

Thursday, 22 August 2024
1:00 PM Adak, via Teleconference

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Lockett called the meeting to order at 1 PM local time and, following roll call, welcomed attendees to the meeting.

The following persons were in attendance:

Name	Affiliation	Location
Aaron Vernik	Navy RAB Member (Navy Co-Chair)*	Adak, AK
Layton Lockett	RAB Member (City of Adak – Community Co-Chair)	Adak, AK
Lisa Holsinger	RAB Member (Adak resident)	Adak, AK
Matt Holsinger	RAB Member (Adak resident)	Adak, AK
Elaine Smiloff	RAB Member (Adak resident)	Adak, AK
Phillip Bennett	RAB Member (Adak resident)	Adak, AK
Julie Motley	RAB Member (Adak resident)	Adak, AK
Jana Lekanoff	RAB Member (Adak resident)	Adak, AK
Chase Berenson	RAB Member (Aleut Ventures)	Adak, AK
Craig Scola	RAB Member (USEPA)*	Anchorage, AK
Jamie McKellar	RAB Member (ADEC)*	Fairbanks, AK
Sarah Bernhardt	ADEC	Anchorage, AK
Addison McKown	Adak resident	Adak, AK
Julie Motley	Adak resident	Adak, AK
Jake Roberts	Adak resident	Adak, AK
Lisa Spitler	Adak resident	Adak, AK
Cory Herendeen	Adak resident	Adak, AK
Barbara Tolliver	Adak resident	Adak, AK
William O'Connell	Adak resident	Adak, AK
Karen Pletnikoff	Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association	Anchorage, AK
Scott Bullock	Aleutian Outfitters	Adak, AK
Theresa Cross	Aleut Corp	Adak, AK
Cecily Vetrano	Navy BRAC	San Diego, CA
Chris Generous	NAVFAC NW	Silverdale, WA
Steve Skeeahan	NAVFAC NW	Silverdale, WA
Cathy Weber	NAVFAC NW	Silverdale, WA
Bob Boyd	NAVFAC NW	Silverdale, WA
Richard Ragle	USACE FUDS Alaska District	JBER, AK
JoAnn Grady	Grady and Associates	Ashland, OR

Name	Affiliation	Location
Gregory Burgess	AECOM	Seattle, WA
Demetrio Cabanillas	AECOM	Seattle, WA
Hallie Peterson	EA Engineering	Adak, AK
Catrina Judge	EA Engineering	Adak, AK
Jody Lipps	Battelle	Columbus, OH
Shawn Majors	Battelle	Eugene, OR

*non-voting RAB member

Mr. Lockett began the meeting confirming a quorum of the RAB membership was present (minimum 1/3 of RAB [i.e., 4 members]). A list of current RAB members is provided in Attachment A.

2. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES / REVIEW OF PRIOR ACTION ITEMS

Review and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Draft minutes from the 25 April 2024 RAB meeting were circulated to RAB members and interested parties on 16 July 2024. Revised final 7 September 2023 Meeting Minutes were also circulated on 16 July 2024 due to them being updated to include the full agreed upon text from 25 April 2024 RAB meeting.

Mr. Lockett asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Holsinger motioned to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lekanoff. Mr. Lockett asked if there was any objection to the motion. There were no objections.

Mr. Berenson commented on the 25 April 2024 minutes that it was dated 24 April instead of 25 April. Mr. Lockett requested that Ms. Lipps make the change to the minutes. The revised minutes will be sent out once the change has been made.

Review of Actions Items

Two action items were established during the last RAB meeting.

ACTION ITEM 1: The Navy will disseminate the OU B-2 risk assessment to RAB members.

STATUS: Mr. Vernik indicated that no risk assessment was located for OU B-2. Interested parties were notified. The Navy will continue to look for and provide documentation to the RAB and interested parties when appropriate. Mr. Vernik added that there were risk discussions in the remedial investigation (RI); however, this wasn't found until after the meeting materials were sent out. The RI can be placed where

anyone interested can access it. The OU B-2 remedial action (RA) is being provided on CDs for those who wish to have it, and a CD copy will be left in the Adak repository.

CLOSED.

Mr. Bullock asked for clarification that there isn't a risk assessment document, but risk was a part of the RI. Mr. Vernik said that there is risk discussion in the RI but there is no discussion about Andrew Lake specifically.

ACTION ITEM 2:

The Navy will determine whether any fish (or other organisms) tissue from Sweeper Creek has been tested for contaminants.

STATUS: Dolly Varden were analyzed for chemicals of potential concern in Yakutat and Sweeper Creeks in 1997. The results did not indicate any human health concerns, but they were not analyzed for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substance (PFAS) constituents at that time. Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and metals were analyzed.

Data are included in the OU A ROD (Record of Decision; available on the BRAC Adak website) as well as the 1997 RI/Feasibility Study (FS) and a supplemental evaluation for South Sweeper and Yakutat Creeks. The second two documents are included on the CD and will be placed in the repository (CD). See Action Item 1. **CLOSED.**

ACTION ITEM 3:

The Navy will disseminate the OU B-2 RI to RAB members.

STATUS: See response to Action Item 1. **CLOSED.**

ACTION ITEM 4:

The Navy will look into conducting underwater research in Andrew Lake.

STATUS: Checked with BRAC and others internally at Navy and there are currently no plans to look into conducting underwater research in Andrew Lake. **CLOSED.**

ACTION ITEM 5:

The Navy will summarize the comments from Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on the OU B-2 ROD and include them in the next RAB meeting materials.

STATUS: The Navy is currently preparing responses to ADEC and EPA comments. Agency high-level comments include:

- A request from the state to include a covenant
- Documentation of achievement of the remedial action objectives
- Presentation of completed remedial activities across OU B-2

- Description of the intended land use controls
- CLOSED.**

Mr. Lockett asked Ms. Lipps to note that Ms. Motley (RAB member) joined the meeting at 1:08 pm. Ms. Motley was added to the list of attendees above.

ACTION ITEM 6:

The Navy will investigate PFAS in drums on Adak and investigate potentially adding sites.

STATUS: The Navy observed and photographed drums and smaller containers of aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF) in the City former Line Crew building storage area and will do a better inventory of what is on island this week by the contractor that is on island. Navy legal has been advised of the issue and is looking into the matter. **OPEN – Carried Forward.**

ACTION ITEM 7:

The Navy will provide a link to the preliminary assessment for PFAS.

STATUS: The report can be found on the BRAC Adak website at:

https://administrative-records.navfac.navy.mil/Public_Documents/NORTHWEST/ADAK_ISLAND_NAF/N60462_001072_REDACTED.pdf. **CLOSED.**

ACTION ITEM 8:

The Navy will investigate creating a reporting tool related to the seepage reporting process, possibly by creating a Microsoft Form to add to trail maps.

STATUS: The Adak Map and other Institutional Control (IC) Materials will be updated in late 2024/early 2025. This will be evaluated at that time. If RAB members have ideas for implementing this, please let us know. **OPEN – Carried Forward.**

ACTION ITEM 9:

The Navy will investigate the Rommel stakes and investigate remediation and temporary mitigation measures and inform the public.

