

**RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING NOTES
FORMER NAVAL AIR STATION BRUNSWICK, MAINE
WEDNESDAY MAY 24, 2017
FAIRFIELD INN AND SUITES
BRUNSWICK, MAINE**

MEETING ATTENDEES

Paul Burgio	U.S. Navy, BRAC PMO/RAB Co-Chair
Thuane Fielding	U.S. Navy, BRAC PMO
Robert Leclerc	U.S. Navy
Stephanie Zamorski	U.S. Navy
Suzanne Johnson	BACSE and RAB Co-Chair
Tom Brubaker	Mid-Coast Regional Redevelopment Authority
Mike Daly	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Marilyn St. Fleur	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Chris Evans	Maine Department of Environmental Protection
Iver Mcleod	Maine Department of Environmental Protection
Doug Heely	Environmental Strategies & Mgt.
Scott Libby	Town of Topsham Representative to RAB
David Chipman	Town of Harpswell Representative to RAB
Linde Smith	Town of Brunswick
Jeff Orient	Tetra Tech
Carol White	BACSE Technical Advisor
Josh Katz	BACSE
Juris Apse	BACSE
Gail Kezar	Senator Angus King's Office
Catherine Ferdinand	Bowdoin College

1. Introductions

Paul Burgio (U.S. Navy Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Coordinator for NAS Brunswick and Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) co-Chair) opened the meeting at 4:35 p.m. Everyone in the room introduced themselves. Paul reviewed the agenda for this afternoon's meeting

- Old Business

Suzanne Johnson asked about a historic fire that occurred in Building 653, and how the fire was fought. The fire apparently was started by lightning, and aqueous firefighting foam (AFFF) was used to fight the fire. It is believed that the foam was AFFF concentrate and water (as opposed to highly concentrated AFFF alone). The fire occurred sometime after 1994. The group then had a brief discussion about the perfluorinated compounds (PFC) investigation and whether contaminants could have flowed off base from this event. Paul said that the investigations off Bath Road included surface water sampling and that no standards were exceeded. The PFC investigations are currently focused on the base, since off base sampling has not indicated any

problems. Paul said that Caryn DeJesus will be at the next RAB meeting and she will discuss the entire PFC program (on and off base). Therefore, Paul said that he preferred to not cover that topic at today's meeting.

- New Business

No new business was discussed.

2. Recent Activities Update

- 2017-1 (Site 12) FOST – Paul Burgio

The draft Finding of Suitability to Transfer (FOST) for Site 12 has been through comments, and is now with the Navy for their final concurrence. This FOST was different because of munitions and explosives of concern (MEC) at this site. The Town of Brunswick and Mid-Coast Regional Redevelopment Authority (MRRA) will be acquiring the land under this FOST: the Town will get parcels REC-10 and 10A, and MRRA will get parcels EDC-40 and 40A. All parcels will be restricted to surface uses (open space and recreation).

Suzanne Johnson asked about groundwater restrictions. Paul said that use of groundwater will not be allowed. A fence is currently in place, and while there is no intent to remove it, the land use restrictions won't require it to stay or to be maintained.

The group discussed how the state environmental covenants (Uniform Environmental Covenant Act, "UECA") will be implemented. Since the state covenants can't be imposed on the Federal government, these covenants have to be worked into the deeds after transfer. This process still needs to be worked out. Since the UECA covenants will mirror the restrictions in the FOST, there are no additional encumbrances. The Navy doesn't have the authority to require additional covenants to be signed.

DEP has concurred with the FOST, and their concurrence is subject to all land use controls being implemented in accordance with state law. Tom Brubaker thought that the deed and the UECA documents could be recorded at the same time.

- Document Tracking Spreadsheet – Paul Burgio

Paul said they have been working on this tracking spreadsheet for some time and that it appears to be a very useful tool to communicate to the stakeholders what the priorities are. We have a busy construction season this year, so it will be particularly important to prioritize what documents need review and comment. Paul said that Quarry documents are the highest priority at this time.

- Quarry (Munitions Clearance, RI/FS, Path to ROD) – Paul Burgio

The Quarry site continues to be very active. The MEC and munitions constituents (MC) remedial investigation reports are with the Navy (responding to comments and concerns). The radiological investigation is complete, and Paul said that the CDC agrees with the Navy's conclusions that

there are no radiological concerns. The Feasibility Study (FS) is also under review with the Navy. The FS report has a familiar format showing three alternatives (do nothing, land use controls and monitoring, and dig up everything). As with many FS reports, it is expected that the middle alternative will be the most cost efficient and logical alternative.

There is some additional MEC clearance needed, which will be done this summer. Paul said that they are confident that the site is clear, but the Navy is completing additional clearance to be conservative. The Plan for additional work is nearing completion, and a public meeting will be held in mid-July. The target date for a Record of Decision (ROD) is September.

The group discussed the process of reviewing documents and setting priorities. There are many documents in the works. Carol While said that BACSE needs two weeks for review. She also asked how EPA is documenting their comments. Mike Daly said that he typically does redline edits, which can be viewed by others. He said he had issues with the FS report and he had significant changes. Carol asked that the redline versions be emailed to her and BACSE.

