

***Final Minutes
Restoration Advisory Board
Former Lowry Bombing and Gunnery Range
July 21, 2004***

The July 21st, 2004, meeting of the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) was held at the Aurora Public Library at 14949 E. Alameda Dr., Aurora, CO 80012. The meeting started at 6:15 p.m.

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Ms. Bonnie Rader, Community co-chair for the RAB opened the meeting at 6:10 p.m. Ms. Rader asked all in attendance to introduce themselves.

Attendance

The following RAB members were present:

- Jerry Hodgson, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District (USACE), Co-chair
- Bonnie Rader, Community Co-Chair
- Bob Hastings, Citizen
- Julio Iturreria, Arapahoe County
- Marie Mackenzie, Board of County Commissioners
- Danna Ortiz, State Land Board
- James Ives, City of Aurora
- Jeff Swanson, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE)
- Lynn Robbio Wagner, Tri-County Health Department
- Pete Pagano, DTH #2
- Joe Freund, Citizen

Other attendees:

- Keith Wegner, Correlation Corp.
- John Mullen, Shaw Environmental Inc.
- Tracie White, Shaw Environmental Inc.
- Teri Farrell, Shaw Environmental Inc.
- Morey Engle, Shaw Environmental, Inc.
- Natalie VanTyne, Shaw Environmental, Inc.
- Rick StAmand, Shaw Environmental, Inc.
- Richard Rader, Citizen
- Jim Anelle, USACE
- Spencer Luft, Cunningham Fire District
- Tim Blume, Army Environmental Center
- Laura Bishard, CDPHE
- John Dalton, US EPA
- Jerry Jacobs, LRP, LLC
- Bob Sanderman, LRP, LLC
- Sharon Moore, Air Education Training Command (AETC)
- Skip Sowards, Power Surveying
- Phil Sirles, Power Surveying
- Rick Luebbbers, CH2M Hill

GENERAL RAB ITEMS

Ms. Bonnie Rader, Community Co-chair, asked if the board had an opportunity to review the minutes of the prior meeting. The minutes for the March 24, 2004 RAB meeting were approved without comment. The May 19, 2004 meeting minutes were approved with the understanding that comments from Ed LaRock, CDPHE, would be incorporated.

STATE LAND BOARD

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Ms. Danna Ortiz, State Land Board (SLB), gave an update on the SLBs plans to develop some of the parcels on the FLBGR property. Ms. Ortiz mentioned the SLB is currently in the inventory and research phase where they have conducted a 16,000 acre environmental inventory to document wildlife habitat, vegetation, hydrologic features, etc. She also mentioned that the Board wants to take a more holistic approach to land management than they have in the past, and that an integrated ~~wheat~~ ~~weed~~ management plan is also being sought ~~developed~~. Part of the research phase will also include the establishment of benchmarks for sustainable development, ~~open space preservation, urban design, education and economic development~~. Examples of a ~~holistic approach to land use~~ the research they are conducting on sustainable development principles includes the generation of renewable energy from the landfill and enhancing the natural systems on the property. The Board is also working with ~~and the formation of an Educational Research and Development center~~ to research opportunities to integrate educational aspects into site activities. The Board is also looking into options for economic development as they define their vision for the property. That said, all of that work is research. Then next step will be working closely with the Board to develop a strategic plan and define what their vision is for the property. The Board hopes to bring on a full-time person to help devise the strategic plan and a land management plan and to help with outreach to the stakeholders. State Land Board meeting agendas and proceedings are available on their web site.

The SLB's ~~has not yet sent out any~~ Request for Proposals (RFPs) is a long way off. There are many internal issues to explore first, including the clean up of the property. Mr. Richard Rader, citizen, asked Ms. Ortiz whether or not the transition of SLB land is open to the public for review and comment. Ms. Ortiz responded that yes, the ~~proceedings~~ SLB will be presenting findings to the appropriate boards, the public and posted on the SLB website. Ms. Ortiz mentioned that the process for internal agreement on a plan forward may take many months before the public process begins.

