United States
Army
Corps of
Engineers
Alaska District

Alaska Department of
Environmental Conservation

Proposed Plan for

No Department of Defense Action Indicated and No Further Remedial Action Planned at

Operable Unit 3
Northway Staging Field
Northway, Alaska
May 2004

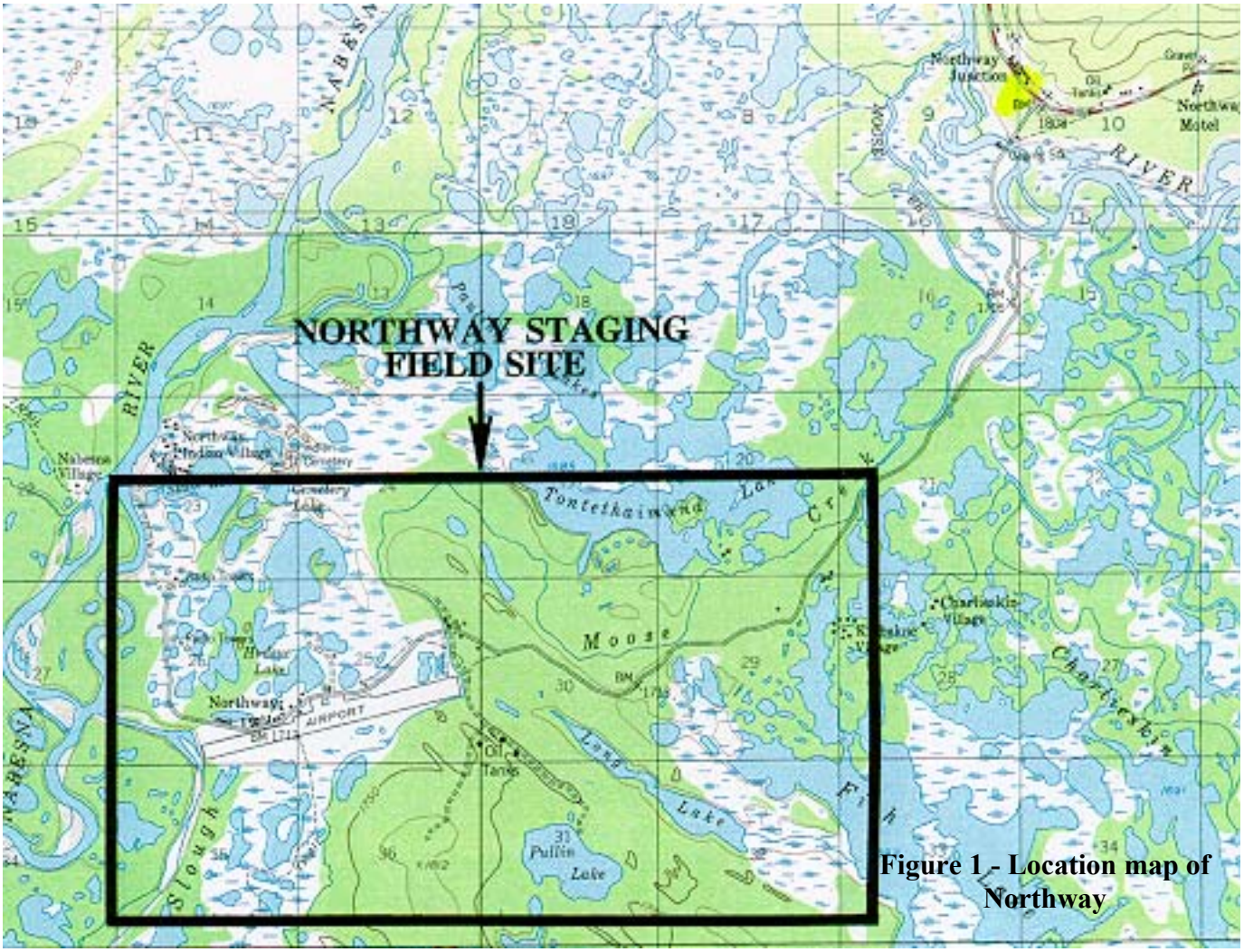


Figure 1 - Location map of Northway

Introduction

The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) request your comments on this Proposed Plan. This Proposed Plan presents the No Department of Defense Action Indicated (NDAI) and the No Further Remedial Action Planned (NFRAP) proposal by the USACE-Alaska District and the ADEC for 11 sites making up Operable Unit 3 (OU3) at the Northway Staging Field in Northway, Alaska (see figures 1 and 2).

OU 3 Areas include:

Area 2	Garbage Lake and Landfill Area
Area 7	Bulk Fuel ASTs
Area 9	Wooden Tar Barrel Dump
Area 10	Tar and Sand Mounds
Area 11	Camp Dump
Area 14	Enna Albert Dump
Area 16	Nabesna River Trails
Area 22	Avis Sam Dump
Area 27	Grease Pit
Area 45	White Powder Drums
Area 51	Former Barracks

Although this Proposed Plan recommends No Further Action for these sites, a final determination will not be made until the public comment period ends and all comments are reviewed and addressed. The No Further Action decision may be reviewed and modified in the future if new information becomes available which indicates the presence of contamination or exposure routes that cause an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment.

Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) Program

Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) are those properties that the Department of Defense once owned or used, but no longer controls. The Northway Staging Field Site is a FUDS undergoing environmental investigations and remedial activities in conjunction with the Defense Environmental Restoration Program for Formerly Used Defense Sites (DERP-FUDS). The USACE is an agent for the Department of Defense (DOD) and with the responsibility to investigate and cleanup FUDS. Authority for the DERP-FUDS is derived from the following laws: The Comprehensive Environmental, Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA); Public Law 96-510 as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA); the Environmental Restoration Program, 10 USC 2701-2707, and the National Oil and Hazardous Substance Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP), 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 300 et seq.

