DECLARATION OF PROJECT CLOSURE DECISION
And
NO DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ACTION INDICATED
For
FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITE CON/HTRW PROJECT
FORT RANDALL DRUM BURIAL AREA (F10AK0845 -03)
COLD BAY, ALASKA

STATEMENT OF BASIS

Authority for the Defense Environmental Restoration Program for Formerly Used Defense Sites (DERP-FUDS) for Containerized Hazardous, Toxic, or Radioactive Waste (CON/HTRW) projects is derived from 10 United States Code (USC) 2701-2707. The CON/HTRW Fort Randall Drum Burial Area project (F10AK0845-03) was approved in December 2010. The decision to close out this CON/HTRW project is based on the Remedial Investigation (RI) in 2012 and a subsequent soil removal action in 2014. Detailed information summarizing the project closeout decision is found in the No Department of Defense Action Indicated Report (NDAI) Report dated November 2015.

SITE DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY

The Cold Bay – Fort Randall FUDS property is located adjacent to the City of Cold Bay approximately 640 miles southwest of Anchorage. The drum burial area (DBA) is located southwest of the intersection of the north-south and east-west Cold Bay runways. The DBA consists of two (2) areas of concern. Area 1 consisted of exposed asphalt pooled in depressions of tundra hummocks. Area 2 consisted of exposed asphalt scattered across the ground surface and two buried drum trenches. The drum trenches are known as the north drum trench and the south drum trench, respectively. Drums of asphalt were buried in the parallel trenches that measured 120 feet long, 20 feet wide, and 15 feet deep.

The U.S. War Department gave the U.S. Army jurisdiction over a portion of lands (519,000 acres) withdrawn for military use by EO No. 5124. Fort Randall was officially activated on 29 January 1942. The Army constructed the north-south runway (N-SR), in addition to completing the paving of the East-West runway (E-WR) with asphalt. The asphalt and drums in the project area were presumed to be left over materials from paving the runways. The garrison included storage and fueling system, hangars, hospital, administrative offices, and housing for 8,000 plus military personnel. In 1942, the U.S. Navy was commissioned to construct a naval section base (later referred to as 'Navy Town') at Fort Randall to provide local patrol and defense for the army airfield.

Fort Randall was placed in caretaker status in December 1945 and an Army Air Force detachment was used to maintain its air field. Fort Randall was re-named Thornbrough Air Force Station in 1947 and was subsequently closed and abandoned by the Air Force in January 1950. Current property landowners include the State of Alaska, Aleutians East Borough, and the

Department of Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The property is primarily used for recreation and for operation and maintenance of the Cold Bay runway and airport facilities.

DESCRIPTION OF THE SELECTED REMEDY AND IMPLEMENTATION

In 1999, Terrasat, Inc., conducted a geophysical survey at Cold Bay. The primary focus of the survey was a drum disposal area located northeast of the runways. They also surveyed an area within the DBA, identified as the Tar Seeps and as Runway North and Runway South. The survey results suggested drum clusters.

In 2002, an RI was performed at the DBA (referred to as the "Asphalt Seeps area" in the 2002 RI report) to determine the nature and extent of contamination. The RI included geophysical surveys, test pit excavations, well point installations, subsurface soil sampling, ground water sampling, surface water sampling, and sediment sampling. A total of 21 soil samples, one groundwater sample, one surface water sample, and one sediment sample were collected from the original DBA. A surface water sample and freshwater sediment sample were collected from Lake Burns, which is down gradient from the DBA. Soil sample results indicated only diesel range organics (DRO) and residual range organics (RRO) were present in concentrations exceeding the 18 Alaska Administrative Code (AAC) 75 Method Two criteria. Analytical results from groundwater, surface water, and sediment samples were reported below applicable cleanup levels.

The USACE performed a site visit in 2012 to further delineate the extent of the buried drum trenches and the asphalt areas. The DBA has posed threats to human health and the environment due to contaminants of concern (COCs) in soil. The potential contamination sources reportedly resulted from the disposal of drums and excess asphalt following the paving of the Cold Bay runways.

