

RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB) MEETING

Former Fort Devens Army Installation
December 11, 2025



U.S. ARMY
US Army Corps
of Engineers
New England District

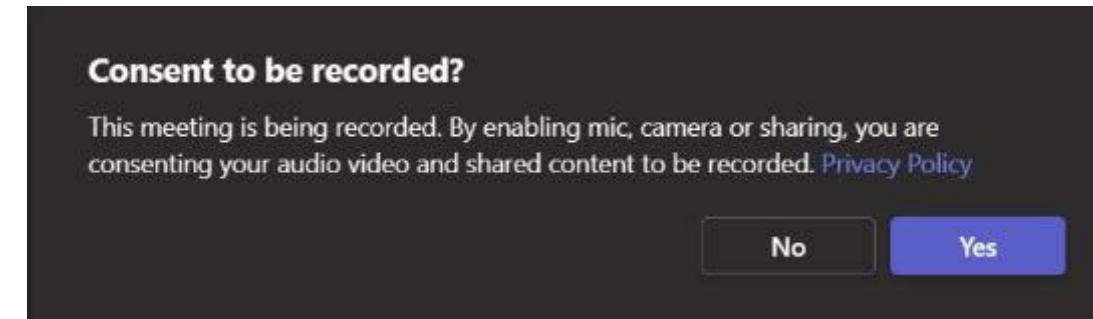


U.S. ARMY

WELCOME!



- This call is being recorded to help develop meeting minutes.
- Unless speaking, please remain on mute to reduce background noise.
- There is time for Q&A, but you can ask a question via the chat box or utilize the raise hand button at any time during the meeting and speakers will respond as time allows.
- If you need to leave the call, click “Leave.”



CHAT
BOX



RAISE
HAND



MUTE/
UNMUTE



Leave



WELCOME!



Thank you for joining us tonight.

U.S. Army and Support:

Thomas Lineer
U.S. Army HQDA/ODCS G-9
Base Realignment and Closure
(BRAC) Environmental Coordinator
(BEC)

Samantha Velluti-Fry
BRAC BEC Support

Penelope Reddy & Whitney Sauve
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
(USACE)

Andy Vitolins, Steve Perry,
Mark Pasquarello, Zack Smith and
Amy Henschke
SERES-Arcadis JV Team

Regulatory and Other Board Members:

Shawn Lowry
U.S. Environmental Protection
Agency (USEPA) Region 1

ZaNetta Purnell
USEPA Community
Involvement Coordinator

Joanne Dearden and Jessica Crispin
Massachusetts Department of
Environmental Protection (MassDEP)

Anne-Marie Dowd
MassDevelopment

Brian Younkin and Hagai Nassau
Skeo Solutions

Community Board Members:

Julie Corenzwit
Amy McCoy
Dave McCoy
Chris Mitchell
Alix Turner: Chair



WELCOME!



