

Subject	Meeting #6 - Barnes Air National Guard Base (ANGB) Restoration Advisory Board (RAB)		
Prepared by	Johannah Phelan /Jacobs		
Location	Westfield Athenaeum WebEx Meeting	Date/Time	January 25, 2024, 6:00 p.m.
RAB Members	Additional Meeting Participants Chris Brown/National Guard Bureau (NGB) Maj Brian Morecraft/Barnes ANGB Jennifer Baker/Barnes ANGB SSgt Randy Burlingame/Barnes ANGB Caprice Shaw/Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) Amy Brand/Jacobs Johannah Phelan/Jacobs A full list of meeting attendees is provided in Attachment A.		

The Barnes ANGB RAB Meeting No. 6 was held on January 25, 2024 at 1800 at the Westfield Athenaeum and via WebEx. The following notes provide a summary of discussions during the meeting and are not intended to serve as a transcript or further explain information provided during the meeting. A copy of the presentation is attached in **Attachment B**.

- 1 The meeting began at 6:00 p.m. with the RAB facilitator, Amy Brand/Jacobs, welcoming participants. Amy presented the agenda, provided an overview of meeting guidelines and how to use the WebEx meeting platform, and then invited the Base Co-chair and Community Co-chair to provide opening remarks.
- 2 Col Halasikun, Base Co-Chair and representative of Barnes ANGB, and Community Co-Chair Kathleen Hillman made opening remarks welcoming and thanking RAB members and community participants.
- 3 The meeting summary from the October 2023 meeting and future meeting dates of April 25, July 25, and October 25, 2024 were approved by the RAB.
- 4 Mary Ann asked if the subject of the FY24 Technical Assistance for Public Participation (TAPP) grant was decided. During the previous meeting the RAB agreed the grant should focus on per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) impacts of human health.
- 5 Chris Brown indicated that the Air National Guard (ANG) is following the simplified acquisition process for the grant and the request is with contracting for evaluation and market research. Maj Sinclair confirmed the TAPP grant request was undergoing review and market research and hopes to have it awarded in the April 2024 timeframe, pending available funding.
- 6 Chris provided an update for the Environmental Restoration Program (ERP). The Remedial Investigation (RI) contract was awarded in September 2023 and a general picture of the timeline is presented in Slide 19.

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- 7 Kristen Mello asked if the RAB should seek approval on the next TAPP grant (FY25) in July of 2024 so it can work through the contracting process at the beginning of FY25. Chris indicated that this may be helpful. Funding for TAPP grants does not need to be fully expended in the fiscal year (FY) it is awarded. The period of performance can extend beyond the FY of the award. TAPP grants cannot exceed \$100,000 or 1% of the total remediation funds. The RAB can apply for a waiver if they want to exceed the cap.
 - 8 The intent of the RI is to define the nature and extent of contamination. This includes collecting samples from surface and subsurface soil, groundwater, surface water, and sediment. If results are detected above the current action level of 70 parts per trillion (ppt), then interim action measures may be considered (immediate action).
 - 9 Amanda and Dan from USACE (contracting oversight for the SRS Battelle Joint Venture that was awarded the RI) explained nature and extent and fate and transport. In laymen's terms, fate and transport is how a specific chemical is transported from point A to B. It depends on the nature of the chemical and how it reacts to the surrounding media.
 - 10 A human health risk assessment (HHRA) and ecological risk assessment (ERA) are part of the RI scope.
 - 11 Andrew from Battelle indicated they're working on a data gap memo. Soil sampling in a grid pattern will be conducted in source areas. Step out samples (additional samples) will be collected if/when PFAS is detected above screening levels. Vertical aquifer sampling is also planned for the initial field effort. This includes sampling groundwater at different depth intervals within the aquifer, including the shallow bedrock.
 - 12 RAB members asked if Dr. Boutt's report was being used to inform the proposed sampling locations. Andrew indicated yes, Dr. Boutt's report, public water supply data, and data from the Site Inspection (SI) and Expanded Site Inspection (ESI) were being evaluated to select the initial sampling locations. They will evaluate private and municipal data, including data collected by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) from private wells.
 - 13 RAB members asked if sampling would be performed between the Westfield River and north of the turnpike. The answer is yes, sampling in that area is included. The RAB also asked if there would be sampling west of the runway and north of the turnpike: yes. The turnpike is south of the airport. The Unified Federal Policy for Quality Assurance Project Plan (UFP-QAPP) will include a map with the proposed sampling locations.
 - 14 Rights of Entry may be required to access some sampling locations. Any impact to private lands will be corrected and restored to original conditions.
 - 15 Stream piezometers will be installed as part of the RI. Data from piezometers helps determine the surface water to groundwater connection.
 - 16 Battelle hopes to begin field work in the Fall of 2024, after the UFP-QAPP and Accident Prevention Plan are completed and approved.
 - 17 Andrew provided a detailed explanation of the conceptual site model (CSM), what it represents, and how it is prepared. It is a key part of the RI. The CSM helps inform the risk assessment as it helps identify key potential receptors. It explains how chemicals are released, how they migrate, how far and deep they have migrated, the geology and hydrogeology, and recharge and discharge areas. Receptors may include people at the Base, off base residents, drinking groundwater wells, wetlands, flora, and fauna, etc. The

