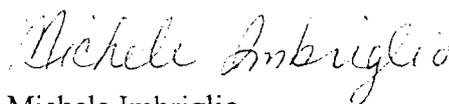


4/27/01

Dear RAB Members:

Enclosed please find a copy of the minutes of the April 18, 2001, 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

Ms. Barbara Barrow, Esq.

Mr. John R. Bernardo, III, Esq.

Ms. Mary A. Blake

Dr. David W. Brown

Mr. Richard D. Coogan

Mr. Paul A. Cormier

Mr. Thurston Gray

Mr. Byron Hall

Ms. Susan Hester

Mr. Eugene Love

Ms. Elizabeth Mathinos

Mr. Manuel Marques

Mr. Thomas McGrath

Mr. Ed Moitoza

Mr. James E. Myers

Mr. Howard L. Porter

Mr. Emmet E. Turley

Mr. John Vitkevich

Ms. Claudette Weissinger

Ms. Mary Philcox

Mr. David Egan

Mr. Paul Kulpa, RIDEM

Ms. Kymberlee Keckler, EPA

CAPT R. A. Cooper, NAVSTA

CDR R. L. Freitag, NAVSTA

CAPT Jon Wyman, Retired  
Hon. Paul W. Crowley  
Hon. June Gibbs  
Mr. Joseph McEnness  
Mr. Paul Russell  
Mr. John Torgan  
Mr. Jim Shafer  
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. Shannon Behr, NAVSTA  
Mr. Rick Machado, NUWC  
Ms. Pam Harting-Barrat, 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  
Ms. Arlene Kalewski  
Ms. Kelly Woodward  
Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Sergerson

NAVAL STATION NEWPORT  
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
April 18, 2001

MINUTES

On Wednesday, April 18, 2001, the NAVSTA Newport Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) gathered at the Officer's Club for its monthly meeting. The meeting began at 7:10pm and ended at 8:30pm. Dave Dorocz opened the meeting and welcomed the group.

In attendance were Richard Coogan, Thomas McGrath, Edward Moitoza, Mary Blake, Debra Vieira Murphy, Howard Porter, Claudette Weissinger, Kathy Abbass, Manuel Marques, James Myers, Emmet Turley, Greg Kohlweiss NAVSTA PAO, John Vitkevich, Kymberlee Keckler USEPA, Pam Harting-Barret USEPA, Paul Kulpa RIDEM, Thurston Gray, Capt. R. A. Cooper NAVSTA, Melissa Griffin NAVSTA, David Dorocz NAVSTA, Ray and Beverly Sergerson.

MEETING MINUTES

March meeting minutes were approved with the following notations; Emmet Turley commented at the March meeting that he thought the RAB Secretary worked 24hrs/day for the RAB as she is always there when he calls and able to provide what he requests in a very timely manner. RAB secretary was thanked for her work on behalf of the RAB. Kathy Abbass chaired the March meeting.

ACTIVITY UPDATE-Melissa Griffin

Melissa Griffin gave an activity update that included an overview of each site. Each slide gives the contaminants or suspected contaminants at the site, the estimated clean-up costs, the estimated completion date and the next step for the site in the CERCLA process. See enclosure (1).

Questions asked were as follows;

McAllister Point Landfill-Offshore: Was the collection pond in the original plans? Answer: Yes

It was asked what the chemical concentrations are that drives the cost of this project. There was some discussion to clarify the question. Dave Dorocz will provide a cost breakdown by line item for this project.

McAllister Point Landfill-Onshore: Does gas monitoring show that the landfill is getting any better? Answer: Quarterly reports are generated. There have been no negative results. However, monitoring will continue for 30 years per State requirement.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS FROM COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Project Committee-Emmet Turley Committee Chair: Emmet has continued his research on dredging and feels it is very important for everyone to take the time to read his report. See enclosure (2).

Planning Committee-Tom McGrath Committee Chair: No report for April meeting. Planning committee will meet independently tonight and give a report in May.

Membership Committee-Howard Porter Committee Chair: RAB is at capacity. He has 3 new applications, 2 of which are questionable and would have to be discussed with board. Howard is not prepared to hold that discussion this evening.

