



**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Louisville District**

**Final Community Relations Plan
Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study
TCE Groundwater Plume
Former Racó Army Airfield and Missile Site
Chippewa County, Michigan
FUDS Property No. E05MI0026**

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Louisville District
Contract No. W912BV-10-D-2000
Delivery Order CY01**

July 2014

Community Relations Plan, Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study, TCE Groundwater Plume, Former Racó Army Airfield and Missile Site, Chippewa County, Michigan, FUDS Property No. E05MI0026.

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Chippewa County, Michigan
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Date Issued – July 2014

Prepared for the
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Louisville District
600 Martin Luther King Jr. Place
Louisville, Kentucky 40202-2232

Prepared Under
Contract No. W912BV-10-D-2000
Delivery Order CY01

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July 2014

CONTRACTOR STATEMENT OF INDEPENDENT TECHNICAL REVIEW

Notice is hereby given that an Independent Technical Review (ITR) has been conducted that is appropriate to the level of risk and complexity inherent in the project for the Community Relations Plan for the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study, TCE Groundwater Plume, former Racó Army Airfield and Missile Site, Chippewa County, Michigan, FUDS Property No. E05M10026. During the ITR, compliance with established policy, principles, and procedures was verified. This included review of procedures to be used to create a product that meets the customer's needs, consistent with law and existing U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) policy.



Larry Copeland
Project Manager

07/08/2014

Date



Craig Rightmire, P.G.
ITR Team Member

07/08/2014

Date



Kim Morris
Quality Assurance Reviewer

7/8/14

Date

Significant concerns and the explanation of the resolution are as follows:

None.

As noted above, all concerns resulting from the independent technical review of the document have been considered.



Paul Lewers
ITR Team Leader, GEO Consultants, LLC

07/08/2014

Date

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

BTEX	benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylenes
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act
CRP	Community Relations Plan
DERP	Defense Environmental Restoration Program
DoD	Department of Defense
ER	Engineer Regulation
FS	Feasibility Study
FUDS	Formerly Used Defense Site
GEO	GEO Consultants, LLC
kg	kilogram
MBA	Missile Battery Area
MDEQ	Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
mg	milligrams
PAH	polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon
PCB	polychlorinated biphenyl
RI	Remedial Investigation
SARA	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act
TCE	trichloroethene
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USEPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
USFS	U.S. Forest Service
UST	underground storage tank
VAP	vertical aquifer profiling
VOC	volatile organic compound

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1. INTRODUCTION

Since 1986, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has been actively involved in the investigation and remediation of the former Racó Army Airfield and Missile Site (the Racó Site), a Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS) located in Chippewa County, Michigan. Community involvement is an important component of the environmental restoration process. This Community Relations Plan (CRP) describes the approach to be used by USACE to facilitate communication with the public regarding environmental investigations and forthcoming cleanup efforts at the Racó Site. This CRP sets forth the guidance for communication and exchange of information between the government personnel involved in the investigation and remediation of the Racó Site property and the local community in Chippewa County, Michigan. This plan describes the strategies and activities that may be implemented throughout the remainder of the investigation and for any associated remedial actions at the Racó Site.

GEO Consultants, LLC (GEO) prepared this CRP for the USACE, Louisville District (USACE) under Contract Number W912BV-10-D-2000, Delivery Order CY01. USACE is responsible for the environmental investigation and cleanup programs at the Racó Site. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) is the lead regulatory agency for the Racó Site and will ensure that all investigations and cleanup programs comply with applicable regulations. The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) is the current landowner of the Racó Site and leases the land to a private company.

1.1 REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

This CRP has been prepared in accordance with the federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980, which authorizes Congress to directly respond to releases, or threatened releases, of hazardous substances that may endanger public health, welfare or the environment.

In 1986, CERCLA was amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) to increase public participation for all phases of response actions and require the establishment of an Information Repository and Administrative Record.

This CRP has been prepared per Engineer Regulation (ER) 200-3-1, in accordance with Engineer Pamphlet 1110-3-8, *Public Participation for Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) for FUDS* (USACE 2004) and the *Superfund Community Involvement Handbook* (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency [USEPA] 2005). MDEQ is the lead regulator for the Racó Site.

1.2 DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM FOR FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (DERP-FUDS)

The DERP-FUDS program was established by Congress in 1986 under SARA to clean up properties that were under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Department of Defense (DoD) and owned, leased, or possessed by the United States and transferred from DoD control prior to October 17, 1986.

The goal of the DERP-FUDS program is to cost-effectively reduce the risks to human health and the environment that are attributable to contamination resulting from past DoD activities.

This goal is accomplished through the following policies.

- Identify, evaluate, and, where appropriate, remediate contamination resulting from past DoD activities.

- Ensure immediate action to remove imminent threats to human health and the environment.
- Comply with statutes, regulations, Executive Orders, and other legal requirements governing cleanup of contamination.
- Conduct DERP-FUDS program activities to meet program goals, as stated in the Defense Planning Guidance.
- Develop partnerships regarding restoration activities with the USEPA and appropriate state, local and territorial regulatory agencies.
- Promote and support public participation in the DERP-FUDS program.
- Support the development and use of cost-effective innovative technologies and improvements in the restoration process.

Funding for FUDS is programmed and budgeted in the Defense-wide environmental restoration account.

USACE serves as the DoD Execution Agent for cleanup of FUDS. USACE manages the cleanup of more than 9,000 potentially contaminated sites ranging from military training sites containing ordnance to industrial operations and production facilities containing solvents, organic materials, and petroleum contamination.

1.3 PURPOSE OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN

This CRP identifies the community's concern regarding the environmental cleanup program at the Racó Site and outlines community relations tools to best address these concerns.

The goals of this CRP are to:

- Identify and evaluate community concerns
- Develop a communications strategy to effectively reach the community
- Identify the communications tools available to deliver key messages to stakeholders.

1.4 ORGANIZATION OF COMMUNITY RESPONSE PLAN

This plan provides information on the background of the Racó Site, its history, previous environmental investigations of the areas of concern, and the community's background and involvement history. In addition, the plan outlines specific communication tactics and techniques to best meet the needs of the community.

2. SITE BACKGROUND

2.1 SITE DESCRIPTION

The Racó Site occupies approximately one square mile (640 acres) and is located 18 air miles southwest of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, in the Hiawatha National Forest (Figure A-1, all figures located in Appendix A). The Racó Site can be reached from Sault Ste. Marie by traveling south on Interstate 75 then west on State Highway 28. The Racó Site consisted of a triangular-shaped airfield with 5000 foot runways and a Bomarc Missile Site containing 28 missile silos and associated support facilities; the trichloroethene (TCE) groundwater plume is located within former Missile Battery Area (MBA) (Figure A-2).

The Racó Site is located within multiple sections of Township 46 North, Range 4 West in the Superior Township (Figure A-3). The topography at the Racó Site is relatively flat with elevations ranging from 900 to 920 feet above mean sea level.

2.2 SITE HISTORY

The DoD used the Racó Site as an airfield for 21 years and as a missile base for approximately 13 years, ending in 1972. The Racó Site has been intermittently controlled by the DoD and its predecessor agencies since 1895. Based on U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps, the airfield covers approximately 640 acres and was constructed between 1942 and 1943. Around 1960 the missile base was constructed on 153.54 acres of land southeast of the airfield. On January 19, 1964, the Air Force released the airfield property to the USFS but retained the acreage covering the missile area. On June 30, 1973 the missile area was released to the USFS.

Since 1973, the USFS has entered into several permit agreements with outside interests. They are summarized below [from *Racó, A Case Study* by Carl L. Woodruff, Project Manager, and Ronald Pearce, USACE Detroit District and Ronald Pearce, Sault Ste. Marie Area Office, USACE Detroit District, undated but post-1989 (Woodruff and Pearce 1989)].

- 1973 – a sawmill operation by a local Indian Tribe resulting in accumulation of a large pile (approximately 5000 cubic yards) of sawdust, wood waste, and other debris
- 1978 – the sale and removal of seven of the base buildings, the water tower, and 28 missile silo shelters
- 1981 and 1984 – the placement of broken concrete and waste construction materials into the silos. This debris apparently resulted from road repair operations on Route M-28 and was used to reduce the hazard potential of public travel near open missile silos
- Present – the airfield runways and other portions of the Racó Site are currently used during the winter months for automobile tire testing by Smithers Scientific Services, Inc.

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3. PREVIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATIONS

There have been several previous investigations at the Racó Site as described in the following sections; several of these previous investigations did not focus on the trichloroethylene (TCE) plume in the MBA.

3.1 ENVIRODYNE ENGINEERS INC. (ENVIRODYNE) – 1986-1987

Envirodyne conducted a Contamination Evaluation Study between December 1986 and April 1987 at the request of USACE, following the Defense Environmental Restoration Account directive. This study included a records review, Site Inspection, installation of four groundwater monitoring wells (RG-01 through RG-03, near the MBA, and RG-04, near the fuel depot), groundwater sampling, surface water sampling from six missile silos, and the collection of near surface soil samples (Envirodyne 1987). The field investigation included the discovery of rubble, tar, sludge, oil, debris, two drums, organic solvents or petroleum distillates floating in a missile silo, oil sheen, a fiber drum, antifreeze container, several 12-volt batteries, twelve underground storage tanks (USTs), mounds of unknown origin, an oil stained transformer pad and rubber asphalt joint sealer cans.

