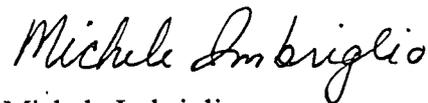


11/09/99

Dear RAB Members:

Enclosed please find a final copy of the minutes (including enclosures) from the October 20, 1999 RAB meeting. If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at (401)841-7714.

Very truly yours,



Michele Imbriglio  
RAB Secretary

Copy to: (w/enc)  
Dr. D.K. Abbass  
Dr. Richard Ayen  
Ms. Barbara Barrow  
Mr. John R. Bernardo, III, Esq.  
Ms. Mary A. Blake  
Dr. David W. Brown  
Mr. Richard D. Coogan  
Mr. Paul A. Cormier  
Ms. Beth Everett  
Mr. Thurston Gray  
Mr. Byron Hall  
Mr. Eugene Love  
Ms. Elizabeth Mathinos  
Mr. Joseph Mello  
Mr. Thomas McGrath  
Mr. James E. Myers  
Mr. John Palmieri  
Mr. Howard L. Porter  
Mr. Emmet E. Turley  
Mr. John Vitkevich  
Ms. Claudette Weissinger  
Ms. Mary Philcox  
Mr. David Egan

Mr. Paul Kulpa, RIDEM  
Mr. Richard Gottlieb, RIDEM  
Ms. Kymberlee Keckler, EPA  
Capt. A.C. Oakleaf, NAVSTA  
Capt. H. L. Schwind, NAVSTA  
Capt. Jon Wyman  
Hon. Paul W. Crowley  
Hon. June Gibbs  
Mr. Joseph McEnness  
Mr. Paul Russell  
Mr. Charles Salmond  
Mr. John Torgan  
Mr. Jim Shafer  
Ms. Beth Timm, ATSDR  
Mr. Gregg Tracey, SAIC  
Councilman Dennis McCoy  
Dr. David Kim  
Mr. Brian Bishop  
Brother Joseph  
Newport Public Library  
Middletown Free Library  
Portsmouth Free Public Library  
Mr. Bob Jones, Groton  
Mr. David Sanders, NAVSTA  
Mr. David Dorocz, NAVSTA  
Ms. Melissa Griffin, NAVSTA  
Ms. Sarah White, EPA  
Ms. Jennifer Stump, Gannett Fleming  
Mr. Tim Prior, USF&WS  
Mr. Ken Finkelstein, NOAA  
Ms. Diane Baxter, TtNUS, Wilmington  
Mr. Matt Weaver, Green Light Foundation  
Dr. Robert Quigley  
Mr. Robert Gilstein  
Ms. Amrita Roy  
Ms. Virginia Lee

**NAVAL STATION NEWPORT  
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
October 20, 1999**

**MINUTES**

On Wednesday, October 20, 1999, the NAVSTA Newport Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) gathered at the Officer's Club for its monthly meeting. The meeting began at 7:00pm and ended at 8:55pm.

In attendance were Kathy Abbass, Barbara Barrow, Dave Brown, Emmett Turley, James Myers, Thurston Gray, Mary Blake, Richard Coogan, Byron Hall, Paul Cormier, Richard Ayen, Howard Porter, Matt Weaver Green Light Foundation, Tom Flanagan Green Light Foundation, Capt. Herb L. Schwind NAVSTA, Dave Dorocz NAVSTA, Melissa Griffin NAVSTA, Shannon Behr NAVSTA, Amanda Faist NAVSTA, Greg Kohlweiss NAVSTA PAO, Richard Gottlieb RIDEM, Paul Kulpa RIDEM, Kymberlee Keckler USEPA, Stephen Parker Tetra Tech NUS, William Holtham Army Corp of Engineers, Jennifer Stump Gannett Fleming.

Community Co-chair Barbara Barrow opened the meeting and welcomed the group. September meeting minutes were approved.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS FROM COMMUNITY MEMBERS**

Project Committee: The project committee did not meet as there is no committee chair. Nominations to fill the vacancy are being sought.

Planning Committee-John Palmieri Committee Chair: No report as the committee chair was not present.

Membership Committee-Howard Porter Committee Chair: There have been two new members elected to the board-Thurston Gray of Portsmouth and Richard Ayen of Jamestown.

Public Information-Claudette Weissinger Committee Chair: No report as the committee chair was not present.

**ACTIVITY UPDATE-James Shafer**

James Shafer gave a brief status report on various IR sites as follows;

McAllister Point Landfill-Offshore: A Draft Record of Decision (ROD) was submitted in August. The pre-design work is complete. The RAB was briefed in September on the pre-design results. A final report will be out in October. A Final ROD is expected in December 1999. See Enclosure (1)

McAllister Point Landfill-Onshore: Quarterly monitoring of landfill gas and groundwater continues. Next sampling event will be in the fall 1999. See Enclosure (2)

Derecktor Shipyard-Onshore: - Hot spot removal actions are complete with the exception of the sump adjacent to Building 42. See Enclosure (3).

