

RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB) MEETING

Former Fort Devens Army Installation
August 19, 2021



US Army Corps
of Engineers®

8/19/2021



WELCOME!



2

- The call is being recorded to facilitate minutes.
- We have muted all lines to reduce background noise.
- Q&A will follow our presentation. However, during the meeting, you can also submit a question via the chat box and we will address it at the end.
- If you need to leave the call, click “Leave.”



Leave

CHAT
BOX

MUTE/
UNMUTE



WELCOME!



Thank you for joining us tonight.

Tom Lineer
Army BRAC Program Manager

Penny Reddy
Project Manager,
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,
New England District

Dan Groher
Environmental Engineer,
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,
New England District

ZaNetta Purnell
USEPA Region 1 Public Affairs Specialist,
Community Involvement Coordinator

Andy Vitolins, Julee Jaeger,
Sue Tauro, and Steven Perry
SERES-Arcadis JV Team



WELCOME!



Tonight's topics



**Community
Involvement**



**RAB
Discussion**



**Project
Updates**



**Upcoming
Work**



Q&A



**Next Steps
& Meeting**



1 | COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT



5

Implementing the Community Involvement Plan (CIP): Tasks achieved!



RAB fact sheet distributed; new fact sheets on important topics will be distributed quarterly.



Information repository opened for the public at the Ayer Library on July 1!

CIP is available on the Fort Devens Environmental Cleanup website at:
<https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/missions/projects-topics/former-fort-devens-environmental-cleanup/>



RAB meeting posters and fact sheets distributed to town halls and libraries for posting.



Website enhancements being finalized with mechanism for continued community input.



Draft MEC outreach plan to agencies for review; certain outreach elements already complete.



1 | COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT



Implementing the Community Involvement Plan (CIP): What's planned?



Project updates to mailing list will start in fall 2021 to keep RAB members updated in between RAB meetings.



Information repository at Ayer Library will continue to be updated.

CIP is available on the Fort Devens Environmental Cleanup website at:

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



RAB meetings will continue to be virtual. We can change to the second Thursday of the month in 2022. We hope to start in-person meetings & open houses post-Covid.



Website will continue to be enhanced and updated with new documents, content, and options.



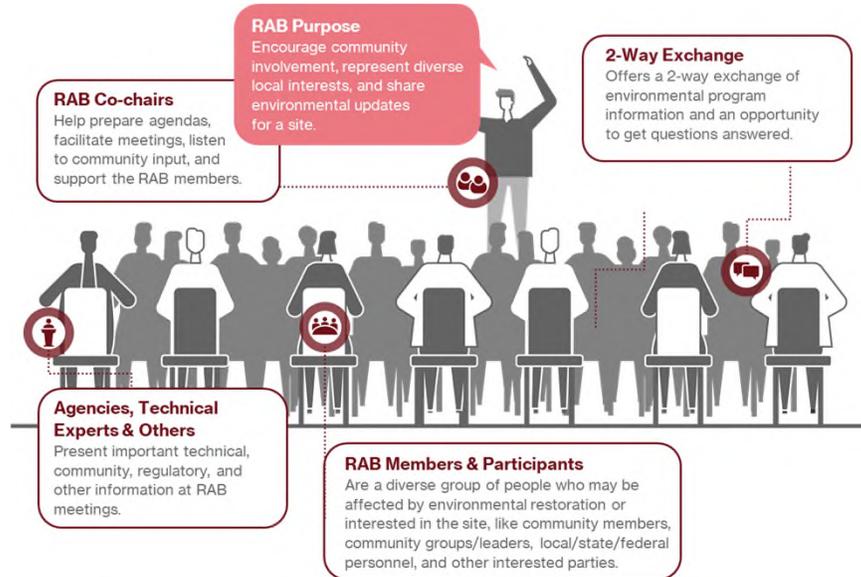
More elements of the draft MEC outreach plan will be implemented after agency review; final plan will be an addendum to the Devens CIP.



2 | RAB DISCUSSION



What are the different roles in a RAB?





2 | RAB DISCUSSION

8



What's involved in becoming a RAB board member?

Time Commitment

Have the time available to attend regular RAB meetings, help with future special meetings/events, and serve as a conduit for exchange of information.

Conduit for Exchange of Information

Ask questions and provide input in an open and constructive manner; communicate community concerns to the RAB/communicate RAB info/issues back to the community; review/comment on publicly available materials for the project.

RAB Interest Form

Complete/submit the Devens RAB interest form (on next slide).

8/19/2021



2 | RAB DISCUSSION



What is the RAB Interest Form?

Former Fort Devens Army Installation RAB Interest Form for Community Members

We are seeking several people to serve as community members of the Former Fort Devens Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) for a 2-year term (2022 – 2023). No technical expertise is required to serve as a community member on the RAB, but members should want to participate collaboratively and facilitate communication between the RAB and the local communities of Ayer, Harvard, Lancaster, and Shirley. Completed forms will be reviewed by current RAB members and Army / U.S. Army Corps of Engineers personnel. All candidates who submit a completed interest form will be notified about next steps. The deadline to be considered for membership for the 2022-2023 term is November 1, 2021.

