



RAB MEETING MINUTES

Date/Time: Thursday, February 10, 2022, 6:30 p.m. to 8:15 p.m.

Location: Virtual meeting via Zoom

Attendees: Thomas Linear, Steve Cardon (U.S. Army)
Penny Reddy, Daniel Groher (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers [USACE])
Carol Keating, ZaNetta Purnell, **Anni Loughlin, Robert Ford** (United States Environmental Protection Agency [USEPA])
David Chaffin, Diane Baxter, Mary Jude Pigsley (Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection [MassDEP])
Roy Herzig (Massachusetts Development Finance Agency [MassDevelopment])
Libby Levison, Chris Mitchell (Harvard Board of Health)
Laurie Nehring, Julie Corenzwit, Richard Doherty, **Zachary Gavel** (People of Ayer Concerned about the Environment [PACE])
Martha Morgan (Nashua River Watershed Association)
John Kastrinos (Haley & Aldrich)
Andy Vitolins, Steven Perry, Julee Jaeger, Heather Levesque, **Mike Morris**, Whitney Plasket, Sue Tauro, Brian Therriault (SERES-Arcadis 8(a) Joint Venture 2, LLC [S-A JV])
Alix Turner, David McCoy, Amy McCoy, Stuart Hughes, Dale Levandier, Jonathan Cozzens, and other attendees participating by phone or otherwise unidentified (citizens and guests)

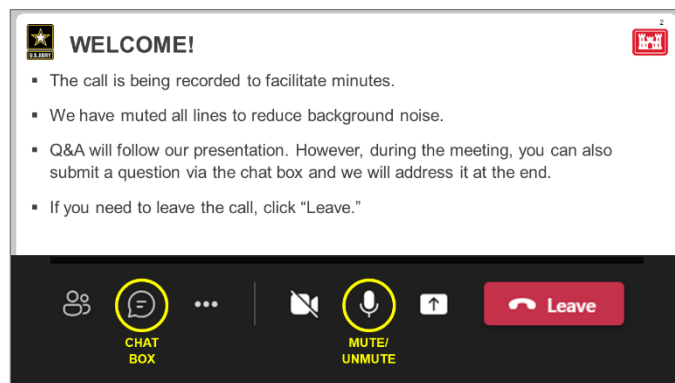
Slides: RAB meeting slides are available on the project website at:
<https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/missions/projects-topics/former-fort-devens-environmental-cleanup/>.

Please Note: Discussions described in these minutes have been paraphrased as needed for clarity. The invitation for this meeting is provided for reference at the end of these meeting minutes.

WELCOME & OPENING COMMENTS



Steven Perry (Community Involvement Specialist/S-A JV) opened the meeting and welcomed the attendees to the meeting.



Steven Perry indicated that the meeting was being recorded to generate minutes, which will be available after the meeting. He also noted that everyone on the distribution list should have received a copy of the slides in the morning. Attendees were then notified that there would be an opportunity after the presentations for questions and discussions. Also, participants were encouraged to add comments and questions in the chat box.



WELCOME!

Thank you for joining us tonight.

Thomas Lineer US Army HQDA/ODCS G-9 New Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Environmental Coordinator (BEC)	New Board Members: Julie Corenzwit Amy McCoy Dave McCoy Chris Mitchell Laurie Nehring Alix Turner
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Penny Reddy and Dan Groher
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers -
New England District

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

Steven Perry acknowledged that Bob Simeone, who was a public servant for many years and had 17 years of service at the Army Installation as the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Environmental Coordinator, has retired. Tom Lineer (U.S. Army) has stepped into the role of Environmental Coordinator. Tom Lineer commented that not only is he the replacement for Bob, but he is also the BRAC Program Manager. Fort Devens is one of 15 sites that he is managing around the country. He expressed that he is looking forward to working with everyone. Steven Perry introduced the project representatives and presenters for the evening: Tom Lineer (U.S. Army), Penny Reddy (USACE New England District Project Manager), Dan Groher (USACE New England District Environmental Engineer), Steven Perry (S-A JV Community Involvement

Specialist), Andy Vitolins (S-A JV Project Manager), Sue Tauro (S-A JV Community Outreach Manager), and Julee Jaeger (S-A JV Meeting Coordinator). He also announced the new Restoration Advisory Board (RAB). These members are volunteers who have stepped up to play a larger role in the project, and some of them have served as RAB members in the past.

