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# Environmental Restoration Program Community Relations Plan

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Robins Air Force Base, Georgia

prepared for



AFCEC/CZO  
Robins Installation Support Team

*submitted by*

**Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.**

Warner Robins, Georgia

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## LIST OF ACRONYMS AND OFFICE SYMBOLS

ABW	Air Base Wing
ACW	Air Control Wing
AFB	Air Force Base
AFCEC	Air Force Civil Engineer Center
AFMC	Air Force Materiel Command
ALC	Air Logistics Center
AOC	Area of Concern
ARB	Air Reserve Base
ATSDR	Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
BCE	Before the Common Era
CAP	Corrective Action Plan
CEG	Civil Engineer Group
CENTER	Warner Robins Air Logistics Center
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CRP	Community Relations Plan
CMI	Corrective Measures Implementation
CMS	Corrective Measures Study
DoD	Department of Defense
EAB	Environmental Advisory Board
ERP	Environmental Restoration Program
ft <sup>2</sup>	Square feet
FY	Fiscal Year
GA EPD	Georgia Environmental Protection Division
HRS	Hazard Ranking System
HWMU	Hazardous Waste Management Unit
IRA	Interim Remedial Action
IROD/RAs	Interim Record of Decision/Removal Actions
JSTARS	Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System
LF04	Landfill No. 4
LTM	Long-term Monitoring
MDS/SGPB	Bioenvironmental Engineering Services
MXW	Maintenance Wing
N/A	Not Applicable
NFA	No Further Action
NFRAP	No Further Response Action Planned
NPL	National Priorities List
O&M	Operations and Maintenance
OU	Operable Unit
PA	Public Affairs
PA/SI	Preliminary Assessment/Site Investigation



PBR	Performance-Based Remediation
PCE	Perchloroethene, also known as Perchloroethylene
PP/ROD	Proposed Plan/Record of Decision
RA	Remedial Action
RAB	Restoration Advisory Board
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
RD	Remedial Design
RFA/PSA	RCRA Facility Assessment/Potential Source Assessment
RFI	RCRA Facility Investigation
RI/FS	Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study
RIP	Remedy in Place
ROD	Record of Decision
SARA	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act
SWMU	Solid Waste Management Unit
TCE	Trichloroethene, also known as Trichloroethylene
U.S.	United States
USAF	United States Air Force
US EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
WP14	Sludge Lagoon and Waste Pit 14
WR-ALC	Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex



# Section 1 Introduction

Recognizing the importance of public involvement in cleanup programs, this Community Relations Plan (CRP) has been developed for Robins Air Force Base (Robins AFB or base) to provide information on the two-way communication mechanisms established between the base and the local communities. The plan documents the level of awareness and interest concerning the cleanup process.

Environmental cleanup activities at Robins AFB are part of a larger Department of Defense (DoD) environmental program entitled the Environmental Restoration Program (ERP). ERP activities are primarily governed by two federal laws; the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA), and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). CERCLA establishes the legal requirements for identifying, investigating, and cleaning up inactive hazardous waste sites. RCRA requires corrective action for releases of hazardous waste or constituents from past or present practices and operations that pose a threat to human health and the environment from any Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) at a storage, treatment, or disposal facility with a RCRA permit. Information concerning the ERP process and the specific cleanup activities at Robins AFB is provided in Section 2.0. Section 2.0 also describes the location, history, and mission of Robins AFB.

The purpose of this CRP is to continue sharing knowledge and encouraging community participation related to the cleanup of environmental contamination at Robins Air Force Base. This CRP reflects the specific interests, priorities, and opinions of individuals from the local communities.

This CRP reflects the specific interests, priorities, and opinions of individuals from the local communities. Information was gathered from interviews conducted every two years from 1996 to 2014 throughout local cities including Warner Robins, Centerville, Perry, Byron, Fort Valley, and Macon. Interviewees have included representatives of local municipalities, the business community, as well as members of the Robins AFB Restoration Advisory Board (RAB), rechartered in June 2006 as the Environmental Advisory Board (EAB). These interviews were conducted by a representative of Robins AFB and an independent consultant. A summary of the results of these interviews and profiles of the various communities are presented in Section 3.0. A summary of the EAB and its relationship to the local communities is also provided in Section 3.0.

Section 4.0 identifies the community relations goals and objectives and associated activities that have taken place over the last several years, as well as future objectives to improve two-way communication between Robins AFB and the various area communities. The structure and function of the EAB is described in Section 4.0.

Following these sections, the remainder of this document consists of the following appendices that contain supporting information:

## Appendix A Community Relations Contacts

Lists names, addresses, and phone numbers of the central point of contact for the public, key Robins AFB representatives, federal and state agencies, local elected officials, and EAB membership.

Annual CRP updates keep the community informed as the program progresses.




## Appendix B Public Information Locations

Lists the locations of the information repository and the administrative record that contains documents related to the Robins AFB ERP and lists information on recommended locations for public meetings.

## Appendix C EAB Fact Sheets

Presents EAB Fact Sheets produced during 2015 following the EAB meetings held in February, May, and August.



**EAB Fact Sheets are produced following each quarterly EAB meeting and present technical information briefed in the meeting in an easily readable format supplemented with appropriate graphics.**

The public's point of contact for questions is the Robins AFB Public Affairs (PA) Office. The contact information for the PA office is provided below:

Public Affairs Office  
78 ABW/PA  
620 Ninth Street, Suite 230  
Robins AFB, Georgia 31098  
  
Phone: (478) 926-2137



## Section 2

# Description of Robins AFB and the ERP

The purposes of this section are to describe the location, history, and mission of Robins AFB and to review the nature and extent of environmental issues at the base, including the objectives of Robins AFB's ERP activities and specific details on environmental sites.



Robins AFB is located in the geographic center of Georgia.

### 2.1 BASE DESCRIPTION

#### 2.1.1 Location

Robins AFB is located in the geographic center of Georgia, adjacent to the city of Warner Robins, within Houston County (see Figure 2-1). The base is 16 miles south of Macon and 100 miles south of Atlanta. Interstate I-75, United States (U.S.) Highways 41 and 341, and state highways 247 and 11 are the primary transportation links to the neighboring communities of Warner Robins and Centerville to the west, Perry to the south, Fort Valley to the southwest, Byron to the northwest, and Macon to the north. The Ocmulgee River borders the base on the east. The base covers approximately 7,000 acres of upper coastal plain, of which 2,200 acres are jurisdictional wetlands. The base also owns two parcels of land in Huber, Georgia (11 acres) and Jeffersonville, Georgia (0.8 acres).

The base consists of 3.8 million square feet (ft<sup>2</sup>) of maintenance shops, 1.7 million ft<sup>2</sup> of administrative space, and 3.5 million ft<sup>2</sup> of storage space. The base's runway is the second largest in Georgia, measuring 12,000 feet long by 300 feet wide, with two 1,000-foot overruns.

#### 2.1.2 History

Robins AFB traces its history to June 1941, when Macon city fathers and civic leaders, with the help of U.S. Representative Carl Vinson, influenced the U.S. War Department to construct an Army Air Corps supply and maintenance depot in Houston County. The site was adjacent to the small town of Wellston, which at that time had a population of 47 families. The defense buildup preceding World War II was under way, and the Middle Georgia area was chosen primarily because it had land for an airfield, an abundance of pure water from artesian wells, and an abundant labor pool. These were important points to consider in 1941 when emphasis was on speed of construction.

Ground was broken officially on September 1, 1941, by the first depot commander, Colonel Charles E. "Steve" Thomas, and leading members of the Macon and Middle Georgia business and political communities. Officially dedicated on April 26, 1943, Robins Air Force Base, originally known as Robins Field (named after Brigadier General Augustine Warner Robins), played a key role in winning World War II. Robins AFB has hosted numerous units and organizations and even a major command. The primary function of the base has always been to act as the home of an Army Air Corps, then Air Force, Depot. Originally known as the Georgia Air Depot, it was renamed several times, as follows: the Southeast Air Depot, Wellston Air Depot, Wellston Army Air Depot, Warner Robins Army Air Depot, Warner Robins Air Service Command, and Warner Robins Air Technical Service Command. At the end of World War II, as its function changed and satellite bases were closed, the name changed several additional times. In 1946, the Depot became the Warner Robins Air Materiel Area, and the installation was renamed to Robins AFB in 1948 after the Air Force became a separate service. The Depot designation changed again



First Headquarters Building  
at Robins AFB, 1942





in April 1974 when its new world-wide responsibilities led it to be renamed the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center (Center).

The decades following World War II were a time of challenge and change for the base. After World War II, the employee population was reduced. During the Korean War, Robins AFB workers swiftly and heroically retooled and fitted hundreds of mothballed B-29s, which played a key role in saving the Republic of South Korea from Communist aggression. In the 1960s and 1970s, Robins AFB played an important part in the Southeast Asia "Pipeline," which supplied vital materiel to U.S. troops fighting in Vietnam. The changing requirements of a "Jet Age" Air Force added a new dimension to the logistics challenge and led to the development of Robins AFB as an avionics center and a huge, sprawling complex of diverse missions supporting the United States Air Force (USAF) worldwide. That support was called upon once again during operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm in the Middle East. C-141 aircraft managed by the Center were the backbone of the airlift to Saudi Arabia. C-130s, also managed by the Center, provided valuable transport capabilities for the allied forces. Workers surged parts needed to keep aircraft flying and accelerated the maintenance and repair of aircraft vital to the war effort. Another Robins AFB responsibility, the F-15 Eagle, proved its superiority during repeated air strikes over the Persian Gulf.



The changing requirements of a "Jet Age" Air Force added a new dimension to the logistics challenge and led to the development of Robins AFB as an avionics center and a huge, sprawling complex of diverse missions supporting the USAF worldwide.

To better achieve an operational sustainment process, Air Force Materiel Command (AFMC) leadership decided in 2004 to reorganize the entire Command along more military lines. In this process, the Air Logistic Centers were divided into new unit organizations that changed directorates into wings, divisions into groups, and branches into squadrons. From 2004 to 2012, the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center had two Wings [the 78th Air Base Wing (78ABW) and the 402d Maintenance Wing (402MXW)] and the Aerospace Sustainment Directorate. In 2012, AFMC leadership again reorganized the Command, and the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center was redesignated as the Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex (WR-ALC), and it became part of the Air Force Sustainment Center based at Tinker AFB in Oklahoma.

The history at Robins AFB also included past waste disposal practices that were standard for the times. These practices sometimes led to unintended environmental contamination. Though these practices have long since been discontinued, the ERP efforts today are targeted at total cleanup from this past contamination. Table 2-1 references the history of base operations at Robins AFB.

### 2.1.3 Military Mission

The WR-ALC has worldwide management and engineering responsibility for the repair, modification, and overhaul of the F-15 Eagle, C-130 Hercules, C-5 Galaxy, U-2 Dragon Lady, Special Operations aircraft and helicopters, and analytical condition inspection and system support management for the C-17 Globemaster III.

Among its missions, the WR-ALC determines the spare parts, supplies, and equipment needed to support the weapon systems and commodities for which it has management responsibility. The WR-ALC budgets for, purchases, distributes, maintains, and repairs these weapon systems and commodities. The WR-ALC is logistics manager for the F-15 Eagle, C-130 Hercules cargo aircraft, and C-5 Galaxy aircraft; the U-2 Dragon Lady; 11 cargo and utility aircraft; 4 helicopters; 3 remotely piloted vehicles; and missiles. The WR-ALC manages more than 200,000 items to support these systems. Robins AFB is also the exclusive technology repair center for airborne electronics, gyros, and life support systems for the USAF; it houses the largest repair facility in the world. The WR-ALC has various shops (plating,

During operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm in the Middle East, aircraft managed by the WR-ALC were the backbone of the airlift to Saudi Arabia.



machining, metal bonding, etc.), which support major workload activities.

Robins AFB is the main U.S. operating base for the E-8 Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System (J-STARS) aircraft, which gained national attention during the Persian Gulf War for its ability to detect, locate, and track stationary and slow-moving ground targets. During 1996, as part of this mission, the base became home to more than 2,400 additional personnel. An estimated \$129 million in military construction has been related to the J-STARS program.

In 1996, the 116th Fighter Wing, formerly located at Dobbins Air Reserve Base (ARB) in Georgia, converted from F-15A/B aircraft to the B-1 Bomber, became the 116th Bomb Wing, and relocated to Robins AFB. This transition involved a construction program of \$110 million and more than 1,100 new personnel. The 116th became the operational unit for the E-8C J-STARS in 2002 when the B-1 bombers were relocated from Robins AFB. The 116th Bomb Wing and the 93rd Air Control Wing (ACW) merged to become the 116th ACW on September 30, 2001. Ten years later, on September 30, 2011, the 116th ACW, which consisted of both guard and active duty personnel, de-blended and its sister unit, the 461st ACW was formed. The two Wings are known today as Team JSTARS. In 2010, the Marine Corps Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 773 (HMLA-773), formerly located at Naval Air Station Atlanta in Georgia, relocated to Robins AFB. Robins AFB provides support to worldwide customers for over 300 airborne electronics systems. This support involves integrated program management, engineering, and software services, as well as hardware repair for radar, infrared, communications, laser, navigation, and electro-optics systems.



The center has worldwide management and engineering responsibility for the repair, modification, and overhaul of numerous aircraft and helicopters.

Concurrently, Robins AFB's mission includes support for its more than 37 associate units. Major associate units include:

- Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command;
- Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex;
- 116th Air Control Wing;
- 461st Air Control Wing;
- 5th Combat Communications Group;
- Defense Logistics Agency;
- Air Force Sustainment Center Operating Locations;
- Air Force Life Cycle Management Center Divisions and Operating Locations;
- 638th Supply Chain Management Group; and
- Marine Aircraft Group-49, Det A.

## 2.2 ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM

The ERP is modeled after CERCLA, passed by Congress in 1980, and SARA, passed in 1986. Both of these laws establish the legal requirements for identifying, investigating, and cleaning up hazardous waste sites. Most ERP sites at Robins AFB are regulated under RCRA. One National Priorities List (NPL) site (consisting of two ERP sites) is regulated under CERCLA. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) guidelines are applied in conducting all investigation and remediation work in the ERP, whether under CERCLA/SARA or RCRA. The ERP at Robins AFB is implemented and managed by the Air Force Civil Engineer Center



(AFCEC)/CZO – Robins Installation Support Team.

### 2.2.1 The ERP Process

Although the fundamental objectives and processes of both the CERCLA and RCRA corrective action programs are essentially the same, there are subtle differences in the processes used to implement the RCRA and CERCLA corrective action requirements. Figure 2-2 defines the primary steps of the ERP process under both of these corrective action programs.

### 2.2.2 Regulatory Participation in the ERP Process

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GA EPD) is the state agency involved with the ERP process at Robins AFB and provides regulatory oversight and review for the RCRA sites. Under RCRA, the GA EPD has been delegated authority to manage hazardous waste in the state. As such, the GA EPD has primary regulatory authority for permitting hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal facilities in the state of Georgia and for corrective action at identified SWMUs and Areas of Concern (AOCs) that are located on those facilities. Because the base is a large quantity generator of hazardous waste and has a permit allowing storage of hazardous waste on the facility, a compliance officer has been assigned. The compliance officer is required to annually inspect the facility, manage, and modify the base's RCRA permit; review all documents/reports; and interpret regulatory requirements as needed. Other staff members from the GA EPD, such as hydrogeologists and risk assessors, assist the compliance officer as needed.

The Air Force is the lead agency for remedial activities involved with the ERP process focused on cleanup of the CERCLA site at Robins AFB, with concurrence by the US EPA and the GA EPD. In accordance with Section 120 of CERCLA, the Air Force has negotiated a Federal Facility Agreement with the US EPA and the GA EPD to establish a procedural framework and schedule for developing, implementing, and monitoring appropriate response actions at the site in accordance with CERCLA, the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Contingency Plan, and the Georgia Hazardous Waste Management Act. The AFCEC/CZO – Robins Installation Support Team is responsible for remediating the NPL site at the base, and as such has assigned a Restoration Project Manager for this site. The US EPA and the GA EPD have each also assigned a Restoration Project Manager for this site, who is responsible for regulatory oversight and ensuring that site restoration is in compliance with CERCLA and State requirements.

### 2.2.3 Community Participation Under the ERP Process

The DoD believes that the earlier the public is involved in the ERP process, the sooner their concerns can be incorporated into the cleanup process. The public involvement effort is generally composed of the following activities:

- community interviews;
- publication of a CRP;
- quarterly EAB meetings;
- establishment of a public information repository where citizens have access to technical documents and other materials related to the ERP;
- release of public information materials; and
- public meetings.

The community relations program is discussed in Section 4.0 of this CRP. The community participation process adheres to guidelines established by the US EPA.



The EAB was established to create a forum allowing local communities, Robins AFB, and regulatory agencies to work together with the common goal of sustaining our shared environment. All interested parties are invited to attend quarterly meetings.



