

Naval Weapons Station (NWS) Yorktown Environmental Restoration Program (ERP) Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting

Virtual Meeting

Wednesday, June 1, 2022; 1300-1400

Attendees:

Name	Organization/Role
Captain Christopher Horgan	Commanding Officer, NWS Yorktown RAB Co-Chair
Cecilia Landin	Navy Remedial Project Manager (RPM) for NWS Yorktown
Susanne Greene	Public Affairs Officer (PAO) for NWS Yorktown
Jeff Kissler	Environmental Program Director for NWS Yorktown
Mike Brand	NWS Yorktown Public Works Department, Deputy Public Works Officer
Vincent Grassi	United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) RPM for NWS Yorktown
Wade Smith	Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ) RPM for NWS Yorktown
Nate Price	CH2M Activity Manager for NWS Yorktown
Paul Goodell	CH2M Deputy Activity Manager for NWS Yorktown
Becky Whalen	TetraTech Project Manager for NWS Yorktown
Caroline Broun	Community Member

Attachments:

Attachment 1 is the Public Notice for the RAB Meeting.

Welcome and Introductions:

Ms. Landin presented opening remarks and introductions to the RAB. The other RAB members and guests introduced themselves. CPT Horgan thanked everyone for their participation in today’s meeting. CPT Horgan stated that he was looking forward to talking about the Restoration Program for NWS Yorktown and the continued participation of the Team in this effort.

Ms. Landin noted that the community co-chair, Mr. Stephen Oyer, could not attend today’s meeting but asked us to proceed. All presentation handouts were distributed prior to the meeting and made available on the NWS Yorktown ERP Public Website.

PFAS Investigation Overview

Ms. Whalen presented the Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) presentation for NWS Yorktown. The presentation focused on the project scope, the work completed, and next steps for the PFAS Investigation at NWS Yorktown.

The PFAS project scope includes information research, completion of a Preliminary Assessment (PA) Report, preparation of a Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP) for the PFAS Site Investigation (SI), the SI field investigation, and SI Reporting.

The PFAS PA Report was completed in October 2021. A total of 75 areas at NWS Yorktown were screened and 9 areas of interest (AOIs) were identified for further investigation through a SI. The SI SAP was completed in March 2022 and the field investigation was conducted from March 2022 through May 2022. The field investigation included the installation of 35 new monitoring wells and the collection of 78 soil samples and 40 groundwater samples.

Ms. Whalen presented each area of interest as follows:

- Site 1 – Dudley Road Landfill: This AOI was recommended for investigation due to the historic disposal of aqueous film forming foam (AFFF) from fire training pits. A groundwater investigation was completed and consisted of collecting samples from existing groundwater monitoring wells.
- Site 4 – Burn Pad Residue Landfill: This AOI was recommended for investigation due to being utilized as a landfill for Site 22 during the timeframe that PFAS was utilized. A groundwater investigation was completed and consisted of collecting samples from 4 newly installed groundwater monitoring wells.
- Site 22 – Burn Pad: This AOI was recommended for investigation due to groundwater samples collected in 2017 containing elevated concentrations of perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS). A groundwater and soil investigation was completed and consisted of collecting samples from 3 newly installed groundwater monitoring wells and collection of 20 soil samples from 10 soil borings.
- SSA-3 – Fire Training Pits and Vicinity and Building 461 Fire Station No. 14: This AOI was recommended for investigation due to documented use of AFFF for firefighting activities in the former fire training pits and the historical storage and handling of AFFF at Building 461. A groundwater and soil investigation was completed and consisted of collecting samples from 8 newly installed groundwater monitoring wells and collection of 18 soil samples.
- Building 24 Betty Warehouse Fire: This AOI was recommended for investigation due to documented use of AFFF to extinguish a fire. A groundwater and soil investigation was completed and consisted of collecting samples from 5 newly installed groundwater monitoring wells and collection of 10 soil samples.
- Building 27 Fire: This AOI was recommended for investigation due to documented use of AFFF to extinguish a fire. A groundwater and soil investigation was completed and consisted of collecting samples from 5 newly installed groundwater monitoring wells and collection of 10 soil samples.
- Building 71 Former Fire Station: This AOI was recommended for investigation due to historical storage and handling of AFFF. A groundwater and soil investigation was completed and consisted of collecting samples from 4 newly installed groundwater monitoring wells and collection of 8 soil samples.
- Building 703 Main Fire Station No. 13: This AOI was recommended for investigation due to historical storage and handling of AFFF. A groundwater and soil investigation was completed and consisted of collecting sample from 6 newly installed groundwater monitoring wells and collection of 12 soil samples.