Tonight's topics

1

Project
Updates
and Look-ahead

2

SHL Proposed
Plan

3

EPA Technical
Assistance
Presentation

4

Community
Involvement
& RAB Update

5

Questions
& Answers

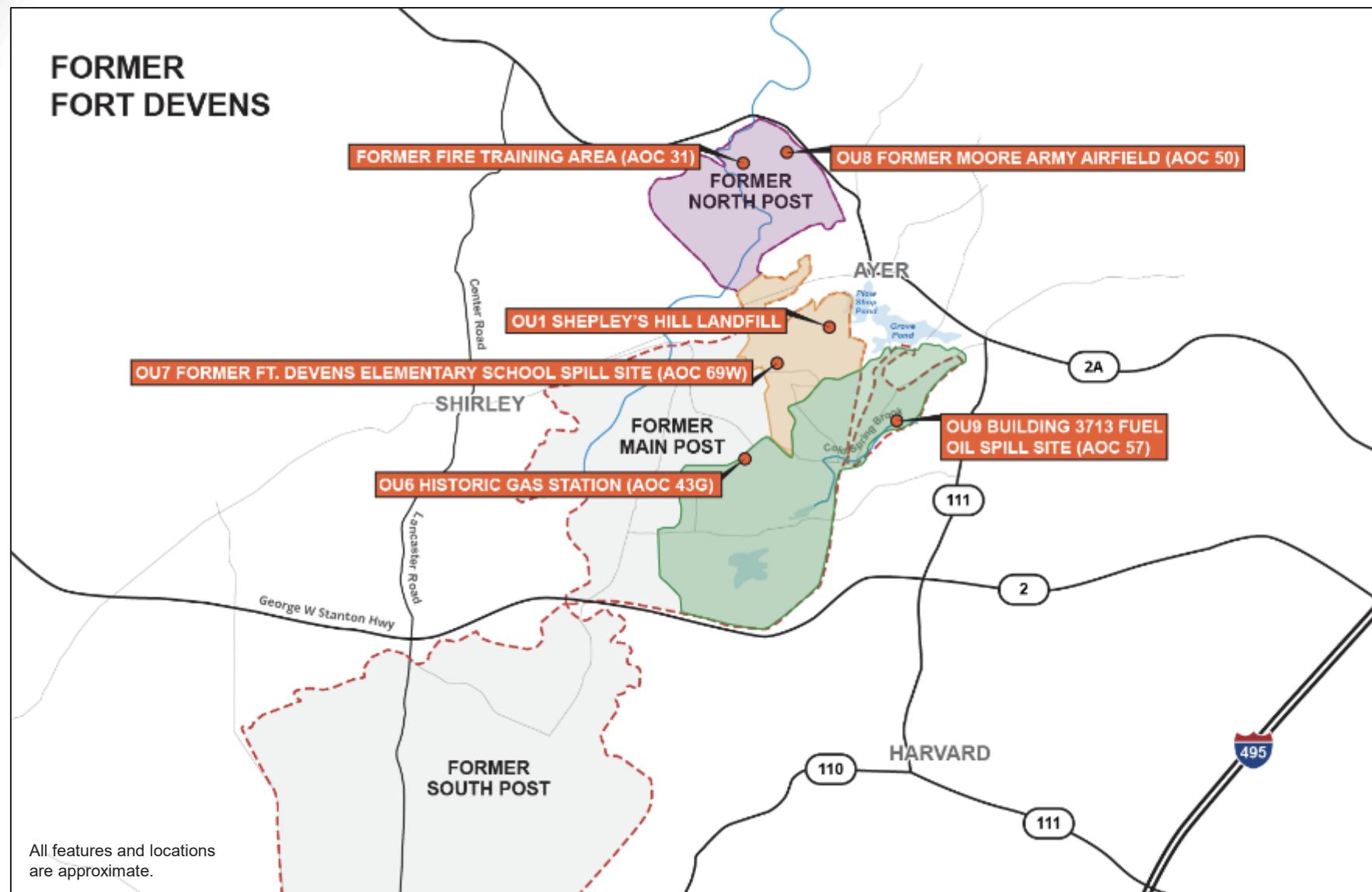


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1 | PROJECT UPDATES



5



● Discussion Areas



PFAS Area 1



PFAS Area 2



PFAS Area 3

— Former Fort Devens Boundary

— Nashua River

1 | PROJECT UPDATES

Supplemental Post-Record of Decision (ROD) Remedial Investigations (RIs) for Areas of Contamination (AOCs) 69W, 57, and 43G

- Final Supplemental RI Reports issued on October 24, 2025.

Moore Army Airfield (MAAF) Former Fire Training Area (FFTA) PFAS Field Pilot Studies

- Soil stabilization field pilot study work plan submitted to Agencies (EPA and MassDEP) in May 2025
 - Field work to begin in winter 2026
- In-situ groundwater field pilot study work plan finalized and posted to the website in June 2025
 - Field work began December 2, 2025

Shepley's Hill Landfill (SHL)

- Groundwater extraction system remains in operation with three wells
- Draft Final Proposed Plan in review by EPA

Area 1 Phase 2 PFAS RI

- Field work is complete
- Draft Phase 2 Remedial Investigation Report submission to Agencies planned in 2026/2027

Area 2 Phase 2 PFAS RI

- Area 2 Phase 2 PFAS RI work plan to be submitted to Agencies in 2026/2027

Area 3 Phase 2 PFAS RI

- Area 3 Phase 2 PFAS RI draft-final work plan submitted to RAB on November 10, 2025.
 - Final work plan to be submitted following completion of RAB review (December 11, 2025)
- Field work anticipated to start winter 2026

Five Year Review

- Final report submitted on September 29, 2025
- Report posted to the website:
 - <https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Portals/74/2025%20Five-Year%20Review%20Report.pdf>

Long Term Monitoring Reports (Main Post, SHL, Airfield, South Post)

- Final 2024 Annual Reports submitted in August 2025



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2 | SHL PROPOSED PLAN



Proposed Plan Process

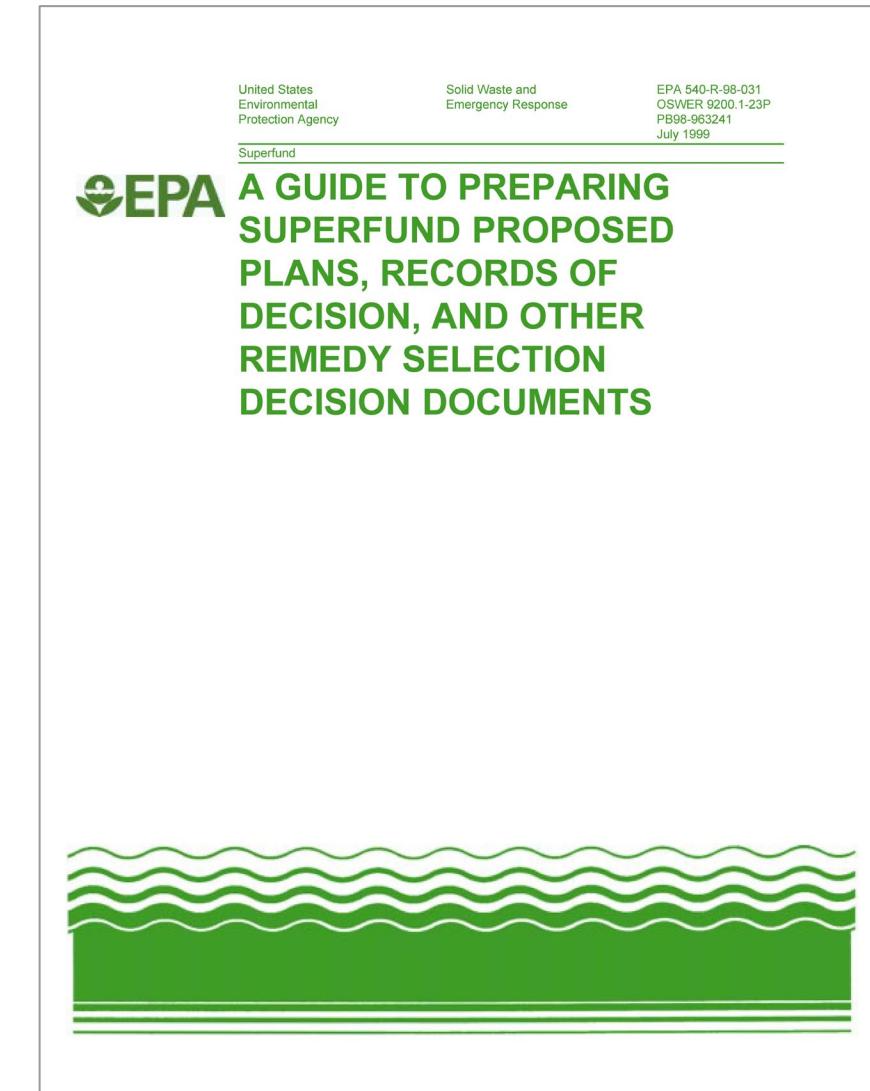
- Proposed Plan Development (Army + Agencies)
- Public Notice and Comment Period (Public)
- Public Meeting (Public + Army + Agencies)
- Responsiveness Summary (Army + Agencies)
- Record of Decision (ROD)



