

Environmental Action UPDATE

AIR FORCE ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES AT MCCLELLAN

June 2014

Cleanup Activities Abound this Summer

Field season 2014 will be a busy one for the McClellan environmental cleanup crews. By the end of the season, the Air Force will have completed cleanup actions at several sites falling under two of the Air Force's most challenging projects at the former McClellan Air Force Base – the Focused Strategic Sites project and the Ecological Sites project.

Focused Strategic Sites

Cleanup of the Focused Strategic Sites began last year with the final excavation of the former landfill known as CS 010 on the west side of the base and construction of the engineered Consolidation Unit at that site. An engineered Combined Cap was also installed last year over four adjacent former landfills and a fire training area.

Two additional landfills, CS 024 on the southern tip of the base and CS 022 beside the Groundwater Treatment Plant on Patrol Road, are currently being excavated and backfilled with clean soil. Crews will be working at both sites through the summer. Trucks are carrying the excavated soils to the engineered Consolidation Unit for safe, permanent disposal.

Another debris area, PRL 008 just north of the Consolidation Unit, will be excavated in one small spot and then an engineered cap will be installed over the site. The construction of the cap will be delayed until the 2015 field season to allow the current stockpiles of clean soil to be removed and used as backfill soils at sites CS 022 and CS 024. The Air Force anticipates site excavation to take place in late July, with backfill to come in the fall.

The Small Arms Firing Range on the northwest side of the base is the last of the Focused Strategic Sites scheduled for 2014 field work. Workers will excavate portions of the earthen backstops contaminated with lead shot in July and August. The excavated soil will first be analyzed and it will be stabilized as needed with Portland cement to meet the Consolidation Unit acceptance criteria.

Ecological Sites

The McClellan Ecological Sites are primarily on the west side of the base. For most of the ecological sites, the concentrations of contaminants do not present a risk to human health. However, they do pose a potential ecological risk at a

few of the sites.

Those sites include the former A-1 Metals Facility at the northwest tip of the base, three vernal pools near the Small Arms Firing Range, portions of the IC 17 Seasonal Creek and Drainage Ditch, an off-base segment of Don Julio Creek, a segment of Magpie Creek west of the runway, and tailings piles along Magpie Creek and Don Julio Creek. The Air Force will excavate these sites this summer and dispose of the contaminated soils and sediments in the Consolidation Unit.

The creek beds will be restored to their previous condition (some are lined and some are unlined) after confirmation sampling verifies that the cleanup objectives have been reached. Impacts to the vernal pools will be mitigated through the purchase of mitigation credits.



Excavation at CS 24



Excavation of tailings piles at Magpie Creek.

Meet your community RAB members

This is the second installment in a series of interviews with the McClellan's Restoration Advisory Board members



Tina Suarez-Murias

A Maryland native, Tina Suarez-Murias moved to Antelope in 1997. She joined the McClellan Restoration Advisory Board in 2010. She has more than 30 years of experience in environmental protection.

Q What community do you represent?

A I represent the environmental community. I'm on the board of the Environmental Council of Sacramento and when the opportunity came up to represent them it sounded great. The cleanup of McClellan is a project that is near my neighborhood and it's very interesting.

Q What do you enjoy most about serving on the RAB?

A Personally and professionally it's important to me to see that the environment is protected, preserved, renovated and rejuvenated. I have a very strong belief that we should be reconditioning and reusing land that we've damaged, rather than continue to do new construction on green fields. I would rather see damaged land repaired and reused. When I found out what was going on at McClellan I thought it could be a terrific example of that. And they're doing it right.

Q What other community service organizations are you involved with?

A I'm also on the board of the Save Our Sand Hill Cranes organization, which is a small group committed to preserving habitat for Sand Hill Cranes.

Q What do you feel you bring to the RAB?

A I have the professional experience and the commitment and interest in seeing things done right. I've worked with old industrial properties before in redevelopment situations; I think I have a lot of experience for a citizen.

Bob Blanchard

A Rio Linda resident, Bob Blanchard retired from the Air Force in 1976 after 25 years. He joined the McClellan Restoration Advisory Board in 1998.



Q What community do you represent?

A I represent the community of Rio Linda and Elverta and I try to keep my community up to speed and get them information. A lot of people in the community check with me because they know I'll tell them the truth.

Q What do you enjoy most about serving on the RAB?

A I enjoy hearing about things before they hit the newspapers.

Q What other things are you involved in within your community?

A I'm a pilot and I enjoy being involved with young aviators. I'm 82 years old, so it's time for me to downsize a bit.

Q What do you feel you bring to the RAB?