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- CSM is a living document that is updated as new data becomes available. Computer models cannot be built until a preliminary CSM is developed.
- 18 Kristen asked if a fate and transport model has been made and if not, then why? Chris clarified that developing the fate and transport model is a part of the RI process, it is developed with information collected during the RI.
- 19 The UFP-QAPP will include a map with proposed sample locations. Selecting sampling locations is an iterative process. Data is collected; if PFAS is detected, then additional samples are collected downgradient (step-out locations) until “clean” samples are detected.
- 20 Kristen asked if the Department of Defense (DoD) would take over providing filters on residential wells, currently provided by MassDEP.
- 21 Mary Ann asked if groundwater flows south or east, from Hampton towards Holyoke. She asked if Southamptton might be impacted by PFAS. ANG indicated there is not enough data at this time to determine if Southamptton has been impacted. This should be resolved by the RI.
- 22 Offsite non-DoD sources of PFAS will also be considered during data collection.
- 23 No public questions were received.
- 24 Col Halasikun provided closing remarks and the meeting was adjourned.

Action Items

- 1 None

Attachment A
RAB Meeting Attendees (in person and online*)

Allie	Dan	Westfield City Council
Apell	Jennifer	USACE
Babinski	Mary Ann	RAB Member
Badik	Beth	Parsons
Baker	Jennifer	Barnes ANGB
Bartow	Andrew	Battelle
Belanger	Todd	Parsons
Brand	Amy	Jacobs RAB Facilitator
Brown	Chris	National Guard Bureau Restoration Program Manager
Burlingame	SSgt Randy	Barnes ANGB
Chambers	Kevin	Sen. Velis's Office
Clark	Chris	RAB Member
Esquivel	Rosa	Jacobs
Folan	Dan	USACE
Freihofer	Keith	National Guard Bureau
Greenberg	Grace	USACE
Griffin	James	SRS
Halisi-Kun	Col. David	Barnes ANGB Base Co-Chair
Hewitt	Jerry	

* Not all online participants can be or choose to be identified

Hillman	Kathleen	RAB Member Community Co-Chair
Leslie	Karla	
Martin	Amanda	USACE
Mello	Kristen	RAB Member
Morecraft	Maj Brian	Barnes ANGB
Narcisi	Michael	USACE
Okscin	Jane	RAB Member
Phelan	Johannah	Jacobs
Rawlison	Jennifer	
Scala	Carolyn	Battelle
Shaw	Caprice	Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Unknown		Unidentified call-in participant
Unknown		Unidentified call-in participant
Unknown		Unidentified call-in participant
Unknown		Unidentified call-in participant
Unknown		Unidentified call-in participant
Unknown		Unidentified call-in participant
Unknown		Unidentified call-in participant
Unknown		Unidentified call-in participant
Zelenevich	Max	Battelle

* Not all online participants can be or choose to be identified



Attachment B



Barnes Air National Guard (ANG) Base Restoration Advisory Board Meeting #6 January 25, 2024



Agenda



- 6:00 PM Agenda Review and Hybrid Meeting Logistics
- 6:05 PM Welcome and Introductions
- 6:10 PM RAB Business
- 6:25 PM Environmental Restoration Program Status Update
- 7:10 PM Public Questions and Comments
- 7:25 PM Closing Remarks
- 7:30 PM Adjourn