Ms. Whalen outlined the next steps for the PFAS SI which include data analysis, validation, and initial recommendation (Summer 2022). The anticipated PFAS SI Report submittals are April 2023 (Draft), June 2023 (Draft Final), and August 2023 (Final).

At the end of the presentation Ms. Whalen asked if there were any questions or comments.

- Question / Comment #1: CPT Horgan thanked Becky for providing the PFAS Investigation Overview and asked if there was any concerns from the initial data that has been collected. CPT Horgan also inquired about the potential recommendations that would result once the data has been evaluated.
 - Ms. Whalen responded that the data is currently being processed by the laboratory and at this time there is no data yet to report. The potential outcomes that could result once the data has been validated and evaluated are: 1) No potential sources are identified and no further investigation is required or 2) A potential source(s) has been identified which will require proceeding to a remedial investigation (RI). Ms. Landin also noted that to date none of the data collected has facilitated an emergency response action and there is no indication of off-site migration.
- Question / Comment #2: Mr. Brand inquired about a recent fiber optic line strike that occurred near one of the new monitoring well locations at the main firehouse. Mr. Brand asked what procedures are in place prior to starting intrusive activities to avoid line strikes.
 - Ms. Landin responded that our utility clearance procedures include the completion of a public markout (VA 811) and a 3rd party private utility markout to identify and mark underground utilities prior to starting intrusive work. The team did review the results of the public and private utility markout and it does not appear that the newly installed monitoring wells are located near any marked utilities. Mr. Brand requested in the future that the team better coordinate with the Base to ensure that line marking is accurate and up to date prior to starting intrusive work.
- Question / Comment #3: Ms. Braun stated that NWS Yorktown appears to be much further in the process in regard to investigating PFAS than other federal facilities. Ms. Brand asked if the team could discuss why NWS Yorktown is so far ahead and proactive in this regard.
 - Ms. Landin stated that the Navy is being proactive in investigating PFAS. Additionally, the Navy is self-funded while other federal agencies may just be receiving funds to begin PFAS investigations.

NWS Yorktown ERP Update

Ms. Landin presented the objectives of the presentation which were to provide an overview of the ERP at NWS Yorktown, a summary of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) process, and provide an update on select ERP Sites: Site 1, Site 3, Site 12, Site 22, Site 24, Site 25, Site 33, and Basewide PFAS. After presenting an overview of the ERP at Yorktown and summarizing the CERCLA process, individual site updates (below) were presented:

Site 1: A Record of Decision (ROD) is in place for soil with a proposed plan for groundwater, surface water, and sediment in development. The Proposed Plan will include an active remedy for groundwater using the USEPA's Adaptive Management strategy and no further action for surface water and sediment. The public comment period for the Proposed Plan is anticipated for the Summer 2022. A Groundwater Pre-Remedial Design (RD) Investigation is planned for Winter 2022.

Site 3: A ROD is in place for soil with a ROD for groundwater, surface water, and sediment in development. The preferred alternative for groundwater is enhanced in-situ bioremediation via groundwater injections, long-term monitoring of groundwater, and land use controls. No further action will be the preferred alternative for surface water and sediment. The ROD signature is anticipated for Summer 2022.

