

RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB) MEETING

Former Fort Devens Army Installation
May 11, 2023



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US Army Corps
of Engineers®

New England District



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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 at any time during the meeting and speakers will respond as time allows.
- If you need to leave the call, click “Leave.”



**CHAT
BOX**



**MUTE/
UNMUTE**



Leave



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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)

Mike Kulbersh
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
(USACE) New England District

Pete Phillips
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
(USACE) Baltimore District

Andy Vitolins, Steven Perry,
and Amy Henschke
SERES-Arcadis JV Team

Regulatory and Other Board Members:

Carol Keating
Michael Daly
Shawn Lowry
U.S. Environmental Protection
Agency (USEPA) Region 1

ZaNetta Purnell
USEPA Public Affairs Specialist

Joanne Dearden
Massachusetts Department of
Environmental Protection
(MassDEP)

Community Board Members:

Julie Corenzwit
Amy McCoy
Dave McCoy
Chris Mitchell
Laurie Nehring: Co-Chair
Alix Turner: Co-Chair



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WELCOME!



Tonight's topics

1

**Project
Updates &
Upcoming Work**

2

**Nashua River
Military Munitions
Update**

3

**Questions
& Answers**

4

**Community
Involvement
& RAB Update**

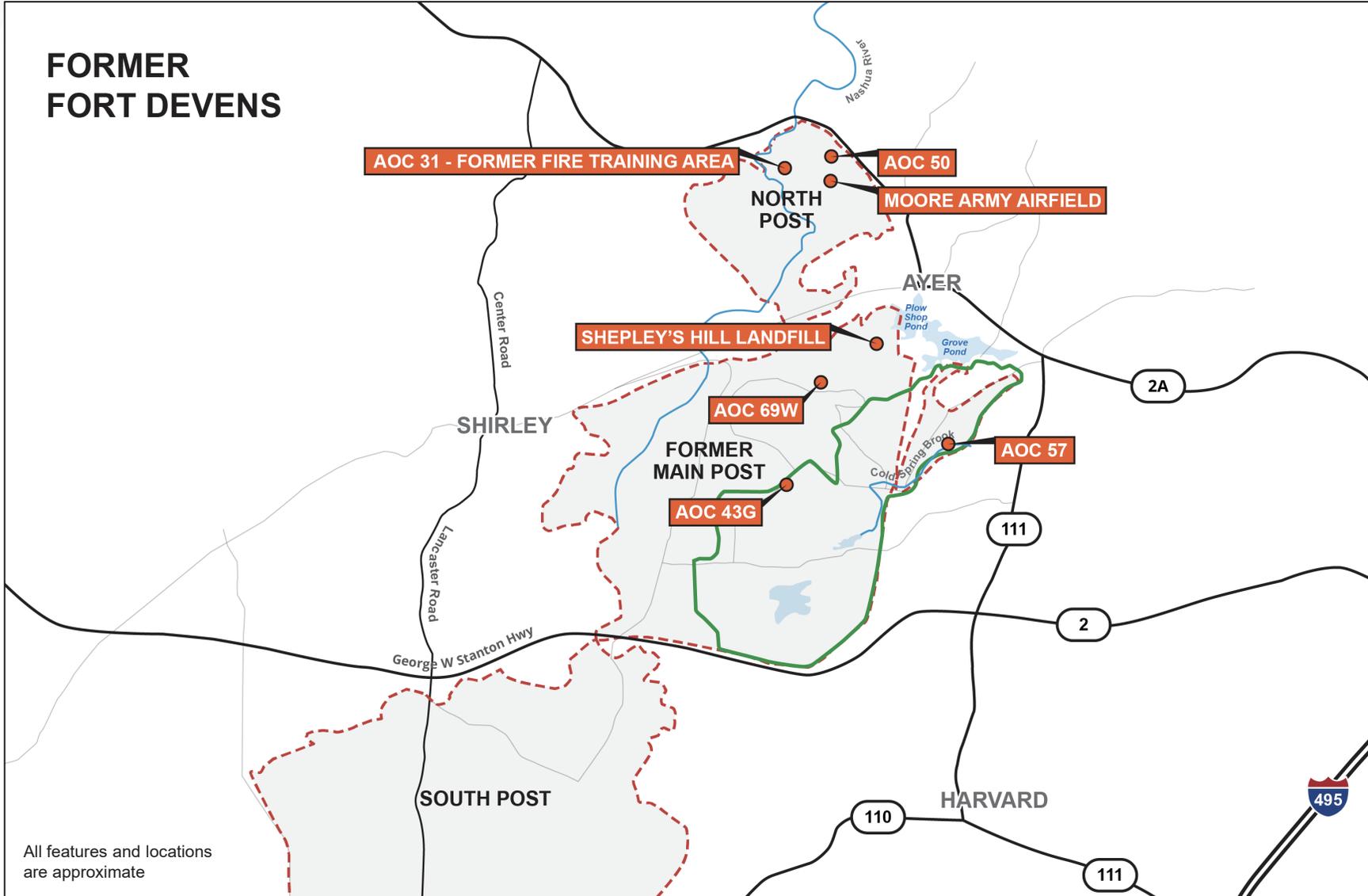
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**Next
Meeting**