2 | SHL PROPOSED PLAN

What is a Proposed Plan?

- Public document that outlines the preferred approach to cleaning up a contaminated site
- Developed to support the remedy selection (RODs and ROD amendments)
 - Proposed Plan for SHL will support a ROD amendment
- Includes information about:
 - The site's history and contamination
 - The potential risks to human health and the environment
 - The proposed cleanup methods and technologies
 - An evaluation of the cleanup alternatives considered
 - The rationale for selecting the preferred cleanup approach
- See [40 CFR 300.430\(f\)\(2\)](#) for more detail





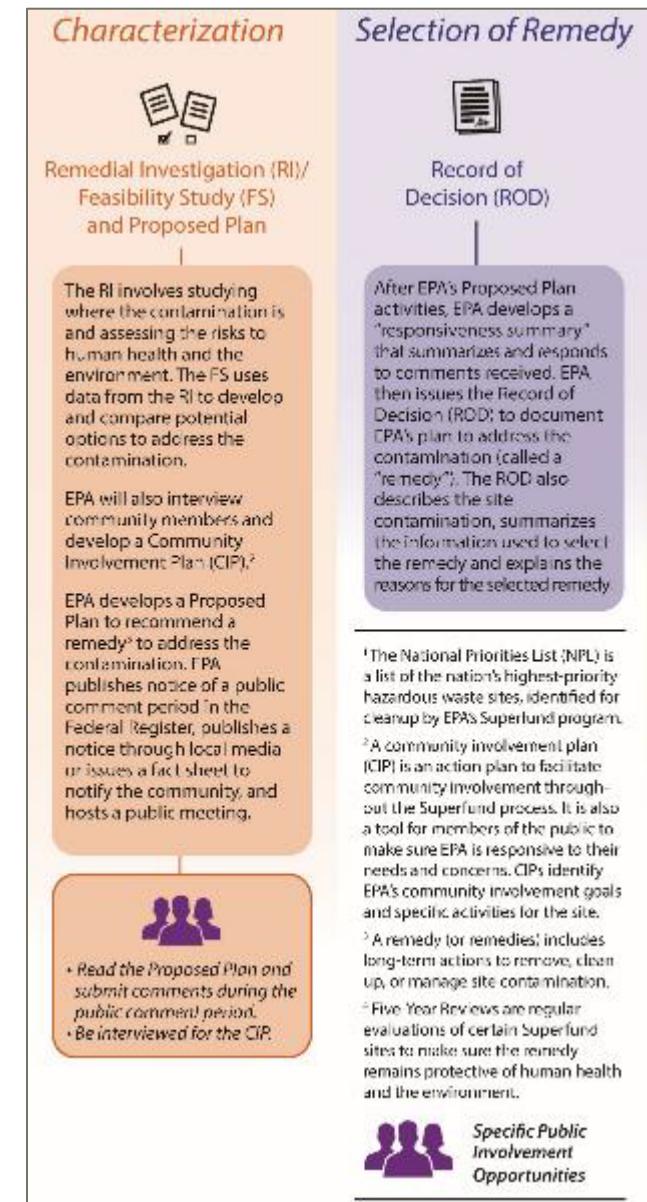
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2 | SHL PROPOSED PLAN



Public Notice and Comment Period

- Public notice of plan availability
- 30-day review period and written comment submission
 - Public may request a 30-day extension
- Notice will be published in the paper of record
- Electronic copy of the Proposed Plan will be available on the Former Fort Devens Environmental Cleanup Website
 - <https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/missions/projects-topics/former-fort-devens-environmental-cleanup/>
- Hard copy of the Proposed Plan will be available at the Ayer Library



2 | SHL PROPOSED PLAN

Public Meeting

- Public meeting to discuss the Proposed Plan and solicit/answer questions from the community
- Formal opportunity to provide verbal comments for the record
- Proposed venues
 - Ayer Town Hall Great Hall
 - MassDevelopment Conference Room
 - Hilton Garden Inn/Spring Hill Suites Conference Rooms
- Meeting format – Presentation with time for questions
 - Written questions/comments can also be submitted at the meeting

Meeting Advertising



Towns and Libraries



Local Newspapers



Social Media



RAB meetings



Email Distribution List



And you!



3 | EPA TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE



This presentation is being given by Skeo on behalf of EPA as information to the RAB members. The presentation provides details on EPA's Technical Assistance Services for Communities program and how it differs from a Technical Assistance Grant.



