

FINAL



COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN

AOC -1

ABANDONED DUMPING STATION

FUDS PROJECT NUMBER C02NJ0951

FORMER NAVAL AIR STATION, CAPE MAY, NEW JERSEY

JUNE 2024

Prepared for:
US Army Corp of Engineers
New England District
Concord, Massachusetts

Prepared by:
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**Community Relations Plan
AOC 1, Abandoned Dumping Area
Former Naval Air Station, Cape May, New Jersey**

**FINAL
Cape May, New Jersey**

June 2024

CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the enclosed Report, shown and marked in this submittal, is that proposed to be incorporated with Contract Number W912WJ-19-D-0008 DO#0001. This Document has been prepared in accordance with USACE Scope of Work and is hereby submitted for Government Approval.

Reviewed By:



6/7/2024

Sovereign Project Manager

Date



6/7/2024

Sovereign Quality Control Manager

Date

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ABBREVIATIONS, ACRONYMS, AND SYMBOLS

AOC	Area of Contamination
COC	Contaminant of Concern
CRP	Community Relations Plan
DERP	Defense Environmental Restoration Program
DoD	Department of Defense
ERA	Ecological Risk Assessment
ERP	Environmental Restoration Program
FUDS	Formerly Used Defense Site
FS	Feasibility Study
NJDEP	New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
NHP	Natural Heritage Program
PAO	Public Affairs Office
PCBs	Polychlorinated Biphenyls
RI	Remedial Investigation
Sovereign	Sovereign Consulting Inc.
SVOCs	Semi-volatile Organic Compounds
TRACENCM	Training Center Cape May
USCG	United States Coast Guard
USACE	United States Army Corp of Engineers
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
USFW	United States Fish and Wildlife
VOCs	Volatile Organic Compounds

1.0 OVERVIEW OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN

This Community Relations Plan (CRP) describes how the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) will implement two-way communication with the local community during the proposed Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) activities for the Abandoned Dumping Area (Area of Concern (AOC) 1) at the former Naval Air Station located in Cape May, New Jersey (the “Site”). A site Location Map is provided in **Figure 1**. The site is currently a United States Coast Guard (USCG) Training Center.

Effective communication and timely information exchanges are essential for maintaining community support and understanding of the Army’s mission and for implementing a successful Environmental Restoration Program (ERP). The methods of outreach described in this CRP were developed based on anticipated community concerns and will be updated as the project progresses and input from the community is received.

1.1 Plan Objectives

The purpose of this CRP is to provide a framework for community involvement activities associated with the ongoing RI/FS at AOC 1 of the Cape May Formerly Used Defense Site ((FUDS). USACE will use the information in this CRP to develop a plan to ensure that the community is continuously informed about, and provided with, opportunities to be involved in the environmental investigation process at AOC 1. The specific goals of this plan are to describe the community affected by the project, identify potential concerns that may be expressed by stakeholders, and to outline public involvement activities that will be conducted by USACE during investigation and potential cleanup activities. The community is encouraged to use this plan to learn whether their concerns have been addressed, to expand their knowledge of the upcoming investigation, and to become further involved in the RI/FS process.

1.2 Plan Organization

Public involvement during the RI/FS will be promoted via the activities outlined in this plan. USACE will oversee the implementation of these activities. This CRP provides a description of the Cape May site property, including a site background, history and a summary of previous site investigations (Section 2.0); a background of the local community and its involvement (Section 3.0); USACE’s public involvement program (Section 4.0); and a listing of available resources (Appendices). The USACE Project Manager will oversee the implementation of the community involvement activities outlined in this plan.

This CRP is based primarily on the following USACE guidance document, which is consistent with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Superfund community involvement guidance document (USEPA, 2005a):

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (2011). Public Participation in the Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) for FUDS. Engineer Pamphlet EP 200-3-1. September 2011.

Additional documents used in the preparation of this document included:

- USACE (2004a). Environmental Quality - Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS). ER 200-3-1. May 2004.

- USEPA (2005 and 2005a). Superfund Community Involvement Handbook. 540-K-05-002 & 540-K-05-003. April 2005.

Information specific to the Cape May community was derived from the current and historic investigations. This CRP will be revised throughout the course of the project to accurately reflect community concerns and public involvement opportunities. Sources for developing this CRP included USACE and USEPA guidance documents and previous reports on environmental investigations completed by USACE contractors. The USACE Project Manager will oversee the implementation of the community involvement activities outlined in this plan.

1.3 Lead Agency

USACE is the lead agency responsible for AOC 1 under the DERP FUDS with overall responsibility for administering this CRP and is supported by USACE's Public Affairs Office (PAO).