WELCOME!

Tonight's topics

- 1 Community Involvement
- 2 RAB Board Members
- 3 Project Updates & Upcoming Work
- 4 Q&A
- 5 Next Steps & Meeting

Steven Perry summarized the topics to be covered, which included updates about community involvement, an introduction of the new RAB members and their roles and responsibilities, project updates from Andy Vitolins, a question and answer (Q&A) session, and next steps.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & RAB DISCUSSION

1 | COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Implementing the Community Involvement Plan (CIP)

Feasibility Study (FS) fact sheet and quarterly project update to be distributed

Information repository is at the Ayer Library and being updated with PFAS project documents

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 on the second Thursday of the month into 2022

Website enhancements are done with mechanism for continued community input

Munitions & explosives of concern (MEC) outreach plan is being finalized and will be part of the CIP

Steven Perry started with an update on community involvement. He stated that the Community Involvement Plan (CIP) was finalized in November 2020 and much work has been done since then to implement the plan. He mentioned that the CIP is a good place for information on the project for people who are new or do not have much background on the cleanup activities going on at Fort Devens.

All of the materials discussed will be on the Fort Devens Environmental Cleanup website: <https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/missions/projects-topics/former-fort-devens-environmental-cleanup/>.

Progress on the CIP included the following tasks:

- Fact sheets have been developed on topics such as what a RAB is and what activities have been going on at the Shepley's Hill Landfill (SHL). An upcoming fact sheet will discuss feasibility studies, which involve evaluation of cleanup technologies against criteria to determine which alternatives are the most effective and make the most sense to use.
- The public information repository at the Ayer Public Library is being updated with project documents about per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). Steven Perry noted that Laurie Nehring (People of Ayer Concerned about the Environment [PACE]) had commented early that the library hours had been reduced; however, the repository is still available for access during library hours. Laurie Nehring added that one of the major documents is missing, and that the documents are organized by chronological order which may or may not be useful going forward. She also noted the library hours: closed at 6:00 p.m. or earlier every day, open for 4 hours on Saturday, closed Monday and Sundays. Carol Keating (Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection [MassDEP]) asked if the administrative record that had been stored in Bob Simeone's office would still be available for people to access. Tom Lineer replied that they would like to keep the documents available and if someone wanted to look at the documents, they would need to schedule a time to do that. Carol Keating replied that making it digital would also be a helpful option. Tom Lineer commented that the administrative record would also be digitized but would take time.



- The date for the RAB meetings will continue to be the second Thursday of every third month through 2022.
- The website has been enhanced, and Steven Perry recommended that the participants in the meeting visit the website, which should now be easier to navigate. He reminded the attendees that it is a work in progress with things being added frequently.
- A Munitions and Explosives of Concern (MEC) Outreach Plan is being finalized and will be an addendum to the CIP.

2 | RAB BOARD MEMBERS

New RAB Board Members for the 2022-2024 term!

- Who they are
- Who are the Community and Installation Co-Chairs to work together for next phase of the RAB
- What the Board Members, Community Co-Chairs, Installation Co-Chair, and facilitator will be doing
- RAB's upcoming activities

We truly appreciate the great response!

Steven Perry welcomed the new RAB members. He commented that there would be an overview of who the new board members are, what each of the roles are, and what is next for the RAB.

2 | RAB BOARD MEMBERS

New RAB Board Members for the 2022-2024 term!

Julie Corenzwit
Amy McCoy
Dave McCoy
Chris Mitchell

Thank you!

Laurie Nehring, Community Co-Chair
Alix Turner, Community Co-Chair
Thomas Lineer, Installation Co-Chair

Steven Perry asked the RAB members to introduce themselves. Julie Corenzwit—has attended RAB meetings since 1995; member of PACE; retired software engineer and a member Nashoba Valley Chorale. Amy McCoy—lifelong resident of Ayre; first time being involved with the RAB; has concerns about the contaminants and the issues at the airfield. Dave McCoy—Ayre resident since 1995; participant in meetings 20 years ago when plans were being developed for mixed use at Moore Army Airfield; spent a lot of time in Devens while training for a marathon; concerned about issues at the airfield; encouraged to see how much people have contributed so far.

Chris Mitchell—longtime resident of Harvard; member of Harvard Board of Health; geologist who works on a team investigating Army and commercial sites for PFAS and other contaminants.