For more information please read our community factheet about the RAB (link)
https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Portals/74/local/Topics/FortDevens/Documents/FactSheets/Fort_Devens-RAB-FactSheet_Final_June-2021.pdf

1. Your Name *

2. Your Address *

3. Your Phone *

4. Your Email Address *

RAB Interest Form
 Access the Devens RAB interest form at: [Former Fort Devens Army Installation RAB Interest Form \(office.com\)](#) or email us and we can send you a PDF. **Forms are due Nov 1!**

More Info about RABs
 EPA's RAB Guidelines: <https://www.epa.gov/fedfac/restoration-advisory-board-rab-implementation-guidelines>
 RAB Handbook: [https://www.cannon.af.mil/Portals/85/documents/RAB%20Rule%20Handbook%20\(Mar07\).pdf](https://www.cannon.af.mil/Portals/85/documents/RAB%20Rule%20Handbook%20(Mar07).pdf)

Questions or Comments?
 Please email: FormerFortDevensRAB@arcadis.com
 Or visit: <https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/missions/projects-topics/former-fort-devens-environmental-cleanup/>



3 | PROJECT UPDATES



Shepley's Hill Landfill (SHL): 2015 & 2020 Five-Year Review Additional Requirements

Protectiveness of the current remedy is being confirmed through technical evaluations requested by the USEPA.

Phase I – Evaluate Existing System Performance

- **Status:** Ongoing. Four of five required technical memos were submitted to USEPA/MassDEP. Memo #5 to be submitted Aug 2021.

Phase II – Evaluate Remedy Performance

- **Status:** Ongoing. Work plans are under development and will be submitted to USEPA/MassDEP fall 2021.

Phase III – Update/Document Remedy

- **Status:** FFS process will start fall 2021; will be completed after preceding phases are complete.





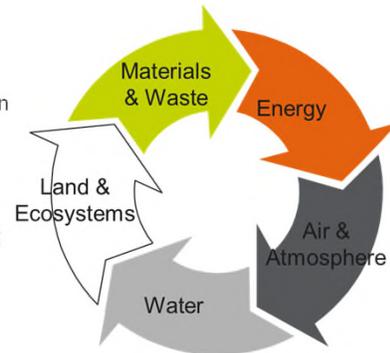
3 | PROJECT UPDATES

11



Shepley's Hill Landfill (SHL): Current Remedy Review

- ✓ Analyses conducted as part of Five-Year Review Additional Requirements indicate that continued operation of the groundwater extraction and treatment system will not result in groundwater reaching arsenic cleanup goals, as evidenced by:
 - 15 years of continuous operation with capture of more than 85% overburden groundwater flow and more than 95% of arsenic mass flux.
 - Arsenic concentrations in groundwater downgradient of the groundwater extraction and treatment system still orders of magnitude higher than cleanup goals.
- ✓ Data from extraction wells shows that influent concentrations are not decreasing; this is indicative of an ongoing source (regardless of whether geogenic or anthropogenic).
- ✓ Current remedy is energy-intensive, requires the use of hazardous chemicals in the treatment process, and results in the land disposal of arsenic waste:
 - Chemicals: Chlorine gas, sodium hypochlorite, citric acid, sulfuric acid
 - Landfilled Waste: Currently ~190 tons/year (~3,600 tons to date)
 - Current Carbon Footprint: ~462,000 lbs. CO₂/year (~7 million lbs. CO₂ generated to date) (equivalent to more than 360,000 gallons of gasoline)



**Green Remediation Elements
identified by USEPA**

8/19/2021



3 | PROJECT UPDATES



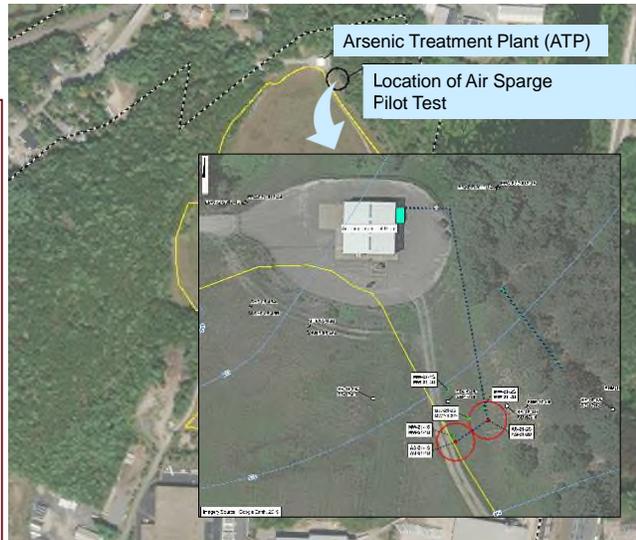
Shepley's Hill Landfill (SHL): Evaluation of the Current Remedy/ Air Sparge Pilot Test

Purpose: Support the FFS to be conducted as part of Phase III of the SHL remedy review by testing a different remedial technology.