Hybrid Meeting Logistics

Amy Brand

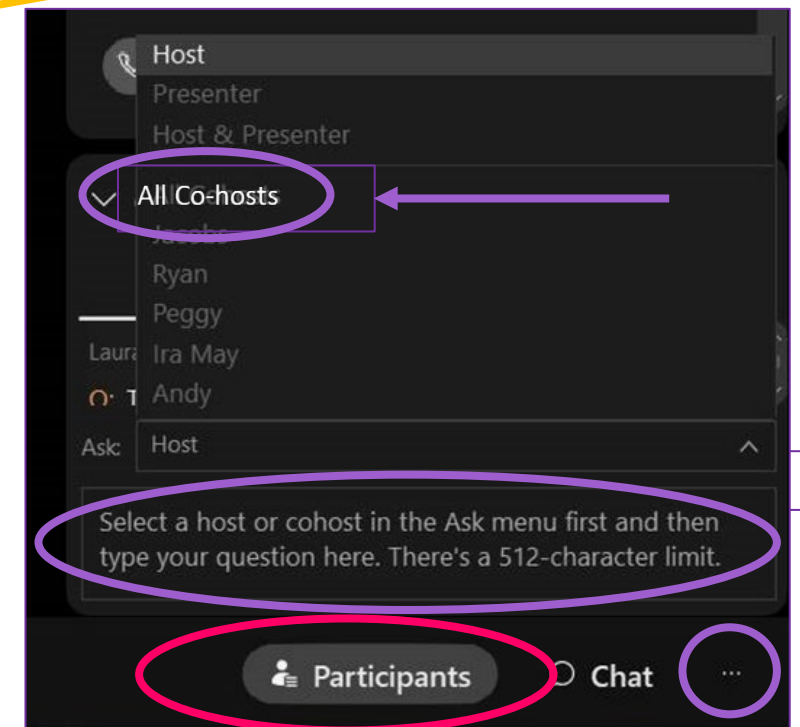
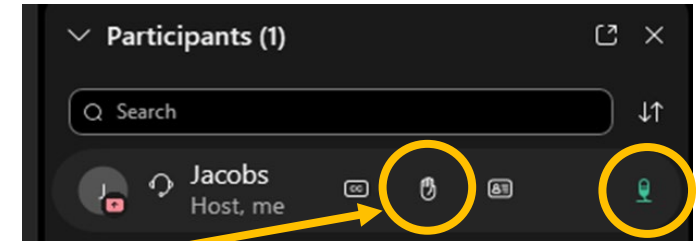
Jacobs

RAB Facilitator



Webex Basics – Computer

- Video – OFF except for presenters
- Open participants list
- To ask a question:
 - RAB Members - Raise hand to be called on to speak
 - Scroll over your name in the participant list and click on hand symbol
 - Unmute yourself when called on
 - Public participants - Type a question to “all co-hosts” in the Q&A panel
 - Click on 3 dots in lower right corner, choose Q&A
 - Select “all co-hosts” and type question
 - Questions will be answered at the end of the meeting





Webex Basics – Telephone Participants



- Follow along on slide presentation (emailed or download from 104th Fighter Wing website at <https://www.104fw.ang.af.mil/About/Restoration-Advisory-Board/>)
- Use your phone mute button when not speaking.
- Dial *3 to raise hand to be called on to speak after the presentation
 - Host will unmute you after seeing the raised hand
 - You will then receive a prompt to dial *6 on the phone to unmute yourself
 - Unmute and identify yourself when asking a question or making a comment.



Meeting Guidelines



- RAB Members
 - Ask questions at the end of each topic
 - Raise hand to be called on to speak
 - Introduce yourself so that everyone (in room and online) knows who is speaking
 - Please observe a 2-minute limit to enable other RAB members to participate.
- Public Participants
 - Submit questions in writing addressed to “all co-hosts”
 - Questions will be read and addressed at the end of the meeting
 - Public questions by phone may be asked verbally at the end of the meeting by pressing *3 to raise your hand



Welcome and Introductions

Col. David Halasi-kun

Kathleen Hillman



Welcome and Introductions



Air National Guard Team

Col. David Halasi-kun (Base Co-Chair)