Laurie Nehring—involved with PACE since 1997; worked as an information specialist for Dunne Engineering and got to work on the Love Canal issues in western New York.



Alix Turner—from Lancaster; interested in the South Post; interested in increasing transparency and communication between the towns; has been a Selectman and a Conservation Commissioner for years; worked on citizen advocacy projects; was involved with the RAB in the past.

Tom Lineer—lives in northern Virginia; almost made it to Fort Devens to 40 years ago with the Army.

Steven Perry also acknowledged the agencies roles on the project. ZaNetta Purnell (USEPA) is the community involvement coordinator and presented in 2021 about RABs and USEPA's role. Carol Keating (USEPA) introduced herself as the remedial project manager for USEPA and noted that one of the first sites she worked on in her career with USEPA was Fort Devens. She has since returned to the project and has been working on it for the last 8 or 10 years. She is happy to have community involvement and interest in the project and offered that if anyone has questions about USEPA comments on the reports, they can give her a call to discuss.

David Chaffin (Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection [MassDEP]) commented that USEPA and MassDEP are members of the RAB, and he is the state regulator member of the RAB. He has worked on the project for 10 years. Roy Herzig (Massachusetts Development Finance Agency [MassDevelopment]) introduced himself and mentioned that MassDevelopment has been active in the RAB every quarter and is happy to be a part of it.





 **2 | RAB BOARD MEMBERS** 

RAB Member Responsibilities

- Attend and actively participate in RAB meetings and activities.
- Provide comment on restoration issues to the decision makers.
- Represent and communicate community interests and concerns to the RAB.
- Act as a conduit and advisory body for the exchange of information between the community, Department of Defense (DoD) installation, and environmental oversight agencies regarding the installation's restoration and reuse programs.

Source: Content is based on EPA RAB Guidelines and DoD RAB Rule Handbook.

Steven Perry briefly described the RAB member responsibilities, which are to attend and participate in the RAB meetings, provide comments, and represent the community interests.

 **2 | RAB BOARD MEMBERS** 

Community Co-Chair Typical Responsibilities

- Coordinate with the DoD installation co-chair and RAB community members to prepare an agenda prior to each RAB meeting.
- Ensure that community members participate in an open and constructive manner.
- Ensure that community issues and concerns related to restoration are raised.
- Assist with the dissemination of information to the general public.
- Report back to the community, as needed.

Source: Content is based on EPA RAB Guidelines and DoD RAB Rule Handbook.

Steven Perry gave an overview of the RAB Co-Chairs responsibilities, which include coordinating with the Army Installation Co-Chair to prepare an agenda for the RAB meetings and helping the community participate.



 **2 | RAB BOARD MEMBERS** 

Army - Typical Responsibilities of the Installation Co-Chair

- Coordinate with the community co-chair to prepare and distribute an agenda prior to each RAB meeting.
- Ensure that DoD participates in an open and constructive manner.
- Attend meetings and ensure that the RAB has the opportunity to participate in the restoration decision process.
- Ensure that community issues and concerns related to restoration are addressed when raised.
- Ensure documents distributed to the RAB are also made available to the general public.
- With assistance from the RAB, ensure that an accurate list of interested/affected parties is developed and maintained.
- Provide relevant policies and guidance documents to the RAB to enhance the RAB's operation.
- Ensure that adequate administrative support to the RAB is provided.
- Refer issues not related to restoration to appropriate installation official for them to address.
- Report back to the installation.

Source: Content is based on EPA RAB Guidelines and DoD RAB Rule Handbook.

Steven Perry noted the responsibilities of the Army Installation Co-Chair, which include coordinating with the Community Co-Chairs, participating in RAB meetings, and keeping information flowing to and from the community to ensure that the RAB is functioning properly.

 **2 | RAB BOARD MEMBERS** 



Arcadis/SERES JV - Typical Responsibilities of the Facilitator/ Administrative Support

- Meeting facilities and facilitation
- Preparation of meeting minutes and other routine word processing tasks
- Copying/printing of RAB documents, notices, fact sheets
- Mailings and emails
- Distribution of public notices in local news outlets, towns, and websites
- Management of RAB mailing lists
- Translation and distribution of outreach and other RAB materials

Source: Content is based on EPA RAB Guidelines and DoD RAB Rule Handbook.

