

Mike Duker

From: Dale Reaume
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 5:56 PM
To: wpciask@gmail.com; Brian Loftus; Erik Ranka; James Budny; Lauren Smith; Ted Van Os; Tom Malvesto; Walter Pociask
Cc: Ann Darzniek; Annette Pelts; Brandy Boyd; Carol Knopp; Dale Reaume; Duncan Murdock; Joseph Porcarelli; Lorinda Beneteau; Mike Duker; Russell Bodrie; Ruth A. Kaledas; Sharon Bennett; Ted Fournier
Subject: Airport and Army Corps of Engineer Study
Attachments: ACE Info 2 4 16.pdf
Importance: High

To All,

As you are aware, last week the Army Corps of Engineer's (ACE) held a meeting at the Township Hall regarding a Restroation Advisory Board (RAB). The Notice is part of the attachment which explains the purpose of the meeting. The project is at the next step under the environmental restoration process. Basically, there are 25 Areas of Concern (AOC's). Twenty one (21) of the AOC's will be evaluated for closure and Four (4) will undergo additional assessment to determine if they require remediation.

The RAB is a way to encourage community involvement regarding any site restoration. The Township Board may request the creation of this Board to the ACE or a petition by the residents could be considered. In the near future the ACE will be sending a questionnaire to residents as far as one mile from the site. I would suggest that the Township review the public comments prior making any request to the ACE to create a RAB. In the meantime I will research the Township's role and responsibilities if a RAB was formed.

Earlier today I received an email (attached) from the ACE Public Affairs Officer providing additional information regarding the entire restoration project and the Four (4) AOC's that warrant further investigation. In the highlighted portion of the email, the ACE states there is no high risk or immediate danger at the site shown by the investigation.

I understand there have been comments being made in the public the last few days that the Airport, Soccer Fields, and Commerce Park are unsafe. Again, the ACE have stated - to date, the investigation has not shown any high risks or immediate dangers at the site.

The one AOC I would lilke to comment on at this time is the Soccer Fields. The Soccer Fields and/or part of the Soccer Fields have been built on top of an old skeet range. The area has +/- Two (2) feet of fill on top of it. It has been explained to me that the normal course of addressing this type of situation is to cap it. The fields were built in the late 90's. The Phase I & Phase II studies took place between 2001 and 2006.

The ACE staff contact information is listed in the attachments. If you have any additional questions I will be glad to contact them. Also, feel free to contact them as well, they encourage it.

Please feel free to share this information.

Attachments

- ACE Email
- Public Meeting Notice
- Fact Sheet (from 1/27/16 meeting)
- Previous Investigation History (from 1/27/16 meeting)

Thanks,

Dale L. Reaume, M.P.A.
Township Manager
Grosse Ile

Dale Reaume

From: Hornback, Todd J LRL <Todd.J.Hornback@usace.army.mil>
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 12:37 PM
To: Dale Reaume
Cc: Nichter, Mark W LRL; Beckham, Theresa C LRL
Subject: Response to Grosse Ile Community

Dale,

Here is a follow up to our telephone conversation today with Theresa and Mike. If you need additional information please feel free to contact us. Feel free to share this information.

Good talking with you today.

The Corps of Engineers is following the normal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act known as CERCLA.

The Corps has a system of checks and balances by working with state and federal agencies. Community involvement is an integral part of this process. Documents will be available in the library repository for community review and comment. The Corps welcomes information from the community.

Part of the process may be a Restoration Advisory Board, known as a RAB. If the community decides a RAB is not needed, the Corps will still work with the community to exchange and share information and the investigation will continue following the same process.

Environmental restoration projects are based on funding and priority of projects. It is a lengthy process. The Grosse Ile project may extend until 2021 to assure we minimize potential effects to human health and the environment. To date, the investigation has not shown any high risks or immediate dangers at this site. If the investigation finds anything of immediate danger to human health or environment the Corps can mitigate on an accelerated schedule.

This investigation continues and no final analysis has been made; however, if during the process, the investigation finds additional concerns or issues, the Corps will keep the community informed.

If you have information for the Corps of Engineers to Theresa Beckham at 502-315-6875 or Todd Hornback at 502-315-6768 or email via LRL-Pagemaster-ENV@usace.army.mil with a subject line of Grosse Ile.