Christopher Brown, National Guard Bureau

Jennifer Baker, 104th FW Environmental Coordinator

Contractors: BB&E, Jacobs (Amy Brand, RAB facilitator)

Community RAB Members

Kathleen Hillman, Community Co-Chair

Marianne Babinski

Chris Clark

Nabil Hannoush

Kristen Mello

Rachael Morin

Mary O'Connell

Jane Okscin

Representative Kelly Pease

Dawn Thomas

Senator John Velis

Regulatory Contact

Caprice Shaw, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP)



Welcome and Introductions



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Team

Amanda Martin, Project Manager/ Technical Lead

Grace Greenberg, Risk Assessor

Jennifer Apell, PhD, Project Chemist

Mike Narcisi, Wetland Ecologist/Soil Scientist

Dan Folan, PhD, PG, LSP, Geologist/Hydrogeologist

SRS-Battelle JV Team (USACE Contractor)

Carolyn Scala, Battelle, Program Manager

Max Zelenevich, Battelle, FTL and SSHO

Andrew Barton, Battelle, Project Manager

Beth Badik, Parsons, PFAS Advisor

James Griffin, SRS, Alternate Project Manager

Todd Belanger, Parsons, Geologist



RAB Business

Amy Brand

Jacobs

RAB Facilitator



Meeting Summaries

- Draft meeting summary from RAB Meeting #5 (October 2023)
 - Emailed to the RAB – any comments?
 - Draft posted on the 104th FW website:
<https://www.104fw.ang.af.mil/About/Restoration-Advisory-Board/>



Upcoming Meetings

- Dates
 - Agreed on fourth Thursday of the month, every 3 months: January, April, July, October
 - Adjustments to be made when needed
 - Upcoming meetings: April 25, 2024
 July 25, 2024
 October 24, 2024
- Meeting location
 - Continue with Westfield Athenaeum



Technical Assistance for Public Participation (TAPP) Grant

- Previous TAPP awarded June 16 to University of Massachusetts Amherst to obtain technical support from Dr. David Boutt
 - Presentation to RAB and summary report submitted October 2023
 - Period of performance ended 11 December 2023
- Next TAPP Grant
 - Discussion at last meeting re: topics
 - RAB members voted by majority to pursue a TAPP focused on potential human health impacts



RAB Member Discussion



- Please raise your hands and unmute yourself when recognized.
- Introduce yourself at the beginning of your question or comment.
- Please limit questions to 2 minutes to give other RAB members an opportunity to participate.