Steven Perry noted the members of the S-A JV team including himself, Andy Vitolins, Sue Tauro, and Julee Jaeger. This team has a wide variety of roles including logistical and administrative support to the RAB, technical work, and communications and outreach.



 **2 | RAB BOARD MEMBERS** 



Upcoming RAB Activities

- Organize committees and updates.
- Schedule and plan the quarterly RAB meetings and events.
- Work on mission statement and operating procedures.

Steven Perry noted that the RAB members met last week to discuss their roles and responsibilities. They also discussed the potential need for committees; organizing these committees will be one of the next steps to address. In addition, upcoming activities will include planning for the next quarterly meeting as well as working on the operating procedures and mission statement for the RAB. Laurie Nehring commented that some people were not receiving the same emails as she was. She recommended that it be easier for people to get on the email list. She also commented that she could not see who else the emails were being sent to.

Steven Perry commented that they use blind carbon copy for emails to the larger group to protect everyone's privacy. He also mentioned that an agenda item for an upcoming meeting could be to discuss the contact list and whether it is up to date. Laurie Nehring stated that as a Co-Chair she would like to be able to see who is on the list and to understand why some people seemed to have dropped off. She also mentioned that the website is difficult to navigate and that she would like to suggest working on be an agenda item or a committee item. Steven Perry commented that the website has been redesigned to improve the navigation, but that feedback would be welcome. There is a link on the website where users can provide feedback.

PROJECT UPDATES & UPCOMING WORK

 **3 | PROJECT UPDATES & UPCOMING WORK** 

Final Documents Posted Since Last RAB Meeting

- Shepley's Hill Landfill (SHL) Technical Memo 5 – Dec 9, 2021 (available on the website under 'Shepley's Hill Landfill' in the Document Repository)

Draft Documents Submitted to Agencies Since Last RAB Meeting

- Draft Debris Removal Activities Report – Jan 31, 2022
- Draft Work Plan for Evaluation of Arsenic Background Concentrations in Groundwater – SHL– Jan 28, 2022
- Validated Laboratory Data for the Fall 2021 Long-Term Monitoring (LTM) Event – Jan 28, 2022
- Draft Final Land Use Control Implementation Work Plan – Jan 19, 2022
- Draft Arsenic Treatment Plant (ATP) Pilot Test Completion Memorandum – Dec 21, 2021
- Draft Remedial Investigation (RI) Work Plan for PFAS for Area 3 Field Sampling: Plan Addendum #1 – Dec 21, 2021
- Draft Supplemental Remedial Investigation Work Plan for Area of Concern (AOC) 57 – Dec 21, 2021
- Draft Supplemental Remedial Investigation Work Plan for AOC 69W – Nov 22, 2021
- Q3 2021 Quarterly Progress Report (QPR) – Nov 19, 2021
- Draft Barrier Wall Performance Monitoring Plan – Nov 15, 2021

Steven Perry introduced Andy Vitolins (S-A JV Project Manager) to give the updates on the projects. Andy Vitolins jumped ahead to the next slide to show the attendees a map of the areas of contamination (AOCs) first before getting into the project updates. This was in response to a request at a previous RAB meeting to show a map of the places that were being talked about. Andy Vitolins summarized the status of various documents since the last RAB meeting. He noted that a final document is a document that the Army has produced, which has gone through one or several periods of review with the USEPA and MassDEP. These documents are then made available to the public on the website.

Draft documents are documents that have been prepared by the Army and sent to the agencies for comments. After receiving comments, the documents are revised and reviewed before finalization. Comments received during this process become part of the final document.

The SHL Technical Memo 5 final document has been posted. SHL Technical Memo 5 is the last of a series of several technical documents that discuss the performance of the remedy at SHL, which includes a groundwater extraction system for arsenic, the landfill cap, etc. This memo specifically discussed the groundwater extraction system.