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1 | PROJECT UPDATES & UPCOMING WORK



- Discussion Areas
- ▭ PFAS Area 1
- - - Former Fort Devens Boundary



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1 | PROJECT UPDATES & UPCOMING WORK



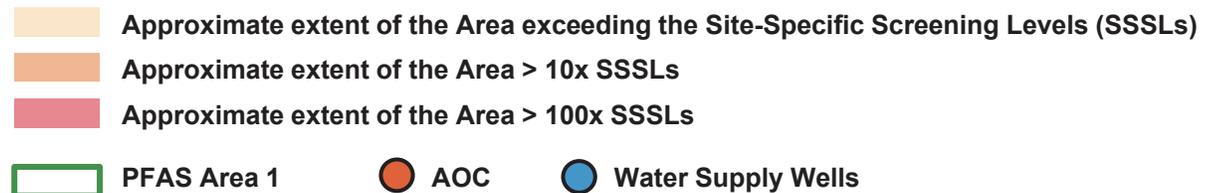
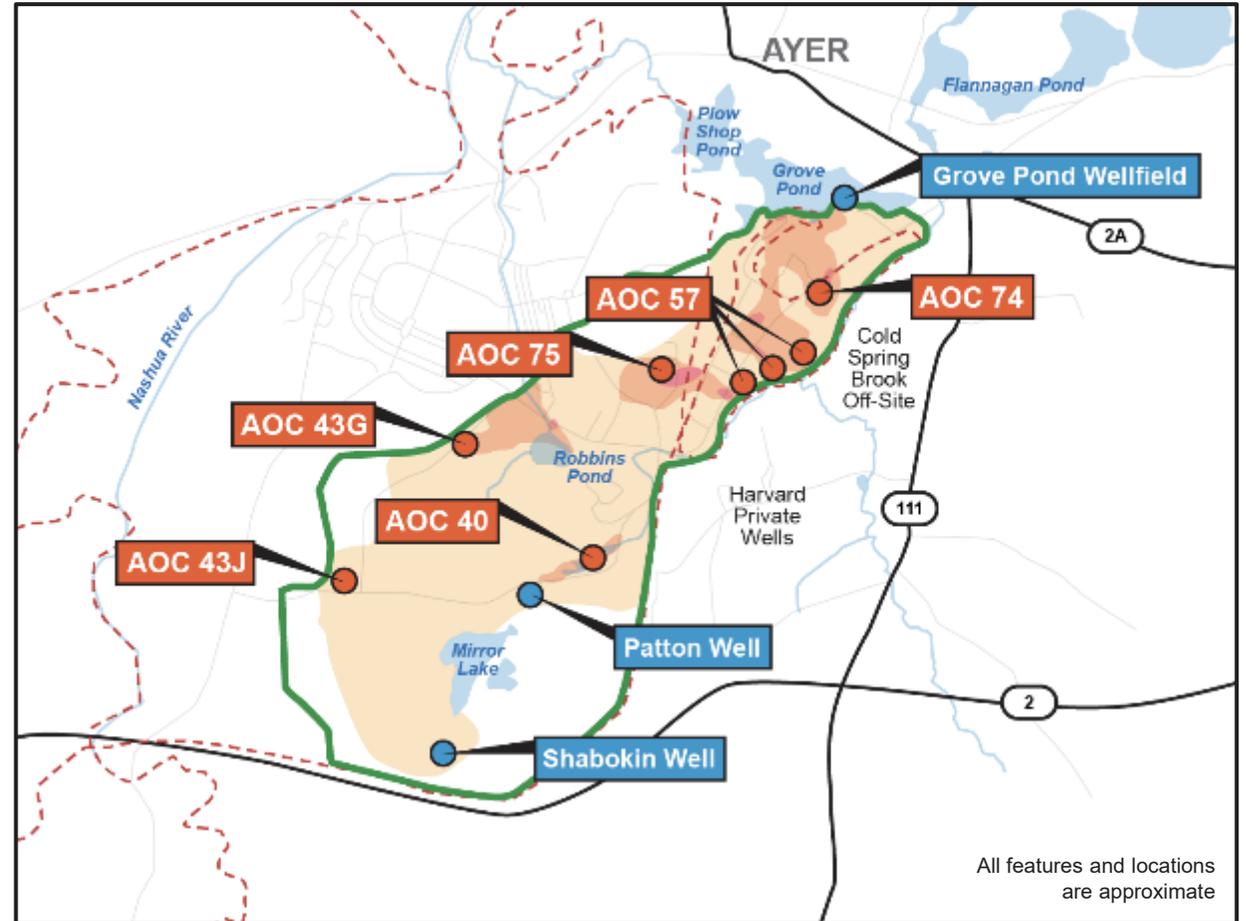
Area 1 Phase 2 PFAS RI Update