1.4 FUDS Eligibility Review

The DERP-FUDS Program began in the mid-1980s and includes identifying eligible properties, investigating their condition, and addressing any contamination hazardous substance that was a result of former Department of Defense [DoD] activities. In FUDS ER-200-3-1, FUDS are defined as real property that was under the jurisdiction of the Secretary (meaning the Secretary of Defense and the Secretaries of each of the Military Departments, as well as the Secretaries of any predecessor departments of agencies of DoD) and owned by, leased by, or otherwise possessed by the United States (including governmental entities that are the legal predecessors of DoD or the Components) and those real properties where accountability rested with DoD but where the activities at the property were conducted by contractors (i.e., Government-owned, Contractor operated properties) that were transferred from DoD control prior to 17 October 1986. The FUDS Program goals and objectives include reducing risk to human health and the environment through the implementation of effective, legally compliant, and cost-effective response actions.

The site falls under FUDS because of the historical activities of the DoD prior to 17 October 1986. Under FUDs, the DoD is the lead agency responsible for implementing appropriate investigations and removal actions where environmental impacts may have occurred from historical activities at DoD sites and where such releases may constitute a human health or ecological concern.

An eligibility study was completed in 1994 for Cape May, and it was determined that AOC 1 met the inclusion criteria. AOC 1 is no longer owned or operated by the DOD, restoration has not been initiated or undertaken by other programs.

2.0 FUDS PROPERTY DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY

The Site is currently being operated as the USCG Training Center Cape May (TRACENCM) and is located in Cape May County, New Jersey, approximately 50 miles south of Atlantic City. Note this is a secure federal base that is not accessible to the public. The property is bound to the west by residential areas; to the north by Cape May Harbor; to the east by Cape May Inlet; and to the south by the Atlantic Ocean. The base is accessed from Pennsylvania Avenue in Cape May, New Jersey.

The primary project goals are to complete the Remedial Investigation (RI) phase of the Cape May FUDS project through completion of the decision document, including, but not limited to, completion of the Remedial Investigation, Feasibility Study, Proposed Plan, and Decision Document in order to be protective of human health and the environment.

2.1 Site History

The U.S. Government obtained the 426.8-acre property through a deed dated 2 December 1918 and Declarations of Taking dated 16 July 1941 and 24 June 1942. The U.S. Navy operated the Site from 1918 to 1946 (USACE, 1994a and 1994b). In 1946, the U.S. Navy conveyed the property to the USCG (USACE, 1994a and 1994b). According to the USACE Inventory Project Report Site Survey Summary Sheet, “Since 1946, approximately 101.814 acres has been lost to erosion and other forces of nature” (USACE, 1994a).

Prior to use by the Navy, the oceanfront portion of the Site was used as an amusement park. After World War I, the Site was used for dirigible landing and storage. By 1924, the Site was used as a landing strip for planes used by the USCG for coastal patrols. In 1941, the airfield was expanded and the Site was used as a training base for Navy carrier pilots. The USCG also utilized the Site for coastal patrol, anti-submarine warfare, air/sea rescue, and buoy service (e2M, 2003).

TRACENCM was established in 1948. The USCG, part of the Department of Homeland Security, is the owner of record for the Site. The Training Center is the fifth largest USCG base, and is comprised of housing, offices, clinics, a chapel, shops, and a child development center.

2.2 Property Description and Location

The Abandoned Dumping Station or AOC 1 is located along the Cape May Inlet, approximately 750 feet due east of Arcus Road. The AOC 1 boundary was established in the FUDS Inventory Project Report (USACE, 1994a) based on interviews with former base employees that the area may have been a dumping ground for waste generated on base. Refer to **Figure 1**. AOC 1 is currently bound to the west by a dirt access road and beyond that by surface impoundments made of earthen berms to dewater dredge spoils from periodic dredging of the Cape May Inlet. The Site is currently bound to the north by Cape May Harbor and east by the Cape May Inlet. The southern end of the Site is adjacent to the Cape May jetty and the Atlantic Ocean. Much of the estimated footprint of AOC 1 is now underwater, due to over 100 feet of shoreline erosion since 1931.

2.2.1 *Property Characteristics*

Topography - The Site is in the Coastal Plain Physiographic Province. This province is characterized by a low, gently to moderately rolling land surface and low relief. Elevation at the Site ranges from 0 feet (ft) North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD88) at the shoreline to approximately 1 ft NAVD88 in the area between the harbor and the ocean.

