

Grosse Ile Naval Air Station Restoration Advisory Board

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is conducting an environmental investigation at the Grosse Ile Naval Air Station/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 mainland 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 World War II. 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 areas of concern.

As part of the environmental restoration process, the Department of Defense encourages community involvement through Restoration Advisory Boards and periodically re-evaluates such interest. 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.

USACE Louisville District welcomes public feedback regarding interest in establishing a RAB for the Grosse Ile Naval Air Station. Inquiries should be directed to Shatara Riis, Louisville District Public Affairs Office, (502) 315-6769 by **Feb. 14, 2019**.

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