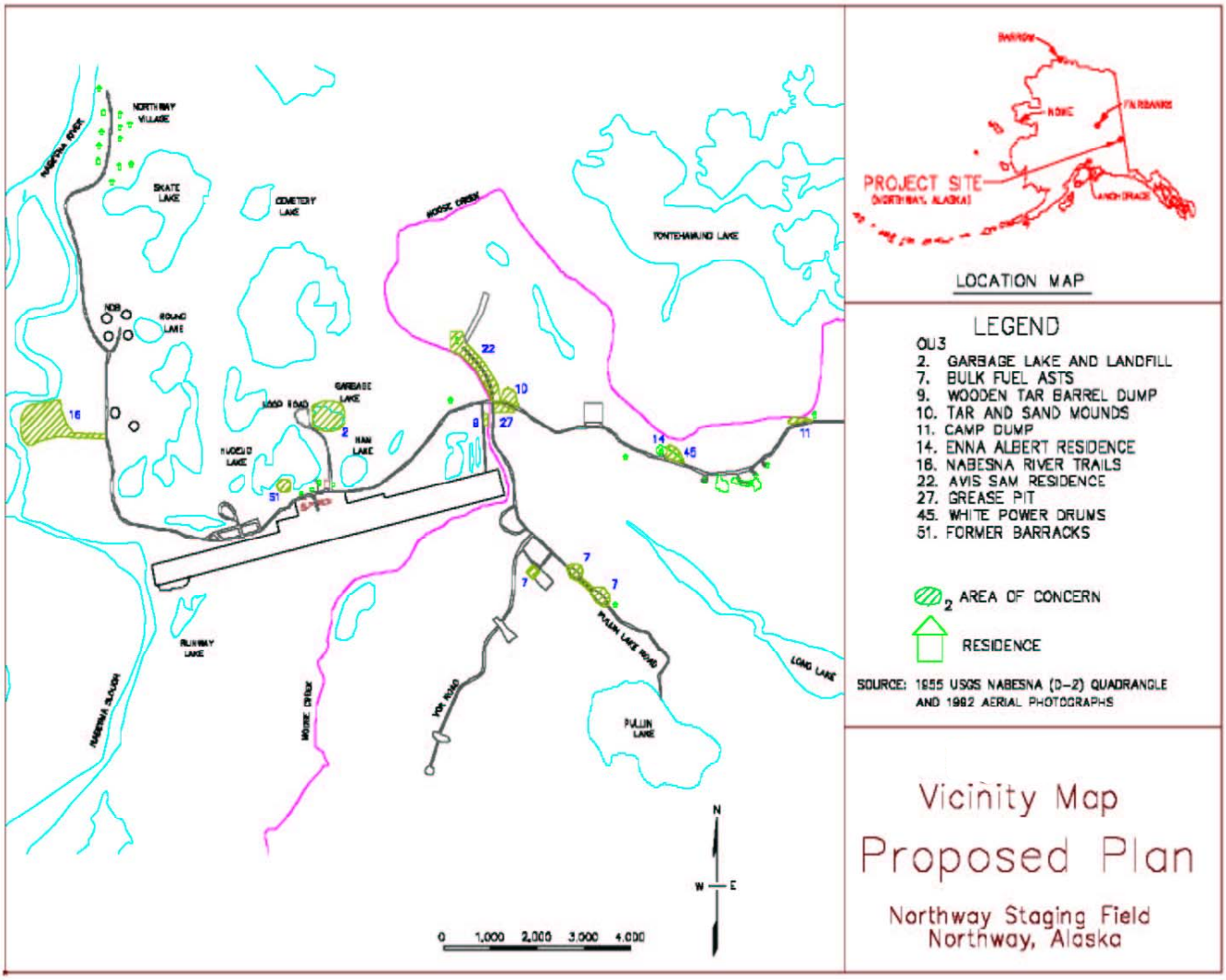


Figure 2 – Map showing the locations of the 11 sites of OU3

Location and Site History

Northway Staging Field is located in eastern Alaska near the Canadian border, approximately 285 air miles northeast of Anchorage and 240 air miles southeast of Fairbanks. Northway Airport, which forms the west-central portion of the site, is located approximately seven miles southwest of the Alaska Highway along Northway Road.

The Northway Staging Field Site consists of approximately 11.5 square miles in the vicinity of Northway Airport. The Northway Staging Field contains 52 areas of concern divided into five Operable Units (OUs). OU1, which contained 31 sites, was closed as No Further Action in 2002. This Proposed Plan for the Northway Staging Field addresses the 11 areas within Operable Unit 3 (OU3).

The U.S. Department of the Army originally acquired the Northway Staging Area from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Civil Aeronautics Administration (CAA). Construction of the Northway airport began in the spring of 1941 by Morrison Knudson Construction Company. The air base served as a refueling and maintenance stop along the string of air bases used to supply troops stationed in Alaska and transport planes to the Soviet Union as part of the lend-lease program. During World War II, the airport served as a refueling depot for aircraft and as a staging area for work on the Alaskan Highway, the Canadian Oil (CANOL) pipeline project, and a defense fuel pipeline. During the height of operations at Northway, hundreds of buildings were built, including aircraft hangars, warehouses, movie theaters, garages, warehouses, a sawmill, powerhouse, machine shop, and dozens of barracks. By the end of World War II the Army no longer used the site, and until 1966 the site was largely owned and operated by the CAA and then the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). In 1966, the FAA transferred the right to use the lands and airport facilities to the State of Alaska. Portions of the Northway Staging Field Site have also been transferred to the Northway Natives Inc. and private landowners.