INTRODUCTION TO EPA'S TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES FOR COMMUNITIES (TASC) PROGRAM

EPA'S TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES FOR COMMUNITIES (TASC) PROGRAM

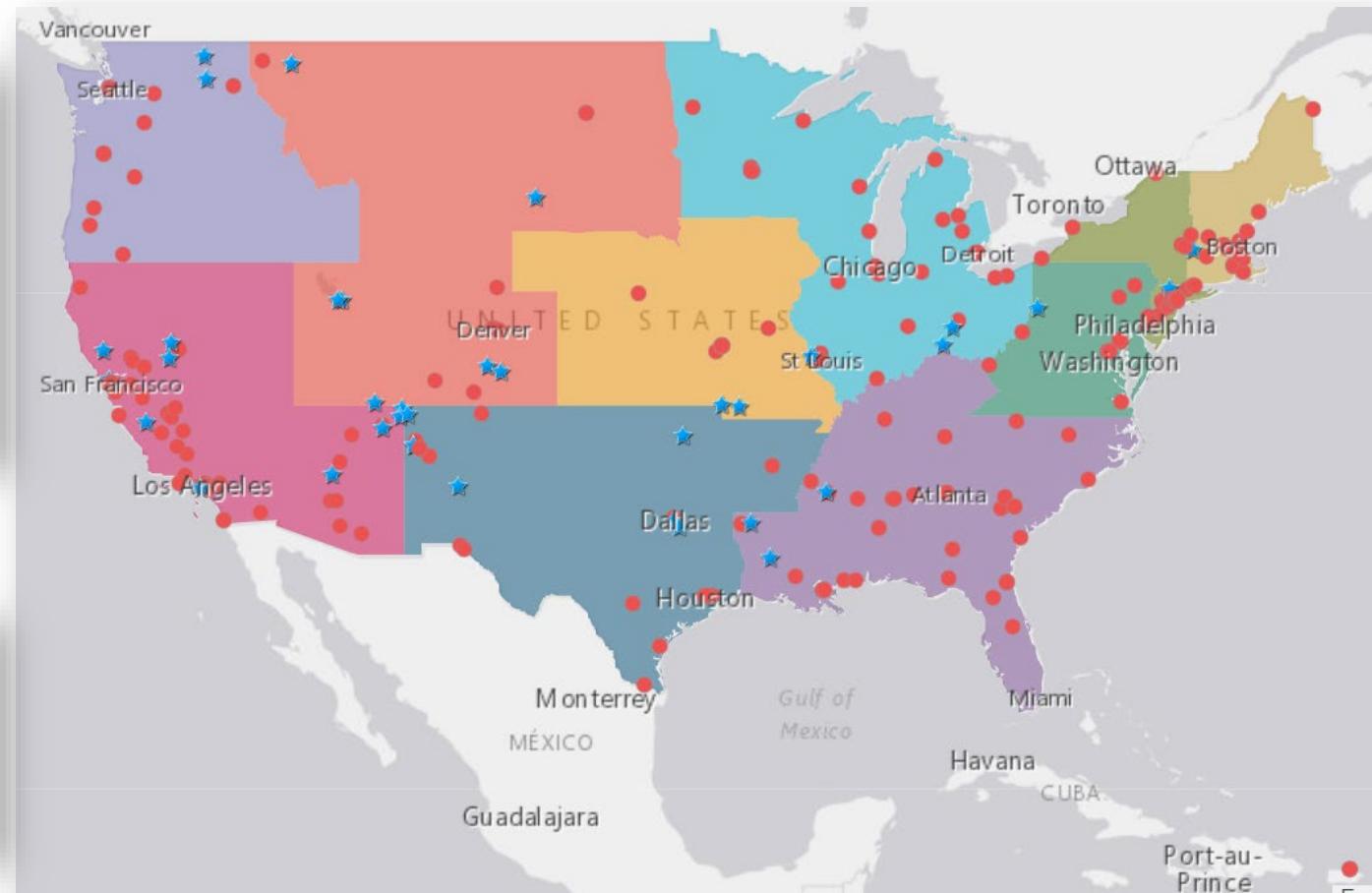
Program's Goal: Help communities understand complex environmental issues and ensure meaningful community involvement in environmental decision-making.



TASC does this by:

- Providing access to scientists, engineers and other professionals to review and explain information to communities
- Developing a range of informational materials to help communities understand complex environmental information

TASC provides *independent, non-advocacy* technical assistance.



The TASC program has supported more than 250 projects across the country since 2008.

WHAT TYPES OF SERVICES DOES TASC PROVIDE?

- **Reviews and explanations** of site technical documents and information
- **Summaries** of technical documents with comments
- **Technical advisor** services during community meetings
- Assistance understanding the environmental **decision-making process**
- Community **trainings, workshops and webinars**
- **Educational presentations**
- **Outreach and educational materials** for communities
- **Technical assistance needs assessments (TANAs)**
- **Language translations and interpretation**





Superfund

CONTACT US

[Superfund Home](#)

[Learn About Superfund](#)

Community Involvement

[Technical Assistance for
Communities](#)

[Community Involvement
Tools and Resources](#)

[Community Advisory Groups
\(CAGs\)](#)

[Citizen Excellence in
Community Involvement
Award](#)

[Training and Professional
Development](#)

[EPA Regional Superfund
Community Involvement
Contacts](#)

[Cleanup Support](#)

Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC) Program

On this page:

- [Overview](#)
- [Frequent Questions](#)
- [TASC in Communities](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

Related Pages

- [Community
Involvement Home](#)
- [Technical
Assistance for
Communities](#)