There are four areas of concern at the site.

- **AOC 2—Hangar 2**
 - Additional soil, groundwater, soil gas, and indoor/outdoor air sampling.
 - If sampling results indicate remediation is warranted, bench/pilot studies will be conducted to identify a remedial technology.
 - Evaluation of whether volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in indoor air are a result of vapor intrusion or vapor sources within the Hangar.
 - Human health risk assessment to be included in Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study Report.

- Prepare and Submit Proposed Plan and Decision Document.
- **AOC 9 – Former Seaplane Hangar**
 - Additional soil, sediment and surface water sampling.
 - Human health and ecological risk assessment to be included in Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study Report.
 - Prepare and Submit Proposed Plan and Decision Document.
- **AOC 19—Building 19**
 - Additional soil sampling.
 - Ecological risk assessment to be included in Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study Report.
 - Prepare and Submit Proposed Plan and Decision Document.
- **AOC 25—Former Skeet Range**
 - Human health and ecological risk assessments to be included in Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study Report.
 - Prepare and Submit Proposed Plan and Decision Document.

Why are these areas of concern?

- **AOC 2 –Hangar 2**
 - Site History
 - Historically used for aircraft maintenance and repair.
 - Current use is office space (southern portion) and light aircraft hangar and maintenance facility (northern portion).
 - USTs removed in 1993:
 - 10,000 gallon gasoline or heating oil UST;
 - 1,200 gallon heating oil and waste oil UST;
 - Holes in USTs observed during removal; and,
 - 257 yards of contaminated soil excavated during UST removal.
 - Sump in southwest corner of hangar thought to be additional contaminant source.
 - Criteria Exceedances
 - Soils
 - Acenaphthene
 - Seven volatile organic compounds, primarily trichloroethene (TCE) and tetrachloroethene (PCE)
 - Bedrock groundwater
 - Slight exceedance for TCE in one out of four bedrock wells
 - Soil gas
 - Six volatile organic compounds, including TCE and PCE
 - Indoor air
 - Six volatile organic compounds, including TCE and PCE
- **AOC 9 – Former Seaplane Hangar**
 - Site History
 - Located adjacent to Gibraltar Bay.
 - Historically used for aircraft maintenance and repair, seaplane storage until destroyed by fire in 1968.

- 5,000-gallon heating oil UST removed in 1993.
 - No product observed during excavation.
 - **Criteria Exceedances**
 - Soils criteria exceedances
 - Metals (arsenic, cadmium, chromium, lead, mercury, selenium)
 - Methylene chloride
 - Groundwater criteria exceedances
 - Lead
 - Methylene chloride (likely laboratory contamination)
 - Surface water criteria exceedances
 - Methylene chloride
- **AOC 19 – Building 19**
 - Site History
 - Formerly used as Engine Test Building and Ammunition Magazine.
 - Criteria Exceedances
 - Soil
 - Metals (arsenic, chromium, and selenium)
 - Semi-volatile organic compounds (benzo(a)pyrene, carbazole, fluoranthene, and phenanthrene)
 - Sediment
 - Metals (mercury and selenium)
- **AOC 25--Skeet Range**
 - Site History
 - Used as shooting range as early as 1954. A portion of this area is now covered with soil and used as a soccer field.
 - Criteria Exceedances
 - Soil
 - Lead, including direct contact criteria.
 - Horizontal and vertical extent of lead in soil has been delineated.

Thank you,
 Todd Hornback
 Chief, Public Affairs Office
 Office: 502-315-6768
 Cell: 502-558-7932

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 Twitter <http://twitter.com/LouisvilleUSACE>
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**Public Meeting
Grosse Ile Naval Air Station
Restoration Advisory Board (RAB)**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is conducting an environmental investigation at the former Grosse Ile Naval Air Station (NAS)/Nike Site D-51. The site is located on the south end of the Island of Grosse Ile. The island is 8 miles long and 2 miles wide and is located in the Detroit River approximately 14 miles downriver from the central business district of Detroit, at the confluence of the Detroit River and Lake Erie in Wayne County, Michigan. Two bridges provide access to the island and both are from the westerly main- land of Michigan.