3.2 ANDERSON EXCAVATING AND WRECKING COMPANY – 1987

Anderson Excavating and Wrecking Company was contracted by USACE, Detroit District for a demolition project in 1987. Field activities were substantially completed by November 1988. Details obtained from “Case Study” by Woodruff and Pearce (1989) included:

- Removal of the remaining buildings, which consisted of two masonry block and structural steel constructions that were approximately 26,000 square feet and 6000 square feet of floor area, respectively; and two small masonry block buildings of approximately 190 square feet and 260 square feet of floor area, respectively.
- Removal of 14 USTs and their contents (eight USTs were associated with the Fuel Depot Area and six were associated with the MBA).
- Removal of approximately 600 cubic yards of oil-contaminated soils.
- Removal of asbestos containing materials such as floor tiles, pipe insulation, and boiler room equipment insulation.
- Removal of miscellaneous debris.
- Removal or covering of several exposed building slabs with two feet of earth.
- Filling, leveling, and concrete capping of debris in the silos. The silo areas were covered with two feet of earth.
- Fertilizing, seeding, and mulching disturbed and filled areas with a blend of grasses recommended.

The USTs originally held various petroleum products including gasoline, boiler fuel oil, diesel oil, and aviation gasoline. At the time of removal the tank contents consisted primarily of fuel oil sludges, gasoline, and fuel/water mixtures.

The USTs were removed during July and August 1988. On removal it was evident that spillage and/or leakage had occurred. Samples analyzed from the excavations showed petroleum hydrocarbon levels as high as 2310 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg), with the remainder ranging from less than 50 mg/kg to 650 mg/kg. The demolition and removal work was completed in 1988. This work is summarized in a USACE Memorandum for Record, dated January 17, 1989 (USACE, as cited in Earth Tech 2005).

3.3 IT CORP. – 1990-1991

IT Corp. conducted a Remedial Investigation (RI) in 1990 (Stage 1) and 1991 (Stage 2) to determine if past activities at the Racó Site had contributed to groundwater and soil contamination, and if previous investigations adequately addressed this potential contamination (IT Corp. 1991).

The Stage 1 investigation focused on seven sites: (1) USTs C1/C2, (2) UST C4, (3) UST B1, (4) transformer pad, (5) background boring, (6) sludge drying bed, and (7) wastewater treatment lagoon. The tasks completed include:

- The installation of eight monitoring wells (MW-05 through MW-12).
- Groundwater sampling at 12 monitoring wells (RG-01 through RG-04 and MW-05 through MW-12).
- Slug testing of MW-05 through MW-12.
- Advancement, sampling, and analysis (51 samples) of eight soil borings (USTs C1, C2, C4, and B1, transformer pad, sludge drying bed, wastewater treatment lagoon, background location).
- Collection of 16 geotechnical samples.
- A geophysical survey of a potential landfill area.

The Stage 2 investigation focused on five sites: (1) transformer pad, (2) background boring, (3) sludge drying bed, (4) wastewater treatment lagoon, and (5) fuel depot area. The tasks completed include:

- The installation of three monitoring wells (MW-13 through MW-15).
- Groundwater sampling at six monitoring wells (RG-01, RG-03, MW-08, MW-13, MW-14, MW-15).
- Slug testing of MW-13, MW-14, and MW-15.
- Advancement, sampling, and analysis (44 samples) of seven soil borings (transformer pad, background boring, downgradient of sludge drying bed, wastewater treatment lagoon, fuel depot area).
- Collection of 19 geotechnical samples.

3.4 BCM ENGINEERS, PLANNERS, SCIENTISTS AND LABORATORY SERVICES – 1996

BCM Engineers, Planners, Scientists and Laboratory Services conducted a soil probe investigation of the Racó Site focusing on the areas around the former UST locations in 1996. This investigation included 113 soil borings and 200 soil samples taken from, in, and around the former UST locations. Soil samples were analyzed for benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylenes (BTEX) and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) (also known as poly-nuclear aromatics). Five soil samples were also analyzed for halogenated volatile organic compounds (VOCs). Two groundwater samples were collected and analyzed for BTEX, PAHs, and lead (BCM 1996).

3.5 SVERDRUP ENVIRONMENTAL, INC. – 1996-1997

Sverdrup Environmental, Inc. conducted a supplemental RI at the Racó Site in 1996 and 1997. This investigation included installation of soil borings and sampling of existing monitoring wells. Elevated

concentrations of lead were found during the 1996 groundwater sampling. As a result, the monitoring wells were redeveloped and sampled in 1997. Elevated lead was not detected in the 1997 round of sampling. The 1996 report was edited to include the 1997 data (Sverdrup, as cited in Earth Tech 2005).

3.6 BARR – 2002

Barr completed a review of all information pertaining to the Racó Site in 2002 (Barr, as cited in Earth Tech 2005). The review was on behalf of the USFS and addressed complaints by local organizations. Local organizations believe that certain materials were buried or spilled during demolition. Mr. James Traynor (a worker at the Racó Site during demolition) added credence to the locals concern with his account of what occurred during demolition activities. The Barr report addressed these concerns and followed up with an interview with Mr. Traynor. The investigation revealed that documentation shows the materials of concern [hydrocarbon waste, asbestos, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)], were properly dealt with or removed and properly disposed (Barr 2002). The report further suggests that specifically investigating Mr. Traynor's claims would help to refute or verify concerns of debris being buried in those specific areas. The Barr report also addressed the sufficiency of the previous investigations. The report suggested that the subsurface was properly delineated, both vertically and laterally and it indicated the existence of groundwater data gaps. The report mentioned that it was unclear whether or not the existing wells were downgradient of former USTs B-1, C-1, C-2, C-3, or of the former wastewater treatment lagoon. USTs C-1, C-2, and C-3 were located northwest, in an area formerly called the fuel depot area. The UST B-1 and the waste water treatment lagoon are located in the former MBA (Earth Tech 2005). A more detailed summary of the Barr report's conclusions, including a summary of the records document review and groundwater and soils data, may be found in the Earth Tech reports (2003 and 2005).

3.7 EARTH TECH – 2003-2004

Earth Tech conducted a Site Investigation at the Racó Site in phases from September 2003 to November 2004. The 2003 investigation was designed to address the aforementioned citizen concerns regarding improper disposal practices that may have occurred at the Racó Site, and to evaluate the Racó Site for potential closure. The 2004 Earth Tech investigation was designed to evaluate the extent of TCE contamination in the MBA. This investigation included the installation of soil borings, redevelopment of existing wells, a geophysics survey of the former borrow pit area, the installation and development of new wells, and groundwater sampling (Earth Tech 2005).

3.8 GEO – 2007

GEO conducted a Phase III Site Investigation at the Racó Site from June 2007 to August 2007. Tasks included sampling of surface water and groundwater, a geophysical survey and a radiological survey. Groundwater was sampled (June 2007 and August 2007) from 18 monitoring wells in and around the former fuel depot area and the MBA. June 2007 samples were analyzed for VOCs and perchlorate and the August 2007 samples were analyzed for VOCs only. The surface water sampling location is adjacent to the Northeast-Southwest runway and was identified as an Area of Concern by Hiawatha National Forest personnel. In a review of historical facility drawings, the area appeared to be a subsidence associated with a former water treatment facility. Surface water samples were collected during the June 2007 event and analyzed for VOCs, semi-volatile organic compounds, pesticides, PCBs, and metals. A geophysical survey was performed in an area of a suspected former dump area. A radiological survey was performed in the area of confluence of former catch basins.

3.9 GEO – 2009

GEO conducted RI/Feasibility Study (FS) activities at the MBA of the Racó Site from September 2009 to October 2009 (GEO 2010). Tasks included:

- Advancement of 10 borings at the Racó Site using vertical aquifer profiling (VAP) to collect and analyze soil and groundwater samples to assist in the vertical and horizontal delineation of VOCs detected in previous groundwater investigations.
- The installation of five monitoring wells based on the results of on-site mobile laboratory VOC analysis of groundwater samples collected during VAP.
- One round of groundwater sampling from 12 monitoring wells (seven pre-existing and the five installed as part of this investigation) and four water supply wells located on the property. Samples were analyzed for VOCs by fixed-base analytical laboratories.
- A well survey to locate domestic drinking water and supply wells within a one mile radius of the MBA.
- A survey of existing on-site monitoring wells.

4. ONGOING AND FUTURE PLANNED ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES

Based on the results of the previous environmental investigations, USACE is conducting a RI/FS to evaluate the TCE groundwater plume. The goal of the project is to delineate the TCE groundwater plume and determine if there are risks to existing or potential future site receptors.

Following the RI report, an FS will be completed to evaluate clean-up alternatives (if required). After the FS report is finalized, a Proposed Plan describing the recommended plan and alternatives will be released for public comment. USACE will hold a Public Meeting during which the recommended alternative will be presented and attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and raise concerns. Public comments will be addressed in the Responsiveness Summary and will be considered in the preparation of the Decision Document which will describe the final alternative selected for clean-up as well as the basis for the selection.

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5. COMMUNITY BACKGROUND

According to the 2010 Census, Chippewa County had a median resident age of 39.5 years. The following is a breakdown of occupations in Chippewa County based on 2007-2011 Census data (U.S. Census Bureau 2013).

- Management, business, science, and arts occupations 27.8%
- Service occupations 27.6%
- Sales and office occupations 25.9%
- Natural resources, construction and maintenance occupations 8.2%
- Production, transportation, and material moving occupations 10.5%.

The following breakdown shows local industries based on 2007-2011 data (U.S. Census Bureau 2013).

