



RAB MEETING MINUTES

Date/Time: Thursday, February 25, 2021/6:30 to 8 pm

Location: Virtual meeting via Zoom

Attendees: Bob Simeone, Thomas Lineer (U.S. Army)
Penny Reddy, Brent Smith, Yixian Zhang (USACE)
ZaNetta Purnell, Carol Keating (USEPA)
David Chaffin, Diane Baxter, Paul Locke, Mark Baldi (MassDEP)
Jim Moore, Roy Herzig, Jessica Strunkin, John Kastrinos (MassDevelopment)
Laurie Nehring, Julie Corenzwit, Richard Doherty (PACE)
Libby Levison (Harvard Board of Health)
Jim Ropp (KGS)
Andy Vitolins, Erika Houtz, Steven Perry, Julee Jaeger, Whitney Plasket, Ian Martz, Brian Therriault, Tina Summerwood (SERES/Arcadis)
John Kastrinos, Chris Turner (Haley & Aldrich)
Dale Levandier (Spectacle Pond Associates)
Neil Angus (Devens Enterprise Commission)
Donald Massengill, Steve Slarksy, Irving Rockwood, Jennifer Martinez, Wendy Wells Rimbach, Margaret Leshen, Jennie Lytel-Sternberg, Heather Levesque, Cole Worthy, K. Thomas, Barbara Kemp, Martha Morgan,, Charlotte Gray, Bill Duston, Nik, Amy R., Sharrie Pitrowski, Dave, and other attendees participating by phone or otherwise unidentified (Citizens and Guests)

Slides and Recording: Meeting slides and a recording of the meeting in MP4 format are available on the project website at:

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

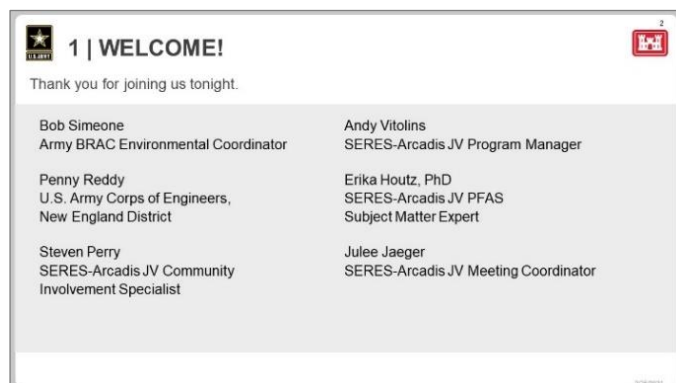
Please Note: Discussions described in these minutes have been paraphrased as needed for clarity. Invitation for this meeting is provided at the end of these meeting minutes.

WELCOME & OPENING COMMENTS:



Bob Simeone (U.S. Army, Devens BRAC Environmental Coordinator) opened the meeting and welcomed the attendees to the meeting.

Penny Reddy (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers [USACE], New England District) introduced SERES/Arcadis as the new contractor for the project and thanked KOMAN Government Solutions, LLC (KGS) for their past work. She then introduced Andy Vitolins, the new Program Manager for SERES/Arcadis.



Andy Vitolins (Program Manager for SERES/Arcadis) explained that SERES/Arcadis is a joint venture between SERES and Arcadis. Andy introduced his fellow presenters from the SERES/Arcadis team:

Steve Perry as our Community Involvement Specialist, who will moderate the meeting;

Julee Jaeger as our Meeting Coordinator, who will handle the slides and recording for tonight's meeting; and

Erika Houtz as our Subject Matter Expert for PFAS chemistry, who will share some slides about that topic.



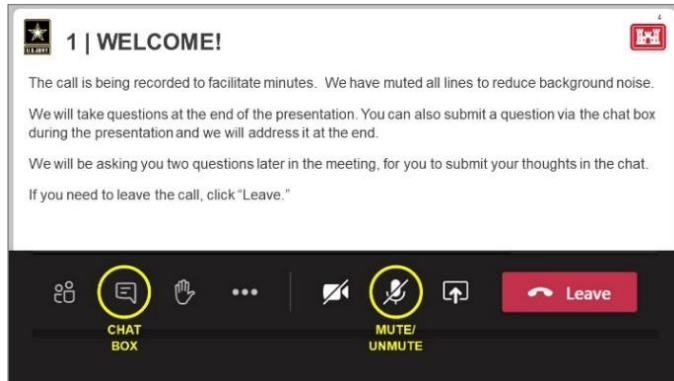
Steve Perry (SERES/Arcadis) welcomed everyone to the meeting and previewed the meeting topics:

Project updates, including a summary of recent sampling, other project work, and educational slides about PFAS;

Upcoming work, covering what to expect for technical work this year;