Current Concerns

- Horizontal and vertical extent of PFAS in soil and groundwater (overburden and bedrock)
- Sources of PFAS in drinking water supply wells at former Fort Devens (Grove Pond, Patton, and Shabokin wells)
- Potential PFAS discharge to surface water bodies
- Potential PFAS in private wells in Harvard
- Potential for PFAS migration beyond surface water bodies (Cold Spring Brook, Grove Pond)
- Risks to human health and the environment from PFAS presence in environmental media

Updates

- Draft Final Work Plan with RTC submitted to USEPA and MassDEP in April 2023



All features and locations are approximate



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1 | PROJECT UPDATES & UPCOMING WORK

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Former Moore Army Airfield Update

Current Concerns

- PFAS in soil and groundwater at AOC 31 - Former Fire Training Area (FFTA)
- PFAS discharge to surface water (Nashua River)
- Perchloroethylene (PCE) in groundwater; plume reduced through remediation since 2004.

FFTA Pre-RI Data Collection and Treatability Study

Objectives: Collect additional data to support bench-scale treatability studies for FFTA soil.

Tasks: Collect soil and groundwater samples to evaluate PFAS concentrations with depth; conduct bench-scale treatability study of potential in-situ remedial technologies for soil.

Updates: Laboratory treatability study is ongoing.

Next Steps: Lysimeter installation and data evaluation.





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1 | PROJECT UPDATES & UPCOMING WORK