In 2013, eight soil samples and four groundwater samples were collected from the DBA site. Two soil samples were collected from each of four borings. All soil and groundwater samples collected were below 18 AAC 75 cleanup levels. A removal action was completed at the site from May through July 2014. Approximately 1,853 tons of asphalt, contaminated soil, drums, and debris were removed. The removal action was successfully completed with only de minimis residual soil contamination. Groundwater is not impacted based on the COCs not being detected at elevated concentrations in any of the surrounding monitoring wells. USACE and ADEC determined that the four monitoring wells (DBA-MW01, DBA-MW02, DBA-MW03, DBA-MW04) could be decommissioned. The four monitoring wells in the vicinity of the DBA were decommissioned in July 2015.

DECLARATION

In accordance with the Defense Environmental Restoration Program for Formerly Used Defense Sites, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District has completed all CON/HTRW activities at the Fort Randall Drum Burial Area (F10AK0845-03), Cold Bay,

Alaska. This Declaration of Project Closure Decision and accompanying No Department of Defense Action Indicated Report support the conclusion that all known sources of CON/HTRW have been remediated. No further action is required by DOD for this CON/HTRW project. This decision may be reviewed and modified in the future if any new information becomes available which indicates the presence of eligible CON/HTRW that may cause a risk to human health or the environment.

This Declaration of Project Closure Decision has been prepared and approved by the undersigned in accordance with the FUDS Program Policy, Engineer Regulation (ER) 200-3-1, May 10, 2004.

for _____ Date 17 NOV 2015

Michael S. Brooks

Colonel, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

District Commander

REVIEW AND CONCURRENCE

The State of Alaska, through the Department of Environmental Conservation agrees the closure of this CON/HTRW project is consistent with state cleanup requirements. The decision may be reviewed and modified in the future if information becomes available that indicates the presence of contaminants or waste that may cause unacceptable risk to human health or the environment.

_____ Date_____

Kim DeRuyter

Department of Defense Cleanup Unit Manager

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

United States Army
Corps of Engineers

Formerly Used Defense Sites Program

No Department of Defense Action Indicated Report

Containerized/Hazardous, Toxic, or Radioactive Waste
Project # F10AK0845-03
Fort Randall Drum Burial Area
Cold Bay, Alaska

November 2015

Prepared By:
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Alaska District
Environmental Engineering Branch
P.O. Box 6898
JBER, Alaska 99506-0898

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Table of Contents

LIST OF FIGURES

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Defense Environmental Restoration Program for Formerly Used Defense Sites (DERP-FUDS) authorizes the cleanup of contamination resulting from past military activities at sites no longer owned by the Department of Defense (DoD). A containerized hazardous, toxic, or radioactive waste (CON/HTRW) project (F10AK0845-03) was authorized for the Cold Bay - Fort Randall site in December 2010 (USACE 2010).

Based on the Remedial Investigation in 2012 and a subsequent soil removal action in 2014, the Fort Randall Drum Burial Area CON/HTRW project is being recommended for closure and No Department of Defense Action Indicated (NDAI) status.

The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is an agent for the DoD and has been assigned the responsibility of coordinating activities at FUDS sites. This NDAI report is issued by the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District (USACE-AK); the lead agency for the Cold Bay – Fort Randall FUDS.

2.0 SUMMARY OF SITE CONDITIONS

The Cold Bay – Fort Randall FUDS property is located near the City of Cold Bay approximately 640 miles southwest of Anchorage. The drum burial area (DBA) is located southwest of the intersection of the north-south and east-west Cold Bay runways. The DBA consists of two (2) areas of concern (AOC). AS1 consisted of exposed asphalt pooled in depressions of tundra hummocks. AS2 consisted of exposed asphalt scattered across the ground surface and two buried drum trenches. The drum trenches are known as the north drum trench and the south drum trench, respectively. Drums of asphalt were buried in the parallel trenches that measured 120 feet long, 20 feet wide, and 15 feet deep. The Army constructed the north-south runway (N-SR), in addition to completing the paving of the East-West runway (E-WR) with asphalt. The asphalt and drums in the project area were presumed to be left over materials from paving the runways.

