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ADAK

Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting Minutes

FINAL ADAK RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

April 11, 2014

1. MEETING LOCATION AND ATTENDANCE

The meeting was held via teleconference with participants calling in from the Bob Reeve High School Conference Room on Adak; ADEC office in Anchorage; NAVFAC Northwest in Silverdale, WA; and several other locations. The following people attended:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>	<u>Location</u>
Tom Abbott	URS	Seattle, WA
Jennifer Allen	URS	Seattle, WA
Erika Ammann	NOAA	Anchorage, AK
Esther Bennett	RAB Member (Community co-chair)	Adak, AK
Cynthia Galaktianoff	RAB Member	Roseburg, OR
JoAnn Grady	Grady and Associates	Seattle, WA
Chris Laguna	Adak Resident	Adak, AK
Eric Lehnertz	The Aleut Corporation	Colorado Springs, CO
Layton Lockett	City of Adak	Adak, AK
Anthony Megliola	BRAC PMO	San Diego, CA
Cindy O'Hare	NAVFAC NW	Silverdale, WA
Justin Peach*	NAVFAC NW (Navy co-chair)	Adak, AK
Jim Ruef	Sealaska	Seattle, WA
Bill Rohrer	URS	Olympia, WA
Elaine Smiloff	RAB Member	Adak, AK
Tom Spittler	RAB Member	Adak, AK
Jack Stewart	RAB Member	Adak, AK
Darrell Tannehill	Police Dept., City of Adak	Adak, AK
Guy Warren*	ADEC	Anchorage, AK
Aaron Vernik	NAVFAC NW	Silverdale, WA
Eric Zentner	Boreal Communications	Fairbanks, AK

*non-voting RAB members

2. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Community co-chair Ms. Esther Bennett and Navy co-chair Mr. Justin Peach called the meeting to order at 12:00 noon (Adak time), and introduced the attendees at the meeting. Ms. Bennett noted that there were six members of the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) in attendance, which made a quorum. Ms. Bennett reviewed the action items in the draft minutes from the previous meeting of the RAB which was held on October 9, 2013. She noted that there were a few places in the minutes from

the previous meeting in which she was recorded to have made various motions during the meeting, but had not done so. After a discussion, the October 2013 minutes were duly revised to reflect that Ms. Smiloff made the motions. Ms. Smiloff moved to approve the minutes as amended. Mr. Layton Lockett seconded the motion, and it was passed by the voting membership present at the RAB.

Decision: October 2013 RAB minutes were approved.

3. REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS

Ms. Bennett reviewed two action items from the previous meeting.

- I. She asked Mr. Peach to update the team on his action item to follow up with the Alaska Division of Natural Resources (ADNR) and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) regarding any plans to provide a permanent fish passage between Andrew Lake and Andrew Bay. Mr. Peach replied that Ms. Merry Maxwell of USFWS informed him they do not intend to build a permanent fish passage into Andrew Lake since the cost of maintaining such a pass would be excessive given the amount of surf energy that exists in Andrew Bay.
- II. Ms. Bennett asked if Mr. Lockett had received an explanation from Mr. Richard Jackson of the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) on why the Maneuver Area was scored higher than the other MMRP sites. Mr. Lockett replied that he received a copy of the explanation that was sent to him by Mr. Jackson and would forward a copy to the RAB members.

Action Item: Mr. Lockett will send a copy of the correspondence he received from Mr. Jackson explaining why the Maneuver Area is ranked higher than other MMRP sites.

Ms. Bennett noted that Mr. Chris Laguna and Mr. Darrell Tannehill joined the meeting.

4. MUNITIONS PROGRAM UPDATE

Mr. Peach updated the RAB on the current and planned work regarding the on-island munitions program.

- I. Operable Unit B-1

Remedial Action Completion Report

All fieldwork associated with OU B-1 is complete and approved. The educational and institutional controls program continues. The next phase in the close-out of OU B-1 is the Remedial Action Completion Report or RACR. This document is part of the CERCLA (or Superfund) process and will be used to de-list OU B-1 from active remediation under CERCLA.

This document is on schedule to be finalized in mid-2014.

II. Operable Unit B-2

Non-Time Critical Removal Action

As a component of the remedy in OU B-2, a Non-Time Critical Removal Action (NTCRA) is underway in the 5 Remedial Action Areas (RAAs) in Parcel 4, Operable Unit B-2. See graphic. The 2014 field work is just about to begin. There will be approximately 90 people working on the island during this season.

