

RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB) MEETING

Former Fort Devens Army Installation
November 10, 2022



US Army Corps
of Engineers®



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



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)

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Andy Vitolins, Steven Perry,
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Regulatory and Development Board Members:

Carol Keating
U.S. Environmental Protection
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ZaNetta Purnell
USEPA Region 1
Public Affairs Specialist

Joanne Dearden
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Roy Herzig
MassDevelopment

Community Board Members:

Julie Corenzwit
Amy McCoy
Dave McCoy
Chris Mitchell
Laurie Nehring
Alix Turner



WELCOME!



Tonight's topics

1

**Community
Involvement
& RAB Update**

2

**Project
Updates &
Upcoming
Work**

3

**Next Steps
& Meeting**

4

**Questions
& Answers**



1 | COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & RAB

5



Community Involvement Plan Update



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



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



Military munitions
notifications and public
outreach efforts continue



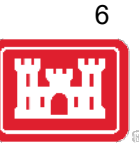
The next quarterly RAB
meeting will be on
February 9, 2023

The Community Involvement Plan (CIP) and all other documents including the ARs are available on the Fort Devens Environmental Cleanup website at:

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



1 | COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & RAB



RAB Technical Committee Meeting

Technical Committee meeting held on October 6, 2022

Primary topics of discussion included:

- Additional sampling of soil and groundwater at the AOC 31 - Former Fire Training Area (FFTA) at Moore Army Airfield.
- Next steps at FFTA, including how sampling and bench-scale treatability study results will be used.
- Overview of current planning for PFAS investigation in Area 1, including the scale and scope for sampling of soil, groundwater, surface water, sediment, and fish tissue.

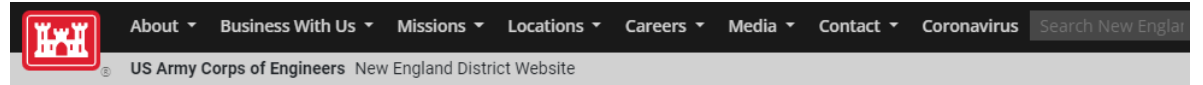


1 | COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & RAB



Digital Administrative Record

- 100+ documents have been uploaded to the digital AR accessible via the project website
- Initial focus is making PFAS and recent Shepley's Hill Landfill documents accessible (2016 – current)
- Next phase of uploads is starting now, focused on inventorying, scanning, and uploading digital copies of paper materials currently on base
- A helpful index to documents and links is expected to be ready and posted in November 2022



[Home](#) / [Missions](#) / [Projects/Topics](#) / [Former Fort Devens Environmental Cleanup](#) / Administrative Record

Former Fort Devens Administrative Record (AR)

The AR is a collection of documents that form the basis for the selection of a response action at an environmental restoration site. The documents included in the Former Fort Devens AR are arranged by subject code and are identified with unique numbers to assist in tracking and retrieval of the documents.

The index to the administrative record file is linked below.

01 Site Management Records

1.01 Correspondence

1.02 ASR

1.03 Scopes of Work/Contractual Document

1.04 Site Photographs and Maps

1.05 Site Descriptions and Chronologies

1.06 Reference Documents

1.07 Federal, State, Local Technical Records

1.08 INPR

1.09 PA Report

1-09-PFAS-2017-09-00-Final-BW-Pre-Asst-for-Eval-of-PFAS

1.10 SI Documents

PFAS-2017-05-04-Final-Expedited-SI-WP-for-PFAS

PFAS-2018-05-22-Final-SI-Rpt-for-PFAS



1 | COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & RAB



Evaluation of Ideal Location for Physical Information Repository (IR)

