA was scheduled to begin in late July. Navy's contractor needed to clear the area for turtles before the excavation work could begin.

EBS Update: Reporting for the AOC 8 removal action is almost complete. Navy is developing a work plan for further work at AOC 55C. D. Barney offered to add further details during updates at the next RAB meeting.

FOST Update: FOST 3 will be resubmitted by Navy soon. For FOST 4, Navy will issue responses to comments received on the document and will then revise and resubmit FOST 4. In response to a question from D. Galluzzo, D. Barney stated the properties covered in FOST 3 would be transferred from Navy to SSTTDC.

B. Olson clarified that on page 4 of the May minutes, exhaust from the flight path would not be evaluated in the CERCLA process since it is a historic potential exposure source. Under CERCLA, sampling of all media is conducted to determine exposures based on current conditions. Historic exposures might be something MADPH would look at.

SSTTDC Update: No update.

Possible Topics for future RAB Meetings

D. Barney suggested September 14, 2006 as the date for the next RAB meeting. He offered to prepare an August update in lieu of a RAB meeting.

The following topics were suggested for future meetings:

1. D. Barney suggested a primer on environmental sampling.
2. D. Galluzzo asked for wind data. D. Barney stated that he provided wind rose information to SSTTDC.
3. P. Scannell suggested a discussion on toxins in jet fuel that could have contaminated the runways.
3. D. Chaffin suggested updates on the remedial investigations.
4. J. Cunningham asked for a map of certified vernal pools.

The following meeting topic was set:

- Update on Remedial Investigations and environmental sampling

Conclusion/Next Meeting

The meeting concluded at approximately 10:00 pm. The next monthly RAB meeting was set for Thursday, September 14, 2006.

J. Cunningham concluded the meeting by asking for a moment of silence in memory of Paul Anderson.



**Naval Air Station South Weymouth
Weymouth, MA
Restoration Advisory Board
RAB Meeting Agenda**



13 July 2006

Conference Center on Shea Memorial Drive

7:00 PM

<i>Agenda Items</i>	<i>Item Lead</i>	<i>Projected Time</i>
1. Introduction, Review of Meeting Notes	Facilitator	7:00 - 7:15
2. Basewide Update	Navy/EPA	7:15 - 7:45
3. Updates and Action Items	Navy	7:45 - 8:15
4. Questions, Agenda Items, Next Meeting	Facilitator	8:15 - 8:30

Facilitator: Massachusetts Office of Dispute Resolution: Susan Jeghelian

Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Members:

Abington: James Lavin, (Alternate: Steve Ivas); Phil Sortin (Alternate: Beth Sortin)

Hingham: no current representation

Rockland: no current representation

Weymouth: James Cunningham (Community Co-Chair); Ken Hayes; Verna Hayes
Dan McCormack; Steve White

Navy: Dave Barney (Navy Co-Chair)

EPA: Patty Marajh-Whittemore (Alternate: Pamela Harting-Barrat)

MA DEP: David Chaffin (Alternate: Ann Malewicz)

BRAC Cleanup Team (BCT) Points of Contact:

Navy: Dave Barney, BRAC Environmental Coordinator, Base Realignment and Closure Office, Program Management Office, Northeast (617) 753-4656
Email: barneyda@efane.navy.mil

Brian Helland, Remedial Project Manager, Base Realignment and Closure Office, Program Management Office, Northeast (215) 897-4912
Email: brian.helland@navy.mil

MA DEP: David Chaffin, Environmental Engineer, Federal Facilities (617) 348-4005
Email: david.chaffin@state.ma.us

EPA: Patty Marajh-Whittemore, Remedial Project Manager, Federal Facilities Section (617) 918-1382 Email: whittemore.patty@epamail.epa.gov



Naval Air Station South Weymouth Restoration Advisory Board Action Item Tracking List



13 July 2006 – Next RAB Meeting

<i>Action Item</i>	<i>Item Lead</i>	<i>Deadline</i>
ACTION ITEMS		
P. Scannell to provide the reference for the 1995 EPA study to D. Barney	D. Barney	Next RAB
Contact Dr. Knorr regarding access to NAS South Weymouth EGIS	D. Barney	Next RAB
Distribute monthly Navy program status/administrative items update	D. Barney	June
UPDATES		
RAB Administrative Actions	D. Barney	Each RAB
MA DEP Update	D. Chaffin	Each RAB
Coast Guard Buoy Facility Update	R. Marino	Each RAB
IR Program Sites Update	D. Barney	Each RAB
MCP Release Areas Update	D. Barney	Each RAB
EBS Review Item Areas/ Various Removal Action Update	D. Barney	Each RAB
FOST/FOSL/CDR Update	D. Barney	Each RAB
SSTTDC Update	J. Lavin/ S. Ivas	Each RAB
COMPLETED ITEMS		
Check availability of MDPH to give a presentation on MS/ALS data (5/06)		
Distribute monthly Navy program status/administrative items update (3/06; 4/06)		
Provide copies of SSTTDC and Mayor Madden letters re: Small Landfill CAAA to M. Parsons (2/06)		
Provide information on vernal pools to M. Byram (2/06)		
Distribute monthly Navy program status/administrative items update (2/06)		
Small Landfill CAAA Update (12/05)		
Distribute monthly Navy program status/administrative items update (12/05)		
Provide details of RDA contractor's upcoming work (10/05)		
Provide details about SSTTDC's unescorted access policy (10/05)		
Provide turtle activity update (8/05)		
Check where upcoming RAB meeting times are posted (8/05)		
Distribute monthly Navy program status/administrative items update (8/05)		
Provide RDA construction cost, cap design life, address safety issues (6/05)		
Provide copies of DoD directive regarding environmental issues (6/05)		
Provide DEP Small Landfill letter to M. Parsons and S. Ivas (6/05)		
Distribute monthly Navy program status/administrative items update (5/05)		
Provide Vortech system O&M handout to Navy (3/05)		
Provide a paper copy of SMP schedule to J. Cunningham (3/05)		
Provide completion date of draft base-wide assessment report (3/05)		
Post summarized version of DDA on SSTTDC Website (12/04)		
Check on seating capacity for Conference Center (12/04)		
Update RAB on BRAC conference (12/04)		
Check on analytical data from RIA 112 storm drain maintenance actions (12/04)		
Provide list of sites for L. Larrabee (12/04)		
Navy and consultant evaluate alternatives for reporting data on several metals for D. Wilmot (12/04)		
Provide sample ESCA from another Navy site to Mary Parsons/B. Sortin (12/04)		
Provide copy of EPA's June 14 Letter to Navy to M. Parsons		

