Welcome



Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting

Robins Air Force Base (AFB)

September 12, 2024



Welcome and Program Introduction

Dr. Linda Smyth
Community Co-Chair



Acronyms and Abbreviations

- AFFF Aqueous Fire Fighting Foam
- CAP Corrective Action Plan
- CEJST Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool
- CIP Community Involvement Plan
- COC Contaminant of Concern
- CRP Community Relations Plan
- CSIA Compound Specific Isotope Analysis
- CSM Conceptual Site Model
- DoD Department of Defense
- DPT Direct Push Technology
- EAB Environmental Advisory Board
- EJ Environmental Justice
- EJSCREEN Environmental Justice Screening Tool



Acronyms and Abbreviations

- ERP Environmental Restoration Program
- HPT Hydraulic Profiling Tool
- IWTP Industrial Wastewater Treatment Plant
- μg/L micrograms per liter
- MiHpt Membrane Interface Probe with Hydraulic Profiling Tool
- MIP Membrane Interface Probe
- NAPL Non-aqueous phase liquid
- PA Preliminary Assessment
- PFAS Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances
- PFM Passive Flux Meter
- PFOA Perfluorooctanoic acid
- PFOS Perfluorooctane Sulfonate
- PID Photoionization Detector
- RAB Restoration Advisory Board



Acronyms and Abbreviations

- RI Remedial Investigation
- RL Remediation Level
- SI Site Inspection
- SRS Sustainment and Restoration Services
- SSI Supplemental Site Investigation
- SWMU Solid Waste Management Unit
- USEPA United States Environmental Protection Agency
- VAS Vertical Aquifer Sampling
- WWTP Wastewater Treatment Plant
- XSD Halogen Specific Detector



Restoration Advisory Board



Development of Community Involvement Plan (CIP)

Tammy Hebeler
Senior Principal
Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.

September 12, 2024



Agenda

- Purpose
- What is a Community Involvement Plan (CIP)?
- CIP Contents
- Path Forward



Purpose

- Installations with environmental restoration programs shall have a community involvement program
 - Documented in a CIP
- Robins AFB has a Community Relations Plan (CRP) that will be transformed into a CIP

Environmental Restoration Program Community Relations Plan

Robins Air Force Base, Georgia

prepared for





US Army Corps of Engineers Savannah District and Air Force Civil Engineer Center

submitted by

Bhate Zapata Joint Venture, LLC

and

Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.

Contract Number: W912EP16D0008; Task Order: W912HN20F1021

December 2022



What is a CIP?

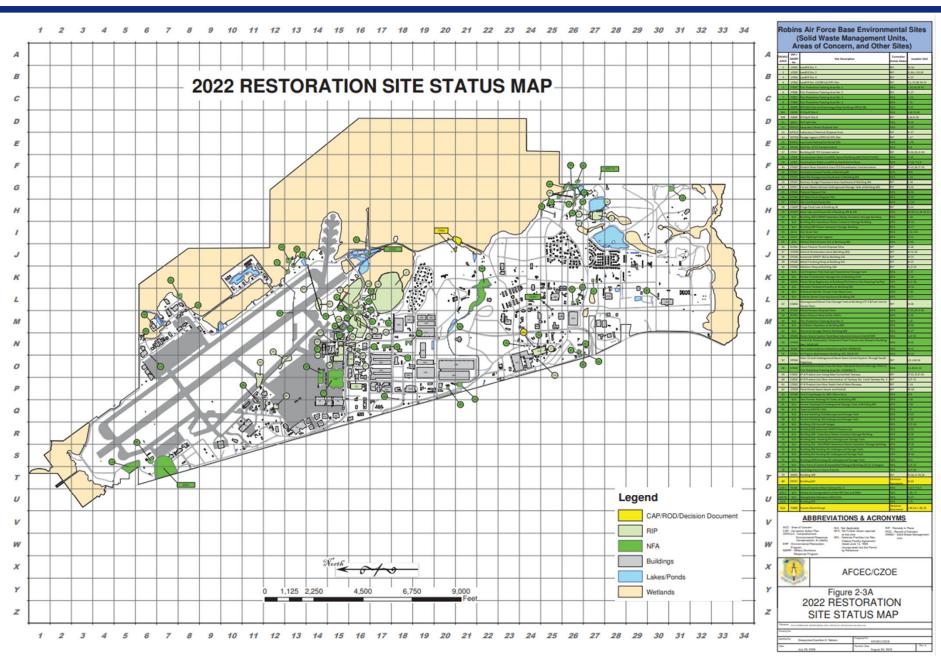
- Definition: CIP outlines methods to engage community in restoration process
- Components
 - Community strategies
 - Public participation activities
 - Feedback mechanisms
- Importance
 - Builds trust and transparency
 - Ensures diverse perspectives are considered
 - Enhance outcomes through community involvement



- Introduction
- Installation Background
- **■** Environmental Restoration Program (ERP)
 - Site Status
- Community Background
 - Environmental Justice (EJ)
- Community Engagement Program
 - Activities