Derecktor Shipyard-Offshore: Final Feasibility Study (FS) was submitted in July. Funding for the Proposed Plan for Remediation is planned for FY04. Funding for remediation planned for FY05/06. See Enclosure (3).

Melville North Landfill: Excavation and off site disposal of material is in progress. A total of 52,600 tons of material have been shipped offsite. See Enclosure (4).

Old Firefighting Training Area-Offshore: A draft final Ecological Risk Assessment (ERA) report has been completed and was submitted July 30. Comments were received in September and responded to on September 30. A Final ERA will be submitted in November. A Draft Final Remedial Investigation Report (RI) is planned for February 2000. See Enclosure (5).

Tank Farm 5: Two additional bedrock wells will be installed at the end of October. See Enclosure (6).

Gould Island: Installation Restoration Field Work will be begin in FY00. A draft building demolition work plan was submitted in July. A final demolition work plan will be submitted in October. See Enclosure (7).

**TAG REPORT**

There is no report.

## FUD SITE RAB ESTABLISHMENT-William Holtham

The RAB was shown a brief video overview of the Army Corps of Engineers FUDS program.

The Army Corp of Engineers oversees all Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS). There are over 9000 properties in the United States which the Department of Defense (DoD), including the Army, Navy and Air Force, once owned or used but no longer controls. Many of these properties are now owned by private companies or other Federal and State agencies and municipalities. The sites are now known as Formerly Used Defense Sites or FUDS. Some of these properties contain materials, which could pose a risk to human health, safety or the environment if not properly treated or removed from the site.

The Defense Department formalized the Defense Environmental Restoration Program in the mid-1980's. The goal of this program is to reduce the risk to human health, safety and the environment resulting from past DoD activities. The FUDS program for cleanup of former defense sites is a part of the Defense Environmental Restoration Program and is managed for the Department of Defense by the Corps of Engineers.

The cleanup of these sites is a partnership among the Department of Defense represented by the Corp of Engineers, Federal and State regulatory agencies, property owners and members of the community who live and work near the site.

Restoration Advisory Boards for FUD sites are established where there is sufficient sustained interest among members of the community. A Restoration Advisory Board can be established one of three ways; 1) a petition signed by 50 residents, 2) a local government request that a RAB be established or 3) an Army Corp of Engineers District Commander will make the determination that a RAB is needed. The RAB is co-chaired by a Corp representative and a community representative. The RAB community members select the community co-chair. The RAB includes representatives from Federal, State and local agencies in addition to local community members.

The Army Corps of Engineers did an inspection of the Newport Navy base back in 1989-1990. At that time the Corps identified Melville North Landfill as a FUD site. The Navy is

presently cleaning up this site. The Army Corps of Engineers found it appropriate that the Navy continue with their clean up efforts at this site. The Corps again did an inspection in 1992-1993 because four additional areas (Melville North Landfill, Melville North area, SDP Sludge Drying Bed in Area 6, and Structure 214 in Area 18) had been identified as potentially qualifying as FUD sites. Out of those four sites the Army Corps of Engineers recommended that only the sludge drying bed be sampled at the request of the owner because although the Navy said they had removed all contaminants they could not confirm that the soil beneath the area they had cleaned was, in fact, clean. The Army Corps of Engineers agreed that, as funding allowed, they would return and sample that area.

The State has notified the Army Corps of Engineers that there may be additional areas that need to be investigated here in Newport. It must be noted that the mere presence of contamination does not necessarily qualify an area to be deemed a FUD site. It must be proven that the contamination is solely the result DoD activities when the DoD owned or used the site.

The FUDS program is for sites that the government exceeded prior to 1986. Available funding goes to high relative risk areas first.

The Army Corps of Engineers provides a status update every three months for each state. A copy is enclosed as Enclosure (2). Michele Imbriglio at NAVSTA will be added to the mailing list to receive this update report.

As there is only one small FUD site here at Newport Mr. Holtham suggested that the RAB's be "piggy backed". In other words he would report to this RAB periodically with a FUD site status rather than form a new, separate FUD RAB.

Kathy Abbass moved that William Holtham be invited to brief the RAB quarterly on the FUD Program. Mr. Holtham feels that the quarterly status report that the Army Corps of Engineers publishes would provide enough information on the FUD Program at this time.

