(Continued from page 1)

ments using quicklime, transportation and disposal of sediments, and restoration of the affected areas followed by demobilization.

Because the area is naturally a low-lying environment, control and diversion of water from the area before and during sediment removal activities is essential. Innovative techniques such as use of flexible rubber dams to control and divert water from the active areas will be used.

A long-reach trackhoe similar to this will be used to remove the sediments in the OU2 Wetlands area in order to minimize the remediation footprint and to ensure minimal disruption of the sensitive area

Specialized equipment is planned to excavate the sediments. In order to minimize the areas affected, long-reach trackhoes will be used to remove sediments in certain areas. In other areas, to minimize the "footprint" of operations, small equipment is to be positioned on temporary planking to minimize impact on vegetation.

Because wetlands areas provide unique and valued ecosystems, EM has carefully designed the restoration program to ensure minimal impact to wildlife during the activities. Water quality parameters and other measurements will be made to ensure that all activities are conducted in the most efficient and least disruptive manner possible and that the restoration of the impacted areas to their natural state proceeds rapidly.

Glossary

AF	Air Force
AFB	Air Force Base
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Remediation, Compensation, & Liability Act
EM	Environmental Management Directorate
GA EPD	Georgia Environmental Protection Division
GW&PCA	Georgia Water & Pollution Control Association
GWTP	Groundwater Treatment Plant
LF	Landfill
OU	Operable Unit
NPL	National Priorities List
RAB	Restoration Advisory Board
RCRA	Resource Conservation & Recovery Act
ROD	Record of Decision
SWMU	Solid Waste Management Unit
VOC	Volatile Organic Compound

For more information regarding the RAB, contact
Ms. Charline Logue,
Robins AFB RAB Manager
(478) 926-1197, ext. 128

Restoration Advisory Board Members

Mr. Steven Coyle, **Robins AFB** Installation Co-Chair	**Dr. Dan Callahan,** **Warner Robins** Community Member	**Mr. Mike Maffeo,** **Macon** Community Member
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Robins Air Force Base Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) *Fact Sheet*

A publication of Robins AFB

Volume 7, Issue 2, June 2004

The Robins AFB RAB

Recognizing the importance of public involvement in environmental restoration, Robins Air Force Base has established the Restoration Advisory Board. The mission of the RAB is to encourage community participation in the Air Force Environmental Restoration Program (ERP) cleanup process and allow community members and other stakeholders to have meaningful dialog with Base officials. The RAB includes members from the community, regulatory agencies, and the Base, and holds four public forums per year. The RAB serves to advise Robins AFB management and disseminate information to the public.

Inside this issue...

June 2004 RAB Meeting

The summer meeting of the RAB was held on June 10, 2004, at the Hampton Inn, Warner Robins, Georgia. The theme of this meeting was "Wetlands Restoration." Three briefings were presented; the topics covered were, "Horse Pasture Update," "OU2 Wetlands Remediation," and "NPL Site Update." In addition, the Community Co-chair election was held and announcement of several recent awards was made.

This RAB *Fact Sheet* provides a summary of the information and topics discussed in the meeting. **The next meeting will be held on September 9, 2004.**

OU2 Wetlands Remediation Planned Using Innovative Excavation Techniques

Mr. Gary Dickison of Earth Tech provided a summary of progress on the restoration activities planned at the OU2 Wetlands site. Mr. Dickison began with a description of the wetlands area and the contamination present in sediments at the site, including several metals.

Four locations including this one in the OU2 Wetlands area near Hannah Road were described in the briefing as having specific remediation needs

The primary objective of the remediation activities is to remove the contaminated sediments from the area. This removal will be accomplished by careful removal of approximately three feet of sediment material from three segments of drainage ditches near Hannah Road and removal of six inches of soil from one isolated area also near Hannah Road.