The U.S. War Department gave the U.S. Army jurisdiction over a portion of lands (519,000 acres) withdrawn for military use by EO No. 5124. Fort Randall was officially activated on 29 January 1942, and the Army took over construction of the E-WR in February. The garrison included storage and fueling system, hangars, hospital, administrative offices, and housing for 8,000 plus military personnel. In 1942, the U.S. Navy was commissioned to construct a naval section base (later referred to as 'Navy Town') at Fort Randall to provide local patrol and defense for the army airfield.

The Fort Randall was placed in caretaker status in December 1945 and an Army Air Force detachment was used to maintain its air field. The Fort Randall was re-named Thornbrough Air Force Station in 1947 and was subsequently closed and abandoned by the Air Force in January 1950. Current property landowners include the State of Alaska, Aleutians East Borough, and the

Department of Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The property is primarily used for recreation and for operation and maintenance of the Cold Bay runway and airport facilities.

2.1 INVESTIGATION SUMMARY/ACTIVITIES

In 1999, Terrasat, Inc., conducted a geophysical survey at Cold Bay (Jacobs, 1999). The primary focus of the survey was a drum disposal area located northeast of the runways. They also surveyed an area within the DBA, identified as the Tar Seeps and as Runway North and Runway South. Two linear anomalies were identified. The survey results suggested drum clusters.

In 2002, a remedial investigation (RI) was performed at the DBA (referred to as the "Asphalt Seeps area" in the 2002 RI report) to determine the nature and extent of contamination (USACE, 2003). The RI included geophysical surveys, test pit excavations, well point installations, subsurface soil sampling, ground water sampling, surface water sampling, and sediment sampling. A total of 21 soil samples, one groundwater sample, one surface water sample, and one sediment sample were collected from the original DBA. A surface water sample and freshwater sediment sample were collected from Lake Burns, which is down gradient from the DBA. Soil sample results indicated only diesel range organics (DRO) and residual range orgainics (RRO) were present in concentrations exceeding the 18 Alaska Administrative Code (AAC) 75 Method Two criteria of 250 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg) for DRO and 10,000 mg/kg for RRO. Analytical results for DRO ranged from 421 to 20,600 mg/kg, and analytical results for RRO ranged from 15,300 to 51,200 mg/kg. Analytical results from groundwater, surface water, and sediment samples were reported below 18 AAC 75 cleanup levels.

The USACE performed a site visit in 2012 to further delineate the extent of the buried drum trenches and the asphalt areas. The potential contamination sources reportedly resulted from the disposal of drums and excess asphalt following the paving of the Cold Bay runways.

In 2013, eight soil samples and four groundwater samples were collected from the DBA site. Two soil samples were collected from each of four borings. All soil and groundwater samples collected were below 18 AAC 75 cleanup levels.

3.0 REMOVAL ACTIVITIES

A removal action was completed at the site from May through July 2014. Approximately 1,853 tons of asphalt, contaminated soil, drums, and debris were removed. The excavated materials were loaded into super sacks and transported by barge to Seattle, Washington. The super sacks were transported by truck and train from this point to their ultimate destinations at Subtitle D Solid Waste Management disposal facilities in Arlington, Oregon and Wenatchee, Washington. The removal action was successfully completed with only de minimis residual soil contamination.

Following the removal action the excavated areas were backfilled with clean fill from the City borrow pit. The backfill was comprised of soil which was conducive for seeding. The backfill

was compacted in lifts using the excavator. The backfill was graded to promote surface water drainage and minimize pooling. The areas were seeded with approved seed mix. The drum handling containment area was restored using the native tundra that was grubbed while it was constructed.

The four groundwater monitoring wells were sampled again in conjunction with the removal action and all samples continued to be below 18 AAC 75 cleanup levels. All sample results were reported upon in the Cold Bay Drum Removal Action Report (USACE 2015a). The four monitoring wells in the vicinity (DBA-MW01, DBA-MW02, DBA-MW03, and DBA-MW04) of the DBA were decommissioned in July 2015 (USACE 2015b).