Meteorology - Based on a three-decade average of climatological data (“1981-2010 Climate Normals”) for Cape May, New Jersey, the average minimum temperature for the region is 27.9°F in January and average maximum temperature is 84.5°F in July. Precipitation averages 41.88 inches annually, relatively evenly distributed during the year [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), 2018].

Surface Water- Surface water runoff at the Site follows topography to the south, north, and east. Surface water flows southward to the Atlantic Ocean, northward to Cape May Harbor, and eastward to Cape May Inlet. No streams were observed at the Site. There is no stormwater infrastructure near the area targeted for this investigation.

Geology - The geology of the Site consists of coastal plain deposits, with beach sands and dunes overlying interbedded estuarine and marsh deposits. As sea level rises and the beach, dune, and overwash sand deposits are eroded, buried marsh deposits are exposed at the shoreline. These marsh deposits are eroded and carried by high tides, storm surges, and overwash processes that are deposited on the surface further inland. In general, this surficial unit overlies the Cape May Formation Unit 1, which consists of sand and pebble gravel, silt, and fine sand from shoreline deposits. The surficial unit consists of Holocene sand, silt, clay, and peat (Bluestone, 2019). The sand forms the beaches and dunes and the fine sand, silt, clay, and peat forms salt marshes.

Groundwater - Groundwater flows toward the Cape May Harbor, Cape May Inlet, and the Atlantic Ocean and is likely a mix of fresh, brackish, or saline. Depth to the fresh water-salt water interface is expected to be shallower at the coast and increase in depth as you move inward on land. Depth to surficial groundwater has been logged from sea level to 5 ft below grade. The aquifer underlying the Site, the Holly Beach Aquifer, supplies water for domestic and irrigation uses. AOC 1 is saturated with ocean water two times a day at high tide and floods (over the road) up to ten times per year due to storm surges and astronomical high tides (or “king tides”).

Ecology - The Cape May peninsula is a migratory corridor for birds, primarily due to the large horseshoe crab population along the western shoreline and the configuration of the land between the Delaware Bay and the Atlantic Ocean. This corridor attracts birds that eat horseshoe crab eggs. The beach at AOC 1 is a known nesting area for horseshoe crabs. Avian species observed in this area during a site visit included: seaside sparrows, laughing and herring gulls, red-winged blackbirds, and starlings.

The Cape May peninsula is home to rare species including 27 birds, two mammals, three amphibians, four reptiles, 30 invertebrates, and 147 plants. The following are endangered, threatened, or rare species identified during an ecological survey completed in 2019 and 2021 (Dubois, 2022).

The exposed portion of the landfill is approximately 1 acre and is dominated by invasive plant species like ragweed, goldenrod, and phragmites. Seabeach amaranth (*Amaranthus pumilus*) is a rare plant that is located on the base and is federally listed as threatened.

Wetlands - According to the National Wetlands Inventory Map managed by the USFWS, most of the undeveloped portion of the Site (approximately 49 acres) consists of palustrine freshwater emergent wetland. This wetland is characterized by trees, shrubs, and persistent emergent vegetation that are present for most of the year. The area is seasonally flooded, with surface water remaining for at least one month. When the surface is not flooded, the substrate is saturated at or near the surface.

2.4 Cape May FUDS Project Area and Site Investigation

The remedial investigation at the Cape May FUDS AOC 1 project area was initiated in 2019. The objective of the remedial investigation was to determine if the area had environmental impacts from potential historic dumping at AOC 1 and to verify/update data collected in the late 1990s.

The first part of the site investigation was to conduct a two-phase geophysical survey. The objective of each phase was to determine if any drums or tanks that may have contained hazardous waste were disposed of at AOC 1. Test pits were dug in locations where subsurface metal anomalies were identified. There was no evidence of buried drums or tanks below sea level in AOC 1. Examples of household debris items were broken plates, bottles, cans and miscellaneous metal parts.

A field investigation was then completed in the Fall of 2022, to identify any contaminants in sediment, soil and groundwater. A list of contaminants of potential concern (COPCs) for this investigation derived from the previous investigation conducted in 1998 (Ogden, 1998). The previous investigation identified volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), pesticides, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), explosives, and metals as potential Site contaminants. A map of the sampling area is included in **Figure 2**.

The investigation concluded that elevated concentrations of metals, SVOCs and pesticides were detected as sediment, soil and groundwater, but at levels that do not pose a risk to the site construction worker and recreational users. The data will be summarized and the risk assessment documented in the Remedial Investigation Report and placed in the document repository when finalized.