Environmental Restoration Program Status Update

Christopher Brown
National Guard Bureau



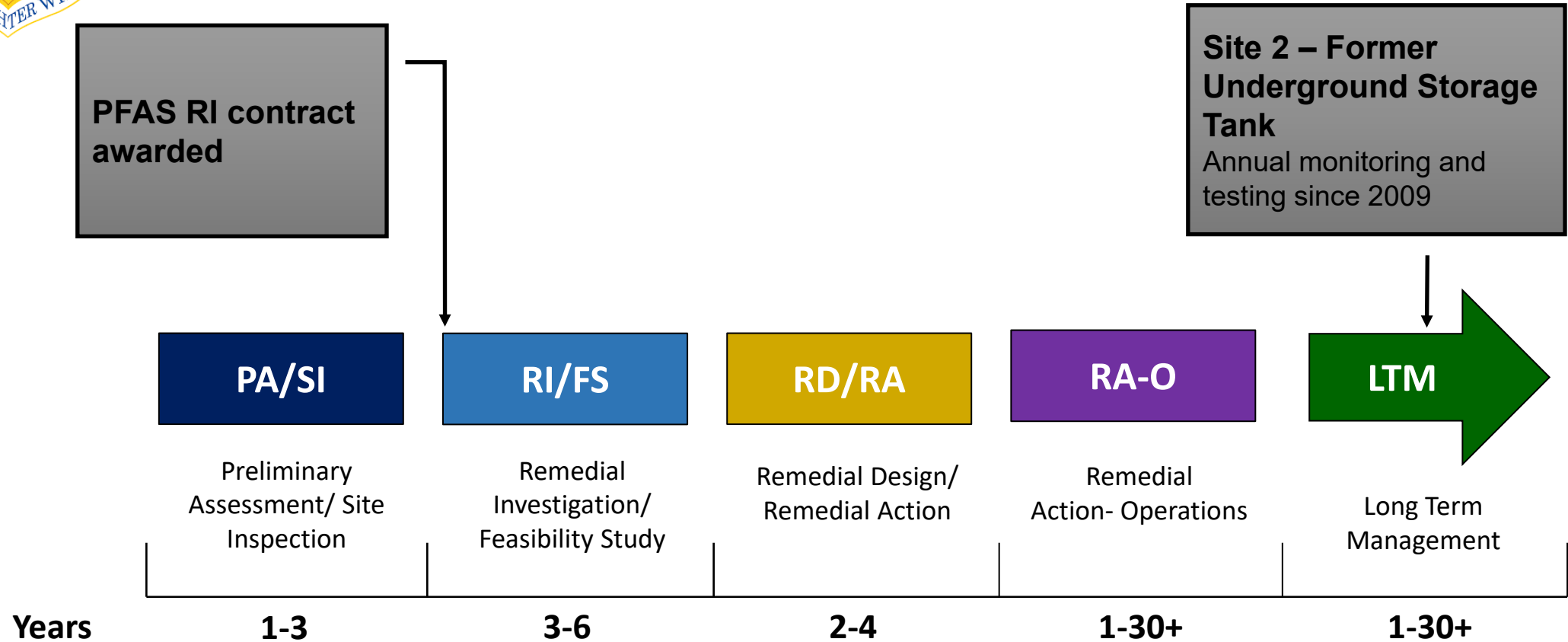
Environmental Restoration Program



- Environmental investigations/cleanup (non-PFAS sites) have been ongoing at Barnes since 1987
 - Six sites have been cleaned up and closed by 2015
 - ERP Site 2 is in long-term monitoring phase
- PFAS Investigation
 - Preliminary Assessment 2016
 - Site Investigation 2018
 - Expanded Site Inspection 2020
 - Remedial Investigation, contract awarded September 2023



CERCLA Process



- * Many factors are considered when moving an environmental project to the next phase of work, including available funding.
- ** DoD can take short-term action anytime during the process, if there are exceedances of the HA of 70ppt.

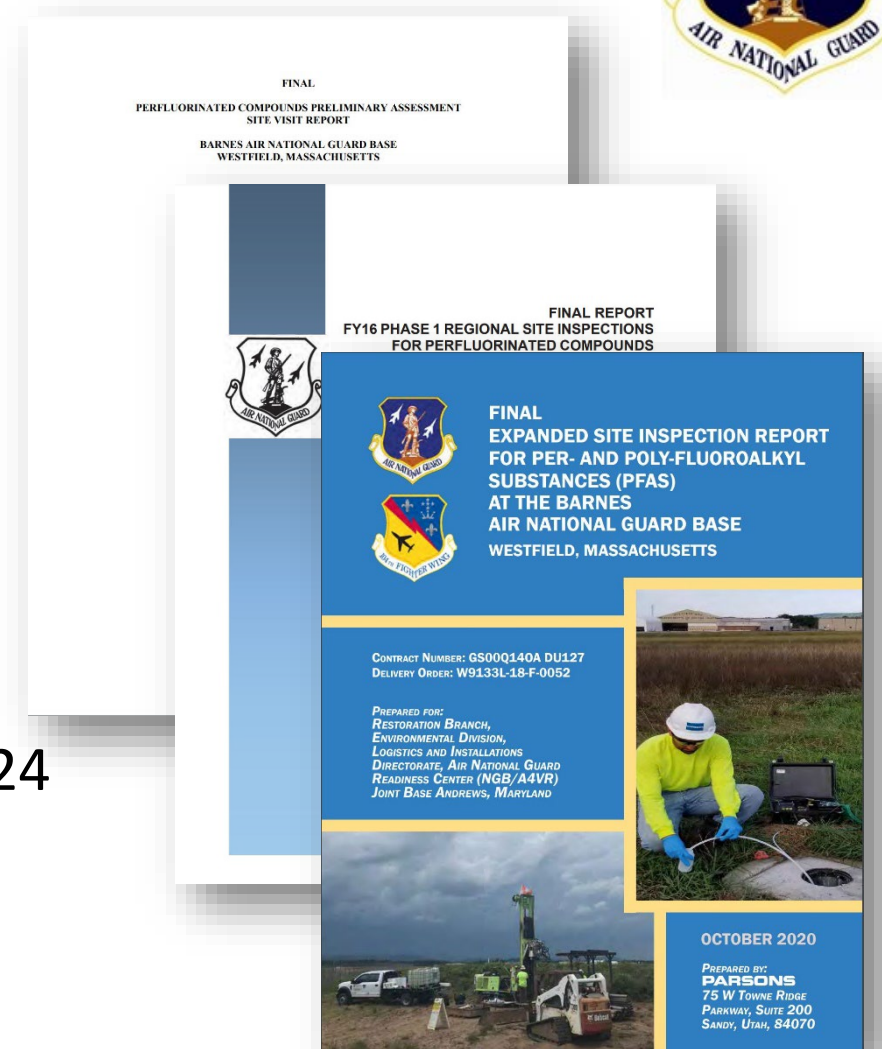
CERCLA = Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act



