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NAS SOUTH WEYMOUTH  
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EMAIL AND COMMENTS FROM U S EPA REGION I ON RESPONSE TO COMMENTS  
REGARDING DRAFT POST REMEDIATION WETLAND MONITORING REPORT SPRING  
2009 RUBBLE DISPOSAL AREA NAS SOUTH WEYMOUTH MA  
10/15/2009  
U S EPA REGION I

## **Helland, Brian J CIV NAVFAC Midlant**

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**From:** Keckler.Kymerlee@epamail.epa.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 15, 2009 2:58 PM  
**To:** Barney, David A CIV OASN (I&E) BRAC PMO NE; Helland, Brian J CIV NAVFAC Midlant; phoebe.call@ttnus.com; young@SSTTDC.COM; Beth Sortin; Anne Hilbert; Mary Parsons; Tricia Pries; pscannell@comcast.net; Swabeeone@aol.com; deveney@BATTELLE.ORG; joanne\_marques@yahoo.com; gdgalluzzo@verizon.net; rtfinaison@gfnet.com; david.chaffin@state.ma.us  
**Subject:** Responses to EPA's August 10, 2009 comments on the Draft Post-Remediation Wetland Monitoring Report ? Spring 2009 for the Rubble Disposal Area

EPA reviewed the responses our comments on the Draft Post-Remediation Wetland Monitoring Report - Spring 2009, Rubble Disposal Area, Naval Air Station South Weymouth, dated September 23, 2009.

Regarding Comment 2, in Footnote 4 for Table 1, please add "Other" to the beginning of the footnote or "also" before "observed," in order to make it clear that the plants observed elsewhere are not represented by the numbers in this table. This does not warrant a revision to the Final Monitoring Report but should be considered for future documents.

Comment 4 weighs the use of chemical control (herbicide application) against biological control (*Galerucella* beetles) of purple loosestrife. EPA has previously recommended that the beetles be released to help control purple loosestrife in the restored/created wetlands. These beetles have been observed in the surrounding wetland already and evidence of loosestrife damage in the RDA wetland has been documented. The three examples provided in the response focus on the long-term utility of beetles to control loosestrife and it seems clear that the most effective and practical long-term control of loosestrife in the wetland will be with *Galerucella*. The possibility of using herbicides for short-term control in the restored and created wetlands should not yet be disregarded. The Navy must reestablish a thriving community of native plants, which in combination with biological control, may limit the long-term colonization of loosestrife into the restored/created wetlands. If the beetles don't severely limit purple loosestrife in these areas in the near term, herbicide application may still be preferable in order the help establish a native community. EPA agrees that long-term control would rely on *Galerucella*, not herbicides.

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