Navy Co-Chair, Captain Herb Schwind did not concur with the combination of the RABs. There is concern that the various funding programs and cleanup projects may become confusing to some. Captain Schwind suggested that the FUD Program briefs be completely separate and apart from this RAB. Perhaps the briefs would be held earlier in the evening prior to the Navy RAB

meetings. Captain Schwind in no way wants to discourage a FUD RAB but has concern that a "combination" of the two may cause the Navy RAB focus to be lost and confused with issues that are the responsibility of the Army Corps of Engineers.

**Geographic Information System-Stephen Parker Tetra Tech**

The Geographic Information System (GIS) is a computer program that integrates data results with aerial mapping photographs of the Naval Station. This allows the various sites to be toured via computer. Each site is overlaid with markers indicating the exact location of sampling sites, the type of sampling (i.e. soil sampling), groundwater monitoring results, the areas of contamination, etc. A test station can be selected and the database queried and all information about the station that has been inputted into the database will be listed (i.e. lead levels, position in the survey grid, arsenic levels, etc.).

Enclosures:

- (1) Activity Updates
- (2) Update Report for Rhode Island (US Army Corps of Engineers)

# Activity Update:

## McAllister Point Landfill - Offshore

- Draft Record of Decision submitted August
- Pre-design sampling RAB brief September
- Validated data submitted this week
- Data Report will be out in October
- Final ROD December 1999

**Enclosure 1**

# Activity Update:

## McAllister Point Landfill - Onshore

- Continue long term monitoring of landfill gas and groundwater
- Next sampling fall 1999

# Activity Update:

## Derecktor Shipyard

### *On - Shore*

- Hot spot removal actions complete with exception of sump adjacent to building 42..

### *Off - Shore*

- Final FS submitted on 30 July.
- Funding for Proposed Plan for Remediation planned for FY 2004
- Funding for remediation planned for 2005/2006

# Activity Update:

## Melville North Landfill

- Excavation and off site disposal of material
  - Model City, NY
  - Environmental Soil Management Facility, N.H.
  - Turnkey Landfill, N.H.
  - Crapo Hill Landfill, New Bedford MA
  - BFI Landfill Fall River MA
  - Mid City Scrap, MA
- Total of 52,600 tons shipped offsite 10/99

# Activity Update:

## Old Firefighting Training Area

### *Off Shore:*

- Draft Final ERA submitted on July 30.
- Received comments September 8,
- Responded to comments on September 30.
- Final ERA will be submitted in November 8
- **Draft Final Remedial Investigation Report (RI) planned for February 2000**

# Activity Update:

## Tank Farm 5

- Two additional bedrock wells will be installed end of this month*
- Ground water sampling Winter 1999*

# Activity Update:

- Gould Island
  - Start Installation Restoration Field Work in FY 2000
  - Submitted Buildings Demolition Draft Workplan in July
  - Final Demolition Workplan will be submitted this October



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
New England District

# Update Report for Rhode Island

Current as of  
July 31, 1999

696 Virginia Road, Concord, Massachusetts 01742-2751

Public Affairs Office, 978-318-8264

Home Page: <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/publicac/publicac.htm>

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## Mission

The missions of the New England District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers include flood prevention and control, emergency response for natural disasters and national emergencies, environmental remediation and restoration, natural resource management, stream bank and shoreline protection, navigation maintenance and improvement, support to military facilities and installations, and engineering and construction support to other federal agencies. The six New England states cover 66,000 square miles and have 6,100 miles of coastline, 11 deep water ports, 102 recreational and small commercial harbors, 13 major river basins, and thousands of miles of navigable rivers and streams. The district operates and maintains 31 dams, 2 hurricane barriers and the Cape Cod Canal. We employ about 550 professional civilian employees, with about 400 stationed at our headquarters in Concord, Massachusetts. The other Corps of Engineers employees serve at Corps projects and offices throughout the region.

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## Navigation

**PROVIDENCE RIVER (1st & 2nd CDs)** - A hydrographic condition survey of the federal navigation project, completed in August 1992, showed substantial shoaling in upstream areas of the channel. Former Governor Sundlun created an Interagency Task Force to preserve shipping in Narragansett Bay and to develop a plan for dredging the Providence River channel and other projects. At Governor Sundlun's invitation, the New England District was invited to be an advisory representative. The Task Force completed a report concluding that dredging is needed and has created an exemplary working partnership among state and federal agencies and the many interests involved in dredging.

*A draft EIS (DEIS) was issued for public review on August 18, 1998. Public Hearings on the DEIS were held on October 8th and 9th. Close to 300 people spoke at the hearings, with the majority questioning our choice of preferred alternative. The (DEIS) preferred alternative developed would provide an upriver Confined Aquatic Disposal (CAD) site for disposal of dredged sediments that are unsuitable for open-water disposal. Suitable material would be placed at an open water site within Narragansett Bay.*

Work is currently underway on preparation of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). Significant additional testing and modeling is underway, or being planned, to address comments received on the DEIS.