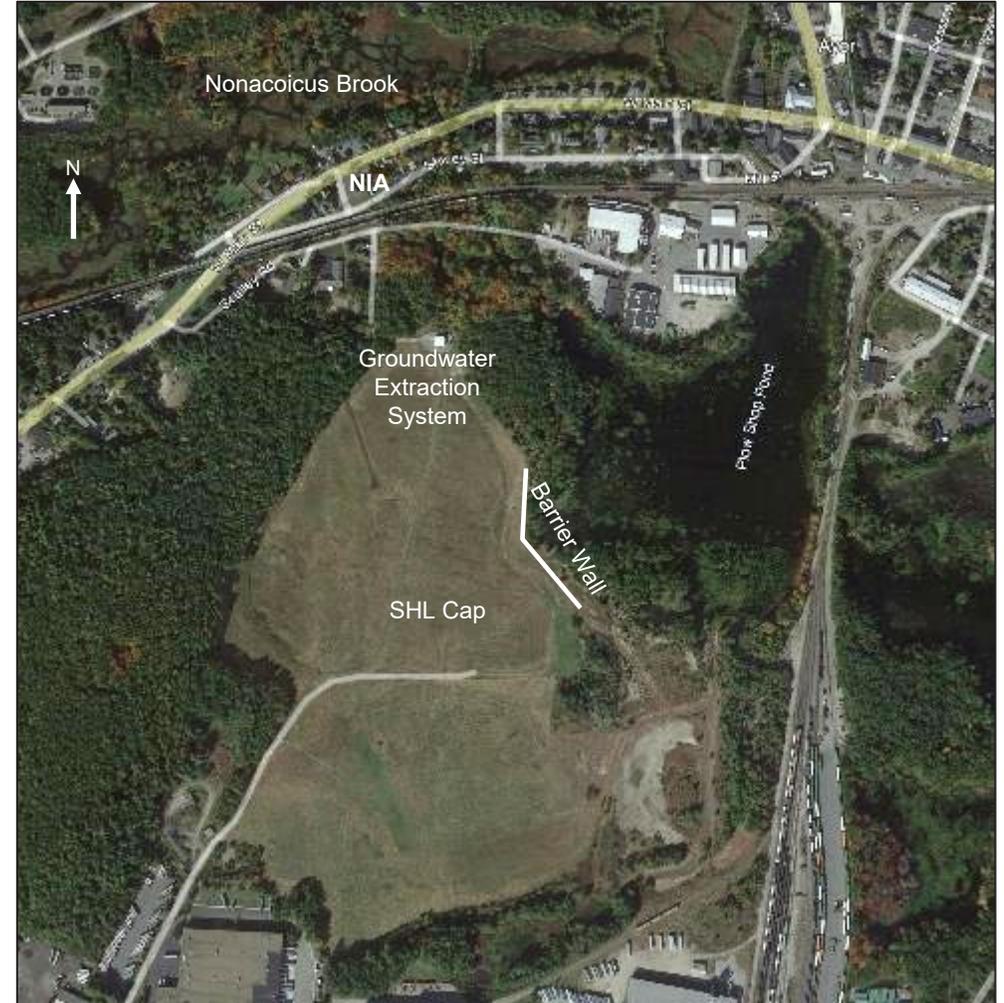
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Shepley's Hill Landfill Update

Current Concerns

- Ability of existing groundwater extraction system to meet cleanup goals
- Safety and reliability of existing aboveground groundwater treatment system (aka, ATP)





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1 | PROJECT UPDATES & UPCOMING WORK



Shepley's Hill Landfill Update

(continued)

Groundwater Remedy Evaluation

Objective: Evaluate alternatives to existing groundwater extraction system.

Tasks: Focused Feasibility Study (per USEPA 2016 SHL SOW Phase 3).

Updates: Draft Focused Feasibility Study submitted March 2023; 3rd Extraction Well Installation and Pilot Testing summer/fall 2023.

Improve Performance of Existing Groundwater Extraction System

Objectives: Optimize the aboveground treatment process; pilot test of improved groundwater capture with 3rd extraction well.

Tasks: Replace oxidant with permanganate (currently chlorine).

Updates: System upgrades in summer 2023.



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1 | PROJECT UPDATES & UPCOMING WORK

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Shepley's Hill Landfill Update

(continued)

Plow Shop Pond Barrier Wall Evaluation

Objective: Confirm that the barrier wall is preventing groundwater discharge containing arsenic to Plow Shop Pond.

Tasks: Conduct field investigation in accordance with Work Plan approved in April 2022.

Updates: Field work to be conducted summer/fall 2023.

Long-Term Monitoring

Objective/Tasks: Groundwater sampling performed semi-annually to evaluate remedy performance.