3.0 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT BACKGROUND

3.1 Community Profile

Cape May is part of Cape Island at the southern tip of Cape May Peninsula. The island was artificially created in 1942 when the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers dredged a canal that passes through to the Delaware Bay (City of Cape May). Fishing and farming have been important in this area since its beginnings, and whaling, was a significant industry in Cape May for roughly a century beginning in the mid-1600s. In the 18th century, this area became a summer resort for wealthy residents of Philadelphia wishing to escape the crowded city during the summer months, and is known as “America’s oldest seaside resort.” Because of this history and because of a fire that destroyed much of the city in 1878, Cape May has numerous Victorian homes and hotels, and was declared a National Historic Landmark City in 1976 (Cape Publishing 2005). “Today commercial fishing is still the backbone of the county and is the second largest industry in Cape May County. The port of Cape May is considered one of the largest and busiest seaports along the eastern seaboard and generates more than \$500 million annually” (Cape May County, 2000).

Like in many other fishing communities with a significant tourism industry, commercial fishermen in Cape May are often competing with recreational fishing and with residential development for space. Lower Township, the municipality where the fishing industry is based, currently has three “marine development” zones in place, which are mostly used by recreational businesses; Schellenger’s Landing, where much of the commercial fishing industry is based, is specially zoned for “marine general business” to permit expansion of the fishing-related businesses located here (McCay and Cieri 2000). “Like many Jersey Shore communities, much of Cape May’s and Wildwood’s economies are dependent on seasonal tourism - which is dependent both on the weather and the overall state of the economy. The year-round character of commercial fishing is a major factor in keeping these communities going in the off-season”. Commercial fishing is the second largest industry in Cape May County after tourism.

3.1.1 RI/FS Project Area

AOC 1 is located within the TRACENCM base in an undeveloped area, that is primarily beach and the beginning of the southern half Cape May jetty. The Cape May jetty was constructed in 1911 to allow permanent boat access to the Cape May harbor and its fishing industry. AOC 1 is adjacent to surface impoundments from periodic dredging of the Cape May inlet to ensure continued access for fishing and recreational vessels. Over the last fifty years AOC 1 has suffered severe erosion due to the impacts of the jetty on the shoreline of the inlet. It is estimated that up to 100 feet of shoreline has eroded in this area.

Remnants of old piers and associated structures are visible in the water and at low tide in this area. A review of historic photos shows images of small sheds on piers at the beginning of the jetty and the AOC 1 beach. Visible debris includes wooden piers, concrete, rebar and miscellaneous metal pipes.

AOC 1 is located within the USGS base and is not accessible to the public. This area is also not routinely used by base personnel and is mostly underwater except at low tide. The immediate

area is vegetated with invasive grasses and weeds and there is no routine mowing or maintenance completed in this area. Infrequently, USGS veterans may fish from the shore or jetty in this area, but there are no routine recreation activities in this area. Trespasser are also infrequent, as the main beach area, east along the jetty, facing the Atlantic, is part of the base and not open to the public.

An Ecological Study was also completed in AOC 1 to identify the presence of any endangered and threatened wildlife and plant species habitats. The open water area associated with AOC 1 is part of the migration corridor for the Atlantic sturgeon, and overall suitable foraging habitat for the night-heron species, cattle egret, black skimmer, least tern, osprey and bald eagle. The maritime red cedar woodland within the proposed staging area has been determined to meet the general nesting life history requirements for the colonial waterbirds (black-crowned night heron, yellow-crowned night heron, and cattle egret).

It was the overall determination of the study that investigation and remedial activities can be performed in the project area without direct and indirect adverse impacts to state and federally listed threatened and endangered species and associated suitable habitats. It was recommended to follow the NJDEP standard management guidelines, avoidance of any activities in the vicinity of a colonial waterbird nesting colony between April 1 and August 15 will ensure no adverse impacts.

3.1.2 Nearby Communities

The coastal area of New Jersey and Delaware is in the vicinity of TRACENCM is predominantly a seaside resort area. The beach communities are a mix of residential homes and hotels, that are busy with tourists during the summer months. Shops and restaurants attract seasonal visitors as well as The Cape May Lighthouse. Adjacent to these tourist areas are several wildlife management areas such as Higbee Beach and Cape Amy National Wildlife Refuge. Cape May Harbor is still an active fishing and boating water body with access to the Cape May Canal. Boat traffic in Cape May Inlet is active and year round.

3.2 History of Community Involvement

The Cape May community also has a long history with the Coast Guard and its families. Cape May County Community Coast Guard Foundation hold community events and the Cape May County Herald reports on base events and announcements. There have been no previous environmental projects that have implemented a community relations program at the base.

3.3 KEY COMMUNITY CONCERNS

Community outreach specific to AOC 1 RI/FS has not been conducted at this time. The following is a list of potential community concerns.