*A workplan outlining the additional effort planned for the FEIS has been coordinated with the EIS Cooperating Agencies and the RI Coastal Resources Advisory Council. The schedule developed for the FEIS anticipated completion in the Spring of 2001. Assuming the FEIS adequately addresses pertinent concerns, a Record of Decision would be prepared. The earliest dredging could start would be early 2002.*

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We are making every effort to maximize public involvement in the process and will meet regularly with the stakeholder groups. State participation and commitment to the work remains strong and is key to moving the work ahead.

**BLOCK ISLAND (2nd CD)** – *Contingent on the availability of necessary funding, work is scheduled for Fiscal Year 2000 to dredge the channel and anchorage at the Harbor of Refuge in Block Island. The work involves removing about 40,000 cubic yards of sand and placing the material in a nearshore site off Crescent Beach.*

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## **Defense Environmental Restoration Program**

This Congressionally directed program (PL 98-212) provides for an expanded effort in environmental restoration. It emphasizes the identification, investigation and prompt cleanup of hazardous and toxic waste; unexploded ordnance; buildings and other structures and debris at current and former military facilities. A total of 85 formerly used Defense sites have been identified in Rhode Island. Investigations at all 85 sites are now complete, including 53 where no work was found to be necessary.

**Quonset Point Nike PR-58, North Kingstown (2nd CD).** Remedial Investigations for the former NIKE PR-58 site was nearing completion in the spring of 1998 when work was put on hold pending the results of the Navy's remedial investigation on the adjacent property. Up to this point, the Corps investigations of the overburden showed limited soil contamination. The results of that Navy study indicated that a deep CVOC plume (bedrock zone) exists, and the source location is from the NIKE property. In ongoing coordination with the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Navy, it was determined that additional characterization of the deep plume was required. A Scope of Work has been prepared and will be issued to the architect-engineer to sample up to 22 new monitoring wells. *The negotiations were concluded; however, funding availability prevented immediate award of the task order. Limited funding to initiate work has been received, and award is imminent.*

**Quonset Point Keiffer Park, North Kingstown (2nd CD).** *A remedial action evaluation will be completed during the fourth quarter of 1999, provided funding becomes available. An interim remedial action will follow to remove LNAPL from the site which formerly contained six 650,000 gallon capacity underground fuel storage tanks.*

Field work is scheduled for completion this summer (1999) at Quonset Point Blue Beach, **North Kingstown (2nd CD)**. The remedial action project to remove PCB-contaminated soil and pave a contaminated area has been modified to approximately \$1.7 million.

The Engineering Evaluation of Contamination Phase II for Gould Island, **Narragansett (2nd CD)**, was initiated, but has been put on hold pending discussion with RIDEM on the scope of work. A meeting between the Corps and RIDEM was held on September 25, 1998. Records supporting the Corps recommendations were submitted to RIDEM in November 1998. RIDEM responded in January 1999. *A significant number of issues were identified which must be addressed prior to implementing field investigations.*

A contract has been awarded to perform a Pilot Study for the remediation of free product at Building 480 of the Electric Boat Facility, **Quonset Point, North Kingstown (2nd CD)**. *Data collected during a pre-pilot test is currently being evaluated. A full-scale pilot test will follow that evaluation.* EMCON (Wallingford, Conn.) is investigating the Electric Boat site under a comprehensive cost-sharing agreement between EB and the Corps. The New England District

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recently amended the cost-sharing agreement with Electric Boat to cover the cost associated with additional site characterization. That site characterization is ongoing.

Phase II of the Engineering Evaluation of Contamination is nearly complete for Quonset Point Devils Foot Road, **North Kingstown (2nd CD)**. The final report is expected in May 1999, at which time remediation alternatives will be discussed with RIDEM.

Remedial investigations and feasibility studies are underway for a project at **Charlestown (2nd CD)** Naval Auxiliary Landing Field. Remediation alternatives and additional site characterization are being discussed with the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM). The latest remedial investigation reports have been received and are being reviewed.

The Baseline Human and Ecological Risk Assessment Report for Quonset Point Quarry Disposal Site, **North Kingstown (2nd CD)**, was completed and sent to RIDEM. However, the surface water pathway, which was not addressed in the report, may need to be revisited after discussion with RIDEM.

R.F. Weston is presently working on a remedial investigation at the Quonset Point Atlantic Shellfish Site in **North Kingstown (2nd CD)**.