Updates: Draft 2022 Annual Report on data collected spring and fall 2022 was submitted May 2023; spring 2023 sampling scheduled for June 2023.



Former Main Post Update

Supplemental Post-ROD RIs for AOCs 69W, 57, and 43G

Current Concern: Is current groundwater remedy still effective / protective?

Objective: Evaluate fate and transport of remaining contaminants.

Tasks: Temporary and permanent groundwater monitoring well installation, groundwater sampling, groundwater flow evaluation.

Updates: Draft Final Work Plans for all three sites submitted to USEPA and MassDEP. Field work anticipated start in summer 2023.

LUCIPs for AOCs 44/52, AOC 69W, AOC 57, and SA 71

Current Concern: ROD-specified land use controls have been implemented but are not memorialized in CERCLA documents.

Objective: Memorialize requirements for implementing, monitoring, and enforcing ROD-specified land use controls.

Tasks: Prepare LUCIPs for MassDEP and USEPA approval.

Updates: Draft Final AOC 69W LUCIP submitted April 2023. Draft Final LUCIPs for AOCs 44/52, AOC 57, and SA 71 will be submitted to USEPA/MassDEP in June 2023 upon USEPA acceptance of AOC 69W LUCIP.



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Final Documents Posted Since Last RAB Meeting

- None.

Draft Documents Since Last RAB Meeting

- Draft Focused Feasibility Study – Shepley’s Hill Landfill Groundwater Remedy
- Draft 2022 Annual Monitoring Reports – Main Post, SHL, MAAF (AOC 50)

Response to Comments / Revised Documents Since Last RAB Meeting

- Draft Final Area 1 Phase 2 PFAS RI Work Plan (with RTC)
- Draft Final AOC 69W Post-ROD Supplemental Remedial Investigation Work Plan (with RTC)
- Revised Draft Final AOC 69W LUCIP (with RTC)



Nashua River Military Munitions Updates

Geophysical Investigation

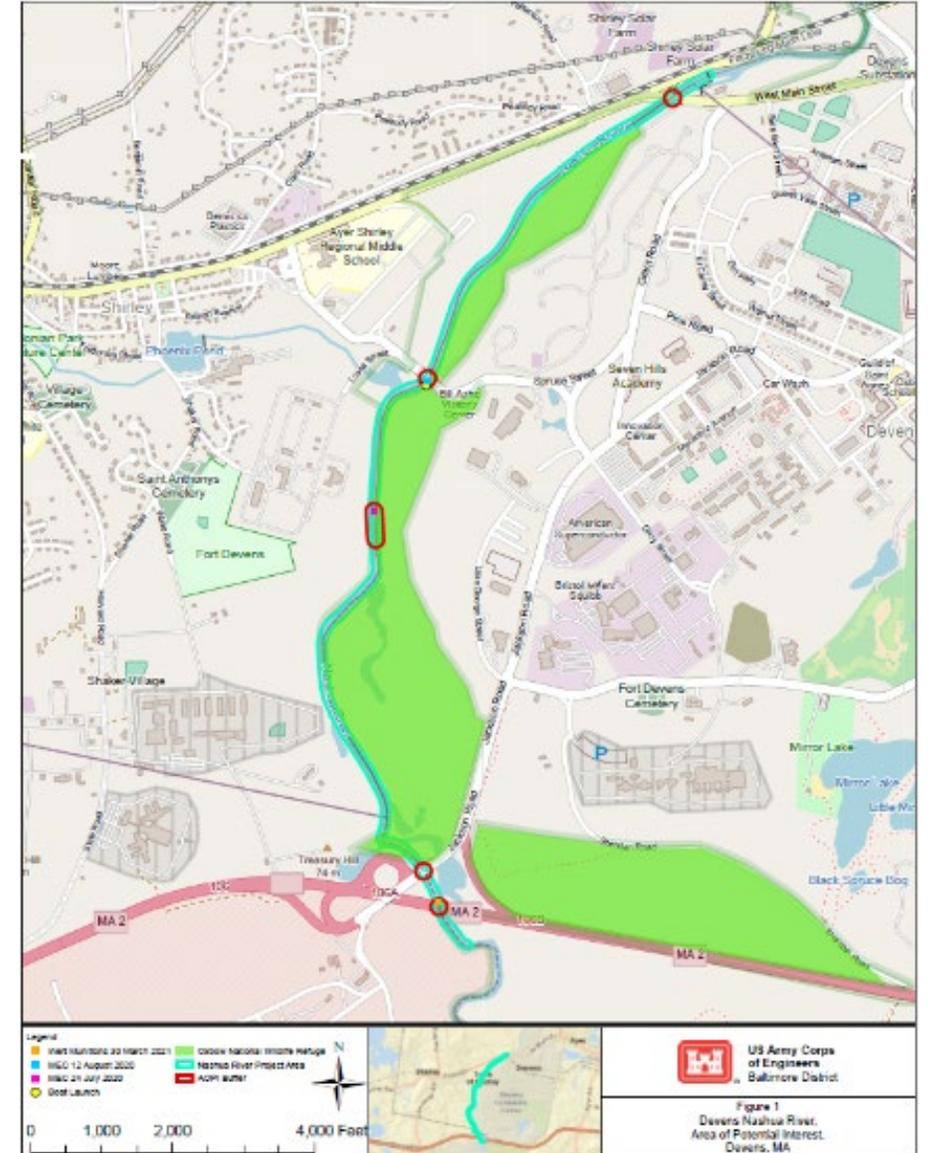
- Side-scan sonar (SSS)/bathymetry survey operations commenced in March 2023 followed by quality control seeding in April 2023; additional SSS performed in April 2023 to prepare for underwater digital geophysical mapping (DGM)