Location	Able to Serve as IR?	Hours	Open Evenings/Weekends?	Access Details	Distance
Ayer Library	Yes, currently serving as the repository	Tues/Thurs: 10-6 Wed: 10-8; Fri: 10-5 Sat: 9-2	10 hours per week	Current room is open and easy to access and maintain. A table and chairs are available in the room adjacent to the shelving where documents are stored.	Adjacent
Ayer Police Department	No	--	--	Insufficient supervision and document controls	Adjacent
Ayer Town Hall	Yes	Mon/Weds/Thurs: 8-4 Tues: 8-6; Fri: 8-2	1 hour per week	Documents would be in the Great Hall, which is unsupervised. Documents would not be able to be monitored and controlled via a check in/out sheet.	Adjacent
Fitchburg Library	No	--	--	No space available during construction (2022-2025)	12 miles
Harvard Library	No	--	--	No adequate space available.	7 miles
Hazen Memorial Library (Shirley)	No	--	--	No adequate space available.	2 miles
Leominster Library	No	--	--	No adequate space available	9 miles
Thayer Memorial Library (Lancaster)	Yes	Mon/Weds/Thurs: 10-8 Tues: 12-8; Fri: 10-5 Sat: 10-2	16 hours per week	No public access to historical documents room, not a browsable space. Potential to have document list or instructions on the community board.	10 miles

1 | COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & RAB

Current Information Repository at Ayer Public Library



Current shelving



Table available



More shelving is ready



2 | PROJECT UPDATES & UPCOMING WORK

Final Documents Posted Since Last RAB Meeting

- Final In-Situ Air Sparge Pilot Test Implementation Report – Shepley’s Hill Landfill (SHL)
- Final 2021 Annual Monitoring Reports – SHL, Main Post, AOC 50 (MAAF)
- Final SHL Arsenic Treatment Plant Design Memorandum - SHL

