

**Restoration Advisory Board  
Former Lowry Bombing and Gunnery Range (FLBGR)  
19 October 2011  
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES**

*The 19 October 2011 meeting of the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) was held at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Site Compound, 25950 East Quincy Avenue, Aurora, CO 80016. The scheduled start time was 6:00 p.m.*

**WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS**

Mr. Ryan Field, USACE on-site Ordnance and Explosives Safety Specialist (OESS), led the meeting in place of Mr. Jerry Hodgson, USACE Project Manager, who was unable to attend. Mr. Field called the meeting to order at approximately 6:05 p.m. and then asked all attendees to introduce themselves.

**ATTENDANCE**

The following RAB members were present:

- Bob Hastings, Citizen
- Julio Iturreria, Arapahoe County
- Carol Maclennan, Tri-County Department of Health (TCHD)
- Melissa Palmer, Department of the Navy (U.S. Navy)
- Don Roche, City of Aurora
- Jeff Swanson, Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment (CDPHE)
- Melissa Yoder, State Land Board (SLB)

Other attendees:

- Ryan Field, USACE
- David Rathke, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- Randy Hawbaker, Cherry Creek School District (CCSD)
- Larry Liebrecht, Colorado Aviation Historical Society
- Rick Mueller, City of Aurora
- Marilyn Null, CDPHE
- Gregory Ochis, SLB
- Lynn Robbio Wagner, TCHD
- Marvin Williams, American Automation Building Solutions, Inc.
- Morey Engle, Shaw Environmental, Inc. (Shaw)
- Lisa Stahl, Shaw
- Chris Sundeen, Shaw
- Steven Gehring, Shaw
- Heesoo Chung, Sky Research, Inc. (SKY)
- Michelle Klomp, Engineering/Remediation Resources Group (ERRG)
- Brad Hall, ERRG
- Jed Lowrey, Tetra Tech
- John Mullen, M2R Solutions

**GENERAL RAB ITEMS**

Mr. Field asked if the Board had an opportunity to review the minutes from the 20 July 2011 RAB meeting. As there were no comments, the minutes from the July 2011 RAB meeting were approved.

***NAVY/Denver Research Institute (DRI)***

***Navy Update (presentation posted on the project website: [www.flbgr.org](http://www.flbgr.org))***

Ms. Melissa Palmer (U.S. Navy) presented the current status of the munitions response effort at the NAVY/DRI Site. Since field work had been essentially completed prior to the July RAB, no further field work has been performed at the site since the last RAB meeting. As a result, Ms. Palmer briefly ran through the July 2011 briefing again, to refresh the Board as to the current project status. Currently, the Navy is working on the closeout report to document the removal action. Also, the Navy is awaiting testing, characterization, and disposal of containerized depleted uranium rounds, debris with radioactive paint residue, and contaminated soil.

For informational purposes, Ms. Palmer handed out copies of the Munitions Response Site Prioritization module questionnaire forms initially used to evaluate potential risk at the NAVY/DRI Site. The Department of Defense (DoD) also uses this questionnaire to prioritize funding for military munitions response actions. Prioritization is based on the types of munitions used, characteristics of the surrounding population, and the possibility of encountering munitions. By presenting this information, Ms. Palmer fulfilled DoD requirements regarding disclosure of prioritization results to regulators and stakeholders. Mr. Jeff Swanson (CDPHE) pointed out that the USACE had not performed this type of prioritization for the FLBGR because munitions response efforts at the site predated the DoD's prioritization policy and because the site had already been designated a high priority. Mr. Swanson also reminded the Board that within the FLBGR, sites have traditionally been independently prioritized by the RAB to focus field work to priority areas.

***FORMER LOWRY BOMBING AND GUNNERY RANGE (FLBGR)***

***Project Status and Field Work Update (presentation posted on the project website: [www.flbgr.org](http://www.flbgr.org))***

Mr. Field presented a briefing on the current project status of munitions response activities at the FLBGR, which included a brief summary of activities completed to date, ongoing activities, and planned future efforts. To date, the project has had 4,285 days without lost time due to injury.

The FLBGR currently encompasses 12 known munitions response sites (MRSs) and 3 areas of interest (AOIs) within approximately 59,000 acres (~100 square miles). To date, 4,396 acres have been cleared, 26,280 live items have been disposed, over 1,464,920 inert items have been recovered, over 674,833 pounds (~337 tons) of munitions scrap have been recovered, and over 286 tons of munitions scrap has been sent off-site for disposal. To illustrate the decreased level of effort at the site due to progress of the field work, Mr. Field pointed out that at one time there had been 17 roll-offs filled with scrap on-site, but now there was only one. Currently, there are five munitions response teams in the field at the FLBGR within two of the MRSs: two munitions response teams and one geophysical team are working within Bombing Target 2 (BT2); and two munitions response teams are working within Bombing Target 4 (BT4). Mr. Field anticipates the addition of a geophysical team to BT4 in the near future to finish this target.