STATUS: The Navy has not had a chance to investigate the presence of Rommel stakes near Shagak Bay or prepare a plan to remedy the issue. In the meantime, the Aleut Corporation (TAC) as property owners and island outfitter businesses should continue to alert staff and visitors to their presence if they will be venturing into the area. **OPEN – Carried Forward.**

ACTION ITEM 10:

The Navy will disseminate or provide a link to the 2022 OU B-2 Field Summary report.

STATUS: See response to Action Item 1. **CLOSED.**

Mr. Berenson pointed out that regarding Action Item #9 it was disappointing that the Navy hasn't done any investigation or prepared a plan for a remedy. Looking around the island there are a myriad of signs warning of issues, maps printed warning of issues, yet when it comes to Rommel stakes it was surprising that the Navy just says that TAC should warn people that the Navy left these on the land. It would be nice to know what the plan for investigation would be and if there could be any other warnings in addition to just relying on the landowner to deal with what the Navy has left behind. Mr. Vernik said that the idea for a remedy will require equipment to address due to the nature of the Rommel stakes in the ground (i.e., can't just pull them out by hand). The Navy doesn't have signs readily made that can be installed. Mr. Vernik isn't sure how big an area contains the Rommel stakes. Getting the word out on the location is going to be prudent for anyone that goes down where stakes have been reported. Mr. Berenson would be more comfortable if the status had a date that the Navy will have a plan prepared by. There doesn't seem to be a commitment in the Navy response to make a plan other than kicking this down to the next meeting. Mr. Vernik indicated that this is something that could potentially be piggybacked onto other projects but can't easily be added to a current project. The Navy is going to look into it and will not just continue to kick it down the road. Mr. Lockett noted that since action item #9 is being carried forward, at a minimum the Navy needs to develop a plan for addressing it. Mr. Vernik pointed out that if something comes up prior to the next RAB meeting, the Navy will get that information out to everyone. Mr. Bullock asked what the typical timeframe would be on developing a plan (1 to 2 years). Mr. Vernik stated that if there are contractors on island with heavy equipment then the Navy will be able to take on a project like this. The Navy has a tentative project for next year but is waiting until the completion of the current long-term monitoring (LTM) and institutional control (IC) inspections to determine if there are any major deficiencies whereby the Navy will have heavy equipment on island. If that is the case, the Navy should be able to align the Rommel stake removal with the IC repairs. Because it is a potential safety issue, if there is a way to get funding and a contractor vehicle then the Navy will get it done as soon as possible. The Navy budget is fixed for the next two plus years. It is not impossible to get a new project funded and can potentially use savings from other projects to fund it sooner than two years out. Mr. Lockett added that it is important that when action items are added, the Navy communicates with the community regarding what the plan is, any constraints, and if the RAB or other stakeholders could help push it forward. It is also

important to communicate the timeframe so the RAB knows whether something can be addressed before the next RAB meeting.

Ms. Smiloff mentioned that she has seen Rommel stakes on Mt. Moffett and was wondering if there is anything community members can do to somehow mark the Rommel stakes to save the Navy money. Mr. Lockett stated it would be helpful if a person could get GPS coordinates on the location and report the location. Mr. Lockett suggested adding to the action item (or a new action item) to create a reporting system such as a Microsoft Form for Rommel stakes in order to get the information to the Navy or whomever needs to have the information. Mr. Vernik agreed that getting coordinates would be ideal. Mr. Vernik asked if anyone on Adak has equipment (like a backhoe) that potentially could be used to do this sort of job. Mr. Vernik pointed out that getting a single piece of equipment to Adak is very costly so the Navy tries to bundle the work that requires the equipment. Mr. Lockett mentioned that the equipment needed should be included in the plan so the community can let the Navy know if someone on island has the equipment needed. Mr. Vernik pointed out that there was a big Rommel stake removal about 20 years ago and he can look into whether any reporting was done on that removal.

Mr. Scola asked if Rommel stakes are present on island in large quantities or just in sporadic locations. He agreed that looking into past information on removals would be good information to have. Mr. Vernik believes that all of the known areas of Rommel stake fields have been taken care of. He was surprised to hear there were multiple Rommel stakes found. Ms. Holsinger stated that she has seen Rommel stakes in four different areas on Adak. Mr. Vernik suggested that the Navy is more concerned about ones that are still in place as they are more of a hazard and safety issue than ones just lying on the ground or beach. Mr. Henderson added that he had found some along the roadside near Clam Lagoon which is a pretty popular area. He would like to take the Navy personnel to show them where they are. He also mentioned that he has a tracked skid steer from APTIM that is still on island. Mr. Vernik asked if he thought it could manage to get to Shagak and back. Mr. Henderson believes it could.

Ms. Motley asked if there is anything in place for those that find a Rommel stake to mark them so the Navy can get to them. Mr. Vernik said there is no program in place currently but getting coordinates and passing them on to the Navy would be helpful. The community members can use the email address or phone number used for dig permits to pass along the coordinates. This contact information is on the signs located on island.

3. USACE

Mr. Ragle provided an update on the activities recently conducted at sites nearby as well as the planned activities that will take place in 2025. He stated the status of activities is detailed in Attachment B. Ongoing projects include:

- Only fieldwork this year was at Cape Yakak, and debris removal in the Bay of Islands area where a contractor had left some wood debris.

All other activities include putting together reports from past fieldwork. Mr. Ragle forwarded a brochure to Mr. Vernik. Mr. Ragle pointed out that some of USACE contractors have been pulling screw pickets (Rommel stakes) out by hand. It doesn't take heavy equipment to remove them. Mr. Vernik indicated that they can look into whether hand removal is an option for Rommel stakes that have been located on Adak. Mr. Ragle also pointed out that Rommel stakes that you can see are not as much of an issue as shorter ones that are hidden in the tundra because they are impalement hazards. Mr. Vernik stated that there were 3 to 4 ft high stakes that you could run barbed wire on and shorter antipersonnel ones placed on Adak. Mr. Vernik asked Mr. Bullock if the ones he found were the shorter stakes or taller stakes. Mr. Bullock said they were about knee high but there is a variety of them near Shagak Bay.

Mr. Lockett asked if there is any future work that will occur in the next 12 to 18 months. Mr. Ragle stated that there are no current contracts for fieldwork in that timeframe.

Mr. Berenson said that during the Cape Yakak work TAC was notified that there was a helicopter landing on Aleut land as they decided not to use the airport. TAC reached out to the project team thinking it was a miscommunication and they were repeatedly rebuffed and told that it was silly to discuss and a waste of time to discuss trespassing on Aleut land by helicopter. TAC also had difficulty getting any response from the project team. It was surprising to see in the USACE summary about how well USACE worked in coordination with TAC. TAC's experience with the project team was not wholly positive during the fieldwork this summer. Mr. Ragle asked if TAC was reaching out to Geosyntec, or Ahtna or the helicopter company or USACE staff. Mr. Berenson stated that both USACE and Ahtna were both contacted, and they got a similar response from both. Mr. Ragle said he would pass the information up and get a response for TAC.

