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WESTLAND RESTORATION PLAN ADDENDUM FOR WEST GATE LANDFILL WITH
TRANSMITTAL NAS SOUTH WEYMOUTH MA

8/9/2012

BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE PROGRAM MANAGEMENT OFFICE NORTHEAST



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE
PROGRAM MANAGEMENT OFFICE, NORTHEAST
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PHILADELPHIA, PA 19112-1303

5090
BPMO NE/DB
Ser 12-103
August 9, 2012

Ms. Carol Keating
Remedial Project Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 1
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100
Boston, MA 02109-3912

Mr. David Chaffin
Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup
Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
One Winter Street
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Ms. Keating and Mr. Chaffin:

This letter shall serve to document for the record that the draft document "Wetland Restoration Plan Addendum, West Gate Landfill" submitted May 14, 2012 and accepted by you without comment via email on August 7, 2012 and May 15, 2012, respectively, will now be considered as the Final document. Another printing and distribution of this document is not warranted.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Barney", written in a cursive style.

DAVID A. BARNEY
BRAC Environmental Coordinator
By direction of BRAC PMO

Copy to:
B. Helland, NAVFAC Midlant
P.C all, Tetra Tech
G. Wagner, Tetra Tech
Chief Executive Officer, SSTTDC



TETRA TECH

C-NAVY-05-12-5052W

May 14, 2012

Project Number G02073

Mr. Brian Helland, RPM
BRAC PMO, Northeast
4911 South Broad Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19112

Reference: CLEAN Contract No. N62470-08-D-1001
Contract Task Order (CTO) No. WE11

Subject: Wetland Restoration Plan Addendum
West Gate Landfill
Former Naval Air Station South Weymouth, Weymouth, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Helland:

Tetra Tech, Inc. has prepared a Wetland Restoration Plan Addendum, West Gate Landfill, Former Naval Air Station South Weymouth, Weymouth, Massachusetts. The Addendum supplements the *Final 100% Design Restoration Plan* to address comments on the *Annual Wetland Monitoring Report* and the *Remedial Action Completion Report* for West Gate Landfill.

On behalf of the Navy, the Wetland Restoration Plan Addendum for West Gate Landfill is being provided to the recipients listed below. If you have any questions regarding the document, please contact me at (978) 474-8403.

Very truly yours,

Phoebe A. Call
Project Manager

PAC/lh

Enclosures

c:

D. Barney, Navy (w/encl. - 1)
C. Keating, EPA (w/encl. - 1)
D. Chaffin, MassDEP (w/encl. - 1)
P. Steinberg, Mabbett & Associates, Inc.
(w/encl. - 1)
P. Sortin, Abington (w/encl. - 1)
M. Brennan, Weymouth (w/encl. - 1)
M. Parsons, Rockland (w/encl. - 1)
Tufts Library, Weymouth (w/encl. - 1)
Public Library, Abington (w/encl. - 1)

Public Library, Rockland (w/encl. - 1)
Public Library, Hingham (w/encl. - 1)
Chief Executive Officer, South Shore Tri-town
Development Corp. (w/encl. - 1)
R. Daniels, LNR Property Corp. (w/encl. - 1)
M. Horton, Tetra Tech (w/encl. - 1)
J. Trepanowski, Tetra Tech (w/o encl.)
G. Glenn, Tetra Tech (w/o encl.)
File G02073-3.2 (w/o encl.);
G02073-8.0 (w/encl. - 1 each)

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Wetland Restoration Plan Addendum
for
West Gate Landfill
Former Naval Air Station South Weymouth
Weymouth, Massachusetts



Naval Facilities Engineering Command
Mid-Atlantic

Contract Number N62470-08-D-1001
Contract Task Order WE11

May 2012

WETLAND RESTORATION PLAN ADDENDUM

FOR

WEST GATE LANDFILL

**FORMER NAVAL AIR STATION SOUTH WEYMOUTH
WEYMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS**

**COMPREHENSIVE LONG-TERM
ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION NAVY (CLEAN) CONTRACT**

**Submitted to:
Naval Facilities Engineering Command Mid-Atlantic
9742 Maryland Avenue
Norfolk, Virginia 23511-3095**

**Submitted by:
Tetra Tech
234 Mall Boulevard, Suite 260
King of Prussia, PA 19406**

**Contract Number N62470-08-D-1001
Contract Task Order WE11**

May 2012

PREPARED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF:


**PHOEBE A. CALL
PROJECT MANAGER
TETRA TECH
WILMINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS**

APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION BY:

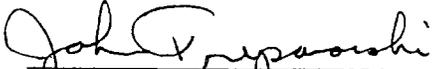

**JOHN J. TREPANOWSKI, P.E.
PROGRAM MANAGER
TETRA TECH
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>SECTION</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
1.0 INTRODUCTION.....	1
2.0 BACKGROUND.....	1
3.0 CHANGES TO RESTORATION PLAN	2
3.1 Restoration Goals and Objectives	2
3.2 Planting Schedule	3
3.3 Vegetation Monitoring	3
3.4 Summary.....	3

