



# U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS PROPOSED PLAN

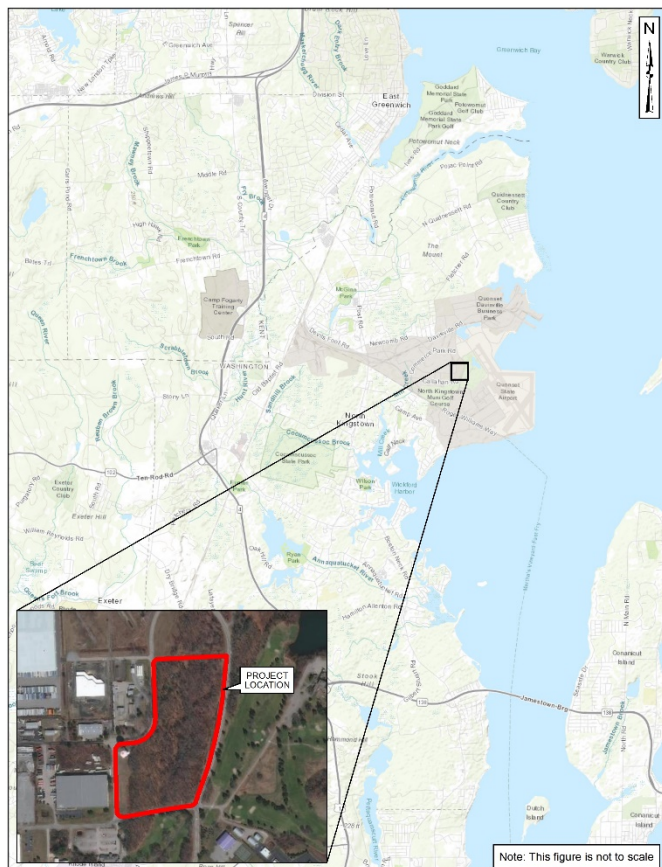
## QUARRY DISPOSAL SITE – FORMER QUONSET POINT NAVAL AIR STATION

NORTH KINGSTOWN, RHODE ISLAND

JANUARY 2022

### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The United States (U.S.) Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is proposing “No Further Action” as the proposed decision for the Quarry Disposal Site (the site) located in North Kingstown, Rhode Island (see Figure 1). The “No Further Action” decision is being proposed in accordance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA).



**Figure 1: Project Location**

The site encompasses approximately 20 acres of forestland and is located within the former Quonset Point Naval Air Station (NAS). The former Quonset Point NAS operated from 1940 through 1974 as a naval training and support facility. The site was used for the disposal of unspecified waste while the installation was operational. The site was conveyed to the Rhode Island Port Authority (RIPA) and the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) in November 1978. Presently, the site is one of several land parcels being managed by the Quonset Development Corporation (QDC). Most of the future land use at the site is limited by a consent order requiring the property to

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

USACE will hold a public comment period during which your questions or comments on the Proposed Plan and the proposed decision of No Further Action may be submitted to the Army prior to final remedy selection.

#### Public Comment Period

**Jan. 24 – Mar. 7, 2022**

You can comment in writing, by mail, or e-mail, to:  
Ms. Marie Wojtas  
USACE – New England District  
696 Virginia Road  
Concord, MA 01742  
Email: [marie.a.wojtas@usace.army.mil](mailto:marie.a.wojtas@usace.army.mil)  
Comments must be postmarked or e-mailed by midnight on **Mar. 7, 2022**.

#### Public Meeting Notice

**Date:** Feb. 2, 2022

**Time:** 6:30 pm

**Location:**

<https://usace1.webex.com/join/cenae-pa>

Join by phone

1-844-800-2712 US Toll Free

1-669-234-1177 US Toll

Access code: 199 945 8471

#### Project Information Repository

The local repository information is provided on page 8.

remain undeveloped. A small portion of the site is proposed as general industrial land use.

The Quarry Disposal site is part of the Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) program because of the Department of Defense's (DoD) past ownership and use. USACE is the lead agency for conducting investigations and other activities at the site under the FUDS program. The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) is the support agency at this site. Activities conducted under the FUDS program must comply with the Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) statute, Title 10 U.S. Code Section 2701 (10 U.S. Code [USC] 2701) et seq.; CERCLA, 42 USC § 9601 et seq.; and the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP), Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 300.

This Proposed Plan is being issued by USACE as part of its public participation responsibilities under 40 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) Section 300.430(f)(2) of the NCP

and Section 117(a) of the CERCLA (42 USC § 9617). The Proposed Plan fulfills the public participation requirements of Section 117(a) of the CERCLA (42 USC § 9617) and 40 CFR 300.430(f)(2). The Proposed Plan is prepared for the public, identifies the proposed decision, and summarizes the site background and environmental investigation results for the Quarry Disposal site. These results can be found in greater detail in the Final Remedial Investigation (RI) Report for the Quarry Disposal site, Quonset Point Naval Air Station (Stell Environmental Enterprises, Inc. [Stell] 2021). In accordance with 40 CFR 300.430(f)(3), CERCLA specifies that a plan must be published in a major local newspaper requesting public participation and comment. A public meeting and comment period will take place as detailed in the text box of page one of this Proposed Plan.

Since the decommissioning of the Quonset Point NAS in 1974, numerous site investigation activities have been performed at the site. Information on these investigations and assessments, as well as the Final RI Report and this Proposed Plan, can be found at the local information repository (IR) at the North Kingstown Free Library. The public is encouraged to review this Proposed Plan and supporting documents in the IR to gain a more complete understanding of the investigation activities that have been conducted at the site. See the above information box for

further details on the IR and to find out how your opinion can be heard.

The official Administrative Record file is maintained and located at the North Kingstown Free Library, 100 Boone Street, North Kingstown, Rhode Island 02852. Key documents are also available on-line at: <https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Projects-Topics/Former-Quarry-Disposal-Site-FUDS/>.

The results of the Final RI indicate that media (soil, sediment, surface water, groundwater, and pore water) within the site do not pose unacceptable risks to human and/or ecological receptors. Based on these conclusions, USACE is proposing No Further Action for the site. Since the results of the RI concluded that media within the site do not pose unacceptable risks to human and/or ecological receptors, a feasibility study (FS) to evaluate remedial alternatives is not warranted.

The proposed decision of No Further Action presented in this Proposed Plan may be modified based on new information or public comments. The final decision for the Quarry Disposal site will be presented in a Decision Document following the public meeting and comment period. A notice will be placed in the local newspaper when the Decision Document is finished and can be accessed at the IR.