Tank removal work at the Naval Auxiliary Air Facility in **Westerly (2nd CD)** and the Escoheag Naval Recreation Camp, **Exeter (2nd CD)**, along with demolition work at NETC **Newport (1st CD)**, Dutch Island, **Jamestown (1st CD)** and Fort Nathaniel Greene, **Narragansett (2nd CD)** will be performed when priorities and funding allow.

The New England District is conducting long-term monitoring of groundwater and surface water at the Camp Avenue Dump site, **Davisville (1st CD)** following the installation of a soil cap in the spring of 1998. Since then, quarterly rounds of long-term monitoring have been conducted and data reports were sent to RIDEM and RIEDC. Biannual monitoring will continue until the spring of 2003.

**REMEDIATION** - Remedial action is underway at the following locations:

- Hope Island, **Jamestown (1st CD)** (\$185,024)
- Prudence Island **(1st CD)** (\$713,451)
- Quonset Point, Blue Beach **(2nd CD)** (\$1,677,485)
- Quonset Point Atlantic Shellfish, **North Kingstown (2nd CD)** <sup>1</sup>
- Quonset Point Aqua Tank Farm, **North Kingstown (2nd CD)** (\$540,000)

<sup>1</sup> Closure of an oil/water separator system, cleaning a catch basin and trench, and removal of a transformer platform and pad is complete under a \$45,120 purchase order. Additional investigations for PCB contamination is contemplated.

Remediation is complete for the following:

- Army Reserve Center in **Lincoln (1st CD)**, \$24,310
- Nike Site PR-79, **Foster (2nd CD)**, \$92,150
- Nike Site, **Bristol (1st CD)**, \$107,690
- Nike Site, **Coventry (2nd CD)**, \$142,575
- Fort Adams, **Newport (1st CD)**, \$1,268,176
- Beavertail Point Naval Communications Station, **Jamestown (1st CD)**, \$12,770
- Hull Cove Fire Control Station, **Jamestown (1st CD)**, and

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T.F. Green Airport, Warwick (2nd CD), \$60,773  
Building, pier and pool demolition, North Kingstown (2nd CD), \$530,000  
Prudence and Rose islands, Portsmouth and Newport (1st CD), \$363,000  
Quonset Point (2nd CD) NAS, Nike PR-58, \$148,010  
Devil's Foot Road, Quonset Point (2nd CD) , \$334,000  
Fort Church, Little Compton<sup>1</sup> (1st CD)  
Fort Wetherill, Newport<sup>1</sup> (1st CD)  
Sachuest Point, Newport<sup>1</sup> (1st CD)  
Rose Island, Newport<sup>1</sup> (1st CD)  
Fort Wetherill, Jamestown<sup>2</sup> (1st CD)  
Sachuest Point, Newport<sup>2</sup> (1st CD)  
Fort Getty, Jamestown<sup>2</sup> (1st CD)  
Beavertail Point Naval Communications Station, Jamestown<sup>2</sup> (1st CD)  
Prospect Hill Fire Control Station, Jamestown<sup>2</sup> (1st CD)  
Camp Avenue Dump Site, Davisville (1st CD) (\$546,138)

<sup>1</sup> These four projects for the removal of tanks were accomplished under the terms of a \$44,152 contract.

<sup>2</sup> These five activities, involving demolition and debris removal, were accomplished under the terms of a \$1,218,639 contract.

In addition, remediation contracts, totalling \$7.5 million, have been completed for several projects at Quonset Point Naval Air Station (2nd CD) and Charlestown (2nd CD). These efforts included the removal of 124 tanks, ranging in size from 1,000 to 25,000 gallons, cleaning and slurring of three miles of pipeline, and removal of 20 transformers.

A settlement between the Department of Justice and the private owner of the former Tiverton (1st CD) Air Force POL Retail Distribution Station, involving allocation of cleanup cost, was reached in 1996. The settlement ended our involvement at this site.

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## Work for the Environmental Protection Agency

The New England District is the Corps of Engineers' total support agency for the Environmental Protection Agency's Region I (New England) program for those federal-lead projects assigned to the Corps by EPA. This includes responsibility for design and/or construction execution of remediation projects. In addition, the District is providing technical assistance upon request to Region I for other federal-lead projects assigned by EPA to private firms as well as for some potentially responsible party (PRP) remediation.

### Superfund Assistance

**SMITHFIELD (1st CD)** - The 15-acre Davis Liquid Waste Superfund Site was used throughout the 1970s as a disposal location for various hazardous liquid and solid chemical wastes. Liquid wastes accepted at this site, both in drums and in bulk tank trucks, were dumped directly into unlined pits in the ground. From these sources, contamination of surrounding soils and surface and groundwater occurred and still persists today. In 1978, in response to the discovery of off-site contamination in private residential and monitoring wells, the Rhode Island Superior Court issued a permanent injunction against dumping of hazardous substances on the Davis property. Presently, the site operates mainly as a staging and storage area for 30 to 35 million tires.