The schedule of activities to be performed in the restoration includes various activities: mobilization, control of water, excavation of sediments, stabilization of sedi-

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NPL Site Progress Briefed: Final ROD Signatures Expected Late 2004

While most of the restoration sites at Robins AFB are under the primary oversight of the state of Georgia through the GA EPD, one site is being handled differently. The NPL site consists of three separate focus areas. Two areas are being handled under CERCLA with primary oversight by US EPA, along with GA EPD participation. The third is being handled by GA EPD. Restoration activities at NPL sites are conducted in accordance with a ROD that is developed specifically for each site. **Mr Fred Otto** briefed the current status and planned activities at the NPL site.

The NPL site consists of three OUs:

- OU1 - source areas
- OU2 - wetlands
- OU3 - groundwater contamination originating at the NPL site.

OU2 is being remediated under RCRA because it was determined that the contamination associated with OU2 did not originate at the NPL site.

Beginning in the late 1990s, interim actions were performed at the site under an Interim ROD. Interim actions included, for OU1, surface water diversion, leachate collection system installation and operation, volatilization and excavation of the Sludge Lagoon, addition of a cover over LF04 and the Sludge Lagoon, installation of a gas collection system, and incorporation of institutional controls. At OU3, interim actions included installation of a groundwater extraction system. The GWTP construction was initially required for treatment of groundwater extracted from OU3.

The draft ROD for OU1 and OU3 was initially developed in 2000. An agency-level dispute related to land use controls occurred between 2001 and 2003. Following resolution of the dispute, the draft ROD is being revised to incorporate land use controls at both OU1 and OU3. The final ROD will also incorporate evaluation and optimization of the groundwater extraction system and annual monitoring at OU3. Currently it is expected that the ROD will be signed by the appropriate signatories in late 2004.

The award-winning GWTP was originally constructed to treat groundwater extracted during remediation of OU3

Robins Wins Record Number of Environmental Awards

Mr. Steve Coyle, Installation Co-chair, announced at the June RAB meeting that Robins AFB has won a record number of national-level environmental awards in recent months. Recent awards include the following:

- GWTP Awards- GW&PCA Gold Award, “Best in State” Award, Public Education Award, and Safety Award
- General Thomas D. White Award, Pollution Prevention - Industrial Category
- Secretary of Defense Award, Pollution Prevention - Industrial Category
- White House Closing the Circle Award, Waste/ Pollution Prevention Category
- Honorable Mention - White House Closing the Circle Award, Environmental Management Systems

EM staff members **Phil Manning** and **Dave Bury** described the awards and the background that led to the Base’s success in the areas that led to the recognitions. Mr. Coyle thanked the RAB for its support of the EM efforts and cited such community support as a key to Robins’ success in these national-level award competitions.

Horse Pasture Remediation Underway; SWMU 49 Excavation & Backfill Complete

Mr. Fred Otto, Remediation Program Manager in the Restoration and Resources Division, briefed the RAB on the ongoing remediation activities at the Horse Pasture site. He focused his briefing on the recently completed soil excavation and backfill activities at SWMU 49 and the ongoing similar activities at selected areas of SWMU 39.

Completed excavation at SWMU 36 Area 5 prior to beginning of backfill with clean soil material

At SWMU 49, excavation of contaminated soil and treatment to render the soil non-hazardous has been completed. The treated soil from SWMU 49 has been transported and disposed off-site in a Subtitle D (solid waste) landfill following rigorous testing to ensure that the material was indeed a solid waste and not a hazardous waste. The excavated area at SWMU 49 has been filled in with clean “fill soil,” and the area has been restored.

At SWMU 36, the excavation and treatment program is underway. SWMU 36 has been divided into five areas for separate action. Excavation and backfilling has been completed at Area 5 and is ongoing at Area 4.

To date, approximately 1,500 truckloads of excavated soil have been tested and transported off-site for disposal after passing all tests. According to the current schedule, completion of soil excavation at the Horse Pasture is anticipated to occur by September 2004.

Because the Horse Pasture site is an active horse pasture and is located near residential areas of base, EM has taken extra steps to ensure that all site activities are performed with great care and minimal disruption, both at the pasture area and the local environs. To ensure that area residents are kept fully informed, EM developed and distributed a flyer describing events and activities of the restoration program.

Backfill being placed into the excavated area of SWMU 36 Area 5 (top); SWMU 49 after completion of backfill (bottom)