Andy Vitolins summarized the draft documents submitted since the last RAB meeting:

- Draft Debris Removal Activities Report—documentation of removal activities for surface debris like tires and metal at AOCs 57, 74, and 50; no releases of anything were discovered
- Draft Work Plan for Evaluation of Arsenic Background Concentrations in Groundwater—evaluation of the background concentration of arsenic at SHL before the landfill was created
- Validated Laboratory Data for the Fall 2021 Long-Term Monitoring Event—data from the annual groundwater monitoring that the Army conducts throughout the installation in spring and fall and provides to the USEPA and MassDEP; data are submitted in annual reports once analyzed
- Draft Final Land Use Control Implementation Work Plan—plan for how LUCs will be implemented and monitored to ensure effectiveness
- Draft Arsenic Treatment Plant Pilot Test Completion Memorandum—documentation of pilot study (i.e., test to see if a certain treatment will work better than others); in the treatment method studied in this pilot test, groundwater goes to the groundwater extraction system treatment building where manganese, arsenic, and iron are removed; treated water is discharged and metal sludge is taken to a landfill
- Draft Remedial Investigation Work Plan for PFAS for Area 3 Field Sampling Plan Addendum #1—Army's proposed plan to collect additional data from AOC 31 (former fire training area)

Former Fort Devens Army Installation Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting Minutes



- Draft Supplemental Remedial Investigation Work Plan for Area of Concern 57—plan to make sure remedies are still protective given current conditions; site has already gone through the Record of Decision (ROD) process
- Draft Supplemental Remedial Investigation Work Plan for Area of Concern 69W—plan to make sure remedies are still protective given current conditions; site has already gone through the ROD process
- Q3 2021 Quarterly Progress Report—FFA requirement that the Army inform the USEPA every quarter about progress on certain items
- Draft Barrier Wall Performance Monitoring Plan—work plan to investigate if the barrier wall is performing how it is supposed to be performing and if not, how it could be improved; the barrier wall is part of the remedy at SHL to protect Red Cove, which had been subject to a release of groundwater containing metals in the past; the barrier wall directs the groundwater away from Red Cove and toward the treatment plant

Richard Doherty (PACE) asked what sites the Land Use Control Implementation Work Plan (LUCIP) applies to. Penny Reddy replied that it applies to AOCs 44/52, 69W, and 57.

Julie Corenzwit (PACE) asked for confirmation on whether the SHL air sparging test is being referred to as the Arsenic Treatment Plant (ATP) pilot test. Dan Groher (USACE) answered that there are two projects at SHL: the air sparging pilot test and ATP pilot test. Andy Vitolins added that the ATP pilot test is focused on the treatment of the groundwater after it leaves the ground; the air sparging pilot test evaluates how the water could be treated while it is still in the ground.

Laurie Nehring commented that SHL is a really important issue. She mentioned that the SHL Technical Memo 5 is very large and contains a lot of information. She requested that the next RAB focus on the report so that people can understand it and important issues such as what the barrier wall is, that arsenic is flowing into Ayer, that arsenic levels are high and fluctuating, and that disagreements are occurring between USEPA and MassDEP about the source of the arsenic. She also mentioned that the South Post has never been discussed at a RAB meeting and would like to see a RAB meeting dedicated to the issues there. She noted that she thought the information in this meeting was a great overview but would like to dive deeper into the information in the future. Andy Vitolins replied that they could talk about these things moving forward as the RAB prioritizes what the members would like to hear. Steven Perry added that RAB members have a say in what is discussed but since it is a public meeting it needs to be balanced and accessible to everyone.

John Kastrinos (Haley & Aldrich) suggested that it would be helpful to accompany the AOC map with a slide that would show a regional overview including the Nashua River and Devens and Ayer water supply wells. Laurie Nehring commented that it would be helpful to include this map on the website. Andy Vitolins commented that the map used on the slide was taken from the 2020 Five-Year Review posted on the website but agreed it could be beneficial to have a separate section for maps on the website.

Steven Perry added that there was a comment from Carol Keating that it would be helpful for future RAB meetings if the Army could provide details regarding the scope, objective, and results, if any, of each of the draft documents released. He mentioned that Andy Vitolins seemed to have addressed that with this slide.

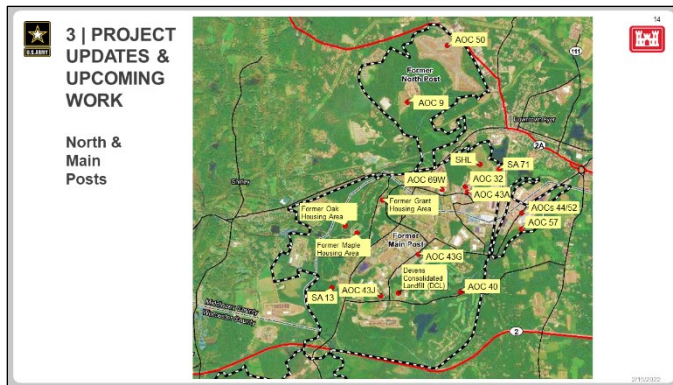
Carol Keating asked if the quarterly progress reports were available for review in the information repository. Andy Vitolins commented that the documents at the Ayer Library are only the SHL and PFAS documents. Carol Keating asked if they are available through the Fort Devens website. Steven Perry commented that could be a follow up item for the next meeting. Carol replied that they are important documents in terms of the progress that is being made and should be available for the public.