- Agricultural, forestry, fishing and hunting, mining 1.4%
- Construction 5.5%
- Manufacturing 5.5%
- Wholesale trade 1.9%
- Retail trade 12.7%
- Transportation and warehousing, and utilities 4.5%
- Information 1.9%
- Finance and insurance, real estate, rental and leasing 3.8%
- Professional, scientific, and management, and administrative and waste management services 4.4%
- Educational services, and health care and social assistance 23.3%
- Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and food services 16.6%
- Other services, except public administration 4.9%
- Public administration 13.8%

The 1558.42 square miles that make up Chippewa County had a population of 38,917 during the 2010 Census. The percentage of Caucasians county-wide is 72.4%, with Native Americans making up 15.0%, African Americans making up 6.9%, and Asians, Hispanics, and others making up the remaining 5.7%. The majority of Chippewa County residents own their own home (72.5%). The county's median household income based on 2007-2011 data available from the U.S. Census Bureau is \$41,108. Census data also indicate that Chippewa County has 17.7% of individuals residing in the county with income below the poverty level (U.S. Census Bureau 2013).

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6. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Community interest in the Racó Site spiked in 2001 when a former heavy equipment operator, Mr. James Traynor, and a citizen's group (Tri-COPec) made allegations of improper demolition practices and disposal of demolition debris. An independent review of documents was performed by Barr Engineering at the request of the USFS in 2002 (Barr 2002). Documentation showed no indication of improper practices with regard to: illegal disposal of inert material, asbestos disposal, presence of PCBs on-site, buried piping, tank cleaning, spills or leaks not cleaned up, a second on-site disposal area, or unexploded ordnance.

In January 2014, a community research survey took place by mail to determine the level of community involvement and concerns regarding the Racó TCE plume. A copy of the survey is located in Appendix E. This community research survey was critical in determining the needs of the community as well as in developing communication strategies to effectively keep the community informed. Over 1,400 surveys were mailed to residents and businesses in the local area zip codes (Brimley - 49715, Eckerman - 49728, Kinross - 49752). By January 2014, 170 completed surveys were received.

In response to the community research survey, several phone calls to USACE were made by concerned citizens, the Department of Health, and MDEQ. A fact sheet was prepared and mailed to survey respondents in February 2014 that included answers to some of the frequently asked questions from residents.

The results of the survey indicate that there has been little to no community involvement regarding the Racó Site to date. Most of the survey respondents have lived in the area for over 20 years and know little about USACE restoration activities at the Racó Site. Several residents indicated that the community survey was the first time they had been informed of environmental investigations taking place at the Racó Site. The majority of the survey respondents want to be kept informed. When asked to select preferred methods for receiving information, the methods with the highest number of votes were mailings (48%), newsletters (45%), followed by website (29%), newspaper (28%), and electronic mail (21%).

The community survey indicated that several residents would prefer that the Information Repository be located near them rather than near the Racó Site. The majority of the residents mentioned the Bayliss Public Library in Sault Ste. Marie. Residents were interested in maintaining digital Information Repositories at multiple locations if possible with a few residents requesting a website.

The survey respondents have varied concerns regarding the Racó Site, most due to their limited knowledge of the Racó Site and clean-up activities. Issues of concern from the community survey include:

- Contamination of, preventing contamination of, or cleaning up contamination of the groundwater and drinking water (63 respondents);
- Not having enough information to know what the concerns are (13 respondents);
- Material buried on-site or remaining on-site that has not been removed (11 respondents);
- The perceived high rate of cancer in the area (non-hereditary, multiple generations) and a possible link to the Racó Site (9 respondents).

It is clear from the community survey results that there is a need for USACE to provide updates and accurate information regarding environmental activities at the Racó Site to dispel rumors and improve communication with the community.

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7. COMMUNITY ACTION APPROACH

The objective of the CRP is to keep the public informed about the progress, status and accomplishments of the environmental cleanup until project completion. Although several investigations have been completed, there is still a need to be proactive in communicating with the public. This section discusses the specific means by which USACE will keep the public informed on the progress of the environmental investigations at the Racó Site.

7.1 INFORMATION CONTACT

The contacts for the environmental restoration project can be reached at USACE.

Clayton Hayes, Project Manager

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Louisville, KY 40202-2232
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Katelyn.C.Newton@usace.army.mil

7.2 INFORMATION REPOSITORY/ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

In response to the results of the survey, USACE has established an Information Repository/Administrative Record at the following location:

Bayliss Public Library
541 Library Drive
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
Administration (906) 632-9331
www.baylisslibrary.org

Hours of Operation:
Monday Closed
Tuesday and Thursday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Wednesday and Friday 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (September through May)
9 a.m. to 1 p.m. (June – August)
Sunday Closed

A CD has also been sent to the Bay Mills Community College Library on W. Lakeshore Drive in Brimley, Michigan to accommodate those living closer to the Racó Site and further from the Bayliss Library in Sault Ste. Marie.

A public notice regarding this new Information Repository was placed in *The St. Ignace News* and *The Evening News* on February 13, 2014 and February 14, 2013, respectively, to inform the public of the location of the Information Repository. The location will also be included in subsequent fact sheets to be distributed to interested community residents (see Section 7.3).

7.3 FACT SHEETS, BROCHURES, AND NEWSLETTERS

Fact sheets, brochures, and newsletters are ideal direct mailers to communicate progress reports to the general public. Fact sheets normally deal with a single issue or theme, while newsletters contain information on a variety of issues related to a given project. The majority of residents preferred to receive information as needed or on a quarterly basis. A fact sheet was prepared and distributed to the community survey respondents in February 2014. The fact sheet described environmental activities at the Racó Site through January 2014. Fact sheets will be prepared and submitted to the mailing list (Section 7.7) as updates are warranted.

7.4 PUBLIC NOTICES/ADVERTISEMENTS

During certain phases in the environmental process, USACE is required to publish a public notice or advertisement in the local newspaper. This includes informing the establishment of an Information Repository/Administrative Record, community public comment periods during the Proposed Plan, or announcing a final decision on the selected cleanup alternative chosen. Public notices/advertisements will be placed in *The St. Ignace News* and *The Evening News*.

7.5 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

A public comment period is usually a 30-day notice advertised in the local newspaper to inform the community that USACE is accepting comments on a document. A public comment period will be held following the finalization of the Proposed Plan. The public must send their comments in writing by letter, fax, email, or, if available, can voice their comments at a public meeting to be held during the Public Comment Period (Section 7.6). All comments will be carefully considered before a decision is finalized on the project.

7.6 PUBLIC MEETINGS

USACE will hold a formal public meeting during the public comment period of the proposed plan phase to communicate the cleanup alternatives and explain the recommended alternative. During this public meeting, the public can ask questions and provide verbal comments, or submit their comments in writing. Public meetings will advertised in the local papers and are open to the community.

7.7 MAILING LIST

Those who expressed interest in being kept informed of the progress on the environmental investigation from the community survey will be added to a mailing list to be maintained. Receiving information by mail is the preferred communication method by the survey respondents. For those that prefer receiving information electronically, a list of residents/stakeholders that wish to receive electronic email updates was created based on the community survey and will be updated as needed throughout the project.

July 2014

A fact sheet regarding environmental activities at the Raco Site was mailed/mailed to the public in February 2014. Additional mailings will be considered whenever significant events related to clean-up decisions occur.

7.8 WEB SITE

USACE has created and will maintain a web page on the environmental project. Residents without internet access at home can visit the web pages at the Bayliss Public Library in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. The web page is located at this address: <http://bit.ly/RacoArmyAirfield>.

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8. RECOMMENDATIONS

As the environmental restoration process continues, USACE will keep the community informed of the progress made at the Racó Site by distributing fact sheets, newsletters, mailings, periodic news releases to local media, and updates to the USACE website as needed. Fact sheets will be sent to a mailing list of interested residents developed based on the community survey responses and updated as needed throughout the project. Fact sheets will also be emailed to a list of interested residents/stakeholders that preferred email communication. The fact sheet will be updated and distributed when there is a significant activity or a need to solicit public comments. By sending mail directly to the residents, USACE can provide accurate, timely information to reach those interested in receiving updates on the project and keep the community informed.