Figure 3 – Historical photo showing the Northway Staging Field Area

No Further Action Determination and Cleanup Goals

NFA and No Department of Defense Action Indicated have been proposed for 11 sites comprising OU3 at Northway Staging field. The decision for NFA at OU3 is based on the results of Removal and Remedial actions along with the investigations that were conducted at the various sites. A Decision Document was prepared to summarize the activities that occurred at each site, and a short summary for each site is provided in this proposed plan. Detailed information supporting this NFA is contained in the *"No DOD Action Indicated Report for Operable Unit 3, Northway Staging Field; Northway, Alaska."* Additional information is contained in the Administrative Record for this site located at the Alaska District Office and at the Northway School Library. The Alaska District and ADEC encourages reviewing those documents in order to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the Northway Staging Field Site and associated investigative and remediation activities that took place.

Under NFA and NDAI status, no further investigation or cleanup action is necessary at the 11 areas that make up OU3. These areas were determined to either:

- Not contain a contaminant above naturally occurring background levels,
- Meet ADEC's default cleanup levels (18 AAC 75.341 and 18 AAC 75.345 - commonly referred to as ADEC Table B soil and Table C groundwater cleanup levels),
- Meet established alternative cleanup levels, or
- Not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment.

Summary of Site Investigations and the Remedial Actions

The following sections are brief summaries of the site investigations and remedial actions that were conducted at the 11 sites of OU3.

Area 2- Garbage Lake and Landfill

Garbage Lake and Landfill is located in the central portion of the Northway site east of the north end of Loop Road. Garbage Lake has a surface area of approximately 10 acres. The former Garbage Lake landfill is situated along the northwest edge of the lake.

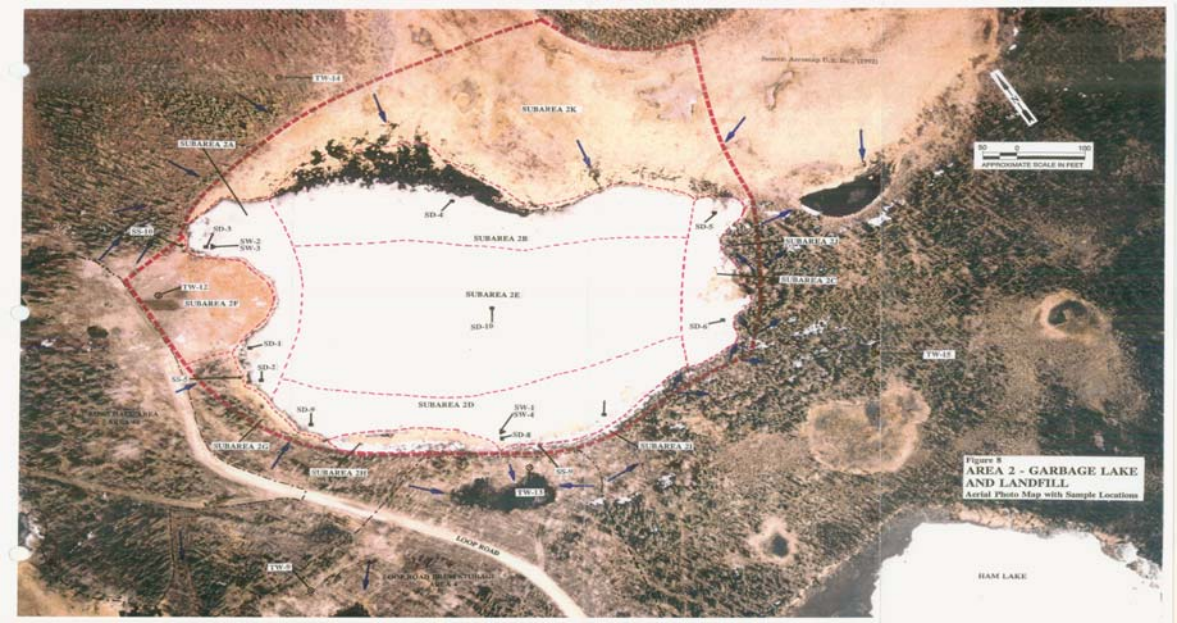


Figure 4 – Garbage Lake and Landfill Area

Refuse was apparently dumped over a small embankment along the northwest shore of the lake, and over time, extended into the lake itself. Local residents reported that the dump was used from the early 1940s until approximately 1972. Following closure of the landfill, the refuse pile was reportedly covered with soil. Landfill users included the FAA, the Northway Village, local businesses, and residents living along Northway Road. Drums with military labels and military-appearing machinery located in and around the lake indicated that the U.S. Army also used this area as a dump.

During the 1994 remedial investigation, surface soil, subsurface soil, sediment, surface water and groundwater were sampled at the site. Below is a table showing the number of locations sampled and for what each sample was analyzed.

Contaminants of Concern	Surface Soil # Of Locations	Subsurface Soil # Of Locations	Sediment # Of Locations	Surface Water # Of Locations	Groundwater # Of Locations
DRO & GRO	8	10	10	4	4
SVOCs, VOCs, PCBs, pesticides, and metals	8	4	10	4	4
PAHs	-	-	-	4	4

DRO – Diesel range organics; GRO – Gasoline range organics
SVOCs- semi-volatile organics; VOCs – volatile organics; PCBs – polychlorinated biphenyls
PAHs – polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons

All contaminants of concern were reported below ADEC Tables B and C cleanup levels. The metals that were detected at the site (arsenic, barium, chromium, and lead) are all within the range of background levels measured at Northway.

