



**Final
Hazardous and Toxic Waste (HTW) Base Realignment
and Closure (BRAC) Cleanup Team (BCT)**



**Meeting Minutes
September 11, 2019**

BRAC Conference Room
Former Fort Ord, California

Agenda

Reference the handout titled “HTW BRAC Cleanup Team Meeting Agenda, Wednesday, September 11, 2019, at 1:30 PM, Former Fort Ord, California.”

1. Attendance

| Last Name | First Name | Organization | By Phone |
|--------------|------------|---|----------|
| Balch | Duane | U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) | X |
| Broadston | Melissa | Chenega supporting BRAC | |
| Canham | Haley | USACE | |
| Caruso | Erin | Gilbane | X |
| Clancy | Maeve | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) | X |
| Collins | Bill | U.S. Army BRAC, Fort Ord Office | |
| Crane | Steve | KEMRON Environmental Services (KEMRON) | |
| Dillon | Holly | Ahtna Global, LLC. (Ahtna) | |
| Gettmann | Kimberly | California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) | X |
| Ghigliotto | Tom | Chenega supporting BRAC | |
| Ginorio-Dean | Amber | USACE | X |
| Kan | Alex | USACE | |
| Lieberman | Derek | Ahtna | |
| Meakes | Charity | USACE | X |
| Packard | Harvey | California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region (CCRWQCB) | X |
| Savage | Tom | USACE | X |
| Shrum | Noel | DTSC | |
| Stiebel | Cary | Chenega supporting BRAC | |
| Whipple | Jonathan | USACE | X |
| Wu | Min | DTSC | |

2. BCT Minutes Status

HTW BCT meeting minutes are final through July.

3. Community Outreach Update

The handout titled “U.S. Army Community Outreach Update” was reviewed. Additional discussion included:

- The Annual Report was sent by mail on August 31 to approximately 65,000 addresses in the Monterey/Salinas area. A notice about the community survey was provided in the Annual

Report. The 2019 Community Survey deadline was extended until September 30 and is not for project personnel to complete. Positive community survey comments have been received.

- On August 30, a community outreach booth was set up at the Monterey County Fair with the bomb display board giving away Fort Ord grocery bags.
- On October 26, there will be a community outreach booth will be set up at the National Public Lands Day.
- Mike Weaver commented on the Draft Final OU2 Landfills Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Manual Revision 3. However, the comments will not result in any changes to the report. Therefore, the document will be finalized, and the response to comments will be sent separately after BCT review and approval.
- The next Community Involvement Mobile Workshop (CIW) will be on February 1, 2020.

4. Operable Unit 2 (OU2)

a. Groundwater Remedy/Monitoring–

The handout titled “Former Fort Ord Operable Unit 2 Data and Status” was reviewed. Additional discussion included:

- The OU2 groundwater treatment plant (GWTP) was online approximately 100 percent of the time in August.
- There was one estimated detection of 1,1-dichloroethane at the OU2 injection point of compliance below the discharge limit in August.
- The photo on the handout is the front, or south side of the new OU2 GWTP taken from the top of Landfills Area E.
- There were a couple of minor issues at the OU2 GWTP in August, which were remedied.
- The Third Quarter 2019 annual groundwater monitoring event was completed. Some preliminary data has been received. Data will be presented at the next HTW BCT meeting.
- The RORE/Gilbane Joint Venture (JV) still has work to complete on the western network leak detection system.

b. Treated Water Reuse – No treated water was used recently. No treated water will be used at the new OU2 GWTP until after the Government accepts the GWTP from the JV.

c. Groundwater Treatment Plant Relocation – Construction of the new OU2 GWTP is complete, and it has been operational since November 30, 2018. Final tasks are being completed, including connection of the western network extraction wells. The following items were discussed:

- The Pre-Final inspection was conducted in July, and a punch list of items is being completed.
- The western network still needs to be brought online, including work to be done on the leak detection system. Ahtna will redevelop, video log, and replace pumps at EW-OU2-05-A and EW-OU2-06-A in October. The western network is expected to be online at the end of November.
- The Sea Haven residential developers are building a retaining wall greater than 10 feet from a groundwater extraction pipeline, and a small portion of the pipeline is currently exposed.

d. Landfills Operations and Maintenance (O&M) – The handout titled “Former Fort Ord Operable Unit 2 Landfills Data and Status” was reviewed. Additional discussion included:

- A photo on the handout shows an oak tree with lichen covering it near the Landfills.
- The thermal treatment unit (TTU) is operating normally, approximately 70 hours every two weeks.
- A new oxygen sensor, pneumatic valves, and filters will be installed at the TTU this month.