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9. REFERENCES

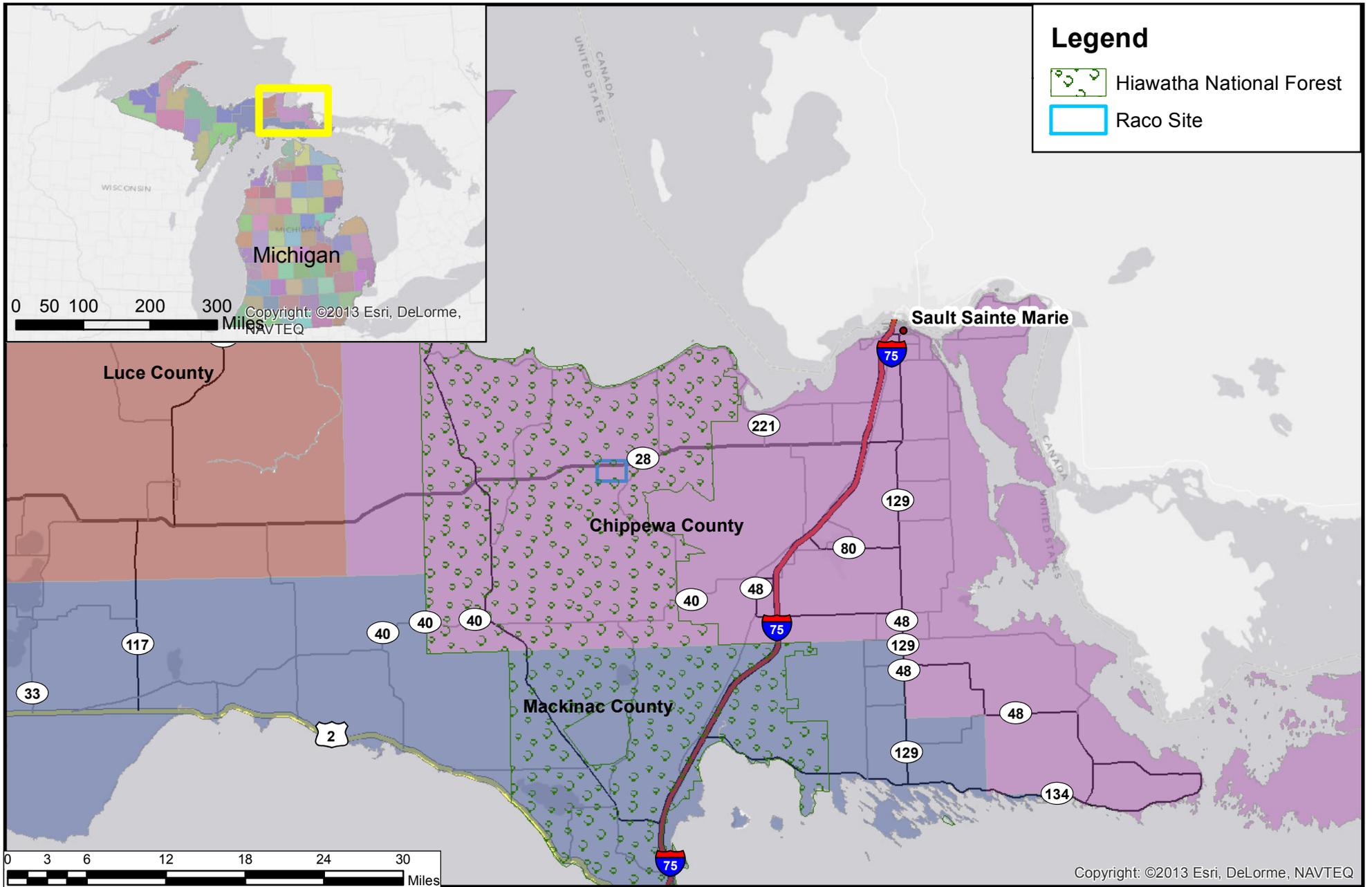
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- Earth Tech (Earth Tech, Inc.) 2003. *Draft Field Sampling Plan Revision 1, Racó Army Airfield and Bomarc Missile Site.* July.
- Earth Tech (Earth Tech, Inc.) 2005. *Draft Site Investigation and Associated Activities Report.* April.
- Envirodyne (Envirodyne Engineers) 1987. *Contamination Evaluation for the former Bomarc Missile Site, Racó Michigan, Final Report.*
- GEO (GEO Consultants, LLC) 2008. *Report of Findings, Racó Army Air Force Base and Bomarc Missile Site, Environmental Site Investigation (Phase III), Hiawatha National Forest, Racó, Michigan.*
- GEO (GEO Consultants, LLC) 2010. *Report of Findings, Racó Army Air Force Base and Bomarc Missile Site, Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study Activities, Hiawatha National Forest, Racó, Michigan.*
- IT Corp. (Information Technology Corporation) 1991. *Remedial Investigation, Former Air Force Airfield and Bomarc Missile Site, Chippewa County, Michigan.*
- Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense 2001. *Management Guidance for the Defense Environmental Restoration Program.*
- USACE (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers) 2004 *Public Participation for Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) for FUDS.* Engineer Pamphlet 1110-3-8.
- U.S. Census Bureau 2013. State and County QuickFacts. Chippewa County, Michigan QuickLinks. <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/26/260331k.html>.
- USEPA (United States Environmental Protection Agency) 2005. *Superfund Community Involvement Handbook.*
- Woodruff, C.L. and Pearce, R. 1989. *Racó, A Case Study.* USACE Detroit District and Ronald Pearce, Sault Ste. Marie Area Office, USACE Detroit District, undated but post 1989 (Case Study)]

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APPENDIX A

SITE MAPS

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Base map source - ©2012 ESRI, DeLorme, NAVTEQ