Extensive military debris associated with this site was removed during the 1996 removal action. Approximately 440 – 55-gallon steel drums were scattered in the water and along the shore of Garbage Lake. Most of the drums were on the south side of the lake. Additional containers, including 5-gallon drums, paint cans, and a 500-gallon tank were also scattered around Garbage Lake. Over 300 drums were removed from the lake. Drums and containers around the lake were also removed. The 500-gallon fuel tank was cleaned, cut, and recycled.

Samples collected at the site indicate cleanup levels have been achieved; therefore, the site does not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment. Therefore, no further action is planned.

Figure 5 – Historical Photo showing the Former Tanks

Area 7- Bulk Fuel ASTs

Three bulk fuel above ground storage tanks (ASTs) were formerly located in the vicinity of the VOR Road and Pullin Lake Road. Two of the ASTs were located along the east side of Pullin Lake Road and are referred to as the North and South ASTs. The third AST was located adjacent to the north side of the current village landfill and is referred to as the Landfill AST.

During the 1994 investigation, 18 screening samples were analyzed for TPH at the three AST sites. Only three detections were reported at 5, 7, and 1,400 mg/kg. Also collected were

three surface soil, six subsurface soil, and four groundwater samples. All samples were analyzed for DRO, GRO, SVOCs, BTEX, and lead. The groundwater samples were also analyzed for PAHs. All results were less than the ADEC Method 2 cleanup levels.

The AST site near the village landfill was further investigated during the 1997 investigation. During that investigation, five additional subsurface samples were collected and analyzed for DRO, GRO, RRO, BTEX, SVOCs and total organic carbon (TOC). DRO was the only contaminant detected above the ADEC method 2 migration to groundwater cleanup levels. Results for DRO ranged from non-detect to 1,900 mg/kg.

During the 1997 removal action, approximately five cubic yards of metal and wood debris, a 55-gallon drum, and domestic trash were collected and removed from the sites.

An herbicide sample was collected from the former AST area in June 2003. The results were non-detect for chlorinated herbicides.

The only subsurface results that exceeded the ADEC Table B soil cleanup levels for migration to groundwater occurred at the landfill AST site. The maximum detected concentration of DRO at the landfill site was 1,900 mg/kg. This site is located immediately adjacent to an active community landfill. The site is currently not suitable for residential or drinking water use due to the vicinity of the landfill. The ADEC Table B – cleanup level for DRO based on the ingestion pathway is 10,250 mg/kg. The range of DRO encountered at this site is well below the ingestion risk based cleanup level. Therefore, there is no unacceptable risk to human health or environment at this site, and therefore no further action is planned.

Area 9- Wooden Tar Barrel Dump

The Wooden Tar Barrel Dump is an area approximately 200 feet by 150 feet and is located in the central portion of the site southwest of the Northway Road/Moose Creek junction.

In 1986 a water sample, from a drainage area below the tar barrels, was collected and analyzed for metals and semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs). All results were non-detect. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) analyzed one soil sample from this area in 1990 and found trace concentrations of pesticides. Dames & Moore collected and analyzed soil samples in this area in a 1993 survey. Low concentrations of pesticides were detected in a soil sample collected near the wooden barrel disposal area, and diesel range organics (DRO) was detected at 650 mg/kg. SVOCs and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) were not detected.

Figure 6 – Wooden Tar Barrel Dump Area

Remedial actions took place on this site in 1996, 1997, and 1998. Military debris associated with this site was removed. Drums and barrels containing asphalt were removed. Approximately 490 cubic yards of material containing asphalt, wood staves, metal rings, and soil were removed.

Also in 1998, approximately 5 cubic yards of debris were removed from the "swimming pond" area south of Area 9. The debris included five drums filled with water from the pond. An area of approximately 200 square-feet was cleared as part of the debris removal.

Soil confirmation samples were collected from the Wooden Tar Barrel Dump site in 1996. All the 1996 results for benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene (BTEX) and glycol were non-detect. Lead was detected in two of the samples with the results for lead ranging from 3.0 mg/kg to 5.6 mg/kg. All results are below the residential cleanup level of 400 mg/kg. The results of the TRPH confirmation sampling in 1997 were all non-detect.

Based on confirmation sampling performed and the removal action of approximately 500 yards of debris and material, no unacceptable risk to human health or environment remains at this site. Therefore no further action is planned.

Area 10- Tar and Sand Mounds

Figure 7 - Tar and Sand Mounds Area

The Tar and Sand Mounds site is an area approximately 200 feet by 150 feet located in the north-central portion of the site. Based on historical site information, this appears to be the former location of the asphalt plant used to build the runway.

In 1986, a soil sample from near the tar mounds was collected and analyzed for metals and SVOCs. All results were non-detect. In 1990, the USFWS collected two surface soil samples and analyzed them for organochlorine pesticides. All results were non-detect. Dames & Moore collected soil samples in this area in 1993. DRO was detected in all samples at concentrations ranging from 140 to 7,200 mg/kg. SVOCs and PCBs were not detected.

Military debris removal and remediation occurred in 1996, 1997, and 1998. Approximately 1120 cubic yards of material containing asphalt, wood, and metal debris were removed. Approximately 25 cubic yards of old building material and a wooden structure were also removed from the site.