Robins AFB recognizes the importance of involving the public in the environmental restoration process. The EAB was established to serve as a forum so that people in the local communities can be involved with Robins AFB and regulatory agencies working toward providing stewardship for our shared environment. All interested parties are invited to attend each meeting. The EAB is described in Section 4.1. Throughout this document, except in historical references where the organization was the RAB, the term EAB is used.

## **2.3 ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE ERP**

### **2.3.1 Restoration Background**

In Fiscal Year (FY) 1982, Preliminary Assessment/Site Investigations (PA/SIs) were completed for 33 sites at Robins AFB. The most significant is the NPL site, consisting of Landfill No. 4 (LF04) and the Sludge Lagoon/Waste Pit 14 (WP14). The site is divided into three operable units (OUs): LF04 and WP14 contaminant source areas (OU1), wetlands (OU2), and groundwater (OU3). Primary contaminants at the site include trichloroethylene (TCE) and perchloroethylene (PCE) in soil and groundwater.

Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) activities were conducted at the NPL site in FY1986 and FY1988. An Interim Record of Decision (IROD) was completed in FY1991 for OU1, in FY1994 for OU2, and in FY1995 for OU3. In FY1993, the installation constructed run-on controls and completed the pilot-scale system for lagoon solidification at OU1. In FY1994, the installation completed Phase I of the Leachate Collection System. In FY1995, a pilot system for the Phase II Leachate Collection System was constructed. In FY1996, the following projects were completed: Full-scale Phase II Leachate Collection System Design, Sludge Lagoon Solidification, OU2 Sediment Containment Design, and Remedial Design (RD) for the Groundwater Treatment Facility for the NPL site. In FY1998, construction was completed on the Groundwater Treatment Facility for OU3 and the Base Industrial Area Site, as well as the OU1 Cover. The final Record of Decision (ROD) for OU1 and OU3 was signed in September 2004. A risk assessment for OU2 was completed in December 2000. In 2003, it was determined that contamination found in OU2 was not attributed to releases from the NPL site. Therefore, remediation in the wetlands is no longer being addressed under CERCLA, but was completed in compliance with the RCRA Corrective Action Program. A CERCLA-mandated five-year ROD review, the third involving the NPL site, was completed, and the final document was approved in 2011.

Since the ERP was initiated, Robins AFB has identified 79 SWMUs. It is anticipated that an additional SWMU (i.e., Building 169) will be added during the next permit modification. Continuation of an aggressive restoration program has resulted in receiving decisions of "No Further Action" (NFA) from the GA EPD on 55 SWMUs.

Robins AFB has achieved unique success among Air Force installations in the aggressive implementation and management of the ERP. Robins AFB achieved Remedy-in-Place (RIP) at all ERP sites seven years ahead of Air Force goals. The base is the first Air Logistics Complex to reach this milestone and has been recognized as having a restoration program that is "one of the best in the Air Force" by the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Environment, Safety, and Occupational Health. The Robins AFB approach to cleaning up contaminated sites was recognized in 2010 by the Air Force Center for Engineering and the Environment (AFCEE) as one of the best in the Air Force.

In 2011, Robins AFB awarded a Performance-Based Remediation (or PBR) Contract for the remaining active restoration sites. PBR contracts focus on closing as many



The major milestone of achievement of RIP at all ERP sites has been briefed to EAB members as well as presented at a public conference.

sites as possible, as soon as possible. Site closeout is defined by the Air Force as the point at which all active management and monitoring at an environmental cleanup site has been completed, no additional environmental cleanup funds are required, and regulatory concurrence has been obtained. The performance based cleanup contract for Robins AFB has a period of performance of nine years. The environmental sites at Robins AFB are listed on Figure 2-3. Figure 2-3 also shows the location of the sites and the current status of restoration at each site.

### 2.3.2 Installation Commitment to Environmental Quality

Since about 1970, national leaders have realized that environmental protection and resource conservation are critical to sustainable national prosperity. Similarly, the DoD realized that protecting the environment, as well as worker health and safety, was essential to remaining a world power. The role of preserving freedom goes hand-in-hand with protecting the world's environment.

Robins AFB and the WR-ALC fulfill a key role in national defense. The Base has structured the restoration program around the AF Environmental Mission Statement for Readiness: sustain operational readiness through environmental excellence. For Robins AFB, this mission statement ensures that proper environmental practices are followed so that aircraft depot maintenance is not interrupted.

The installation is committed to effective stewardship of environmental excellence. The restoration program's responsibilities encompass the four major pillars of the environmental program at Robins AFB: cleanup of environmental sites (*restoration*) [the focus of this document], compliance with all current environmental laws and regulations (*compliance*), ensuring the preservation and protection of natural, cultural, and historic resources associated with the installation (*conservation*), and proactively ensuring a minimum impact on the environment from future base operations by aggressive optimization of processes and material uses (*pollution prevention*). Robins AFB personnel are further ensuring, through an active partnering program, that product directorates on base are working with the environmental staff to make weapons systems more "green" so they are safer and easier to maintain.

The resources allocated by Robins AFB continue to assure that the installation's commitment to environmental quality and stewardship is maintained and enhanced. In 2013, Robins AFB was recognized for the strength of the environmental program as the recipient of the Secretary of Defense Environmental Quality Award.



## Section 3 Community Overview

### 3.1 COMMUNITY PROFILE

This section summarizes the profile of the local area and communities that influence, and are influenced by, Robins AFB. An area location map is shown on Figure 2-1.

#### 3.1.1 Area History

##### Houston County

Houston (pronounced "Howston") County was named after John Houston, a famous Georgia congressional representative, governor, and judge. Following a treaty with the Creek Indians, the county was first laid out in 1821, with the Ocmulgee River as its eastern boundary, the Flint River on the west, and extending north as far as current-day Macon and south opposite the town of Hartford. The original Houston County encompassed all or parts of the city of Macon and the present-day Bibb, Crawford, Upson, Peach, Macon, and Pulaski Counties. The 1820s saw Houston County's area reduced when Bibb and Crawford Counties were given a large piece of the northern side of Houston's territory, Peach County was given a northwestern portion, and Pulaski County received sections from the south and southeast. In 1837, Macon County was created, taking from Houston a large part of the western territory.



Gateway to Warner Robins,  
home of Robins AFB, in  
Houston County.

Perry, the county seat, was settled in 1823 and named in honor of Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry of the 1813 Battle of Lake Erie fame. Centerville appeared on area maps as early as 1888 and was chartered as a city in 1958. Until World War II, Warner Robins was a tiny community of 47 people known as Wellston. On June 14, 1941 it was selected as the site for an Army Air Corps Depot, and on March 5, 1943, the new community of Warner Robins was officially chartered and incorporated.

##### Peach County

Peach County was formed in 1923 from portions of Macon and Houston Counties. Fort Valley, the county seat, was incorporated in 1856, but had a post office as early as 1825. Originally known as Fox Valley, a clerical error changed the name to Fort Valley. A newspaper article dated September 1925 boasted that "Fort Valley is the point from which more peaches are shipped annually than any other point on earth." Byron, formerly in Houston County, was incorporated in 1874, named after the English poet of the same name. Byron's early history and growth were closely linked to the historic Byron Rail Depot, which was an important railroad center for both passenger travel and peach shipping.

##### Bibb County

The Macon-Bibb County area has a long and interesting history. Macon is located on Georgia's Fall Line, where the Piedmont region meets the flat Coastal Plains. This is also the site of the Ocmulgee Old Fields, which were home to Creek native tribes and their predecessors for as long as 12,000 years before European settlers arrived. Archaeological excavations at the Ocmulgee National Monument indicate the presence of Native American settlements beginning about 8,000 years Before the Common Era (BCE). Spanish explorer Hernando DeSoto recorded the first Christian baptism on the "new continent" during his explorations in the area in 1540. His priests baptized two Native Americans in the Ocmulgee River near the funeral and temple mounds at Ocmulgee National Monument.



In 1806, after the Creeks ceded their lands east of the Ocmulgee River, Fort Hawkins was built as a trading post and for the protection of settlers moving across the Southeast. Following treaties with the Native Americans in 1821, Bibb County was created in 1822 and Macon, incorporated in 1823, was designated as the county seat. The first college in the world for women, Georgia Female College (now Wesleyan College) was chartered in Macon in 1836. During the Civil War, Macon resisted two attacks by Union troops but was occupied by the Federals in 1865. A Confederate depository was located in Macon, as well as foundries and munitions plants.

### **3.1.2 Municipal Demographics**

#### **Population**

Houston County continues to exhibit significant growth, as documented by several state and federal sources, with a 26.3 percent increase in population from 2000 to 2010 and another 6.6 percent increase from 2010 to 2014 (factfinder2.census.gov). Both Peach County and Bibb County grew from 2000 to 2010 (17 percent and 1.1 percent, respectively), but these counties experienced an estimated population decrease of 2.8 percent and 1.1 percent, respectively, from 2010 to 2014. Long term population projections indicate an increase in all three counties over the next ten years. Table 3-1 provides more detailed recent population data for the three counties, as well as select cities in the vicinity of the base.

Approximately 29.9 percent of Houston County's population is African-American, with Hispanic/Latino and Asian representing 6.5 percent and 2.7 percent, respectively. The median age in Houston County is 34. Peach County is home to 45.0 percent of African-Americans, 7.4 percent Hispanic/Latinos, and 0.9 percent Asians. The median age in Peach County is 33. African-Americans make up 53.4 percent of the population in Bibb County with Hispanic/Latinos at 3.2 percent and Asians at 1.9 percent, respectively. The median age in the area is 35. The above ethnicity and age statistics are based on the most currently available data from factfinder2.census.gov, quickfacts.census.gov, and city-data.com.

#### **Local Government**

Each county is governed by a Board of County Commissioners. Houston and Peach counties have a five-member county commission. Bibb County and the City of Macon have consolidated government with nine county commissioners and a full-time mayor. The city governments of Warner Robins, Perry, and Fort Valley consist of a mayor and six city council members; Warner Robins and Fort Valley have full-time mayors, while Perry has a part-time mayor and a full-time city manager. Centerville is governed by a part-time mayor and four city council members, and Byron has a part-time mayor with five city council members.

#### **Economics**

Robins AFB is one of Georgia's largest employers. Statistics from the Economic Impact Statement for FY2014 indicate that the base had an approximated \$2.7 billion impact on Georgia. Robins AFB employs approximately 22,000 personnel, with a net payroll of \$1.3 billion. Annual expenditures by the base in Georgia totaled \$386 million.

The 2014 data from the Georgia LaborMarket Explorer (explorer.dol.state.ga.us) show the ten largest employers (excluding all government, except correctional institutions, state and local hospitals, and state colleges and universities) in Houston County, in alphabetical order, were Anchor Glass Container Corporation, Frito Lay Inc., Graphic Packaging International, Inc., Lighthouse, Nursing Agency, Inc., Lowes



Home Centers Inc., McDonalds, Perdue Farms Inc., The Kroger Company, and Wal-Mart with the three primary employment sectors in 2014 employing the following percentages of the labor force: services (46.0 percent), goods and manufacturing (11.2 percent), and government (42.6 percent). Peach County's top ten employers of 2014 were, in alphabetical order, Advance Stores Co. Inc., Blue Bird Body Company, Inc., Fort Valley State University, Lane Packing, LLC, Peach County Association for the Mentally Retarded, Pyrotechnic Specialties, Inc., Spherion Staffing, LLC, The Medical Center of Peach County, The Wire Shop, Inc., and U Save It Pharmacy, Inc. Services (45.8 percent), goods and manufacturing (33.3 percent), and government (20.6 percent) made up the three primary employment sectors with employment percentages shown for 2014. The three primary employment sectors in Bibb County and associated employment percentages in 2014 were services (78.9 percent), goods and manufacturing (8.9 percent), and government (12.0 percent) with the ten largest employers in 2014 being, in alphabetical order, Academy Sports and Outdoors, GEICO, Georgia Health Holdings Inc., IKON Office Solutions, Inc., Mercer University, Stone & Webster Services, LLC, The Kroger Company, The Medical Center of Central Georgia, Inc., Wal-Mart, and YKK USA, Inc.

### **Education**

The Houston County School System and its 37 schools are district accredited by the AdvancED Accreditation Commission. The district serves approximately 28,500 students. On state assessments, Houston County's students typically outperform the state average. In addition, 23 schools have been named Georgia Schools of Excellence a total of 39 times. All five high schools were named 2015 Georgia Advanced Placement (AP) STEM Schools with four named AP STEM Achievement Schools. In 2013, the Board of Education and Robins Air Force Base jointly announced the award of a \$2.9 million, 3-year Department of Defense Education Activity grant to expand the AP program. In cooperation with the National Math and Science Initiative, enrollment in math, science, and English AP courses increased 85 percent and qualifying scores increased 47 percent across the system the first year. The AP program continues to grow and greater success is expected in the next two years. The Board itself is a Georgia School Boards Association Distinguished Board. Warner Robins is home to the Warner Robins Campus, as well as the Robins Resident Center, of Middle Georgia State College, a Georgia College and State University campus, a commuter campus for Fort Valley State University, and Central Georgia Technical College, which offers vocational training in business, health, technical, and skilled occupations.

The Peach County public education system, with an enrollment of approximately 3,800, consists of six schools: one elementary, one middle, and one high school in Fort Valley plus two elementary and one middle school in Byron. Also located in Peach County is Fort Valley State University, a four-year college, with an enrollment of approximately 2,200 students.

The Bibb County public school system consists of 23 elementary schools, six middle schools, six high schools, five special entity schools, and two charter schools with a total enrollment approaching 25,000 students. There are also several private schools in the county. Institutions of higher education include three colleges: Wesleyan College, the first college in the world to grant degrees to women, Mercer University, and Macon State College. Also located in Macon are The Georgia Academy for the Blind and Central Georgia Technical College.





### **Culture and Recreation**

Houston County lays claim to a number of cultural and recreational attractions. The Museum of Aviation, located adjacent to Robins AFB, has 180,000 ft<sup>2</sup> of exhibits and more than 93 historical aircraft on a 51-acre site, including a World War II B-17 “Flying Fortress” and an F-15A Eagle that played a key role in Desert Storm. Perry and Warner Robins lie along the Peach Blossom Trail (U.S. Highway 341/41), where peach orchards have traditionally dotted the countryside. Perry is also the location of the Georgia National Fairgrounds and Agricenter, a 1,100+ acre site designed for meetings, trade shows, livestock events, horse shows, fairs, concerts, and sporting events. Perry’s other claim to fame is its historic Colonial downtown.

Peach County, true to its name, produces the majority of all peaches grown in Georgia and offers several attractions related to peach production. Byron and Fort Valley are also along the Peach Blossom Trail, and a week long Georgia Peach Festival is held in the county in mid-June. Byron also characterizes itself as a “shopper’s paradise” with many antique shops and a large outlet mall. Fort Valley is home to the Masee Lane Gardens, headquarters of the American Camellia Society. Peach County has four National Historic Register Districts and three National Historic Register sites.

Cultural and recreational attractions in Bibb County include the Museum of Arts and Sciences and Mark Smith Planetarium; Grand Opera House; Macon Little Theater; the Harriet Tubman Museum, which focuses on black history, culture, and art; the Ocmulgee National Monument, which preserves the funeral and temple mounds of ancient Native American peoples; and the Sports Hall of Fame. Macon has more than 5,500 National Register historic structures in 12 historic districts. The city is also known as the Cherry Blossom Capital of the World for its over 300,000 Yoshino cherry trees; its annual 10-day Cherry Blossom Festival has become one of the top events in the South.



Warner Robins Welcome Center, located in the former train station

#### **3.1.3 On-Base Community**

Robins AFB houses a community that in 2015 included 259 on-base family housing units and 8 dormitories to accommodate airmen, non-commissioned officers, visiting airmen and officers, as well as transient lodging facilities to accommodate active duty members, retirees, and their guests. In October 2007, the base transitioned to a privatized system of housing. Residents are supported by most of the services found in a community of this size. The base has more than 240 acres of land for recreation, as well as a medical clinic, daycare, youth center, a library, bowling alley, and a theater.

#### **3.1.4 Community Access to ERP Information**

One primary avenue for ensuring community access to ERP information related to environmental sites at Robins AFB is the EAB. The Robins AFB EAB is co-chaired by two individuals, one representing Robins AFB and the other representing the local community. Chairing of quarterly EAB meetings alternates between the installation co-chair and the community co-chair.

A representative of Robins AFB serves as the installation co-chair. This individual promotes effective partnering of the Robins AFB on-base community and branch personnel with the local communities and environmental regulatory agencies. This partnership helps to achieve the most effective sharing of information of interest with the communities. The installation co-chair also ensures access to appropriate base personnel to provide briefings on topics of interest and to answer any questions raised by EAB community members.