Site 12: A ROD and Explanation of Significant Difference (ESD) is in place for Area A, Area B/C, and the Wood/Debris Disposal Area (WDDA). The remedy at Area A was soil excavation, cap installation, land use controls, and long-term monitoring, while no further action was the selected remedy for Area B/C and the WDDA.

However, after discovery of surface debris at the WDDA during a 2019 site walk, additional investigation is planned for Summer 2022.

Site 22: No Further Action RODs are in place for soil, surface water, and sediment. A remedy optimization work plan is being developed outlining the implementation of a subgrade biogeochemical reactor (SBGR) pilot study to evaluate the remedy as a potential alternative to the remedy included in the current ROD for groundwater. Ms. Landin explained that an SBGR is an excavation backfilled with amendments (e.g., mulch, emulsified vegetable oil and/or zero valent iron) infiltrated with extracted groundwater from a downgradient extraction well meant to treat impacted groundwater. Fieldwork is anticipated to begin in Summer 2022.

Site 24: Groundwater was evaluated in a RI and soil removal occurred in 2016 as part of a non-time critical removal action. Munitions and radiological materials were discovered during the non-time critical removal action delaying the project. The team is currently coordinating with the Joint Munitions Command to properly dispose of the radiologically impacted materials.

Site 25: Soil, groundwater, surface water, and sediment were investigated under a RI in 2021 with only soil requiring further action. A Pre-Feasibility Study (FS) was completed for soil in early fiscal year (FY) 2022 and a FS for soil is in progress to evaluate alternatives for the Proposed Plan and ROD.

Site 33: Soil, groundwater, surface water, sediment, and seep sampling are being conducted as part of an ongoing RI. The RI has included monitoring well installation, hydrologic conductivity testing, biological surveys, and toxicity testing.

Basewide PFAS: The PFAS PA was completed in October 2021, the PFAS SI SAP was completed in early FY 2022, and SI fieldwork began in March 2022 and is ongoing. A total of 9 source areas are being investigated. Sampling activities include the collection of soil and groundwater samples. Additional PAs and SIs are planned for auxiliary areas associated with NWS Yorktown including New Kent, Virginia and Sugar Grove, West Virginia (Operations Area and Support Area).

At the end of the presentation Ms. Landin asked if there were any questions or comments.

- Question / Comment #1: Ms. Braun asked if there are any sites at NWS Yorktown that have the potential for contaminants to migrate to the York River or other surface water bodies that drain to the York River, and if so, are there any additional planned investigations?
 - Ms. Landin responded that for each site, the potential for upland contaminant migration to surface water bodies is evaluated to ensure that surface water bodies such as the York River or its tributaries are not impacted. To date, the team has not found any sites at NWS Yorktown which have adversely impacted the larger downstream water bodies such as the York River.

NWS Yorktown Five-Year Review Update

Mr. Price presented the Agenda for the NWS Yorktown Five-Year Review Update which includes the purpose, content, and process of the Five-Year Review Approach and the 2023 Five-Year Review Overview and Schedule.

Mr. Price discussed the purpose of the Five-Year Review which is to evaluate the performance of remedies in place and determine if the remedies remain protective of human health and the environment. This is required when remedial action results in hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants remaining in place at concentrations that do not allow for unlimited use/unrestricted exposure. Five-Year Reviews are triggered by on-site mobilization dates for sites requiring remedial action construction or RODs and other decision document signature dates for sites without remedial action construction. The Five-Year Review should be completed and signed within 5 years of the trigger date.

Mr. Price outlined the content of the Five-Year Review which includes site history and background, review of progress since the previous Five-Year Review, a technical assessment of the remedy, identification of issues,

recommendations, and follow-up actions, and protectiveness statements. The Five-Year Review is being prepared in accordance with Five-Year Review guidance and Navy policy.