Remedial Investigation Update

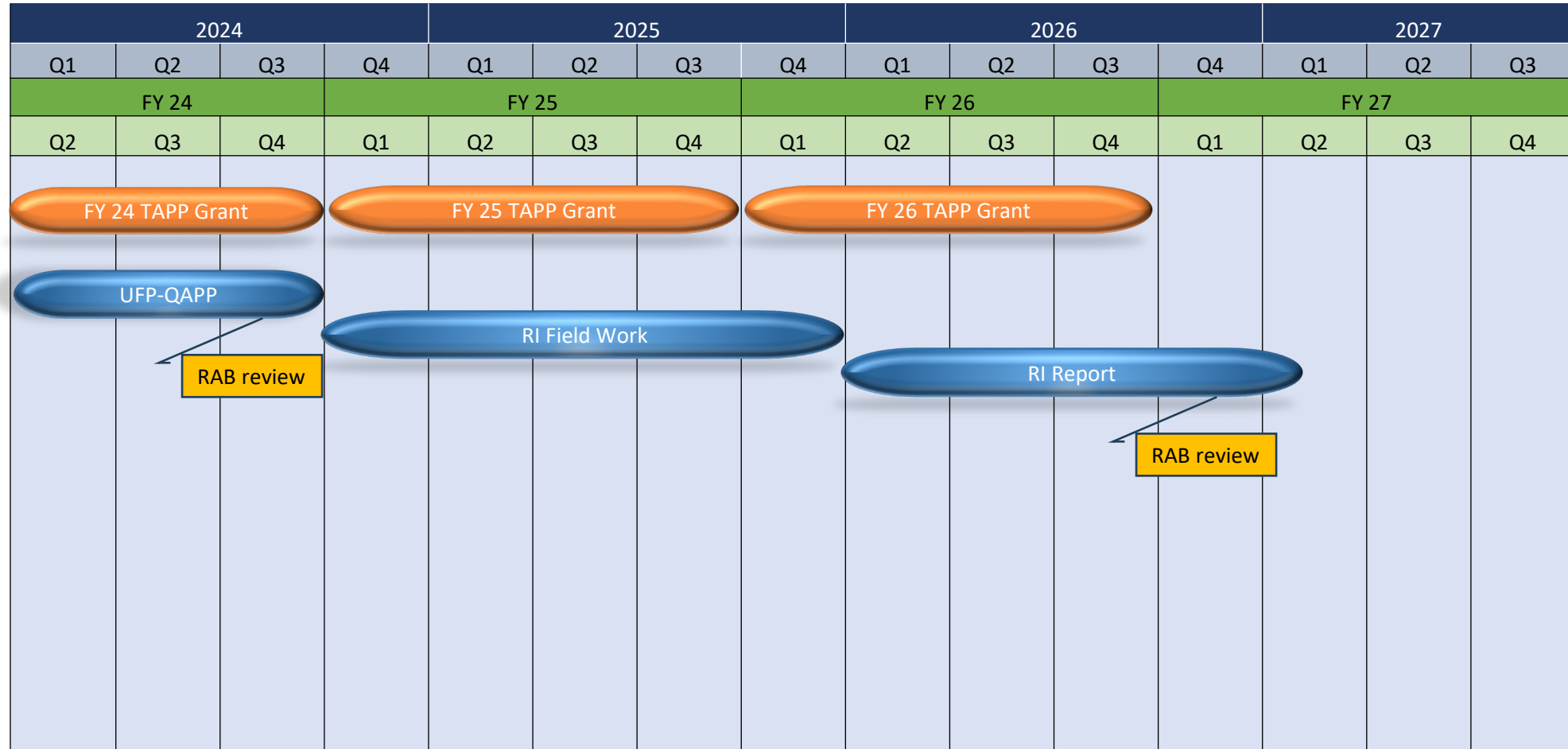


- Current CERCLA Step: Remedial Investigation (RI)
 - RI will determine nature and extent of PFAS migration
- Next Steps
 - Review of historical data/ identification of data gaps
 - Development of Uniform Federal Policy-Quality Assurance Project Plan (UFP-QAPP), Late Fall 2024
 - Start of field sampling activities, Late Fall 2024





Barnes Restoration Calendar





Objectives of the Remedial Investigation

- Delineate the nature and extent of PFAS in surface and subsurface soil, groundwater, surface water, and sediment from Department of Defense (DoD)-related releases
- Develop an understanding of the fate and transport of PFAS including baseline groundwater flow
- Update the Conceptual Site Model (CSM) to acquire a holistic understanding of the PFAS releases, geologic and hydrogeologic conditions, and migration in the environment
- Define background and establish site-specific PFAS background concentrations for the appropriate media (e.g., soil, groundwater, surface water, sediment)
- Prepare a quantitative baseline PFAS human health risk assessment (HHRA)



Scope of the Remedial Investigation Contract

- Source area surface soil sampling (step-out approach)
- Subsurface soil sampling (once source areas are located)
- Groundwater vertical aquifer sampling (VAS)
- Monitoring well installation, development, and sampling (at least 2 rounds)
 - Includes additional wells in the shallow overburden, intermediate overburden, deep overburden, and shallow bedrock groundwater
 - Potential for future phases to investigate deeper bedrock groundwater depending on results



Scope of the Remedial Investigation Contract

- Stream bed piezometer installation (groundwater-to-surface water interaction)
- Surface water sampling (at least 2 rounds)
- Sediment sampling
- Synoptic groundwater and surface water gauging (at least 2 rounds)
- Habitat assessment
- Evaluation of existing private and municipal well data



RAB Member Discussion



- Please raise your hands and unmute yourself when recognized.