Mr. Holsinger asked if there was any update on the Great Sitkin project. Mr. Ragle stated that the RI was finalized and the USACE is currently trying to figure out what their next steps are.

4. EOD Mobile Unit 11

Mr. Vernik summarized that Navy EOD MU 11 from Naval Air Station (NAS) Whidbey Island is scheduled to conduct two site visits per year. In 2024, the first was completed from April 29 to May 4 and the second is occurring the week of August 19th. Their scope typically includes opening the spillway during the spring visit, when required, checking the Finger Bay shoreline for cartridge actuated devices (CADs) and performing seawall sweeps. In the April/May visit EOD found two CADs and nothing on the seawall. During the most recent sweep that was just completed, there were no CADs found and one item on the seawall that is believed to be a 60-mm mortar body. They couldn't tell if it had any explosives still in it so it was demoed with the opening of the spillway. The spillway was opened in the Spring, but the Navy wanted to widen it so that maybe it wouldn't get as much rock piled into it over the winter. The area was checked today, and the fish were getting into and able to access the lake.

Mr. Holsinger asked what the future looks like regarding the seawall. Mr. Vernik stated that the Navy will be continuing seawall sweeps and a Finger Bay search twice a year. Anything found will be demoed. The spillway at the seawall will ultimately require communication between United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the Navy. The Navy is currently trying to turn the Parcel 4 property back over to the Department of Interior (DOI); however, the Navy will have continued presence for IC inspections so there will be signs up and the Navy will make sure no residential properties are in the area. The Navy will continue to do seawall sweeps until they are not finding anything over many years. As far as who will open the spillway, that will be determined through communication between all of the parties. Mr. Holsinger asked if they could expediate that by having an escorted group by a Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) Technician go out and move rocks by hand if the C-130 doesn't come back. Is there a solution if that is the case? In the past, Mr. Holsinger has spent time moving rocks and carrying fish out by hand. Mr. Vernik said that may be considered; however, based on the ICs that will be in place out there, there would likely need to be that kind of oversight. If the spillway looks like it did in April, you are not going to be able to move many rocks by hand. It will also be difficult to get heavy equipment to the spillway. Right now, the Navy cleared the spillway this year but can't say that it is committed to do it again next year. The Navy had been clearing the spillway to keep the water level low so it could access the project sites. Since the Navy doesn't need that anymore, other than possibly to do seawall sweeps, the bigger question is whether there is a need to keep the sockeye run continuing. Mr. Holsinger would like the Navy to be proactive and have something in place before the C-130s stop coming to open the spillway. The EOD will continue to come out with some sort of explosives because if they find something on the seawall, they will need to destroy it.

5. OPERABLE UNIT B-2 RECORD OF DECISION

Mr. Vernik explained that the ROD for the sites in Parcel 4 is the next step in the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) process, following the Proposed Plan and Action Memorandum from early 2013 – which lay the fieldwork – and then conducting the fieldwork itself under the non-time critical removal action (NTCRA).

ADEC, EPA, and the Navy are working on the ROD for OU B-2. The Navy sent a Federal Facilities Agreement extension request on 9 July 2024, extending the ROD completion deadline to 31 January 2025 in order for the document to be approved by all regulatory entities. The Navy is currently evaluating and responding to regulatory comments. Once responses have been completed and vetted through BRAC and Navy legal, the Navy, EPA, and ADEC will meet to discuss the responses and evaluate the next steps. USFWS also has the document and will be providing comments as well.

Overall, in terms of CERCLA, following completion of the NTCRA and the ROD, the Navy will prepare a Remedial Action Completion Report (RACR). Note: The RACRs for OU A and OU B-1 were completed in 2012 and 2014, respectively. Once all of the documentation is complete, the Navy will work to relinquish control of the Parcel 4 property to the Department of the Interior (DOI) and the USFWS, to be returned to the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge.

Ms. McKellar asked if there will be another extension request in order to finalize the ROD. Mr. Vernik indicated that the Navy's current plan is to get consensus on the document and finalize it before the end of January 2025. Ms. McKellar commented that she doesn't think they will meet that date.

Mr. Lockett asked Ms. McKellar if the residents would hear any findings about the work progress. Ms. McKellar indicated that the majority of the comments in the draft ROD were to include more information that wasn't included so that ADEC can make a determination on whether the Navy is done or if more needs to happen. Mr. Lockett clarified that the overall question about whether the work is complete isn't answered because ADEC doesn't have enough data. Ms. McKellar agreed with that statement. Mr. Vernik added the ROD is being reviewed by legal on both sides (ADEC and Navy).

Mr. Bullock would like to see a RI of Lake Andrew added to the ROD based on findings of ordnance washing up in the area that may be a result from blast sites being thrown into the lake. Mr. Lockett asked Ms. McKellar if that is something that can be requested to be added. Ms. McKellar indicated that she doesn't have the authority to do that and it would likely have to come from higher levels of the Navy. Mr. Vernik explained that Lake Andrew is not a site within OU B-2 which is what the ROD is for. The ROD is pretty far along at this point so Mr. Vernik doesn't think it is possible to add a site at this time. Mr. Bullock asked if the RAB can request things like this. Mr. Lockett suggested that they

don't have the chance to provide input because the RAB is not part of any review of the documents since they are not a part of the project team. The process doesn't include any feedback from the community. It leads to concerns not being addressed until after a document has been completed and leads to frustration that issues are not being addressed when they could have been earlier in the process. How does the community make a concern known if there is nobody to report it to? Does a RAB member communicate with the Navy or ADEC if there is a concern? Mr. Vernik stated that years ago the Navy did take comments on some documents and does conduct interviews during the five-year review process. Mr. Vernik can look into whether there are methods from previous five-year reviews that can be used. Mr. Lockett wants to add an action item that the community has the ability to participate in the process. Mr. Vernik stated that at the beginning of the OU B-2 work, there was a Proposed Plan that laid out the plan that was open to public comment. There is a lot of community involvement at the beginning and then the Navy follows the process. Mr. Lockett pointed out that some concerns may not have been known at the beginning of the process. Ms. Motley added there was a plan and then something happened after the plan was made that brought up some concerns that the community had. She asked what can be done to bring that into the discussion.

Mr. Bullock would like to see someone make a motion because if no one asks, the Navy can continue to ignore it. Mr. Lockett said that it can be added later as an action item. Ms. McKellar said that the Proposed Plan for this project was signed in 2012 so we are 12 years out from that plan and a lot has changed since then. She wanted to point out that there was a chance for community involvement but that was a long time ago. Ms. McKellar also pointed out that there is a five-year review coming up next year and asked about how to get interview forms. Mr. Vernik indicated that the five-year review will begin next year with a signature date in 2026 and is not sure when or exactly how they will do the interviews. At a minimum, everyone on the RAB distribution will get an interview form. Mr. Vernik can make an action item to determine what the plan is for distribution of interview forms. Mr. Lockett asked when the contract was expected to go out for the five-year review. Mr. Vernik indicated that it would be first quarter of 2025. Ms. McKellar asked if there was an opportunity for her and Mr. Scola to provide input on the questions included on the interview form. Mr. Vernik isn't sure. The reason Ms. McKellar mentioned it was because it would be good to include a question about whether there is anything the interviewee would like to bring up that isn't in the standard questions (like an open-ended question). Ms. McKellar also emphasized to the participants of the RAB meeting that it is important to fill out these interview questionnaires because it is your opportunity to write down your concerns. Mr. Bullock said that at the last meeting he had a note that the five-year review was this year. Mr. Vernik clarified that the last one was done in 2021 and the signature date for the next one is December 13, 2026.

6. PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS)

Ms. Weber of NAVFAC NW provided a summary of the status of the PFAS work on Adak Island.

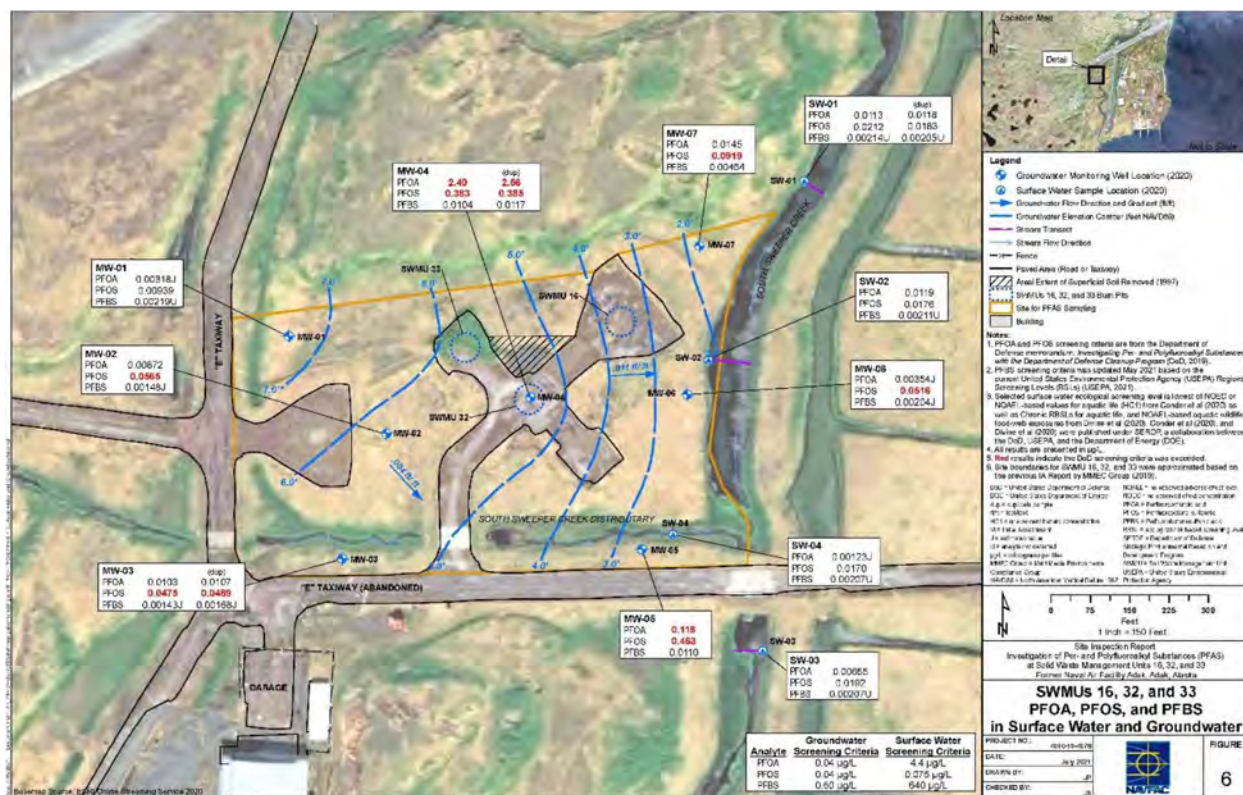
PFAS Remedial Investigation

Ms. Weber explained work started on island this week with utility locating and marking locations for borings and monitoring wells. The Navy will characterize nature and extent of PFAS chemicals in groundwater, soil, surface water and sediment.

The RI includes data collection to characterize site conditions and assess the nature of the PFAS chemicals present. This data will be used to conduct a risk assessment to evaluate whether there is potential risk from PFAS exposure for human health and the environment. This includes risk quantification for subsistence consumers exposed to chemicals of potential concern, if found to be present from the site, which could potentially bioaccumulate in fish tissue. This site is located within the existing OU A land use controls (LUCs) that restrict the use of groundwater, prohibit residential land use, and include an excavation restriction.

This work is anticipated to continue into September with the current fieldwork event and then the Navy will have additional groundwater sampling at regular intervals to get a timeline of concentrations. These data will be reported in a RI report that will be submitted to ADEC and EPA for review.

Ms. McKellar asked Ms. Weber to explain where the drinking water source for Adak comes from. Ms. Weber stated that drinking water is sourced from a surface water lake at elevation on the island, so the Navy does not believe there have been PFAS impacts from industrial operations on the island in the past. Mr. Lockett clarified that the drinking water source is Lake Bonnie Rose. The city of Adak is prohibited as a utility from using groundwater and they don't have a way to use groundwater for drinking water.



Mr. Bullock said it looks like the area of the initial RI is adjacent to Sweeper Creek. Is the Navy testing Sweeper Creek at all? When PFAS hits the water it tends to disperse rapidly and is probably in the creeks. Ms. Weber stated that the Navy is collecting surface water samples from South Sweeper Creek. Mr. Lockett added that Kuluk Beach is where the municipal storm drains flow to, and it would be good to consider taking a sample from that area. Ms. Weber stated that she would need to look into that for hydraulic connections and how it is related but she will make a note of it. Mr. Lockett added that all of the storm drains east of Mechanic Road go east to Kuluk Bay behind Bayshore housing; those west of Mechanic Road go to the creeks around the airport.

Mr. Bullock also asked if the Navy is collecting sediment samples in addition to surface water from the creek. Ms. Weber confirmed that the Navy is collecting sediment samples from the creek as well. Mr. Bullock asked if there is a map of where the Navy is collecting the sediment samples. Ms. Weber said there is a map in the meeting materials that show locations of samples collected in 2020 where there were only surface water samples collected. The Navy is collecting the sediment samples in similar locations to where surface water samples were collected in 2020. Mr. Bullock said that the reason he asked is that he was out at Sweeper Creek this morning with Mr. Vernik and Ms. McKellar and there is obviously some significant amounts of petroleum and who knows what else. It would be interesting to see what all the Navy is testing for and

what kind of chemicals are in the sediment samples. Is the Navy testing for anything other than PFAS? Ms. Weber stated that the Navy is primarily looking at PFAS and natural chemicals of the water and not necessarily other contaminants.

7. PETROLEUM UPDATE

A. East Canal and SWMU 60

Ms. Weber explained that the Navy is planning additional evaluations for light, non-aqueous phase liquid (LNAPL) present in East Canal and proof-of-concept testing for remedy enhancement. Work plans are currently being developed for this work and fieldwork is anticipated for summer 2025.