Draft Documents Submitted to Agencies Since Last RAB Meeting

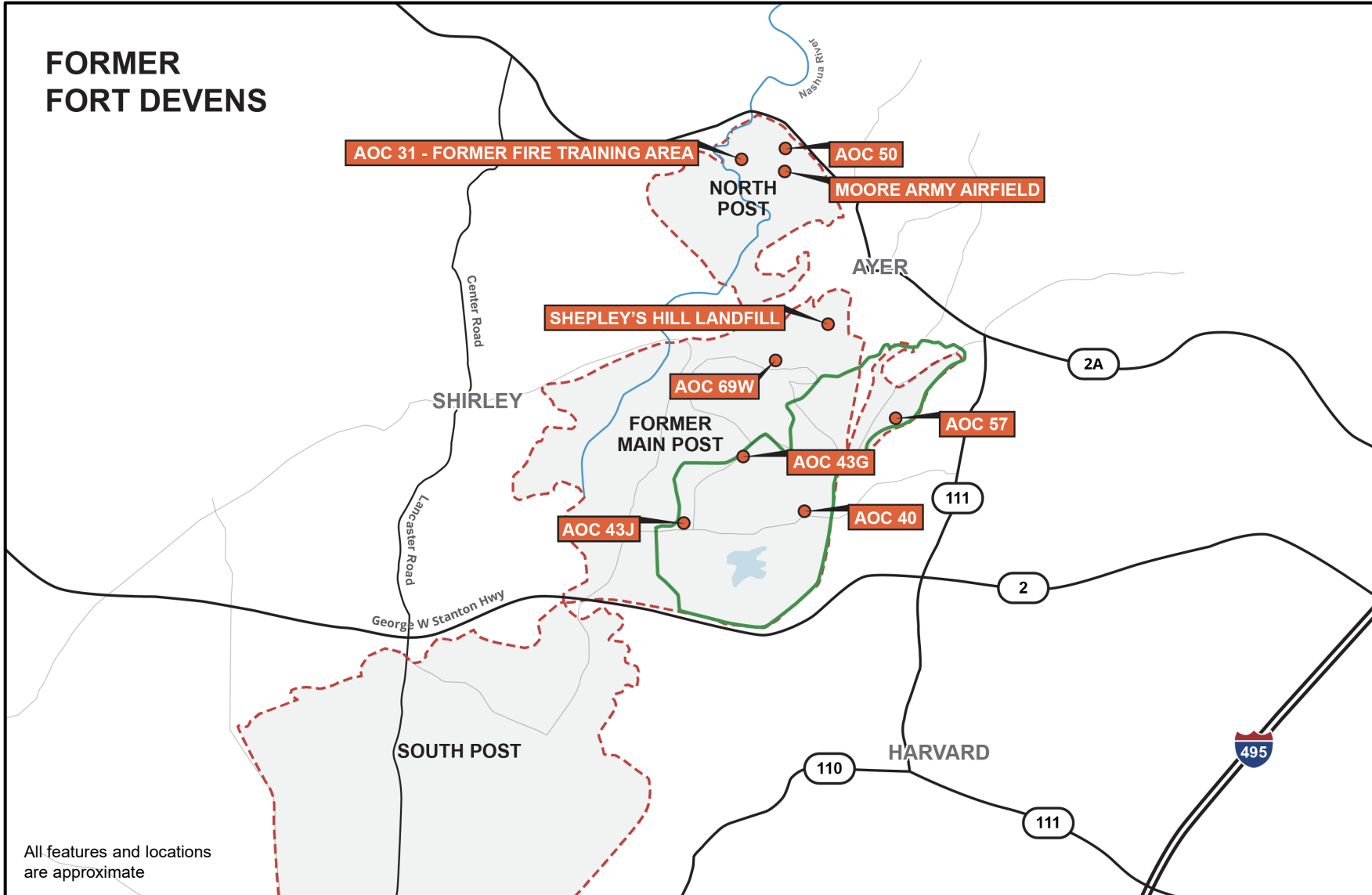
- Draft Outline – SHL Focused Feasibility Study (FFS)
- Revised Draft Post-ROD AOC 57 Supplemental Remedial Investigation (RI) Work Plan – Main Post
- Spring 2022 Long-Term Monitoring Data (Validated) – SHL, Main Post, Former Moore Army Airfield (MAAF)
- Draft AOC 57 Land Use Control Implementation Plan (LUCIP) – Main Post
- Draft SA 71 LUCIP – Main Post
- Revised Draft MR-QAPP – Nashua River

Responses to Comments/Revised Docs. Submitted to Agencies Since Last RAB Meeting

- RTCs: Draft PFAS Area 1 Phase 2 RI Work Plan
- RTCs: Draft AOC 69W LUCIP
- RTCs: Draft AOC 43G Post-ROD Supplemental RI Work Plan
- RTCs: Revised Draft AOC 69W Post-ROD Supplemental RI Work Plan



2 | PROJECT UPDATES & UPCOMING WORK



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



2 | PROJECT UPDATES & UPCOMING WORK

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Former Moore Army Airfield Updates

Current Concerns

- PFAS in soil and groundwater at AOC 31 - Former Fire Training Area (FFTA)
- PFAS discharge to surface water (Nashua River)
- Remnant perchloroethylene (PCE) in groundwater (post-remediation)

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: Soil and groundwater sampling began in June 2022 and was completed in September 2022. Treatability study initiated in October 2022. Additional soil and groundwater sampling planned October through December 2022.