Figure A-1.
Site location

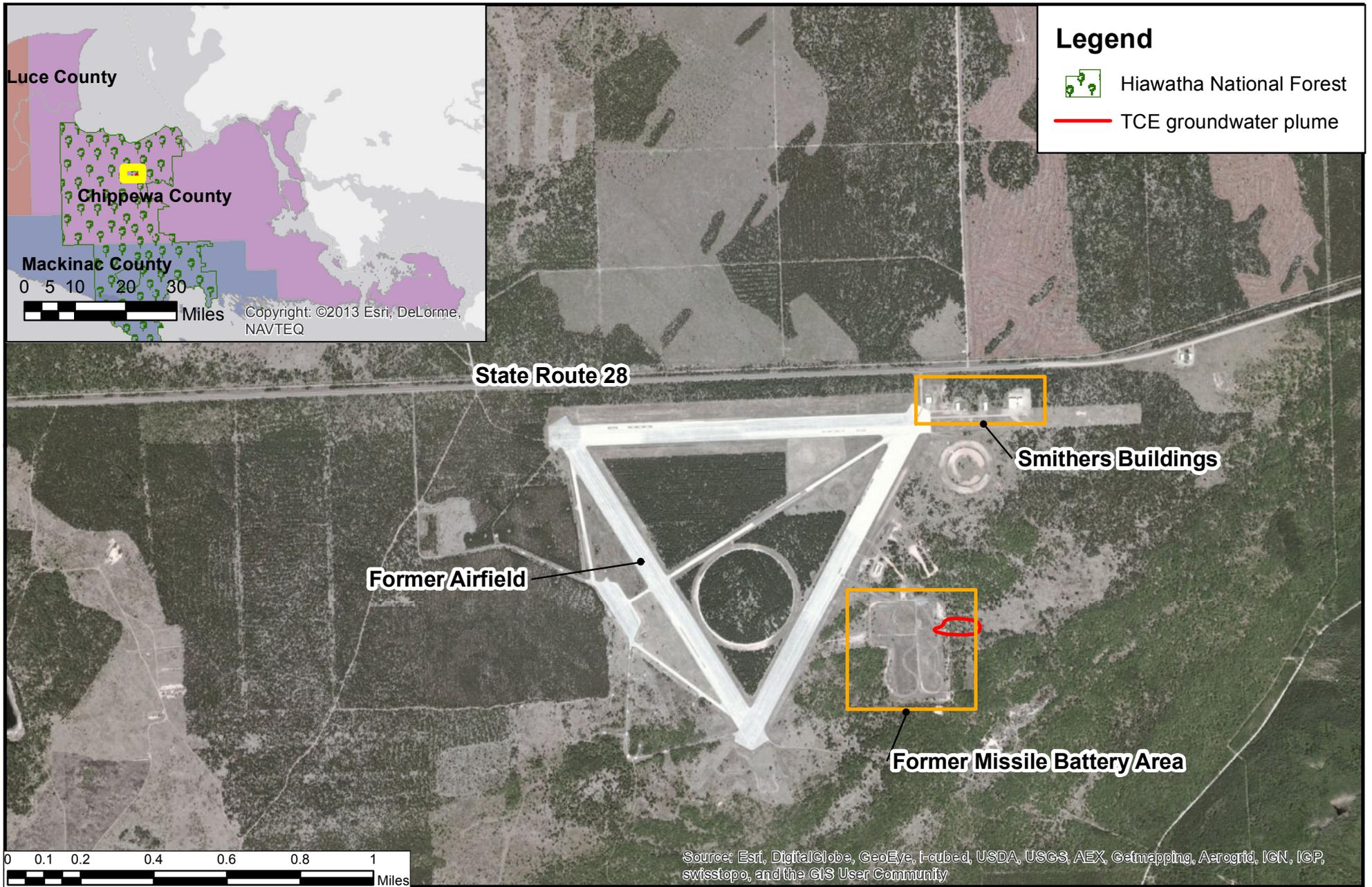


U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Louisville District



**TCE Groundwater Plume, Former
Racó Army Airfield and Missile Site
Chippewa County, Michigan**

By: GEO Consultants, LLC
Date: February 2014



Base map source - ©2012 ESRI, DeLorme, NAVTEQ

Figure A-2.
Site features

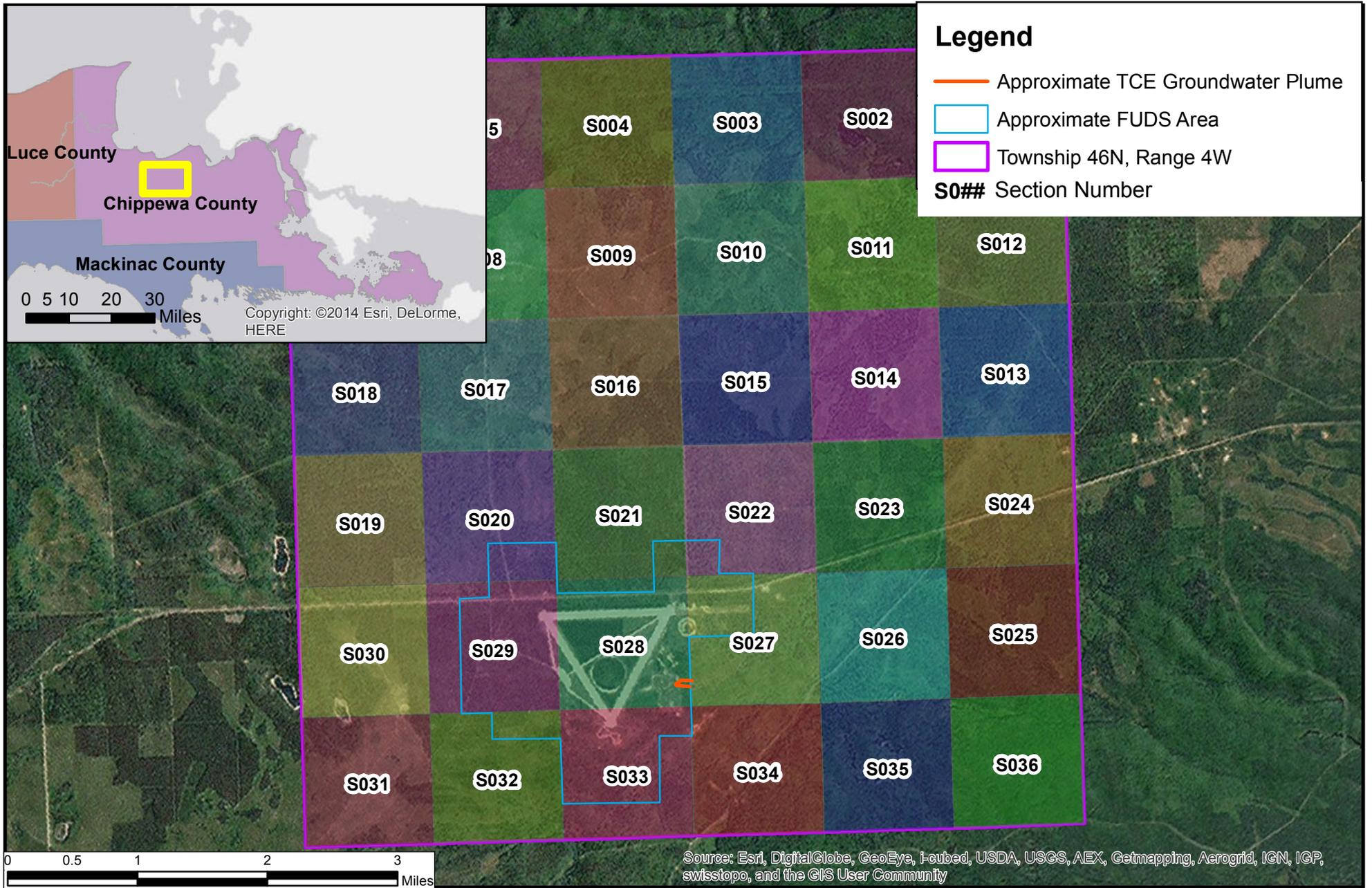


U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Louisville District



**TCE Groundwater Plume, Former
Raco Army Airfield and Missile Site
Chippewa County, Michigan**

By: GEO Consultants, LLC
Date: February 2014



Base map source - ©2012 ESRI, DeLorme, NAVTEQ

Figure A-3.
Site vicinity map



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Louisville District



**TCE Groundwater Plume, Former
Raco Army Airfield and Missile Site
Chippewa County, Michigan**

By: GEO Consultants, LLC
Date: May 2014

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APPENDIX B
MEDIA CONTACT LIST

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Television Stations

Call Sign	City, State	Network
CHBX	Sault Ste. Marie, MI	CTV
WJMN	Escanaba, MI	CBS
WMOW	Crandon, WI	FamNet
WTOM	Cheboygan, MI	NBC/ABC
CBLT	Sault Ste. Marie, MI	CBC
WBKP	Houghton, MI	CW
WLUC	Marquette, MI	NBC/FOX
W07DB	Marquette, MI	NBC
WDHS	Iron Mountain, MI	
WGTQ	Sault Ste. Marie, MI	ABC/NBC
WBUP	Marquette, MI	ABC
WWUP	Sault Ste. Marie, MI	CBS/FOX
CIII	Sault Ste. Marie, MI	Global
WJFW	Rhineland, WI	NBC
WNMU	Marquette, MI	PBS
W14CE	Escanaba, MI	NBC
WZMQ	Marquette, MI	MeTV/This/My
CICO	Sault Ste. Marie, MI	TVO
W20BZ	Escanaba, MI	TBN
CBLFT	Sault Ste. Marie, MI	SRC
W31BK	Menominee, MI	NBC
W32CV	Ironwood, MI	FOX
WYOW	Eagle River, WI	ABC/CW
WLEF	Park Falls, WI	PBS
CHCH	Sault Ste. Marie, MI	
W40AN	Escanaba, MI	FOX
W57AR	Sayner, WI	CBS
W67CS	Sault Ste. Marie, MI	3ABN

The Evening News
109 Arlington Street
Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan 49783
906-632-2235
www.sooeveningnews.com/
roliver@sooeveningnews.com

Newspapers and Local Publications

St. Ignace News
359 Reagon Street
PO Box 277
Saint Ignace, Michigan 49781
906-643-9150
www.stignacenews.com
ads@saintignacenews.com

Radio Stations

Frequency	Call Sign	City, State
88.1	CBON	Sault Ste. Marie, MI
88.3	WKIW	Ironwood, MI
88.3	WKPK	Michigamme, MI
88.5	WIAB	Mackinaw City, MI
88.5	WNLI	Sturgeon Bay, WI
88.5	WOAS	Ontonagon, MI
88.7	W204AQ	Newberry, MI
88.9	WCRR CP	Manistique, MI
89.3	W207BR	Ironwood, MI
89.5	CBSM	Sault Ste. Marie, MI
89.7	WAZP CP	Munising, MI
89.7	WHND	Sister Bay, WI
89.7	new CP	Ironwood, MI
89.9	WHWG	Trout Lake, MI
90.1	WLSO	Sault Ste. Marie, MI
90.1	WNMU	Marquette, MI
90.3	WUMI	Newberry, MI
90.5	WPFJ	Sturgeon Bay, WI
90.7	WMVM	Goodman, WI
90.9	new CP	Escanaba, MI
90.9	W215BR	Ironwood, MI
91.1	WGGL	Houghton, MI
91.1	W216AI	Newberry, MI
91.1	W216BF	Manistique, MI
91.3	W217AA	Menominee, MI
91.5	WJOH	Sault Ste. Marie, MI
91.5	WUPX	Marquette, MI
91.5	WVCM	Iron Mountain, MI
91.7	WXPR	Rhineland, WI
91.9	WHDI	Sister Bay, WI
91.9	WMTU	Houghton, MI
91.9	W220AJ	Manistique, MI
91.9	W220DP	Ironwood, MI
92.3	WJPD	Marquette, MI
92.5	WLCJ	Marinette, WI
92.7	WPIQ	Manistique, MI
92.7	W224AO	Houghton, MI
92.7	W224AV	Covington, MI
92.7	W224AW	Bergland, MI
92.9	CFWJ	Sault Ste. Marie, MI
92.9	W225AV	Bessemer, MI
93.1	WIMK	Iron Mountain, MI
93.5	WKMJ	Hancock, MI
93.7	WCYE	Eagle River, WI
93.9	WDOR	Sturgeon Bay, WI
93.9	WNBY	Newberry, MI
94.1	WUPK	Marquette, MI
94.3	WZNL	Iron Mountain, MI
94.5	WLJZ	Mackinaw City, MI
94.5	WRJO	Eagle River, WI

Frequency	Call Sign	City, State
94.9	WUPZ	Marquette, MI
95.1	WLST	Marinette, WI
95.1	WUPN CP	Paradise, MI
95.1	W236BZ	St. Ignace, MI
95.3	W237AW	Iron River, MI
95.7	WHWL	Marquette, MI
96.3	WSFQ	Marinette, WI
96.5	W243CQ	Escanaba, MI
96.7	WMJT	Newberry, MI
96.7	WUPG	Marquette, MI
96.7	W244AW	Iron Mountain, MI
97.1	WGLQ	Escanaba, MI
97.3	CHIM	Sault Ste. Marie, MI
97.7	WOLV	Houghton, MI
97.7	WQEZ	Cheboygan, MI
97.7	WSRG	Sturgeon Bay, WI
97.9	WIHC	Newberry, MI
97.9	W250BO	Stephenson, MI
98.1	WEUL	Iron Mountain, MI
98.1	W251AE	Victoria, MI
98.3	WCMZ	Sault Ste. Marie, MI
98.3	WRUP	Munising, MI
98.7	WGLI	Hancock, MI
98.7	W254AG	Escanaba, MI
98.9	W255CB	Powers, MI
99.1	WIKB	Iron River, MI
99.5	WNGE	Marquette, MI
99.5	WYSS	Sault Ste. Marie, MI
99.7	WIMI	Ironwood, MI
99.7	WZDR	Sturgeon Bay, WI
99.7	W259AD	Newberry, MI
99.9	W260AC	Houghton, MI
99.9	W260AG	Ishpeming, MI
100.1	WRHN	Rhineland, WI
100.1	W261CI	Escanaba, MI
100.3	WUPT	Marquette, MI
100.5	CHAS	Sault Ste. Marie, MI
100.7	WOBE	Iron Mountain, MI
100.9	W265AI	Ironwood, MI
101.1	WUPY	Ontonagon, MI
101.3	WSUE	Sault Ste. Marie, MI
101.5	WJNR	Iron Mountain, MI
101.9	WKQS	Marquette, MI
102.1	W271AG	Mackinaw City, MI
102.3	WHKB	Houghton, MI
102.3	WTHN	Sault Ste. Marie, MI
102.5	WCMM	Manistique, MI
102.7	WRVM	Suring, WI, MI
103.3	WFXD	Marquette, MI
103.3	W277AG	Sault Ste. Marie, MI
103.7	WHYB	Menominee, MI
103.9	W280DD	Ironwood, MI