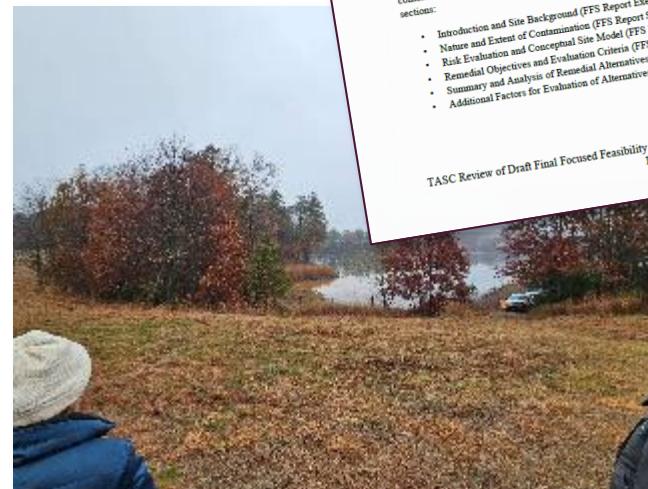
Overview

The national Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC) program provides independent assistance through an EPA contract to help communities better understand the science, regulations and policies of environmental issues and EPA actions. Under the TASC contract, a contractor provides scientists, engineers and other professionals to review and explain information to communities. The services are determined on a project-specific basis and provided at no cost to communities. This assistance supports community efforts to get more involved and work productively with EPA to address environmental issues.

[www.epa.gov/superfund/
technical-assistance-
services-communities-
tasc-program](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/technical-assistance-services-communities-tasc-program)

WHAT TASC SUPPORT HAS BEEN PROVIDED AT DEVENS SO FAR?

- Reviewed background documents
- Site tours and RAB meetings: Nov. 2023, May 2024
- Reviewed and provided comments on Shepley's Hill Landfill Focused Feasibility Study Report
- Attending RAB meetings to stay up to speed



Technical Assistance Services for Communities

**TASC Review of Draft Final Focused Feasibility Study Report, Shepley's Hill Landfill
Former Fort Devens Army Installation**

Contract No.: 08HERH21A0018
Call Order No.: 14.0.0 OSRTI – Regional & Headquarters TASC/CI Support
Technical Directive No.: RI 4.1.14 Fort Devens

Summary and Review of the Draft Final Focused Feasibility Study
Shepley's Hill Landfill (Area of Contamination 5), Former Fort Devens Army Installation, December 2023

Community members on the Fort Devens Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) requested assistance from EPA's Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC) program to help the community review the December 2023 Draft Final Focused Feasibility Study Report of Shepley's Hill Landfill (Area of Contamination 5) (FFS Report) for the Former Fort Devens Army Installation Superfund site.

This document is for community members to use as they develop comments to share with the Army. TASC does not make comments directly to the Army or to EPA on behalf of community members. EPA's TASC program funded this document. Its contents do not necessarily reflect the policies, actions or positions of EPA.

TASC's review provides a summary of the FFS Report and comments for community members' consideration. The review is divided into the following sections, which correspond to the FFS Report sections:

- Introduction and Site Background (FFS Report Executive Summary and Section 1).
- Nature and Extent of Contamination (FFS Report Section 2).
- Risk Evaluation and Conceptual Site Model (FFS Report Sections 3 and 4).
- Remedial Objectives and Evaluation Criteria (FFS Report Section 5).
- Summary and Analysis of Remedial Alternatives (FFS Report Section 6).
- Additional Factors for Evaluation of Alternatives (including impact on PFAS in groundwater)

TASC Review of Draft Final Focused Feasibility Study Report, Shepley's Hill Landfill



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NEEDS ASSESSMENTS

- Process to determine a community's technical assistance needs
- Conducted by EPA site team and/or Skeo
- Discussions with community members
- Produces a “road map” with a prioritized list of technical needs, and recommendations for ways to meet those needs
- Conducted at same time as Community Involvement Plan (CIP) or separately



**Technical Assistance Services
for Communities
Westside Lead**

Technical Assistance Needs Assessment

Contract No.: 68HERH21A0018
Call Order No.: 14.0.0 OSRTI – Regional & Headquarters TASC/CI Support
Technical Directive No.: TD R4 2.0.14 Westside Lead

Westside Lead Superfund Site
Technical Assistance Needs Assessment Report

Introduction
The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC) program led this Technical Assistance Needs Assessment (TANA) for the community near the Westside Lead Superfund site. Its purpose is to better understand the current technical assistance needs of the community related to the site's cleanup.

The recommendations in this TANA Report come from conversations with 13 community members and stakeholders in July and August 2022. People who participated in these conversations were asked a set of standard questions, including a series of questions focused on lead and lead awareness in the community. Once the TANA Report was drafted, TASC staff attended and presented at a community meeting on October 4, 2022, to discuss the TANA's findings and recommendations, and meeting attendees' priorities. This TANA Report also includes information, questions and comments shared during the community meeting. EPA's TASC program funded this report. Its contents do not necessarily reflect the policies, actions or positions of EPA.

Part 1: Site Background Information

In 2018, an Emory University doctoral student shared data with EPA showing elevated lead levels collected from soil samples in Atlanta's Westside neighborhoods. Additional research by EPA led to the discovery of industrial smelting waste (slag) on at least two lots near Elm Street. Sampling around the Elm Street area indicated lead levels above EPA's site-specific cleanup level of 400 milligrams per kilogram, also known as parts per million (ppm), were present at some, but not all, locations.

In March 2019, EPA began sampling in the area to determine the extent of the contamination and appropriate next steps to protect public health and the environment. EPA's original Study Area has since expanded several times. The current Study Area includes about 2,097 residential properties, north to Wheeler Street NW, west to Joseph E. Lowery Boulevard NW, south to Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive NW, and east to Northside Drive NW. The Study Area may be modified as new data becomes available. EPA began cleaning up properties with lead contamination in the soil in January 2020. As of August 2022, EPA has received 1,090 signed access authorization forms. Properties with lead levels above 400 ppm are being cleaned up.