A I bring a cool head, a hot temper, and a lifetime of experience and education. I don't agree with everything they're doing with McClellan and if something doesn't set well with me I voice my opinion.

Davis Site Public Comment Period

The Air Force is seeking public comment on the Proposed Plan for the Davis Global Communication Site. The Proposed Plan summarizes the past cleanup actions that the Air Force has performed at the Davis Site, and it explains why the Air Force has proposed no further action.

McClellan annexed the Davis Site in the late 1940s and the transmitter facility was constructed on the site in the early 1950s. This 305-acre site is located four miles south of Davis, just off Mace Blvd. In July 1999, the Global Communications transmitter facility was decommissioned in coordination with the closing of McClellan. All facilities within the main compound area have been removed.

The Davis Site was contaminated with petroleum hydrocarbons from leaking underground storage tanks and chlorinated volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from unknown sources likely related to the storage or disposal of solvents from parts cleaning activities. The contamination was located beneath the main compound area at the center of the Davis Site.

Multiple treatment technologies have significantly reduced contamination at the site. Soil vapor extraction (1996 to 1999) and bioventing (1993 to 2003) were used to treat the contaminant sources in the vadose zone. Groundwater pump and treat (1996 to 2005), in situ chemical oxidation (2006), and enhanced reductive dechlorination (2008 to 2013) were used to treat secondary or residual contaminant sources in the groundwater. Groundwater contaminant concentrations will continue to decrease with ongoing degradation, and concentrations will ultimately be reduced to below California Public Health Goals.

There is no current or potential future use of groundwater at the site. The Davis Site is being transferred to Yolo County for use as a perpetual conservation easement and State land use controls prohibiting groundwater use will be in place. In addition, monitoring over the last nine years (since the groundwater pump and treatment system was shut down) has shown that the residual contaminants are not migrating in

groundwater. Therefore, there is no potential for exposure to residual contaminants.

Based on the nearly complete remediation of the site to date, the expected continued degradation of contaminants, the lack of potential for exposure and contaminant migration, the planned use of the site, and prohibition on the use of groundwater, the Air Force believes no further action is required to ensure protection of human health and the environment.

The Air Force and State agencies work as a team to investigate and clean up the Davis Site. The Davis Site is not listed on the National Priorities List; however, the Air Force agreed to address the site using the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) process. The Proposed Plan can change in response to public and/or agency comments. The Proposed Plan is followed by the Record of Decision (ROD) in which the final decision is documented. The ROD will also include a Responsiveness Summary to respond to comments received during the Proposed Plan comment period.



All facilities at the Davis Global Communication Site have been removed.

How You Can Be Involved

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:
June 11 - July 11, 2014

PUBLIC MEETING:
June 30, 6:00 p.m.
Mary L. Stephens Davis Branch Library
315 East 14th St.
Davis, CA 95616

The Proposed Plan and supporting documents are available at:

AFCEC, 3411 Olson Street
McClellan, CA 95652
(916) 643-1742 ext. 201.
Appointments available from 8:00 a.m. to
3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday

Mary L. Stephens Davis Branch Library:
315 East 14th Street Davis, CA 95616
(530) 757-5593

Online
<http://www.afcec.af.mil/brac/mcclellanafb/index.asp>

For additional information or to obtain a copy of the Proposed Plan, contact McClellan Community Relations at (916) 643-1250, ext 232 or email afropa.west.pa@us.af.mil.

COME TO THE RAB MEETING AND BE A PART OF YOUR COMMUNITY.

What is a RAB?

A Restoration Advisory Board is an important way for the public to be involved in the environmental cleanup at the former McClellan Air Force Base. RAB members are committed to public outreach and communication with their community. They advise the Air Force and regulatory agencies about community concerns and provide comments on McClellan cleanup decisions.

Who are the McClellan RAB members?

RAB members represent local stakeholder groups, the United States Air Force, and federal and state regulatory agencies. Stakeholder groups can include local government officials, local residents, environmental groups, the education community, the local business community, the religious community, and students.

McClellan RAB Meeting - Tuesday June 17, 2014, 6:30pm North Highlands Recreation Center, 6040 Watt Ave.

To find out more about the McClellan RAB, add your name to the mailing list or learn about the environmental cleanup at McClellan contact:

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McClellan Community Relations

(916) 643-1250 ext. 232

brian@sytsmagroup.com

Find us online at www.afcec.af.mil/brac/mcclellanaafb or on Facebook at McClellan Environmental Cleanup.



Environmentally sound: McClellan's successful, continuing cleanup has enabled its simultaneous transformation to a thriving business park.

AFCEC Western Region
3411 Olson Street
McClellan, CA 95652