4.0 SUMMARY OF REMEDY

Based on the results of the aforementioned environmental investigations and removal action, no further action is required under the F10AK0845-03 CON/HTRW project. Drums and contaminated soil from the north drum trench and the south drum trench were properly removed and disposed from the site. There is some diesel range organics remaining at 15 feet below ground surface in the north trench. The level remaining is below the human health ingestion and inhalation cleanup levels, but above migration to groundwater cleanup level. Monitoring wells were installed in the four cardinal directions around the drum trenches. The wells were sampled and the groundwater flow direction determined to be westerly demonstrating that the migration to groundwater pathway is insignificant. The wells were no longer needed and decommissioned. This decision may be reviewed and modified in the future if any new information becomes available which indicates the presence of eligible CON/HTRW that may cause a risk to human health or the environment.

5.0 REFERENCES

Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. 1999. Geophysical Survey, Cold Bay, Alaska. Prepared by Terrasat, Inc. May. F10AK084501_01.13_0500_p.

USACE 2003. 2002 Remedial Investigation Report, Cold Bay, Alaska. Prepared by Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. January. F10AK084501_03.10_0500_a.

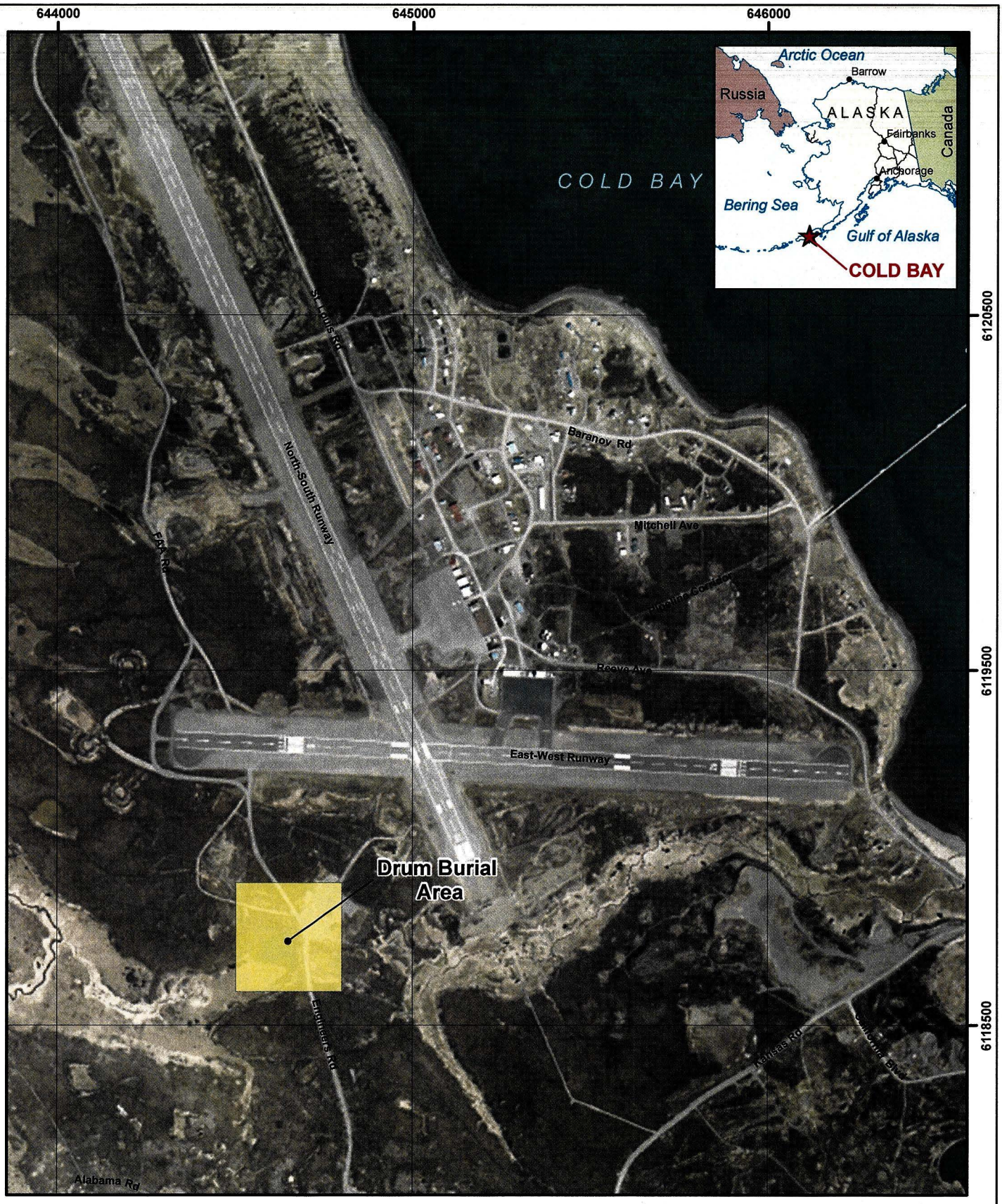
USACE 2010. INPR Revision – Addition of CON/HTRW - 03, DERP-FUDS Property No. F10AK0845, Cold Bay – Fort Randall Alaska. December. F10AK0845--_01.08_0501_a.