The community co-chair serves as the lead representative of the local communities on the EAB. This individual brings any questions, suggestions, or special items of interest voiced by local constituents to the EAB membership and serves as the interface with local communities. The community co-chair ensures the effective partnering of the base with the community residents and organizations to exchange information and ideas. This individual also helps to ensure that complete information is disseminated to interested parties.

A second primary avenue for ensuring community access to ERP information related to environmental sites at Robins AFB is the Information Repository. Robins AFB has been highly proactive in developing and maintaining an electronic record of final documents related to the environmental cleanup program. These documents are available to the public for review at the Nola Brantley Memorial Library in Warner Robins.

### **3.2 KEY COMMUNITY COMMENTS AND INTERESTS**

Community interviews have been conducted every two years since 1996 throughout the cities of Warner Robins, Centerville, and Perry in Houston County, Byron and Fort Valley in Peach County, and Macon in Bibb County. The most recent interviews were conducted in September 2014. All interview sessions were conducted by Charline Logue, as a representative of Robins AFB and as EAB Manager, and an independent community relations consultant. Interviewees have included representatives of local municipalities, citizen groups, the business community, and private citizens. Members of the Robins AFB EAB have also been interviewed. The key comments expressed during these interviews are summarized below.

#### **General Perceptions About Robins AFB**

Over the years, almost everyone interviewed has spoken enthusiastically about the role Robins AFB plays as the single largest employer in the area and one of the largest in the state. "Everybody loves the base" was the view expressed by one respondent during a 2008 interview, and this comment has been typical of local comment during the entire interview span. Accolades from interviewees have focused on the high morals, high integrity, and professionalism of Robins AFB employees, and the "awesome knowledge base" available to the community because of the presence of the base in the community.

During the 2014 interviews, the interviewees were presented with a brief history of the environmental cleanup program at Robins AFB. As part of this discussion, the 2014 Restoration Site Status Map was compared to the 1998 Restoration Site Status Map (Figure 2-4) to provide a visual image of the significant progress that the base has made in cleaning up the environmental sites. One interviewee commented that the progress in the last 16 years is "proof of a job well done". Over the years, the interviewees have noted that the Base has always been a leader in environmental cleanup, and encouraged the Base leadership to continue to maintain a culture of excellence.

#### **Relationship Between the Base and Local Communities**

During all sets of interviews, elected officials and business leaders have spoken highly of the cooperative ways in which local government, commerce, and the base work together. During the 2010 interviews, one of the EAB board members noted that during the May 2010 EAB tour to learn about the base's emergency response capabilities, he was very pleased to see the level of partnership that occurs between the Base and the fire stations and emergency personnel in the surrounding counties.



Several interviewees have complimented the senior base leadership for being so open and accessible and for participating so actively in community affairs. "An A+ relationship!" and "a true spirit of cooperation" is how local officials have characterized the interactions between Robins AFB and local municipalities during recent interviews. During the 2008 interviews, one interviewee noted that it is a "miracle" and a true testament to effective teaming partnerships that the base has been able to come to an agreement on the cleanup strategies on so many sites with both the GA EPD and the US EPA in such a short time period.

A recurring theme in the interviews relates to progress of the base's environmental cleanup. "The base is seen as environmentally friendly," one interviewee asserted. Many interviewees consider the base's approach to cleanup to be so smooth and well-planned that the average citizen has no idea the cleanup is going on. In 2012, an elected official noted that "the community knows that the base has everything under control...people feel safe if you keep them informed." The community knows that the cleanup will progress in an expedited manner.

### **Knowledge of the Robins AFB Environmental Restoration Program**

During the span between the first set of interviews in 1996 and the most recent in 2014, interviewees have revealed essentially constant knowledge and interest relative to the cleanup, but a significant increase in public confidence that Robins AFB is doing a good job has been noted during this time period. In fact, several elected officials have commented that the overall lack of interest and concern is reflective of the public's confidence that Robins AFB is a good steward of the environment.

During the 2014 interviews, the interviewees were informed that the environmental program has won several awards in recognition of the outstanding progress, including the 2013 Secretary of Defense Environmental Quality Award for excellence in the environmental program. Interviewees responded that these awards were wonderful, and that the base should take great pride in receipt of them. Interviewees have complimented the base leadership for doing such a tremendous job and taking such a proactive approach. Many interviewees thanked the EAB Manager for taking the time to come out and inform them of the progress that has been made.

### **Public Knowledge of the Environmental Advisory Board**

During early interview sessions, most of the interviewed municipal officials and members of the general public either did not know an EAB existed, or if they did, were unfamiliar with its purpose or activities. However, more recent interviews revealed a much higher level of familiarity with, and interest in, the EAB.

As part of recent interviews, the interviewees have received information about the methods used by the base to distribute information regarding the cleanup program to the community, including the EAB meetings, Fact Sheets, the EAB public website, this Community Relations Plan, etc. Several elected officials in these interviews were aware of people in their communities who were EAB members, and most of the elected officials said they would like to attend an EAB meeting in the future.

Elected officials have acknowledged receiving the EAB Fact Sheet. Several also commented that they copy and distribute the Fact Sheet to City Council members and city staff members. Several interviewees have complimented the base on the look and content of the materials. Officials have commented that the Fact Sheets are tremendously helpful and extremely useful. Interviewees have expressed ongoing interest in receiving information related to environmental programs at the



The Robins AFB EAB receives briefings and tours in regularly scheduled meetings throughout the year. Here EAB members listen to a technical briefing during a tour.



base.

During the interviews, the interviewees are also informed that the presentations from each EAB meeting, the Fact Sheets, as well as each year's CRP are posted on the EAB website ([www.robinseab.org](http://www.robinseab.org)).

### **Member Opinions about the Environmental Advisory Board**

Long-term EAB members have felt, in general, that their expectations about belonging to the EAB had been met and that their longevity with the EAB was due to the personal benefits they gained from their participation. Several EAB members have positively commented on the impact of the Robins EAB Manager in ensuring that topics of current interest are presented, the tours are efficiently conducted, and all member questions receive complete answers. Many have attributed their continued presence on the board to their interest in what is going on and what approaches are used to address the cleanup problems at the base, as well as the sense of doing something worthwhile. Some of the expectations other EAB members said had been realized included learning more about the "reality" of base operations and environmental issues, playing a role in communicating to others, and bringing items of interest to the base from the community. One member said he had learned more from his EAB participation than he had given, a sentiment shared by several of the other members that have been interviewed.

EAB members interviewed have had consistently high praise for how the EAB meetings are conducted and the support provided by the EAB staff. Members have commented that the EAB staff is very inviting and encouraging, presentations are very good, and the meetings are very informative. During the 2012 interviews, an EAB member commented that "I like what I am presented and the depth at which it is presented." Members have noted that they appreciate the willingness of the base to be open to communication and their honesty in "discussing where they are making progress and where they are not." One EAB member stated that the EAB staff had "never not filled a request [for information] I have had." New EAB members have said they were delightfully surprised that when they asked a question or requested additional information, the designated topic would appear on the next meeting's agenda and that any information promised would be delivered. Members have noted their appreciation of the comment form provided at each meeting to ask questions or provides comments and/or suggestions.



EAB meetings provide a forum for members, Environmental Management Branch staff, visitors, and briefers to discuss items of interest.

Interviews of EAB members have also yielded compliments for good agendas and concise presentations. Stated one member, "The presenters stay on time, are always knowledgeable, and all questions are answered." Another member said he "push[es] away from the table satisfied, with just enough information presented." Also appreciated by a new EAB member was the fact that the individuals who make presentations at the meetings come up afterwards to talk to the members. In that same vein, one interviewee liked the fact that the Air Force consultants are at every meeting and interact with the EAB members. Many EAB members over the years have attributed the smooth running of the EAB to the EAB Manager, who members have described as "responsive", "very versatile," with "keen flexibility" and good public relations and technical skills. During the 2012 interviews, one interviewee stated "I have never seen a community meetings that is better managed." Regarding the post EAB documentation, one EAB member commented that they are "inclusive, concise, and an excellent record of the meeting events."

Throughout the interviews, members have continued to lament the difficulty in getting more public participation and community interest both in the Base's cleanup and in EAB activities. Most members have expressed the common observation that



when they share information with friends, neighbors, relatives, or co-workers (as most of them say they do), people are usually mildly interested, but generally do not ask follow-up questions or show any inclination to get involved.

EAB members interviewed did cite several ways in which they share the cleanup information they learn with various audiences, including students and organizations. Several members discussed their efforts in sharing information with the professional, environmental, and civic organizations to which they belong.

#### **Level of Public Environmental Awareness**

Interviewees over the years have expressed differing opinions on the level of local environmental awareness. Some citizens had low knowledge of local environmental problems, while others said environmental awareness was higher than average. Elected officials in Macon and Fort Valley believe that the presence of Superfund sites in their communities has heightened the level of local environmental interest.

The current sentiment is that local environmental knowledge is adequate, but that real interest is generated only when a particular issue has potential to affect an individual or one's neighbors. One interviewee stated that the public interest is relatively low because the base is doing such a good job managing their environmental program and being transparent about any potential concerns.

#### **Considerations in Communicating ERP Environmental Information**

Three major local newspapers have been repeatedly mentioned as key mechanisms for dissemination of environmental information and widespread communications vehicles for the local communities. These are *The Telegraph*, the *Houston Home Journal*, and the *Rev-Up*. The *Telegraph* serves as the primary local printed medium and the *Houston Home Journal* often carries legal notices and the like. The *Rev-Up* serves as the official Robins AFB newspaper.

Related to other forms of communication, interviewees have indicated that local broadcast news media, including broadcast television, cable channels, and radio, are effective outlets for transmitting news. In particular, several interviewees have noted that brief presentations by Robins AFB officials to local organizations (e.g., the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Partnership) may be an effective means for disseminating information regarding the cleanup program to the local community.



## Section 4 Community Relations Objectives and Recommended Activities

This section briefly discusses previous community relations activities related to the Robins AFB ERP, summarizes the objectives of this CRP based on the community interviews, and outlines recommended community relations activities.

### 4.1 COMMUNITY RELATIONS ACTIVITIES

Based on the successes of the base's existing community relations programs and recommendations in previous CRPs, the following community relations activities occur:

- EAB meetings:

The mission of the EAB is to encourage community participation in the full range of environmental matters at Robins AFB, including the Air Force's ERP cleanup process, and to allow community members and other stakeholders to have meaningful dialog with Robins AFB officials. The EAB specifically serves to support Robins AFB and disseminate information to the public. The EAB is made up of representatives of regulatory agencies, local community members, and Robins AFB members.

EAB meetings are held quarterly. Prior to each EAB meeting, a public notice is run in local print media to announce and publicize the event. The meetings are attended by members, Robins AFB personnel, regulatory agency representatives, and members of the local community, as well as contractors, briefers, and others with an interest in the environment. Frequently, distinguished guests attend; these may include command personnel from the base and local elected officials. EAB meetings are open to the public.

EAB meetings are chaired by the Installation Co-chair and the Community Co-chair. Meetings normally open with a welcoming statement and announcements. Various briefings are presented by base personnel and others, supported with graphics and storyboards as appropriate. The topics presented are timely and of great interest to the membership and the general public. Generally, one meeting each year is conducted as a tour of environmental sites and facilities of interest at the base. Minutes documenting the activities of each meeting are prepared and submitted to the EAB members.





- Fact Sheets:

A four page, color Fact Sheet is prepared after each EAB meeting to present technical and related information briefed at the EAB meeting in an easily understandable written format. The Fact Sheets from the February, May, and August 2015 EAB meetings are provided in Appendix C.

- EAB Website:

An EAB website has been developed to enable communication of information related to the ERP and EAB through electronic means. The EAB website can be accessed at:

[www.robinseab.org](http://www.robinseab.org)

- Public Comment Periods:

All required public comment periods are scheduled and publicized.

## 4.2 OBJECTIVES OF THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN

Community participation is an important aspect of a site or installation cleanup. The Robins AFB ERP community relations program seeks to continue to facilitate communication that has existed between Robins AFB and local citizens for many years. The overall objective of the CRP is to increase direct communication with individual citizens who are interested in the Robins AFB ERP.

Specific objectives of the community relations program are as follows:

### Objective #1:

Encourage community participation and facilitate two-way communication between surrounding communities and Robins AFB ERP officials. All written materials emphasize the various avenues through which community members can easily receive information, have questions answered, or convey comments. Technical information is provided to community members to increase the public's understanding of the ERP cleanup process. Information documents are archived and made available to the public through the Nola Brantley Memorial Library [also known as Houston County Libraries-Warner Robins Houston County Library; see Appendix B for location and contact information.

### Objective #2:

Educate community members about the ERP. Through quarterly EAB meetings, the public is educated on the ERP process. Fact Sheets are published and distributed throughout the community following each meeting, and the EAB website is updated



Communication with local communities is enhanced through a series of environmental documents made available to the public at the Nola Brantley Memorial Library in Warner Robins.



regularly.

**Objective #3:**

Provide clear and accurate information about the location and boundaries of each ERP site. Several ERP sites are close to areas that can be readily observed by military and/or civilian workers (see Figure 2-3). Because of this fact, all written and graphic materials define each site location and its specific boundaries.

**Objective #4:**

Provide the community with clear, accurate, and timely information about activities associated with the cleanup. If necessary, Robins AFB attempts to inform local citizens, officials, military housing representatives, and military/civilian workers of the schedule for conducting field investigations, removal actions, and other activities that involve the mobilization of workers and equipment. The advance notice ensures that people are not surprised by the presence of field personnel. It also helps the base anticipate increases in public interest that may occur when on-site activities begin.

**Objective #5:**

Provide citizens with explanations of sampling and test results. Results of sample analyses associated with the cleanup of environmental sites are made available to the EAB members and are recorded in reports made available to the public at the Nola Brantley Memorial Library.

**Objective #6:**

Provide information on potential impacts on human health or the environment. Robins AFB informs community members of public health issues. Bioenvironmental Engineering Services (78 MDS/SGPB at Robins AFB) communicates information on health risks to the community.

**Objective #7:**

Coordinate with Robins AFB Public Affairs to facilitate communication. Providing a central contact office that represents Robins AFB allows concerned citizens and officials to have access to government officials for site inquiries and concerns. It also allows the government officials to address promptly any community concerns when they arise. Direct communication enhances opportunities for community participation in the ERP process.

**Objective #8:**

Maintain communication with local officials. Members of local government are valuable contacts for citizens in surrounding communities. Citizens are more familiar with local officials and may tend to contact them before they contact Robins AFB representatives. Cooperation and ongoing personal contact between local officials and Robins AFB is necessary to ensure a harmonious working relationship and a reliable and constructive flow of information.

**Objective #9:**

Maintain communication with on-base housing management. The Robins AFB housing management office is a valuable contact for military families living on base. Family members may naturally tend to ask questions or pose concerns to these housing managers before they contact Robins AFB representatives. Cooperation between the housing managers and Robins AFB environmental and PA staffs may be necessary in certain situations to ensure a harmonious working relationship and a reliable and constructive flow of information.





#### **Objective #10:**

Develop communication avenues with interested citizens not currently receiving ERP information. Quarterly Fact Sheets sent to local elected officials provide the name and telephone number of the EAB Manager, the names of the EAB members, and the address of the EAB website.

#### **Objective #11:**

Maintain consistency with Robins AFB PA Publication Guidelines. Publications developed related to specific activities contained in this CRP will be consistent with Robins AFB PA publication guidance.

The following section presents the specific activities recommended to meet these objectives.

### **4.3 RECOMMENDED COMMUNITY RELATIONS ACTIVITIES**

This section describes the recommended community relations activities related to the Robins AFB ERP. These activities are divided into three categories: (1) General ERP Activities; (2) CERCLA Site Activities; and (3) RCRA Site Activities. The General ERP Activities are applicable to the entire program, regardless of whether a specific site is governed by CERCLA or RCRA. However, a distinction is made for certain activities, since CERCLA and RCRA each have different public communication requirements. The timing of the different CERCLA and RCRA activities will be tied to the appropriate technical milestones applicable to the two laws.

The activities outlined are designed to address the communities' interests summarized in Section 3.0 and to meet the community relations objectives discussed in Section 4.2. Following each activity are the specific objectives that each activity meets.

#### **4.3.1 General ERP Activities**

### **1. Designate a central contact person(s) at Robins AFB.**

The Robins AFB PA Office serves as the central contact person for the public. PA is responsible for coordinating accurate, consistent, and timely responses to questions from citizens, civic leaders, and local officials throughout the ERP process and for conveying community concerns to the EAB. If new restoration information or an unexpected environmental incident with the potential to affect the local community were to occur on the base, PA would be notified. PA would ensure timely public notification using methods deemed appropriate to the situation to inform those on the base and in the community who may be impacted. Contact information for PA can be found in Section 1 and in Appendix A. (Meets Community Relations Objectives #1 and #7.)