Work was performed in RAAs-02, -03, -04 and -05 during 2013. Attachment A in the meeting package, also presented at the Oct 2013 RAB, summarizes that work. Most notably, 1,678 munitions and explosives of concern (MEC) or material documented as an explosive hazard (MDEH) have been recovered and destroyed.

The emphasis in 2014 will be the completion of work in the following RAAs:

- RAA-02 – Subsurface investigations based on last season’s geophysical mapping, plus mag and dig in the boulder field areas.
- RAA-03 – Completion of step-outs surrounding the RAA where items were found near the border of the investigation area, plus completion of work in 5 grids not finished last year.
- RAA-04 - Completion of step-outs surrounding the RAA where items were found near the border of the investigation area.
- RAA-05 – Monthly sweeps of the seawall for items that may wash up.

These aspects will be done by USA Environmental (USAE). QA will be performed in all of the work areas by Battelle again this year.

The work was originally planned to be completed during 2014, but more subsurface items are being identified and more MEC is being found than was originally planned. Completion of the NTCRA is now extended a year, with RAAs-01 and -05 planned for the summer of 2015.

The EOD Mobile Unit 11 (Det NW Whidbey Island) was on island twice during 2013 to open the Seawall; once in April and again in August. The same schedule is planned for 2014.

The OU B-2 Remedial Action Completion Report is planned to be finalized in mid-2016.

Record of Decision

The Record of Decision (ROD) for OU B-2 remains under development. Finalization of the ROD will follow the OU B-2 Remedial Action Completion Report and is several years from being finalized. This is the document that will formalize and establish agreement on the remediation required for OU B-2. Functionally, the remedy presented in the ROD matches the remedy presented in the Proposed Plan which was presented to the RAB on October 10, 2012 and is the basis for the Non Time Critical Removal Action presently underway.

Ms. Bennett asked Mr. Peach how often the team from Whidbey Island would be conducting their sweeps of Andrew Lake Seawall. She noted they had been doing sweeps in the previous year and asked whether they had any new findings along the Seawall and the beaches adjacent to it. Mr. Peach replied the team from Whidbey did a sweep of the Seawall at the beginning and the end of the field

season while USAE conducted sweeps of the Seawall every month. Mr. Peach commented that he thought the teams were finding one to three items per month later in the summer, but he could not recall the number of finds earlier in the summer. He offered to look up the information and provide it to the RAB.

The Whidbey team will conduct two sweeps of the Seawall this year. Mr. Peach noted that the number of items found along the Seawall is expected to gradually decrease. Mr. Warren explained that existing evidence indicates items found on the Seawall are not coming from an off-shore source, but instead are washing out of a known, land-based disposal area that is located nearby.

Action Item: Mr. Peach will prepare a month by month accounting of munitions items found along the Seawall in 2013 and 2014 for the next RAB meeting.

5. DEBRIS REMOVAL UPDATE

Mr. Peach reported that the Navy completed removal of various abandoned materials off island. Items such as oil water separators, 55 gal drums, automotive batteries, and drums containing liquid were removed in two barge trips. The report has now been finalized with inclusion of regulator comments.

6. PETROLEUM SITES UPDATE

Mr. Vernik updated the RAB on current and planned work performed at the Petroleum Sites.

I. Free-Product Recovery

This project involves removing free-product at the SWMU 62 and Area 303 sites including boom placement and maintenance at surface water locations near the sites. Currently, the free product recovery program is scoped and contracted to continue through September 2014.

II. Area 303 / Building T-1451

Free product recovery is currently ongoing at Area 303 and the new wells at both sites are included in the annual monitoring program. The new wells at Area 303 and T-1451 have been sampled twice now.

7. LONG TERM MONITORING UPDATE

Mr. Vernik updated the RAB on current and planned work regarding the Long Term Monitoring Program.

I. Groundwater Monitoring

The 2013 groundwater sampling occurred in August and September 2013. The report is in draft form now and the regulators are currently reviewing it.

This is an on-going, annual project and the 2014 event has recently been awarded.

II. Marine Monitoring

This program is on an every other (odd) year schedule. Sampling last occurred in June 2013 and will be programmed again for 2015. See Marine Monitoring Update below.

See Layton Lockett at the Adak City Hall or contact Aaron Vernik (aaron.vernik@navy.mil) if you wish to review a copy of the technical memorandum or fact sheet.

III. Well Decommissioning

The report documenting the decommissioning of the approximately 200 monitoring wells, recovery wells, piezometers, oxygen probes and other monitoring points as well as the repair of 115 monitoring wells completed in 2013 is currently in draft form and the regulators are reviewing it.