2 | PROJECT UPDATES & UPCOMING WORK

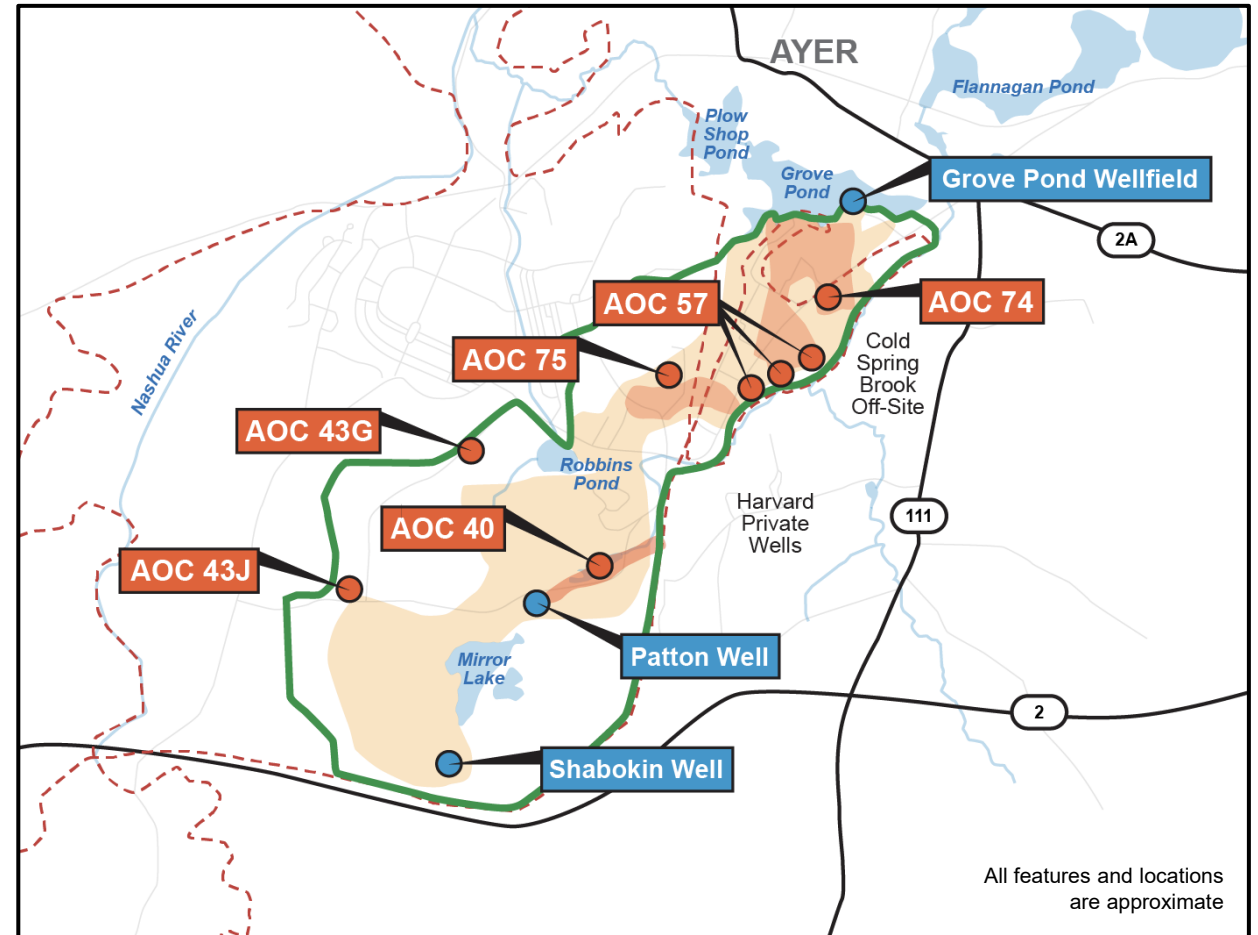
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Area 1 Phase 2 PFAS RI Update

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)
- PFAS discharge to surface water bodies
- 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



PFAS concentration in groundwater exceeding MADEP PFAS6 limit (20 ng/l)

PFAS concentration in groundwater exceeding EPA LHA (70 ng/l)

PFAS Area 1

AOC

Water Supply Wells



2 | PROJECT UPDATES & UPCOMING WORK

Area 1 Phase 2 PFAS RI Update

Draft Work Plan Summary (Post-USEPA/MassDEP Comment in Army RTC)