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## **2.0 SITE BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 - History**

In 1898, the U.S. military first converted a state park located 18 miles south of Providence, Rhode Island, to Camp Dyer. The military camp was created to support military capabilities during the Spanish-American War and remained in government custody until it was commissioned to the larger Quonset Point NAS in 1940. Quonset Point NAS was used as a training and support facility during World War II through the Cold War until it was decommissioned in 1974 as part of several defense cutbacks following the end of U.S. engagement in Vietnam. Since the closure of the former Quonset Point NAS, a small military presence remained. The facility was later converted to support flight operations for the 143rd Rhode Island Air National Guard that remains active to this day.

The site is comprised of an approximately 20-acre parcel in the central portion of the former Quonset Point NAS (Figure 2). The U.S. Navy mined granite bedrock from the quarry, although the depth of the quarry is unknown. Subsequently, the site was used for the discarding of unspecified waste while the former Quonset Point NAS was operational. Following decommissioning of the NAS in 1974, the site was conveyed to the RIPA and the EDC in November 1978. Presently, the site is one of several land parcels being managed by the QDC, a quasi-state agency established in

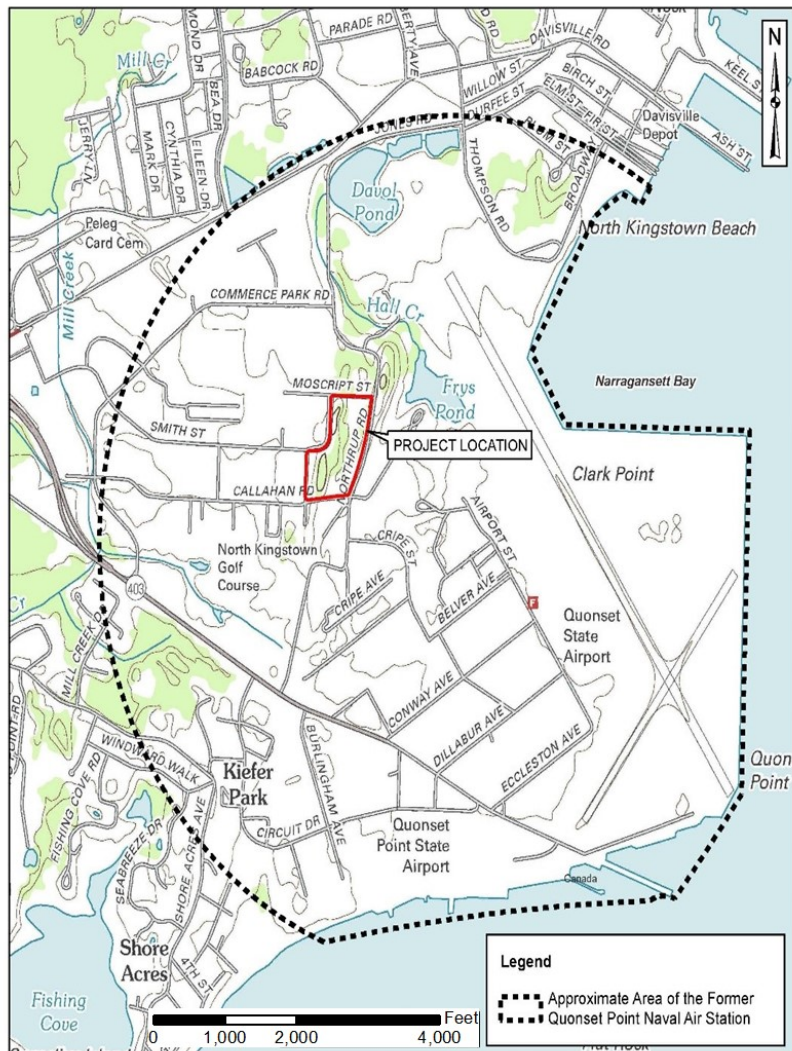
2004 for the development and management of the Quonset Business Park.

### **2.2 - Summary of Site Impacts**

The site includes a debris area that is believed to have been a primary source of contamination of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), metals, pesticides, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). According to the Final site Inspection Prioritization Report (CDM Federal Programs Corporation [CDM] 1995), waste materials generated from former Quonset Point NAS activity, such as creosote-treated poles, concrete, wood, construction rubble, and metal drums, were disposed of in this area from approximately 1950 to 1972. In April 1985, the site was added to the CERCLA Information System (United States Environmental Protection Agency [USEPA] 1995).

### **2.3 - Summary of Previous Site Investigations and Activities**

The site has been investigated by DoD for environmental concerns beginning in 1984. Investigations in 1988, 1993, and 1994 were conducted, which included groundwater, surface water, sediment, and soil sampling. An initial RI and risk assessment was conducted from 1993 to 1997 (Metcalf and Eddy 1993, 1997).



**Figure 2: Former Quonset Point NAS**

The site's initial environmental investigation was conducted in 1984 by the RIPA and RIDEM (RIDEM 1984). The investigation focused on the south-central portion of the property (debris area), where miscellaneous scattered debris was evident on the ground surface. Concrete and other "heavy" demolition debris (large slabs of concrete, brick, and rebar) were observed in test pits that were excavated to depths ranging from 4.0 to 9.5 feet.

#### 2.3.2 - 1988 Confirmation Investigation Report

Sirrine Environmental Consultants, Inc. (SEC) conducted a confirmation investigation in 1987 during which they performed sampling of groundwater, surface soil, sediment, and surface water. Concentrations of metals and pesticides in sediment exceeded ecological screening levels (ESLs), copper concentrations exceeded ESLs in surface water, and mercury concentrations exceeded human health and ESLs in surface water (Metcalf and Eddy 1993; SEC 1988).

#### 2.3.3 - 1993 Engineering Evaluation Final Report

In 1992, Metcalf and Eddy conducted an engineering evaluation of prior data collected at the site. They reported that metals, pesticides, PCBs, and SVOCs were detected in the various media (soil, groundwater, and surface water) sampled. Groundwater samples exhibited concentrations of aluminum, beryllium, and lead that exceeded their respective human health screening levels but were not "significantly elevated over background conditions" (Metcalf and Eddy 1993). Analytical results from monitoring well GZ-1, located in the Kiefer Park Fuel Farm on Quonset Point NAS and approximately 1 mile south-southwest of the site, were considered to be representative of background groundwater quality. The evaluation concluded that groundwater "does not appear to have been significantly degraded by on-site activities."

Surface soil samples exhibited concentrations of metals, pesticides, and SVOCs that exceeded screening levels. Lead concentrations were higher than regional background levels (Southeastern New England), and concentrations of



pesticides and SVOCs were detected in the soil throughout the area. The evaluation concluded that pesticide spraying and debris disposal may be the source of the contaminants.