On September 29, 1987, the EPA Regional Administrator signed the Record of Decision for site remediation. The selected remedy includes excavation of an estimated 25,000 cubic yards of waste and contaminated soils and treatment on-site in a mobile thermal treatment facility; construction of an on-site water treatment plant for active restoration of the overburden and

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bedrock aquifers contaminated with volatile organic compounds; and construction of an alternative water supply (waterline) to residents affected by contaminants migrating off-site in groundwater into private wells.

At EPA's request, the Corps performed a predesign study which included site surveys and mapping, pilot treatability tests, drilling and sampling, installation of groundwater monitoring and observation wells, aquifer pump tests, and analysis of soil, sediment and water samples. The design of a groundwater treatment system was initiated in late February 1993 and was placed on hold by EPA due to changing site conditions. EPA negotiated with the Potentially Responsible Parties (PRP) to complete the soils portion of the remedy. A settlement with the PRPs was reached and finalized in February 1998. *The Remedial Action is scheduled to start in the Fall of 1999.* The Corps is currently reviewing the design/construct documents produced by the PRPs and will provide oversight during construction for EPA.

EPA is implementing the alternative water supply in two phases. Phase one involved the installation of the distribution piping and majority of service connections to the residents affected by the contaminated groundwater emanating from the site. This phase was completed by an EPA contractor. Phase two involves modifying the Town of Smithfield's water distribution system so that it has the capability to deliver water to the affected residents. The modifications include the rehabilitation of an existing pump station, construction of two new pump stations, completing the tie-in of the new system and completing the tie-ins to the affected residents. EPA has requested that the New England District assume the lead role in implementing the Remedial Action. A contract was awarded in June 1996 to Process Construction Management of East Greenwich, R.I., for \$1,781,925. Work began in early September 1996 and completed in early January 1998. The final cost of the project was \$2.2 million.

**PICILLO FARM, COVENTRY (2nd CD)** - The Picillo Farm site is located in a rural residential area of the Town of Coventry. A 7.5-acre area on the farm served as an illegal disposal location for a variety of drummed and bulk liquid wastes in the mid 1970s. In the early 1980s, EPA and the State removed 10,000 drums of waste from the site. In 1988, stockpiled soil contaminated with PCBs was also removed by EPA and the State. High groundwater contamination still exists in an approximately 35-acre plume.

Under the 1993 EPA Record of Decision, contaminated soil will be treated via in-situ soil vapor extraction. Groundwater will be extracted and treated with either air stripping or ultraviolet oxidation. At EPA's request, the Corps is providing oversight of the Picillo PRP Group's design and construction cleanup effort. The installation of the soil vapor extraction wells is underway, and the Corps is providing oversight with geotechnical and construction personnel.

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## **Planning Assistance to States**

**TURNER RESERVOIR, EAST PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND (1st CD)** - The City of East Providence requested the New England District to conduct an investigation to evaluate the potential of the Turner Reservoir and Central Pond wellfields as the City's long-term backup water supply. The study will also investigate the suitability of permitting recreational use at the Turner Reservoir. The study began in June 1999.

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## **Flood Plain Management Services**

**COVENTRY (2nd CD)** - The New England District has completed an evaluation of three stone masonry culverts draining an area north of an abandoned railroad embankment in the Town of Coventry. The cost of the federally-funded study was \$18,000 and was completed in August 1998. The Town of Coventry will use the results of this study to identify a locally-funded mitigation project.

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**BAKER STREET BROOK STORM WATER STUDY, WEST WARWICK (2nd CD)**- *The town of West Warwick experiences flooding and surface drainage problems associated with the Baker Street watershed. The existing drainage system is hydraulically inadequate. The RI Department of Administration and the Town has requested the Corps assistance in solving this problem.*

*Study tasks include providing topographic mapping and aerial photography of the area and conducting an analysis of the existing system and recommending improvements. The base mapping was completed in March 1999. The Corps is working on detailing the existing drainage system. After this is done, a storm water model will be developed for the Baker Street area.*

*This study is being conducted under the Corps Flood Plain Management Services Program and is 100 percent federally funded. Work on this study will be completed in January 2000.*

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## **Regulatory Program**

**STATISTICS** - *At the end of March, there were 55 active applications involving Rhode Island. During April, May and June, 76 new applications were received. Final actions were taken on 73 applications, including three individual permits, 24 general permits, two not required and no denials. The balance at the end of June was 58 active files. The New England District routinely processes 95% of all permit applications in less than 60 days.*

