



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



May 1, 2020
Teleconference Meeting

Agenda

Reference the handout titled “HTW BRAC Team Meeting Agenda, Friday, May 1, 2020, at 1:30 PM, Former Fort Ord, California.”

1. Attendance

Last Name	First Name	Organization
Anderson	Thor	Burleson Consulting
Bleichner	Randall	California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)
Broadston	Melissa	Chenega for BRAC
Canham	Haley	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
Clancy	Maeve	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)
Collins	Bill	U.S. Army BRAC, Fort Ord Office
Dillon	Holly	Ahtna Global, LLC (Ahtna)
Gentry	Dana	USACE
Gettmann	Kimberly	DTSC
Ghigliotto	Tom	Chenega for BRAC
Ginorio	Amber	USACE
Jelenek	Zachary	USACE
Kowalski	Bart	Chenega for BRAC
Lieberman	Derek	Ahtna
Meakes	Charity	USACE
Sellinger	Amber	California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region (CCRWQCB)
Soderberg	Sheila	CCRWQCB
Whipple	Jonathan	USACE
Wu	Min	DTSC

2. BCT Minutes Status

HTW BCT meeting minutes are final through January and March minutes are in Draft review.

3. Community Outreach Update

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

- The Fort Ord BRAC project received the 2020 USEPA National Federal Facility Excellence in Site Reuse Award for innovative thinking, restoration, and reuse in a Superfund program.
- Due to the COVID-19 Shelter-in-Place Order, the Guided Nature Walk originally scheduled for May 2 is postponed.

- A lot of <http://www.fortordcleanup.com> website updates were conducted.
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Community Involvement Coordinator Viola Cooper retired and her replacement is Gavin Pauley. Gavin has already talked to USEPA Remedial Project Manager Maeve Clancy and community member LeVonne Stone about the Fort Ord cleanup program.
- Non-local community member Christine Bettencourt has been inquiring about detonations.
- The July 18 Community Involvement Mobile Workshop (CIW) and the July 21 Technical Review Committee (TRC) are still on schedule and discuss the munitions response (MR) program.

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 97.6 percent of the time in March.
- Injection sample results from March had low level detections of chemicals of concern (COCs) below the discharge limit.
- The First Quarter 2020 groundwater monitoring was conducted March 2 to 6. Western network extraction wells EW-OU2-04-A, EW-OU2-05-A, and EW-OU2-06-A were sampled.
- There were a couple minor GWTP shutdowns in March.
- In April Ahtna attempted to replace the failed pump in EW-OU2-12-180. The pump was found to be clogged with what appeared to be formation sand, possibly due to a breach in either the well screen or casing. Approximately 12 feet of formation sand was found in the bottom of the well. The sand will be bailed from the well and a video log will be conducted to determine casing and/or screen damage. Afterwards, Ahtna will work with USACE to determine the best possible way to rehabilitate the well. There is still sufficient capture of the groundwater plume in the area of EW-OU2-12-180 with continued operation of EW-OU2-05-180 and EW-OU2-06-180.
- The Army will coordinate with the development in the Sea Haven area around five monitoring wells for replacement wells and well surface adjustments. There has been no schedule set for the readjustment and replacement work.
- The Imjin Parkway widening construction project is expected to begin in August or September.
- A radio survey will be conducted to determine best possible location for equipment to improve communications between the OU2 GWTP and the Western Network and Sites 2/12 GWTP.
- The Second Quarter 2020 Groundwater Monitoring event will be scheduled in June for two weeks to allow for proper COVID-19 social distancing protocols.
- Preliminary First Quarter 2020 Groundwater Monitoring results were discussed in comparison to the Fourth Quarter 2019 event for the A-Aquifer.
 - In Hydraulic Zone 1, extraction wells EW-OU2-16-A, EW-OU2-17-A, EW-OU2-18-A, EW-OU2-19-A, and EW-OU2-20-A had increases in COC concentrations. The extraction wells are successfully capturing COCs that were previously in a stagnant zone north of the OU2 Landfills.
 - Adjacent monitoring well MW-OU2-44-A had a recent declining trend in COCs, but increased in the First Quarter event.
 - In Hydraulic Zone 5, COC concentrations are increasing, showing that the plume is going around the eastern extraction well network.
 - MW-OU2-06-AR located west of the eastern extraction well network had concentrations of trichloroethene (TCE) and tetrachloroethene (PCE) increase.
 - MW-OU2-08-A located northeast of the eastern extraction well network was the

first well north of the eastern extraction well network with observed increasing COC concentrations in 2015. The well was sampled at a different sample depth than normal in the Fourth Quarter event and reported COC concentrations were lower than historically reported. The First Quarter event showed COC concentrations that are consistent with recent historical results with the sample depth back to the usual position, indicating stratified conditions in this well.