Surface water concentrations of pesticides and aluminum exceeded ESLs. The evaluation concluded that pesticides may have been applied for insect control and that “it appears surface water at the site has been degraded” (Metcalf and Eddy 1993). The evaluation concluded that except for most metals detected, it is likely that chemicals detected on the site are a result of pesticide application and disposal activities.

#### 2.3.4 - 1994 Baseline Risk Assessment Work Plan Draft Report

The last known media sampling event (prior to the 2018 supplemental RI) was conducted by CDM in 1994. The study design and results were described in the Draft Baseline Risk Assessment Work Plan - Phase II (October 1994), the Final Site Inspection Prioritization Report (CDM 1995), and the 1997 Baseline Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA) and Ecological Risk Assessment (ERA) (Metcalf and Eddy 1997). Surface soil samples were collected in the vicinity of the debris area, and sediment samples were collected at three wetland locations. The samples were analyzed for SVOCs, lead, and mercury. Earthworm tissue was also collected and analyzed for pesticides, PCBs, and lead as part of an ecological exposure assessment.

SVOCs were detected in surface soil samples at concentrations above the laboratory reporting limit. Lead and mercury were not detected at significant concentrations above USEPA reference concentrations. Sediment sample analyses did not exhibit concentrations significantly above USEPA reference concentrations. Results of the earthworm tissue analyses were presented in the 1997 Baseline HHRA and ERA.

#### 2.3.5 - 1997 Baseline Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment

An HHRA and ERA were conducted from 1995 to 1997 (Metcalf and Eddy 1997). Groundwater, soil/sediment, surface water, and earthworm biological tissue samples collected during the 1994 assessment were evaluated. Based on current and future land-use scenarios evaluated at the time of the 1997 Baseline Risk Assessment, no potential routes of exposure to groundwater or surface water were identified. Risks to an on-site worker (expected to be the maximum exposure scenario at the site) from ingestion and dermal exposures to soil contaminants were evaluated quantitatively; neither noncarcinogenic nor carcinogenic health effects were estimated for this exposure scenario. The ERA concluded that no negative impacts to indicator species were anticipated.

Metals and pesticides were detected in groundwater on-site. Metals with the highest concentrations were present in the central areas of the site, while low levels of pesticides were detected in groundwater at three of the four monitoring wells located on-site. Soil and sediment samples collected in the vicinity of the debris area had detectable concentrations of lead, pesticides, and SVOCs. Aroclor 1260 (a specific PCB compound) was detected in soil and sediment samples across the entire site. Surface water was collected downgradient from the debris area, and aluminum was detected in all samples. Earthworm tissue samples had detected concentrations of lead and pesticides.

#### 2.3.6 - 1997 Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management Letter

RIDEM reviewed all the previous investigations and replied in a letter dated May 14, 1997, that the findings of the HHRA and ERA were insufficient to support a complete evaluation of the surface water exposure pathway to humans or ecological receptors (RIDEM 1997). RIDEM specifically cited a lack of data sufficient to determine the viability of the transport route from the site to shellfish beds in Narragansett Bay. A supplemental RI was requested by RIDEM to develop a new Conceptual Site Model (CSM) to address data gaps identified in the initial 1997 RI Report.

#### 2.3.7 - 2016 Final Remedial Investigation Data Gap Evaluation

Stell prepared a Final RI Data Gap Evaluation Report to describe the gathering of information and steps performed to identify and evaluate data gaps in order to develop an RI Work Plan for the site (Stell 2016).

#### 2.3.8 - 2018 Final Remedial Investigation Work Plan

Stell prepared a Final Work Plan which defined the project objectives, data collection, environmental media collection and analysis, and the reporting and evaluation methods to complete an RI Report in accordance with CERCLA and the NCP at the site (Stell 2018).

#### 2.3.9 - Final Field Report Remedial Investigation

This field report summarized RI field activities carried out by Stell between October and November 2018 at the Quarry Disposal site. These activities were conducted in conformance with Stell’s Final RI Work Plan (Stell 2018). This field report also summarized any deviations from the 2018 Final RI Work Plan (Stell 2019a).

#### 2.3.10 Final Remedial Investigation Report

The RI Report was approved by RIDEM on July 27, 2021. The RI Report is summarized in Section 3.0 below.

## **2.4 - Summary of Previous Public Engagement**

Historically, the community has not been very involved with the site, except for the 1994 Consent Order, where the plaintiffs were comprised of community members. There are currently no known community issues with regards to the site, based on communication and correspondence to date. In October 2018, a 4-x-6-foot sign elevated 6-feet above ground was posted at the corner of the site at the intersection with Genoa Drive and Smith Street, indicating that an environmental investigation is ongoing at the site and provides contact information for USACE and RIDEM. In addition, correspondence letters were sent in October 2018 to stakeholders, including RIDEM, the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council, the town of

North Kingstown, the Quonset State Airport, Rhode Island Commerce Corporation, and the QDC. The letters provided notifications that informed the stakeholders of the RI activities at the site.

Additionally, a Public Involvement Plan (PIP) was prepared in May 2019 to facilitate two-way communication between the community surrounding the site and USACE New England District, as well as encourage community involvement. The public involvement activities outlined in the PIP were developed to ensure that community members are kept informed and provided opportunities to be involved in the environmental restoration process at the site (Stell 2019b). The PIP can be found at the IR.

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## **3.0 SITE CHARACTERISTICS**

From November 2018 to July 2019, Stell conducted field activities in support of a supplemental RI of the site to address the data gaps cited by RIDEM in the response letter dated May 14, 1997, as detailed in Section 2.3.6.

The field investigation and sampling activities were performed with the objectives of evaluating: the nature and extent of contamination of soil, sediment, surface water, pore water, and groundwater associated with historical DoD disposal activities; the potential migration of contaminants of potential concern (COPCs) to the shellfish beds in Narragansett Bay; the comparison of on-site and off-site sampling results; and potential human health and ecological risks. Over 100 analytical samples were collected from various media within the Study Area to characterize the site further and evaluate potential migration pathways. Analyses of each media included VOC, SVOCs, metals, pesticides, and/or PCBs.

A description of the site and Study Area evaluated during the RI is presented below.

### **3.1 - Physical Description of the Site and Study Area**

The site is located in North Kingstown, Rhode Island, approximately 3,000 feet west of Narragansett Bay and approximately 18 miles south of Providence. The site boundary is defined to the north by the abandoned section of Moscrip Avenue, to the east by Northrup Road, to the south by Callahan Road, and along the west by Mooring Drive and Genoa Drive. The debris area, which is approximately 1,740 square feet and believed to have been a primary source of contamination, is located within the site boundary southeast of the intersection of Smith and Genoa Streets.