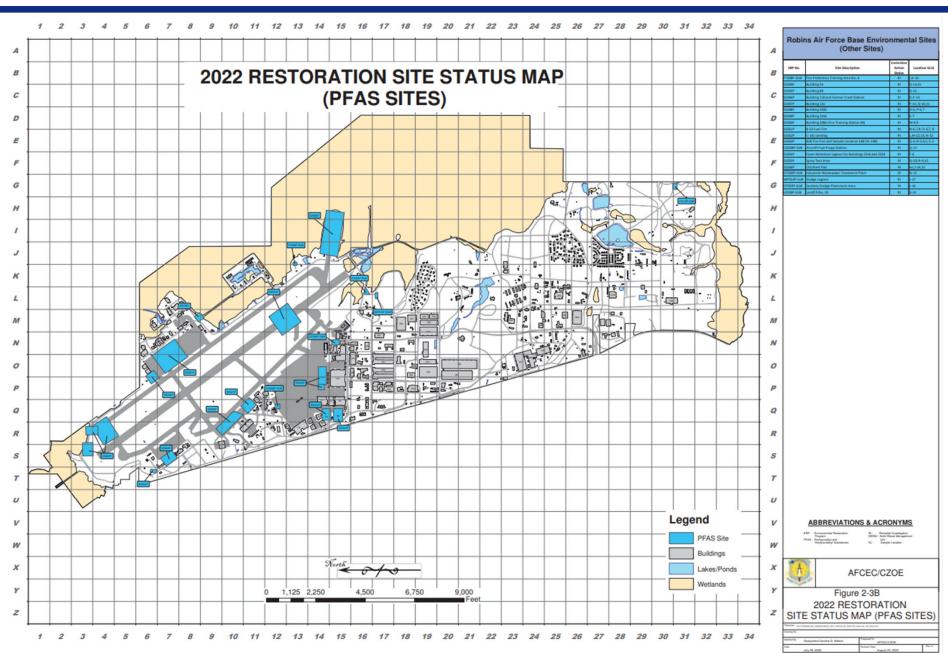


ERP - Site Status





ERP - Site Status





Community Background - EJ

- Executive Order 12898 Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice (EJ) in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations
 - Purpose: Focus federal attention on environmental and human health effects of federal actions on minority and low-income populations with goal of achieving environmental protection for all communities
- Environmental justice is defined as the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies
 - Per Air Force guidance, environmental justice shall be considered when planning public outreach efforts, preparing public notices, and supporting public meetings and Restoration Advisory Boards (RABs)



Community Background - EJ

EJ Tools

United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Environmental Justice Screening Tool (EJSCREEN)

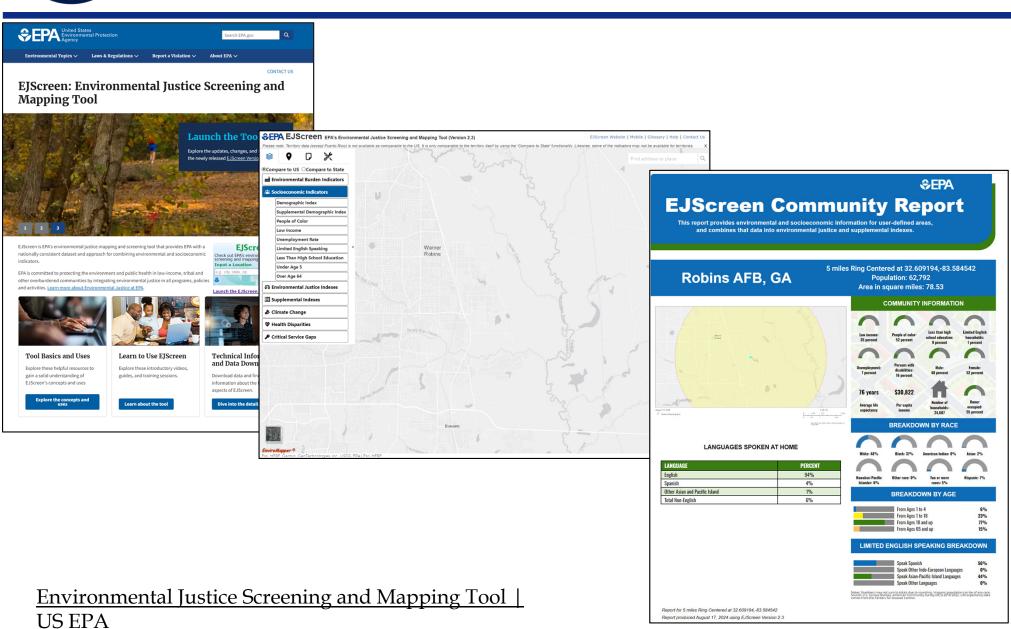
- Screen for environmental and demographic indicators that demonstrate disproportionate impacts to minority and low-income communities
- Provides climate change, health, and service gap indicators
 (wildfire risk, drought, floodplain, heart disease, food deserts, etc.)

Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST)

- Define and map disadvantaged communities
- Department of Defense (DoD) preferred tool for consistent government-wide identification of environmental justice concerns
- Highlights disadvantaged census tracts across 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the United States territories



Community Background - EJ





Community Background - EJ



Explore the map

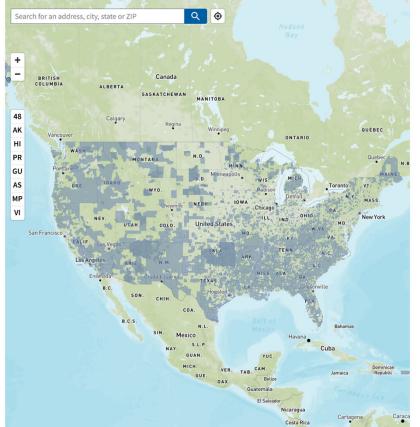
Census tracts that are overburdened and underserved are highlighted as being disadvantaged on the map. Federally Recognized Tribes, including Alaska Native Villages, are also considered disadvantaged communities.

Zooming in and selecting shows information about each census tract.

Share data sources with CEQ☑

Get the data 👲

Download the data with documentation and shapefile from the <u>downloads</u> page.



How to use the map:

Zoom in +, search Q, or locate yourself Θ and select to see information about any census tract.

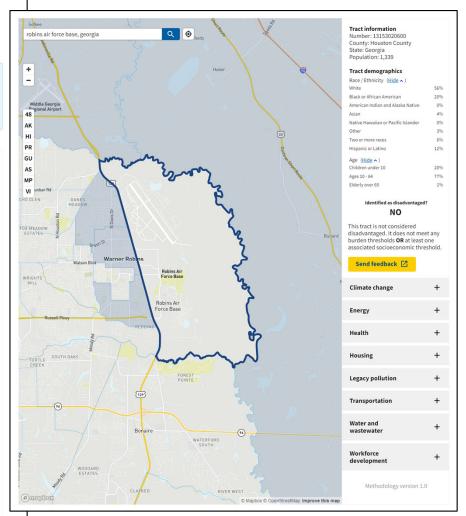
Things to know:

Communities that are disadvantaged live in tracts that experience burdens.
These tracts are highlighted on the map.