### **2. Update the ERP information repository.**

The information repository contains both CERCLA and RCRA program documentation. The electronic information repository, which includes more than 2,500 Robins AFB



Representatives from the Public Affairs and Judge Advocate offices attend EAB meetings and are available to answer questions from the public.



documents, can be found at the Nola Brantley Memorial Library (also known as Houston County Libraries-Warner Robins Houston County Library). The repository enables community members to have access to information regarding ERP activities and to stay informed of findings at the individual sites. The Nola Brantley Memorial Library was chosen because of its centralized location, hours of availability, and accessibility. The information repository contains documents that were used to form the basis of the remedy selections made at the NPL site and is the official legal record of environmental investigative and remedial activities at the site. Appendix B provides the address, telephone number, and contact person for the library. (Meets Community Relations Objectives #2, #3, #4, #5, and #6.)

### **3. Maintain list of individuals and organizations interested in receiving information about the ERP at Robins AFB.**

Robins AFB maintains a list (see Appendix A) of mayors and others interested in ERP activities. Anyone who wishes to be added to the list should contact PA (see Appendix A). (Meets Community Relations Objectives #1, #4, #8, #9, and #10.)

### **4. Channel information on ERP activities through the EAB and increase the visibility of the EAB.**

Robins AFB has a very active EAB, including members from surrounding communities. Annually, at least three of the quarterly EAB meetings are held off base to ensure participation by elected officials and community members. The date, time, and location of each EAB meeting is published in *The Telegraph* and the *Houston Home Journal* newspapers prior to the meeting. After each meeting, a Fact Sheet is developed and distributed that contains an overview of the issues presented and discussed during the quarterly meeting. The public is welcome to contact the EAB Manager for questions and comments concerning the EAB. The contact information for the EAB Manager is identified on the Fact Sheets. In addition, an EAB website has been developed to channel information on ERP activities to the communities through electronic means. The web address for the EAB website is provided on all quarterly Fact Sheets. (Meets Community Relations Objectives #1, #2, and #10.)

### **5. Provide information about site boundaries and their relationship to family housing and on-base schools.**

The locations for the environmental sites at Robins AFB are identified on Figure 2-3. Additionally, site boundaries are provided, as applicable, in documents available in information repository. EAB meetings are held on a quarterly basis and provide detailed information on the environmental sites on Robins AFB. These meetings are open to the public. Public notices are published in the local newspapers to allow community members an opportunity to attend the quarterly EAB meetings. (Meets Community Relations Objectives #3, #4, and #9.)



**6. Send news releases and/or public notices to local media outlets.**

Local media are made aware of environmental issues ongoing at Robins AFB. To ensure that the local communities receive timely notification of upcoming EAB meetings, public notices are published in the local media in advance of the meetings. (Meets Community Relations Objectives #1, #2, #4, #5, and #11.)

**7. Develop articles for The Rev-Up base newspaper.**

The Robins AFB PA Office reviews and approves branch-drafted ERP articles for publication in the base's newspaper, *The Robins Rev-Up*. The articles inform military personnel, their families, and civilian workers about the technical progress of the ERP, upcoming fieldwork, public meetings, and public comment periods. (Meets Community Relations Objectives #1, #2, #4, #5, #9, and #11.)

**8. Develop and distribute updated Fact Sheets or newsletters that contain information on ERP sites.**

Robins AFB publishes and distributes quarterly Fact Sheets to report on progress being made at the various ERP sites. (Meets Community Relations Objectives #2, #4, #5, #6, #8, #9, and #10.)

**9. Place ERP materials and announcements on the Environmental Advisory Board website.**

The website is accessible to the public at [www.robinseab.org](http://www.robinseab.org). (Meets Community Relations Objectives #1, #2, #3, #4, #6, and #10.)

**10. Summarize findings and announce availability of ERP Public Health Assessment.**

In April 1998, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) conducted a Public Health Assessment, which reviewed the ERP at Robins AFB from the health perspective of the surrounding community. The Final Public Health Assessment Report was briefed to EAB members and is available for public review at the Nola Brantley Memorial Library (also known as Houston County Libraries-Warner Robins Houston County Library). (Meets Community Objectives #2 and #6.)



The Robins AFB EAB website provides information briefed at recent EAB meetings and related information in an attractive format and in language understandable by the general non-technical public. [www.robinseab.org](http://www.robinseab.org)



## 11. Revise this CRP.

The Robins AFB CRP is updated annually. (Meets Community Relations Objectives #1 and #11.)

### 4.3.2 CERCLA Site Activities

There are specific public activities that are either required by law or encouraged by the US EPA protocol for CERCLA sites. These apply to the CERCLA NPL site and related OUs. OU1 is the landfill and sludge lagoon source areas. OU2 is the wetlands and surface water downgradient of OU1, and OU3 is the groundwater.

A ROD has already been prepared for OU1 and OU3. A third five-year ROD review, including a public comment period, was completed and the final report issued in 2011. Since the contamination at OU2 was not attributed to the NPL site, OU2 was addressed under the RCRA program, and NFA status for the site was granted in September 2006.

The following activity will occur after the remedial action (RA) is complete for OU1 and OU3.

### 1. Provide public comment opportunities for a proposed deletion of the CERCLA site from the NPL.

Once the RA has been completed and the US EPA has placed a Notice of Intent to Delete in the Federal Register, the agency will announce a 30-day public comment period. The US EPA will respond to any significant comments submitted during the comment period before the agency carries out its final deletion. Once the deletion is finalized, a notice to that effect will be placed in the information repository. (Meets Community Relations Objectives #1, #2, #4, #6, #8, #9, and #10.)

### 4.3.3 RCRA Site Activities

RCRA communication requirements were formerly not as stringent or as extensive as those under CERCLA. However, in December 1995, the US EPA issued a final rule expanding its public participation requirements. These requirements are listed under Parts 124 and 270 in Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations and apply to facilities undergoing Part B permitting or permit modifications under Subtitle C. Facilities such as Robins AFB that treat, store, or dispose of hazardous waste must apply for and receive a permit allowing them to manage this waste. Such permits spell out the conditions and requirements the facility must meet for a specific period of time. The permit may be modified to include new conditions or requirements, or to change existing conditions or requirements.

Following are key activities for the Robins AFB RCRA sites.



**1. Provide opportunities for the public to comment on Corrective Action Plans (CAPs) and/or RCRA permit modifications and develop a Public Participation Package for public review.**

Upon regulatory approval of a CAP or a No Further Action status resulting in a permit modification, the GA EPD will prepare and submit a Public Participation Package to the information repository for public review. The Public Participation Package contains a Statement of Basis concerning each proposed action. As part of the process, the GA EPD announces a 45-day public comment period. The public participation information is also provided to all persons on the GA EPD mailing list prior to the public comment period. During this time, interested community members may submit oral or written comments to the GA EPD. The public notice is published in the *Macon Telegraph* and announced on a local radio station. (Meets Community Relations Objectives #1, #2, #4, #6, #8, #9, and #10.)

**2. Hold public meetings.**

A public meeting can be held during the CAP/permit modification public comment period, if the GA EPD feels there is sufficient community interest or cause for such a meeting. Appendix B lists the suggested locations for public meetings. (Meets Community Relations Objectives #1, #2, #4, #8, #9, and #10.)

**3. Announce the closure of a RCRA ERP site.**

A RCRA ERP site is officially closed when an NFA decision is made by the GA EPD. Procedures for announcement of site closure action are contained in Activity 1 above. (Meets Community Relations Objectives #2, #4, #8, #9, and #10.)

## **TABLES**

**Table 2-1  
History of Base Operations at Robins Air Force Base**

<b>Period</b>	<b>Types of Operations</b>	<b>Hazardous Substance Activities</b>
Pre-1941	Farmland, Swamp/Lowland	None
1941-1943	Base Construction	Construction
1943-1945	Flight Training Center Logistics - B-17, B-26, and B-29 Bombers - C-46, C-47, C-54, and C-60 Cargo Aircraft - A-20 and A-26 Attack Aircraft - Piston Engine Spark Plugs	Landfills, Airplane/Automotive Fuel Storage, Hangars, Machine Shops, Wastewater Treatment Facility, Fire Protection Training Areas
1945-1956	Logistics - B-29 Bombers - C-119, C-130, and Other Cargo Aircraft - Piston Engine Spark Plugs	Landfills, Fuel and Oil Storage, Low Level Radioactive Disposal, Wastewater Treatment Facility, Fire Protection Training Areas, Hangars, Machine Shop, Paint, and Depaint
1956-1961	Logistics - C-124, C-130, and C-133 Cargo Aircraft - Piston Engine Spark Plugs	Landfills, Fuel and Oil Storage, Wastewater Treatment Facility, Fire Protection Training Areas, Hangars, Machine Shop, Paint, and Depaint
1961-1968	Operations - B-52 Bombers Logistics - C-7, C-123, C-130, and C-141 Cargo Aircraft	Landfills, Fuel and Oil Storage, Wastewater Treatment Facility, Fire Protection Training Areas, Hangars, Machine Shop, Paint, and Depaint
1968-1983	Operations - B-52 Bombers Logistics - AC-130 Special Operations Aircraft - C-130 and C-141 Cargo Aircraft - F-15 Fighters - Avionics, Electronics, Communications, Radar, and Electronic Countermeasures	Weapons Storage Area, Landfills, Fuel and Oil Storage, Wastewater Treatment Facility, Fire Protection Training Areas, Hangars, Machine Shop, Paint, and Depaint
1983-1995	Operations - B-52 Bombers - KC-135 Refuel Aircraft Logistics - AC-130 Special Operations Aircraft - C-130 and C-141 Cargo Aircraft - F-15 Fighters - Avionics, Electronics, Communications, Radar, and Electronic Countermeasures	Fuel and Oil Storage, Wastewater Treatment Facility, Fire Protection Training Areas, Hangars, Machine Shop, Maintenance Facilities, Paint, and Depaint

<p>1995- Present</p>	<p>Operations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- KC-135 Refuel Aircraft</li> <li>- Joint STARS</li> <li>- Marine Corps Light Attack Helicopters</li> </ul> <p>Logistics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- AC-130 Special Ops Aircraft</li> <li>- C-5, C-17, C-130, C-141 (Taken Out of Service in 2006) Cargo Aircraft</li> <li>- F-15 Fighters</li> <li>- Avionics, Electronics, Communications, Radar, and Electronic Countermeasures</li> <li>- U-2 Reconnaissance Aircraft</li> <li>- Helicopters</li> </ul>	<p>Fuel and Oil Storage, Wastewater Treatment Facility, Fire Protection Training Areas, Hangars, Machine Shop, Maintenance Facilities, Paint, and Depaint</p>
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**Table 3-1  
Selected Middle Georgia Population Information**

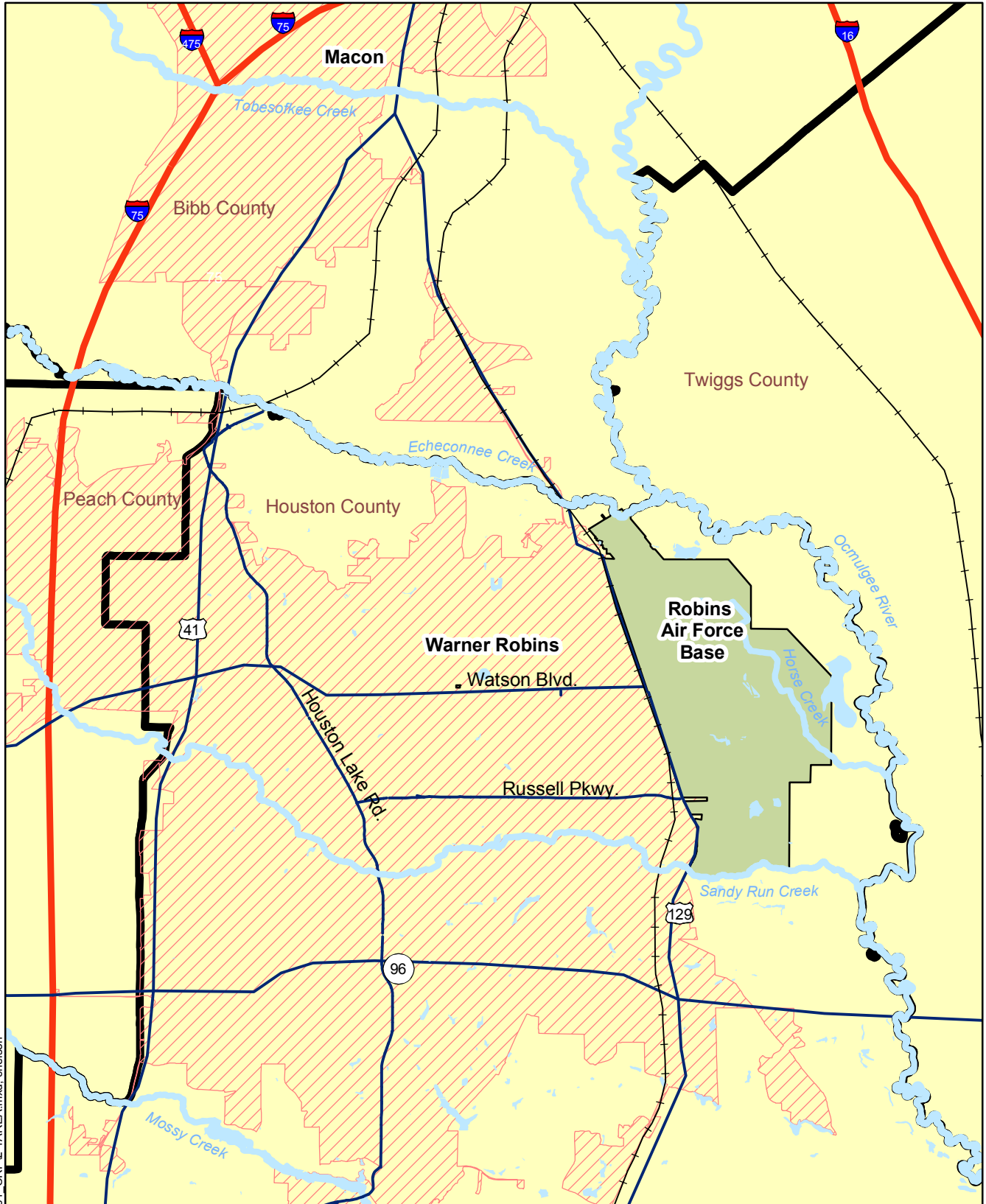
	2010 Census	2014 Estimate	2014 Rank	% Change 2010-2014	2025 Projected*	Projected % Change 2010-2025
Bibb County	155,547	153,905	13	-1.1	159,592	2.6
Houston County	139,900	149,111	14	6.6	174,362	24.6
City of Warner Robins	66,588	73,271		10.0		
City of Perry	13,839	15,144		9.4		
Centerville	7,148	7,584		6.1		
Peach County	27,695	26,922	68	-2.8	27,850	0.6
Byron	4,512	4,947		9.6		
City of Fort Valley	9,815	8,952		-8.8		

Notes: “Rank” indicates relative population among Georgia’s 159 counties.