Frequency	Call Sign	City, State
104.3	CJQM	Sault Ste. Marie, MI
104.3	WVCN	Baraga, MI
104.7	WYKX	Escanaba, MI
105.1	WGFM	Cheboygan, MI
105.1	WSBW	Sister Bay, WI, MI
105.1	W286BC	Marquette, MI
105.5	WGKL	Escanaba, MI
105.5	WMKD	Sault Ste. Marie, MI
105.7	WCUP	L'Anse, MI
105.9	WEGZ	Washburn, WI
106.1	W291CJ	Marquette, MI
106.3	WMXG	Escanaba, MI
106.7	WHTO	Iron Mountain, MI
106.9	WLGE	Baileys Harbor, WI
106.9	WUPM	Ironwood, MI
107.3	WUPF	Escanaba, MI
107.7	WLWR	Marinette, WI
107.7	WMQT	Marquette, MI

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APPENDIX C

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

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Governor Rick Snyder

234 West Baraga Avenue
Marquette, Michigan
906-228-2850

PO Box 30013
Lansing, Michigan 48909
517-373-3400

Senator Carl Levin

524 Ludington Street, Suite LL-103
Escanaba, Michigan 48929
906-789-0052

124 W. Allegan Street, Suite 1810
Lansing, Michigan 48933
517-377-1508

Aide to Senator Carl Levin - Amy Berglund

524 Ludington Street, Suite LL-103
Escanaba, Michigan 48929
906-789-0052
amy_berglund@levin.senate.gov

Senator Debbie Stebenow

1091 W. Ridge
Marquette, Michigan 48955
906-228-8756

221 W. Lake Lansing Road, Suite 100
East Lansing, Michigan 48823
517-2003-1760

State Senator, Howard Walker, 37th District

PO Box 30036
Lansing, Michigan 48909
517-373-2413

US Representative, Dan Benishek, 1st District

307 S. Front Street, Suite 500
Marquette, Michigan 48955
906-273-1661

514 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
202-225-4735

State Representative, Frank Foster, 107th District

Anderson House Office Building
S-1486 House Office Building
PO Box 30014
Lansing, Michigan 48933
517-373-2629
FrankFoster@house.mi.gov

Chippewa County – Board of Commissioners

George Kinsella, District 5

13489 W. Freeman
PO Box 247
Brimley, Michigan 49715
906-440-6320
geokinsella@aim.com

Community Relations Plan, Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study, TCE Groundwater Plume, Former Raco Army Airfield and Missile Site, Chippewa County, Michigan, FUDS Property No. E05MI0026.

July 2014

Superior Township – Supervisor, Richard Phillips

PO Box 366

7049 S. M221

Brimley, Michigan 49715

906-248-5213

rphillips@superiortownship.com

APPENDIX D
STAKEHOLDERS

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Government Agencies

Upper Peninsula Representative Carl Levin's
Office
Amy Berglund
amy_berglund@levin.senate.gov

U.S. Forest Service
Jessica Stuntebeck
jjstuntebeck@fs.fed.us

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
William Harmon

Michigan Department of Transportation
John Batchelder

Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Les Homan
Sault Ste. Marie Field Office

Chippewa County Road Commission
Dirk Heckman

Chippewa County Extension Office
Jim Lucas

Chippewa County Health Department
Suzanne Lieurance
slieurance@chippewahd.com

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Curtis Friez

U.S. National Forest Supervisor
Thomas Schmidt

Local Tribes

Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians
Doug Craven

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Jimmi Mitchell

Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa & Chippewa
Indians
Brett Fessel

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

Sulat Tribe Chippewa Indians
Joe McCoy, Tribal Chairman

Bay Mills Indian Community Tribal Chairman
Jeff Parker

City/Township Officials

Honorable Mayor of Sault Ste. Marie
Anthony Boubous

Sault Ste. Marie, City Manager
Spencer Nebel

Hulbert Township
Spencer Nebel

Kinross Township
Larry Palma

Pickford Township
James Hill

Rabar Township
Paul Warner

Pudyard Township
Sharon Thompson

Soo Township
Larry Perron

Sugar Island Township
Eric McKerchie

Superior Township
Richard Phillips

Trout Lake Township
Marjorie Cooper

Whitefish Township
Gary Huttenstine

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APPENDIX E
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT TOOLS

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US Army Corps
of Engineers®

Name District

News Release

Release No. Final Release
For Release:

Contact:
Phone:
Email:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Request Comments from the Public on Proposed Plan

City, State – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers invites you to review and comment on the proposed plan for **[type of action, e.g., remedial action]** at former **[Name of Site]**, a **[Type of site, i.e., FUDS, BRAC, RCRA]** in **[City, State]**.

[Give short history of site and what occurred there, e.g., Former Spencer Artillery Range was used by the military to train troops during World War II.] The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has recently completed a study of former **[Name of Site]** concerning military munitions and alternatives for further action. The preferred alternative, implementation of a local educational awareness and training program, is presented in the proposed plan. Copies of the proposed plan are available for public review in the **[name and address of location where documents are housed]**.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers encourages you to comment on the proposed plan during the 30-day **Public Comment Period, [date to date]**. Written comments may be submitted by mail, postmarked no later than **[date]** at the following address: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, **[Name of District]**, Public Affairs Office, **[address, city & state]**. Public comments received during this period will be considered in the final decision-making process for former **[Name of Site]**.

For more information, please contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, **[Name of District]**, Public Affairs Office at **[phone number]**.



PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Proposed Plan for [Name of site]

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers invites you to review and comment on the proposed plan for **[type of action, e.g., remedial action]** at former **[Name of Site]**, a **[Type of site, i.e., FUDS, BRAC, RCRA]** in **[City, State]**.

[Give short history of site and what occurred there, e.g., The Former Spencer Artillery Range was used by the military to train troops during World War II] The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has recently completed a study of former **[Name of Site]** concerning potential military munitions and alternatives for further action.

[Explain the preferred alternative here]. The preferred alternative is presented in the proposed plan. Copies of the proposed plan are available for public review in the **[name and address of location where documents are housed]**.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers encourages you to comment on the proposed plan during the 30-day **Public Comment Period, [date to date]**. Written comments may be submitted by mail, postmarked no later than **[date]** at the following address: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District, Public Affairs Office, **[address, city & state]**. Public comments received during this period will be considered in the final decision-making process for former **[Name of Site]**.

For more information, please contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, **[Name of District]**, Public Affairs Office at **[phone number]**.



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Mobile District

Information Repository

Former Spencer Artillery Range, a Formerly Used Defense Site

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has established an Information Repository for documents and materials generated as part of the investigation being conducted at the former Spencer Artillery Range, a formerly used defense site near Spencer, Tenn. The Information Repository is housed at the (name of facility), address, city, state.

Formerly used defense sites were used by the military to train Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors and Marines as well as to test new weapons and warfare capabilities.

Construction of Spencer Artillery Range, aka Spencer Mountain Artillery Range, Spencer Field Artillery Range, Spencer Rifle Range and Fall Creek Falls Artillery Range began Feb. 4, 1941. During its active period, the range was used in part for munitions testing. In 1946, the range was deactivated and the land reverted back to the 25 original landowners.

The Corps has recently completed an investigation at the former Spencer Artillery Range to determine the presence and extent of contamination as a result of World War II military training activities.

If you are interested in the details of the investigation at the former Spencer Artillery Range or would like to review any documentation, please visit the Information Repository. Hours of operation are 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday. For more information, please contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District Public Affairs Office at 251-690-2505 or toll-free at 888-835-5971.

Information Repository
Location
Address
Days & Hours of Operation



US Army Corps
of Engineers®

Name of District

News Release

Release No. Final Release
For Release: [date]
Address

Contact: [name]
Phone:
Email:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to Conduct a Public Meeting

[CITY, State] – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has scheduled a public meeting to present information on the upcoming investigation to be conducted at the former **[name of site]**, a formerly used defense site located near **[city, state]**. The public meeting will be **[day, date]** from **[time]** at the **[location]**, **[address, city]**. Corps representatives will provide information on the upcoming investigation and answer any questions the public may have.

[This paragraph should explain what is taking place at the site. Give an appropriate amount of detail. Also, if the site is a FUDs site – explain FUDS.]

For more information about the **[type of site, i.e., FUDs, RCRA or BRAC]** **[name of site]**, contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, **[name of district]**, Public Affairs Office at **[phone number]**.



ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

Former [Name of Site], a [Type of Site, e.g., FUDs or BRAC]

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announces the availability for public review of files comprising the Administrative Record for the selection of the **[type of action, e.g., remedial response action]** at the former **[Name of Site]**, a **[type of site]** in **[city, state]**. The Administrative Record is part of the Information Repository, which is located at the **[name of facility]**, **[address, city, state]** and at the District Office, **[address]**.

[Explain what an Administrative Record is and what it will contain. Also explain the site and what occurred at the site. For example, the Administrative Record includes documents that form the basis for the selection of a remedial response action at this formerly used defense site (FUDS) project. FUDS were used by the military to train Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors and Marines as well as to test new weapons and warfare capabilities. Documents now in the Record files include (list the documents). Other documents will be added to the Record files as the FUDS project work progresses. These additional documents may include the Proposed Plan, technical reports, additional validated sampling data, comments and new data submitted by interested persons, and the Corps' response to significant comments.]

The Administrative Record is available for review during normal business hours at **[information repository name and address]** and Corps of Engineers, **[District Name and address]**. Written comments on the Administrative Record should be sent to: **[name, address, phone number]**.

For more information, please contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, **[District Name]**, Public Affairs Office at **[phone number]**.

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APPENDIX F
POTENTIAL MEETING LOCATIONS

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Please note this is a preliminary list. Locations have not been contacted to confirm they have accommodations available for a public meeting.