8. FREE PRODUCT RECOVERY PROGRAM

Mr. Boyd explained that EA Engineering, Science, and Technology, Inc. (EA) staff are on island right now conducting free product recovery and boom maintenance. Once a month EA maintains booms on East Canal and South Sweeper Creek and monitors wells six times a year to recover free product.

Recovery volumes from previous 12-month periods and the current period to date:

Past 12-Month Recovery Periods	Total Product Recovered (gallons)
October 2014 to September 2015	66.5
October 2015 to September 2016	37.7
October 2016 to September 2017	11
October 2017 to September 2018	8.2
October 2018 to September 2019	12.7
October 2019 and September 2020	8.85
October 2020 to September 2021	6.38
October 2021 to September 2022	7.87
October 2022 to September 2023	10.78
October 2023 to present	3.09

Recovery (this reporting period) has been from 12 wells at seven different sites. Product has not been recovered from the one other site during this period.

A total of five booms are maintained during the monthly boom inspection/maintenance event. East Canal has three and Sweeper Creek has two. One former boom location is monitored for a sheen in East Canal. Boom location 10 at the SWMU 60 'lagoon' location in Sweeper Creek has been modified following the completion of the Oleophilic Bio Barrier (OBB) installation.

Mr. Boyd explained that the Navy is looking at optimization of free product recovery as well.

Mr. Bullock asked how many wells the Navy is monitoring. Mr. Boyd said currently there are 20 wells that have product in them and the Navy recovered from about 12 wells so far this year. Wells have to have a recoverable amount of product in order for the Navy to attempt to recover free product.

10. LONG-TERM MONITORING (LTM) UPDATE AND INSTITUTIONAL CONTROLS (ICs)

A. Groundwater/Surface Water/Sediment Sampling

Mr. Boyd explained the LTM event is currently ongoing this August 2024 which includes biennial and five-year samples. The Navy has approximately 20 sites around the island and a little less than 100 sampling locations. Sampling will continue through late August/early September. Results and reporting will occur over the next several months and the RAB will be updated at the next meeting.

B. IC Inspections

IC inspections are performed biennially and will be conducted at approximately 60 biennial and 5-year sites in August/September 2024. Inspections will also include looking for evidence of excavations, well installations for domestic use, change of site usage to residential, signage (still present and legible), review of previous findings, and if recommendations were completed in the downtown area. While Mr. Boyd and Mr. Vernik are on island they are staying in contact with EA and will look at any areas where issues are identified during inspections. So far there haven't been any major findings. Any findings will be reported during the next RAB meeting.

C. IC Repairs

Mr. Vernik explained that they separate IC repairs into minor and major. An example of a minor repair would be replacing a sign because it is illegible, and a major repair would be if the rock armoring has sloughed off at one of the landfills.

Minor IC Repairs

Any minor repair activity that cannot be completed by the Navy or Navy contractors during other site visits will be added to the major IC repair projects.

Major IC Repairs

The Navy is continuing to evaluate whether to replace or simply remove the fencing at the Roberts and White Alice Landfills and has funding budgeted for one or the other action for the next major IC repair event currently planned to be awarded in 2025. If there are no major repairs identified, then this wouldn't occur and minor repairs would be added to existing contractors. If major repairs are identified where a large crew and equipment are needed, the Rommel stakes removal could be added to the IC repair scope.

Mr. Lockett understands about not being able to have a timeline on Rommel stakes but having a plan and communicating with the community even if the plan is to wait on a future contract would be helpful so residents know what is going on and can determine if there is any way they can help. Will the RAB be getting any updates on timeline with IC repairs and plans so they have information prior to the next RAB meeting? Mr. Vernik agreed that this points out a bigger issue that RAB members need to be better informed between RAB meetings. Maybe monthly updates would be useful. Mr. Vernik can work on formulating a status update. Maybe monthly or quarterly? Mr. Bullock suggested quarterly.

D. IC Materials

Mr. Vernik stated that the Navy continues to make quarterly inquiries to provide IC materials to the community. Additionally, the Navy would like to encourage community members to reach out at any time for materials if a need arises. Inquiries were most recently sent to the community during March and June 2024. Based on the responses received, the IC materials listed in the table below have been requested and have been distributed. Groups represented are:

Cruise Ship – Hanseatic Spirit

Items Requested:

Item	Total Disbursed
Hiking Trail Maps	30
Laminated Hiking Posters	0
Boomer the Otter Posters	1
UXO Posters	1
Ceramic Mugs	0
Travel Mugs	6
Bookmarks	15
Coloring Books	11
Large Magnets	0
Small Magnets	20
DVDs, Child	0
DVDs, Adult Visitor	0

The Navy will continue a quarterly e-mail inquiry and would appreciate feedback on community distribution or new items.

Mr. Vernik explained that the Navy has awarded a contract to update the IC materials and that will be happening in 2024 and 2025. Information on the map will be reviewed and this is the opportunity to suggest new IC materials for the Navy to provide. Some things have been discontinued because they aren't requested often like posters and coloring books. Feel free to reach out to Mr. Vernik with ideas for IC materials. Cost is a factor so the Navy won't get hydro flasks with a map of Adak. The map, however, will be updated.

Mr. Lockett is seeing more items visitors can take (e.g., maps) are most popular. Getting community feedback would be good.

E. Dig Permits

Mr. Steven Skeehan of NAVFAC NW gave a summary of the Dig Permit program. As always, the Navy would like to thank the groups that submit dig permits. The Dig Permit PDF link was placed on the City of Adak website under the 'How Do I' section under 'Obtain a Dig Permit' (adak.ak.gov). The following dig permits have been submitted since the last RAB meeting for upcoming fieldwork:

- May 2024 – Adak Petroleum – Ditch maintenance at south side of gate entrance to fuel farm.
- July 2024 – US Air Force – Ground Testing. Testing at multiple sites: White Alice, TACAN-ALS area, South Davis Landfill/Former Seaplane Hangar area, and Former LORAN Station.
- July 2024 – Mr. William O'Connell – Installation of personal garden in back yard at 167 Fishermans Cove.
- August 2024 – AECOM/US Navy – Installation of wells for PFAS sampling at Former Taxiway E and Former Fire Fighting Training area.

F. Repository Update

Mr. Vernik indicated that the repository has been updated through 2023 and the 2024 documents will be added in early 2025. Most, if not all, of the documents can also be found on the BRAC website. The link for the website is at the bottom of each page of the RAB meeting materials. The documents are also available electronically at the city office. The documents on the CD that Mr. Vernik brought to Adak will also be placed in the repository.

11. ADEC/EPA COMMENTS

Mr. Lockett wanted to allow Ms. McKellar and Mr. Scola to make any comments first before the community report.

Ms. McKellar introduced herself as the project manager for ADEC and was happy to be able to join this RAB in person. She mentioned that she has attended other RAB meetings and wanted to give the Adak RAB kudos for how well they run the meetings. Ms. McKellar would like to bring her staff along for training to show them how a RAB should be run. Ms. McKellar also stated that the Navy is doing great work on Adak. All the low hanging fruit is complete and the remaining work is going to take a long time due to not being able to find sources in the downtown area. It will take time and patience to finish the cleanup efforts. Ms. McKellar also wanted to mention the five-year review again and the importance of participating in the interview process. Ms. McKellar

would like to see community feedback. The Navy will address community concerns in the text of the document.