8. INSTITUTIONAL CONTROLS UPDATE

Mr. Vernik updated the RAB on the Institutional Controls Program.

I. Institutional Controls / Landfill Repairs

There were no Institutional Controls / Landfill Repairs performed since the last RAB meeting. An institutional control inspection was completed as part of the annual monitoring program in August/September 2013. A draft report documenting the findings is currently being reviewed by the regulators. Findings were consistent with those identified in previous years. There are no major issues requiring immediate responses.

Maintenance and repair activities similar in scope to those performed during 2010 are currently planned for the 2015 field season. The contractor will conduct a site walk to preview the areas needing repair; this is scheduled for the end of April 2014.

II. Excavation Permits

No new excavation notifications were received since the last RAB meeting.

III. Munitions Recoveries

No munitions responses outside of Parcel 4 were performed since the last RAB meeting.

IV. IC Education / Awareness Activities

The Navy continues to solicit feedback quarterly from approximately 10 on-island business representatives, as well as local government representatives regarding IC needs, and materials are mailed out as requested.

Mr. Vernik informed the attendees that he sent out an email to those on the quarterly email list asking if anyone needs additional IC Education Materials regarding the munition response program. He invited any new members, or anyone who has a better email address than the one they have on the current email list, to contact him so that he can update the list accordingly.

Ms. Bennett noted that during the last RAB meeting, the team had discussed some issues related to the high water levels in the East Canal. She asked Mr. Vernik whether anything had been done to address these issues. Mr. Vernik recalled that issues with the pneumatic pumps had caused the water

levels in the East Canal to rise above their normal levels. The Alaska Department of Transportation (ADOT) is responsible for those pumps and he added that he would follow up with them to see whether these issues have been addressed or whether the pumps need to be turned on more frequently.

Action Item: Mr. Vernik will contact representatives of ADOT to determine whether they addressed the issues with the pneumatic pumps and the high water levels in the East Canal.

9. MARINE MONITORING UPDATE

Mr. Tom Abbott reviewed the 2013 marine monitoring study and presented the results to the RAB. A comparison site (Bay of Islands) was also sampled during this effort. The health advisory is still in effect for rock sole in Sweeper Cove and Kuluk Bay, and blue mussels in Sweeper Cove, because PCB concentrations in their tissues exceed the risk-based action level. The Technical Memorandum and Health Advisory Fact Sheet explaining the fish consumption advisory is posted on www.adakupdate.com website.

Mr. Abbott noted that future monitoring will continue during odd years, with the next sampling event taking place in June 2015. At that time Navy will evaluate total PCB concentrations in fish and shellfish in Sweeper Cove and Kuluk Bay, update the consumption advisory (if warranted), and evaluate future monitoring needs.

Ms. Bennett asked whether there were any visible differences in the appearance of the mussels that had high levels of PCB contamination and those with lower levels. Mr. Abbott replied that there is no discernible difference between the mussels, other than laboratory analysis.

Mr. Tannehill asked Mr. Vernik to describe any restrictions to fishing and any long-term plans to clean up the PCBs in Sweeper Cove and Kuluk Bay. Mr. Vernik replied that the consumption advisories are the only limitations in place for fish and shellfish in these areas. Mr. Vernik sent copies of the Fact Sheet to Mr. Lockett to distribute. He explained that the advisory includes recommendations on the amount of fish and shellfish that can be safely consumed. He commented that it is really up to each individual whether they want to eat any fish and shellfish from these areas, but it's important to be informed.

Mr. Vernik added that Sweeper Creek was identified as a source of PCBs in a 1996 investigation, and this was addressed in a cleanup effort conducted shortly thereafter. The current plan is to continue the monitoring program. Results have shown decreasing trends for everything except blue mussels in Kuluk Bay. Even though the concentrations that make up this increasing trend are still below the action level, the Navy is watching this trend line to determine whether further efforts are warranted, such as additional investigation to look for other sources of PCBs in the area.

10. HELMET CREEK RESTORATION

Ms. Erika Ammann from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) presented on the recent restoration efforts in response to a January 11, 2010 diesel spill that occurred in Helmet Creek and caused injury to natural resources in the creek, the nearby estuary, intertidal, and near-shore marine habitats. The restoration included efforts to improve water quality and fish passage by also removing debris, creosote pilings, and 55-gallon drums.