The tool ranks most of the burdens using percentiles \(\int \). Percentiles show how much burden each tract experiences when compared to other tracts.

Thresholds **±** , or cutoffs, are used to determine if communities in a tract are disadvantaged. Certain burdens use percentages **?** or a simple yes/no **v** .

Land within the boundaries of Federally Recognized Tribes and point locations for Alaska Native Villages are highlighted on the map. These



Explore the map - Climate & Economic Justice Screening Tool (geoplatform.gov)



Community Engagement Program - Activities

- CIP
- RAB Meetings
 - Minutes
 - Fact Sheets
- Community Interviews
- Website





being a good neighbor, protecting human health and the environment for the Base and community, and making smart business decisions.

- Update on Progress SWMUs 59 and 60 (CG501 and CG502)
 3
- RAB Modification

March 2024 RAB Meeting

The spring RAB meeting was held on Thursday, March 14, 2024.

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

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 12, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.







Path Forward

- Prepare CIP
- Brief community at RAB when complete
- Implement CIP



Discussion



Environmental Advisory Board



Progress Update: Remedial Investigation of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

James Griffin, PG, CHMM
Sustainment and Restoration Services
(SRS)

September 12, 2024



Overview

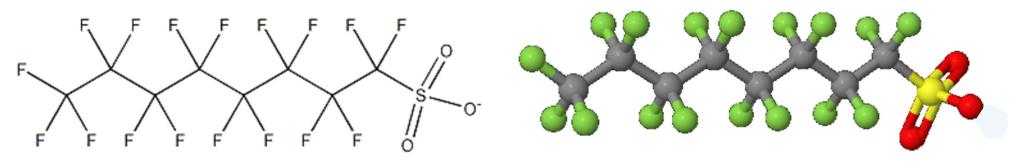
- Background
- Robins AFB Remedial Investigation (ongoing and upcoming work)



Background - Characteristics

- Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)
 - Family of synthetic organic compounds that contain multiple fluorine atoms





Conder et al. (2008)

Example molecular structures for perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS)



Background - Characteristics

PFAS

- Man-made group of chemicals used in industry and consumer products since the 1940s
- Several thousand individual compounds
- Unique surface-active properties, non-reactive, and stable
- Best known and studied compounds are perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)

• Found in:

- Stain and water repellants used on carpets, upholstery, clothing, etc. (i.e., GoreTex)
- Cleaning products
- Non-stick cookware
- Paints, varnishes, sealants
- Certain shampoo, dental floss, cosmetics
- Grease-resistant paper, fast food containers/wrappers, microwave popcorn bags, pizza boxes, candy wrapper



Background - Potential Sources

- Sites with very high probability of screening or risk-based criteria exceedances
 - Aircraft maintenance facilities
 - Fire-fighting training areas
 - Petrochemical/chemical plants
 - Chrome plating facilities
 - Textile/carpet manufacturers
 - Wastewater Treatment Plants (WWTPs) and sewage sludge land application areas
 - Landfills









Background – Robins AFB Drinking Water

- 2016, 2020, and 2023 Samples collected from all six (6) active Robins AFB drinking water wells
- All results below detection limits
- No impacts to Robins AFB drinking water
- Drinking water obtained from Blufftown aquifer (>100 feet deep)



Background Robins AFR Investigation State

Robins AFB Investigation Status

- Preliminary Assessment (PA) completed in May 2015
- Site Inspection (SI)
 - Fieldwork March to April 2017
 - Soil and shallow groundwater sampled at 30 AFFF areas
 - Final Report June 2018
- **■** Remedial Investigation (RI)
 - Contract awarded August 2022 to perform RI at 19 Environmental Restoration Program (ERP) sites identified in SI*



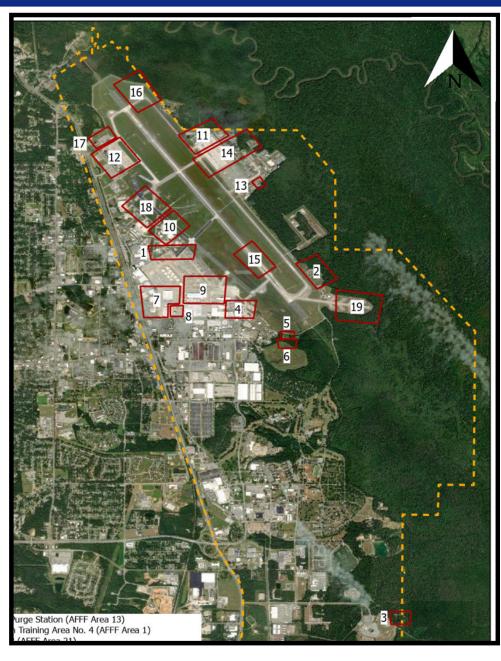
Purpose

- Site characterization to delineate nature and extent of PFAS contamination at Robins AFB
 - Vertical and lateral extent of PFAS in soil, groundwater, sediment, and surface water
 - Residual soil contamination within unsaturated source zones
- Update and/or develop a Conceptual Site Model (CSM) to understand:
 - Geologic and hydrogeologic conditions at each site
 - Migratory pathways
 - Comingling or interaction with legacy contamination



- ERP sites under remedial investigation originate from various AFFF release types
 - Crash/fire response
 - Fire Dept training activities
 - Releases from hangar systems
 - Disposal sites
 - Industrial Wastewater Treatment Plant (IWTP)