PROVIDING TECHNICAL ADVISORS

- Technical advisors experienced with Superfund and other EPA cleanup programs
- Can attend community meetings
- Can review site documents and provide feedback in format requested by community
 - Fact sheet
 - Summary and technical comments
 - PowerPoint presentation
 - Discussion at meeting
 - Virtual office hours
 - Other formats?

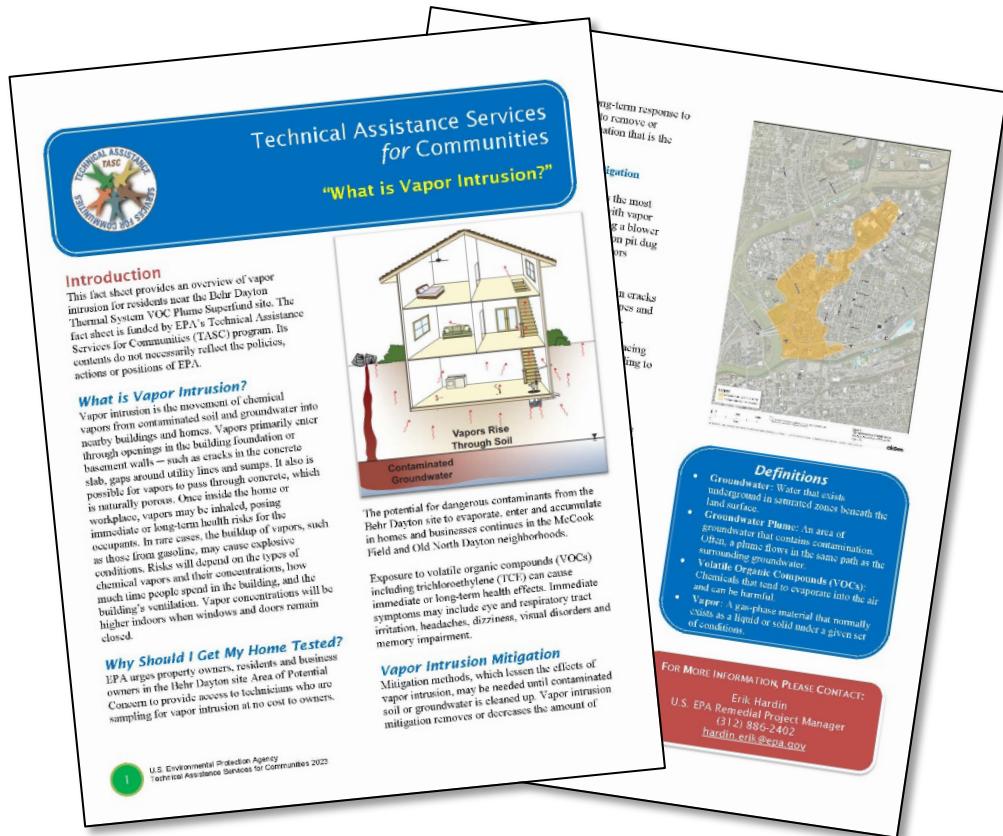


AREAS OF TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

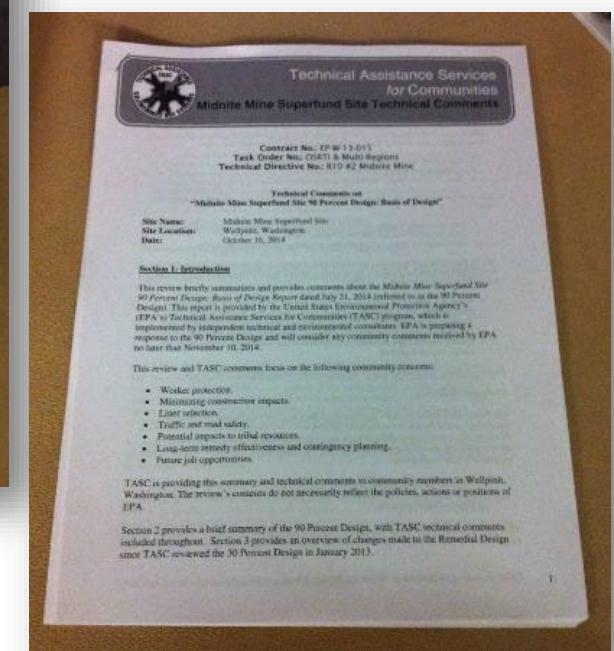
- Superfund cleanup process (removal and remedial)
- Risk assessment (human health and ecological)
- Contaminant fate and transport
- Various media: groundwater, soil, surface water, sediment, etc.
- Vapor intrusion
- Hydrogeology
- Geotechnical
- Any area of expertise needed by community
- Most importantly: communicating with the community