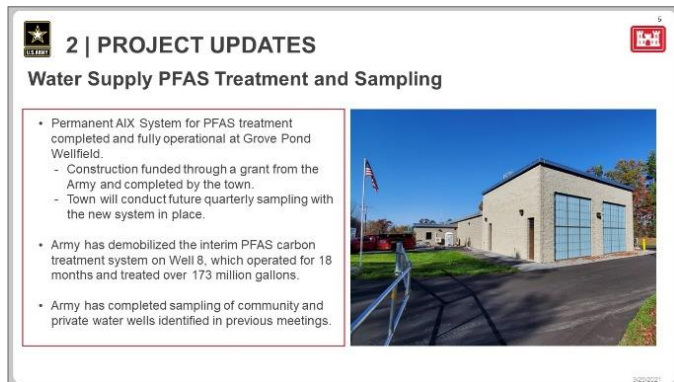
Community involvement and RAB discussion, focusing on the recently completed Community Involvement Plan (CIP) and implementation, as well as moving forward with the RAB; and

Next steps and meeting, focusing on the look ahead.



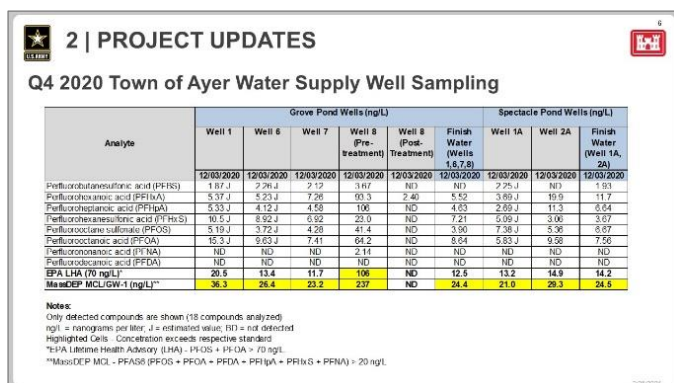
Attendees were notified that this call was being recorded and were oriented to the virtual meeting tools in Microsoft Teams, such as adding messages into the chat, keeping microphones on mute, and raising their hands as needed. Questions from stakeholders would be addressed at the question and answer (Q&A) session at the end of the meeting.

PROJECT UPDATES: WATER SUPPLY PFAS TREATMENT AND SAMPLING



An update on drinking water monitoring and treatment was presented. The permanent anion exchange (AIX) system for the Grove Pond Wellfield was constructed by the Town of Ayer through a grant from the Army and is operational. The Army has been conducting quarterly sampling in the past, but the town will start to conduct the sampling going forward and report on their regular drinking water reporting schedule. The Army demobilized the temporary PFAS carbon treatment system on Well 8, which is no longer needed now because the full treatment system is operational. The temporary PFAS carbon treatment system on Well 8 operated for 18 months and treated 173 million gallons of water. The Army completed sampling of community and private water wells. If additional sampling is needed during the remedial investigation (RI), the Army will conduct those activities, but nothing is currently planned.

PROJECT UPDATES: Q4 2020 TOWN OF AYER WATER SUPPLY WELL SAMPLING



This sampling will be the last round of quarterly sampling that the Army performs for the Town of Ayer water supply well sampling program at the Grove Pond Wells and Spectacle Pond Wells. The PFAS source at the Spectacle Pond wells are not associated with the Fort Devens site.

Results are similar to what has been reported previously. The finish water at the Grove Pond Wells did contain some of the PFAS elements, but the treatment system was in startup mode. Moving forward, we should not see those detections.



PROJECT UPDATES: MASS DEVELOPMENT WATER SUPPLY UPDATES

**2 | PROJECT UPDATES**

Water Supply MassDevelopment



Jim Moore (MassDevelopment) presented the MassDevelopment Water Supply Updates for the temporary MacPherson, Patton, and Shabokin PFAS water treatment plant (WTP) installations.

MacPherson, Patton & Shabokin Temp PFAS Installations



The place to grow.



Jim Moore described the temporary WTP installations at MacPherson before it was insulated. He indicated that the Patton WTP is now waterproofed. The Shabokin WTP has four granular-activated carbon (GAC) filters in the insulated structure.

Permanent PFAS WTP's Update for Devens

- MacPherson PFAS WTP Schedule
 - Construction begins March 2021
 - Completion is projected for December 2021
- Patton Fe/Mn and PFAS WTP Schedule
 - Construction begins June 2021
 - Completion is projected for summer 2022
- Shabokin Fe/Mn and PFAS WTP Schedule
 - Construction begins October 2021
 - Completion is projected for spring 2023

The place to grow.



For the permanent WTPs, construction will begin at MacPherson in March 2021, with completion planned for December 2021.

At Patton, construction will start in June 2021 and be complete in summer 2022.

At Shabokin, construction will begin in October 2021, with completion targeted for spring 2023.

MacPherson PFAS WTP



The place to grow.



Jim Moore indicated that there will be two GAC filters at the MacPherson PFAS WTP.



The Patton and Shabokin PFAS WTPs will also treat water for iron and manganese, which will take longer.

The plants will be identical in construction. There will be two GAC filters, followed by resin filters with green sand filtration for iron and manganese.