ERP Sites

- 1. CG028P-SUB Aircraft Fuel Purge Station (AFFF Area 13)
- 2. FT008P-SUB Fire Protection Training Area No. 4 (AFFF Area 1)
- 3. LF018P-SUB Landfill No. 18 (AFFF Area 21)
- 4. OT020P-SUB Industrial Waste Treatment Plant (AFFF Area 17)
- 5. OT023P-SUB Sanitary Sludge Placement Area (AFFF Area 20)
- 6. WP014P-SUB Sludge Lagoon (AFFF Area 19)
- 7. SS044P Building 54 (AFFF Area 2)
- 8. SS045P Building 89 (AFFF Area 3)
- 9. SS046P Building 110 and Former Crash Station (AFFF Areas 4 & 9)
- 10. SS047P Building 131 (AFFF Area 5)
- 11. SS048P Building 2036 (AFFF Area 6)
- 12. SS049P Building 2316 (AFFF Area 7)
- 13. SS050P Building 2086 (Fire Training Station #3; AFFF Area 8)
- 14. SS051P B-52 Fuel Fire (AFFF Area 10)
- 15. SS052P C-141 Landing (AFFF Area 11)
- 16. SS053P B1B Tire Fire and Sample Location 14B (AFFF Area 12, 29, & 30)
- 17. SS054P Foam Retention Lagoon for B2316 and 2328 (AFFF Area 14)
- 18. SS055P Spray Test Area (AFFF Area 15)
- 19. SS056P Old Alert Pad (AFFF Area 16)



Ongoing Work

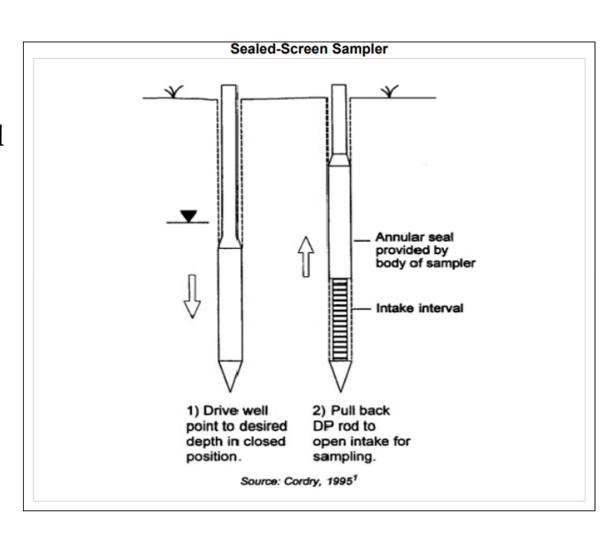


- Source Area Soil and Groundwater Grab Sampling
- Soil samples collected with direct push technology (DPT) drill rig
 - Samples collected at various intervals in boring
 - Used to delineate source area vertically and horizontally
- Groundwater grab samples collected at saturated zone concurrent with soil boring
 - Provides a snapshot of groundwater concentrations to help identify permanent well locations



Ongoing Work

- Vertical Aquifer Sampling (VAS)
- Boring is advanced to desired depth
- Groundwater grab sample is collected using specialized sampling equipment
- Boring is continued to next depth; process is repeated
- Provides a vertical picture of groundwater contamination





Completed Work

- Borings Completed
 - $\approx 470 (63\%)$
- Samples Collected
 - > 1,500 (soil and groundwater)
- Baseline Groundwater Sampling
 - ≈ 80 existing monitoring wells
- Surface Water and Sediment Sampling
 - 15 locations

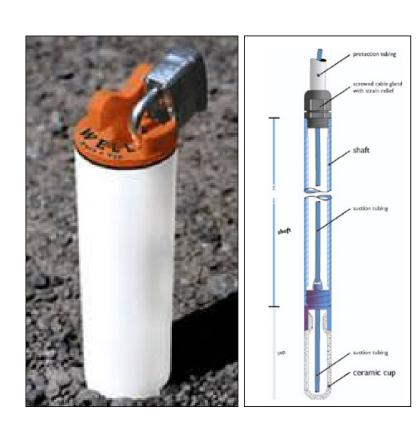


Green shaded = DPT complete Green with hatching = DPT in progress Red outlined = DPT not started





Robins AFB Remedial Investigation Upcoming Work



- VAS data (groundwater) evaluation
- Permanent monitoring well installation and sampling
- Porewater sampling with lysimeters (soil to groundwater)
- Surface water and sediment sampling (round two)



Robins AFB Remedial Investigation Timeline

- Contract Award August 2022
- Planning Documents/Review March 2023
- Field Preparations May 2023
- Field Work/Data Collection September 2023 to August 2025
- Report Preparation August 2025



Discussion



Restoration Advisory Board



Supplementary Site Investigation (SSI) at Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) 57 (OT041)

Kip Gray, PhD
Senior Professional
Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.

September 12, 2024



Agenda

- Overview of SWMU 57
- SSI Approach
- Key Findings
 - Membrane Interface Probe with Hydraulic Profiling Tool (MiHpt)
 - Analytical Data
 - Conceptual Site Model (CSM) Refinement
- Path Forward



Overview of SWMU 57

Final RLs for SWMU 57 Groundwater COCs

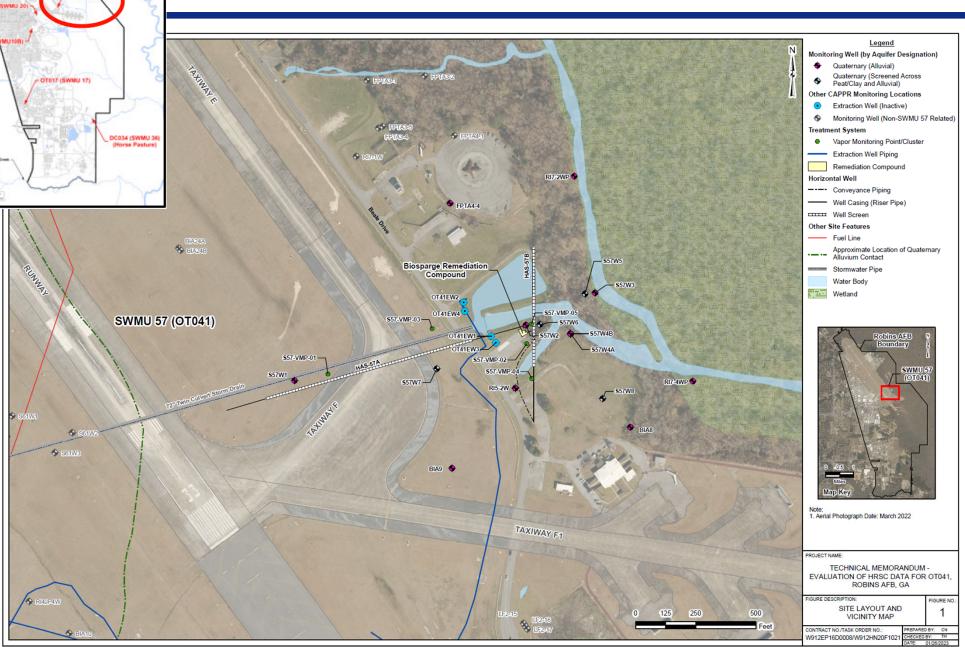
СОС	Final RL (μg/L)
Benzene	5
1,3,5-Trimethylbenzene	12
Naphthalene	6.5
Chlorobenzene	100
1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	70
1,2-Dichlorobenzene	600
1,3-Dichlorobenzene	5.5
1,4-Dichlorobenzene	75