Carol Keating also commented that RODs and Explanations of Significant Differences (ESDs) should also be available online for each of the AOCs and study areas (SAs) shown on the map slide. She also stated that USEPA issued an independent finding of protectiveness on the 2020 Five-Year Review. She suggested that people looking at the 2020 Five-Year Review should also look at the USEPA independent finding of protectiveness.

Alix Turner commented that the overview by Andy Vitolins was helpful but that they may need break out meetings or monthly meetings with him to get the level of detail they need. Steven Perry noted that it was something to be considered.

Amy McCoy commented that she found a former Fort Devens CIP on the website that had a map and a table describing every AOC. She noted that it was helpful and suggested that the table be added to the website. Steven Perry commented that the CIP is a great entry point for those who are new.

Dan Groher commented that EPA also has a document repository that includes RODs and ESDs, which is located online at: <https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/SiteProfiles/index.cfm?fuseaction=second.scs&id=0100966&doc=Y&colid=31808®ion=01&type=SC>. Carol Keating noted that the USEPA also has a website for Fort Devens at: www.epa.gov/superfund/devens.



Andy Vitolins explained the map on this slide, which shows the Fort Devens former North Post and former Main Post. The South Post is not shown on this map in order to keep the scale of the map to a readable size for the presentation. The majority of the work for the project is being performed at the two posts that are shown. AOC stands for area of contamination and is the designation used to track sites in the administrative record during the CERCLA process. The AOCs shown on the map are the ones shown during Five-Year Reviews; other are not shown to avoid crowding on the map. Some locations are called SAs instead of AOCs. That is the term used for sites before they are moved to an AOC designation if additional work is needed.

Andy Vitolins described each of the site shown on the map:

- AOC 50—former Moore Army Airfield; now used by state police for training and other activities coordinated by MassDevelopment; has a chlorinated solvents plume that has been under investigation and remediation for some time
- AOC 31—not shown for clarity but also in Moore Army Airfield; former fire training area (FTA); has a documented PFAS release and documented PFAS presence
- AOC 9—former North Post Landfill; waste was excavated from 2002 to 2003 and placed in the Devens Consolidated Landfill (DCL), making this site a DCL contributor site
- SHL—Shepley’s Hill Landfill; has AOCs 4, 5, and 18 associated with it; filled in a swampy valley; has been kept by the Army with a groundwater remediation system in place; many studies are ongoing at SHL
- SA 71—former railroad roundhouse site; removal work completed a couple decades ago; now only has land use controls (LUCs)
- AOCs 32 and 43A—former Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office (DRMO) yards; used for distribution of bulk supplies like fuel, lumber, etc. and storage of used materials like oils before disposal; subject to removal action in the past
- AOCs 44 and 52—Barnum Road maintenance yards; former Army vehicle storage and maintenance areas; most of the area has been redeveloped; part of the PFAS investigation
- AOC 57—originally had fuel and automotive fluids; storm water releases ended up at AOC 57 in the past
- AOC 69W—used to be Fort Devens Elementary School; had historic releases from a heating oil storage system; now the location of the Parker Charter School; currently has LUCs and ongoing monitoring and investigations
- Former Oak, Grant, and Maple Housing Areas—the area was an artillery range before the housing areas were built; MEC concerns in that area; LUCs currently in place
- AOCs 43G and 43J—former Fort Devens gas stations; fuel releases at these sites; Mass Development is leading work at AOC 43J and Army is leading work at AOC 43G (and all the other sites discussed)
- DCL—constructed in the early 2000s to contain the waste from the contributor sites (AOC 9, SA 13, AOC 40)
- SA 13—mostly a debris disposal area
- AOC 40—known as the Cold Spring Brook Landfill; inundated after the removal of the landfill; now a marshy area

Amy and Dave McCoy asked if the hundreds of vehicles being stored at AOC 50 are causing new contamination and if that is being monitored. Andy Vitolins replied that he does not believe the vehicles there are a contamination issue. Penny Reddy noted that those vehicles are associated with the state police and not the Army. Andy Vitolins explained that the historic issues of concern at the airfield were the chlorinated solvents that were used to clean and dry parachutes and the firefighting foam used for fire training.