Remediation was concluded in 1999 with the removal of approximately 275 gallons of seeping asphalt tar material and a four-inch layer of topsoil was placed on approximately 1,200 square-feet and the area was reseeded.

Confirmation sampling indicates that all concentrations are below ADEC cleanup levels; therefore no unacceptable risk to human health or the environment remains at this site. No further action is planned.

Area 11- Camp Dump

The Camp Dump is an area approximately 300 feet by 100 feet and is located in the east-central portion of the site approximately four miles south of Northway Junction on Northway Road.

Figure 8 - Camp Dump Area

In 1990, the USFWS collected and analyzed three soil samples from the Camp Dump area for organochlorine pesticides. Pesticides were not detected in the samples.

Two groups of magnetic anomalies were identified during the 1994 RI. Additional investigations revealed several small metal cans and pieces of scrap metal buried in the area.

Surface soil samples were collected from five locations during in 1994. Four of the five samples were non-detect for TPH. One sample contained TPH at 15 mg/kg.

Military debris associated with this site was removed in 1996 and 1997. Approximately ½ cubic yards of asbestos-containing material and 37.5 cubic yards of partially buried metal debris, small cans, and 55-gallon steel drums were removed from this site.

In 1998 soil was excavated to a depth of 2 feet in an area of approximately 25,000 square-feet. The excavated soil was physically screened through a 2-inch screen. Approximately 88 cubic yards of debris was removed through screening. Soil that passed through the screen was placed back on the site and graded to promote drainage. The 25,000-sq ft area was covered with a four-inch layer of topsoil. Seeding of this area was completed in June 1999.

The 1997 Phase III Remedial Investigation Addendum investigation results indicated low level detections of gasoline range organics (GRO), DRO, residual range organics (RRO), BTEX, SVOCs, and metals. None of the maximum concentrations of the organic compounds exceeded risk-based levels developed for this site. Arsenic, barium, chromium, and lead are all within the range of background levels measured at Northway. The one selenium detection is very close to the detection limits used for this analysis.

Four of the seven subsurface soil samples collected for the addendum investigation were located adjacent to Moose Creek. In addition, sediment and surface water samples collected downstream of Area 11 in 1994 as part of the Moose Creek sampling program did not show any significant contamination. Based on this data coverage, the 1997 risk results, and the lack of suprapermafrost groundwater present to act as a migratory mechanism, migration from Area 11 into Moose Creek does not appear to be occurring and no further action is required.

<u>Area 14- Enna Albert Dump</u>

Figure 9 – Enna Albert Dump

The Enna Albert Dump is an area approximately 800 by 300 feet located in the eastern portion of the site on the north side of Northway Road, 1000 feet east of Northway School.

The USFWS funded a study of pesticides and hydrocarbon concentrations in soil, water, sediment, and bioassay samples from Moose Creek. At the sampling station near the Enna Albert Dump, pesticides and hydrocarbons were not detected in surface water, but trace concentrations of hydrocarbons were detected in sediments. The soil sample from the Enna Albert Dump contained 0.05 mg/kg DDE and 0.01 to 0.02 mg/kg of methoxychlor. Both are well below the ADEC Table B soil cleanup levels of 24 mg/kg and 52 mg/kg. In 1992, the USFWS collected three more soil samples and analyzed them for organochlorine pesticides, chlorinated herbicides, metals, and asbestos. All results were non-detect.

Military debris associated with this site was removed during the 1996, 1997, and 1998 remedial actions. Approximately 1,439 cubic yards of crushed drums, 55-gallon steel drums, scrap metal, and domestic trash were removed from this site. 240 cubic feet of debris and soil mixed with asphalt was removed. Topsoil was placed over a 25,000 sq ft area. Erosion control measures were implemented by installing Geojute® mesh on the sloped areas. Seeding of this area was completed in June 1999.

Confirmation soil samples were collected in 1996 following the removal action. Samples were analyzed for BTEX, total residual petroleum hydrocarbons (TRPH), and/or pH. The pH ranged from 6.21 to 9.35, which is within the non-corrosive range. There were no detections of BTEX. TRPH was detected in three out of the 13 samples at concentrations ranging from 39 to 1,400 mg/kg.

No unacceptable risk to human health or the environment remains at this site based on sampling results and the extensive remedial and removal actions. No further action is planned.

Area 16- Nabesna River Trails

The Nabesna River Trail is an irregularly shaped area approximately 700 feet by 700 feet and is located on the western edge of the site on the west side of Northway Road.

Figure 10 – Nabesna River Trails

In 1994, an electro magnetic survey was conducted over a section of area 16. Magnetic anomalies were not detected at this site, other than readings due to known aboveground or partially exposed metal debris.

Based on the results of the 1995 investigation, which included the collection and analysis of surface

and subsurface soil samples, fuel-related contamination was reported to be present in surface and subsurface soils. The Tier 2 risk analysis conducted for Area 16 found that the detected potential contaminants of concern (PCOCs) did not exceed human health risk based screening levels (RBSLs) in subsurface or surface soils. Of a total of twelve samples collected, only one had a DRO result (813 mg/kg) above the ADEC Table B cleanup level of 250 mg/kg.

Shallow groundwater is not used as a drinking water source. In order to further evaluate the potential ecological risk, additional surface soil samples were collected from area 16 and analyzed for DRO.

The Tier 3 risk analysis conducted for Area 16 included evaluation of exposure pathways for terrestrial ecological receptors (spruce grouse and snowshoe hare) in direct contact with surface soil. The risk analysis showed no exceedences of risk based target levels and indicated little potential for adverse effects from exposure to DRO.