\*Projected by the Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget

Source: U.S. Census Bureau (factfinder2.census.gov) and State of Georgia (www.opb.georgia.gov)

## **FIGURES**



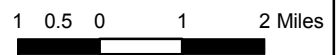
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- Sandy Run Creek
- Major Roads
- Interstate
- Railroad
- Urban Area
- Installation Area
- Hydrography
- County Boundary

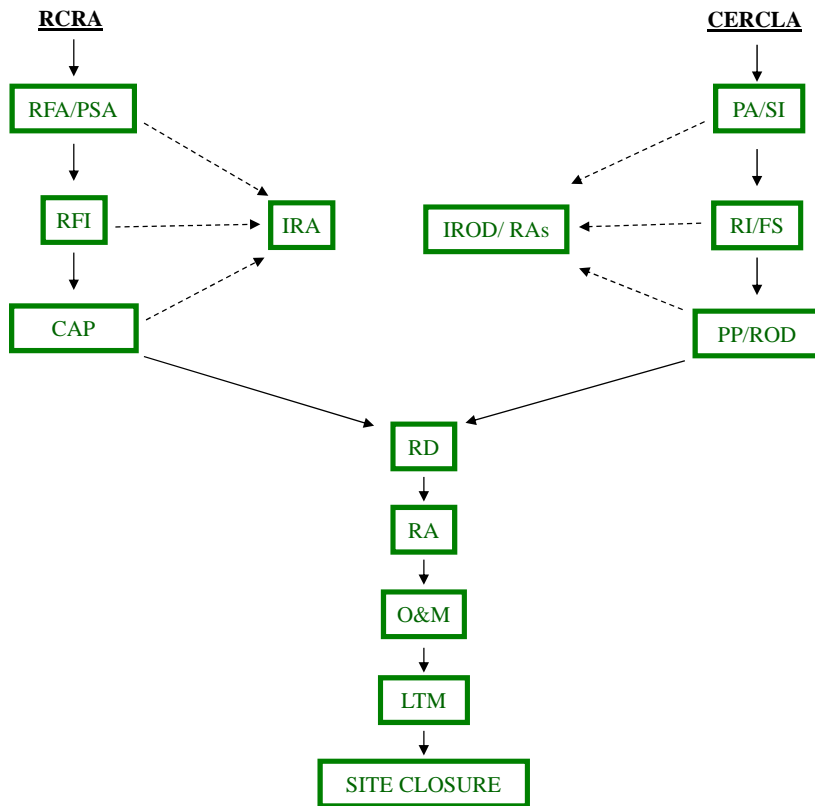
**Figure 2-1**  
**Robins Air Force Base**  
**Site Vicinity Map**



October 2015



# Figure 2-2 Environmental Restoration Program (ERP) Process



RFA/PSA - RCRA Facility Assessment/Potential Source Assessment  
 RFI - RCRA Facility Investigation  
 CAP - Corrective Action Plan  
 IRA - Interim Remedial Action  
 PA/SI - Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection  
 RI/FS - Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study  
 PP/ROD - Proposed Plan/Record of Decision  
 IROD/RAs - Interim Record of Decision/Removal Actions  
 RD - Remedial Design  
 RA - Remedial Action  
 O&M - Operations and Maintenance  
 LTM - Long-term Monitoring

### RCRA (Resource Conservation and Recovery Act)

**RCRA Facility Assessment/Potential Source Assessment:** A study conducted to identify individual sites, SWMUs, that could pose a hazard to public health or the environment. If no hazard exists, the SWMU is categorized as "No Further Response Action Planned" (NFRAP).

**RCRA Facility Investigation:** An investigative phase to fully delineate the contamination at the site. The information that is gathered in this step is used to develop a cleanup strategy.

**Corrective Action Plan:** The Corrective Action Module of the Robins AFB Permit is the process for evaluating the cleanup alternatives that will provide adequate remediation to meet the regulatory requirements. The Corrective Action Module requires that CAPs integrate the Corrective Measures Study (CMS) and Corrective Measures Implementation (CMI) steps of the traditional RCRA corrective action process together. Once the CMS is complete, the CAP outlines the available data, the results of the CMS, and presents the proposed CMI. The CAP is submitted for formal regulatory review.

**Interim Remedial Actions:** Cleanup measures that are directed to address an imminent threat to public health or control contaminant releases to the environment. These may be initiated at anytime during the process and do not necessarily bring the site to close out.

### CERCLA (Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act)

**Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection:** A study to identify sites that may pose hazards to public health or the environment. Sites are scored using a Hazard Ranking System (HRS) based on the amount/toxicity of the contamination and the potential for migration/human exposure. If a site receives a sufficiently high score, it is proposed for inclusion on the National Priorities List (NPL).

**Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study:** An investigative phase to fully delineate the contamination at the site (RI) and an evaluation of potential cleanup strategies (FS).

**Proposed Plan/Record of Decision:** The PP describes the proposed cleanup method in a formal document that is released for public comment. After public comments are reviewed and an agreement is reached with appropriate regulatory authorities, the ROD is a record of the legal decision for site cleanup.

**Interim Record of Decision/Removal Actions:** Cleanup measures that are directed to address an imminent threat to public health or control contaminant releases to the environment. These may be initiated at anytime during the process and do not necessarily bring the site to close out. If an IROD is used, the process includes a formal regulatory review.

**Remedial Design:** A detailed engineering design for the cleanup technology outlined in the CAP or ROD.

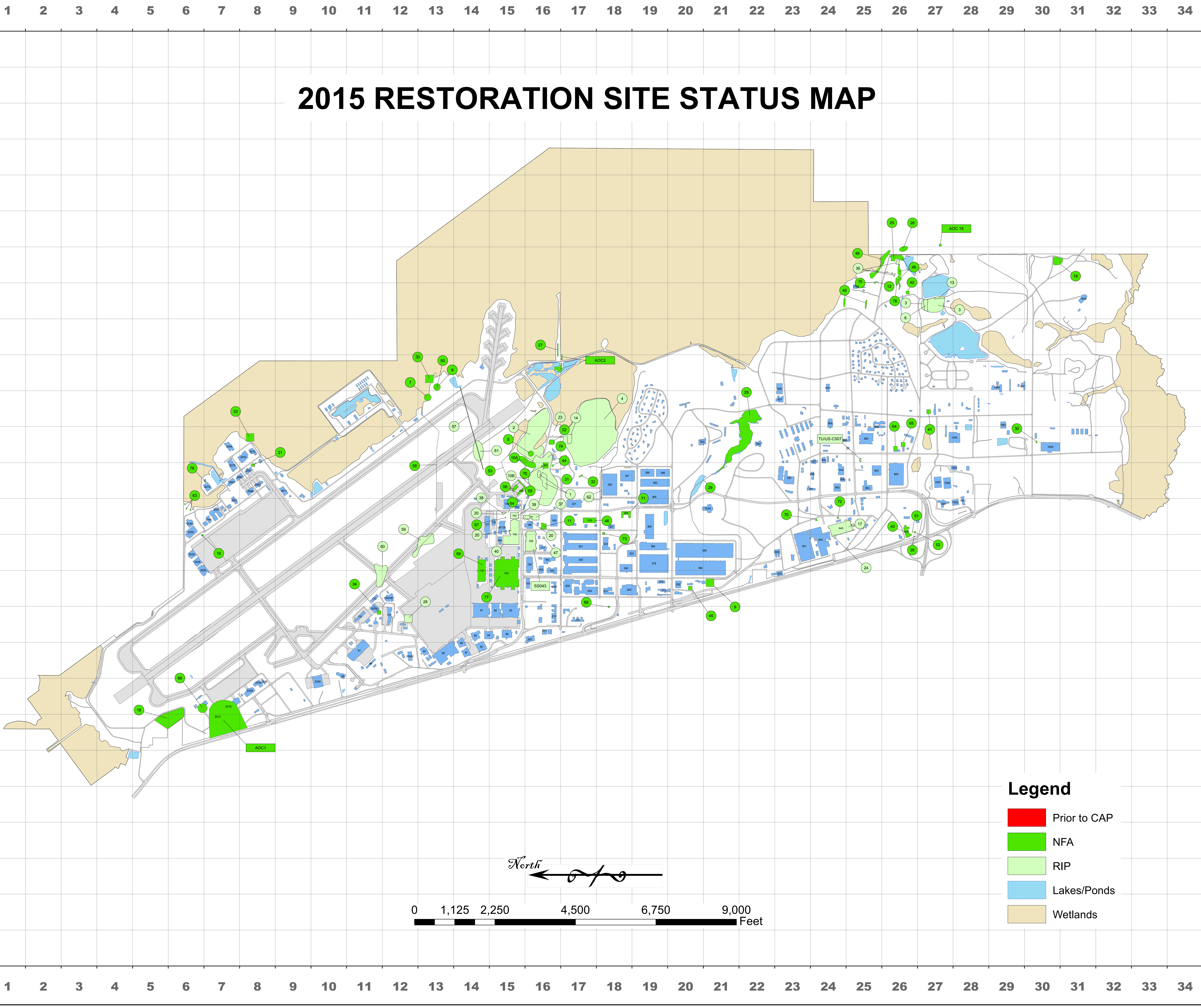
**Remedial Action:** The implementation phase of the corrective action including construction and installation.

**Operations and Maintenance:** O&M of the approved corrective action to reduce the contaminant levels to meet required regulatory levels.

**Long-term Monitoring:** Testing conducted to assure that the corrective action is removing contaminants and to evaluate when contaminant levels have stabilized below the required regulatory levels. Even after the corrective action is complete, LTM may continue to ensure that contaminant levels remain below the regulatory limits.

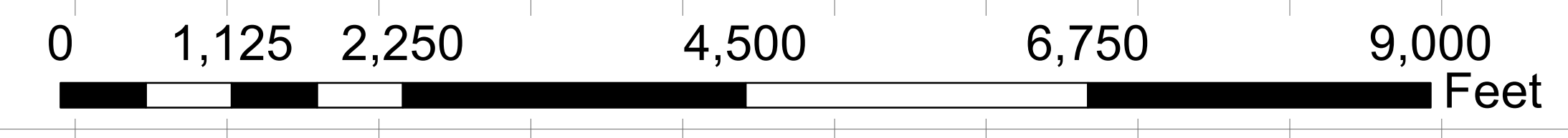
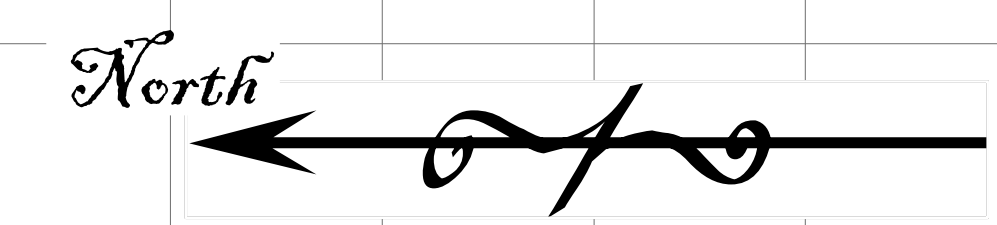
**Site Closure:** Site is considered closed when no further response is required to protect human health and the environment.

# 2015 RESTORATION SITE STATUS MAP



**Legend**

- Prior to CAP
- NFA
- RIP
- Lakes/Ponds
- Wetlands



## Robins Air Force Base Environmental Sites (Solid Waste Management Units, Areas of Concern, and Other Sites)

SWMU/AOC#	ERP No.	SWMU/AOC Description	Corrective Action Status	Location Grid
1	LF01	Landfill No. 1	RIP	M-16
2	LF02	Landfill No. 2	RIP	K-16, L-15, 16
3	LF03	Landfill No. 3	RIP	H-27
4	LF04	Landfill No. 4 (CERCLA NPL Site)	RIP	K-17, 18, M-17
5	FT05	Fire Protection Training Area No. 1	NFA	L-15, 16, M-15
6	FT06	Fire Protection Training Area No. 2	RIP	H-27
7	FT07	Fire Protection Training Area No. 3	NFA	K-13
8	FT08	Fire Protection Training Area No. 4	NFA	J-13
9	SS09	SDT Spill Site at Entomology Shop Buildings 295 & 296	NFA	P-21
10A	SS20	IP4 Spill Site A	NFA	L-19, 20, 26
10B	SS40	IP4 Spill Site B	RIP	L, M, N-16
11	SS11	PCB Spill Site	NFA	N-16
12	WP12	Hazardous Waste Disposal Site	NFA	G-25
13	WP13	Laboratory Chemical Disposal Area	RIP	H-27
14	WP14	Sludge Lagoon (CERCLA NPL Site)	RIP	L-17
15	RW15	Low Level Radioactive Burial Site	NFA	G-25
16	OT16	Well No. 8 TCE Contamination	NFA	O-6
17	OT17	Building 645 TCE Contamination	RIP	N-24, 25 O-24
18	LF18	Construction Debris Landfill, East of Building 1400 (PAVE PAWS)	NFA	G-30
19	LF19	Construction Debris Landfill at North End of Base	NFA	S-6, T-5, 6
20	OT20	Greater Base Industrial Area TCE Groundwater Contamination	RIP	N-15, 16, O-15
21	OT21	Corrosion Control Facility at Building 80	NFA	M-8
22	OT22	Satellite Storage Area Southeast of Building 361	NFA	L-16
23	OT23	Sanitary Sludge Placement Area Southeast of Building 361	RIP	L-16
24	OT17	Former Waste Solvent Underground Storage Tank at Building 645	RIP	O-24
25	OT25	Pasture Disposal Site	NFA	G-26
26	OT26	Off-Base Drum Disposal Site	NFA	F, G-26
27	OT27	Gas Line Road Dump Site	NFA	LJ-16
28	CG028	Purge Fluid Leak at Building 45	RIP	Q-12
29	OT29	Duck Lake and Stream SE of Building 295 & 296	NFA	K, L, M-21, L-22
30	N/A	Building 1601-DRMO Hazardous Waste Container Storage Building	NFA	L-30
31	N/A	Building 352-Hazardous Waste Container Storage Building	NFA	M-16
32	N/A	Building 809-Dioxin Container Storage Building	NFA	M-17
33	N/A	SAC Drum Site	NFA	L-8, J-13
34	AOC1	Fire Fighting Foam Lagoon	NFA	Q-11
35	N/A	Methyl Ethyl Ketone Unit at Building 680	NFA	O-26
36	DC34	Horse Pasture Trench Disposal Sites	RIP	G-26
37	OT20	Solvent Reclamation Area (Building 181)	RIP	N-15, 16
38	OT20	Industrial WWTP 1&2 at Building 141	RIP	N-15
39	OT20	Metal Finishing Shop at Building 142	RIP	N-15
40	OT20	Machine Shop at Building 140	RIP	N, O-15
41	N/A	Civil Engineer Pole Yard and Transformer Storage Yard	NFA	K-27
42	N/A	Former Transformer Storage 588te at Building 1178	NFA	H-26
43	SS35	Plastic Shop Baghouses at Building 670 (Former Dry Cleaning Facility)	NFA	N, O-26
44	N/A	Phenolic Treatment Facility at Building 363	NFA	M-16
45	N/A	Chemical Site No. 25 and Truck Wash Area	NFA	P-20
46	N/A	Vehicle Steam Cleaning Area at Building 319	NFA	N-17
47	CGC504	Aboveground Diesel Fuel Storage Tank at Building 177-2 & Fuel Line to Steam Plant	RIP	O-16
48	DC34	Miscellaneous Disposal Sites	NFA	G-25, 26, H-26
49	DC34	Horse Pasture West of Site RW15	NFA	H-25
50	N/A	Fire Protection Training Area No. 5	NFA	J-13
51	N/A	Oil/Water Separator at Building 680	NFA	N-26
52	N/A	Chemical Storage Shed at Building 680	NFA	N-26
53	OT20	Storm Sewer System from Base Industrial Area to Outfall 009	NFA	L-15, M-15
54	OT20	Industrial Wastewater Treatment Plant Process Line Between Building Nos. 141 & 142	NFA	N-15
55	SS40	Soil Contamination at Monitoring Well RB20MM6	NFA	N-15
56	OT20	Jet Engine Maintenance Building 145, 256 & 257	NFA	M-15
57	OT41	17-in 72-inch Underground Storm Drain Culvert System Through South Fighting	RIP	J, K, L, M-14
58	OT20	Culvert Storm Drain from the Base Industrial Area to Drainage Ditch at Fire Protection Training Area No. 3 (SWMU 7)	RIP	K, L, M-13
59	CGC501	IP-8 Product Line Along Main Controlled Taxiway	RIP	O-12, N, O-13
60	CGC502	IP-8 Product Line Near Intersection of Taxiway No. 2 and Taxiway No. 3	RIP	O, P-11, 12
61	CGC503	IP-8 Product Line Near South End of Main Runway	RIP	L-14
62	OT17	Third Street Storm Sewer and Outfall	RIP	M-18
63	OT38	Test Firing Range for M61-20mm Guns	NFA	N-6
64	N/A	Two Former Heating Oil Tanks at Building 993	NFA	L-26
65	N/A	Former Heating Oil Underground Storage Tank at Building 994	NFA	L-26
66	N/A	Tar pit at ANG B-1 Site	NFA	S, T-6, 7
67	N/A	Former Building 113 Aboveground Storage Tank	NFA	N-15
68	N/A	Former Building 245 Underground Storage Tank	NFA	Q-18
69	N/A	Building 110-Aircraft Hangar	NFA	O, P-14
70	N/A	Building 640-Industrial WWTP Process Line	NFA	O, P-14
71	N/A	Building 359-Hazardous Waste Container Storage Building	NFA	N-18
72	N/A	Building 644-Heating Oil Underground Storage Tank	NFA	N-14
73	N/A	Building 325-Old DRMO Hazardous Waste Container Storage Building	NFA	N, O-19
74	N/A	Building 360-Heating Oil Underground Storage Tank	NFA	L-16
75	N/A	Building 352-Heating Oil Underground Storage Tank	NFA	M-16
76	N/A	Building 2076-Heating Oil Underground Storage Tank	NFA	M-7
77	N/A	Four Pairs of Vaults & Associated Piping at Building 125 (C-5 Hangar)	NFA	O-15, P-15
78	N/A	Lead Slag Area in Horse Pasture	NFA	G, H-26
AOC1	SS36	Area of Concern Near Taxiway No. 4	NFA	S-7, 8, T-7, 8
AOC2	N/A	Wetlands Downgradient of the NPL Site and GBIA	NFA	J-16, 17
AOC15	N/A	Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) Site	NFA	F-27
TBD	SS043	Building 169	RIP	N-16, O-15, 16
N/A	TU/US-CS07	Building 922	RIP	L-25