Mr. Field announced that the new contract for the Jeep/Demolition Range (J/DR) clearance effort was awarded in September 2011. The prime contractor will be ERRG, with SKY as the subcontractor. Field work is scheduled to begin spring 2012 and be completed by December 2012, with final reporting completed by May 2013. Additional details on the specific technical approach to be used for the J/DR effort will be provided to the Board by Mr. Jerry Hodgson (USACE) at the next RAB meeting.

The status of the individual MRSs was not specifically addressed during the briefing. Rather, Mr. Field encouraged everyone to look at the individual MRS status slides for themselves, which had been provided as a handout within the FLBGR briefing. The FLBGR briefing and MRS status slides will also be posted to the project website ([www.flbgr.com](http://www.flbgr.com)). Mr. Field commented that a lot of field work has been completed

- that the USACE has cleared a large number of the dense target center grids, and that the majority of sites east of the Coal Creek drainage are considered complete.

### ***Five-Year Review Status***

The draft Five-Year Review Report has been completed and is currently being reviewed by Mr. Hodgson. Because the review process is taking longer than anticipated, the public meeting for the draft final report, originally scheduled for the October RAB meeting, has been delayed and will be pushed back until the report is ready for public review and comment, most likely to the January 2012 RAB meeting.

### ***Questions***

Mr. Swanson inquired about the start of field work at J/DR. Mr. Field responded that he anticipated field work would begin in May 2012. In a follow-up question, Mr. Swanson asked if the plan is for the whole range to be cleared by the December 2012 date or just the central berm triangle. Mr. Field indicated that the whole J/DR would be cleared by then and that he saw no reason that the entire J/DR field effort could not be completed by the end 2012. Both Mr. Swanson and Mr. Randy Hawbaker (CCSD) found this news encouraging.

Ms. Melissa Yoder (SLB) asked about the contract status for future clearance at the Air-to-Ground Gunnery Range (AGGR). Mr. Field indicated that nothing had been decided, but it was likely that the AGGR work would either be awarded as a Single Award Task Order Contract (SATOC) or a Multiple Award Task Order Contract (MATOC), which are “umbrella” contracts that streamline the task order award process and allow contractors to proceed more quickly. Regarding current contractor status, Mr. Field stated that Shaw would remain on-site until the end of the 2011 calendar year, at which time the transition to the new contractor(s) would begin. The USACE anticipates that munitions response activities at all MRSs east of Coal Creek would be completed within the next couple of months and that any remaining grids/areas would be finished by the end of the year. The AGGR, the 20mm Range Fan, and JDR would then be the only areas still requiring clearance work. At that time, Shaw’s field work will have been completed, and they would then focus on writing the final reports for the completed work. Mr. Swanson added that it looks like the contractor transition may be better than anticipated. Unlike the previous contractor transition, the new contractor will not have to complete work that the previous contractor had started.

### ***GENERAL DISCUSSIONS AND ADJOURNMENT***

After formal discussions regarding munitions clearance at the FLBGR were concluded, Ms. Yoder and Mr. Gregory Ochis (consultant to the SLB) presented an overview of potential oil & gas exploration on property at FLBGR (presentation is posted on the project website: [www.flbgr.org](http://www.flbgr.org)). This presentation served as a continuation of the informal discussions on this topic that came up at the close of the 20 July 2011 RAB meeting. In addition to explaining the basic procedures for directional and “fracking” style drilling, Mr. Ochis pointed out that oil & gas production is not new to the FLBGR area. There have been wells on FLBGR/SLB land since 1925 and six or seven sections are currently under existing oil & gas leases that pre-date munitions response work at the FLBGR. Though leasing of SLB property at the FLBGR for oil & gas exploration is likely in the future, to date no decisions have been made. Currently, the SLB is exploring options and establishing guidelines so that they are in place when/if a decision is made to move forward on oil & gas exploration. The SLB has issued a Request for Qualifications in order to build a short list of potential oil & gas developers, including those who have experience drilling near potential UXO. If the SLB moves forward, a Request for Proposal (RFP) could be issued as early as the end of the year with a possible contract award as early as April 2012. The RFP would likely carry the stipulation that the entire site would only be awarded to a single contractor.

Mr. Julio Iturreria (Arapahoe County) pointed out that at the July RAB meeting, it was suggested that a demonstration of the seismic techniques used for oil & gas exploration could be provided for the Board. To date, no inquiries have been made and no demonstrations have been scheduled. Ms. Yoder stated that the SLB was willing to follow-up on such a demonstration if the RAB was still interested.

As there were no further questions or discussions, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:05 pm.