- MW-OU2-07-A, located north of the eastern extraction well network, had an increase in 1,1-dichloroethane and vinyl chloride concentrations in the Fourth Quarter event, which triggered sampling at downgradient well MW-OU2-05-A that was previously used for depth-to-water measurements only. In the First Quarter event, COC concentrations at MW-OU2-07-A decreased below aquifer cleanup levels (ACLs).
- Preliminary First Quarter 2020 Groundwater Monitoring results were discussed in comparison to the previous year's events for the Upper 180-Foot Aquifer.
 - EW-OU2-11-180 has increasing TCE concentrations indicating this extraction well is pulling in COC mass.
 - MW-OU2-56-180 is in-between OU2 Landfill Areas D and F, and has had TCE concentrations historically above and below the ACL.
 - Downgradient MW-OU2-62-180 has had elevated TCE concentrations, and is upgradient of the suspected discontinuity in the Intermediate 180-Foot Aquitard, where COCs migrated from the Upper 180-Foot Aquifer to the Lower 180-Foot Aquifer.

b. Treated Water Reuse – No treated water was used recently. The access point for treated water is not hooked up yet, but it will be once the RORE Innovative Solutions Joint Venture (JV) turns the GWTP over to the Government.

c. Groundwater Treatment Plant Relocation – The JV contract modification for the western network leak detection work is still with USACE but getting closer to award.

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 was shared of red-tailed hawks using the newly installed raptor perches. Because there are fewer people out due to the COVID-19 Shelter-in-Place Order, there has been more wildlife. A total of 16 perches are installed. More materials will be procured to double the number of perches on the Landfills.
- Erosion maintenance was performed on the east side of Area E including fiber rolls and jute netting. Further erosion maintenance may be conducted during the dry season.
- The thermal treatment unit (TTU) continues to operate regularly. The TTU influent methane concentration has had an overall declining trend at approximately 36-37 percent methane.
- Annual volatile organic compound (VOC) landfill gas sampling and source testing will be completed at the end of May.

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 Sites 2/12 GWTP was online 97.6 percent of the time in March. Minor power-related shutdowns associated with the OU2 GWTP occurred.

- The injection point of compliance at Sites 2/12 GWTP was sampled in March with a few low-level COC detections below discharge limits.
- The Soil Vapor Treatment Unit (SVTU) was offline since February 2019 to look for rebound. On April 27, 2020 the SVTU was turned back on.
- The First Quarter 2020 groundwater monitoring was conducted March 2 to 6. Preliminary First Quarter results were presented.
 - Operational extraction well EW-OU2-08-180U had a decrease in PCE concentrations in the First Quarter to a new historical minimum for the well.
 - In the Fourth Quarter event, MW-12-20-180U PCE concentration increased above the ACL, following a seasonal trend for this well. However, PCE decreased well below the ACL in the First Quarter event at a concentration low that has not been observed since 2014.
 - The Second Quarter groundwater monitoring event will occur in June.
- The First Quarter 2020 soil gas monitoring event was originally scheduled to be conducted in February; however, it was delayed pending approval of the Soil Gas Rebound Study QAPP, which was submitted Final on March 13. The preliminary First Quarter soil gas results were presented.
 - The First Quarter showed some rebound in soil gas probes. Per a request by the RWQCB, some shallow probes were sampled as part of the rebound study. Two of the shallow probes at SG-12-04 had TCE concentrations above the soil gas cleanup level (SGCL). However, no deeper probes had PCE or TCE above their SGCLs, indicating there is no partitioning between soil gas and groundwater that would threaten an increase in COC concentrations above groundwater ACLs.
 - Per Soil Gas QAPP decision rules, because there were soil gas results above the SGCL, the SVTU was restarted on April 27. However, only soil vapor extraction (SVE) well VE-12-09 is operating, because it is near to SG-12-04.
 - There was historically high TCE concentrations in shallow probes at SG-12-04 during the Remedial Investigation from 2013 to 2015.
 - Soil gas probe SG-12-04-30 was obstructed and could not be sampled, so nearby SG-12-01-30 was sampled instead.
 - SG-12-02 near Target had a decrease in PCE concentrations.
 - SG-12-06 near Kohl's concentrations stayed low.
 - SG-12-07 east of SG-12-06 had a small increase in PCE concentrations.
 - SG-12-16 and SG-12-17 in the southern part of the site had no significant TCE rebound.
 - The Second Quarter soil gas monitoring event will occur in May.