PROJECT UPDATES: PFAS REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION (RI): STATUS & PATH FORWARD

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PFAS Remedial Investigation (RI): Status & Path Forward

Phase 1 Remedial Investigation Work Completed:

- Data Reports available on website under Area-specific tabs
- Area 1 – Completed July 2020
- Area 2 – Completed September 2020
- Area 3 – Completed February 2021

Remaining work will be performed following the CERCLA RI/FS process for each Area:

- Phase 2 RI Work Plan
- RI/FS Report
- Proposed Plan
- Record of Decision
- Remedial Design/Remedial Action

Andy Vitolins continued with an update about the RIs at the site. After a quick review of Areas 1, 2, and 3, he announced that the Phase 1 RI Work was completed as of February 2021. The data and the reports from Phase 1 are posted to the project website.

Phase 2 will address data gaps, nature, and extent following the CERCLA process. Each Area will have its own Phase 2 RI Work Plan, RI/FS Report, Proposed Plan, Record of Decision, and finally Remedial Design or Remedial Action.

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PFAS Remedial Investigations: Status & Path Forward

Phase 2 RI Work Plan will be developed for each Area:

Schedule for Draft Phase 2 RI Work Plans

June 2021	Area 1
October 2021	Area 2
January 2022	Area 3

The Phase 2 RI Work Plan will include a conceptual site model (CSM), Phase 1 RI summary and data gaps, field work, risk assessments for both human health and ecological risks, and treatability studies or pilot testing. The Draft Phase 2 RI Work Plans are planned for:

Area 1 – June 2021

Area 2 – October 2021

Area 3 – January 2022

PROJECT UPDATES: IMPORTANT CONCEPTS FOR THE PFAS RI

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Important Concepts for the PFAS RI

There are many PFAS, and their structure/composition impacts how they behave in the environment

- The number of carbon atoms in a PFAS influences its bioaccumulation potential and mobility
- For example: PFOS and PFOA have eight carbon atoms (C8) – “O” = Octane
- No. of carbons in compound also referred to as “chain” – longer chain = more fluorinated carbon atoms

Perfluoroalkyl Sulfonates¹

C1 ethane	PFBS	n = 4
C2thane	PFPeS*	n = 5
C3 propane	PFHxS	n = 6
C4 butane	PFHpS	n = 7
C5 pentane	PFOS	n = 8
C6 hexane	PFDS	n = 9
C7 heptane	PFDS	n = 10

Perfluoroalkyl Carboxylates¹

C8 Octane	PFBA	n = 4
C9 nonane	PFPeA	n = 5
C10 decane	PFHxA	n = 6
C11 undecane	PFHpA	n = 7
C12 dodecane	PFOA	n = 8
C13 tridecane	PFDA	n = 9
C14 tetradecane	PFUnA	n = 10
	PFDoA	n = 11
	PFTrA	n = 12
	PFTeA	n = 13
	PFSeA	n = 14

The presentation transitioned to introducing important concepts for the RI and the feasibility studies: sources of PFAS in the environment, how their chemistry affects how they behave, and how that drives the cleanup. Erika Houtz, PhD (SERES/Arcadis PFAS expert, working on the topic for about 12 years) presented the different names based on the number of carbon atoms in the molecule. PFOS and PFOA are C8 compounds, with 8 carbon atoms in the chain, so they have an “O” for “Octane.” The structures have a direct relation to how the compounds behave, in terms of bioaccumulation and mobility. The compounds with the longer “chain” are less likely to enter groundwater but will stay in an organism longer if ingested.



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Important Concepts for the PFAS RI

Poly- and Perfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

Polyfluoroalkyl Substances – “Precursors”

“Precursors” – Polyfluorinated compounds that can transform in the environment to perfluorinated acids (4 of the 16 compounds we sample for – NMeFOSAA, NEtFOSAA, 6:2 FTS, 8:2 FTS)

For example, PFOA/PFOS can be formed in the environment from precursor compounds (in addition to being present in the original mixture)

Perfluoroalkyl Substances – “Regulated” Compounds

12 of the 16 individual compounds that we sample for are typically the “end products” of precursor transformation

- Do not degrade or biotransform in the environment
- Example: MassDEP PFAS 6 Compounds (PFOS, PFOA, PFHxS, PFNA, PFHpA, PFDA)

For most of the work at Fort Devens, 16 compounds are being measured in the environmental samples. Four of the compounds being measured – NMeFOSSA, NEtFOSAA, 6:2 FTS, and 8:2 FTS – are compounds that are precursors to compounds that are more typically regulated. These precursor can transform in the environment. For example:

- NMeFOSSA and NEtFOSAA are precursors to PFOS.
- 6:2 FTS, and 8:2 FTS are precursors to PFHxA and PFOA.

The other 12 compounds being measured do not transform under ordinary circumstances. MassDEP regulates six of these in drinking water: PFOS, PFOA, PFHxS, PFNA, PFHpA, and PFDA. The other six compounds being measured are not regulated by MassDEP but have similar properties to the 6 regulated compounds.