Dave McCoy asked if plowing snow on the airfield spreads the contaminants. Andy Vitolins commented that it is not a concern because the contamination is, for the most part, groundwater or subsurface soil contamination—it is not a surface contaminant issue.

Alix Turner asked if the responsible party for contamination has an effect on the scope of the RAB. For example, since the vehicles at the airfield are police vehicles, would contamination from them affect the scope of the RAB. Andy Vitolins replied that this RAB has been formed specifically for the Army’s environmental responsibilities at the site under CERCLA. These responsibilities would be for issues that occurred while the Army had control of the site. However, he noted that those limitations do not mean that the RAB members should not be interested in or ask questions about what is happening now at the site. Carol Keating commented that while much of the former Fort Devens property was transferred upon base closure, the Army is responsible for responding to/remediating contamination associated with former military activities (with the exception of AOC 43J). Andy Vitolins added that most of the parcels have been transferred to MassDevelopment, but according to the tenants of CERCLA, the Army must maintain responsibility for things that happened while they occupied the site. Carol Keating suggested that new members also take a look at the Devens Federal Facility Agreement (FFA). Andy explained that the FFA is the document that describes how the Army and USEPA coordinate and review documents and conduct investigations.



3 | PROJECT UPDATES & UPCOMING WORK

Shepley's Hill Landfill Updates

- Completed annual long-term monitoring and inspections
- Conducted air sparging pilot test site visit with EPA and PACE – December 2021
- Completed ATP pilot test – December 2021
- Completed air sparging pilot test field pilot testing – January 2022

Main Post Updates

- Completed annual long-term monitoring and inspections
- Completed debris area removals at AOCs 57 and 74

Former Moore Army Airfield Updates

- Completed annual long-term monitoring and inspections
- Completed debris area removals

Andy Vitolins updated the group on what has happened in the last 3 months.

- Long-term monitoring annual events at all sites including SHL, the Main Post, and the Moore Army Airfield
- Air sparging pilot test and ATP pilot test completed in December and January; monitoring will continue on the air sparging pilot test
- Debris area removals at AOCs 57 and 74
- Debris area removals at Moore Army Airfield

3 | PROJECT UPDATES & UPCOMING WORK

The Look Ahead for Anticipated Technical Work

Winter 2022

- SHL Air Sparging Pilot – Post Sparging Sampling/Testing
- SHL Remedy Evaluation
- Area 1 Phase 2 PFAS RI Work Plan Submission
- Annual Long-Term Monitoring Report Preparation

Spring 2022

- Area 3 (Airfield Former Fire Training Area) Additional PFAS Sampling
- SHL Remedy Evaluation
- Spring Annual Monitoring Event
- SHL Air Sparging Pilot Test Report
- Geophysical Survey of Areas of Potential Interest for Munitions in the Nashua River

Andy Vitolins continued with the look ahead for technical work. Work during winter of 2022 will include the following:

- SHL air sparging pilot test post-testing sampling
- Ongoing SHL remedy evaluation
- PFAS work plan for Area 1 Phase 2; Phase 1 involved doing borings and groundwater sampling to see where PFAS was and where it is going; this work plan is the next step of the remedial investigation into the nature and extent of PFAS
- Long-term monitoring report preparation

Work during spring 2022 will include the following:

- Field sampling plan for Area 3 (former fire training area)
- Continuation of SHL remedy evaluations
- Spring annual monitoring event
- SHL air sparging pilot test report
- Geophysical survey to address the potential of munitions being encountered in the Nashua River

Dan Groher added that testing was done at the treatment plant at the toe of Shepley's Hill. Some changes on the design of the treatment plant will be implemented after spring of 2022 to make the process safer and more reliable. The changes will not change whether the remedy is effective or how effective it is.