6. Operable Unit Carbon Tetrachloride Plume (OUCTP)

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

- On April 9, the 9th Annual Habitat meeting was held.
- In June the Second Quarter groundwater monitoring event will be conducted.
- The First Quarter 2020 groundwater monitoring was conducted March 2 to 6. Preliminary First Quarter results were presented.
- A-Aquifer carbon tetrachloride (CT) data was compared for the past year's sampling events.
 - In Hydraulic Zone 2, north of EISB Deployment Area 3A, new monitoring well MW-BW-94-AR had an increase in CT above the ACL in the First Quarter event.
 - EISB Deployment Area 3A successfully treated CT in the treatment area, though some CT is still present north of the deployment area. It will be determined whether future EISB remediation or continued monitored natural attenuation (MNA) will be sufficient to the

- north.
- EW-BW-160-A and MW-BW-87-A in EISB Deployment Area 3A have had CT above the ACL continuously for the past year but are near the northern edge of the treatment area and the groundwater divide.
- In Hydraulic Zone 4 in EISB Deployment Area 2A, EW-BW-124-A CT decreased from above the ACL in the Second Quarter 2019 to non-detect (ND) in the following three quarterly sampling events.
- In Hydraulic Zone 5 in the City of Marina, the most downgradient portion of the A-Aquifer CT plume, CT concentrations increased above the ACL at MW-BW-49-A and MW-BW-80-A.
- Upper 180-Foot Aquifer CT was compared for the past year's sampling events.
 - CT concentrations are generally consistent.
 - Upper CT plume multi-port Westbay well MP-BW-46-170 has had an increasing CT concentration trend. There is no evidence of a CT source in this area. There were previous vertical conduits upgradient of the well that were destroyed. The increasing trend indicates additional vertical conduits may exist. This is the same area of increased CT concentrations in the A-Aquifer, the potential source of CT to the Upper 180-Foot Aquifer.
- Lower 180-Foot Aquifer CT and TCE were compared for the past year's sampling events.
 - Increased TCE concentrations at MW-OU2-62-180, screened in the OU2 Upper 180-Foot Aquifer, are likely connected with the Lower 180-Foot Aquifer well MW-BW-59-180. MW-BW-59-180 has had consistent TCE concentrations above the maximum contaminant level (MCL).

7. Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

This agenda item was added for future discussion, there is no handout currently. The USEPA requested an extension of the PFOA/PFOS Technical Memorandum Draft Final comment period until May 4. DTSC had no further comments. Comments were received from FOCAG. Waiting for USEPA and RWQCB comments. Maeve Clancy with USEPA said she will send a comment letter on Monday May 4 and it will state that sites cannot be excluded from PFAS investigation without a Preliminary Assessment (PA). Unofficial e-mail comments were submitted by a community member MA Wright. A PA is estimated to be completed in the fall of 2020, a Work Plan and field work in summer/fall 2021. Last week there was a news article on the Fort Ord PFAS Tech Summary Report; the reporter may review responses to comments and write further stories.

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

There was no handout for the BRA and Lead Evaluation Status. KEMRON-Gilbane are no longer contracted, and USACE took over the BRA and Lead Evaluation tasks. Discussion included:

a. BRA –

The Final Unit 33 plan was issued after DTSC approved it on March 27. The Comprehensive BRA report is in progress with Alex Kan and will be finalized sometime in the next couple of years.

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. Due to the Shelter-in-Place Order for COVID-19 and telecommuting, the lead evaluation timeline will be delayed and is a low priority. It is not expected that there will be any progress in the near future. There was no update on the status.

c. Erosion Control –

Fieldwork is completed. Item not discussed.

d. Landfills Soil Management –

Landfills soil management is completed. Item not discussed.

e. Habitat Restoration – The handout titled “Site 39 Inland Ranges Habitat Restoration Status Update” was reviewed, additional discussion included:

- The 9th Annual Habitat meeting was held virtually.
- The monitoring season has started and began with sand gilia surveys, species richness surveys, and photo points. Sand gilia monitoring was completed and is not as prevalent as the previous year, but is still doing pretty well. Monterey spineflower monitoring has begun. Photo points were completed, photos of HA 34 from 2013 and 2020 were shown, improving with 60 percent coverage, even though it is deficient in HMP shrubs.
- The native plant nursery is continuing to grow plants for next season planting, with a goal of approximately 5,500 plants.
- Field activities are successfully conducted following the COVID-19 social distancing and face covering protocols. Field teams are not sharing vehicles or equipment either.

9. Federal Facility Agreement (FFA) Schedule

a. Status Update – The 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 “01 May 2020 BCT Deliverable Schedule” was reviewed, and near-term documents were identified.

- The National Priorities List (NPL) Deletion Remedial Action Summary Report draft response to comments are in progress.
- Sites 2/12 and OUCTP Preliminary Draft Annual Reports responses to comments are in progress.

10. Action Items

The handout titled “HTW BCT 2020 Action Items” was reviewed and no updates were required.

11. Calendar Update

The calendar was reviewed for upcoming HTW BCT meeting dates. The next HTW BCT meeting is on July 17 at 1:30 pm. The next CIW is on July 18. A different format may be used for the CIW including walking outdoors with an open house with the posters.