The Study Area is within the watershed of Frys Pond, which includes Hall Creek, as well as an intermittent headwater stream that flows northward and off the site. The Study Area also extended to the northern portion of the

North Kingstown Municipal Golf Course adjacent to Frys Pond, Narragansett Bay (outfall location of Frys Pond), and an upstream background reference area around Hall Creek located to the north of the site. The site boundary, Study Area boundary, and debris area are depicted on Figure 3 at the end of the plan.

### **3.2 - Nature and Extent of Contamination**

The RI sampling results were evaluated to determine the nature and extent of contamination in media within the Study Area and to determine COPCs. In support of the RI objectives, background reference samples were collected as a means of comparing site-related COPCs to background conditions and used to calculate background threshold values (BTVs). Background reference locations are defined as locations both off site and upgradient of the site within the Study Area. Background reference locations are illustrated on Figure 3 at the end of the plan. Additionally, Stell evaluated potential off-site source areas upgradient and downgradient from the Study Area to determine potential sources of impact to water quality. In addition, analytical results from the RI were evaluated and used to support the performance of an HHRA and Screening-level Ecological Risk Assessment (SLERA) to quantify the risk associated with COPCs to site-specific receptors, as summarized in greater detail in Section 5.0.

Sampling and analyses conducted for the RI were sufficient to determine the nature and extent of COPC contamination in soil, sediment, surface water, groundwater, and pore water. Concentrations among all contaminant classes are typically at a low level and are consistent with impacts noted throughout the Study Area. A COPC was identified if the analyte was detected above its respective Project Action Limit (PAL). The COPC classes identified at the site include VOCs, metals, SVOCs, pesticides, and PCBs (specifically Aroclor 1260). See

Figures 4 and 5 for soil/sediment and aqueous sample locations at the end of the plan.

The results can be found in greater detail in the Final RI Report for the Quarry Disposal site - Quonset Point Naval Air Station (Stell 2021), available for review at the IR.

### **3.3 Conceptual Site Model**

The CSM considers the physical site setting, current and future land use, the nature and extent of environmental impacts, potential human and/or ecological receptors, and potential exposure pathways. Additionally, the CSM describes the interactions of COPCs related to a source area with the physicochemical conditions in the Study Area, media characteristics, and the chemical properties of the COPCs to define their transport, fate, and exposure points to receptors. A summary of the site CSM is provided below.

The CSM is affected by future land use as determined by

institutional controls, regulatory classifications, and other variables. At the site, much of the future land use is limited by a consent order requiring the property to remain undeveloped. A smaller portion of the site ("Site Readiness" parcels 18 and 19) are proposed to be for general industrial use (QDC 2019). In addition, groundwater use is limited by the underlying aquifer classified as Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management tier Method 1 evaluation method (M1) Class GB Groundwater Objectives (GB) (groundwater classified as GB may not be suitable for public or private drinking water use without treatment due to known or presumed degradation). As a result, future residential risk is not likely, and potential future health risks are limited to the following scenarios: recreationalist/trespasser, construction worker, commercial/industrial (C/I) worker scenarios, and potential downstream ecological receptors associated with Hall Creek and Frys Pond.

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## **4.0 SCOPE AND ROLE OF RESPONSE ACTION**

In April 1985, the site was added to the CERCLA Information System (USEPA 1995). USACE New England District tasked Stell to conduct the RI for the site following RIDEM's request that a supplemental RI be completed to develop a new CSM, and address data gaps identified in the initial 1997 RI Report.

The overall project (Project Number D01R1048601) is being completed under the DoD DERP-FUDS Program. As such, DoD is the lead agency with the delegated authority to plan and implement response actions under the

CERCLA and NCP. USACE is the lead agent for executing the FUDS program and working with RIDEM, the lead regulatory agency for this project.

This proposed plan addresses only the site proper (the approximately 20-acre Quarry Disposal site). The proposed decision, No Further Action, for the site is intended to be the final remedy/decision and does not impact any other source areas or investigations related to other operable units or areas of concern within the former Quonset Point NAS or potential off-site source areas.

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## **5.0 SUMMARY OF SITE RISKS**

Analytical results from the RI, as summarized in Section 3.2, were evaluated and used to support the performance of an HHRA and SLERA to quantify the risk associated with COPCs to site-specific receptors, as summarized below.

### **5.1 Human Health Risk Assessment**

The HHRA evaluated exposure to chemicals from the site in soil, groundwater, pore water, sediment, and surface water. Potential risks to human health under current- and future-use scenarios were quantitatively evaluated for the following receptors: a current recreationalist/trespasser, a current/future C/I worker, and a future construction worker. A hypothetical future residential exposure scenario was considered but is not a reasonably anticipated future use since the future land use is limited by a consent order requiring the property to remain undeveloped, apart for a small portion, which is proposed as general industrial. Therefore, a hypothetical future residential exposure scenario is not included in the HHRA for this RI.

Contaminants of concern are defined as COPCs that significantly contribute to cumulative risk for an exposure pathway for a receptor that either (a) exceed a  $1 \times 10^{-4}$  cumulative site cancer risk or (b) exceed a Hazard Index (HI) of 1 for non-cancer adverse health effects (USEPA 2001).

Cumulative carcinogenic risk for all exposure scenarios was less than  $1 \times 10^{-5}$ . Additionally, all cumulative target-organ system HIs were equal to or less than 1. Therefore, site soil, groundwater, pore water, sediment, and surface water are suitable for current and future use.

### **5.2 Ecological Risk Assessment**

Previous investigations have documented several contaminants of potential ecological concern (COPECs) in soil; however, the potential for exposure to contaminants is expected to be minimal due to the limited areal extent of contamination and the wide-ranging habits of upper-level

species. While available data indicate a few elevated concentrations in sediment, surface water, and pore water, exceedances are limited in quantity and are primarily limited to the project site boundaries. Sediment entrainment may have occurred during sampling and resulted in elevated surface water concentrations. Contaminant concentrations in sediment, surface water, and pore water do not increase farther downstream of the site. Downstream movement of preliminary COPECs into adjacent wetlands, Halls Creek, and Frys Pond does not appear to be occurring. Of specific concern is whether

contaminants in surface water, pore water, and sediment from the site could reach Narragansett Bay at concentrations posing ecological risks to shellfish beds within the bay. Chemical concentrations in sediment, surface water, and pore water samples in or directly upstream of the bay were below ESLs or background. Therefore, the results of the SLERA do not indicate that COPECs released to surface water and sediment are likely to pose unacceptable risks to ecological receptors, and thus, completion of a Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment (BERA) is not warranted.

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## 6.0 PROPOSED DECISION

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Analytical results from the RI were evaluated and used to support the performance of an HHRA and SLERA to quantify the risk associated with COPCs to site-specific receptors.