**PROVIDENCE RIVER DREDGING PROJECT (1st & 2nd CDs)**-*We are reviewing the request of 18 marine facilities to perform dredging of approximately 520,000 cubic yards of sediments from areas throughout Rhode Island, requesting to use the Corps disposal site. These facilities will be added to the Environmental Impact Statement being prepared for the Corps maintenance (O&M) dredging of the Providence River federal channel. The applicants are preparing alternative analyses for upland dewatering and disposal sites for their dredge sediments. Also, a meeting is being scheduled with the applicants for September to discuss the potential for additional testing, if the open water alternative is selected.*

**QUONSET POINT DEEP DRAFT PORT FACILITY (2nd CD)** -- *The Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation and their private partner, Quonset Point Partners, have finished a stakeholder process to seek consensus from a wide range of interest groups on a proposed new deep water port project at Quonset Point. No consensus was reached on a single port layout. A range of alternatives was sent to the Governor for his consideration. The Governor has requested additional information from the developer.*

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## **Special Studies/Projects**

**NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM** - *The New England District has been requested to provide technical assistance to the Implementation Committee for National Estuary Program's Narragansett Bay Project (NBP). The NBP Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan is complete. Goals of the National Estuary Program include identifying nationally significant estuaries that are threatened by pollution, development or overuse; promoting comprehensive planning for and conservation and management of these waters; encouraging the preparation of management plans, and enhancing the coordination of estuarine research. Our activities include attendance at committee meetings on water resource planning and transfer of data to the NEP Geographic Information System.*

**COASTAL AMERICA** - *The Coastal America Northeast Regional Implementation Team (NERIT) has focused its efforts on habitat restoration and, in particular, restoration of tidally constricted salt marshes. An interagency Memorandum of Understanding has been signed to formally document the Coastal America partners' commitment to restoration projects in Rhode Island. The Corps has assisted these efforts at several sites throughout the state. The Galilee*

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Bird Sanctuary Saltmarsh Restoration project has the support of numerous Coastal America partners. The Corps provided technical assistance to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's saltmarsh restoration evaluation for Sachuest Point. The National Park Service's effort for restoring the Blackstone River watershed was assisted through a Corps' Planning Assistance to States study. The NERIT is also supporting the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's efforts to restore the Ninigret Sanctuary by working with the Army Reserves to remove asphalt from the abandoned airfield. The Narragansett Bay Program (NBP) efforts in restoring Greenwich Cove habitat also received technical assistance from the NERIT, as well as eelgrass mapping in conjunction with the NBP. Boyd's Marsh restoration project (see below) has also been initiated.

**GALILEE SALT MARSH RESTORATION PROJECT (2nd CD)** - A Section 1135 (Water Resources Development Act of 1986) investigation examining the feasibility of restoration of the natural salt marsh habitat at the Galilee Bird Sanctuary in Narragansett was completed in 1994. The New England District developed a preliminary design to restore salt marsh within about one half of the 128-acre site. This portion of the sanctuary was previously used for disposal of dredged material from nearby Point Judith Harbor. The project consisted of installing two culverts beneath the Escape Road and excavating former channels in the Galilee Bird Sanctuary. A \$1.8 million contract was awarded to C. Pezza & Son, Inc., and a ceremonial groundbreaking was held at the site on October 15, 1996. The project's construction phase is complete. A ceremony to mark the dedication of the project was held on November 5, 1997. A final inspection was held on February 6, 1998, and the project has been transferred to the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management for operation and maintenance. An Operation and Maintenance manual is currently under preparation by the Corps for the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management.

**GALILEE SALT MARSH RESTORATION, EASTERN AREA (2nd CD)** - The Corps of Engineers provided engineering and construction management services to the State of Rhode Island for the installation of new culverts beneath the Escape Road in the area east of and adjacent to the Section 1135 project. A Memorandum of Agreement for the work was signed by the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management and the Corps. This work was accomplished under the same construction contract described above.

**INDIA POINT BRIDGE, SEEKONK RIVER, PROVIDENCE (1st & 2nd CDs)** - Authorization to demolish the center span of the India Street Bridge was contained in the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1986, extended for an additional five years by the Intermodal Surface Transportation Infrastructure Act of 1991, and reauthorized at a higher cost in WRDA 1996. The Coast Guard has declared the bridge a hazard to navigation. The demolition of the bridge center span and removal of the sunken tugboat GASPEE would cost an estimated \$1.4 million. Revenue derived from the sale of scrap steel from the bridge will be credited toward the nonfederal share. The New England District has prepared project plans and specifications, an Environmental Assessment and documentation for the Historic Architectural Engineering Record. The nonfederal sponsor, the City of Providence, must share 50 percent of the cost of the work. The title to the bridge must also be transferred from municipal ownership to the United States prior to removal. *The project cannot be forwarded for approval until nonfederal sponsor financing has been indentified.*