- *Sensitive Environmental Receptors* – concerns for local bird populations, boating and beach communities due to exposure to COPCs in soil and sediment/surface water
- *Public Health and Safety* - concerns for general protection of Site users such as veterans who fish off the property or bird watchers.
- *Harbor and Recreation Fishing and Boating* – concerns for any potential activities at the site that would interfere with Cape May channel boat traffic

Citizens of the surrounding community have not submitted any concerns regarding AOC 1 at TRACENCM to USACE. During the Proposal Plan, USACE will seek feedback from members of the community. Sources of feedback may be obtained from interviews with town officials, USCG public affairs, and other community organizations. In coordination with the PAO, a Community Survey may be distributed to solicit concerns from community members. An example survey is included in **Appendix A**.

3.4 RESPONSE TO COMMUNITY CONCERNS

At the date of publication of this document, no community concerns have been communicated to USACE.

3.5 SUMMARY OF COMMUNICATION NEEDS

USACE's overall objective is to encourage the public participation in the remedial investigation and potential cleanup process. This CRP has been developed to provide mechanisms for the public to become aware of the site conditions and the USACE's activities to identify and address contamination and safety issues associated with site conditions. USACE's main tools in conveying the status of the investigation and cleanup process to the public will be maintaining the Information Repository as discussed in Section 4.1.1 and communication with stakeholders.

4.0 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

4.1 Public Involvement Overview

Public involvement activities are designed to communicate the project status, upcoming activities, and findings to the public and to provide opportunities for public input. This section outlines potential public involvement activities that may be performed for the AOC 1 RI/FS to promote two-way communication between USACE and the public.

4.1.1 Planned Activities

Public involvement activities are planned to provide accurate and timely information to the community throughout the various stages of investigation and cleanup for this project. These activities are designed to strengthen communication between USACE and the public. USACE will initiate all communication with the public for this project, respond to public concerns or delegate these responses as appropriate, and act as the point of contact between the public and the project team.

USACE Public Affairs staff will coordinate all contacts with local media sources (**Appendix B**) during the RI/FS, including press releases, public information session advertisements, and media inquiry responses. A brief fact sheet (see **Appendix C**) describing Cape May FUDs will be provided at that time. Further dissemination of project information via media outlets will be provided by USACE, as needed.

Public information sessions will be held to promote community awareness of the project activities and the role of USACE in the RI/FS process. Informal public availability sessions may be held to facilitate communication via poster sessions or presentations, where knowledgeable project personnel are available to respond to public questions and concerns. Formal meetings may be held when USACE plans to formally accept public comments on response actions for the Administrative Record. The potential meeting locations are included in **Appendix D**. The public will be notified in advance of scheduled public information sessions and formal meeting dates.

Following completion of the RI/FS process, a 30-day public review and comment period will be advertised by USACE to ensure that all public comments on the proposed remedial action are received and addressed in the final Decision Document (DD). The DD presents the final selected remedial action for AOC 1, if any. A public information session or formal meeting may be scheduled prior to, or during, this public comment period to disseminate relevant information and to ensure that the community is well-informed.

An administrative record for this project will be maintained at the information repository listed in **Appendix D** (Proposed Meeting Places and Information Repository Locations). These documents will be available to the public as non-circulating reference materials and may include this CRP, the final RI/FS reports, and appropriate documentation of proposed and completed investigation efforts.

Due to the USCG ownership of AOC 1, and the relatively low-impact and short-term nature of the investigation, community interest in establishing a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) is anticipated to remain low. Should sufficient interest be determined, USACE will support the

establishment of a RAB. Special briefings for local officials and presentations to civic groups are possible upon request.

4.2. Security Clearance

As the Abandoned Dumping Area is located with the United States Coast Guard Training Center at Cape May, all activities to be conducted are subject to base review and approval through the USACE and USCG.

4.3 Public Involvement Activities

4.3.1 Point of Contact

A primary liaison between the community and the USACE is designated to ensure prompt, accurate, and consistent responses, and information dissemination about the Cape May Community.

The USACE Project Manager, Greg Hencir, is the designated Community Involvement Coordinator and serves as a point of contact for the public and the news media. Mr. Hencir's contact information is as follows:

Contact: Greg Hencir
USACE Project Manager
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – New England District 696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742-2751
Gregory.hencir@usace.army.mil
(978)318-8873

USCG public points of contact are presented in the table below:

Points of Contact

Contact Name	Role	Contact Information
Sean Maring	Environmental Coordinator	Email: Sean.M.Maring@uscg.mil Phone: (609) 898-6411
Michael Lutz	Chief, Public Affairs	Email: Michael.Lutz@uscg.mil Phone: (609) 898-6362

4.4 Project Schedule for Community Involvement Activities

The following table provides a schedule framework for community involvement activities for the AOC 1 RI/FS.