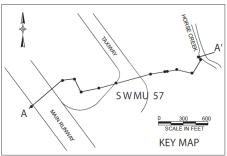
Source: CAP [Cape, 2013] COC – Contaminants of Concern RL – Remediation Level ug/L – microgram per liter

- Contamination identified during 1995 Flightline Investigation in vicinity of culvert system
 - Additional contamination identified south of culvert system in 2014
- Current Corrective Action Plan (CAP) objectives
 - Reduce potential sources of GW contamination
 - Reduce COCs in groundwater to values less than RLs
 - Minimize migration of groundwater contaminants
- Selected remedies
 - Pump and Treat (2002-2014)
 - Horizontal Biosparge System (Initiated 2014*)

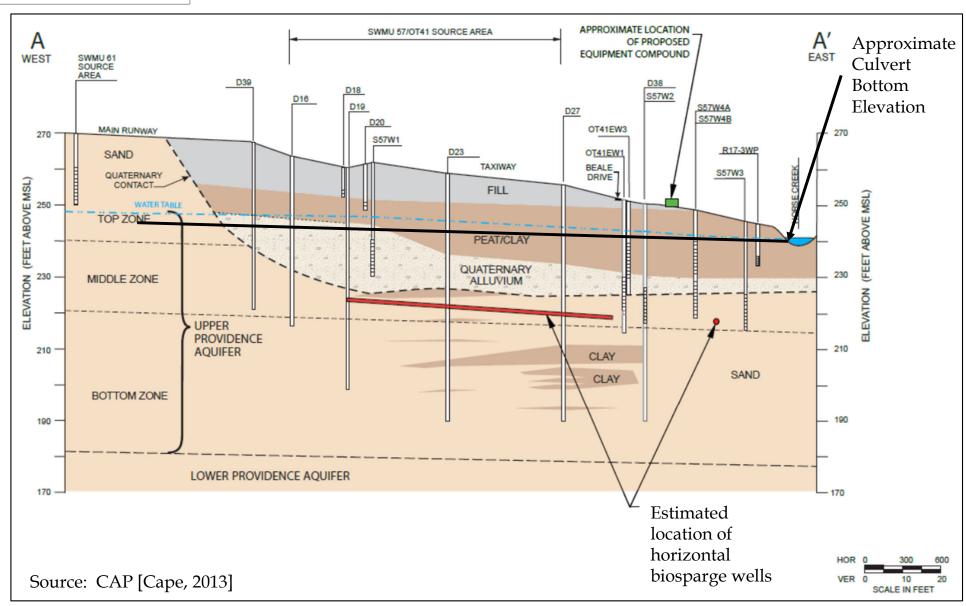


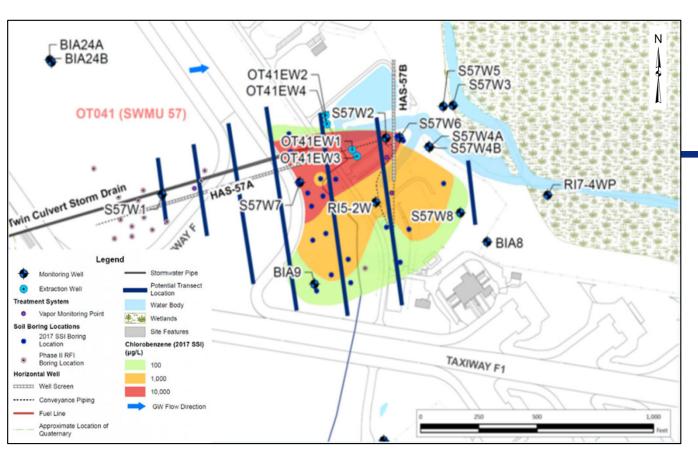
Overview of SWMU 57





Overview of SWMU 57





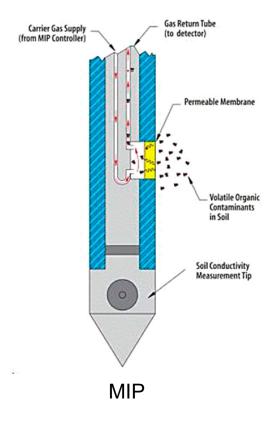
SSI Approach

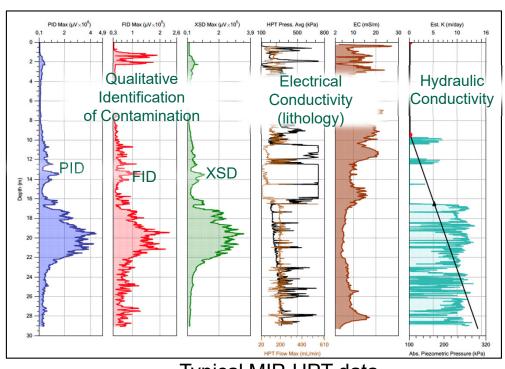
- Source of contamination
- Distribution of contamination within peat/clay layer and under Taxiway F
- Bioremediation effectiveness at treating contaminant mass
- Geochemical conditions that may stimulate or hinder degradation of site contaminants