Ms. Ammann recounted the types of debris that were removed to restore the natural dynamics of the stream. She anticipates that NOAA will return to Adak next summer and again in 2017 to inspect the progress of areas that were re-vegetated and to ensure the restored areas are allowing for adequate fish passage.

Ms. Bennett asked whether NOAA intended to continue to monitor the stream to assess attenuation of the spilled diesel. Ms. Ammann replied that while NOAA is not planning to monitor attenuation, ADEC anticipates the diesel contamination will degrade over the next five years, and ADEC would likely conduct any follow-up on the status. Ms. Ammann said that anyone may contact her at ammann@noaa.gov if they have further questions about the restoration of Helmet Creek.

11. COMMUNITY REPORT/NEW MEMBERS

Community Report: Ms. Bennett asked the RAB members if anyone had anything to report. Mr. Stewart said many of the roads related to UXO remediation efforts are degrading to the point where they are less-than-adequate. He asked whether anything will be done to address the problem during or after the upcoming field season. Mr. Peach replied that the contractor, USAE, is responsible for restoration of the roads. He added that the Navy is working on a contract enforcement mechanism with USAE to have the roads restored more promptly than the previous year. USAE will be required to maintain the roads so they are passable during the field season. Mr. Stewart asked if the Navy has an existing plan to restore the roads and whether they wanted any community input on how to do so. Mr. Peach replied they do not have a final plan for the restoration yet, and added they would welcome community input on the matter.

New Members: Ms. Galaktianoff motioned to add Mr. Christopher Laguna and Mr. Darrell Tannehill as members of the RAB. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stewart.

Decision: The voting RAB members in attendance - Ms. Bennett, Ms. Galaktianoff, Mr. Lockett, Ms. Smiloff, Mr. Spittler, and Mr. Stewart - unanimously voted to add Mr. Chris Laguna and Mr. Darrell Tannehill as members of the RAB.

Ms. Galaktianoff motioned to remove Mr. Agafon Krukoff and Mr. Ed McNall from membership in the RAB. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stewart.

Decision: The voting RAB members in attendance - Ms. Bennett, Ms. Galaktianoff, Mr. Lockett, Ms. Smiloff, Mr. Spittler, and Mr. Stewart - unanimously voted to remove Mr. Krukoff and Mr. McNall from membership in the RAB.

12. REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Peach reviewed the meeting action items.

- I. Mr. Lockett will send a copy of the correspondence he received from Mr. Jackson that explains why the Maneuver Area is ranked higher than other MMRP sites.
- II. Mr. Peach will prepare a month-by-month accounting of munitions items found along the Seawall in 2013 and 2014 for the next RAB meeting.
- III. Mr. Vernik will contact representatives of ADOT to determine whether they addressed the issues with the pneumatic pumps and high water levels in the East Canal.

13. PRELIMINARY AGENDA AND DATE OF THE NEXT RAB MEETING

Mr. Peach suggested the same agenda format be carried forward, and he will circulate a proposed agenda for the next meeting to the RAB members a month in advance, so they have an opportunity to review and comment on it, before the RAB agenda package is mailed to other stakeholders. RAB members agreed that 12:00 noon (Adak time) on October 8, 2014 be set as the date for the next RAB meeting.

Ms. Smiloff moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:20 PM Hawaii-Aleutian Time.

Mr. Spitler seconded the motion.

Decision: The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 PM Hawaii-Aleutian Time.

ATTACHMENT A

Current RAB Membership – as of April, 2014

Name	Affiliation	Location	Voting Member
Esther Bennett	RAB member (community co-chair)	Adak, AK	1
Cynthia Galaktionoff	RAB member	Roseburg, OR	2
Christopher Laguna	RAB member	Adak, AK	3
Layton Lockett	RAB member	Adak, AK	4
Elaine Smiloff	RAB member	Adak, AK	5
Melvin Smith	RAB member	Anchorage, AK	6
Tom Spitler	RAB member	Adak, AK	7
Jack Stewart	RAB member	Adak, AK	8
Darrell Tannehill	RAB member	Adak, AK	9
Will Tillion	RAB member	Adak, AK	10
Guy Warren	*RAB member (ADEC)	Anchorage, AK	
Chris Cora	*RAB member (EPA)	Seattle, WA	
Justin Peach	*RAB member (Navy Co-Chair)	Silverdale, WA	

* Non-voting member

A quorum to take action will consist of 1/3 of the community RAB members.

Action items will be reviewed and approved by a 2/3 vote of RAB community members participating in the meeting.

Additional members may be added to the RAB by a quorum present and a 2/3-majority vote of present RAB community members.