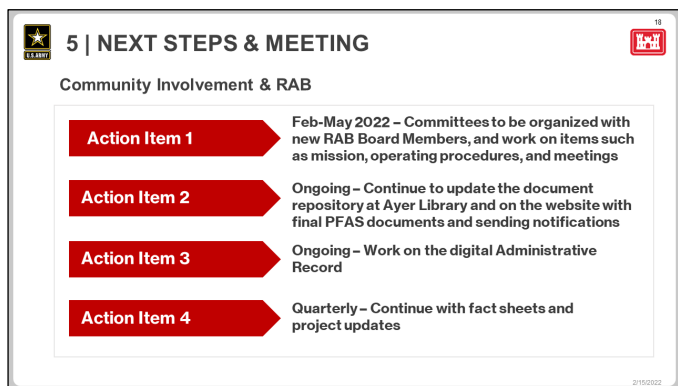
QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

4 | QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Please see the list of questions and answers attached at the end of these meeting minutes.

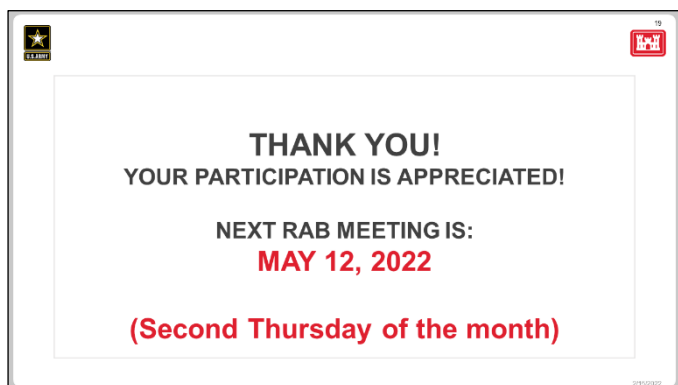


NEXT STEPS & CLOSING



Steven Perry reminded everyone of the following action items:

- Continuing to move forward with getting the new board going
- Continuing to update the document repository at Ayer library and the website
- Digitizing the administrative record and indexing
- Completing the next fact sheets and sending out to the distribution list when ready



Steven Perry thanked everyone for attending. The next RAB meeting will be May 12, 2022.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Question	Answer
<p>From Amy and Dave McCoy—Is there health monitoring of state police at Area 3? The level of PFAS is highest there, do the troopers know about the concern? Do they have buildings that they use there?</p>	<p>Andy Vitolins replied that the PFAS is either in groundwater or soil—it is not something that volatilizes or is inhaled. Since the airfield is being used for driver training only, PFAS is not something they would be exposed to unless they started digging or drinking the groundwater. They have buildings that they use in certain areas but those are not area of concern for PFAS. Laurie Nehring added that the extremely high levels of PFAS in Area 3 are concerning and are close to the Nashua River, which is used as drinking water. Andy Vitolins commented that PFAS levels are the highest at that area and it is one a few places where there is a known and defined area of a release of PFAS. The field sampling plan that was discussed earlier is intended to address this issue by gaining an understanding of the distribution of the PFAS from the surface to the groundwater to see if an interim action could mitigate what is leaching from that area.</p>
<p>From Carol Keating— Can we invite someone from Army Garrison to provide an update on the status of CERCLA-related activities at the South Post Impact Area (SPIA) for the next RAB meeting? And where we've seen the highest PFAS concentrations base wide?</p>	<p>Tom Lineer commented that they would look into that.</p>



RAB MEETING INVITE

Former Fort Devens Army Installation
Notification



**Please join us for the next Former Fort Devens RAB Meeting,
Thursday, February 10, 2022, 6:30 pm**

Our next RAB meeting will be held via Microsoft Teams. Please join by clicking this link:

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or you can call in to hear the audio only:

[+1 213-379-9608,68481535#](tel:+1213379960868481535) Phone Conference ID: 684 815 35#

We hope you will join us to actively discuss the following topics and share your ideas:

Welcome | To existing members and new participants!

Community Involvement | Ongoing and planned CIP activities

RAB Discussion | Introducing our RAB Board Members for the 2022-2024 term

Project Updates | Summary of recent project work and upcoming technical work

Questions & Answers | Bring your questions for our Q&A session

Next Steps & Meeting | The look ahead

Bring your thoughts about the RAB and questions about the project. This meeting will be recorded and a meeting summary will be posted on the project website at:

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

If you have any questions, please send an email to and we will reply:

FormerFortDevensRAB@arcadis.com