Mr. Scola apologized for not being able to make the meeting in person as was planned. The last fall RAB meeting was Mr. Scola's first time in Adak and he is looking forward to going in person next fall. Mr. Scola wanted to point out to Mr. Vernik and other Navy staff that if anything is observed while they are on Adak, let him know. Mr. Scola reiterated what Ms. McKellar said that the RAB meetings are the most professionally organized meetings that he has witnessed.

12. COMMUNITY REPORT / NEW RAB MEMBER DISCUSSION / COMMENTS

Mr. Lockett asked if there were any comments from the community that they wanted to make known to the EPA, ADEC, and the Navy.

Mr. Bullock commented that they looked at some sites today such as Sweeper Creek which had a good amount of concerning things. He then discussed the seawall. Mr. Bullock thinks the Navy has done a great job out there in clearing the seawall and allowing the salmon run to continue. There is concern about the lake and there isn't any way around not having an investigation, given the sites surrounding the lake.

Mr. Lockett said the city has received a number of complaints regarding the Parcel 4 gate due to folks either breaking the lock on the gate or going around it. The ICs state it is no trespassing in that area. If there are concerns that the area is not safe then it needs to be brought up that it is being accessed. It is the Navy's responsibility to enforce restrictions in that area. Mr. Vernik stated there is a sign at the gate (**NOTE: within a week of this RAB meeting, the sign on the gate was stolen**). Mr. Bullock stated that the Navy's stance is that they have cleared the ordnance in Parcel 4. If that is their stance then why are there still restrictions on accessing the area? Mr. Vernik explained that it is still part of the Navy work on the island and the Navy is still going through the process of returning the land to DOI. At that point it would be part of the marine refuge and recreational use is part of their plan for the area. Since the Navy still has control of the area, recreation is not an approved use at this time because there is no IC signage out there yet which is being included in the ROD as part of the ultimate remedy. Mr. Bullock asked when the Navy expects to have it ready for recreational use. Mr. Vernik said that once the ROD is finalized, a LUC remedial design document will be prepared to will lay out where the signage will go. At that point, the finding of suitability to transfer would allow the transfer of the property. It is not a fast process and there are checkmarks they need to address to get there. Mr. Lockett added that it is part of the

justification for EOD to continue to come in to blow the spillway. Mr. Vernik summarized that there are not ICs set up yet so there have been no signs installed.

Mr. Lockett explained that the RAB membership is currently at 12 voting members. During the spring meeting there was almost not enough to have a quorum. The discussion has come up to possibly remove members that have not attended a few meetings. Now would be the time to discuss whether to add or remove or keep the membership the same. Mr. Vernik explained that the bylaws for adding RAB members are specific, they can't add multiple people from the same entity. Other than that, anyone that wishes to join can join. Mr. Vernik also suggested considering whether the RAB wants to remove any members in order to make sure they can meet the quorum at each meeting. Mr. Lockett said he does not have a copy of the bylaws and asked if there is a limit to the number of members that can be on the RAB. Mr. Vernik does not believe there is a limit. Mr. Lockett can see where it might be beneficial to remove two people from the RAB that haven't attended and possibly add two people that are in attendance. Ms. Smiloff asked if someone misses three meetings (over 1.5 years) are they removed from the RAB? Mr. Vernik doesn't think the bylaws mention a specific number of meetings; however, he knows that the RAB can vote to remove members if they aren't attending meetings. If someone were to get voted off the RAB and then start coming back to meetings and want to be a RAB member, then the RAB could vote to reinstate them. Mr. Lockett said that the two members that have not attended in the 1.5 year time period mentioned by Ms. Smiloff then both would meet that threshold. Those two are Jack Stewart and Mik Turnbull. Would someone be comfortable making a motion to remove Mr. Stewart? Ms. Motley motioned to remove Mr. Stewart and Mr. Holsinger seconded the motion. Ms. Smiloff suggested adding that Mr. Stewart could rejoin if he does attend a meeting. Mr. Vernik explained that he would need to be voted back in if he attends and would like to be on the RAB. There were no objections and Mr. Stewart was removed from the RAB.

Mr. Lockett asked if the RAB wanted to add any new members. Ms. Motley motioned to add Mr. Scott Bullock. Ms. Lekanoff seconded the motion. There were no objections to the motion. Mr. Bullock has been added to the RAB.

13. REVIEW OF NEW ACTION ITEMS

Action Items #4 with amendments, #6, #8, and #9 from the April 2024 RAB are being carried over.

ACTION ITEM 1: The Navy will look into conducting underwater research in Andrew Lake. Amended to add "Research and provide information in order to incorporate community concerns and/or feedback regarding Lake Andrew potential remediation for blast activities and other items as a result of the activities in remediating".

ACTION ITEM 2: The Navy will investigate PFAS in drums on Adak and investigate potentially adding sites.

ACTION ITEM 3: The Navy will investigate creating a reporting tool related to the seepage reporting process. Possibly create a Microsoft Form to add to trail maps.

ACTION ITEM 4: The Navy will investigate the Rommel stakes and investigate remediation and temporary mitigation measures and inform the public.

New Action Items:

ACTION ITEM 5: The Navy will develop an action plan or alternatives that can be used regarding the Lake Andrew spillway with or without EOD for potential stakeholder development. The Navy will also investigate fish passage in Nurse's Creek and Moffett Creek as well as the spillway.

ACTION ITEM 6: The Navy will develop an action plan on how the interview process for the five-year review survey will be conducted and incorporate feedback from the City, ADEC, and EPA when developing questions to go on the survey.

ACTION ITEM 7: The Navy will formulate or develop a regular communication update like an email newsletter.

ACTION ITEM 8:

The Navy will develop a survey for IC materials, either for items or information on materials.

ACTION ITEM 9:

The Navy will provide a copy of RAB bylaws to the RAB members.

ACTION ITEM 10:

The Navy will investigate whether there is a way to survey Lake Andrew such as using a Naval exercise to test equipment.

ACTION ITEM 11:

The Navy will look into conducting a RI on Sweeper Creek to understand the types of contamination in the creek and what needs to be done to clean it up.

Ms. Motley stated that for the first action item there are two different issues including things from the beginning of treatment that haven't been brought up and the second is

anything that has occurred because of Navy's cleanup actions. Mr. Lockett indicated that he incorporated both in his amendment to the action item that was carried forward from the last RAB meeting.