SSI Approach

- Membrane Interface Probe (MIP) can detect presence of dissolved contaminants and provide qualitative identification
- Hydraulic Profiling Tool (HPT) provides information on hydrogeology and can identify areas of contaminant transport and storage

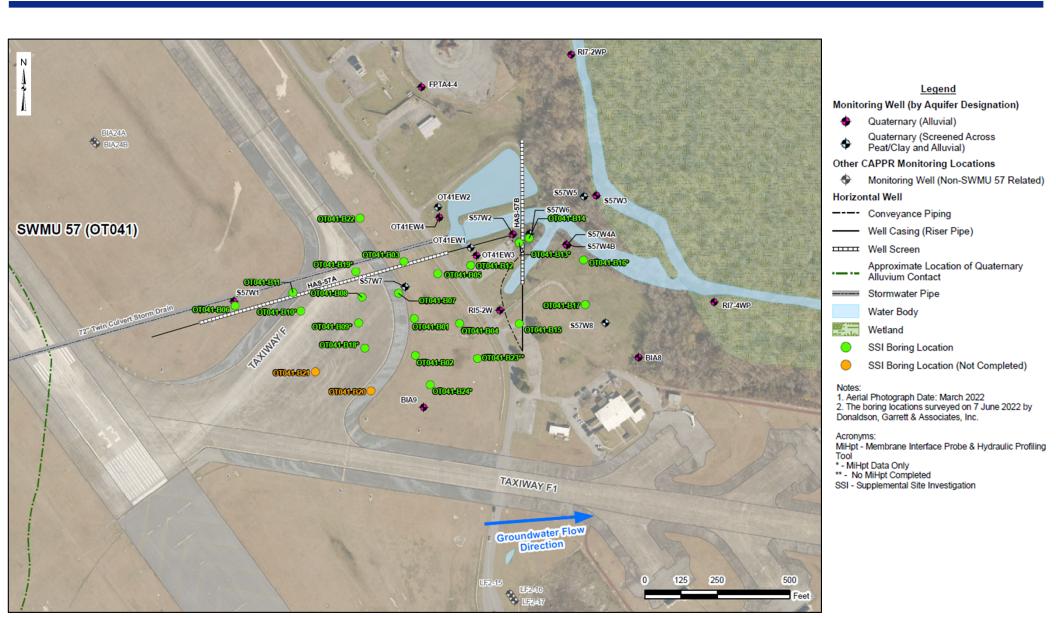




Typical MIP-HPT data



SSI Approach



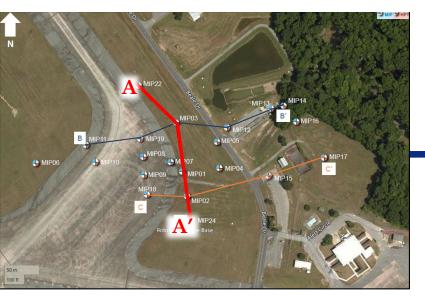


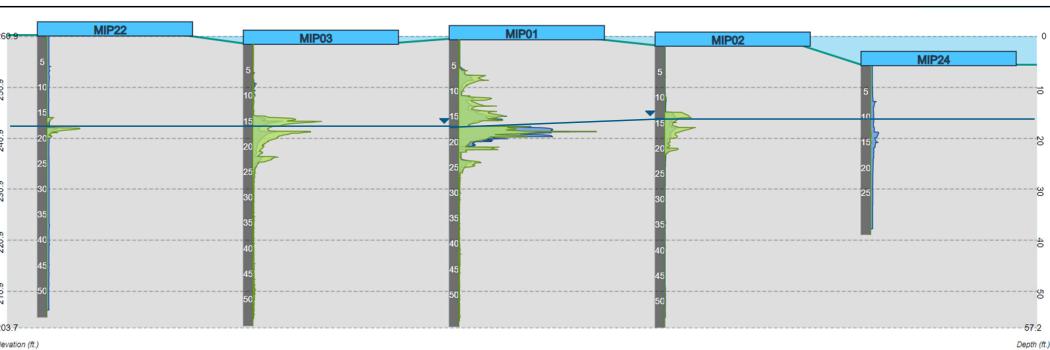
PID Data Interpolation



XSD Data Interpolation

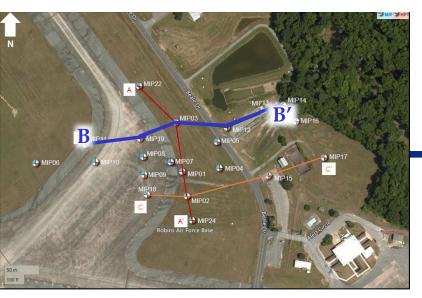
PID - Photoionization Detector XSD - Halogen Specific Detector

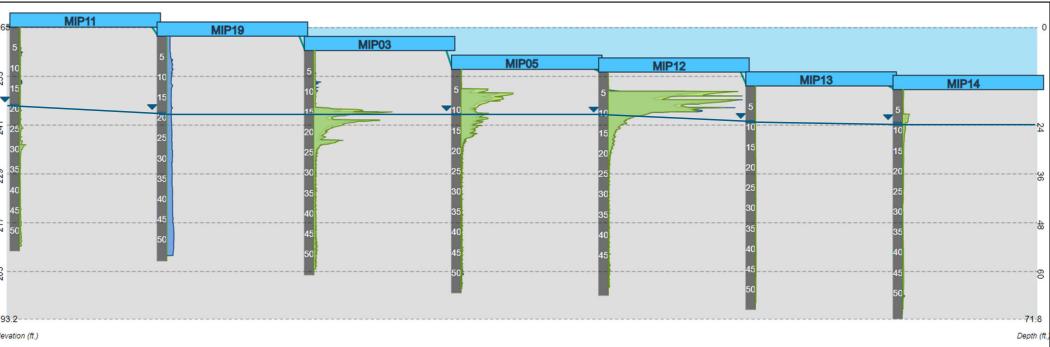




Cross Section A-A' - COC Response (PID and XSD)