2 | PROJECT UPDATES
Important Concepts for the PFAS RI

PFAS Chemistry: What chemicals detected say about sources and transport

We measure 16 PFAS in most soil/groundwater samples. These different compounds can indicate types of sources of the release, which helps determine a remediation/treatment strategy.

Examples:

- Historical 3M foams contained high concentrations of PFOS, PFHxS, and PFHxS precursors.
- PFOS is also associated with other kinds of sources like chromium plating and household use.
- GenX, measured in drinking water, is a PFOA-replacement indicative of more recent PFAS sources and has no relationship to firefighting foams.
- Not only the types of compounds detected but their relative amounts (i.e., their “fingerprint”) are important in evaluating sources and environmental transport.

Measuring these 16 different compounds helps us understand the different sources of the release, which helps determine the remediation or treatment strategy. Historical sources include:

- 3M foams - PFOS, PFHxS, and PFHxS precursors; and
- Chromium plating and household use – PFOS.

The types of compounds in their relative amounts, also called a fingerprint, are helpful in evaluating sources and movement.

Analyzing for the longer list of compounds is helpful in understanding sources and migration in the environment. This information is combined into a “fingerprint”, Which can be used in combination with other data (including how water is flowing and which direction) to provide a better understanding of the release and potential remedial alternatives.

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Important Concepts for the PFAS RI

PFAS “Fingerprint” or Mixture

- Relative amounts of different PFAS
- Influenced by:
 - Types of sources
 - Locations of sources
 - Differential migration of PFAS
 - Enrichment of shorter PFAS expected away from source
 - Transformation of precursors

This sample fingerprint shows the relative amounts of PFAS compounds sampled at a site represented in different colors. It shows the compounds measured and the relative percentages. For each sample collected, a fingerprint can be generated. It is influenced by the types and locations of sources: soil, groundwater, drinking water, as well as what has migrated in or out of that location. Fingerprints may also indicate precursor transformation.

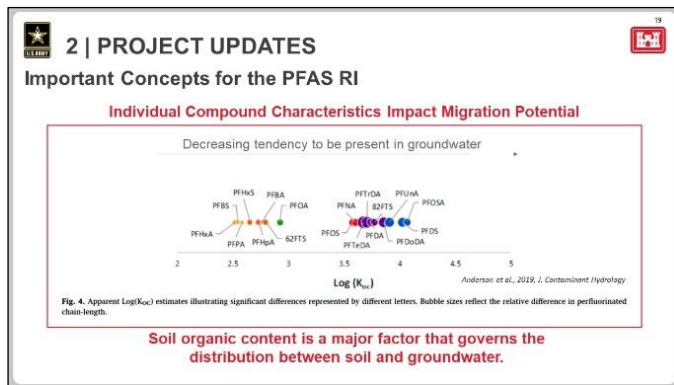
2 | PROJECT UPDATES
Important Concepts for the PFAS RI

PFAS Fingerprint Example
AOC 75 Shallow Groundwater

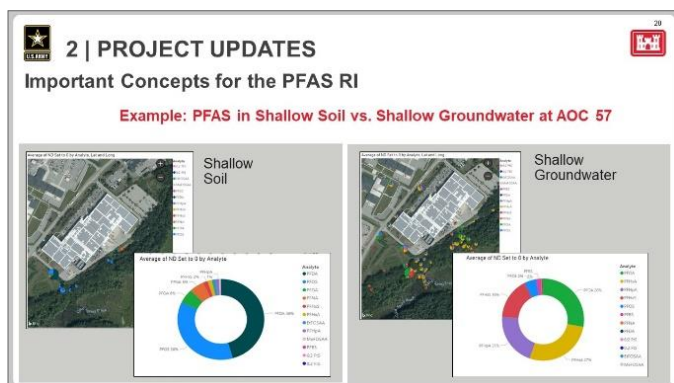
PFAS Fingerprint Example
Grove Pond AOC Shallow Groundwater

These maps of two AOCs at Fort Devens show fingerprints for groundwater samples collected at AOC 75 and Grove Pond. The smaller or larger fingerprint circles represent relative concentrations: the larger circles correlate to higher concentrations and the smaller circles, lower concentrations. The fingerprints confirm the conceptual model that the source of the PFAS at these locations was different.

These fingerprints may show how things are moving, provide information on additional sources, and can be compared to other areas.



Another concept is the migration potential of the compound. The longer the compound, the higher the tendency to stay in soil. The organic carbon in the soil governs how the compounds distribute in soil and groundwater. Going from left to right, this chart shows a decreasing tendency to be present in groundwater. Shorter compounds like PFHxA, PFPA, PFHpA, and 62FTS, are more likely to be present in groundwater. As the compounds get longer, they tend to stick much more soil. This means that compounds in soil might be different than those in groundwater based on the tendency of these compounds to want to stick to organic carbon within the soil. This information was computed based on data from the U.S. Air Force PFAS dataset, from investigations completed at many areas of concern at various installations.