The former U.S. Naval Air Station was dedicated in September 1929 and served as a Navy airplane, seaplane and blimp training site and U.S. Coast Guard Rescue Station during WWII. It was comprised of approximately 670 acres of land on the southern end of the island. The Department of Army acquired 52 acres for the establishment of an Ajax NIKE missile base D-51 (Detroit). The NIKE site operated from 1954 through 1963. The Naval Air Station was accepted by the General Services Administration in 1969. The Grosse Ile Township acquired 549 acres in 1970 for use as a municipal airport and Commerce Park. In 1990, the former NIKE site was converted to a wetlands research area by the USEPA. Portions of this area are maintained as a Nature Park.

USACE is currently conducting environmental restoration at the site. The services will include preparation of project work plan documents, public involvement activities, establishment/maintenance of an administrative record file, and CERCLA remedial investigation (RI) of multiple areas of concern. The project also includes options for feasibility studies and proposed plan/decision document preparation at multiple AOCs.

As part of the environmental restoration process, the Department of Defense (DoD) encourages community involvement through Restoration Advisory Boards (RABs). RABs provide a collaborative forum for the community and government agencies to discuss and identify the most efficient and productive means to restore the environment.

On January 27, 2016 the USACE Louisville District will be holding a public meeting related to community involvement of planned activities, including the potential establishment of a RAB for the Grosse Ile Naval Air Station. The meeting will be held from 5:30 to 7:30 PM and is hosted by the Township of Grosse Ile at 9601 Groh Road, Grosse Ile, Michigan, 48138. Inquiries should be directed to Todd Hornback, Louisville District Public Affairs Office at (502) 315-6768.

The information repository, which contains additional project documents, is housed at the Bacon Memorial District Library, 45 Vinewood Street, Wyandotte, Michigan, 48192.



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Louisville District

Fact Sheet



Aerial view of the former NAS Grosse Ile, located about 25 miles south of Detroit on an island in the Detroit River in Wayne County, Michigan. NAS Grosse Ile is identified as a FUDS site and MDEQ facility. Efforts are currently under way by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to identify and evaluate possible sources of contamination.

CONTACT

Theresa Beckham, Project Manager
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
600 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Place
Room 173
Louisville, KY 40202
(502) 315-6875

Theresa.C.Beckham@usace.army.mil

or
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VISIT

Information Repository located at
Bacon Memorial District Library
45 Vinewood Street
Wyandotte, MI 48192

Former Naval Air Station Grosse Ile

A total of 25 potential areas of concern (AOCs) have been identified as part of ongoing environmental investigation of the former Naval Air Station (NAS) Grosse Ile, located in Wayne County, Michigan. Several sources of information, including interviews, historical aerial photographs, historical site maps and plans, and archives search reports, were used to identify areas that were potentially impacted by former activities at the site. Based on environmental data collected at the AOCs by the United States Army Corps of Engineers Louisville District (CELRL) between 1990 and 2015 and reported in several reports, it was determined that Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) screening level cleanup criteria were exceeded for one or more chemical constituents at several AOCs.

It has been determined that AOCs 2, 9, 19, and 25 will subsequently undergo additional assessment to determine if the exceedances are significant and if they require remediation. The table on the back of this fact sheet summarizes the AOCs. CELRL has employed a consultant to also prepare Feasibility Studies to assess these AOCs under the auspices of the Department of Defense (DoD) Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS) program and the MDEQ.

The authority given to CELRL generally falls under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and is regulated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for National Priorities List (NPL) sites. Sites that are not on the NPL, such as NAS Grosse Ile, require the same level of restoration as NPL sites, but are more effectively regulated by the individual states to ensure that state concerns are adequately addressed. MDEQ is the lead environmental agency at the former NAS Grosse Ile and is responsible for regulatory oversight.

Copies of final reports and other documents can be found in a repository located at the Bacon Memorial District Library in Wyandotte, Michigan. Draft copies of Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study Reports and later documents (such as Proposed Plans and Decision Documents) will be posted in the repository for public review and comment prior to finalization. A notice will be published in a local newspaper when the documents become available.

What are FUDS?