ACTIVITY	TIMEFRAME
Establish Administrative Records at Repository listed in Appendix C .	Prior to initiation of RI and notification activities.
Notify key stakeholders involved in forthcoming RI (i.e., USCG, NJDEP, government officials)	Communication by USACE Public Affairs staff to stakeholders will be made in a reasonable timeframe in advance of the RI to allow for coordination between involved parties.
Notify media outlets of the work to be performed	Disseminate news release to local and regional media outlets and the information repositories upon initiation of RI and upon completion of project phases (i.e., RI, FS, PP, and DD). A news release on the project may be issued before any work begins.
After the RI Report is approved by USCAE, Fact Sheets will be provided to local community resources and all associated stakeholders containing, at a minimum, a contact name, phone number and an e-mail address to contact for more information regarding the RI.	Upon USACE approval of RI Report.
Gauge interest in, hold public meeting	Assess public response to RI Report for a public review comment period of 30 days. If a public meeting is warranted, reference Appendix C for potential meeting location.
Gauge interest in, establish and maintain RAB	Assess interest in RAB during public meeting, if held. Establish RAB within 60 days of confirming public interest.
Conduct community interviews	With members of the public meeting, if held, USACE and/or contractors will conduct interviews based on the Community Survey included as Appendix A .
Public meeting and comment period for DD	Assess public response to DD for a public review comment period of 30 days. If a public meeting is warranted, reference Appendix D for potential meeting location.
Update the information repository	As new reports, news releases, or relevant meeting minutes become available reflecting ongoing environmental activities (i.e., news release, CRP, RI/FS Report, PP, DD).
Revisions	The CRP will be revised during each phase of the project lifecycle to reflect changing community concerns. Once the DD is completed, a new schedule of public involvement activities for the design and cleanup phases of the response action will be implemented.

4.5 Revisions to Community Relations Plan

USACE will revise the CRP as appropriate if significant changes occur with respect to the site. Each update to the CRP will reflect any changes in the site with respect to stakeholders' concerns, proposed actions, etc. and to ensure that the plan remains responsive to community concerns throughout the Cape May FUDs investigation and cleanup activities.

5.0 REFERENCES

Cape May County Community Profile, National Marine Fisheries Service, Northeast Fisheries Science Center. 2000

Colliers Engineering & Design Project No. 19001351B, Phase II Geophysical Evaluation, Report: Expanded Survey of the Former NAS Cape May Defense Site Abandoned Dumping Station, June 2022.

DuBois & Associates (Dubois). 2021. Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plant Species Habitat Evaluation. Former Cape May Naval Air Station, Cape May City, Cape May County, New Jersey. 19 February 2021.

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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), 1994a. Memorandum for Commander: Baltimore District, ATTN: CENAB-EN-HN, Subject: DERP-FUDS Inventory Project Report (INPR) for Site No. C02NJ0951, Naval Air Station, Cape May, New Jersey.

USACE, 1994b. Risk Assessment Procedures for Ordnance and Explosive Waste Sites, Naval Air Station Cape May, Cape May, New Jersey.

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USACE, 2004b. Public Participation in the Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) for Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS). Engineer Pamphlet EP 1110-3-8. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

FIGURES



FORMER NAVAL AIR STATION
BLOCK 1218, LOT 2
CAPE MAP, CAPE MAY COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

SITE LOCATION MAP



SOVEREIGN CONSULTING INC. Figure:
4 Open Square Way, Suite 307
Holyoke, NJ 01040
Ph:(413) 540-0650 Fax:(413) 540-0656
www.sovcon.com

1

CREATED BY : PM
DATE: 03/25/2021

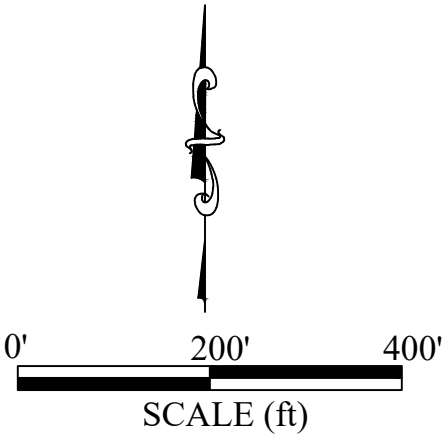
REVISED BY : PM
DATE:2/16/2022



LEGEND:

- Monitoring Well
- Borehole Soil Sample
- Subsurface Soil Sample
- Sediment Sample
- Test Pit
- Mean High Water Line
- Mean Low Water Line
- Approx. High Tide Line/
Spring High Water Line

Note:
Tide Line Elevations:
Coordinate System : NAD 1983 State Plane New Jersey,
FIPS 2900 Feet. Projection: Transverse Mercator.
Plotted from CDM Smith, June 2016.