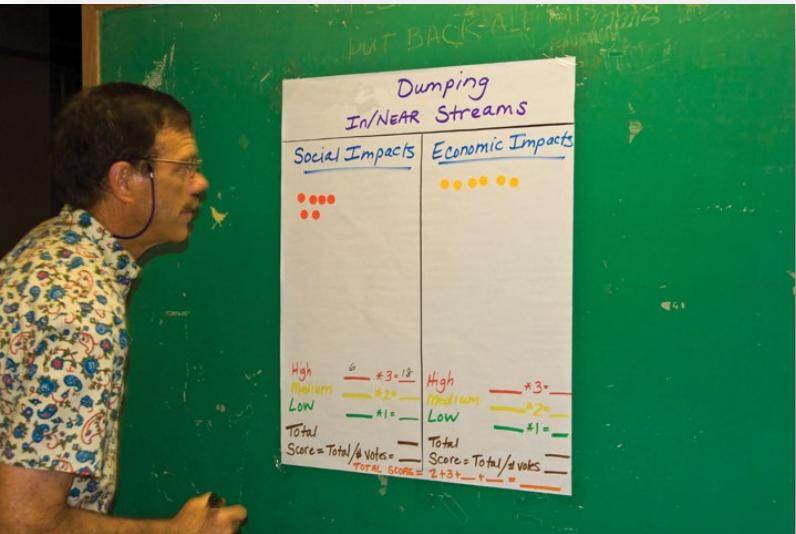
DOCUMENT REVIEWS AND FACT SHEETS



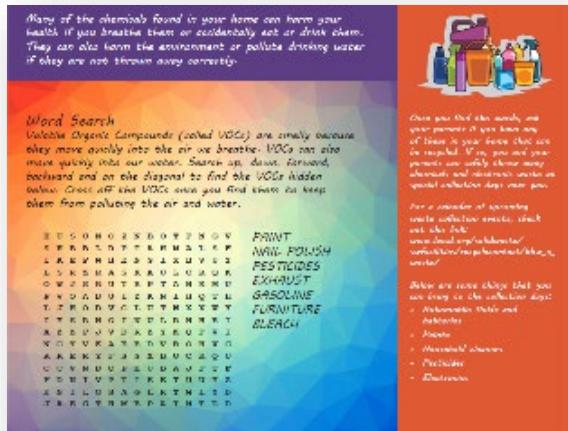
Before



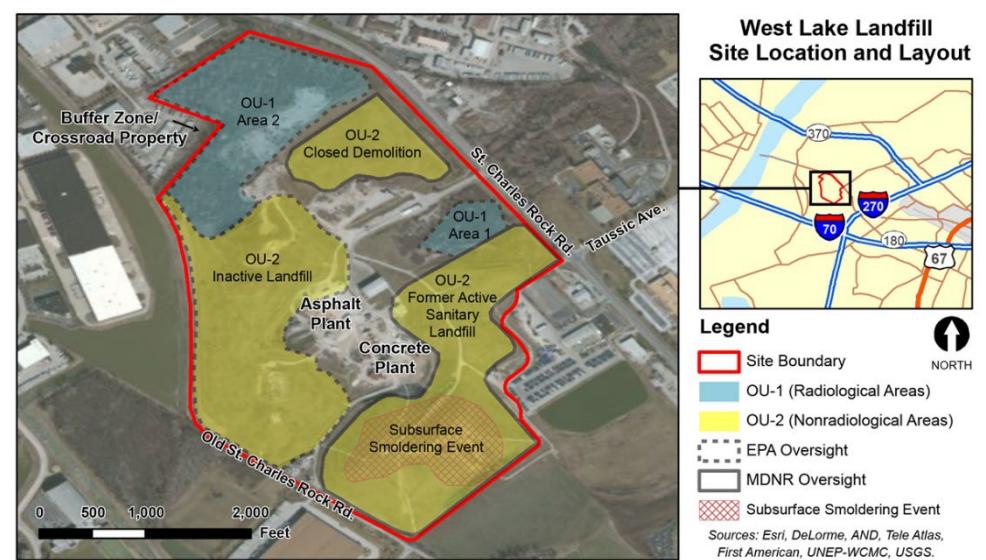
COMMUNITY TRAININGS AND WORKSHOPS



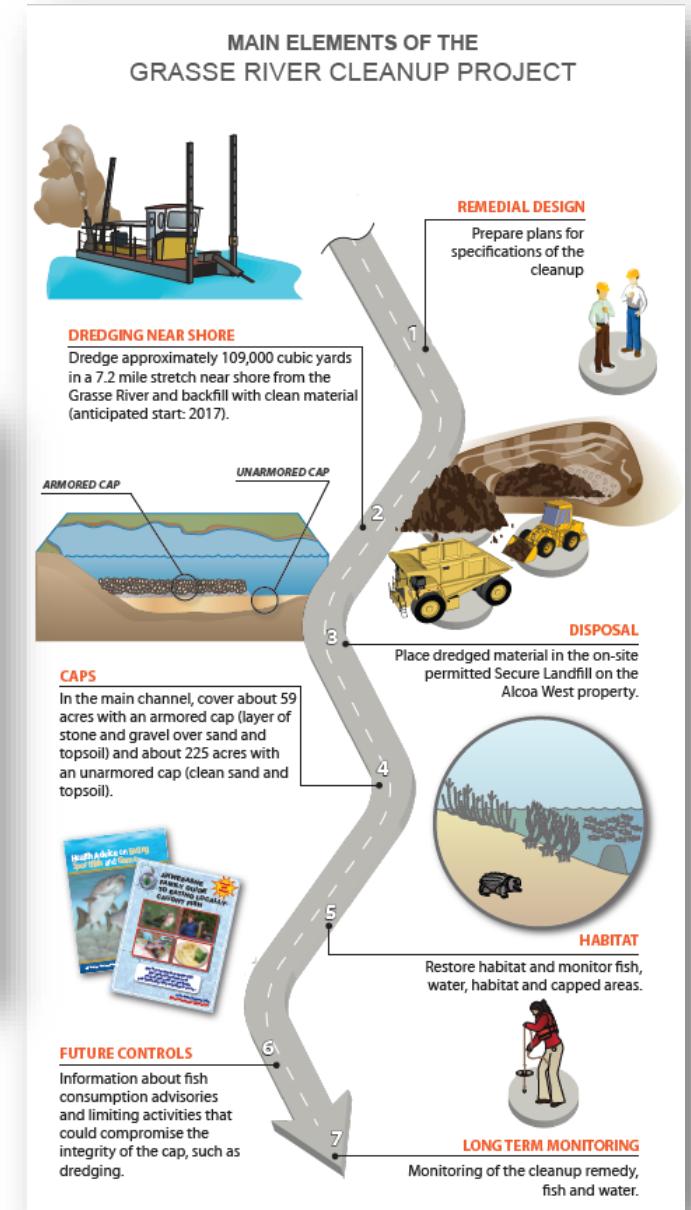
DEVELOPING OUTREACH MATERIALS



Children's activity booklets



Maps



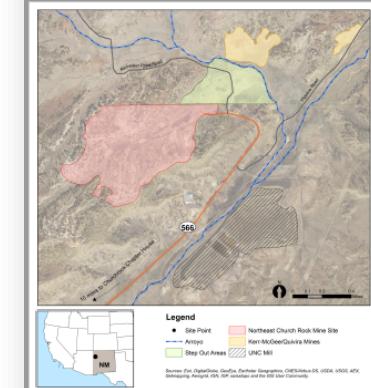
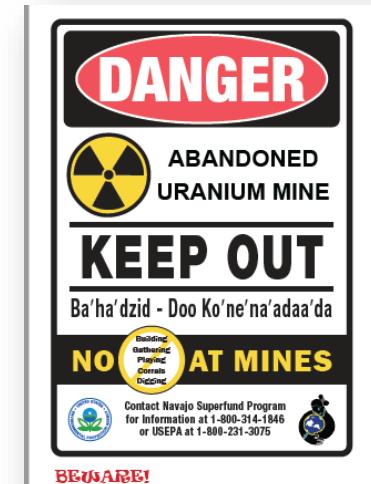
Posters

MORE OUTREACH MATERIALS



Infographics

Newsletters



Educational material

OTHER TASC SERVICES

- Community liaisons
- Document translation
- Simultaneous interpretation
- Community involvement plans (CIPs)



OVERVIEW OF HOW TASC WORKS



- Cost to community: \$0
- How does a community get TASC support?
 1. Community contacts EPA site team about needs
 2. EPA site team contacts EPA headquarters to determine if support can be provided
 3. If approved, Skeo assembles a team to provide support to community

HOW IS TASC DIFFERENT FROM A TAG?

TASC

- Goal is to reach as many community members as possible
- Cost to community: \$0
- TASC contractor selects appropriate technical advisor(s)
- Admin tasks handled by EPA and contractor

Technical Assistance Grant

- Grant goes to a specific group
- Group must contribute matching share
- Group hires their own technical advisor
- Group handles admin tasks

FOR MORE INFORMATION

EPA TASC webpage: <https://www.epa.gov/superfund/technical-assistance-services-communities-tasc-program>

EPA TASC contacts