Two more PFAS fingerprint maps of AOC57 show the same phenomenon from the U.S. Air Force dataset. The shallow soil fingerprint (left) shows more PFOS and PFDA in shallow soil samples, but not many shorter compounds. Conversely, the shallow groundwater fingerprint (right) shows PFOA, PFHxA in groundwater samples, but not many long chain compounds. PFDA is regulated by MassDEP in drinking water, but in this example, it is only observed in soil. The other five compounds are observed more frequently in groundwater samples. The different fingerprints do not indicate that there were two different sources in this area, but instead how the compounds have migrated based on location in soil or water.

UPCOMING WORK: THE LOOK AHEAD FOR TECHNICAL WORK



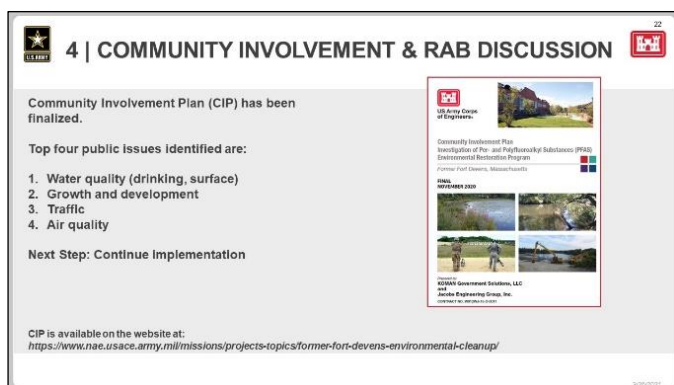
For spring 2021, plans include Area 1 Draft Phase 2 RI Work Plan submission, Shepley's Hill Landfill remedy evaluations, long-term monitoring program.

For summer 2021, planned work includes continued remedy evaluations at Shepley's Hill Landfill, begin Work Plans resulting from the 2020 Five-Year Review, and PFAS treatability study and pilot testing planning.

For fall 2021, planned work includes the Area 2 Draft Phase 2 RI Work Plan submission and fall sampling.

The Area 1 Phase 2 RI Field Work and Area 3 Draft Phase 2 RI Work Plan are planned for winter 2021/2022.

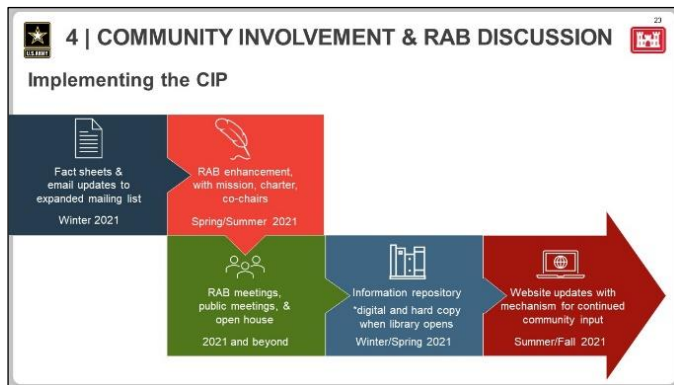
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & RAB DISCUSSION



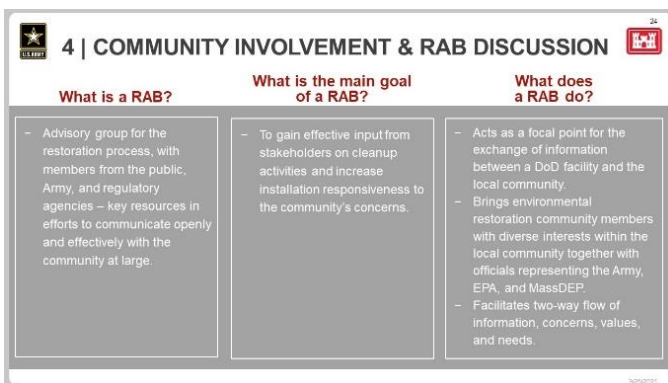
Steve Perry led the discussion about community involvement and the RAB. He reviewed the finalized Community Involvement Plan (CIP), which came out in November 2020 and is available on the project website at:

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

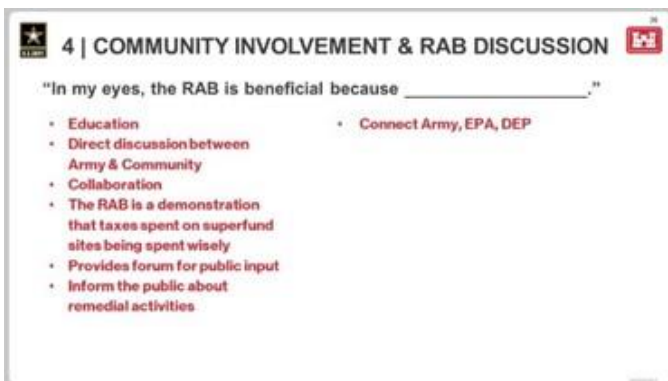
Approximately 144 people/organizations provided input to the CIP via questionnaire and interviews. The top four issues identified were: water quality (drinking, surface); growth and development; traffic; and air quality. With the plan now finalized, SERES/Arcadis will help implement this plan.