Public Information-Claudette Weissinger Committee Chair: Spoke to Jim Shafer and was advised report will be sent to her April 24. Melissa Griffin will follow-up with Jim Shafer to be sure he is sending an article on the feasibility study for the newsletter and not merely sending the feasibility study itself.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Kymerlee Keckler USEPA introduced Pam Harting-Barrat, the USEPA's new community involvement coordinator assigned to Newport. Pam will be taking the place of Sara White.

RAB Training-Dave Dorocz and Kathy Abbass will be attending a Navy sponsored RAB training in Colorado in May. Kathy asks for suggestions or guidance from the members. There will be one more RAB meeting before they leave for Colorado.

RAB Charter and Mission Statement-Updated charter was available for member signature. Those members not present at the April meeting should contact the RAB secretary at 841-7714 to arrange to sign the charter.

RAB Budget-Dave Dorocz provided a detailed budget to the RAB. (Note: This is not provided as an enclosure. Those members who would like a copy of the budget should contact the

RAB secretary at 841-7714) Kathy Abbass suggested that a committee be formed to review the budget.

Claudette Weissinger mentioned a radio address she heard whereby the Mike Kehew the Town Council President (\*not sure which town) severely criticized the Navy and its handling of McAllister Point Landfill. Suggestion was made by John Vitkevich to send a letter clarifying the facts. Claudette feels the landfill gas monitoring reports should be published in the newspaper. Capt. Cooper suggested the Public Information Committee come up with a media strategy. Claudette accepted the suggestion and will look at the issue.

The group broke into their respective subcommittees for independent meetings.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) is scheduled for Wednesday, **May 16, 2001**, at 7 p.m., at the Officers' Club. The agenda will include a presentation on the Old Fire Fighter Training Area (OFFTA) feasibility study.

#### **Enclosures:**

- (1) Activity Update
- (2) Planning Committee Report

# Installation Restoration Sites

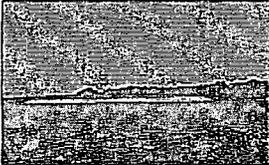
Naval Station Newport

## Old Firefighting Training Area



- **Contaminants:** Polyaromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs), Metals, Dioxin, Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (TPH)
- **Total Cleanup Costs:** \$8.7 Million
- **Estimated Completion:** 2005
- **Next Step:** Draft Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP) Sept 2002

## McAllister Point Landfill - Offshore



- **Contaminants:** Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs), Metals, PAHs
- **Total Cleanup Costs:** \$20 Million
- **Estimated Completion:** 2004
- **Next Step:** Project Closeout Report Aug 2002 (CTM PLAN 2002)

## McAllister Point Landfill - Onshore



- **Contaminants:** PCBs, Metals, PAHs, TPH
- **Total Cleanup Costs:** \$12 Million
- **Remedy Completed:** 1996
- **Next Step:** Continue Long-Term Monitoring for Landfill Gas/ Groundwater until 2026
- \$200K/year includes maintenance

## Melville North Landfill



- **Contaminants:** Metals, PCB's, TPH
- **Total Cleanup Costs:** \$7 Million
- **Estimated Completion:** 2001
- **Next Step:** Need Approval on Closure Report (Submitted Revised Report March 2001)

## Gould Island



- **Contaminants:** Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), Semivolatile Organic Compounds (SVOCs), Metals, Cyanide, TPH, PCB's
- **Total Cleanup Costs:** \$4.3 Million
- **Estimated Completion:** 2009
- **Next Step:** Draft Remedial Investigation (RI) Work Plan January 2003

ENCLOSURE (1)

## Derecktor Shipyard



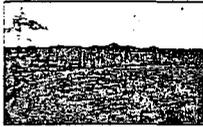
- Onshore:
  - *Contaminants:* VOCs, TPH, PCBs, Metals
  - *Total Cleanup Costs:* \$1 Million
- Offshore:
  - *Contaminants:* Semi Volatile Organic Compounds (SVOCs), PCBs, Metals
  - *Total Cleanup Costs:* \$16.1 Million
  - *Estimated Completion:* 2008
  - *Next Step:* Draft Proposed Plan January 2004