REFERENCES

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This West Gate Landfill (WGL) Wetland Restoration Plan Addendum (Addendum) was prepared by Tetra Tech, Inc. on behalf of the Navy's Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Mid-Atlantic, under the Comprehensive Long-term Environmental Action Navy (CLEAN) Contract No. N62470-08-D-1001, Contract Task Order (CTO) WE11. This document supplements the *Final 100% Design Restoration Plan, Landfill Cap Site 1, West Gate Landfill, Naval Air Station South Weymouth, Weymouth, Massachusetts* (Shaw, 2010) and addresses comments received on the WGL Annual Wetland Monitoring Report (Tetra Tech, 2012) and the Remedial Action Completion Report (Shaw, 2012). The comments indicated three concerns: 1) an apparent inconsistency with the goal to restore the area to a palustrine forested wetland; 2) the change in the wetland restoration approach to allow the natural emergence of vegetation within the wetland rather than the planned seeding specified in the 100% Design Restoration Plan (the Plan); and 3) the wetland monitoring procedures may not represent conditions throughout the restored wetland. This Addendum includes changes to the Plan that will be implemented to address these concerns.

2.0 BACKGROUND

Section 4 of the Plan (Shaw, 2010) described the proposed restoration of the wetland areas at the West Gate Landfill. The Plan called for "stabilization of the restored wetlands through the introduction of a seed mixture including native wetland herbaceous species" and "development of a planting plan [Section 5 of the Plan] which includes the planting of woody species similar to native material which is existing in the adjacent undisturbed wetlands." As described in the Remedial Action Closeout Report (RACR) (Shaw, 2012), after placement of the wetland topsoil and during placement of the landfill cap, vegetation began to populate the newly created/restored wetland without encouragement. At the time, the only plant species growing appeared to be cattails (*Typha sp.*) but eventually other native species successfully populated other areas of the wetland. The South Shore Tri-Town Development Corporation (SSTTDC) Conservation Commission was contacted to determine the acceptability of allowing natural succession to occur rather than seeding and planting as described in the Plan. The SSTTDC Conservation Commission agent supported the change to allow natural succession to proceed without additional seeding or planting in the restored wetland. The plan to plant trees along the perimeter of the restored wetland was retained. Documentation of this change is included in the RACR.

The Plan indicated that a goal of the wetland restoration was to create a "productive forested wetland environment." During the September 2011 post-restoration wetland monitoring event the wetlands were characterized as well vegetated, palustrine, emergent wetlands. Because the wetland has been allowed to populate naturally through succession by native species and planting or seeding have not been performed, the restoration goals have changed. This Addendum includes changes to the Plan to ensure

3.2 PLANTING SCHEDULE

The Navy has scheduled the planting of woody trees and shrubs for late spring/early summer 2012. The planting scheme described in Section 5.0 of the Plan remains unchanged. Also as noted in the Plan, the trees and shrubs will not be planted in inundated or imminently inundated conditions. Application of the wetland seeding and seed mixes described in Section 5.2 of the Plan is not necessary due to the naturally-occurring development of a homogenous community of obligate species (*Typha latifolia*) and mixed forb and graminoid species.

3.3 VEGETATION MONITORING

In response to comments on the 2011 Annual Wetland Monitoring Report for WGL (Tetra Tech, 2012) the Navy agreed to include three additional monitoring plots within the WGL wetland for vegetation, soil, and hydrology assessment. Beginning in 2012 the monitoring will thus include three plots in the restored wetland and three plots in the created wetland. This, as well as the meandering survey that is conducted in the late summer of each year will ensure an accurate and thorough assessment of the wetland as a whole. All future monitoring events will follow the procedures in the Plan supplemented by the procedures described in the 2011 Annual Wetland Monitoring Report for consistency with post-restoration wetland monitoring performed at other sites at former NAS South Weymouth.

3.4 SUMMARY

This Addendum supplements and will be used in conjunction with the Plan (Shaw, 2010). The changes described in this Addendum are designed to sufficiently characterize the new vegetative community that has emerged and assess the quality of the community with respect to the goals presented in the Plan as modified by this Addendum.

REFERENCES

REFERENCES

De Santo, R. S. and T. A. Flieger, 1995. Wetland Functions and Values: Descriptive Approach to Visualizing and Assessing Wetland Systems. Transportation Research Record 1475 (1995): 123-132, Transportation Research Board, National Research Council, Washington, DC.

Shaw, 2010. Final 100% Design, Restoration Plan, Landfill Cap Site 1, West Gate Landfill, Naval Air Station South Weymouth, South Weymouth, Massachusetts. Shaw Environmental and Infrastructure, Inc. September.

Shaw, 2012. Final Removal Action Completion Report, West Gate Landfill, Naval Air Station South Weymouth, Weymouth, Massachusetts. Shaw Environmental and Infrastructure, Inc. March.

Tetra Tech, 2012. Annual Wetland Monitoring Report for West Gate Landfill. Former Naval Air Station South Weymouth, Weymouth Massachusetts. Tetra Tech, Inc., January.

USACE (United States Army Corps of Engineers) New England District. 1995. The Highway Methodology Workbook Supplement – Wetland Functions and Values, A Descriptive Approach.