Anomaly Avoidance Activities

- Planned to support next Nashua River Watershed Association (NRWA) volunteer event in summer 2023

Underwater Intrusive Investigation

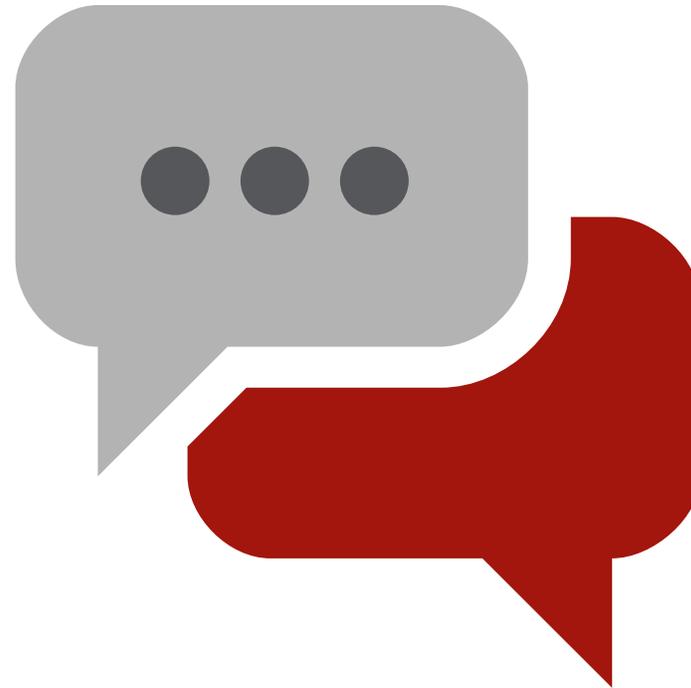
- Investigation of underwater anomalies to begin following approval of anomaly list resulting from geophysical investigation





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3 | QUESTIONS & ANSWERS





4 | COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & RAB



Community Update factsheet will be distributed soon



Digital Administrative Record (AR) continues to be populated with project documents



Military munitions annual notifications will be sent out soon and sign was replaced at Harvard boat launch



The next quarterly RAB meeting will be August 10, 2023

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 AR link is now live and initial documents are available at:

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



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THANK YOU!
YOUR PARTICIPATION IS APPRECIATED!

NEXT RAB MEETING IS:
AUGUST 10, 2023

(Second Thursday of the month)