## NUSC Disposal Area



- *Contaminants:* Metals
- *Total Cleanup Costs:* \$4.8 Million
- *Estimated Completion:* 2010
- *Next Step:* Draft Site Inspection (SI) March 2003

## Coddington Cove Rubble Fill



- *Contaminants:* Metals
- *Total Cleanup Costs:* \$2.8 Million
- *Estimated Completion:* 2009
- *Next Step:* Draft SI Work Plan June 2004

## Tank Farm 1



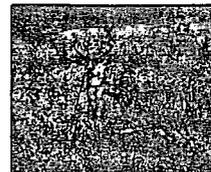
- *Contaminants:* PAHs, VOCs, Metals, TPH
- *Total Cleanup Costs:* \$1.4 Million
- *Estimated Completion:* 2012
- *Next Step:* Draft SI Work Plan February 2004

## Tank Farm 2



- *Contaminants:* PAHs, VOCs, Metals, TPH
- *Total Cleanup Costs:* \$1.5 Million
- *Estimated Completion:* 2012
- *Next Step:* Draft SI Work Plan February 2004

## Tank Farm 3



- *Contaminants:* PAHs, VOCs, Metals, TPH
- *Total Cleanup Costs:* \$1.3 Million
- *Estimated Completion:* 2012
- *Next Step:* Draft SI Work Plan February 2004

### Tank Farm 4



- *Contaminants:* PAHs, VOCs, Metals, TPH
- *Total Cleanup Costs:* \$850k
- *Estimated Completion:* 2009
- *Next Step:* Draft RI Work Plan March 2004

### Tank Farm 5



- *Contaminants:* PAHs, VOCs, Metals, TPH
- *Total Cleanup Costs:* \$850K
- *Estimated Completion:* 2009
- *Next Step:* Data Collection May 2001

April 18, 2001

To: Restoration Advisory Board

Project Committee Report

Subject: Dredging

Dredging, both locally and nationally, poses serious problems, not only with the depth and length of the dredging, but the release of chemicals trapped in river sediments. The disposal of dredge materials has generated discussions pro and con which delays dredging projects for many years and increases costs.

The enclosed articles address these issues:

One is a recent report from "Save The Bay" which states that a group of R.I. stakeholders have been meeting and drafting new regulations and legislation to make beneficial use options for dredged materials. Success may see the beginnings of the many planned dredging proposals here in R.I.

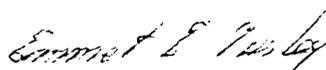
The other two articles are about the 133 mile dredging of the Big Sunflower River in the Mississippi delta.

A major lawsuit has been filed by the National Wildlife Federation to prevent the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers from violating federal law by damaging important fish and wildlife habitat.

The "Story", the "Project Politics" and the "National Policy Recommendations" detail a classic example of the Corps creating work for itself.

The environmental impacts would be significant and wide ranging. An issue that may one day be of major concern to R.I.

Submitted by:



Emmet E. Turley,  
Project Chairman

ENCLOSURE (2)

**EMMET E TURLEY**

---

**From:** Paquette, Darryl <DPaquette@SaveBay.org>  
**To:** <Subject: Save.The.Bay's.Legislative.Update@pop3.ids.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 16, 2001 12:16 PM

## Quonset Point/Davisville Port Development

Governor Almond and the EDC continue to press for development of a large load center container port at Quonset Point. EDC officials have continued to advocate for taxpayer investment in the launch of the federal permitting process, which would begin with the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement.

While not in the Governor's budget request, most observers expect EIS funding proposal to appear in the budget by the end of the session. Of great concern to Bay communities are rumors of legislation that would establish a powerful, unaccountable port authority. Save The Bay is opposed to creation of such an agency.

A growing number of legislators, business leaders, municipalities, and citizens are raising serious questions about the economic risks load center port development, as well as potential impacts to the environment and local communities.