- The TTU influent methane trend is overall declining but still between 36 and 37 percent. Supplemental fuel would be needed at 25 percent methane, and the TTU is a long time away from that.
- After the line leveling in Area F was completed and the TTU was restarted in August, the methane concentration from Area E declined. The Area E landfill gas extraction pipelines were inspected for leaks, but nothing unusual was found, and now the methane from Area E is back to normal. The cause of the issue is unknown but appears to have fixed itself. There have been declines in methane from Area E in the past, but this recent one in August was a historic low. This will continue to be monitored.
- The Third Quarter 2019 perimeter probe monitoring was completed in August, and there were no unusual results according to Title 27 requirements. All compliance probes were below the five percent by volume methane requirement. Volatile organic compound (VOC) sampling is conducted during the annual event (second quarter), which is reported at BCT meetings and in the Annual Report.
- The Landfills annual reporting period will change this year from a calendar year to a fiscal year, and the annual Landfills report will be combined with the annual groundwater monitoring report to create a single annual report for OU2.

5. Sites 2 and 12 (Sites 2/12)

The handout titled "Former Fort Ord Sites 2 and 12 Data and Status" was reviewed. Additional discussion included:

- The picture on the handout shows Alex Kan (USACE) and Mark Fisler (Ahtna) sampling a soil vapor extraction (SVE) well after they were installed as part of the pilot study in 2014.
- The Sites 2/12 GWTP was online 100 percent of the time in August.
- No chemicals of concern (COCs) were detected in the August Sites 2/12 GWTP injection point of compliance sample.
- The Sites 2/12 soil vapor treatment unit (SVTU) remains offline based on data from the rebound study in the First Quarter and Second Quarter 2019 and agreement with the BCT. Each quarter the soil gas data will be evaluated to determine if the SVTU should remain offline or be restarted. The Third Quarter 2019 soil gas monitoring event is the first sampling event after the rebound study.
- The Third Quarter 2019 annual soil gas monitoring event and groundwater monitoring event were completed. Groundwater data is pending laboratory analysis. Preliminary soil gas data was summarized:
 - Based on the data the SVTU will remain offline.
 - There were not any significant changes in COC concentrations.
 - Based on the data two soil gas probes will be recommended in the Annual Report for monitoring frequency changes.
 - Annual probes SG-12-06-70 near Bed Bath & Beyond and SG-12-16-60 near Cinemark are recommended for removal from the sampling program per Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) decision criteria.
 - Tetrachloroethene (PCE) concentrations increased slightly at SG-12-06-70; however, the concentration is still one order of magnitude below the soil gas screening level (SG-SL) and two orders of magnitude below the soil gas cleanup level (SGCL).
 - Trichloroethene (TCE) concentrations decreased slightly at SG-12-16-60 and are still well below the SG-SL and SGCL.

- There was an error on the handout and SG-12-17-40 will remain on an annual monitoring schedule and is not recommended for removal from the monitoring program at this time.
- COC concentration trend charts were presented for SG-12-02, SG-12-04, SG-12-06, SG-12-16, SG-12-17, and SG-12-20.
 - Vertical dashed lines on the charts show when operation of the SVTU was started and stopped.
 - SG-12-02 is located on the other side of a stormwater infiltration basin and is not within the radius of influence of the SVE wells.
 - SG-12-04 is adjacent to Michaels. After the SVTU was started the COC concentrations dropped significantly at this location. PCE did not rebound and TCE did slightly, but TCE concentrations are still below the SG-SL and will continue to be monitored.
 - SG-12-06 is adjacent to Bed Bath & Beyond. After the SVTU was started the PCE concentration dropped significantly and did not rebound.
 - SG-12-16 near Cinemark had a significant decrease in TCE after the SVTU was started, and had a slight rebound in TCE concentration, but still below the SG-SL.
 - SG-12-17 near Cinemark had a significant decrease in TCE after the SVTU was started, and had a slight rebound in TCE concentration, but still below the SG-SL.
 - SG-12-20 in the middle of the Kohl's parking lot had a significant decrease in PCE concentrations after the SVTU was started, though a couple of probes at this location have steady concentrations of PCE that are above the SG-SL but below the SGCL.

6. Operable Unit Carbon Tetrachloride Plume (OUCTP)

a. Groundwater Remedy/Monitoring–

The handout titled “Former Fort Ord Operable Unit Carbon Tetrachloride Plume Data and Status” was reviewed. Additional discussion included:

- The picture on the handout shows Derek Lieberman (Ahtna) supervising the installation of replacement monitoring well MW-BW-94-AR in January 2019. The original well, MW-BW-94-A, was installed in 2018 with the bottom of the well placed at the top of the Salinas Valley Aquitard (SVA), but the well was dry, possibly due to an undetected paleosol. Saturated soil was at a higher elevation than expected due to the localized geologic abnormality.
- The Third Quarter 2019 annual groundwater monitoring event was completed. Some preliminary data has been received. Data will be presented at the next HTW BCT meeting.
- The Follow-Up Biological Survey Report Draft was issued. Bart Kowalski (Chenega supporting BRAC) had comments on the Draft, which are being resolved. The Final report is expected to be issued this month. This is the third and final year of monitoring.