Blue = PID Green = XSD

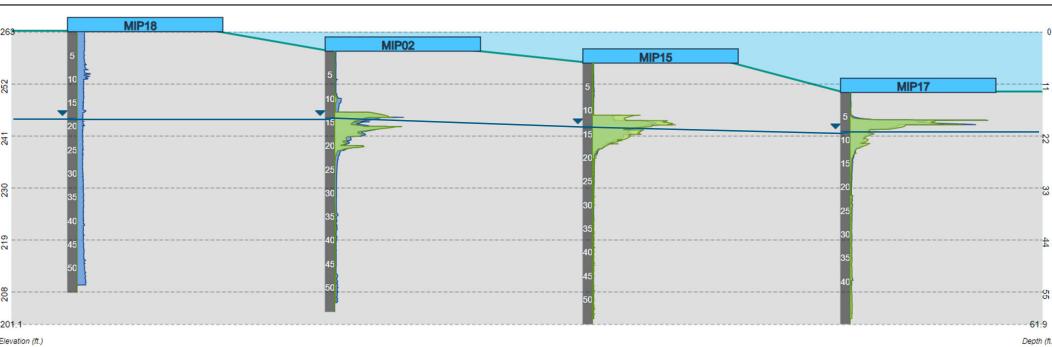




Cross Section B-B' - COC Response (PID and XSD)

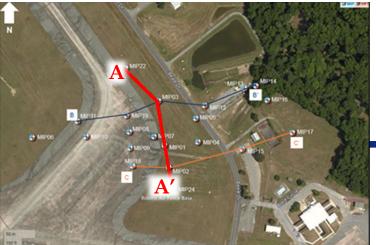
Blue = PID Green = XSD

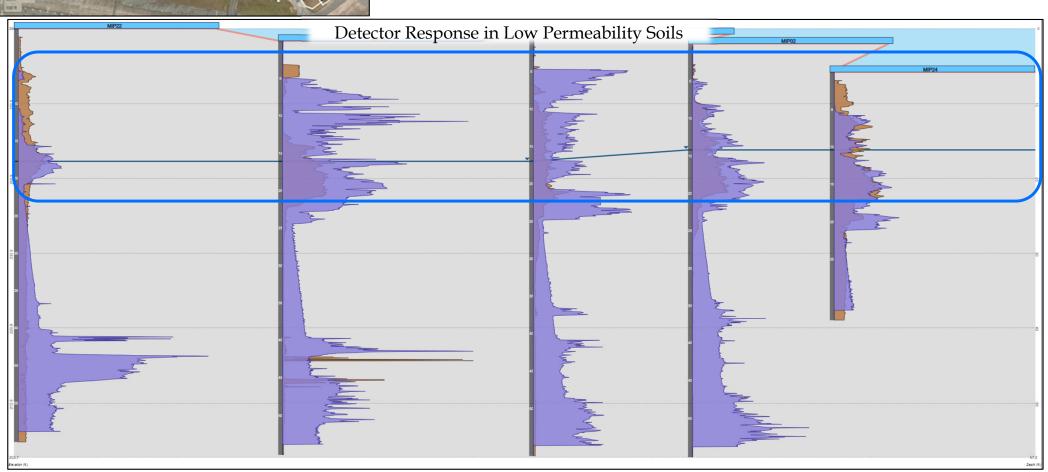




Cross Section C-C' - COC Response (PID and XSD)