Regarding Action Item #10, Mr. Vernik is concerned that there will be the expectation to investigate all water bodies on Adak and there needs to be a valid reason to justify additional investigations in these areas. Mr. Bullock stated that at this point it is just an investigation of looking at what is there and may or may not lead to the need for cleanup actions. Mr. Vernik asked what the exposure would be that would cause the need for investigation. Mr. Bullock suggested duck hunting and fishing are activities done in the lake that could hurt someone if there is something in the lake. Mr. Lockett believes imaging would just help clarify whether there is anything in the lake. Mr. Bullock understands the Navy has contracts to look at underwater ordnance and remediate those areas. Mr. Vernik clarified that the Navy knows there is ordnance at some of the offshore sites being investigated. There is a reason the lake wasn't looked at beyond the original preliminary assessment phase. Mr. Bullock suggested that we don't know if the reasoning was valid if we don't know what the reasoning was. Ms. Motley believes they have a reason to look at it now because it is possible that things were thrown in there because the Navy knows things were going in the ocean so there is a good chance things were going in the lake as well. Mr. Vernik suggests it is a lot of speculation and there is a difference between dumping and the potential that something flies out during a detonation. This may become a priority issue where something else will need to be delayed in order to investigate the lake. One example is pushing other projects in order to do additional investigation at East Canal since there is clear evidence of contamination in the canal. Mr. Lockett suggested that the Navy tries to find a unit outside of NAVFAC to come out and do testing or other out of the box thinking. Mr. Bullock added that a lot of times the Navy will add work onto an existing contract. Mr. Lockett believes it will be cheaper to use a military unit rather than commercial. The community members are willing to make some calls to try to help get the investigation done if needed.

Mr. Holsinger mentioned rebuilding the entire road system by Lake Andrew. There are culverts by Moffett Creek that have bottoms that are rotted out. Salmon have a difficult time trying to get through the culverts. Ms. Lekanoff added that using fish ladders or fish dams might be useful. Mr. Lockett suggested incorporating it into the seawall action item to include considerations for fish passage. Ms. Motley added Nurse's Creek as a place where fish also pass through.

Mr. Bullock would like to request to add an action item based on the sediment and petroleum and other potential contamination in Sweeper Creek to conduct a RI to understand the type of contamination and what needs to be done to clean up the creek.

Ms. Pletnikoff is with the Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association, and it is interested in seeing regional habitat assessments for the fisheries and interested in habitat improvement projects. It agrees with working with USFWS refuge folks would be a big step on that but please keep Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association informed on how it can work with the Navy and USFWS on some of these projects.

Mr. O'Connell asked if people are prohibited from putting a GoPro down in the lake to see what is down there. What kind of technology is required to see what is down there? Would they need special permission to do any investigations in the lake? Mr. Vernik said that the lake is not part of Parcel 4 so there are no restrictions on using boats, cameras, or swimming. Mr. O'Connell asked if the Navy has any underwater drones or GoPros that could be used. Mr. Vernik doesn't know of any gear that could be lent to the public for use but you could use your own equipment. Mr. O'Connell asked if that was the amount of technology needed to see what was going on. Mr. Vernik thinks it would depend on the type of survey such as remote vehicle with a camera versus a side scan sonar that sees items based on radar. Mr. Vernik doesn't think the Navy would use something like GoPros but would likely use something more technologically advanced if the Navy could get that type of study done.

Mr. Bullock asked that since there are no restrictions on the lake does that mean the Navy has no concerns if people would want to go magnet fishing there. Based on the knowledge Mr. Vernik has from previous project managers, Lake Andrew is like any other part of the island outside of Parcel 4. There is not a guarantee that you are not going to find something. The idea is if you find something, what do you do. That process is laid out. Ms. Motley said that would be like saying Lake Bonnie Rose is the same as Lake Andrew and it is not. Mr. Vernik clarified that Parcel 4 has a line, but it doesn't mean that inside that line there are munitions and outside there are not. There are sites within Parcel 4 and there is a lot of space between individual sites and the Parcel 4 boundary. Out of the 4,500 acres that make up Parcel 4, the areas that the Navy has studied is only a couple hundred acres. It's not black and white that someone is ok on one side and not the other. Mr. Lockett suggested that he is hoping by the next RAB that the Navy will have a report on the efforts that have been made to get to a solution on investigating Lake Andrew.

Mr. Bullock motioned to adopt the action items. It was seconded by Mr. Holsinger. There were no objections to the motion.

13. NEXT RAB MEETING

The next RAB will be held on 17 April 2025, at 1:00 pm Adak Time. Mr. Bullock motioned to schedule the RAB meeting for the 17th. Mr. Holsinger seconded the motion.

14. ADJOURN

Mr. Bullock motioned to adjourn the RAB meeting. It was seconded by Mr. Holsinger. The meeting was adjourned at 3:04 pm.

Attachment A**Current RAB Membership
August 2024**

Name	Affiliation	Location	Voting Member
Layton Lockett	RAB member (Community Co-Chair)	Adak, AK	1
Ben Leon-Guerrero	RAB member	Anchorage, AK	2
Elaine Smiloff	RAB member	Adak, AK	3
Jack Stewart**	RAB member	Adak, AK	
Kim Turnbull (Mik)	RAB member	Adak, AK	4
Tom Spitler	RAB member	Adak, AK	5
Matt Holsinger	RAB member	Adak, AK	6
Lisa Holsinger	RAB member	Adak, AK	7
Phillip Bennett	RAB member	Adak, AK	8
Julie Motley	RAB member	Denver, CO	9
Jana Lekanoff	RAB member	Adak, AK	10
Chase Berenson	RAB member	Anchorage, AK	11
Scott Bullock***	RAB member	Adak, AK	12
Craig Scola	RAB member (USEPA)*	Anchorage, AK	
Jamie McKellar	RAB member (ADEC)*	Fairbanks, AK	
Aaron Vernik	RAB member (Navy Co-Chair)*	Silverdale, WA	

* Non-voting member

** Member removed by vote 22 August 2024.

*** Member added by vote 22 August 2024.

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

Action items will be reviewed and approved by a 2/3-majority vote of RAB 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 member.

Adak website:

https://bracpmo.navy.mil/brac_bases/other_west/former_naf_adak.html

Attachment B
Army Corps of Engineers Fact Sheets



FACT SHEET

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

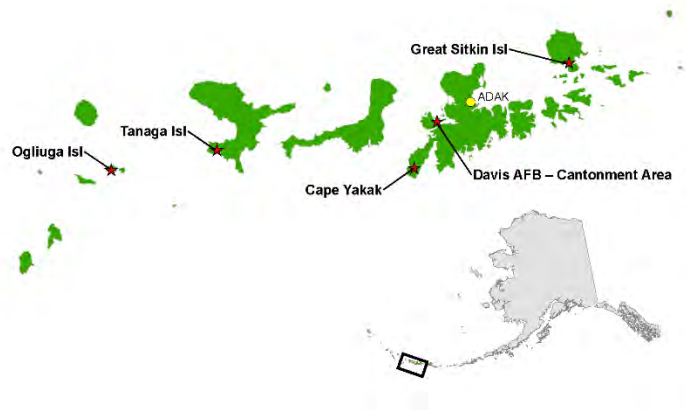
BUILDING STRONG®

August 2024

SUBJECT:

Update on USACE Activities near Adak, AK

PURPOSE: To summarize site information and Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS) project status for the Adak RAB



Ogluuga Island FUDS

The final Phase III HTRW Remedial Investigation (RI) field work was conducted during the summers of 2020 and 2021.