### ABBREVIATIONS & ACRONYMS

AOC - Area of Concern	N/A - Not Applicable	POL - Petroleum, Oil, & Lubricants
CAP - Corrective Action Plan	NFA - No Further Action required at this time	RCRA - Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
CERCLA - Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, & Liability Act	NPL - National Priorities List Site	RI - RCRA Facility Investigation
HMWU - Hazardous Waste Management Unit	Federal Facility Agreement Dated June 14, 1989	RIP - Remedial Investigation
ERP - Environmental Restoration Program	Incorporated into the Permit by Reference	SWMU - Solid Waste Management Unit
		TBD - To Be Determined



**ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

## Figure 2-3 2015 RESTORATION SITE STATUS MAP

Filename: J:\PROGRAM_MXD\RESTORATION\Restoration Site Status Map\2015 Restoration Site Status.mxd	Prepared For: Fred Otto, AFCEC CZO
Prepared By: AMEC Foster Wheeler/Krista M. Mott	Revision Date: September 30, 2015
Date: July 28, 2008	Revision: 9

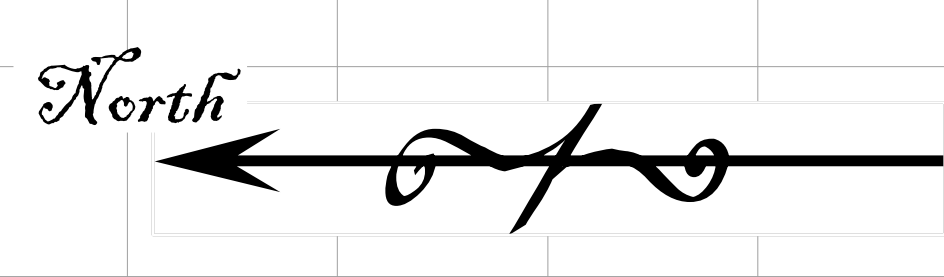
# 1998 RESTORATION SITE STATUS MAP

## Robins Air Force Base Environmental Sites (Solid Waste Management Units, Areas of Concern, and Other Sites)

SWMU AOC #	RIP No.	SWMU/AOC Description	Corrective Action Status	Location Grid
1	L101	Landfill No. 1	Prior to CAP	M-16
2	L102	Landfill No. 2	Prior to CAP	K-16, L-15, 16
3	L103	Landfill No. 3	CAP	H-27
4	L104	Landfill No. 4 (CERCLA/SRI Site)	Prior to CAP	K-17, H-16, M-17
5	L105	Fire Protection Training Area No. 1	CAP	L-15, 16
6	L106	Fire Protection Training Area No. 2	CAP	H-27
7	L107	Fire Protection Training Area No. 3	Prior to CAP	K-17
8	L108	Fire Protection Training Area No. 4	Prior to CAP	L-11
9	SS09	DDE Spill Storage Enclosure Shop Bldg. 295 & 296	NFA	P-21
10A	SS10	IP4 Spill Site A	RIP	L, M-15, 16
10B	SS10	IP4 Spill Site B	Prior to CAP	L, M-16
11	SS11	PCH Spill Site	NFA	N-16
12	WP12	Hazardous Waste Disposal Site	NFA	G-25
13	WP13	Laboratory Chemical Disposal Area	CAP	H-27
14	WP14	High Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Site	Prior to CAP	L-17
15	SW15	Low Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Site	Prior to CAP	G-25
16	OT16	Well No. 6 TCE Contamination	NFA	O-6
17	OT17	Building 645 TCE Contamination	CAP	N-24
18	LI18	Construction Debris Landfill, East of Bldg. 1400 (PAVE PAWS)	NFA	G-30
19	LI19	Construction Debris Landfill at North End of Base	NFA	S-4, T-5, 6
20	OT20	Greater Base Industrial Area PCB Contaminant Contamination	Prior to CAP	N-15, 16, O-12
21	OT21	Compressor Control Facility at Building 60	NFA	M-4
22	OT22	Water Storage Tank at Building 301	Prior to CAP	L-16
23	OT23	Sewage Sludge Treatment Area Southwest of Building 261	Prior to CAP	L-16
24	OT24	Former Waste Solvent Underground Storage Tank at Bldg. 645	CAP	O-24
25	OT25	Former Disposal Site	NFA	G-26
26	OT26	Off-Base Drum Disposal Site	NFA	G-26
27	OT27	Gas Line Road Dump Site	NFA	L-16
28	SS28	Prags Fuel Tank at Building 45	Prior to CAP	Q-12
29	OT29	Duck Lake and Stream SE of Bldg. 295 & 296	CAP	K, L, M-21, L-22
30	N/A	Bldg. 1001 (DPMO) Hazardous Waste Container Storage Building	NFA	L-30
31	N/A	Bldg. 212 Hazardous Waste Container Storage Building	NFA	M-16
32	N/A	Bldg. 309-309A Hazardous Waste Container Storage Building	NFA	M-17
33	AD33	SAC Drum Site	NFA	L-1, 2, J-13
34	AD34	Fire Fighting Foam Lagoons	NFA	Q-11
35	N/A	Medical Ethyl Ketone Unit at Bldg. 606	Prior to CAP	O-26
36	DC34	Boys' Pledge Tank Disposal Site	Prior to CAP	G-26
37	OT37	Solvent Reclamation Area (Bldg. 181)	Prior to CAP	N-16
38	OT38	Industrial WWTAP (A-2) Bldg. 141	Prior to CAP	N-13
39	OT39	Area 1 Fueling Shop at Building 102	Prior to CAP	N-13
40	OT40	Master Storage at Building 126	Prior to CAP	O-11
41	N/A	Civil Engineer Park Yard and Transformer Storage Yard	NFA	S-27
42	N/A	Former Transformer Storage S/Site at Bldg. 1178	NFA	H-26
43	SS43	Plastic Sheet Highways at Building 676	Prior to CAP	N-15, 26
44	N/A	Remedial Investigation at Building 303	NFA	M-16
45	N/A	Chemical Site No. 25 and Truck Wash Area	NFA	P-20
46	N/A	Vehicle Steam Cleaning Area at Building 319	NFA	N-17
47	N/A	Overground Diesel Fuel Storage Tank at Building 1772	Prior to CAP	O-16
48	DC34	Structural Disposal Site	Prior to CAP	G-25, H-26
49	DC34	Boys' Pledge West of Site PW15	Prior to CAP	O-25
50	N/A	Fire Protection Training Area No. 5	Prior to CAP	L-11
51	N/A	Oil Water Separator at Building 686	Prior to CAP	N-26
52	N/A	Chemical Storage Shed at Building 688	Prior to CAP	N-26
53	OT53	North Sewer System from Base Industrial Area to Outfall 609	Prior to CAP	L-11, M-13
54	OT54	Industrial Wastewater Treatment Plant Process Line Between Building Site L-1 & L-2	Prior to CAP	N-15
55	SS55	Soil Contamination at Monitoring Well R232MWA	Prior to CAP	N-15
56	OT56	Jet Engine Maintenance Bldg. 145, 256 & 227	Prior to CAP	M-15
57	OT57	Down 72 Inch Underground Storm Drain Culvert System Through South Entrance	Prior to CAP	O, L, M-14
58	OT58	Culvert Storm Drain From the Base Industrial Area to Drainage Ditch at Fire Protection Training Area No. 1 (SWMU 7)	Prior to CAP	K, L, M-13
59	N/A	IP-8 Product Line Along Main Controlled Freeway	Prior to CAP	O-12, N-13, 17
60	N/A	IP-8 Product Line Near Intersection of Freeway No. 2 and Freeway No. 1	Prior to CAP	O, P-11, 12
61	N/A	IP-8 Product Line Near South End of Main Runway	Prior to CAP	L-14
62	OT57	Third Street Storm Sewer and Outfall	Prior to CAP	M-14
63	OT58	Area 1 Fueling Shop at Building 102	Prior to CAP	N-13
64	N/A	Area 1 Fueling Shop at Building 102	NFA	L-26
65	N/A	Drum Storage Oil Underground Storage Tank at Bldg. 100	Prior to CAP	L-26
66	N/A	Tar pit at ANG B-1 Site	NFA	S-1, 6, 7
67	N/A	Former Building 113 Aboveground Storage Tank	NFA	S-15
68	N/A	Former Building 245 Underground Storage Tank	NFA	Q-18
69	N/A	Building 110-Aircraft Hangar	NFA	O, P-14
70	N/A	Building 640 Industrial WWTAP Process Line	NFA	N-13, 24
71	N/A	Building 359 - Hazardous Waste Container Storage Building	NFA	N-18
72	N/A	Building 444 - Heating Oil 113 Underground Storage Tank	NFA	N-24
73	N/A	Building 525 - OGD (DPMO) Hazardous Waste Container Storage Building	NFA	O-18
74	N/A	Building 369 Heating Oil Underground Storage Tank	NFA	L-16
75	SS75	Heating Oil 113 Underground Storage Tank	Prior to CAP	N-24
76	N/A	Building 2076 Heating Oil 113 Underground Storage Tank	NFA	M-7
77	SS77	Area of Concern Near Entrance No. 4	Prior to CAP	S-1, 7, 17

**Legend**

- Prior to CAP
- CAP
- RIP
- NFA
- Lakes/Ponds
- Wetlands



### ABBREVIATIONS & ACRONYMS

AOC - Area of Concern	NPL - National Priorities List Site;
CAP - Corrective Action Plan	Federal Facility Agreement
CERCLA - Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, & Liability Act	Dated June 14, 1989
HWMU - Hazardous Waste Management Unit	Incorporated into this Permit by Reference
ERP - Environmental Restoration Program	POL - Petroleum, Oil, & Lubricants
N/A - Not Applicable	RCRA - Resource Conservation & Recovery Act
NFA - No Further Action required at this time	RFI - RCRA Facility Investigation
	RI - Remedial Investigation
	RIP - Remedied in Place
	SWMU - Solid Waste Management Unit



### ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Figure 2-4  
1998 RESTORATION SITE STATUS MAP

Filename	J:\DATA\RESTORATION\ENV_SITES\1998RestorationSitesEzize.mxd		
Drawn by			
Prepared by	AMEC/Krista M. Mott	Prepared For	78 CEG/CEAN
Date	July 28, 2008	Revision Date	September 24, 2012
		Rev. #	5

**APPENDIX A**

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS CONTACTS**

## **COMMUNITY RELATIONS CONTACTS**

### **CENTRAL POINT OF CONTACT FOR THE PUBLIC**

Public Affairs Office (478) 926-2137  
78 ABW/PA  
620 Ninth Street, Suite 230  
Robins AFB, Georgia 31098-1662

### **ROBINS AFB ERP PERSONNEL**

Mr. Alexander Stokes (478) 327-7439  
Chief e.stokes@us.af.mil  
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78th Civil Engineering Group  
775 Macon Street, Bldg. 1555  
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Mr. Fred Otto (478) 327-9272  
Restoration Program Manager ernest.otto@us.af.mil  
AFCEC/CZO-E – Robins Installation Support Team  
380 Robins Parkway, Building 359  
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Ms. Charline Logue (478) 327-9268  
Restoration Project Manager b.logue@us.af.mil  
AFCEC/CZO-E – Robins Installation Support Team  
380 Robins Parkway, Building 359  
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## **OTHER ROBINS AFB PERSONNEL**

Mr. Robert Sharples  
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## **FEDERAL AGENCIES**

### **United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA)**

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Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center  
10th Floor, Federal Facilities Branch  
61 Forsyth Street, SW  
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## **STATE AGENCIES**

### **Georgia Department of Natural Resources**

Ms. Mary Brown  
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Floyd Towers East, Suite 1054  
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John Harley, Mayor (478) 953-4734  
City of Centerville  
300 East Church Street  
Centerville, Georgia 31028

Robert Reichert, Mayor (478) 751-7400  
City of Macon  
700 Poplar Street  
Macon, Georgia 31201

James Faircloth, Jr., Mayor (478) 988-2700  
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Randy Toms, Mayor (478) 929-1115  
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b.logue@us.af.mil

**APPENDIX B**

**PUBLIC INFORMATION LOCATIONS**

### **Information Repository/Administrative Record/Other Information Locations**

The information repository and administrative record contain laws, work plans, technical reports, and other relevant information associated with the ERP. The information repository and administrative records for the Robins AFB ERP have been set up at the following locations:

Nola Brantley Memorial Library

(also known as Houston County Libraries – Warner Robins Houston County Library)

(Information Repository and Selected Administrative Record Documents)

721 Watson Boulevard

Warner Robins, Georgia 31093

(478) 923-0128

Contact: Mark Bohnstedt, Head/Reference Librarian

AFCEC/CZO-E – Robins Installation Support Team

380 Robins Parkway, Building 359

Robins AFB, Georgia 31098-2201

(478) 327-9268

Contact: Ms. Charline Logue

## **Public Meeting Locations**

The following locations could be used for public meetings or information open houses:

Museum of Aviation  
Highway 247  
P. O. Box 2469  
Warner Robins, Georgia 31088  
(478) 923-6600  
Contact: Ms. Karen Ross (Events Coordinator)

Homer J. Walker Civil Center  
702 Watson Blvd.  
Warner Robins, Georgia 31093  
(478) 302-5595  
Contact: Ms. Kathy Opitz

Homer J. Walker Municipal Complex  
Warner Robins City Hall  
700 Watson Blvd.  
Warner Robins, Georgia 31093  
(478) 293-1099  
Contact: Mr. Bill Harte

Centerville City Hall  
300 East Church Street  
Centerville, Georgia 31028  
(478) 953-4734  
Contact: Ms. Krista Bedingfield

**APPENDIX C**

**EAB FACT SHEETS**





# Robins Air Force Base Environmental Advisory Board (EAB)

## Fact Sheet



Volume 9, Issue 3, February 2015

### The Robins AFB EAB

Recognizing the importance of public involvement in environmental matters, Robins Air Force Base (Robins AFB) has established the Environmental Advisory Board (EAB). The mission of the EAB is to encourage participation of surrounding communities in the Base's environmental programs and allow community members and other stakeholders to have meaningful dialog with Base officials. Specifically, the EAB serves to promote community awareness and obtain constructive community review, comment, and input on current and proposed actions associated with environmental programs at Robins AFB. The EAB supports the Air Force environmental mission of sustaining readiness, being a good neighbor, protecting human health and the environment for the Base and community, and making smart business decisions.

#### Inside this issue...

Update on Progress at Select Restoration Sites

Building 169..... page 2

Solid Waste Management Unite (SWMU 47) . page 3

SWMU 61 ..... page 3

### February 2015 EAB Meeting

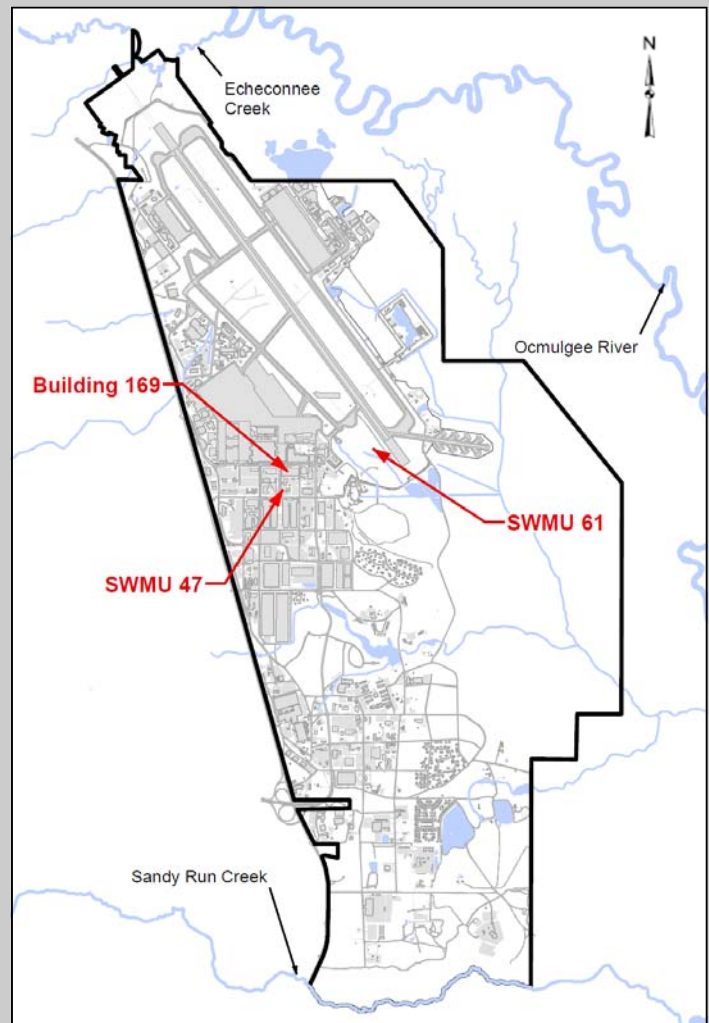
The winter EAB meeting was held on Thursday, February 7, 2015. The topics briefed included: "Update on Progress at Selected Restoration Sites."