Implementing the CIP will start in winter 2021 with fact sheets and email updates to the mailing list. Following in spring/summer 2021 there are plans for RAB enhancement including a renewed mission, charter, and co-chairs. This process will be kicked off later, thinking about the mission and the focus of the RAB. RAB meetings, public meetings, and other types of events will occur in 2021 and beyond to create more opportunities to interact. The information repository is planned for winter or spring 2021, including digital and hard copies when the library opens. Finally, website updates are planned in summer/fall 2021 with a mechanism for continued community input. These are designed to make information readily accessible and raise awareness.



The RAB discussion started with the definition of a RAB, goals of the RAB, and functions of the RAB. A RAB is the equivalent of a community advisory group, involved in the restoration process and provides key resources or people to bring knowledge forward. The goal of the RAB is to gain input, share information, and address community concerns with stakeholders. The RAB is a mechanism for a two-way flow of information, bringing the community together from different levels of interest and concerns.



From the CIP questionnaire, nearly 70% of respondents were not aware of the RAB. Moving forward, the public and other interested stakeholders will be informed about what the RAB does and the benefits of being involved. The meeting transitioned to an interactive exercise, for which attendees were asked to finish the sentence: "In my eyes, the RAB is beneficial because _____." Attendees entered their responses into the chat and responses were added to the digital whiteboard. Input from the exercises will help implement the CIP and move the RAB forward. Input included:

- Education
- Direct discussion between Army & Community
- Collaboration
- The RAB is a demonstration that taxes spent on superfund sites being spent wisely
- Provides forum for public input
- Inform the public about remedial activities
- Connect Army, EPA, DEP

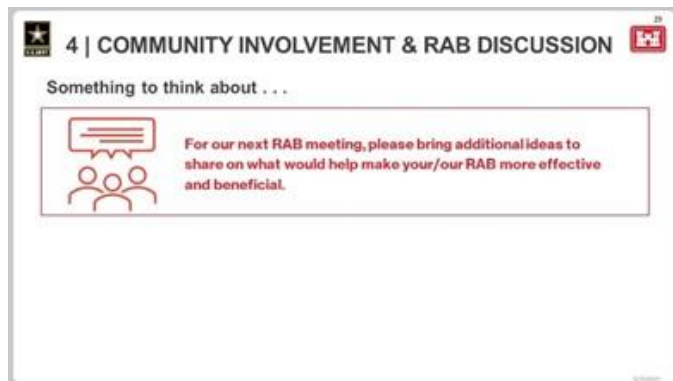


Understanding that there is a tradition and history to the RAB, we need to take a fresh look to clarify roles and responsibilities as outlined in the CIP. This may include updating the charter, mission statement, and co-chairs. These co-chairs provide leadership, give input on the agenda, and help keep the group organized. The RAB tries to be representative of all the interests including the different towns, interest groups, stakeholders and organizations, and citizens. These people may want to be members or only attend meetings. For the next exercise, attendees were asked to respond via chat: "What is our RAB's mission or what should be part of that mission statement?"



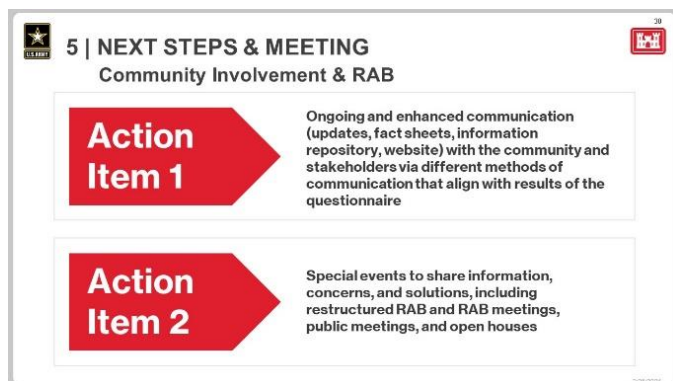
Input included:

- Safe and effective cleanup
- RAB responsive to community concerns
- Expertise, collaboration, public health, action
- Opportunity to educate community on ongoing issues and communicate concerns that will make a difference
- Transparency, clarity of restoration process
- Respect for all stakeholders
- Educate about the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB)
- Meeting often, frequency of communication
- Avoid jargon
- Educate stakeholders on most current methods and standards – how site restoration may change based on new regs, laws
- Carry education from RAB back to community



There was a short discussion to clarify the meaning of some responses and generate new responses. One best practice may be that members of the community take these lists, think about the input, and share ideas on making the RAB more effective or beneficial at the next meeting.