Based on the RI sampling results and risk assessment, the following conclusions were identified for the site:

- Sampling and analyses conducted for the RI were sufficient to determine the nature and extent of COPC contamination in soil, sediment, surface water, groundwater, and pore water.
- The HHRA determined that soil, sediment, surface water, and groundwater within the site area do not pose unacceptable risks to human receptors.

- The SLERA determined that downstream movement of COPECs into Halls Creek and its abutting wetlands and Frys Pond does not appear to be occurring. In addition, COPCs in surface water and sediment are unlikely to pose unacceptable risks to ecological receptors. As such, results of the SLERA do not indicate completion of a BERA is necessary.

Based on these conclusions, USACE's proposed decision is No Further Action for the Quarry Disposal site.

Under CERCLA, if no unacceptable risks to human health or to the environment are present, the determination of No Further Action is appropriate. Therefore, the decision for No Further Action is compatible with CERCLA.

## 7.0 COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

### HOW TO SUBMIT PUBLIC COMMENTS

To submit written comments during the Public Comment Period or to obtain further information, please contact the following representative:

Ms. Marie Wojtas  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – New England District  
696 Virginia Road  
Concord, MA 01742  
Email: [marie.a.wojtas@usace.army.mil](mailto:marie.a.wojtas@usace.army.mil)

*Written comments on the Quarry Disposal site Proposed Plan must be postmarked or e-mailed no later than midnight on Mar. 7, 2022.*

Public input is important to the decision-making process. Your comments on the USACE's proposed decision of No Further Action are encouraged during the public comment period before a decision is made on the final remedy. Based on new information or public comments that are received, the USACE may modify its proposed decision of No Further Action. You are encouraged to review the reports listed in the reference section that the USACE used to arrive at its proposed decision and use the comment period for questions and concerns about the proposed decision.

More technical details on the proposed No Further Action decision are available in the documents provided for the public in the IR.

The public is invited to attend a public meeting describing the decision process and the resulting proposed decision. The public meeting will be held during the public comment period. The Proposed Plan will be presented at the meeting, and the public will have a chance to ask questions and make comments.

USACE will summarize and respond to public comments in a responsiveness summary, which will become part of the final Decision Document.

### AVAILABLE INFORMATION

Technical details on the proposed No Further Action decision are available in the documents provided for the public in the *information repository* at the following location:

#### Local Information Repository:

**North Kingstown Free Library**  
**100 Boone Street**  
**North Kingstown, Rhode Island 02852**  
**(401) 294-3306**

- Monday through Thursday 9 am – 8:30 pm
- Friday & Saturday 9 am – 5pm
- Sunday 1 pm – 4 pm

**Key documents are also available on-line at:**

<https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Projects-Topics/Former-Quarry-Disposal-Site-FUDS/>

Once finalized, USACE will announce its final decision in a local newspaper advertisement and place a copy of the final Decision Document in the project IR.

### PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

**DATE:** FEB. 2, 2022

**TIME:** 6:30 PM

**LOCATION:**

<https://usace1.webex.com/join/cenae-pa>

Meeting Number: 1999 45 8471

Join by phone:

1-844-800-2712 US Toll Free

1-669-234-1177 US Toll

Access code: 199 945 8471



## LIST OF ACRONYMS

BERA	baseline ecological risk assessment	NAS	Naval Air Station
BTV	Background Threshold Value	NCBC	Naval Construction Battalion Center
C/I	commercial/industrial	NCP	National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan
CDM	CDM Federal Programs Corporation		
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Restoration, Compensation, and Liability Act	PAL	project action level
		PCB	polychlorinated biphenyl
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations	PIP	public involvement plan
COPC	contaminant of potential concern	QDC	Quonset Development Corporation
COPEC	contaminant of potential ecological concern	RI	remedial investigation
		RIDEM	Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
CSM	conceptual site model		
DERP	Defense Environmental Restoration Program	RIPA	Rhode Island Port Authority
		SEC	Sirrine Environmental Consultants, Inc.
DoD	Department of Defense		
EDC	Economic Development Corporation	site, the	Quarry Disposal site
ERA	Ecological Risk Assessment	SLERA	Screening-level Ecological Risk Assessment
ESL	ecological screening level		
FS	Feasibility Study	Stell	Stell Environmental Enterprises, Inc.
FUDS	Formerly Used Defense Site	SVOC	semi-volatile organic compound
		U.S.	United States
GB	Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management Method 1 (M1) Class GB Groundwater Objectives	UCL	upper confidence limit
		USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
HHRA	Human Health Risk Assessment	USC	United States Code
HI	Hazard Index	USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
IR	Information Repository		
M1	Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management tier Method 1 evaluation method	VOC	volatile organic compound

## REFERENCES

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- Stell. 2016. *Final Remedial Investigation Data Gap Evaluation, Former Quonset Point NAS North Kingstown, Rhode Island*, W912DR-13-D-0002-DB01. September.
- . 2018. *Final Remedial Investigation Work Plan, Former Quarry Disposal Site, Quonset Point NAS North Kingstown, Rhode Island*, W912DR-13-D-0002-DB01. October.
- . 2019a. *Final Field Report, Remedial Investigation, Former Quarry Disposal Site, Quonset Point Naval Air Station*. North Kingstown, Rhode Island. February 2019. FUDS Project Number: D01R1048601.
- . 2019b. *Final Public Involvement Plan, Former Quarry Disposal Site, Quonset Point NAS North Kingstown, Rhode Island*, W912DR-13-D-0002-DB01, May.
- . 2021. *Final Remedial Investigation Report, Former Quarry Disposal Site, Quonset Point NAS North Kingstown, Rhode Island*, W912DR-13-D-0002-DB01, August.
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## GLOSSARY FOR SPECIALIZED TERMS