Bay Mills Community College
12214 W. Lakeshore Drive
Brimley, Michigan 49715
906-248-3354

Rudyard Public Library
11185 W. 2nd Street
Rudyard, Michigan 49780
906-478-4504

Bay Mills Community College
2736 W M 28
Dafter, Michigan 49724
906-253-9590

Turner Howson Elementary School
11183 W Turner Howson Rd
Rudyard, Michigan 49780
906-478-4551

Bay Mills Resort & Casinos
11386 West Lakeshore Drive
Brimley, Michigan 49715
906-248-8218

Brimley High School
7134 S M 221
Brimley, Michigan 49715
906-248-3219

Chippewa Township Hall
M28
Eckerman, Michigan 49728
906-274-5319

Dafter Township Hall
3029 W 10 Mile Road
Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan 79783
906-632-1579

Kinross Township Hall
4884 W. Curtis Street
Kincheloe, Michigan 49788
906-495-5391, Ext. 102

Kinross 4H Hall
4884 W. Curtis Street
Kincheloe, Michigan 49788
906-495-5391, Ext. 101

Kinross Recreation Center
43 Wood Lake
Kincheloe, Michigan 49788
906-495-3023

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APPENDIX G
CHART OF COMMUNITY RESPONSE PLAN ACTIVITIES AT PROJECT PHASES

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Activity	Public Involvement Plan	Information Repository, Administrative Record File	Web Site	Fact Sheet/ Newsletter	Public Notice	Public Comment Period	Public Meeting/ Informational Session	Responsiveness Summary
Remedial Investigation/ Feasibility Study	U	R	U	U	--	--	D	--
Proposed Plan	U	U	U	R ^[1]	R	R ^[2]	R	--
Decision Document	U	U	U	U	R ^[3]	--	D	R
Remedial Design/ Remedial Action	U	U	U	U	--	--	D	--

D: Discretionary activity (determined by level of community interest)

R: Required

U: Update as needed (determined by level of community interest)

^[1] Typically made available at the Public Meeting

^[2] Opportunity for a Public Meeting required presenting the Proposed Plan to the public.

^[3] Public Notice that Final Decision Document available for review at the Information Repository.

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APPENDIX H

COMMUNITY RELATIONS SURVEY, SUMMARY AND RESULTS

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**Community Interview Questionnaire
Results and Summary
Raco, Michigan
January 31, 2014**

Summary

5 Star Public Relations developed a survey questionnaire and purchased a mailing list to send to 1,415 residents and key stakeholders in zip codes 49715, 49728, 49752 near the former Raco Army Airfield and Missile Base. The purpose of the survey is to obtain residents' opinions about the environmental restoration project and gather information on the best methods to use to communicate with the community. The survey results were used to complete this Community Relations Plan.

The surveys were mailed on 12/31/2013 and the residents were asked to return the completed survey by 1/17/2014. Surveys continued to be returned two weeks after the deadline. A total of 170 surveys or 12 percent were completed and returned.

The majority of respondents or 64 percent have lived near Raco, MI for more than 20 years and 83.5 percent have lived there more than 10 years. Since the majority of respondents have lived in the area, they are familiar (88%) with the former Raco site. However, the majority (88.8%) of respondents have never received any information about the environmental investigation.

Many of the respondents indicated they would prefer documents housed in a location near them rather than near the site. There were over 20 locations mentioned with the Bayliss Public Library having the most mentions. Superior Township and several locations in Bay Mills were also cited by numerous residents. If a digital Information Repository can be established, then it could be available at more than one location. It was also mentioned by several respondents that they would like to see the documents posted on a website.

Recommended site for Information Repository:

Bayliss Public Library
541 Library Drive
Sault Ste Marie, MI 49783
906-632-9331 (phone)
906-635-0210 (fax)
www.baylisslibrary.org

The majority of respondents (42 percent) are highly concerned about the environmental restoration project. This may be due in part because of the introductory paragraph in the survey and the lack of information that has been distributed to the community, which is addressed in

question number eight. The majority (65%) have never received any information from the Army Corps of Engineers.

The majority of respondents gave a low credibility rating to each agency. The Army Corps of Engineers received a 40.5 percent below average rating, MDEQ received a 41.7 percent below average rating, City Officials a 44.7 percent, National Forest Service a 43.5 percent and the Media received the worst rating of 53.5 percent. This indicates the majority of residents do not trust the media or deem them credible. The results are based on personal opinion.

The majority of respondents (67%) do not understand the roles of the federal government and state agencies. This provides an opportunity for the Army Corps to explain the roles and activities of each agency.

The majority of the respondents (84.7%) indicated they want to be kept informed of environmental restoration activities. The preferred method was a Mailing (48%), followed by Newsletter (45%). The Website (29%) and Newspaper (28%) were the next closest responses, followed by Email (21.7%), Public Meeting (16%), Radio (.06%), Friends (.04%) and School (.006%). The majority of respondents (35.8%) prefer to receive information quarterly or as needed.

It is recommended that the Army Corps develop a newsletter to mail to those who indicated they would like to continue to receive information. The newsletter should address the residents' concerns about the TCE plume, any soil and groundwater contamination and its proximity to area residents' water wells, a timeline on the environmental investigation and information on the roles of the agencies so residents will understand the process and when these issues will be addressed. It is also recommended that the Raco Website be updated and a copy of the newsletter and final documents be posted.

1. How long have you lived near Raco, MI?

<2 years	2-5 yrs	5-10 yrs	10-20 yrs	20+ years
<u>0</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>109</u>

2. Are you familiar with the former Raco Army Airfield and Missile Base, located 25 miles southwest of Sault Ste Marie, MI?

Yes No

150 18

3. Have you ever received any information about environmental projects at the site?

Yes **No**

17 **151**

If yes, how have you heard about the project?

Newspapers	9
Radio	6
TV	5
Newsletters	4
School	0
Friend/Neighbor	10
Public Meeting	3
Library	0
Website	0
Other	USFS
Other	Worked at site in the 1980's

4. Final documents on the environmental restoration project will be available for the public to review at a location near the site. Is there a public library or location you would recommend using for the document repository?

Bayliss public library, Sault Ste Marie, MI (45)

Superior Township Hall, Brimley (15)

Bay Mills public library- (12)

Sault Ste Marie library (11)

Bay Mills Community College Library (9)

Brimley Public Schools Library (8)

Rudyard Library (6) or Brimley Post Office (2)

Bay Mills Township (5)

Bay Mills Tribal Offices, Lakeshore Dr, Brimley, MI 49715 (2)

Local township halls - superior, bay mills and township supervisors (2)
 Brimley Town Hall (2)
 Raco US Forest Service Bldg works for most concerned citizens (2)
 Lake Superior State University (2) or Sault area high school
 Iroquois Lighthouse - owned by the U.S. Forest Service
 Paradise Whitefish Library
 Near the base, Raco or Strongs Township Hall
 Frances E Robbins Library
 No there isn't any store or public library around it
 No recommendation
 Would prefer email (2)
 Make a "Raco" website (2)
 Brimley Community Building
 Viewable online via web page (2)
 The Sault Newspaper, The Evening News
 7767 WM-28, Brimley, MI 49715
 Lions Club at Strongs, Michigan
 Why not send a recap of issues? Might save tax money.
 Township hall, school business office, online
 Area town halls
 Library or county courthouse
 Superior township area local Health Department
 Chippewa Library in Paradise

5. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the most concerned, how concerned do you think the *community* is about the environmental restoration project at the site?

1	2	3	4	5
<u>26</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>52</u>

6. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the most concerned, how concerned are *you* about the environmental project at the site?

1	2	3	4	5
<u>21</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>85</u>

7. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the most informed, how well informed do you consider yourself about the environmental restoration activities?

1	2	3	4	5
<u>105</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>7</u>

8. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the best, how would you rate the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' efforts to keep local residents informed about the site?

1	2	3	4	5
<u>107</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>

9. Have you ever contacted the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for information about the environmental restoration activities?

Yes	No
<u>4</u>	<u>164</u>

If yes, were you satisfied with the information you received?

Yes	No
<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>

10. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest, please rate the progress of the environmental restoration project over the past 5 years.

1	2	3	4	5
<u>74</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>

11. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the most credible, how would you rate the credibility of the following sources or officials about the project?

	1	2	3	4	5
USACE	<u>54</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>17</u>
MDEQ	<u>53</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>14</u>
CITY	<u>59</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>4</u>
FOREST SERVICE	<u>54</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>8</u>
MEDIA	<u>72</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>

12. On what do you base your opinion?

Personal experience	<u>75</u>
News Media report	<u>55</u>
Family/friends	<u>34</u>
Website	<u>5</u>
Other	<u>43</u>

13. Do you understand the roles of the federal and state agencies involved with the project?

Yes No
45 **114**

14. Would you like to be kept informed about the environmental restoration activities?

Yes No
144 15

15. If yes, which of the following would be your preferred method?

Public Meeting	<u>28</u>
Radio	<u>11</u>
Newspaper	<u>48</u>
Website	<u>49</u>
Newsletter	<u>78</u>
Email	<u>37</u>
Mailing	<u>82</u>
Family/Friends	<u>8</u>
School	<u>1</u>

16. How often do you think information about the environmental restoration activities should be distributed?

weekly	monthly	quarterly	annually	as needed
<u>5</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>61</u>

17. In your opinion, what do you think is the major environmental issue at the site?

Preventing contamination of groundwater (2)

Contamination of our water, and any other possible harm it might do

Groundwater contamination (TCE, hydrolic oils) stored in underground storage tanks

Toxins in the soil seeping into our aquifer and the high rate of different cancers in our community

Rumors, misinformation

Trichloethylene sounds like it could poison wells and lakes

Winter test site

Items being put underground and dumping of liquids used for cleaning into the ground.