NEXT STEPS, Q&A, AND CLOSING

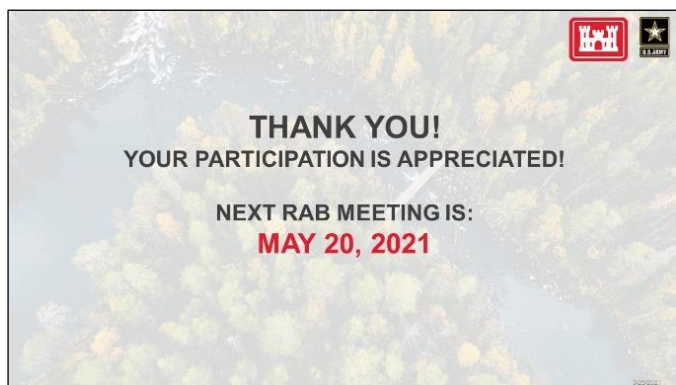


The presentation portion of the meeting came to a close, with the next two items coming out of the CIP: ongoing and enhanced communication as well as special events to share information, concerns, and RAB meetings. Attendees were asked to think about these action items:

- What are the other ways to get information flowing?
- Are there other opportunities that the RAB may benefit from—opportunities to learn or share information?



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



The next RAB will be on Thursday, May 20, 2021.
The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

Question	Answer
From Rich D. – Question for later: Where were the pictures on the first slide taken?	The pictures on the first slide are from Cold Spring Brook. The slides are attached to these meeting minutes.
From Laurie Nehring (PACE) – Army paid for sampling at Spec Pond?	Andy Vitolins (SERES/Arcadis) answered that the Army has paid for sampling to date, but the source is not associated with Fort Devens.
From Jennifer M. – Did any of the towns conduct their own third-party sampling?	Roy Herizig (MassDevelopment) said that MassDevelopment does regular sampling for PFAS6. The sampling that they have done is non-detect after treatment.
From Libby L. – Question for later: did you say community sampling is complete? Isn't there a plan to continue to monitor PFAS levels in the community? Water (and PFAS) moves. Thank you.	Andy Vitolins (SERES/Arcadis) answered that the towns must do certification sampling for their drinking water supplies. They will continue to certify and PFAS will be included in that sampling. For this project, the first round of sampling is complete. There is not a plan to complete additional sampling off-post for community wells.
From Jennifer M. – Is there data for groundwater and soil sampling in Shirley?	Penny Reddy (USACE) stated that the Army sampled the Shirley public water supply in May 2019 and it was non-detect for PFAS. USACE sampled private wells in in Shirley.
From Carol Keating (EPA) – One slide stated that the Army will not be sampling public and private wells moving forward. Has Army received any requests from towns, homeowners, businesses to collect additional samples?	Penny Reddy (USACE) stated that the Army sent out letters to residents and have sampled wells as requested.
From John Kastrinos (MassDevelopment) – Which of the MassDEP 6 are among the 12 "end product" compounds? Thanks	Erika Houtz (SERES/Arcadis) answered that all six of the MassDEP regulated compounds in drinking water are end products.
From Laurie Nehring (PACE) – Where do we find these samples showing fingerprints? Erika is presenting - fingerprints from AOC 75	Andy Vitolins (SERES/Arcadis) said the data that these fingerprints are based on are available on the website, including all 16 compounds. The actual fingerprints will be presented moving forward either in work plans or remedial investigation reports. They will be available in the final work plans or investigations are completed. The data are available on the website under these headings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area 1 PFAS Remedial Investigation (RI) Data • Area 2 PFAS Remedial Investigation (RI) Data • Area 3 PFAS Remedial Investigation (RI) Data