Military debris associated with this site was removed during the 1996 and 1997 removal actions.

Results of the Phase III RI sampling and analysis, and a Tier 3 risk evaluation for Area 16 showed neither extensive soil DRO presence, nor significant ecological risk to terrestrial receptors from exposure to DRO. Based on the sample results, characterization and removal action, no further action is planned.

Area 22- Avis Sam Dump

The Avis Sam Dump is an area approximately 2200 feet by 500 feet and is located in the northern portion of the site on the north side of Northway Road.

Figure 11 – Avis Sam Dump Area

Magnetic anomalies were not detected at this site, other than readings due to known aboveground or partially exposed metal debris.

Based on the results of the 1995 investigation, fuel-related contaminants were reported to be present in the vicinity of a concrete pad along the east side of the Avis Sam driveway. The 1995 investigation included the collection and analysis of 12 surface and 3 subsurface soil samples analyzed for DRO, TPH, SVOCs, pesticides, PCBs, metals, and the subsurface samples were also analyzed for VOCs. The presence of contamination was indicated by elevated levels of TPH and DRO compounds in both surface and subsurface soils, and fuel-related VOCs in subsurface soils. Additionally, organic pesticides (DDT and associated breakdown products) were present in three surface soil locations in this area.

The Tier 2 risk analysis conducted for Area 22 evaluated potential exposure pathways for human and ecological receptors. The analysis indicated contaminants at the site were below risk based screening levels protective of human health. Out of 12 samples, one DRO surface result (1,200 mg/kg) exceeded the ADEC Table B – soil cleanup level (migration to groundwater) of 250 mg/kg.

In 1997, 5 additional subsurface soil samples were collected and analyzed for DRO, GRO, RRO, BTEX, and SVOCs. The highest concentrations of fuel related compounds were encountered around the eastern edge of the concrete pad.

In order to further evaluate the potential ecological risk, a Tier 3 risk analysis was conducted using all existing surface soil DRO data for Area 22. The Tier 3 risk analysis included evaluation of exposure pathways for ecological receptors (spruce grouse and snowshoe hare) in direct contact with surface soil. The risk analysis showed no exceedences of risk based target levels, indicating little potential for adverse effects from exposure to DRO.

Debris and contaminated soil were removed during in 1996, 1997 and 1998. Approximately 45 cubic yards of 55-gallon drums, food cans, tires, wood pilings, metal piping, concrete, lead-acid batteries, diesel contaminated soil, and metal/wood debris were removed from the site. In addition, one 5-gallon paint can was removed.

Five confirmation samples were also collected from the former concrete pad area after the removal in 1998. All results were either below ADEC Table B cleanup levels or non-detect. No further action is planned.

Area 27- Grease Pit

The Grease Pit is an area approximately 450 feet by 200 feet and is located in the central portion of the site at the southeast corner of the VOR Road and Northway Road intersection.

Based on the results of the 1995 investigation, fuel-related contamination was identified at Area 27. Evidence of contamination included elevated levels of TPH and DRO. Two PCB compounds were also detected. The combined maximum PCB detections of 0.135 mg/kg is below the ADEC cleanup level for unrestricted land use of 1 mg/kg. The maximum pesticide detection was reported at 0.027 mg/kg and below the ADEC Table B soil cleanup level of 24 mg/kg.

Of the 26 surface and sub-surface samples collected in 1995 and 1996, only two surface DRO results exceeded the alternative cleanup level of 3,900 mg/kg. No subsurface results were above the cleanup levels.

Figure 12 – Grease Pit Area

Because the results of the Phase III RI sampling and Tier-3 risk evaluation for Area 27 showed a moderate ecological risk to terrestrial receptors from exposure to DRO in surface soil, the Grease Pit area was recommended for future remedial action in conjunction with Ham Lake. In November 1997, a proposed plan was published and submitted for public comment for the Grease Pit area in conjunction with Ham Lake. An alternative cleanup level (ACL) 3,900 mg/kg DRO was established for the two sites. The alternative cleanup levels are based on risk to residents that may live on-site sometime in the future. The cleanup goals were developed in conjunction with the ADEC and following the regulatory guidance.

Excavation of the Grease Pit site was scheduled for the summer of 1998. Two locations at the Grease Pit were to be excavated. After the surveyors staked the locations and the area was cleared of vegetation, field-screening samples were collected from shallow hand-excavated test pits. Field screening results did not detect the presence of POL contamination.