This *Fact Sheet* provides a summary of the information and topics discussed during the meeting.

**The next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 7, 2015.**

### CONTINUED UPDATES ON PROGRESS AT SELECT RESTORATION SITES

At the recent EAB meeting, **Mr. David Fortune** of CAPE Environmental Management Inc. (CAPE) and **Mr. Mike Perlmutter** of CH2M HILL briefed on the status of the cleanup efforts at select restoration sites covered under the Performance-Base Remediation (PBR) contract. Specifically, the sites discussed during the meeting included: (i) Building 169; (ii) SWMU 47; and (iii) SWMU 61. The status of each site is presented in this Fact Sheet.



CAPE provided updates on the cleanup efforts at three restoration sites during the recent EAB meeting.

CONTINUED UPDATES ON PROGRESS AT SELECT RESTORATION SITES (CONT'D...)

(Continued from page 1)

**BUILDING 169**

Building 169 is an aircraft parts repair facility located in the Greater Base Industrial Area (GBIA). Soil contamination at the site was identified beneath the floor slab of the building in 2009.

In 2012 and 2013, CAPE conducted a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Facility Investigation (RFI) to define the nature and extent of soil contamination around the exterior building perimeter. Institutional Controls (ICs) are in place to prevent exposure to contaminants present adjacent to and below the building, and additional investigations to delineate contamination below the building will be conducted at a later time.

The results of the RFI indicated an area of high volatile organic compound (VOC) concentrations in soil outside the northwest corner of the building [i.e., concentrations of dichlorobenzene and trichlorobenzene exceeded their respective soil saturation concentration ( $C_{sat}$ )]. Groundwater contamination at the site is managed as part of the SWMU 20 remedial activities.

To address the elevated VOC concentrations, CAPE implemented interim measures, including excavation to remove soil contamination in April

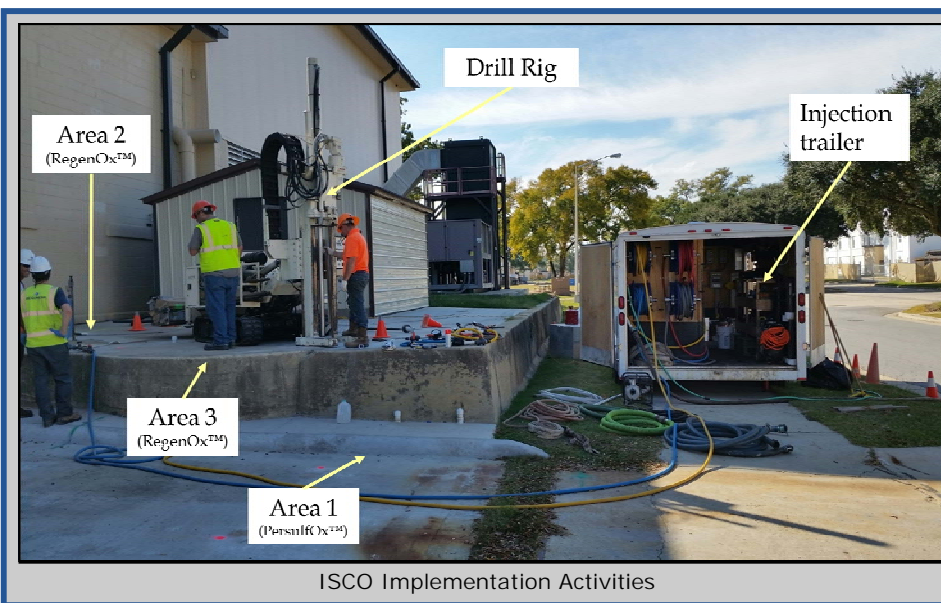
and May 2014, followed by operation of a Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE) system with vapor treatment from May to October 2014. A low permeability cover was placed over the area to provide an engineering control (i.e., to prevent exposure to residual contaminants and reduce/eliminate leaching).

Following operation of the SVE system, elevated contaminant concentrations were still observed in soil in three areas. To treat these areas, in October 2014 CAPE implemented in-situ chemical oxidation (ISCO) using RegenOx™ and PersulOx™. Samples collected after the ISCO injections indicated that elevated contaminant concentrations remained at the site.

Following the ISCO, CAPE elected to conduct additional soil excavation. In December 2014, following an extensive utility survey, approximately 75 cubic yards of soil were surgically excavated from the site, and confirmation samples were collected from the excavation areas.

CAPE is currently preparing a Corrective Action Plan (CAP), which documents the implementation of the interim measures. The CAP will be submitted to the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GA EPD) in March 2015. The goal for the

(Continued on page 3)



## CONTINUED UPDATES ON PROGRESS AT SELECT RESTORATION SITES (CONT'D...)

(Continued from page 2)

site is to achieve Response Complete by September 2015.

### SWMU 47

SWMU 47 is located in the GBIA. The site is defined as the contaminated soil and groundwater in the vicinity of Building 177 that resulted from a leaking underground fuel line connected to a 250,000 gallon aboveground storage tank (AST) containing No. 2 diesel fuel.

Soil contamination at SWMU 47 was identified in 1996. Contaminants at the site generally consist of petroleum-related VOCs, semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), and arsenic.

The original remedy for the site included biosparging, which was later augmented with passive light non-aqueous phase liquid (LNAPL) recovery. The biosparge system was shut down in 2010 due to LNAPL persistence.

To optimize the remedial system, CAPE has implemented active LNAPL recovery using both mobile and fixed multi-phase extraction (MPE). Under the fixed system, extracted groundwater is discharged through a treatment system to the Base's Industrial Wastewater Treatment Plant (IWTP). CAPE has also implemented surfactant flushing



Injection/Extraction Well with Spill Control Measures

using a biodegradable surfactant.

To address the elevated arsenic concentrations, approximately 45 cubic yards of soil were excavated at the site. CAPE has also assessed the extent of hexavalent chromium in surface soil at the site.

The fixed MPE system has accelerated LNAPL re-



Example of a Mobile MPE System

moval from the site. During the October 2014 sampling event, the LNAPL thicknesses at the site were below detection limits.

The path forward for SWMU 47 includes continued LNAPL removal via the fixed MPE system, with mobile MPE to complement the permanent system as needed. CAPE has also restarted the biosparge system to accelerate groundwater remediation. As a contingency, ISCO may be implemented in late 2015 to address any residual groundwater contamination. The goal for SWMU 47 is Site Closure.

### SWMU 61

SWMU 61 is located at the southern end of the airfield. The source of the petroleum contamination was identified as a leaking valve located on an 8-inch diameter underground JP-8 fuel supply line.

The remedy for the site consisted of Air Sparge/Soil Vapor Extraction (AS/SVE), followed by monitored natural attenuation (MNA). The AS/SVE system began operation in June 2003. In June 2009, as a

(Continued on page 4)

## CONTINUED UPDATES ON PROGRESS AT SELECT RESTORATION SITES (CONT'D...)

*(Continued from page 3)*

result of contaminant concentrations being reduced to near Remedial Levels (RLs), the AS/SVE system ceased operation, and the site remedy transitioned to MNA.

In 2011, based on contaminant concentrations below RLs in three of the four site wells, the GA EPD reduce the annual sampling requirement to only one well, S61MW4. Due to recalcitrant benzene concentrations and a detection of 1,3,5-trimethylbenzene above the RL at S61MW4 in 2013, CAPE began quarterly monitoring at the site in October 2013.

CAPE also installed an In-Situ Submerged Oxygen Curtain (iSOC<sup>®</sup>) at S61MW4 in December 2013, and conducted an oxygen releasing compound injection using

TersOX<sup>™</sup> in January 2014. The results from the sampling events indicated a decrease in contaminant concentrations below the RLs for the site COCs immediately following the implementation of these technologies. However, benzene and naphthalene concentrations have since rebounded.

GA EPD is currently requiring that Robins AFB continue monitoring at S61MW4. When the COC concentrations in groundwater samples collected from this well are below the RLs, closure monitoring can be reinitiated. COC concentrations must remain below the RLs for three years before the site can be closed. The goal for SWMU 61 is Site Closure.

For more information regarding the EAB, please contact **Ms. Charline Logue, Robins AFB EAB Manager**, at (478) 327-9268 or visit <http://www.robinseab.org>

<u>Acronyms</u>	
AFB	Air Force Base
AS	Air Sparge
AST	Aboveground Storage Tank
CAP	Corrective Action Plan
COC	Contaminant of Concern
C <sub>sat</sub>	Soil Saturation Concentration
EAB	Environmental Advisory Board
GBIA	Greater Base Industrial Area
IC	Institutional Control
ISCO	In-Situ Chemical Oxidation
iSOC <sup>®</sup>	In-Situ Submerged Oxygen Curtain
LNAPL	Non-Aqueous Phase Liquid
MNA	Monitored Natural Attenuation
MPE	Multi-Phase Extraction
PBR	Performance-Based Remediation
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
RFI	RCRA Facility Investigation
RL	Remedial Level
SWMU	Solid Waste Management Unit
SVE	Soil Vapor Extraction
SVOC	Semi-Volatile Organic Compound
US EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
VOC	Volatile Organic Compound

### Environmental Advisory Board Members

<b>Mr. Alexander Stokes,</b> Robins AFB Installation Co-Chair	<b>Dr. Dan Callahan,</b> Warner Robins Community Member	<b>Ms. Debra Jones,</b> Warner Robins Community Member	<b>Mr. Don Thompson,</b> Macon Community Member
<b>Dr. Brian E. Rood,</b> Macon Community Co-Chair	<b>Mr. James Harden,</b> Warner Robins Community Member	<b>Mr. Mike Maffeo,</b> Macon Community Member	<b>Mr. Penrose Wolf,</b> Perry Community Member
<b>Ms. Martha Berry,</b> US EPA Region 4 Hazardous Waste Division	<b>Mr. John Harley,</b> Centerville Community Member	<b>Dr. Linda Smyth,</b> Macon Community Co-Chair	
<b>Ms. Mary Brown,</b> GA EPD Hazardous Waste Management	<b>Mr. Stephen Johnson,</b> Macon Community Member	<b>Dr. Joseph Swartwout,</b> Fort Valley Community Member	



# Robins Air Force Base Environmental Advisory Board (EAB)

## Fact Sheet



Volume 9, Issue 4, April 2015

### The Robins AFB EAB

Recognizing the importance of public involvement in environmental matters, Robins Air Force Base (Robins AFB) has established the Environmental Advisory Board (EAB). The mission of the EAB is to encourage participation of surrounding communities in the Base's environmental programs and allow community members and other stakeholders to have meaningful dialog with Base officials. Specifically, the EAB serves to promote community awareness and obtain constructive community review, comment, and input on current and proposed actions associated with environmental programs at Robins AFB. The EAB supports the Air Force environmental mission of sustaining readiness, being a good neighbor, protecting human health and the environment for the Base and community, and making smart business decisions.

#### Inside this issue...

- Robins Receives 2nd Consecutive Environmental Quality Award ..... page 2

### April 2015 EAB Meeting

The spring EAB meeting was held on Thursday, April 23, 2015. EAB members met at the Warner Robins City Hall in Warner Robins, Georgia, where they boarded a bus to the Groundwater Treatment Plant (GWTP) to receive a briefing on the annual basewide groundwater sampling project, as well as a groundwater sampling demonstration.

This *Fact Sheet* provides a summary of the information and topics discussed during the tour.

**The next meeting will be held at Centerville City Hall on Thursday, August 6, 2015.**

### EAB MEMBERS RECEIVE DEMONSTRATION OF ANNUAL BASEWIDE GROUNDWATER SAMPLING

During the spring EAB meeting, personnel from CAPE Environmental Management Inc. (CAPE) gave the EAB members an overview of the annual basewide sampling program, as well as a demonstration of groundwater sampling.



Personnel from CAPE gave the EAB members a demonstration of groundwater sampling at the April EAB tour.

At the beginning of the tour, **Mr. David Fortune** gave the members a briefing, which included an overview of the basewide groundwater sampling project, the sampling methods used, sample management strategies, and information on how the resulting data are used to evaluate progress at the Base's restoration sites.

The groundwater sampling is conducted to maintain compliance with the Robins AFB Hazardous Waste Permit, which covers restoration activities at 17 corrective action sites (16 of which require annual groundwater monitoring). The Base also has an underground storage tank (UST) site (Building 922), which is regulated under the Georgia Environmental Protection Division's (GA EPD) UST program. Groundwater monitoring for petro-

*(Continued on page 2)*

## EAB MEMBERS RECEIVE DEMONSTRATION OF ANNUAL BASEWIDE GROUNDWATER SAMPLING (Cont'd)

*(Continued from page 1)*

leum contaminants is required on a quarterly basis at the UST site.

To meet the annual sampling requirements, an annual sampling event is conducted by the Air Force in the April/May timeframe using the Performance Based-Remediation (PBR) Contract. For the 2015 event, there are a total of 476 monitoring wells that are scheduled to be sampled. The field activities for the sampling event take approximately four weeks to complete. The samples are analyzed for a variety of chemical and biological parameters. The sampling strategy is defined by the Corrective Action Plans (CAPs) and Operations and Maintenance (O&M) manuals that are developed for each site.



Mr. Fortune describes how a peristaltic pump used for low-flow sampling works.



Close-up view of bladder pumps.

A Uniform Federal Policy Quality Assurance Project Plan (UFP-QAPP) is developed as the overall Work Plan for the project. It identifies the wells to be sampled, the sampling procedures, the analytical parameters for each well, and the data quality and reporting objectives. The UFP-QAPP is updated each year prior to sampling.

Sampling is generally conducted via low flow methods including peristaltic pumps or bladder pumps. In some cases, a bailer is used to sample a well. The wells are purged prior to sampling to clear the stagnant water in the well and pull water into the well from the surrounding aquifer. The goal is to collect groundwater samples for analysis that are representative of the particular zone of water being monitored. To assess the sample quality, during the purging of the wells, the water is typically passed through a water quality meter. Field parameters such as dissolved oxygen, pH, specific conductance, and turbidity are monitored until they stabilize. Once these parameters have stabilized, the groundwater samples can be collected.

*(Continued on page 4)*

### ROBINS AFB RECEIVES 2ND CONSECUTIVE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AWARD

The 78th Civil Engineer Group Environmental Management Branch has recently earned the 2015 Secretary of Defense Environmental Award for Environmental Quality. The award recognizes individuals, teams, and installations that support mission readiness through its environmental activities.

As noted in the Robins Rev-Up (April 24, 2015); "Through its commitment to environmental excellence, stewardship of community resources and sustainability to the warfighter, Robins has created and exemplified model programs to support its more than 22,000-member work force." This award is especially important as it marks 'back-to-back' wins by the Base.

# EAB MEMBERS RECEIVE DEMONSTRATION OF ANNUAL BASEWIDE GROUNDWATER SAMPLING (Cont'd)



Collection of groundwater samples at LF1-4.



Close-up view of LF1-4 wellhead with bladder pump controls attached.



Collecting sample in amber bottle for analysis of semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs).



Collection of sample in 40-milliliter vials for analysis of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs).



Water quality meter used to evaluate if groundwater quality has stabilized and groundwater sample can be collected.

## EAB MEMBERS RECEIVE DEMONSTRATION OF ANNUAL BASEWIDE GROUNDWATER SAMPLING (Cont'd)

*(Continued from page 2)*

The samples are collected in a variety of different sizes and types of containers depending on the analyses required (e.g., 40-milliliter glass vials for VOCs, 1-liter amber glass bottles for SVOCs, etc.).

The samples are carefully packaged to prevent breakage, and then they are placed in a cooler with ice. The samples are shipped to an accredited laboratory under Chain of Custody (COC) protocols. A COC maintains a record of where the samples are at all time. The data is typically received from the la-

boratory in approximately 21 to 35 days. CH2M Hill, CAPE's teaming partner on the Robins AFB PBR Contract, performs the data validation to evaluate the quality of the data. The validated data are then used to evaluate the progress being made at each of the restoration sites.



Mr. Fortune demonstrating how coolers are packed for shipment to the laboratory.