Task	Concern/Area Addressed	Quantity (as presented in draft document or RTC)
Surface Geophysics (seismic profiling)	Bedrock surface depth	30,000 linear feet
Soil Borings	Presence/magnitude of PFAS in unsaturated soil	30+ locations (multiple depth intervals each)
Vertical Aquifer Profiling	Horizontal and vertical extent of PFAS in overburden groundwater	15 locations (approx. 8 intervals each)
Overburden Monitoring Well Installation	Horizontal and vertical extent of PFAS in overburden groundwater	30 wells (in addition to 37 existing)
Bedrock Monitoring Well Installation	Presence of PFAS in bedrock aquifer	11 wells (in addition to 3 existing)
Stream Gauge Installation	Groundwater/surface water discharge patterns	6 locations (in addition to 8 existing)
Surface Water and Sediment Sampling	Presence and concentrations of PFAS in surface water and sediment	46 surface water locations in 9 surface water bodies (CSB, CSB Pond, Mirror Lake, Robbins Pond, Grove Pond, Plow Shop Pond, Balch Pond, Nashua River, Bowers Brook), 7 additional sediment locations (39 previously sampled)
Fish Tissue Sampling	Presence and concentration of PFAS in edible portions of fish (human health consumption risk)	6 surface water bodies, 10 fish per location (CSB, Mirror Lake, Robbins Pond, Grove Pond, Plow Shop Pond, Nashua River)
Groundwater Sampling	Presence and concentrations of PFAS in overburden and bedrock groundwater. Groundwater flow direction.	2 events – fall/spring; 92 locations per event
Human Health Risk Assessment	Potential human exposure pathways and risk associated with PFAS in the environment.	Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA) per EPA guidance.
Ecological Risk Screening	Potential ecological exposure pathways and risk associated with PFAS in the environment.	Screening Level Ecological Risk Assessment (SLERA) per EPA guidance.

Shepley's Hill Landfill Updates

Current Concerns

- Arsenic in groundwater downgradient (north) of landfill
- Ability of existing groundwater extraction system to meet cleanup goals





2 | PROJECT UPDATES & UPCOMING WORK



Shepley's Hill Landfill Updates

Groundwater Remedy Evaluation

Objective: Evaluate alternatives to existing groundwater extraction system.

Tasks: In-Situ Air Sparging Pilot Study; Focused Feasibility Study (USEPA 2016 SHL SOW Phase 3).

Updates: Final Air Sparging Pilot Study Report submitted in September 2022; Draft Final Focused Feasibility Study Outline and table of ARARs to be submitted November 2022.

Arsenic Treatment Plant (ATP) Pilot Test

Objective: Optimize the post-groundwater extraction treatment process.

Tasks: Replace oxidant with permanganate (currently chlorine).

Updates: Final Design Memo for metals removal systems submitted to Agencies in October 2022; installation of alternate metal removal system estimated Spring 2023.



2 | PROJECT UPDATES & UPCOMING WORK



Shepley's Hill Landfill Updates

(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 once contracting is complete (spring 2023).

Long-Term Monitoring

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

Updates: Spring sampling completed in May 2022; fall sampling completed in November 2022.



2 | PROJECT UPDATES & UPCOMING WORK



Former Main Post Updates

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: RTCs for Revised Draft Work Plan for AOC 69W and Draft Work Plan for AOC 43G submitted in October 2022; Draft Work Plan for AOC 57 submitted in August 2022; field work to follow Work Plan Approval.

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 LUCIPs for AOCs 44/52, 69W, and 57 under review by agencies; RTCs for Draft AOC 69W LUCIP submitted in; SA 71 LUCIP submitted in August 2022.



4 | QUESTIONS & ANSWERS





THANK YOU!
YOUR PARTICIPATION IS APPRECIATED!

NEXT RAB MEETING IS:
FEBRUARY 9, 2023

(Second Thursday of the month)