### PROPOSED PLAN – NO FURTHER ACTION

#### QUARRY DISPOSAL SITE IN NORTH KINGSTOWN, RHODE ISLAND

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<b><i>Administrative Record File</i></b>	A collection of documents containing the information and reports generated during the entire phase of investigation and cleanup at a site, which are used to make a decision on the selection of a response action under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act. This file is to be available for public review and a copy maintained near the site. The official Administrative Record file is maintained by United States Army Corps of Engineers, New England District and is located at 696 Virginia Road, Concord, Massachusetts 01742. The point of contact for the file is Marie Wojtas (696 Virginia Road, Concord, Massachusetts 01742).
<b><i>Aroclor 1260</i></b>	Aroclor 1260 is a commercial mixture of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) with an average chlorine content of 60%. PCBs are a group of 209 synthetic organic compounds with 1-10 chlorine atoms attached to biphenyl. PCBs were manufactured as commercial mixtures but banned in the 1970's because they were found to bioaccumulate in the environment and cause harmful health effects.
<b><i>Background</i></b>	Locations that are not influenced by the releases from a site and are usually described as naturally occurring
<b><i>Background Threshold Values (BTVs)</i></b>	In support of the RI objectives, background reference samples were collected from within the Study Area outside of the site boundaries as a means of comparing site-related COPCs to background conditions relevant to the site. BTVs are the 95-percent upper confidence limit (UCL) of the mean concentrations of background sample datasets.
<b><i>Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)</i></b>	Commonly known as Superfund, the CERCLA was enacted by Congress on Dec. 11, 1980 and modified in 1986 by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act. CERCLA addresses the investigation and cleanup of hazardous substances
<b><i>Contaminants of Potential Concern (COPCs)</i></b>	Contaminants that are identified through the risk assessment process as being the primary chemicals of concern that may cause unacceptable human health and/or ecological risk.
<b><i>Contaminants of Potential Ecological Concern (COPECs)</i></b>	Contaminants that are identified through the risk assessment process as being the primary contaminants of ecological concern that may cause unacceptable ecological risk.
<b><i>Decision Document</i></b>	The Decision Document is a legal public document that describes the selected cleanup approach for a site. The Decision Document certifies that the cleanup plan selection process was carried out in accordance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act. The Decision Document explains why the Proposed Decision was selected and provides responses to public comments in the responsiveness summary. The Decision Document will be maintained in the Administrative Record file.

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<b><i>Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP)</i></b>	This program manages the Department of Defense's cleanup program for active installations, closed or closing installations, and Formerly Used Defense sites. It provides for the identification, investigation, and cleanup of contamination and military munitions associated with past activities at Department of Defense facilities to ensure that potential threats to public health and the environment are appropriately assessed and addressed.
<b><i>Ecological Receptors</i></b>	Any living organisms, other than humans, that could be negatively affected by constituents of potential concern or constituents of concern. Ecological Receptors include both plants and animals.
<b><i>Ecological Risk Assessment</i></b>	A process that evaluates the likelihood that adverse ecological effects may occur or are occurring as a result of exposure to one or more stressors. It is the characterization of the adverse ecological effects of environmental exposures to hazards caused by human activities.
<b><i>Feasibility Study (FS)</i></b>	A comprehensive evaluation of potential alternatives for remediating contamination. The FS identifies general response actions, screens potentially available technologies and process options, assembles alternatives, and evaluates alternatives in detail.
<b><i>Formerly Used Defense sites (FUDS)</i></b>	Properties that were previously owned, leased, or otherwise possessed by the Department of Defense that are now under private or public ownership.
<b><i>RIDEM Method 1 GA Groundwater Objectives (GA)</i></b>	Concentrations of Hazardous Substances in Groundwater that are protective of human health and the environment which are identified in Table 3 of Rule 8.03.B.i (Method 1 GA Groundwater Objectives) or any other GA Groundwater Objective approved by the Director pursuant to Rule 8.04 (Method 3 Remedial Objectives) of the Remediation Regulations.
<b><i>RIDEM Method 1 GB Groundwater Objectives (GB)</i></b>	Concentrations of Hazardous Substances in Groundwater protective of human health and the environment which are identified in Table 4 of Rule 8.03.B.ii (Method 1 GB Groundwater Objectives) or any other GB Groundwater Objective approved by the Director pursuant to Rule 8.03.C (Method 2 GB Groundwater Objectives) or Rule 8.04 (Method 3 Remedial Objectives) of the Remediation Regulations.
<b><i>Information Repository (IR)</i></b>	A file containing current information, technical reports, and reference documents duplicated from the Administrative Record file maintained for a site. The IR is usually located in a public building convenient for local residents, such as a public school, city hall, or library.
<b><i>National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP)</i></b>	The federal regulation that implements the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act. The NCP was revised in February 1990. The purpose of the NCP is to provide the organizational structure and procedures for preparing for and responding to discharges of oil and releases of hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants.

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<b><i>Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA)</i></b>	A Human Health Risk Assessment estimates the likelihood of health problems occurring due to the presence of constituents of concern if no cleanup action is taken at a site.
<b><i>Project Action Levels (PALs)</i></b>	The selected PALs are numerical values, specific to each environmental media, that were selected from applicable, appropriate, or relevant standards, such as state or USEPA regulatory standards, maximum contaminant levels or risk-based screening levels for specific exposure pathways. The PALs were determined by selecting the most stringent of the applicable criteria for each media.
<b><i>Pathways</i></b>	The way by which a substance moves through the environmental from a source to a point of contact with people or the environment.
<b><i>Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB)</i></b>	A specific type of chemical that contains 2-10 chlorine atoms attached to biphenyl. Because PCBs are toxic and stay in the environment for a long time without breaking down, PCB production was banned by U.S. Congress in 1979. According to USEPA, PCBs have been shown to cause cancer in animals and there is also evidence they cause cancer in humans.
<b><i>Proposed Decision</i></b>	The proposed decision is the decision that is protective of human health and the environment, maintains protection over time, and has the greatest amount of benefits in relation to its cost.
<b><i>Proposed Plan</i></b>	A document that presents a proposed cleanup alternative, including rationale for selection, and requests public comments regarding the proposed alternative. A notice that identifies the alternative that best meets the requirements of CERCLA and the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP) and presents that alternative to the public. The purpose of the proposed plan is to supplement the RI/FS and to provide the public with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the preferred alternative for remedial action, as well as alternative plans under consideration, and to participate in the selection of remedial action at a site.
<b><i>Receptor</i></b>	Includes both humans and biota (plants or animals) that may come into contact with a hazardous substance, either directly by picking an item up, ingesting an item, or indirectly by breathing in contaminated air.
<b><i>Remedial Investigation</i></b>	A study of a site that provides information regarding the location and concentration of chemicals in soil, surface water, groundwater, and/or sediment and whether these chemicals and munitions pose a risk to human health and the environment.
<b><i>Risk Assessment</i></b>	A systematic procedure for estimating potential risks to human health or the environment from exposure to chemicals in soil, surface water, groundwater, and/or sediment.
<b><i>Site Inspection</i></b>	An investigation at a site to collect historical information and environmental (e.g., soil, surface water) and/or waste samples to determine which chemicals are present at a site and where they may be located. The purpose of the Site Inspection is to determine if these chemicals are being released to the environment and may pose a risk to human health or the environment.



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***Screening-level  
Ecological Risk  
Assessment (SLERA)***

The ERA initially consists of a SLERA to verify COPCs, and potentially complete exposure pathways, which addresses Steps 1–3 of the USEPA’s eight-step process. The objective of the SLERA is to assess the need, and if required, the level of effort necessary, to conduct a detailed or “baseline” ecological risk assessment for a particular site or facility. Depending on the nature of any risks identified during the SLERA, additional investigation may not be necessary, should those risks be ameliorated by whatever remedy is chosen to address potential off-site migration of COPCs into sediment and surface water.