Water pollution (2)

Unaware there were concerns (2)

Chemicals leaching into groundwater (3) Was there an on-site toxic waste dump at the base?

Safe water

Groundwater - high level cancer victims within 50 mile radius. Some families have 5 generations of non-hereditary cancer in their family.

Groundwater/aquifer and lake contamination threat to forests and Great Lakes. Where is contamination stuff going?

Had not previously heard of issues. I knew that Honda had used it for testing.
None in my humble opinion
To be put back to nature
Unable to determine at this time
Remaining TCE in the groundwater (4)
Groundwater contamination (19)
I never heard of any restoration project there until my son-in-law received a letter/community interview questionnaire.
This was given to me by someone who was throwing it away.
I have seen all the test wells at site but was unaware there was a problem
Didn't know there was even a problem (2)
All the stuff that was buried is hurting our drinking water
No knowledge of what is going on at the site
To make sure nothing harmful gets in the groundwater
Underground contamination, air contamination
I really am not aware of issues at the site (2)
Unknown
Drinking water contamination (2)
Don't know - groundwater pollution, according to page 1.
We don't know enough info
I thought it was completed in the 1980's
Nearby wells contaminated - people have been or will be sick due to it.
Jet fuel and non-detonated missiles
Groundwater and soil contamination (7). Buried construction material protruding from the ground.
Buried solid waste
Until this survey showed up, we have never heard or seen anything with the environmental issue at Raco.
Someone trying to make big money
Impact to wildlife, aquifer and areas adjacent to the site. Is soil removal necessary?
What affect does it have on our drinking water and crops?
There isn't any.
Damage to ecosystem
Contaminated waste
Didn't know there was one instead of wasting our money, make an airport or race track.
I did not know of this issue until today.
Spilled fuel
Pure water safety
I have been there, it looks clean to me
Chemical pollutants underground in water table
Restore to natural conditions
Dumping fuels, oils and other liquid onsite
Leftover mortar rounds and water contamination
Bad
What is in the ground? Chemicals, old fuel tanks, etc.
Groundwater - too much cancer in Chippewa County. People believe it has something to do with

Raco base.

No idea (3)

I've heard several different stories. I would like to hear right from the horses' mouth.

I would like to make sure that Smithers is still able to use the site.

I have been in the dark about the whole thing

I don't think there is as big an issue as you make it out to be - a bit porky.

With no prior knowledge of serious issues, just knowing what they are is major. Then what are the implications to our health and groundwater?

Ground contamination

No opinion, because of no knowledge of the issue

Do the job right!

Water contamination, streams, lakes and human consumption

I don't know - they didn't say anything for 20+ years so why now?

Material and substances left on-site by the DoD that has not been removed

Cleaning contaminated groundwater

To keep clean water

Contaminated well water (2)

What was buried? Pollution

Private development vs. public use

Carcinogens in groundwater. Contaminated ground material. Removal and cost to residents

I am a retired Biologist and was not over any environmental issues at the site. It is fairly remote site and I would like to know the geology before making any determination

Pollution of ground and water due to fuels, soils and/or radiation?

There are always rumors about contamination at that site. Most of them are from people who own companies that do environmental clean-up.

Because we live pretty close and downhill from the area, I'm concerned about water contamination and cancer causing chemicals

Toxic chemicals in the soil, possibly groundwater contamination

Proximity of toxic agents in soil and water to local population and tourist activities

Any problem that affects water quality long-term contamination and health effects

I think the site should be left as it is and let mother nature do her job.

Groundwater contamination - what tests were conducted? Was perchlorate or hydrozine detected?

Ground and groundwater contamination, carcinogens, future use of Raco by government

Not informed to give an answer

18. Comments

Don't know anything that has been going on.

Stop using the band-aid approach and get 'er done

I have heard rumors about the goings on but very little official information has been made available.

Let's just get it done

This mailing is the first we've heard of this project. How large is the plume?

My opinion is Kinross, Kincheloe needs more cleanup than Raco!

Perhaps Green Peace ought to be looking over the Army Corps of Engineers during this cleanup project to ensure the public is not being deceived with how bad it really is.

In 2005 our well water went bad - we had it tested in every possible test site. It was found to have acetone at a concentration of 002 mg/L. Had a new well drilled and water is fine.

I have had thyroid cancer - non-hereditary type-unknown source but well water- groundwater purity always comes up in conversations with my cancer specialists.

I haven't heard about it all so can't judge.

I'd like to see it preserved as a USAAF historic WWII site and also the nearby CCC Campsite.

Do not waste our money!

I cannot answer #10 as I have no knowledge about the progress or lack of progress on the restoration. Groundwater samples from the site including ppb levels over a time period would be helpful in fully understanding the magnitude of the issue as it pertains to the EPA 5ppb acceptable limit.

There has been very little information given about this project! Others closer to the site know little to nothing about these specific environmental concerns!

I work with Smithers, I drink the well water as far as I knew all tested samples have come back clean. How bad is this compound and where is it located at the site?

Not at this time.

I would like to know how they are cleaning the site. Taking it out and dumping in someone else's backyard shouldn't be an option.

Would have liked to know what was going on with the site.

My answers were based on the fact I have little knowledge of the problems at the site

We have no knowledge of this. This is the first info we've received on this other than the Health Dept telling us we have no reason to be concerned.

Seems a shame that those runways are old and the wonderful well is inoperative

Does it create local jobs? Temporary or permanent?

As our family camps at site yearly, we have seen sample wells around the area where the missiles were located.

I have also found what I feel is a septic tank that is open and could be a hazard to animals and others since it's not marked in any manner. There are also areas where rebar is protruding from the ground and is hazardous.

I would like more information about this issue

Don't know anything about this!

While sparsely populated, many hunters, fishermen and hikers frequent this area. With resident at priority all these groups need to be informed regularly!

Having worked on Nukes at other bases, I know it was common practice to dump used Trichloroethylene on the ground. I was also an EOD tech at RACO while stationed at Kincheloe.

Just leave the ground alone. Digging it up will just spread it more - whatever is in the ground.

This is the first I am hearing about this topic.

It is being used in a beneficial way to the community the use by the testing company.

Should be made into housing and small businesses

Cleaning up toxic residue is a responsibility of government agencies

Why does the government try to hide everything?

They test cars in the winter. It will make a good drag strip if forest service was out of there

I would like to know what they are doing!

I took sand from under tanks never heard the results of test

Replace blueberry plants

Main concern: There seems to be a lot of cancers in this area

Need more info

First I have heard about it in several years, so I must say we are not informed

Let people know what is going on and the level of specific toxicity in ground and groundwater

Please be careful of removal of tanks

Not a lot of activity on site in the last 10 years. No one from USACE came out to check on most recent mortar round found by USFS fire crew.

Allow businesses to use this site as needed to help unemployment issues in our area. This site is available during parts of the year due to environmental factors. It should be available year round.

There is and was other uses for that property besides the US government. Be sure the right people pay for the cleanup.

To be perfectly honest, I did not know anything was even going on over there until I received this questionnaire

I would really like to hear from government what this is all about.

I just want to make sure people continue to be employed by Smithers at the site.

Continue monitoring after restoration

Let Mother Nature - do her thing and monitor situation

I don't know what has been done or is being done. It seems that this is an issue that has not been addressed publicly and that is a concern.

It has been an issue for over 30 years from the indication of this survey. . . If it is serious, it should be addressed more publicly.

This is the first time I have heard anything about the ERP.

Would like to be informed of any changes. Thanks goes to Mr. Van Bogaert for answering my questions on 1-9-14.

Tell the complete story concerning the project. That means the good, the bad and the ugly.

None at this time. Need more info in regards to what is now being done and what the completion date for restoration would be.

Do they just plan on putting a fence around the whole thing to lock the public out? It is not acceptable to the people of this county.

I'm sorry we are North of Echerman for over 10 years and are not very familiar with the Raco area, so really cannot answer your questions

Better inform public about uses of area

I would like to see the project started and finished. There is a real need to protect the groundwater

Will working on a plume, speed TCE into nearby groundwater?

First I've heard of this. Although I did hear the same type of problem occurred at Kincheloe AF Base

Keep our water safe

Anyone who wants to purchase a home should be informed about the issue before they buy

I'm not aware of any environmental restoration project in last 10 years

Would like to know the exact location of the contamination site and what efforts have been made in restorations; what are future plans/activities; publicize test results; create update restoration website for public information

I thought the issue was put to rest about 30 years ago - at that time, I wrote to local paper about the dismal conditions after it was abandoned by Native American Industry

Please inform all in this area of continued project and goals and results

When did this start? What are the dangers? What are the contaminants?

Let it alone. If someone plans to develop something on the site, let the company clean it up, if there is a problem.

The public needs to be informed of the issue, the plan, progress on the restoration effort and quality of the completed project.

Quit trying to stir things up

In past dealings with the National Forest, I have found that they are more concerned about so called environmental things, plants, bugs, worms, etc. than human life.

All government agencies in my opinion are concerned with pleasing the radicals than the public, who pays the majority of taxes

Based on what I know of previous activities at this site, this is long overdue and necessary. I have attempted to avoid these areas based on this knowledge but am very concerned for the many others in contact with soil and water in this area

I think if they must do something, they should leave as little a footprint as possible and hire locals to work on the project

We know of the test wells and little else. It's not like the DoD advertises chemical spills or burns off fuels

Need more information on what may be a potential concern at the site

Did not know there was any environmental issue at the base

I had no information on this disclosure and therefore, have no opinion on the best way to handle the restoration project

What will be done with the unexploded ordinance in this site? How far from Raco does the water contamination exist?

It's scary to believe that such a dangerous chemical could be in our groundwater. I wish more studies were made prior to use to ensure these problems don't occur again.

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