USACE 2013. Removal Design Site Visit Trip Report, Cold Bay, Alaska. January. F10AK084503_06.09_0500_a.

USACE 2014. Cold Bay Public Involvement Plan, Cold Bay, Alaska. November. F10AK084503_08.06_0500_p.

USACE 2015a. Cold Bay Drum Removal Action Report, Final. Cold Bay, Alaska. Prepared by BSI – TLI JV February. F10AK084503_02.13_0500_a.

USACE 2015b. 2015 Well Decommissioning Report, Final. Cold Bay, Alaska. Prepared by Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. September. F10AK084503_02.13_0501_a.



0 530 1,060 1,590 2,120
Feet

0 100 200 300 400 500
Meters

N

WGS 1984 UTM Zone 3N
Graticule and projection are in meters. Imagery: ESRI

LOCATION AND VICINITY MAP

NO DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ACTION INDICATED REPORT

FORT RANDALL FUDS, COLD BAY, ALASKA

F10AK0845-03	DATE: 05 NOV 2015	PROJECT MANAGER: Andrew Sorum	FIGURE NO: 1

O:\ESP\Private\FUDS_Properties\Cold Bay F10AK0845\F10AK0845-03 Project Closeout\ColdBay_GeneralSiteLocations.mxd j4enemnk

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS ALASKA DISTRICT **POA STAFF ACTION SUMMARY** HQUSACE Staff Action Handbook, the proponent is the Executive Office	1. CONTROL# PM-15-194	2. Suspense 2015-11-27 3. Today's Date 2015-11-10

4. Subject DERP-FUDS, Cold Bay F10AK0845-03

5. Office Symbol	6. Action Officer	7. Telephone #	8. E-mail
PM-ESP	Andy Sorum	753-2575	andrew.c.sorum@usace.army.mil

COORDINATION

9. Division	10. Name	11. Concur/Nonconcur	12. Comments	13. Date
7 DC	Brooks	4400		17 NOV '15
5 DDC	DeRocchi	_		
5 DPM	Bowker	BJX _		20151117
_ EA		_		
_ E&C		_		

14. Routing	☐ DC	☐ DDC	☐ DMP	☐ EA	☐ E&C
15. For:	☐ Information	☐ Read-Ahead	☐ Decision	☐ Approval	☒ Signature

16. PURPOSE/BOTTOM LINE/DISCUSSION:

1. PURPOSE: Obtain District Commander's approval and signature on a Project Closeout Memorandum for project F10AK0845-03, Drum Burial Area, Cold Bay, Alaska.

2. BOTTOM LINE: This declaration states that the removal action is complete and no further DOD obligation remains for this project.

3. DISCUSSION: The containerized waste was excavated and shipped off site for disposal in 2013, and no further risk to human health or the environment remains at the Drum Burial Area.

4. RESOURCE IMPACT: Minimal staff labor impact resulting from this action.

5. ROUTING: Routing for the District Commander will go through ESP, PM, and OC.

For

17. Releaser: (3) Larry M. Phyfe, PM-ESP

18. Recommendation: Signature and approval of memorandum

19. Action:	Approved ☐	See Me ☐	Other ☐