A recent analysis of the EDC sponsored RK Johns Port Feasibility Study by port expert John Vickerman concluded that the "current analysis (to date) is insufficient to proceed to project permitting and environmental review."

Here's what you can do:

### *Contact your Legislators*

- Tell them to vote against funding an EIS for port development.
- Tell the to vote against a port authority which would take the decision making process for Narragansett Bay's future away from the citizens of Rhode Island.

Join the Save The Bay Quonset Discussion List by sending an email to Darryl Paquette, *Outreach Coordinator*, at: [dpaquette@savebay.org](mailto:dpaquette@savebay.org)

## Working Toward a Dredging Solution

Save The Bay has been working to solve the problems associated with the disposal of dredge materials, and actively trying to advance the idea of beneficial use as a viable option to in-water disposal.

Impediments to beneficial use have included the lack of a de-watering site, deed restrictions on potential upland storage areas, liability issues, and the definition of dredged material as solid waste.

Significant progress has been made toward making beneficial use options a reality. A group of stakeholders including Save The Bay, RIMTA (marine trades), CRMC, and RIDEM have been meeting regularly and drafting new regulations and legislation to be introduced later this year which we hope will address many of the problems cited above.

Here's what you can do:

#### *Contact your Legislators*

- Ask them to support legislation which would create a state-wide dredging plan which includes beneficial use of dredge material.
- Remind them that Narragansett Bay is our State's most valuable resource.

Also, Save The Bay is sponsoring an email discussion list for those who wish to take part in an active exchange of ideas, opinions, and relevant facts pertaining to the proposed maintenance dredging of the Providence River and private marina projects, as well as the need for the development of a dredging policy and plan for Rhode Island. The Dredging Discussion List allows members to receive and post (send) information to other list subscribers.

For more information on dredging/beneficial use, or to join the email discussion list, contact Darryl Paquette, *Outreach Coordinator* at: [dpaquette@savebay.org](mailto:dpaquette@savebay.org)

## **Habitat Bill Passes in Senate for 4th Year**

On Wednesday, March 3, 2001, the RI Senate approved legislation that would allow use of the state's oil spill fund to restore wetlands and coastal habitat around Narragansett Bay.

It is the fourth consecutive year the Senate has approved the bill, sponsored by Lt. Gov. Charles J. Fogarty and Sen. Teresa Paiva-Weed, D-Newport. Lt. Gov. Fogarty has also teamed up with Rep. Donald Lally, D-Narragansett, to introduce a House version of the bill, where this legislation has died in the past without being acted on.

This effort is now even more important since last year's passage of the federal Estuaries and Clean Water Act makes available federal monies if and only if matching state funds are available. The 2001 Coastal and Estuarine Habitat Restoration Program and Trust Fund must be enacted this year in order to secure a desperately needed statewide fund dedicated to habitat restoration in Rhode Island. Here's what you can do:

*Contact your Senator*



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### NWF Sues To Halt Dredging Project In Mississippi's Big Sunflower River.

Issue: March, 1999

The National Wildlife Federation is suing the federal government to stop unnecessary dredging of the Big Sunflower River in the Mississippi Delta, a project that would ravage one of the most biologically rich areas in the nation.

The suit, filed on behalf of NWF by the Trial Lawyers for Public Justice, contends that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' \$62 million plan to dredge and clear more than 133 miles of the river would violate federal law by damaging important fish and wildlife habitat.

Though touted as a flood-control measure, the project would reduce the depth of a major flood by only 6 inches in a thinly populated area, NWF says. Even the Corps admits the dredging is actually a "low-level agricultural project" intended to drain some water off marginal cropland.

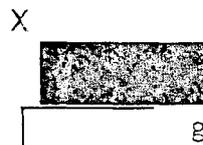
The Big Sunflower and its tributaries comprise one of the few remaining river systems in the Mississippi Delta not already severely altered by flood-control projects. The proposed dredging and clearing would wipe out thousands of acres of bottomland hardwood wetlands, taking a huge toll on fish, waterfowl wintering grounds and freshwater mussel beds.