FUDS are sites that were formerly owned, leased, or otherwise operated by the DoD. Although these properties may be presently owned by private citizens, organizations, or local governments, DoD must address and remediate contamination problems and restore the land to safe and productive use. The ultimate goal of the FUDS program is to reduce risk to human health and the environment from past DoD activities.

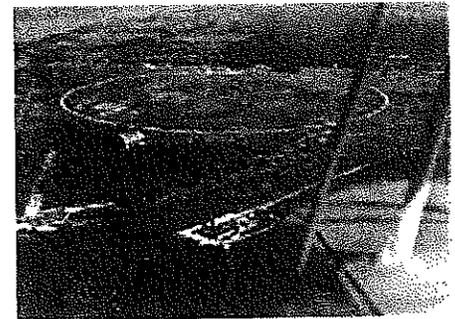
Area of Concern	Description	History	Future Work
AOC 2	Hangar 2	Formerly used for aircraft maintenance & repair	Additional soil, groundwater, soil gas, & indoor/outdoor air sampling
		Current use is office space & light aircraft hangar & maintenance	Evaluate source of indoor air VOCs
		Underground storage tanks (USTs) removed in 1993;	Human health risk assessment
		257 yards of contaminated soil excavated during UST removals	Complete Remedial Investigation & Feasibility Study Report
		Soil, bedrock groundwater, soil gas, & indoor air constituents are mainly volatile organic compounds (VOCs)	Prepare Proposed Plan & Decision Document
AOC 9	Former Seaplane Hangar	Located Adjacent to Gibraltar Bay	Additional soil, sediment, & surface water sampling
		Formerly used for aircraft maintenance, repair, seaplane storage	Human health & ecological risk assessment
		UST removed in 1993	Complete Remedial Investigation & Feasibility Study Report
		Soil, groundwater, surface water constituents are metals and methylene chloride	Prepare Proposed Plan & Decision Document
AOC 19	Building 19	Formerly used as Engine Test Building & Ammunition Magazine	Additional soil sampling Ecological risk assessment
		Soil & sediment constituents include metals & semi-VOCs	Complete Remedial Investigation & Feasibility Study Report
			Prepare Proposed Plan & Decision Document
AOC 25	Skeet Shooting Range	Formerly used as shooting range as early as 1954	Human health & ecological risk assessment
		Portion is covered with soil and used as soccer field	Complete Remedial Investigation & Feasibility Study Report
		Soil lead content has been delineated	Prepare Proposed Plan & Decision Document

History of NAS Grosse Ile Site

The property that would eventually become NAS Grosse Ile was originally one of many prosperous farms on Grosse Ile at the turn of the twentieth century. The United States Navy occupied the facility from 1926 until it was reported excess to the General Services Administration (GSA) and closed in 1969. In the intervening years, military and private aviation activity at the site included:

- Construction of the first all-metal dirigible in the 1920s
- Dedication of Grosse Ile Naval Reserve Aviation Base in 1929
- Establishment as a major flight training facility in the 1930s and 1940s, including primary flight training for more than 1,800 Royal Navy and Royal Air Force cadets in the latter half of 1941
- Establishment of a United States Coast Guard unit in 1950
- Transfer of 40 acres to United States Army for use as a Nike Ajax missile site from 1954 to 1962

Today most of the former NAS Grosse Ile facility is owned by Grosse Ile Township and is used as a public airport and affiliated commerce park. A portion of the site serves as an EPA wetlands research area.



Circle Road, c. 1940

Photo from the Jack A Green Collection
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Aircraft Development Corporation (ADC) constructed a hangar in 1927 and designated a cleared area 3,000 feet in diameter to the north of the hangar as a landing field. The county constructed the paved perimeter road around the landing field in 1928. At the time of this photograph, work was just beginning on the now familiar triangle runways.