FORMER NAVAL AIR STATION
BLOCK 1218, LOT 2
CAPE MAY, CAPE MAY COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

SUMMARY OF
SAMPLE LOCATIONS



SOVEREIGN CONSULTING INC.
4 Open Square Way, Suite 307
Holyoke, NJ 01040
Ph:(413) 540-0650 Fax:(413) 540-0656
www.sovcon.com

Figure:

2

CREATED BY : PM
DATE: 03/25/2021

REVISED BY : PM
DATE:7/25/2023

APPENDIX A
COMMUNITY SURVEY

COMMUNITY SURVEY

Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study

Area of Concern (AOC) 1

Cape May Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS)

Date:

Name:

Address:

Telephone (H): _____ (M): _____

1. Have you heard of a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study being conducted at the Cape May Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS)?

Yes No

2. If so, do you know how you learned of it? And did you talk to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, or U.S. Coast Guard officials about the ongoing study?

3. If you have, were your questions answered in a timely manner?

4. How long have you lived near Cape May, NJ?

Answer: _____

5. What are your concerns about the Cape May FUDS environmental study ?

6. How would you rate the level of concern in the community (friends or neighbors) about the Cape May FUDS project?

Please rate on a scale of 1-10, where 1 is "no concern" and 10 is "very concerned":

-
7. Are you interested in obtaining more information about the site?
Yes No
- a. If so, what topics would you like to obtain more information?

8. How would you prefer to be kept informed about new information about the site? Join a mailing list to receive a fact sheet or other general information about the study?

9. Do you have any recommendations for additional methods to reach out to the community? (i.e., internet sites, social media, radio, television, newspapers)?

10. What are the best locations to hold community meetings? What day of the week and time of day is best to hold community meetings/open houses?

11. How frequently would you like to receive information?
Monthly _____
Bi-monthly _____
Quarterly _____
Annually _____
When events warrant _____
Other _____
12. Final documents on the project will be available for the public to review. Would you prefer to view the documents electronically or in hard copy?

13. Who else in the community would you suggest we speak with about the project?

14. Do you have any other comments, questions, or concerns about the Cape May FUDS project?

Privacy Act
Statement
Authority: 10 U.S.
Code (USC) 2705.

Principal Purpose: To identify the attitudes and concerns of area residents concerning activities at the MMRP or HTRW project during the study phase. The requested information will be used to develop a Community Relations Plan for the specific project in question. The information will also be used by the Army to develop a mailing list of individuals interested in receiving fact sheets and other general information about the study. Disclosure of the requested information is voluntary. Failure to provide all the requested information may lessen the effectiveness of the public involvement program for the project.

APPENDIX B
CAPE MAY FACT SHEET



FACT SHEET
AREA OF CONCERN 1 (AOC 1)
FORMER CAPE MAY NAVAL AIR STATION
CAPE MAY, NEW JERSEY



The Former Cape May Naval Air Station is located at the United States Coast Guard (USCG) Training Base in Cape May, New Jersey.

AOC 1 is located within the USGS base in an undeveloped area, that is primarily beach and the beginning of the southern half Cape May jetty. The Cape May jetty was constructed in 1911 to allow permanent boat access to the Cape May harbor and its fishing industry. AOC 1 is adjacent to surface impoundments from periodic dredging of the Cape May inlet to ensure continued access for fishing and recreational vessels. Over the last fifty years AOC 1 has suffered severe erosion due to the impacts of the jetty on the shoreline of the inlet. It is estimated that up to 100 feet of shoreline has eroded in this area.

Remnants of old piers and associated structures are visible in the water and at low tide in this area. A review of historic photos show images of small sheds on piers at the beginning of the jetty and the AOC 1 beach. Visible debris includes wooden piers, concrete, rebar and miscellaneous metal pipes.

AOC 1 is located within the USGS base and is not accessible to the public. This area is also not routinely used by base personnel and is mostly underwater with the exception of low tide. The immediate area is vegetated with invasive grasses and weeds and there is no routine mowing or maintenance completed in this area. Infrequently, USCG veterans may fish from the

shore or jetty in this area, but there are no routine recreation activities occurring in this area. Trespassers are also infrequent, as the main beach area, east along the jetty, facing the Atlantic, is part of the base and not open to the public.