Mr. Price discussed the process that will be used for the upcoming FYR. Community Involvement will be incorporated into the process through placing an advertisement in the newspaper upon initiation and completion of the FYR, posting the Final FYR in the information repository, and although not required, generating and providing a fact sheet to the community. Mr. Price explained that documents will be reviewed, and an emerging contaminant review will be conducted as part of the process. Additionally, a resiliency review will be conducted, which will focus on hurricanes. Finally, site inspections and interviews will be conducted as part of the process. The inspections will be conducted using the USEPA example checklists. The interviews will be conducted with facility personnel, targeting similar interviewees as those interviewed during the previous FYR.

Mr. Price summarized the sites included in the FYR (Site 1, 6, 7, 12, 19, and 22) and reviewed the schedule of the 2023 FYR. The Draft 2023 FYR was submitted to the USEPA and VDEQ in March 2022 with a ten month review and comment resolution period. The anticipated Navy Brief and Signature is March 16, 2023, with USEPA and VDEQ concurrence letters issued by April 2023. The Public Notice and Fact Sheet is scheduled for release in May/June 2023.

At the end of the presentation Mr. Price asked if there were any questions or comments.

- Question / Comment #1: CPT Horgan asked the team if they could provide a draft of the Five-Year Review to him.
 - Ms. Landin responded that a copy of the Draft Five Year Review would be provided.

Closing Remarks

CPT Horgan thanked everyone for participating and all of the hard work and effort by the Team. He thanked the community members for attending and actively participating.

Ms. Landin closed the meeting by thanking everyone for attending, asking great questions, and hoping to see them again for the 2023 RAB meeting.

Next RAB Meeting

Date/Time: June 2023 (exact date/time to-be-determined; will be advertised on the public websites and in the *Daily Press* and *Virginia Gazette* newspapers)

Location: To-be-determined (will be advertised on the public websites and in the *Daily Press* and *Virginia Gazette* newspapers)

Points of Contact for Questions, Comments, or to Request Additional Information

Ms. Cecilia Landin, NAVFAC Mid-Atlantic RPM for NWS Yorktown, cecilia.a.landin.civ@us.navy.mil or (757) 341-2014

Ms. Susanne Greene, Public Affairs Officer for NWS Yorktown and CAX, susanne.greene@navy.mil or (757) 752-1304

Public Website

<https://go.usa.gov/xfP6h>

Attachment 1
Public Notice



**Public Notice of
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB) MEETING
for Naval Weapons Station (NWS) Yorktown**

Wednesday, June 1, 2022 from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Call in Phone Number: 1-469-214-8538

Conference ID Number: 688 084 437#

The Public is Invited to Attend

NWS Yorktown is inviting the community to participate in the RAB meeting to be informed of Environmental Restoration Program (ERP) issues, investigations, and cleanups. The ERP addresses past contamination to protect human health and the environment and relies on public awareness and engagement in the process. This is your opportunity to participate by providing direct input during this meeting. NWS Yorktown, the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency are committed to the RAB, which symbolizes our commitment to maintaining open dialog with impacted communities as we work together to Clean, Protect, & Restore.

To join the meeting by telephone only, please call 1-469-214-8538, and enter conference ID 688 084 437#. A link to the virtual meeting and presentations for the meeting will be posted to the public website. To request a mailed hardcopy of the presentations, please contact the Navy's contractor, Mr. Nathaniel Price, at (757) 671-6280.

For additional information regarding the RAB Meeting or the ERP at NWS Yorktown visit our website:

<https://go.usa.gov/xfP6h>

or contact the Installation Public Affairs Officer
Phone: (757) 887-4939

Notice published in the *Virginia Gazette* and *Daily Press* on May 11, 2022. (In addition, post cards advertising the RAB meeting were mailed and emailed to persons on the mailing list and letters advertising the RAB were mailed and emailed to the Community Co-Chair and RAB stakeholders.