**ALLENDALE DAM, NORTH PROVIDENCE (1st CD)** - The Army Corps of Engineers was authorized by Section 358 of the 1992 Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1992 (PL 102-508) to replace the breached Allendale Dam on the Woonasquatucket River in North Providence. The dam was naturally breached in November 1991. The Corps of Engineers will contribute 75 percent of the authorized cost of fixing the breach. Ownership of the structure is

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to be transferred to a nonprofit watershed council or the City of North Providence. The City of North Providence is required to provide the remaining costs. An early local estimate of \$90,000 turned out to be well under the reauthorization of \$360,000 included in the Water Resources Development Act of 1996. Currently, repair of the breach is estimated at \$420,000. Sediments behind the dam contaminated with dioxin are being analyzed to determine construction requirements. EPA is investigating the upstream source of contamination. Prior to advertising for bids, we must resolve all outstanding environmental issues, execute a Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA), title to the dam must be transferred, and local funding must be made available.

**BLACKSTONE RIVER** - A 12-month reconnaissance investigation to assess environmental restoration of the Blackstone River was completed in August 1997. The \$400,000 federally-funded reconnaissance study focused on ecological needs in the Blackstone River watershed. The study identified the federal interest in environmental restoration plans for the Blackstone River, determined the costs of constructing the proposed actions, and assessed the level of interest of potential cost-sharing sponsors for further, more detailed, investigations. The report was sent to the potential sponsors (Mass. and R.I.). *A Feasibility Cost Share Agreement was executed with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in June 1999.* Rhode Island has been unable to allocate funds to initiate the feasibility study and has requested that it be allowed to participate in the Feasibility Study at a later time, if funds become available.

**SOUTH COAST RECONNAISSANCE STUDY** - The Rhode Island South Coast Reconnaissance Study, begun in May 1997, identified several opportunities for environmental restoration between Watch Hill in **Westerly and Narragansett (2nd CD)**. These included restoration of valuable aquatic habitat in the form of eelgrass, fish and shellfish in several salt ponds; improved nesting bird habitat through nourishment of the barrier beaches; restoration of fish passage in various locations; and restoring tidal flow to a constricted salt marsh. The expedited reconnaissance report was completed in November 1997 and approved by Corps headquarters in December. The Project Study Plan was approved in April by the North Atlantic Division and Headquarters. A cost-sharing agreement was executed by the District and the local sponsor, the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council, on May 6, 1998. The \$880,000 feasibility investigation is being cost-shared 50-50 between the federal government and the local sponsor. The investigation is slated for completion in June 2000.

**BOYD'S MARSH (TOWN POND) SALT MARSH RESTORATION** - The New England District received approval at the end of February 1998 to initiate a feasibility study for the restoration of up to 40 acres of salt marsh in the wildlife sanctuary at Boyd's Marsh in **Portsmouth (1st CD)**. Boyd's Marsh is owned by the State of Rhode Island and managed by its Department of Environmental Management. The restoration would provide meaningful and productive ecological improvements to an area that can readily support increased populations of marine life. The study began in May 1998 and is slated for completion in the fall of 1999.

**LONSDALE DRIVE-IN WETLANDS RESTORATION, LINCOLN (1st CD)** - New England District initiated a Section 206 wetlands restoration project in September 1998 for this former 41-acre drive-in site. Conceptual plans for the site were forwarded to interested parties in early April 1999, and a final Ecosystem Restoration Report is expected in August 1999. Construction of a wetland at this site will be completed by July 2000.

**POTTER POND ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROJECT, SOUTH KINGSTOWN (2nd CD)** - A preliminary restoration plan to restore aquatic habitat in Potter Pond, South Kingstown, has been forwarded to HQUSACE for approval. The Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council (CRMC) has indicated its interest in acting as the local sponsor for the project. The plan calls for removal of sand from sections of Potter Pond to restore valuable aquatic

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habitat. The dredge material will be deposited on Matunuck Beach, which will address erosion concerns and provide additional bird habitat. The estimated \$455,000 project would be cost-shared 65% federal and 35% nonfederal. We anticipate the Planning & Design Phase beginning during the summer of 1999.

**RHODE ISLAND ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION STUDY (1st & 2nd CDs)** – In January 1999, the New England District initiated a reconnaissance investigation to examine opportunities for environmental restoration of degraded salt marshes, freshwater wetlands, and anadromous fisheries. *The area under study includes the Pawcatuck, Pawtuxet, Moshassuck, Ten Mile and Woonasquatucket river watersheds and the shoreline of Narragansett Bay.* The 12-month study will identify restoration alternatives and develop a Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreement and Project Study Plan detailing the scope of further feasibility studies.

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# *Update Report*