NWF contends that dredging could release DDT trapped in the river's sediments and also increase the concentration of chemical fertilizer in the Mississippi River, which is already blamed for a biological dead zone in the Gulf of Mexico.

In addition, dredging would speed runoff, increasing justification for a potentially worse flood-control project, a \$150-million effort known as the Yazoo Backwater Project proposed to be built near the mouth of the Big Sunflower.

NWF believes that flooding along the Big Sunflower can be solved through limits on clearing, coupled with the purchase of flood easements and the reforestation of frequently flooded land.

The Big Sunflower project not only harms wildlife and valuable natural



resources; it's also a senseless gouging of the taxpayer's pocketbook, and it's against the law.

Gerald Barber, chairman, NWF Board of Directors, and Mississippi resident

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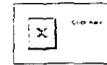
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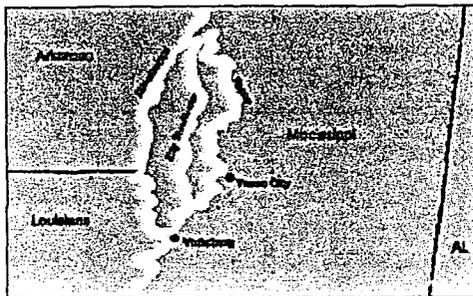
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The Mississippi River Delta,  
Western Mississippi  
Big Sunflower Dredging  
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*World's Largest Pump is a  
Giant Make-Work Project*



## SUMMARY

The \$62.5 million Big Sunflower River Maintenance project and \$165 million Yazoo Backwater Pumping Station are part of a Corps plan to replumb the Mississippi River Delta through a series of water diversions and channelizations. Designed to subsidize marginal agriculture, both projects would be entirely federally funded.

## THE STORY

This is a classic example of the Corps creating work for itself. The Big Sunflower "maintenance" project includes dredging virtually the entire width of the river for 104 miles, and is designed to shunt water downstream and reduce seasonal flooding by a few inches. The Yazoo Pump, predicted to be the world's largest pump system, would move the shunted water from south Delta wetlands into the Mississippi River. Neither project will eliminate flooding in the low-lying region. The projects would severely disrupt natural water cycles in some of the last intact bottomland hardwood forests in the Mississippi Delta.

The Corps contends that the Big Sunflower project is not new construction - only "maintenance" of an existing 14-mile river channel - and is therefore exempt from cost-sharing requirements. This claim is made despite new project specifications that

include dredging a river channel nearly seven times longer than the existing project.

The project is designed to benefit marginal agriculture, and very few claimed benefits involve reduced flood risk to homes or businesses. Some farmers fear the projects will increase erosion and limit water available for irrigation.

The environmental impacts of these projects would be significant and wide ranging. Productive wetlands would be drained, destroying bottomland hardwood forests that are home to waterfowl, eagles, deer, bear, fish, and alligators. The river itself houses a thousand-year-old colony of mussels, thought to be the densest mass of life in the world. Water quality would deteriorate through shoreline erosion and release of toxic chemicals trapped in river sediments, including heavy concentrations of DDT.

### **PROJECT POLITICS**

The Yazoo Pump was exempted from local cost-sharing requirements in a stealth move by Sens. Thad Cochran (R-MS) and Trent Lott (R-MS) in the 1996 Water Resources Development Act. The Senators and the Delta Council, a farmers' chamber of commerce, have frustrated consideration of nonstructural project alternatives such as large-scale reforestation as supported by USFWS and EPA. The National Wildlife Federation and the Sierra Club have independently sued to halt the Big Sunflower project.

### **NATIONAL POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Do not waive local cost-sharing responsibility.
- End projects that impair regional environmental restoration efforts.

- Require new authorization before expanding a project or extending its useful life.
- Do not promote projects that result in wetland destruction.

### **MORE INFORMATION**

Susan Rieff, National Wildlife Federation, 512-476-9805, [rieff@nwf.org](mailto:rieff@nwf.org) ; Avery Rollins, Mississippi Sierra Club, 601-856-4437

Helpful websites: [www.nwf.org](http://www.nwf.org)