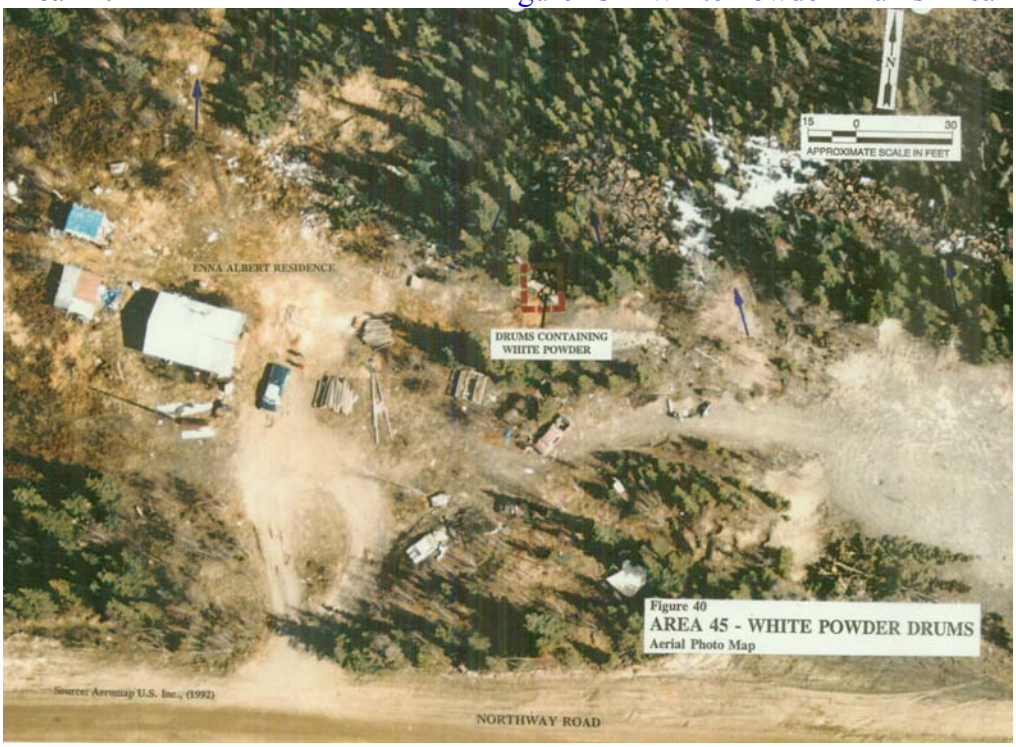
Two test pits measuring approximately 10 feet by 10 feet and 6 feet deep were excavated. Field screening of the excavations and stockpiled soil did not reveal the presence of contamination. Field screening samples were taken from each excavation and the two stockpiles. The onsite lab analyzed 12 total samples from the test pits for TPH. The results ranged from 6 mg/kg to 23 mg/kg. Based on the low field-screening results, the excavation at the Grease Pit site was terminated and confirmation samples were collected from the excavations for analysis at an offsite laboratory.

Confirmation samples were collected from the sidewalls of the excavation since the floors of the Grease Pit excavations were under water. Water samples were collected from the bottom of the excavation pit. All of the samples were analyzed for DRO, RRO, GRO/BTEX, and PAHs. All results were non-detect. No further action is planned for this site.

Area 45- White Powder Drums

The White Powder Drums site is an area approximately 20 feet by 15 feet and is located completely within Area 14.

Figure 13 – White Powder Drums Area



Samples of the white powder material were collected from a drum at Enna Albert's 1993 and 1994.

The laboratory concluded that the material was sodium hydroxide. This conclusion was based both on the presence of sodium in the samples and the high pH measurements. It is likely that the material may have originally consisted of an alkaline anhydrous sodium salt, which over time became hydrated. This type of material may have been used as either an asphalt additive or preparatory soil conditioner in the asphalting process, possibly as a desiccant.

Based on the available results, the white powder did not meet the classification as a hazardous waste. In addition, it does not appear to be as caustic a material as pure sodium hydroxide.

In 1996, military debris associated with this site was removed and is documented under Site 14 (Enna Albert Dump). Twenty-four 55-gallon steel drums and a 20 by 6 by 2 - foot area containing debris and soil mixed with asphalt were removed. The majority of the drums contained asphalt. All seven drums containing the white powder were removed.

No further action is planned for this site.

3.11 Area 51- Former Barracks

The Former Barracks is located in the western central portion of the site, an area of land near the south shore of Hudeuc Lake, northwest of Area 30 (Vehicle Service Pits). According to observations made during the 1994 RI, the site contained apparent remains of military buildings. Based on historic maps (USACE, 1946), this area was used for military quarters. Area 51 is approximately 150 to 200 feet wide by 350 feet.

An inspection for signs of contaminant sources, such as stressed vegetation, drums, debris, odors, and stained surface soil was conducted. The area was mapped and inventoried. Military debris

observed in the area included mainly former housing and associated latrine building materials and foundations. A magnetic survey was conducted but no anomalies were detected.

During the 1995 Phase II investigation, seven surface soil samples were screened for TPH. One sample had an elevated TPH result of 718 mg/kg. The remaining TPH results ranged from non-detect to 120 mg/kg, which are within range of background surface soil results. In addition, two surface soil samples were analyzed for DRO, SVOCs, PCBs, pesticides, and metals. All results for DRO, SVOCs, PCBs, and pesticides were either non-detect or below ADEC cleanup levels. Arsenic, barium, chromium, and lead are all within the range of background levels measured at Northway. Silver was detected in one of the two samples at a concentration of 154 mg/kg, which exceeds the Method 2 cleanup level. This is the only location and sample on the Northway Staging Field site where silver has been encountered. One subsurface soil sample was collected and analyzed for TPH, DRO, SVOCs, VOCs, PCBs, pesticides, and RCRA metals. All results for DRO, VOCs, SVOCs, PCBs, and pesticides were either non-detect or below ADEC cleanup levels. Arsenic, barium, chromium, and lead are all within the range of background levels measured at Northway. Silver was not detected in the subsurface sample.

During the 1997 Phase III RI Addendum, three surface soil samples were collected and analyzed for silver content to fill data gap requirements. All three samples were non-detect for silver.

From the previous two sampling events, 10 surface and subsurface samples were non-detect for silver and only one sample had a detection of silver. No further action is recommended for this site.