***Semi-volatile Organic  
Compounds (SVOC)***

Organic chemical compounds whose chemical composition allows them to slowly evaporate at or above room temperature. Semi-volatile organic compounds include chemicals such as phenols and polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons.

***Source Areas***

Source area or "source" means a portion of a site or area of concern at a site where the investigation has identified a discrete area of soil, soil vapor, sediment, surface water or groundwater containing contaminants in sufficient concentrations to migrate in that medium, or to release significant levels of contaminants to another environmental medium, which could result in a threat to public health or the environment.

***Volatile Organic  
Compounds (VOC)***

Organic chemical compounds whose composition allows them to evaporate at or below room temperature. Volatile organic compounds include both man-made and naturally occurring chemicals such as benzene and trichloroethene (TCE).

**USE THIS SPACE TO WRITE YOUR COMMENTS**

If you have any questions about the public comment process, please contact Ms. Marie Wojtas, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – New England District, [marie.a.wojtas@usace.army.mil](mailto:marie.a.wojtas@usace.army.mil), or at (978) 318-8788.

**Mail or e-mail your comments to:**

**Ms. Marie Wojtas**  
**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – New**  
**England District**  
**696 Virginia Road**  
**Concord, MA 01742**  
**Email: [marie.a.wojtas@usace.army.mil](mailto:marie.a.wojtas@usace.army.mil)**