It was suspected that historic dumping took place at AOC 1 and that an environmental investigation was warranted in that area to determine the level of impacts on the site soil, sediment and groundwater. In the fall of 2022 environmental samples were taken and analyzed for volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), pesticides, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), explosives, and metals as potential Site contaminants.

The investigation concluded that elevated concentrations of metals, SVOCs, and pesticides were detected in sediment and soil, but at levels that do not pose a risk to the site construction workers and recreational users. The data will be summarized and the risk assessment documented in the Remedial Investigation Report and placed in the document repository when finalized.



Contact

Gregory Hencir, Engineering Technical Lead
(978) 318-8873

gregory.m.hencir@usace.army.mil

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-New England
District

696 Virginia Road, Concord, MA 01742

<https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/>

APPENDIX C

POTENTIAL MEETING PLACE AND INFORMATION REPOSITOIRES

Public documents will be available online on the USACE webpage. Meeting locations will also be posted on the website.

Meeting Locations include:

Cape May Convention Center
714 Beach Ave
Cape May, NJ 08204

APPENDIX D

MEDIA OUTLETS

Local Television Stations

NBC10 Philadelphia

WCAU-TV – NBC10.com

1800 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103

Main: 215-201-5000

Newsroom: 215-201-5210

FOX29 Philadelphia

330 Market Street

Philadelphia, PA 19106

Main Phone: 1-215-925-2929

News Desk: 1-215-982-5500

Radio Stations

Cape May Radio

WCFA – 101.5 FM

717 Franklin St.

Cape May, NJ 08204

(609) 884-7525

capemayradio.org

Newspapers

Cape May County Herald

1508 Route 47

Rio Grande, NJ 08242

609-886-8600

capemaycountyherald.com

admin@cmcherald.com

APPENDIX E
STAKEHOLDERS LIST

STAKEHOLDERS/INTERESTED PARTIES LIST

ELECTED OFFICIALS - FEDERAL AND STATE CONTACTS

U.S. Senator - New Jersey:

Hon. Cory Booker
717 Senate Hart Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-3224

One Gateway Center, 23rd Floor Newark,
NJ 07102
(973) 639-8700

One Port Center
2 Riverside Drive - Suite 505
Camden, NJ 0810
(856) 338-8922

U.S. Senator - New Jersey:

Hon. Robert Menendez
528 Senate Hart Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-4744

Harborside 3, Suite 1000
210 Hudson Street Jersey City, NJ 07311
(973) 645-3030

208 White Horse Pike, Suite 18
Barrington, NJ 08007
(856) 757-5353

U.S. Congressional Representative - Cape May County

Hon. Jefferson Van Drew, 2nd District, 2227
Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-6572

1001 Tilton Road
Suite 101
Northfield, NJ 08225
Phone: (609) 625-5008

ELECTED OFFICIALS - STATE AND COUNTY CONTACTS

New Jersey State Government Governor of

New Jersey: Hon. Phil Murphy
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 001 Trenton, NJ 08625 (609) 530-4562

State Senator for Cape May County: Hon.

Michael Testa Jr. - 1st District
610 E Landis Ave.
Vineland, NJ 08360
(609) 778-2012

Cape May County Government

William E. Sturm, Jr.
Administration Building
4 Moore Road
Cape May Court House, NJ 08210
609-465-1000

Cape May County Clerk:

Rita M. Rothberg
7 N Main Street
P.O. Box 5000
Cape May Court House, NJ 08210
(732) 431-7324

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Mayor of Cape May

Mayor's Office
City of Cape May
643 Washington Street
Cape May, NJ 08204
P: 609-884-9533

Cape May City Council

City Council Office
City of Cape May
643 Washington Street
Cape May, NJ 08204
P: 609-884-9525

Cape May County Community Coast Guard Foundation

Cape May County Community Coast Guard
Foundation
P.O. Box 1365
Rio Grande, NJ
08242
609-888-6120
info@coastguardcommunity.org

PROJECT MILITARY CONTACTS

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers New England District, Public Affairs Office

696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742
(978) 318-8238
cenae-pa@usace.army.mil
<https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Media/>

U.S. Army Corp of Engineers New England District, Contacts

Project Manager:
Gregory Hencir (978) 318-8873

U.S. Coast Guard – Cape May

1 Munro Ave
Cape May, NJ 08204

Sean Maring
Environmental Coordinator
Email: Sean.M.Maring@uscg.mil
Phone: (609) 898-6411

Michael Lutz
Chief, Public Affairs
Email: Michael.Lutz@uscg.mil
Phone: (609) 898-6362