Summary of Proposed Plan

Sampling, testing, and remediation within Operable Unit 3 at the Northway Staging Field in Northway, Alaska have resulted in a recommendation of site closure or No DOD Action indicated for the OU3 sites. The toxicity, volume, and mobility of contaminants have been reduced by removal of the primary sources of contamination (i.e. the drums, debris or contaminated soil). Confirmation sampling provides further assurance that the sites no longer pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment. Relevant reports for this area are available at the Administrative Record holding area in the office of the Alaska District, Corps of Engineers and at the information repository at the Walter Northway School library in Northway. Access to these documents can be obtained by calling Shah Alam, the USACE Project Manager for this project at (907) 753-5539.

HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE

We encourage your participation on the No Further Action Determination. Please comment in writing to the following before the end of the comment period:

Mr. Shah Alam
USACE, Alaska District
CEPOA-PM-C-FUDS
PO Box 6898
Anchorage, Alaska 99506-6898

You may send your comments via email to: Shah.Alam@poa02.usace.army.mil. You will also have the opportunity to provide comments during the public meeting scheduled May 11, 2004. The Corps will consider all comments before reaching a final decision for no further action at OU3. The Corps will respond to all comments received during the public comment period in a document called *OU3 Proposed Plan Responsiveness Summary*. The Responsiveness Summary will be a part of the Decision Document and will be available for review at the Walter Northway School Library.

In addition to this plan and the decision document, other reports that detail the investigation, results, and remediation at OU3 may be found at the Walter Northway School Library or by calling Shah Alam at (907) 753-5539.

The Administrative Record is available for the public to view at the Walter Northway School Library or by calling Shah Alam at (907) 753-5539.

Public comment period on this Proposed Plan is from May 11, 2004 to June 10, 2004.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS and ACRONYMS

ACL – Alternative Cleanup Level

ADEC or Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation. - The state agency responsible for environmental quality regulation and enforcement.

Administrative Record The legal file of documents upon which any decision regarding contaminated sites is based. It contains site documents, newsletters, the Community Relations Plan, and other supporting documentation that may be used by federal, state, and local government agencies and private parties to determine appropriate actions for each site.

ARAR - Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements

AST – Above ground storage tank

BLM – Bureau of Land Management

BTEX – Benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene

CAA – Civil Aeronautics Administration

CANOL – Canadian Oil

CERCLA - Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (also known as Superfund)…One of the federal law that guides cleanup of hazardous waste sites.

Decision Document - Documentation of the selected remedy for a site and the rationale for its selection.

DERP – Defense Environmental Restoration Program

DDD, DDE, DDT – pesticides

DOD – Department of Defense

DRO – Diesel range organics

Ecological Risk Assessment - A study of the risks to plants and animals that can be attributed to site contamination.

µg/kg – microgram per kilogram (equal to approximately one part per billion – ppb)

mg/l – milligram per liter (equal to approximately one part per million – ppm)

mg/kg – milligram per kilogram (equal to approximately one part per million – ppm)

NCP – National Oil and Hazardous Substance Pollution Contingency Plan

NDAI – No Department of Defense Action Indicated

NFRAP – No Further Remedial Action Planned

OU- Operable Unit – Sites that have been grouped together due to similarities between the sites.

Parts per billion (ppb) – Units commonly used to express low concentrations of contaminants. For example, one drop of food dye in a railroad tanker car of water (16,000 gallons)

Parts per Million (ppm) - Units commonly used to express low concentrations of contaminants. For example, 4 drops of food dye in a 55-gallon barrel of water is 1 ppm.

PCOC – Potential contaminants of concern

Proposed Plan - A document prepared to inform the public about alternatives being considered for cleaning up a contaminated site. It identifies which alternative or alternatives have been proposed as the preferred alternative(s). The document encourages public comment on all alternatives.

RBSLs – Risk based screening levels

RBTLs – Risk based target levels

PCB – Poly chlorinated biphenyls

Responsiveness Summary - A summary of oral and/or written public comments received during a comment period and the responses to those comments.

EPA or USEPA - United States Environmental Protection Agency

FAA – Federal Aviation Administration

FUDS - Formerly Used Defense Sites

GRO – Gasoline range organics

Hazard Index - An estimate of the likelihood that exposure to a compound will cause health effects other than cancer. A hazard index above 1.0 indicates that some people may experience a health effect.

Human Health Risk Assessment - A study of the risks to human health that can be attributed to site contamination. The study can be divided into cancer risks and non cancer risks.

µg/l – microgram per liter (equal to approximately one part per billion ppb)

RI - Remedial Investigation. An investigation conducted to determine sufficient information on the nature and extent of contamination at a site necessary to identify cleanup alternatives.

RRO – Residual range organics

SARA – Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act

SVOCs – Semi-volatile organic compounds

TPH – Total petroleum hydrocarbons

TRPH – Total residual petroleum hydrocarbons

USACE – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Alaska District).

USFWS – US Fish and Wildlife Service

es Army
Corps of Engineers
Alaska District

PUBLIC REVIEW COMMENT FORM
Proposed Plan for
No Further Action/No Defense Action Indicated Report
Northway Staging Field – OU3
Northway, Alaska

Your input on the remedial alternatives discussed in this Proposed Plan is important. Comments provided by the public are valuable.

You may use the space below to prepare your comments. When you are finished, please fold and mail. A return address has been provided on the back of this page for your convenience. Comments must be postmarked by June 10, 2004. If you have questions about the comment period, please contact Mr. Shah Alam at (907) 753-5539 or by Internet at **Shah.Alam@poa02.usace.army.mil**

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Comments must be postmarked by June 10, 2004.

Name: _____

Address: _____

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Telephone: ( ) _____

PUBLIC COMMENT SHEET

Fold along dashed lines, staple, stamp, and mail.

Name _____
Address _____
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PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Mr. Shah Alam
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