### Acronyms

AFB	Air Force Base
CAP	Corrective Action Plan
COC	Chain of Custody
EAB	Environmental Advisory Board
GA EPD	Georgia Environmental Protection Division
GWTP	Groundwater Treatment Plant
O&M	Operations and Maintenance
PBR	Performance-Based Remediation
SVOCs	Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds
UFP-QAPP	Unified Federal Policy - Quality Assurance Project Plans
UST	Underground Storage Tank
VOCs	Volatile Organic Compounds

For more information regarding the EAB, please contact  
**Ms. Charline Logue, Robins AFB EAB Manager**, at (478) 327-9268  
 or visit <http://www.robinseab.org>

### Environmental Advisory Board Members

<b>Mr. Alexander Stokes,</b> Robins AFB Installation Co-Chair	<b>Dr. Dan Callahan,</b> Warner Robins Community Member	<b>Ms. Debra Jones,</b> Warner Robins Community Member	<b>Mr. Don Thompson,</b> Macon Community Member
<b>Dr. Brian E. Rood,</b> Macon Community Co-Chair	<b>Mr. James Harden,</b> Warner Robins Community Member	<b>Mr. Mike Maffeo,</b> Macon Community Member	<b>Mr. Penrose Wolf,</b> Perry Community Member
<b>Ms. Martha Berry,</b> US EPA Region 4 Hazardous Waste Division	<b>Mr. John Harley,</b> Centerville Community Member	<b>Dr. Linda Smyth,</b> Macon Community Co-Chair	
<b>Ms. Mary Brown,</b> GA EPD Hazardous Waste Management	<b>Mr. Stephen Johnson,</b> Macon Community Member	<b>Dr. Joseph Swartwout,</b> Fort Valley Community Member	





# Robins Air Force Base Environmental Advisory Board (EAB)

## Fact Sheet



Volume 10, Issue 1, August 2015

### The Robins AFB EAB

Recognizing the importance of public involvement in environmental matters, Robins Air Force Base (Robins AFB) has established the Environmental Advisory Board (EAB). The mission of the EAB is to encourage participation of surrounding communities in the Base's environmental programs and allow community members and other stakeholders to have meaningful dialog with Base officials. Specifically, the EAB serves to promote community awareness and obtain constructive community review, comment, and input on current and proposed actions associated with environmental programs at Robins AFB. The EAB supports the Air Force environmental mission of sustaining readiness, being a good neighbor, protecting human health and the environment for the Base and community, and making smart business decisions.

#### Inside this issue...

- Update on Progress at Restoration Site Building 922 (TU/US-C507) ..... page 3
- Robins AFB EAB Website ..... page 4

### August 2015 EAB Meeting

The summer EAB meeting was held on Thursday, August 6, 2015. The topics briefed included: "Improving Energy Usage at Building 59: A New Approach", "Building 922 (TU/US-C507) Update on Progress", and "Overview of EAB Website".

This *Fact Sheet* provides a summary of the information and topics discussed during the meeting.

**The next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 5, 2015.**

### IMPROVING ENERGY USAGE AT BUILDING 59

Building 59 is the Large Aircraft Corrosion Control Paint/Depaint Facility at the Base. The 225,000 square feet (sf) facility includes two 65,000 sf hanger bays, used to depaint and paint aircraft, a small-parts paint bay, common central facility systems, and a process equipment plant. The facility optimizes the paint removal and application process for the C-5, C-17, and other similar sized aircraft.



Building 59 is the Large Aircraft Corrosion Control Paint/Depaint Facility. The depaint and paint hangers can fully enclose the C-5 aircraft.

Due to the size of the building and very strict process and environmental control requirements (e.g., lighting, air flow, temperature, relative humidity, concentrations of particulates, etc.), the building has a large energy demand, consuming almost 10 percent of the Base's annual energy usage. Although the current heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) and lighting systems in Building 59 are operating as intended, audits of the facility identified significant cost saving opportunities though system optimizations (e.g., reduction in electricity and gas usage).

To address these findings, the Base's Environmental and Ergonomics Office teamed with Geosyntec Consultants

*(Continued on page 2)*

## IMPROVING ENERGY USAGE AT BUILDING 59 (CONT'D...)

(Continued from page 1)

and the University of North Carolina at Charlotte to demonstrate and validate a new and innovative Climate Management System (CMS) at Building 59. The funding for the project is being provided by the Department of Defense (DoD) through the Environmental Security Technology Certification Program (ESTCP). The ESTCP program promotes the transfer of innovative technologies from proof of concept to field or production use.

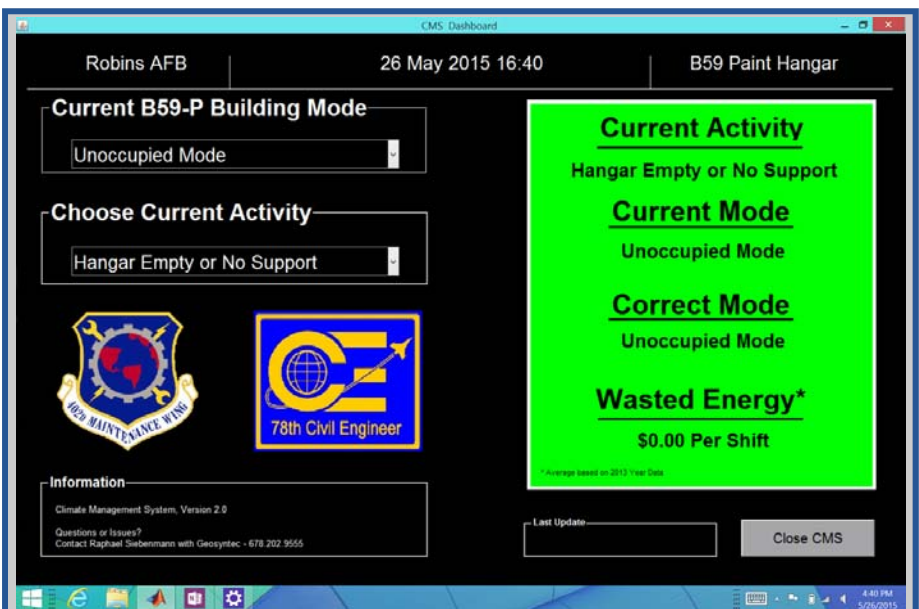
**Mr. Raphael Siebenmann** of Geosyntec Consultants gave an update on the project at the summer EAB meeting. The overall goal of the project is to reduce energy consumption at Building 59 through simple, operational measures.

As part of the project, building energy usage data was collected over an 8-month period from May to December 2013. A review of the data indicated that significant cost savings could be realized by ensuring the building is operating in the proper mode during each shift. The building has four modes of operation (i.e., unoccupied, non-chemical, cure, and paint/chemical), with the unoccupied mode being the least energy intensive and the paint/chemical being the most energy intensive. Therefore, small, simple changes to daily routines could potentially have a tremendous impact on energy usage.

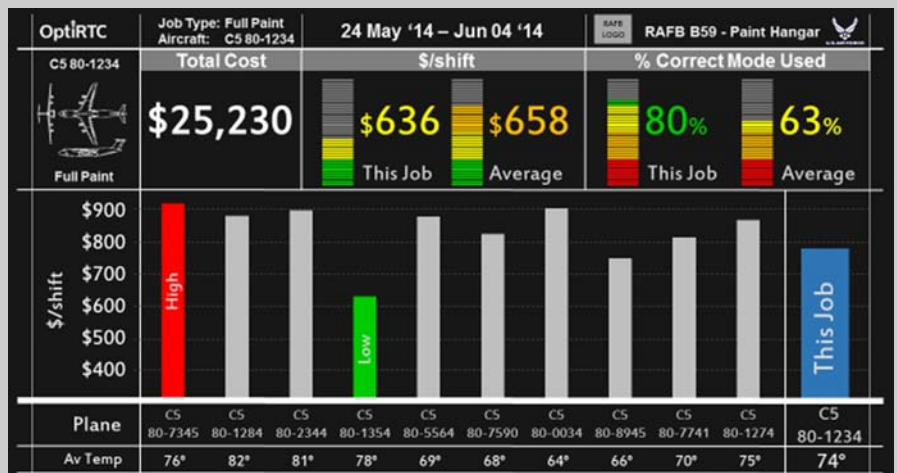
To improve energy management, a tablet-based program has been developed that asks the workers about the tasks being performed on a given shift and subsequently provides a recommendation for the proper mode of building operation. Simple red light/green light feedback is given on whether the correct mode has been selected.

The system can also report anticipated energy costs and cost savings relative to historical data trends, as well as identify when certain operational systems (e.g., a boiler) may not be operating at optimal capacity.

The CMS is being developed such that it can be readily translated to other Robins AFB facilities and DoD installations. Energy savings of about \$450,000 per year are anticipated at Building 59. These cost savings represent millions of dollars when scaled to DoD facilities worldwide.



Screen shot from CMS tablet-based system. The shift supervisor can select the current building mode and current activity, and the system will give red light/green light feedback on whether the building mode is set correctly.



Screen shot from CMS tablet-based system. The system can provide anticipated energy costs and cost savings related to historical data trends.

## UPDATE ON PROGRESS AT RESTORATION SITE BUILDING 922 (TU/US-C507)

Building 922 is the Base’s operational gasoline service station. Investigations and remedial actions at the site began in 1993 after a confirmed fuel release in 1992. In 2001, the site was granted No Further Action (NFA) status by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GA EPD) Underground Storage Tank (GUST) Program based on alternative cleanup levels. However, in 2010, during removal and replacement of Underground Storage Tanks (USTs) at the site, residual contamination was observed, and the GA EPD GUST Program requested additional site investigations and remediation, as appropriate.

**Mr. Mike Perlmutter of CH2M** gave an update on the restoration progress during the EAB. To remediate the contamination, an air sparge/soil vapor extraction (AS/SVE) system was installed and began operation in December 2013. To en-

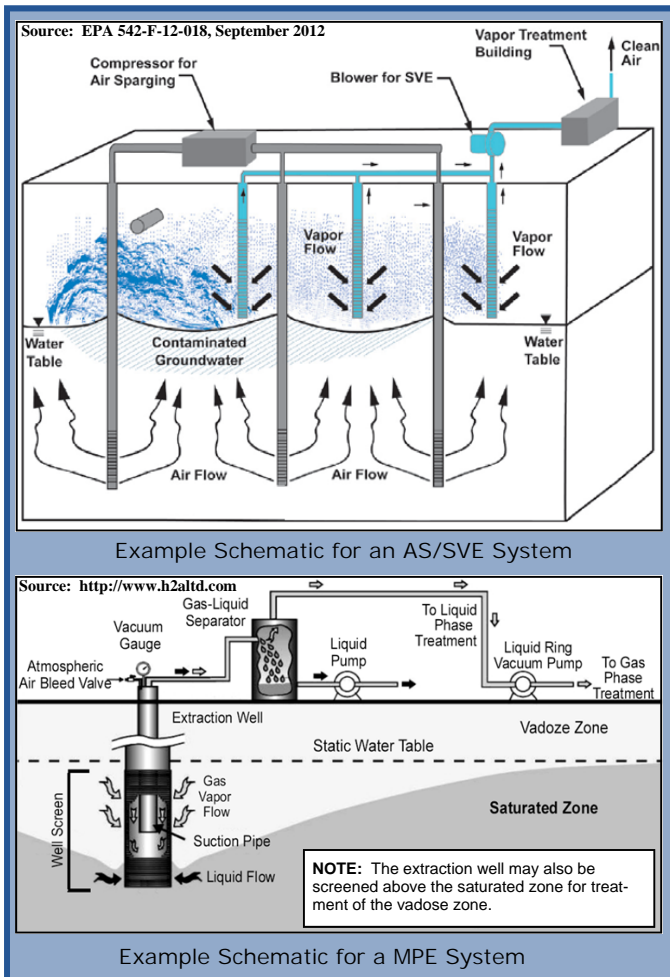
hance light non-aqueous phase liquid (LNAPL) removal, a multi-phase extraction (MPE) system was installed and began operation in May 2015 (surfactant flushing can also be used as necessary to expedite site cleanup).



Between December 2013 and June 2015, nearly 62,000 pounds of petroleum hydrocarbons were removed from the subsurface with these systems, and the extent of LNAPL has decreased.

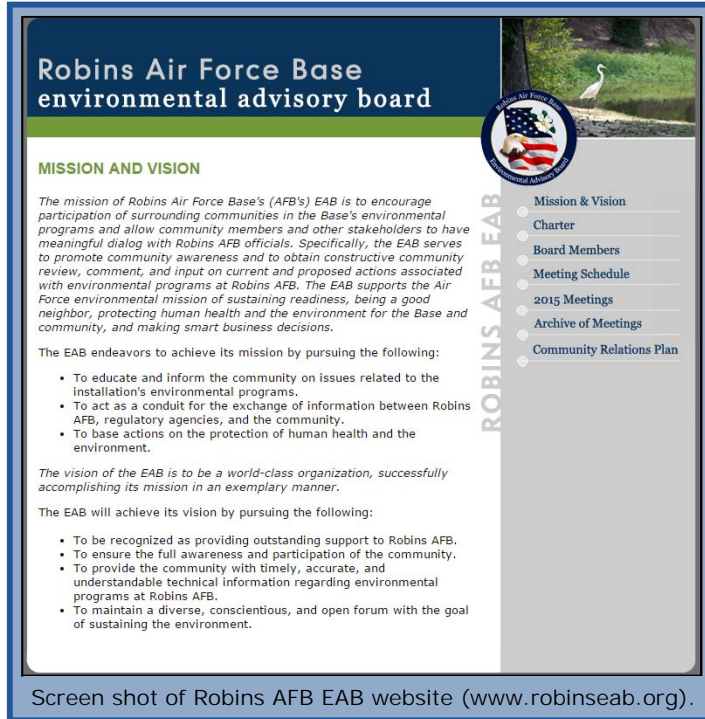
The original performance objective for Building 922 included achieving Federal Primary Drinking Water Standards Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) in groundwater by 2016, which would allow unlimited use of/unrestricted exposure to site groundwater. CH2M is currently working with the Air Force to revise the objective to allow risk-based Alternate Concentration Limits (ACLs) as the remedial levels (RLs). The risk-based approach is allowable under GA EPD regulations and is appropriate for an active gas station. CH2M is currently developing a Corrective Action Plan (CAP)-Part B addendum with the ACLs for regulatory approval.

CH2M will continue operating the AS/SVE and MPE systems and conduct routine groundwater sampling to monitor site progress until the ACL RLs are met. The goal is to achieve the ACL RLs by 2016, conduct one year of groundwater compliance sampling (with the remediation systems shut-down), and achieve NFA at this site in 2018.



## ROBINS AFB EAB WEBSITE

**Ms. Tamara Hebel** of Geosyntec Consultants provided the EAB members with a live demonstration of the EAB website. The website is available to the public and is a source of information for those looking to learn more about the EAB and the Base's environmental program.



Screen shot of Robins AFB EAB website ([www.robinseab.org](http://www.robinseab.org)).

The website includes a Home Page with the EAB Mission and Vision statements. Other links include a list of EAB members, the current year meeting schedule, and documents (i.e., agendas, briefing slides, and Fact Sheets) from meet-

ings from the last five years.

The website also provides links to the EAB Charter and the current Robins AFB Community Relations Plan (CRP).

### Acronyms

ACL	Alternate Concentration Limits
AFB	Air Force Base
AS/SVE	Air Sparge/Soil Vapor Extraction
CAP	Corrective Action Plan
CMS	Climate Management System
CRP	Community Relations Plan
DoD	Department of Defense
EAB	Environmental Advisory Board
ESTCP	Environmental Security Technology Certification Program
GA EPD	Georgia Environmental Protection Division
GUST	GA EPD Underground Storage Tank
HVAC	Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning
LNAPL	Light Non-Aqueous Phase Liquid
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level
MPE	Multi-Phase Extraction
NFA	No Further Action
RL	Remedial Level
sf	square feet
UST	Underground Storage Tank

For more information regarding the EAB, please contact **Ms. Charline Logue, Robins AFB EAB Manager**, at (478) 327-9268 or visit <http://www.robinseab.org>

### Environmental Advisory Board Members

<b>Mr. Alexander Stokes,</b> Robins AFB Installation Co-Chair	<b>Dr. Dan Callahan,</b> Warner Robins Community Member	<b>Ms. Debra Jones,</b> Warner Robins Community Member	<b>Mr. Don Thompson,</b> Macon Community Member
<b>Dr. Brian E. Rood,</b> Macon Community Co-Chair	<b>Mr. James Harden,</b> Warner Robins Community Member	<b>Mr. Mike Maffeo,</b> Macon Community Member	<b>Mr. Penrose Wolf,</b> Perry Community Member
<b>Ms. Lila Llamas,</b> US EPA Region 4 Hazardous Waste Division	<b>Mr. John Harley,</b> Centerville Community Member	<b>Dr. Linda Smyth,</b> Macon Community Co-Chair	
<b>Ms. Mary Brown,</b> GA EPD Hazardous Waste Management	<b>Mr. Stephen Johnson,</b> Macon Community Member	<b>Dr. Joseph Swartwout,</b> Fort Valley Community Member	