7. Basewide Range Assessment (BRA) and Lead Evaluation Status

The handout titled "BRA and Lead Evaluation Status" was reviewed. Additional discussion included:

a. Basewide Range Assessment (BRA) –

- Back check responses to DTSC's comments are in progress for the BRA Units 1, 2, 3, 7, 10, 33, and Watkins Gate Burn Area (WGBA) Draft Final Sampling Report.
- Comments are being addressed on the Comprehensive BRA Report, and it is close to being submitted, likely submitted this month as Final. This document will be a large reference report.
- The Final Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Area B report was submitted.

b. Lead Evaluation at HA 18D and HA 23D –

The cleanup value is still being discussed between the DTSC and the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment. The lead evaluation is on hold until DTSC meets. Kim Gettmann (DTSC) did not have any updates at this time.

c. Erosion Control –

Erosion control scope is completed at Historic Area (HA) 26, HA 27A, HA 34, and HA 37. The areas are ready for the wet season.

d. Landfills Soil Management –

The Range 48 munitions response site has a few pieces of wood debris currently. This month it will be placed at the OU2 Landfills.

e. Habitat Restoration – The handout titled "Site 39 Inland Ranges Habitat Restoration Status Update" was reviewed. Additional discussion included:

- Continued seed collections for a couple of species. The seed for sky lupine was slightly under the target weight and will be made up for next year. All other wet weights look good, and it is expected dry weight targets will be met.
- The four seed production plots are completed for three species: blue wild rye, common yarrow, and purple needlegrass. Deerweed will be harvested within a week and appears to be doing well. It is anticipated that the seed should be available for early October. There is a large stock of blue wild rye available.
- The irrigation project at HA 26 will complete ten events to bridge the wet seasons for three years in 2018, 2019, and 2020. The sixth event occurred on August 22. The seventh irrigation event will begin today or tomorrow, September 11 or 12. The emitters were clogged with sediment, and 100 emitters were replaced. The seventh irrigation event will attempt to distribute greater than 6,000 gallons of water.
- Continuing propagation of approximately 3,600 plants and expected to reach targets since the inventory is currently 4,447 plants.
- Erosion control repairs plans are in progress. HA 37 and HA 34 were visited, and plans were made to broadcast seed and straw on the HA 37 access road. The half-acre area of road was ripped 18 inches deep to break the hardpan soil created from a few years of vehicle usage. Ripping will promote vegetation growth.

8. FFA Schedule

a. Status Update – The Federal Facility Agreement (FFA) schedule is provided to the agencies with the upcoming primary documents with the month the Draft and Draft Final versions will be issued. Draft versions have a 60-day review period, and Draft Final versions have a 30-day review period. There are no primary documents currently.

b. Document Schedule – The handout titled “11 September 2019 BCT Deliverable Schedule” was reviewed, and near-term documents were identified:

- The Second Quarter 2019 OUCTP and Sites 2/12 reports were submitted.
- The Draft National Priorities List (NPL) Partial Deletion, Remedial Action Summary Report was pushed back to October 8.
- BRAC-D is reviewing the Perfluorooctanoic Acid and Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOA/PFOS) document. Bill Collins (Fort Ord BRAC) will check with BRAC-D to make sure there are no objections before it is issued as Draft this month. Maeve Clancy (USEPA) will have other personnel at USEPA review the report also. Maeve heard that CCRWQCB is going to issue outreach material for PFOA/PFOS in September or October, but Harvey Packard (CCRWQCB) did not know about it. Maeve will forward the e-mail to Sheila Soderberg and Amber Sellinger at CCRWQCB.
- The drafted responses to Mike Weaver’s comments on the Draft Final OU2 Landfills O&M Manual will be sent for BCT approval. The comments will not result in any revisions to the document; therefore, it is proposed to issue the report as Final and issue the responses to comments in a separate letter. DTSC and USEPA agreed with this proposal.

9. Action Items

The handout titled “HTW BCT 2019 Action Items” was reviewed. Alex Kan (USACE) and Maeve Clancy (USEPA) will have a separate meeting to discuss the NPL deletion report.

10. Calendar Update

The calendar was reviewed for the upcoming HTW BCT meeting dates.

- The next HTW BCT meeting is scheduled for October 9 at 1:30 pm.
- The November HTW BCT meeting is scheduled for November 13 at 1:30 pm.
- There is no HTW BCT meeting in December, which is consistent with previous years.
- The January HTW BCT meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 31 at 1:30 pm.
- The CIW is scheduled for February 1.
- The Technical Review Committee (TRC) meeting is scheduled for February 4.

The former Fort Ord munitions response (MR) contract is ending in March 2020, and the scope of the topics for HTW and MR meetings will decrease. Therefore, starting in January 2020, the frequency of HTW and MR meetings will be reduced from monthly to bi-monthly. The meetings will still cover the key action items, including groundwater monitoring and CIW events, and HTW and MR topics may be combined into one meeting. The first HTW BCT meeting in 2020 is scheduled for January 31, 2020, the day before the February 1, 2020 CIW event. There can be more than six meetings per year and meetings will be added as needed. Harvey will relay this information to Amber and Sheila.