Previous Investigations at the Former Naval Air Station Grosse Ile (NASGI)

- **Initial contamination evaluation completed in 1991:**
 - Installation of four groundwater monitoring wells, collected one soil sample and one groundwater sample from each well location;
 - Twelve near surface soil samples, six surface water samples;
 - Location of 21 storage tanks and sampling of the contents of 5 tanks; and,
 - Collection of water samples from each of the three Nike missile launch facility silos.
- **Chemical Data Acquisition in 1992:**
 - Collection of seven transformer samples, 77 drum or can samples, six heating oil or lubrication oil tank samples, 38 soil samples, four floor samples, and three silo water samples.
- **Underground Storage Tank (UST) Closure Reports in 1993 and 1994:**
 - Removal operation and state submittal of leaking UST reports for 23 USTs;
 - USTs and impacted soil removed;
 - Floor and sidewall confirmatory samples collected from the excavations;
 - Sampled oil and solids from two locations along the west boundary of NASGI, immediately south of Groh Road. The samples were collected from a manhole and a steam pipe trench in the vicinity of a tank leak. The area was remediated shortly after discovery; and,
 - Three other potentially contaminated areas were found: the fire training pit; a drum storage area near the Quonset huts; and the site of an aviation fuel spill.
- **Expanded Field Investigation completed in 1996 included:**
 - 23 former USTs at 13 AOCs, wastewater treatment plant, a Nike base area, a surface spill area, and a fire training area.
 - Field samples analyzed for benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene (gas chromatograph) and for metals (X-ray fluorescence);
 - Confirmatory soil samples (fixed laboratory) and analyzed for volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), lead, and chromium;
 - Groundwater from temporary wells analyzed for VOCs, SVOCs, and dissolved and total lead and chromium; and,
 - Concentrations less than Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) Part 201 criteria.
- **2001-2006 Remedial Investigation, Phase I & Phase II:**
 - RI identified 25 potential AOCs based on several sources of information, including interviews, historical aerial photographs, historical site maps and plans, and archives search reports;
 - Chemical analytical results from soil, groundwater, surface water and sediment samples were screened against the MDEQ Part 201 criteria; and,
 - RI Report concluded AOCs 2, 3, 10, 22, 24a and 25 required further evaluation and potential remedial actions. The USACE added AOCs 4 and 11 for further evaluation.

- **2005 Remedial Investigation at AOC 5 & 15:**
 - Collection and analysis of groundwater samples, surface water and sediment samples, and subsurface and surface soil samples for one or more of the following: VOCs, SVOCs, PCBs and metals.
 - Soil exceedances of direct contact criteria for lead and benzo(a)pyrene were statistically analyzed using the Upper Confidence Level of 95 percent (UCL95). The UCL95 did not exceed the direct contact criteria. Levels of arsenic that exceeded direct contact criteria did not exceed the interim background levels for this site.
 - There were several exceedances of groundwater-surface water interface (GSI) criteria in AOC 15; however, groundwater samples collected at this site did not indicate exceedances of drinking water criteria." The groundwater results indicate that the GSI pathway is not affected by the soils exceeding GSI criteria at this site.
 - Soil gas survey conducted to detect possible source areas of contamination in the overall site. Sixty-one soil gas probes were installed. Low levels of VOCs, just above the detection limit, were found in four discrete samples.
 - The data and subsequent analysis show that Part 201 criteria have not been significantly exceeded in samples collected from this site and therefore the site is not an MDEQ Part 201 facility.
 - No further action recommended.
- **Post 2006 Investigations (AOCs 2, 3, 4, 10, 11, 22, 24a, and 25):**
 - Based upon the evaluation of the RI results and discussions with MDEQ, it was determined four of the eight AOCs (AOCs 2, 3, 4, and 11) warranted additional subsurface investigation activities to address data gaps identified in the RI results.
 - Based on the nature of the releases at the AOCs that required additional investigation, the USACE and MDEQ personnel agreed that the COCs for the Supplemental Remedial Investigation were VOCs for the four AOCs, plus PAHs at AOC 3, and no groundwater assessment was required for the Supplemental Remedial Investigation.
 - The findings of the 2008 Supplemental Investigation concluded AOCs 3, 4, 11, 22, and 24a would not be promoted to the CERCLA Feasibility Study, and AOCs 2, 10, and 25 would be promoted due to the presence of media exceedances for relevant exposure pathways.
 - Upon completion of the additional supplemental characterization activities, the horizontal and vertical delineation of contaminants in soil were sufficient to support the FS for AOCs 10 and 25.
 - USACE and MDEQ Identified the need for additional investigation at AOC 2
 - Four rounds of bedrock well groundwater sampling and two rounds of indoor/outdoor ambient air and soil gas sampling.