Paul said that the Navy has spent the last six years investigating this site and completing MEC-related remedial actions. Mike Daly said that a large number of test pits have been completed, which have mostly found construction debris and munitions fragments. There are no radiological issues, virtually no munitions and the only real contaminants are polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) in soil. For all of these reasons, the Navy is comfortable with capping the remaining debris area and implementing land use controls. The closure plan will also include some groundwater monitoring work.

The Feasibility Study will be out in a few weeks and it will include the three alternatives previously mentioned. DEP and the Navy are still discussing details of the cap (i.e., how thick it needs to be). The Navy is hoping to complete the cap this construction season.

Catherine Ferdinand asked whether the remedy will include any soil removal prior to cap construction. She said that Bowdoin has some concerns about the alternative being selected (i.e., capping) ahead of the FS. Paul said that any remaining munitions will be cleared, but that they are confident in the assessment of this site and the plans going forward. He said the Navy may need to address comments that extensive excavation is needed. This would require millions of dollars which they won't get. The draft FS said that the fence would stay with signs, but this is not true. The fence needs to be removed to complete the clearance work, and there is no need to put it back.

Suzanne Johnson asked if the ROD determines the remedy. Paul said the planned remedy is capping (about 2.8 acres) with land use controls, and that the ROD formalizes what is needed.

Mike Daly said that implementing a remedy before addressing public comments has some risk, however in this case there is general consensus of what is needed here.

The draft Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP) that was discussed is not the FS but a way for the Navy to show their intent to sign the ROD. While the FS documents the alternatives, the PRAP details the preferred plan.

3. Upcoming Field Work in 2017

- Sites 1/3 Landfill Cap Extension – Paul Burgio

The cap extension for Sites 1/3 is scheduled for summer/fall of 2017. Paul is hoping that soil from Sites 7, 9, and the Orion Street Skeet Range (OSSR) can be removed and placed within the cap extension area first. The cut-off date to begin cap construction is late July, so the removals from these other sites needs to be complete by then.

- Site 9 Soil Removal (PAHs) – Paul Burgio

Soil excavation work at Site 9 is scheduled for June/July timeframe. Two soil hot spots for PAH removals have been identified. There are no radiological issues - all readings have been within background. The volume of soil to be removed is less than 100 tons, mostly from the surface. Tetra Tech EC is developing the removal plan.

- Site 7 Soil Removal (Cadmium) – Paul Burgio

The Navy will again attempt to remove soil from this former DRMO area in an effort to meet the cadmium groundwater standards. Small munitions (duds) and one radium item were found, which derailed the excavation last year. There are two areas to be excavated, which will amount to about 1100 cubic yards of soil that will go under the Sites 1/3 cap extension. The Navy is hoping to see cadmium levels in groundwater decrease as a result of this removal action. Munitions technicians will be available during this work to address any new conditions. Paul said any further delays means that this soil will not make it under the cap extension, and will have to be disposed of elsewhere.

- OSSR/Impoundment Pond Area Soil Removal (Lead) – Paul Burgio

Paul said that at the OSSR there is one additional area needing excavation to meet the risk goal of 155 ppm for lead. The work plan is being done by Tetra Tech EC and will be performed in June. The expected volume of soil to be removed is about 200 tons. The excavation area will extend to the impoundment pond but no further. Confirmation samples will be taken during the removal action.

- Quarry Munitions Clearance – Jeff Orient

Jeff reviewed the specific areas that still need to be cleared of MEC. There are only a few areas on either side of the fence, and a rocky area on the east end of the site. The fence interferes with the detectors so it has to be removed. Rocks will also need to be moved to clear that area.

- LUCIP Implementation – Jeff Orient

At Site 12, warning signs have been posted and a kiosk has been installed to warn the public about potential munitions issues. Informational pamphlets are also available. The Navy will maintain

the kiosk and replenish informational pamphlets for now. Future owners will likely need to maintain these items, although the Navy is ultimately responsible given the land use controls. The deed restrictions will only allow for surficial uses, and will require inspections and maintenance.

The group discussed how to manage the public and any emergencies. If the public encounters any suspected munitions, the signs direct them to call 911. The Maine State Police are trained to respond to 911 calls that deal with munitions issues.

4. Questions

Josh Katz asked if there are plans for shellfish sampling in Harpswell Cove. Paul said there are no current plans but they are waiting to see where the PFC investigations will lead. The shellfish beds near the mouth of Mere Brook have been closed due to arsenic and lead problems, but there is talk in Harpswell of wanting to reopen them. DEP does have a sampling station further down where one of the PFC compounds was found in shellfish. Bob Leclerc said he can access that information and will send out a link to the group.

Carol White asked if there is a base-wide sampling plan yet for PFCs. Paul said they are not there yet, but this topic will be covered in the next RAB meeting by Caryn DeJesus.

Carol also asked about a Technical Memo for PFC-impacted property transfers within the base. Paul said that is part of a longer-term plan. Paul will update the tracking sheet to push the schedule out for this document. Carol said the tracking spreadsheet is helpful, and Paul said he will keep it up to date.

The public meeting for the Quarry PRAP will be mid to late July. The next RAB meeting will likely be in September 2017. The stakeholders will continue to discuss whether to move back to the Town Annex so that meetings can be broadcast.

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.