Question	Answer
From John Kastrinos (MassDevelopment) – Do these data lead to any conclusions with respect to likely sources of PFAS in Grove Pond wells (i.e., AOC 75 vs. AOC 74/Grove Pond)? How are you defining “Shallow Groundwater?” Will companion plots be produced for soil and varying depths below groundwater? Thank you.	Andy Vitolins (SERES/Arcadis) said that there are some things we can tell about Grove Pond. Erika Houtz (SERES/Arcadis) added that these Grove Pond samples show a similar PFAS composition to the neighboring groundwater wells. She continued to say that shallow groundwater is 50 feet or less below ground surface—not bedrock. SERES/Arcadis has looked at companion plots and the potential is there to prepare those plots.
From Laurie Nehring (PACE) – Can we tell how long the foams have been there, or when they began with fingerprinting?	<p>Erika Houtz (SERES/Arcadis) said that we cannot tell these items. We can tell the range of manufacturing dates for the product. With the fingerprinting alone, we cannot tell when it was used or released. More factors go into determining use and release. For manufacturing, we know that GenX was developed after 2010 to replace PFOA. If we were to detect that component, we’d be able to match that timeframe.</p> <p>Laurie Nehring (PACE) explained that they’re investigating the source of these compounds and asked if the team was studying it.</p> <p>Andy Vitolins (SERES/Arcadis) answered that the Army is building on the data that we have collected to scope and implement the Phase 2 remedial investigations and pilot studies.</p>
From Laurie Nehring (PACE) – What about quantities? Can these be expressed in the fingerprinting?	<p>Erika Houtz (SERES/Arcadis) said that the scale for the fingerprinting is not precise. While the plots captured the PFAS distribution of the sample and the highest and lowest compounds. Andy Vitolins added that the longer the compounds have been moved or transformed by the environment, it is harder to calculate release quantities.</p> <p>However, the symbols are relatively proportional to the PFAS concentrations.</p>
From John Kastrinos (MassDevelopment) – Fingerprinting graphics or analysis have not been provided in the Preliminary Site Characterization Summary reports. Will the Army be producing a stand-alone document with this analysis? Can you provide raw data, including chromatograms, for selected samples?	Andy Vitolins (SERES/Arcadis) said there won’t be a separate fingerprinting analysis, but they will be included in work plans and remedial investigation reports. Moving forward, the raw data will be appended to the remedial investigation reports.
From an Unnamed Guest – Hi, I have a question - Is it safe to live within 2 miles of Fort Devens Superfund site? Is there any health-related concern in terms of groundwater?	<p>Andy Vitolins (SERES/Arcadis) said that the community groundwater systems have been sampled extensively. Investigations will continue to verify the sources to that groundwater are accounted for. If needed, they will be cleaned up. Contact EPA, MassDEP, or your local health board if you have additional questions. The Army has been reporting to them directly.</p> <p>Erika Houtz (SERES/Arcadis) added that the only health concerns for PFAS in groundwater is for consumption, not any other use.</p>
From Jennifer M. – Is there a map showing the furthest samples taken off Devens property (migration in groundwater)?	Andy Vitolins (SERES/Arcadis) answered that there are maps in the reports for Phase I that show where the samples have been collected. Future reports will show where samples have been collected or where future samples will be collected.
From Libby L. – Question for later: why is long term monitoring limited to the base, when there is evidence of PFAS in neighboring communities? Thanks, from Harvard	Andy Vitolins (SERES/Arcadis) answered that long-term monitoring is typically implemented when the remedial investigation is completed. There is long-term monitoring associated with the BRAC closure sites. There will likely be a long-term monitoring plan for PFAS after we move through the remediation process.

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



Question	Answer
From Laurie Nehring (PACE) – I would like to ask questions about high levels of PFAS as Moore Army Airfield; UXO concerns; SHL - ATP; Army National Guard property & AOC 44 + 52	Bob Simeone (Devens BRAC) asked Ms. Nehring (PACE) to call him with her list of questions.
From Cole W. – As you may know MassDEP has sent out letters to homeowners to test private wells for PFAS, Is that something that is also being done in conjunction/overlap with the Army testing?	Andy Vitolins (SERES/Arcadis) answered that he has not seen the letters, but assumes those letters overlap with what the Army has done. David Chaffin (MassDEP) said that he will investigate it.
From Roy Herzig (MassDevelopment) – It would be very helpful to have the fingerprint analysis detailed in the next phase work plans to help guide the sampling approach. It would not be as helpful to wait until the RI Reports when sampling is already finished.	Andy Vitolins (SERES/Arcadis) said that the fingerprint analysis will help guide the work plans to help identify data gaps.
From Martha M. – In March of last year, the Nashua River Watershed Association requested the Army conduct a Time-Critical Removal Action at AOC 31 to immediately mitigate the very high PFAS concentrations in soil and groundwater at this area. Has this been considered? If not, why not?	Andy Vitolins (SERES/Arcadis) stated that, typically a TCRA is initiated when there is an immediate threat to life or wellbeing. To date, the need for a TCRA has not been established. However, the Army would work with EPA and MassDEP or EPA to implement such an action if the need is established..
From Rich Doherty – Rich commented on the time limit.	Bob Simeone (Devens BRAC) reiterated that the public can reach out to him directly if they have additional questions or concerns.
From Laurie Nehring (PACE) – Laurie asked about the frequency of RAB Meetings.	Andy Vitolins (SERES/Arcadis) said that quarterly meetings are appropriate as they match the pace of the investigations, reviews, and other activities. He emphasized that there will be meetings for major decision points or events outside of the normal RAB Process when needed. Meetings once every two months would get repetitive.



RAB MEETING INVITE

Former Fort Devens Army Installation Notification



**Please join us for the next Former Fort Devens RAB Meeting,
Thursday, February 25, 2021, 6:30 to 8 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,,481762216# (Phone Conference ID: 481 762 216#)

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 | Updates on the planning and implementation process
Project Updates | Summary of recent sampling and other project work
Upcoming Work | What to expect for technical work this year
RAB Discussion | Moving forward with the RAB
Next Steps & Meeting | The look ahead

Bring your thoughts about the RAB and questions about the PFAS 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 contact the Army BRAC Environmental Coordinator,
Bob Simeone, at robert.j.simeone.civ@mail.mil or 978.615.6090.

We look forward to hearing from you at this meeting.