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_



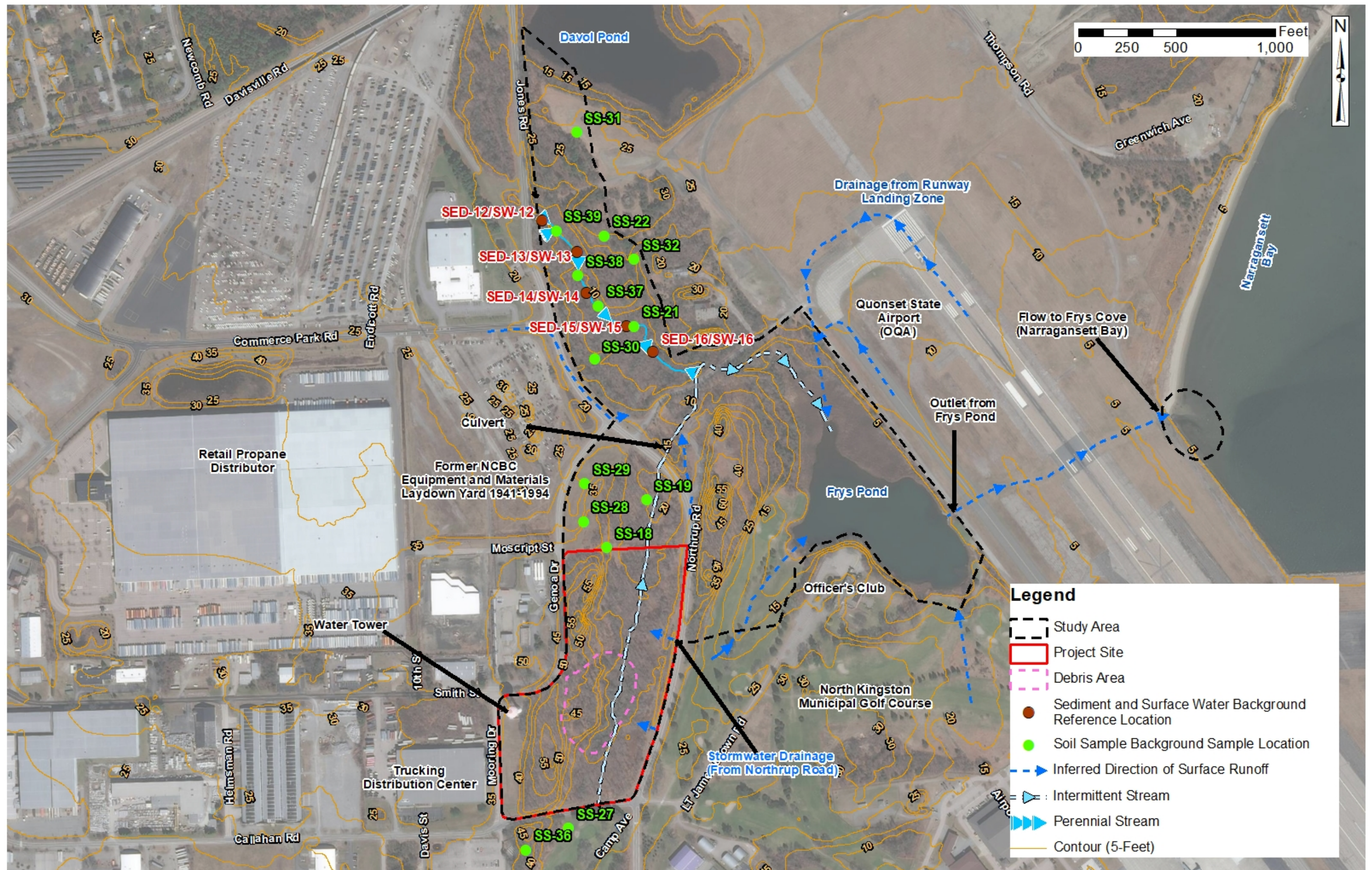


Figure 3: Project Area and Background Reference Locations



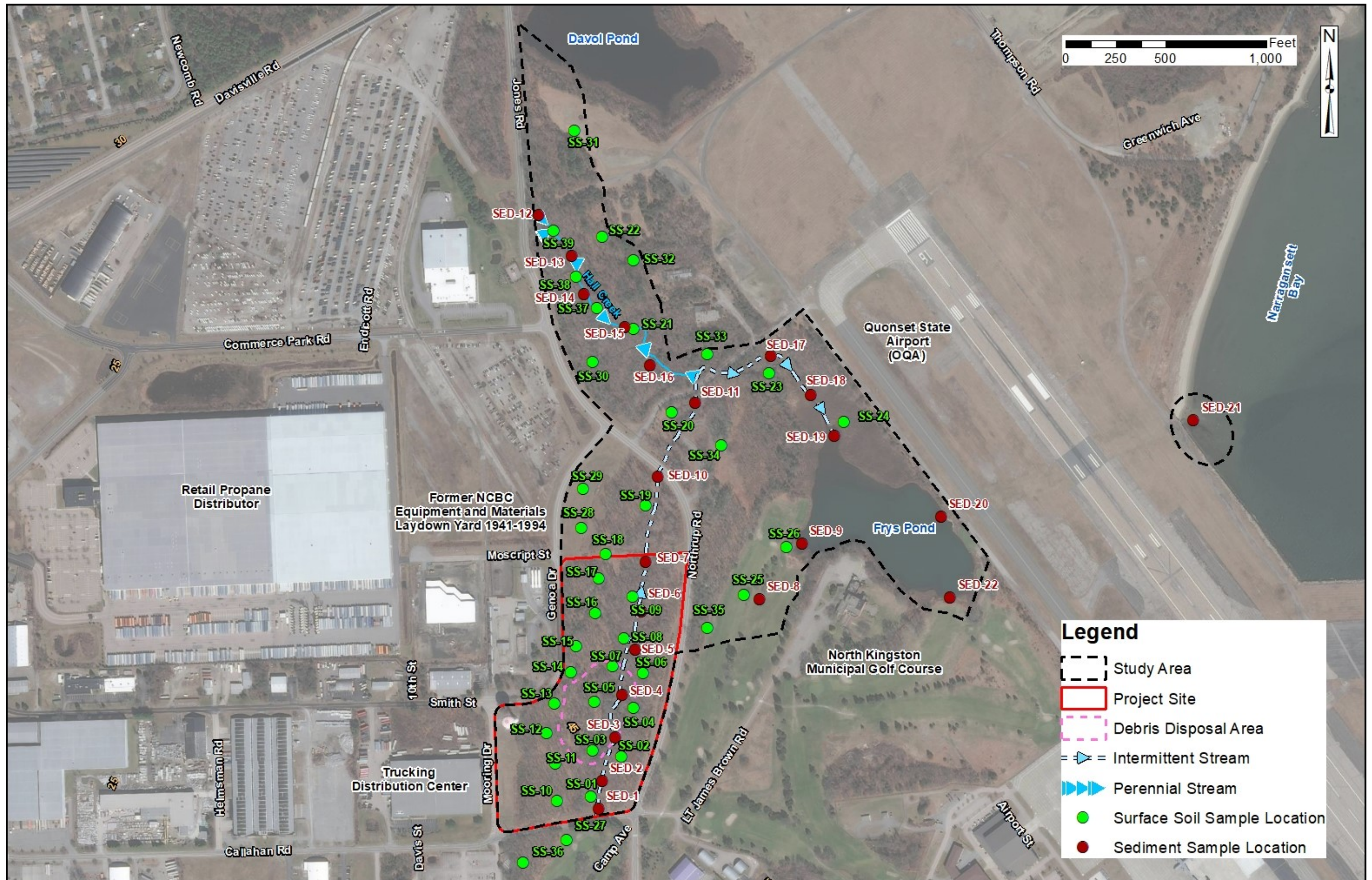


Figure 4: Soil and Sediment Sampling Locations



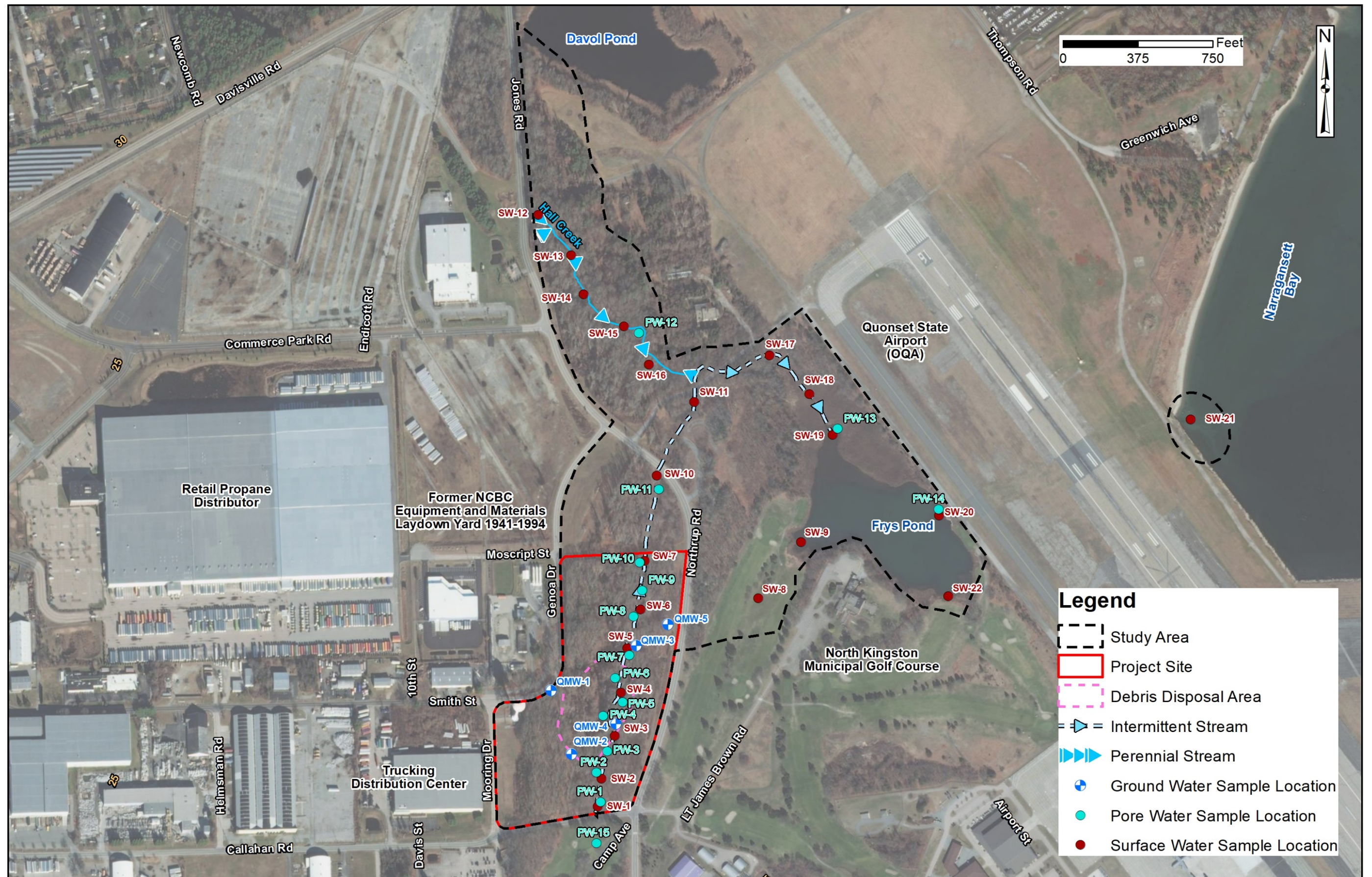


Figure 5: Aqueous Sampling Location