Scope: Conduct an air sparging pilot test to evaluate the effectiveness for arsenic treatment in groundwater. Inject air into the groundwater (through wells) to change the groundwater geochemistry so that arsenic will precipitate out of the groundwater.

Status:

- Well drilling and development completed Aug 6, 2021.
- System installation and baseline sampling occur in Aug/Sept 2021.
- System operation will occur Sept-Dec 2021.





3 | PROJECT UPDATES



Shepley's Hill Landfill (SHL): Arsenic Treatment Plant (ATP) Optimization

Scope: Optimization of the existing ATP is ongoing and will continue while the remedy evaluation is performed.

Pilot testing of potential enhancements to the ATP treatment systems will be conducted.

Schedule:

- Pilot testing started Aug/Sept 2021, with optimization of the ATP to follow in winter 2021/22.



Exterior Views of the ATP





3 | PROJECT UPDATES



2020 Five-Year Review: Additional Requirements

Scope: Confirm the Army Protectiveness Statement in the 2020 Five-Year Review Report by assessing the short- and long-term protectiveness of the ongoing remedial actions at select sites by performing the following tasks:

- Prepare Land Use Control Implementation Plans (LUCIPs) for AOCs 44/52, 43G, 69W, and 57.
- Performed risk screening at Devens Consolidation Landfill (DCL) Contributor Sites (SA 13, AOC 9, and AOC 40).
- Conduct supplemental investigations at AOCs 43G, 57, and 69W to evaluate current, post-remediation conditions.
- Remove debris from AOCs 57 and 50.

Status: Work plans are in development and will be submitted to USEPA/MassDEP in fall 2021. Debris removal is anticipated for Nov 2021.





4 | UPCOMING WORK

15



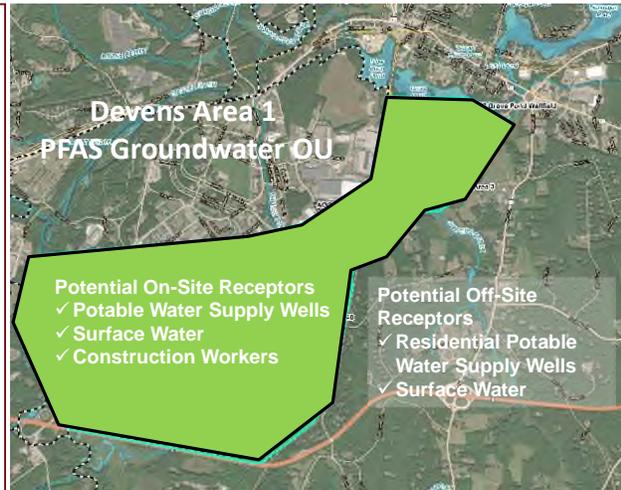
Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Remedial Investigations (RIs)

Approach: Supplemental (Phase 2) RIs for PFAS to evaluate migration pathways, potential receptors, and extent of contamination in groundwater. Separate work plans for Areas 1, 2, and 3.

Focus: Use groundwater Operable Unit (OU) approach to evaluate potential groundwater exposure pathways.

- Conceptual site model for migration and exposure pathways (on-site and off-site).
- Field work includes drilling and sampling of overburden and bedrock groundwater monitoring wells where needed to evaluate exposure.
- Human health risk evaluation.

Status: Draft Phase 2 Area 1 Work Plan in development and will be submitted to USEPA/MassDEP in Oct 2021. Work plans for Phase 2 Areas 2 and 3 will follow after approval of Phase 2 Area 1 Work Plan.



8/19/2021



4 | UPCOMING WORK

16



The Look Ahead for Anticipated Technical Work

Fall 2021

- SHL Remedy Evaluation (Data Evaluations, Pilot Studies, FFS)
- Draft Area 1 Phase 2 PFAS RI Work Plan Submission
- Debris Area Removals
- AOCs 43G/57/69W Supplemental RI Work Plans
- DCL Contributor Sites Human Health Risk Screening
- Long-Term Monitoring Program Fall Sampling & LUCs Inspection

Winter 2021-2022

- SHL Remedy Evaluation (Pilot Studies, FFS)
- Potential Upgrades to Optimize SHL ATP
- Area 1 Phase 2 PFAS RI Field Work Planning
- Draft Area 2 Phase 2 PFAS RI Work Plan Submission
- AOCs 43G/57/69W Supplemental RI Field Work Planning

8/19/2021



5 | QUESTIONS & ANSWERS





6 | NEXT STEPS & MEETING

18



Community Involvement & RAB

Action Item 1

Ask for volunteers to help with next steps in RAB membership and activities – please submit form by Nov 1, 2021

Action Item 2

Start to distribute project updates via email in fall 2021, including communication about MEC outreach

Action Item 3

Continue to update the hard-copy repository at Ayer Library and electronic repository on the website

Action Item 4

Continue enhancements to the website to make it easier to find information

8/19/2021



THANK YOU!
YOUR PARTICIPATION IS APPRECIATED!

NEXT RAB MEETING IS:
NOVEMBER 18, 2021

FIRST 2022 RAB MEETING:
FEBRUARY 10, 2022

8/19/2021