- Introduce yourself at the beginning of your question or comment.
- Please limit questions to 2 minutes to give other RAB members an opportunity to participate.



Public Questions and Comments



In person: Raise hand to be recognized

Online: Submit questions using the written Q&A feature



Contact Information



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Base Co-Chair
Commander
Col. David Halasi-kun

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Ms. Jennifer Baker

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Community Co-Chair

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Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

Caprice Shaw
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Caprice.shaw@state.ma.us



Websites for More Information



Environmental Restoration Program at 104th Fighter Wing

- General and Links to PFOS/PFOA Information: <https://www.104fw.ang.af.mil/About/Environmental/>
- Restoration Advisory Board: <https://www.104fw.ang.af.mil/About/Restoration-Advisory-Board/>

Relative Risk Site Evaluation (RRSE)

- Barnes RRSE: https://www.104fw.ang.af.mil/Portals/5/Barnes_RRSE%20Fact%20Sheet%20and%20Scoring%20Summaries_211215.pdf
- RRSE Primer: https://www.denix.osd.mil/references/dod/policy-guidance/relative-risk-site-evaluation-primer/RRSE_Primer_Summer1997.pdf

104th Fighter Wing Environmental Administrative Record

- <https://ar.afcec-cloud.af.mil/Search.aspx> (Select ANG radio button, select Barnes, and click on search)

MassDEP PFAS Information

- <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/per-and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfas>

Westfield Water Department PFAS Information

- <https://www.cityofwestfield.org/672/PFCs-Information-Updates>

RAB Rule Handbook and Information on Technical Assistance for Public Participation

- <https://www.denix.osd.mil/rab/home/>

Air Force Response to PFOS and PFOA

- <https://www.afcec.af.mil/WhatWeDo/Environment/Perfluorinated-Compounds/>



Closing Remarks

Kathleen Hillman
Col. David Halasi-kun



Adjourn