USACE and Ahtna, Inc. are currently working through the Feasibility Study (FS) drafted, reviewed and sent out to the public. The current schedule includes a Draft FS December 2024, Draft Proposed Plan September 2024, Public Meeting January 2025, and a Draft Decision Document October 2025.

The overall goal is to cleanup and closeout the site following USACE and ADEC guidance and recommendations, all in coordination with the USFWS and other interested stakeholders.

Cape Yakak FUDS

The Phase II Remedial Investigation and limited removal action work was successfully completed in early summer by AGN (Ahtna/Geosyntec JV). Logistical and weather challenges were overcome by a determined and positive team. Demobilization activities are currently ongoing. This work included removal of contaminant sources (CERCLA & POL soil and lead cable), investigation of soil/groundwater to address data gaps and further delineate nature and extent of contamination. Future work will include development of report, review, and Risk Assessment activities.

The overall goal is to cleanup and closeout the site following USACE and ADEC guidance and recommendations, all in coordination with the USFWS, Aleut Corporation, and other interested stakeholders.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS – ALASKA DISTRICT

Environmental and Special Programs Branch (CEPOA-PM-ESP), P.O. Box 6898, JBER, Alaska 99506

<http://www.poa.usace.army.mil>



Photo 1: Cape Yakak remote camp



Photo 2: Removing lead cable by pulling with excavator

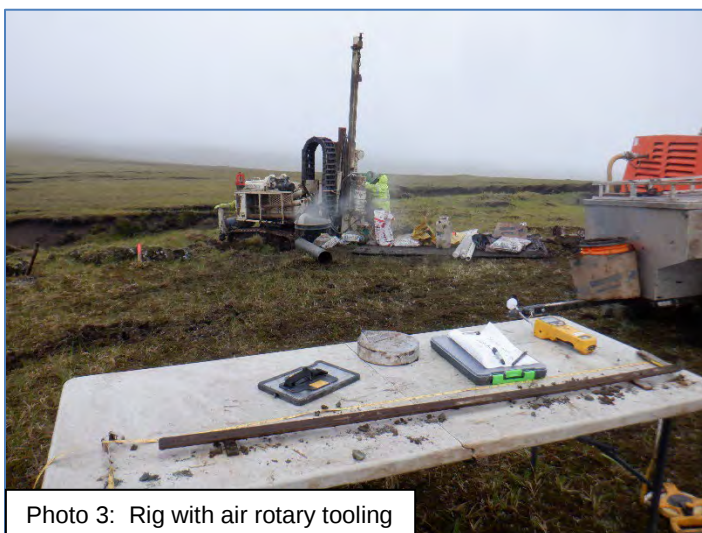


Photo 3: Rig with air rotary tooling

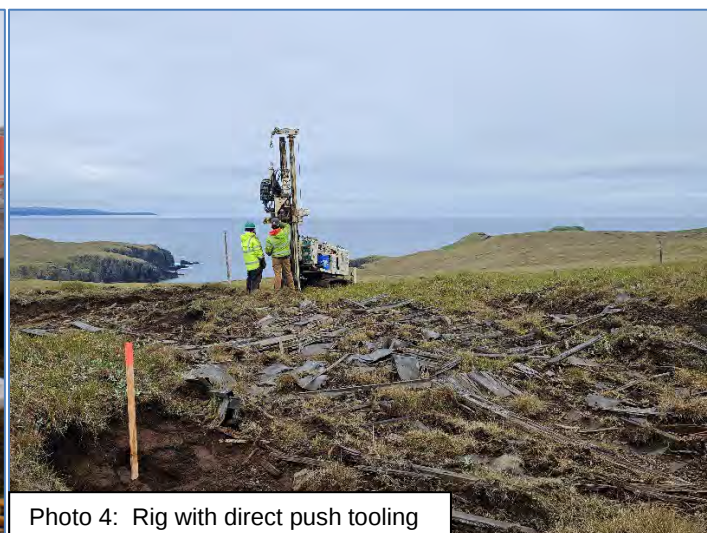


Photo 4: Rig with direct push tooling

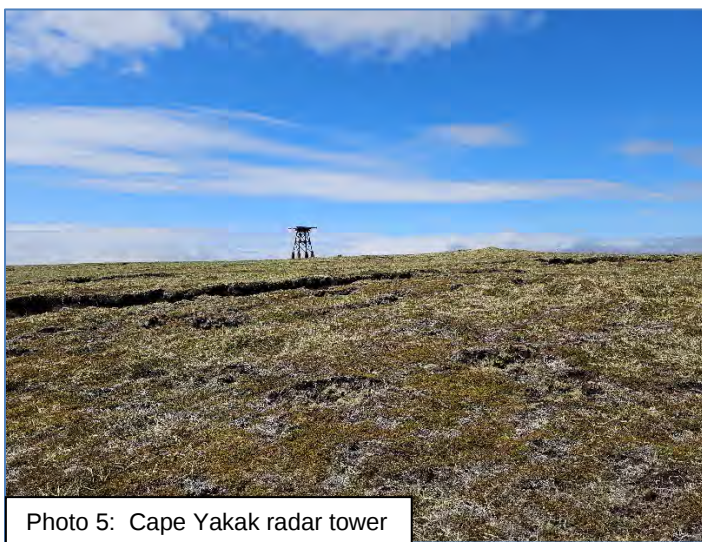


Photo 5: Cape Yakak radar tower



Photo 6: Tracked Marooka transporting soil bags to beach

Davis AFB – Cantonment Area

Following the removal actions in 2019 and 2020 it was found that wood debris and other small items were left at the site. Ahntna, Inc. was able to visit the site in June 2024 pick up these remaining items to the extent practicable using hand tools. Site was accessed via helicopter and items slung offsite for disposal.

Great Sitkin Island FUDS

The Phase II HTRW RI was conducted during the summer of 2021 and RI report was finalized March 2024. Future work after finalization of the RI report includes further investigation to further delineate the nature and extent of CERCLA and POL contamination on site.

Tanaga Island FUDS**Hazardous Toxic and Radioactive Waste (HTRW) project**

AECOM successfully conducted the Phase 3 HTRW RI during the course of 2 months during the 2022 field season. AECOM provided initial data to USACE however due to changes in FUDS policy requiring contract modification and insufficient contract capacity a modification could not be executed. Scoping for data screening and final compilation of results is currently ongoing.

The overall goal is to cleanup and closeout the site following USACE and ADEC guidance and recommendations, all in coordination with the USFWS and other interested stakeholders.

Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP) Project

HGL successfully conducted the Phase 3 MMRP RI during July/August of the 2023 field season. This field work will be documented in a RI report. The initial draft is currently under review by USACE. A public review is anticipated February 2025.

Contractor is also under contract to develop and finalize a Feasibility Study, Proposed Plan and Decision Document. ADEC, RAB, and other interested parties will be kept informed of activities as they move forward.

The overall goal is to cleanup and closeout the site following USACE and ADEC guidance and recommendations, all in coordination with the USFWS and other interested stakeholders.

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