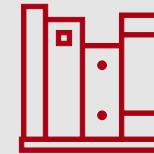
- EPA Regional TASC Coordinators: <https://www.epa.gov/superfund/technical-assistance-services-communities-tasc-program#regional>
- EPA Headquarters: Paige Gibbons, gibbons.paige@epa.gov

Skeo contacts

- TASC branch director: Tiffany Reed, treed@skeo.com



4 | COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & RAB UPDATE



Next fact sheet is underway, focused on the upcoming pilot studies at Moore Airfield



Project documents continued to be uploaded to project website. Project website link below



The next quarterly RAB meeting will be February 12, 2026 (virtual)

The Community Involvement Plan (CIP) and other information is available on the Fort Devens Environmental Cleanup website at:

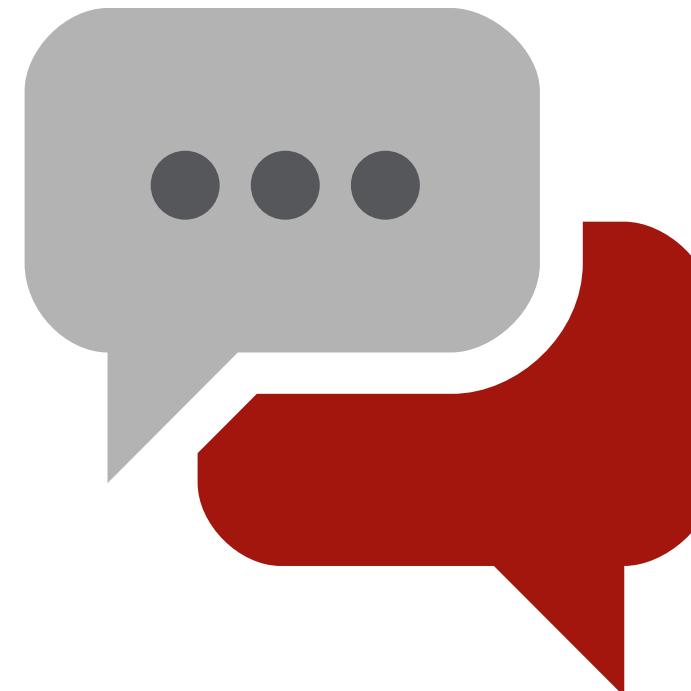
<https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/missions/projects-topics/former-fort-devens-environmental-cleanup/>

Digital Administrative Record (AR) link is now live, and documents are being uploaded. Initial documents are available at:

<https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Projects-Topics/Former-Fort-Devens-Environmental-Cleanup/Administrative-Record/>



4 | QUESTIONS & ANSWERS



**THANK YOU!
YOUR PARTICIPATION IS APPRECIATED!**

**NEXT RAB MEETING IS:
FEBRUARY 12, 2026 @ 6:30pm
(Second Thursday of the month)**

Please email us at FormerFortDevensRAB@arcadis.com if you would like to be included in our RAB mailing list and receive RAB meeting invitations and information.