FORMER LOWRY TRAINING ANNEX

FIELD WORK UPDATE

(presentation posted on the web)

Ms. Sharon Moore, U.S. Air Force, Air Education and Training Command (AETC), presented an update regarding the Former Lowry Training Annex (FLTA) project status. There are a total of 670 grids, with 627 complete and 21 awaiting QA/QC. To date, 59 live items have been located. There are currently three teams performing munitions response activities in the FLTA.

FORMER LOWRY BOMBING AND GUNNERY RANGE

Technical Assistance for Public Participation (TAPP)

(presentation posted on the web)

Mr. Keith Wegner, TAPP, presented a progress report concerning the Technical Advisory Services for the Former Lowry Bombing and Gunnery Range (FLBGR). The report included a progress summary, current tasks, and a cost summary. Mr. Wegner's progress report is provided in the handout.

FIELD WORK UPDATE

(presentation posted on the web)

Mr. Jerry Hodgson presented an update regarding the FLBGR project status. The presentation included a summary of activities completed to date, ongoing activities, and future efforts. There are currently three conventional UXO teams performing munitions response activities in Bombing Target 6 and three in the FLTA. A total of eight grids have been completed since the previous RAB meeting, consisting mostly of over 2,000 lb of OE scrap material.

FLBGR Geophysical Mapping Program

Mr. Hodgson explained that initializing a “map-and-dig” strategy, in some lower-density areas, may yield cost savings over the use of conventional “mag-and-dig” methods, in that fewer excavations may be needed to find everything of interest. Determining the anomaly-density breakpoint at which map-and-dig becomes more efficient is one objective for the program.

Another objective of the geophysical mapping program is to define a post-removal verification strategy. Upon completion of munitions response activities at an Area of Concern (AOC), verification of the area may be performed utilizing Military Standard 1916 (Mil-Std 1916), which is similar to the QA approach used at the private clearance sites. Mr. Hodgson stated that he would like to have someone give a briefing regarding the Mil-Std 1916 at the next RAB meeting.

An additional objective is to develop a geophysical transect design/method in an effort to delineate the AOC boundaries. This method will be developed in BT6 in two phases:

1. 20 grids in the southeast corner of BT6 will be mapped at 100% coverage
2. Additional grids will be mapped based on Phase 1.

After completing these two phases, a plan forward and a standard for delineating boundaries for AOCs across the site will be developed.

Wide Area Assessment (WAA)

Final WAA areas of interest (AOIs) field verification were completed on July 13 and 14, 2004. Areas which were field verified were derived from LiDAR data, SAR data, HSI data, and Orthophotography. A number of “Presumptively Clean” areas were verified as well.

- Crater areas, derived from LiDAR data, were used to identify craters, berms, and munitions-related features; seven AOIs were identified for field verification. During the verification process, grenade pieces, frag, and 20mm casings were discovered at one of the seven AOIs; the other 6 had no evidence of munitions-related material.
- Ortho areas, located from orthophotography in conjunction with SAR and HSI data, were used to identify other munitions-related features. Twenty AOIs were identified for field verification. 100 pound practice bomb pieces and .50 caliber casings were found at one AOI; the other 19 displayed no evidence of munitions-related material.
- “Presumptively Clean” areas were determined from all of the WAA data to contain no AOIs. Twenty presumptively clean areas were identified for field verification. All twenty areas were void of any munitions-related material.

Both of the AOIs that contained suspect material will be further investigated. All nine flexible gunnery targets, identified in the ASR, will also be further investigated.

The field verification process was successful in identifying “Presumptively Clean” areas, and has provided a high degree of confidence that all AOCs across the site have been located. This confidence allows the project teams to focus their efforts on known AOCs (less than 10% of the total 59,000 acres in the FLBGR boundary).

Adjournment

Arrangements were made for the next meeting to be held September 15, 2004, 6:00 p.m., at the Doubletree Hotel, 13696 E. Iliff Place, Aurora.

Meeting notification for the next RAB meeting should be sent on or around September 7, 2004.