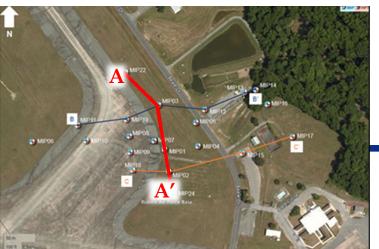
Blue = PID Green = XSD



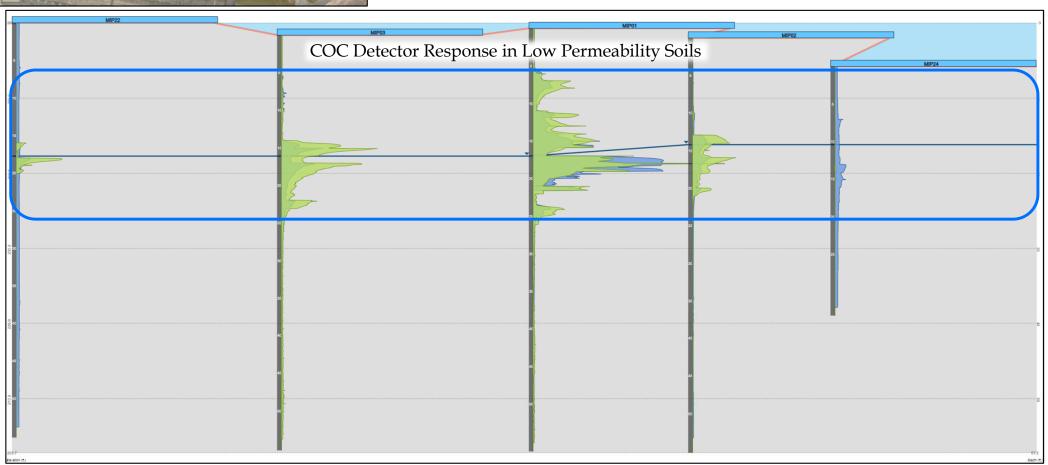


Cross Section A-A' - COC Response in Low Permeability Zone

Brown = Electrical Conductivity
Lavender = Pressure



MiHpt Data



Cross Section A-A' - COC Response in Low Permeability Zone

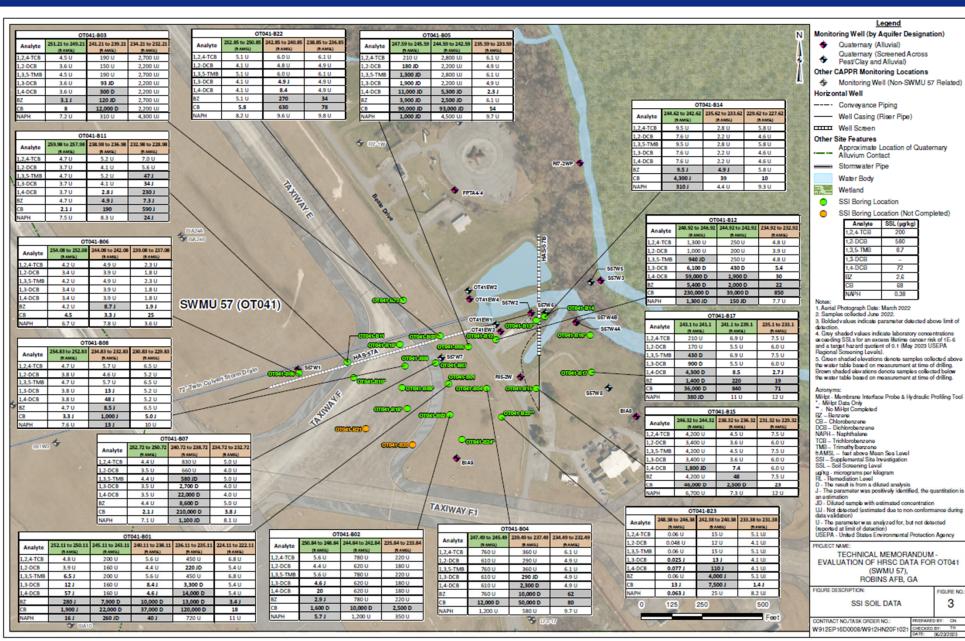


Sample **above** water table at time of drilling

Sample **below** water table at time of drilling

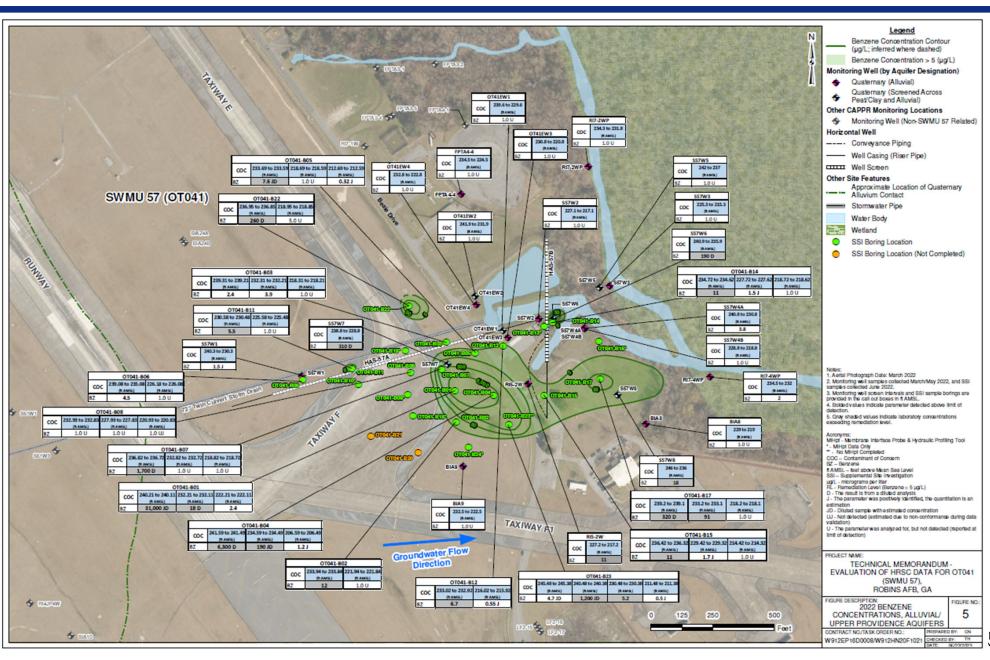
Key Findings

Analytical Data



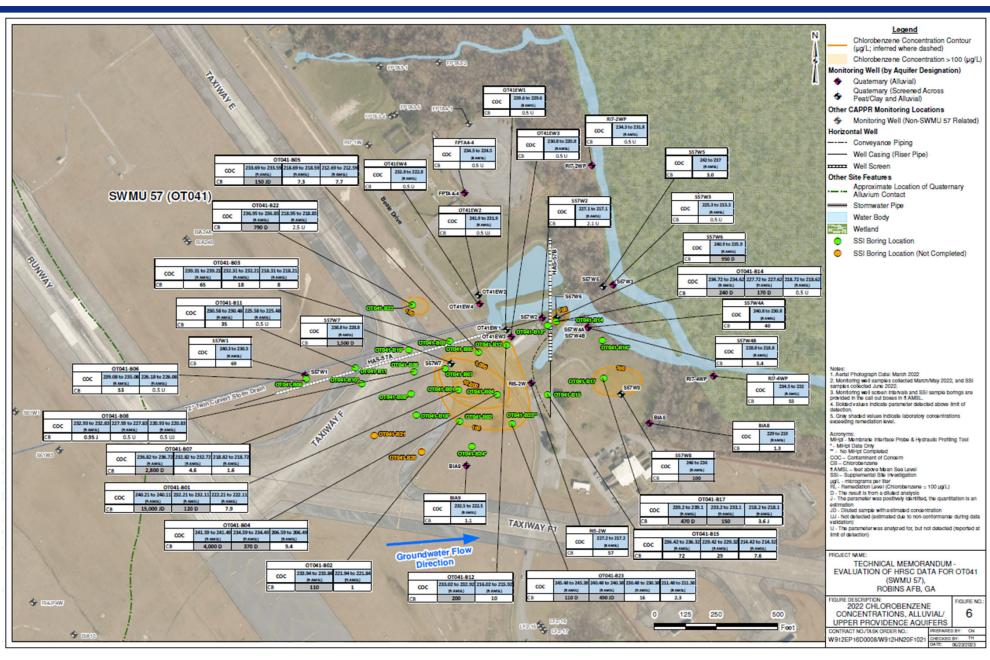


Analytical Data (Benzene in Groundwater)



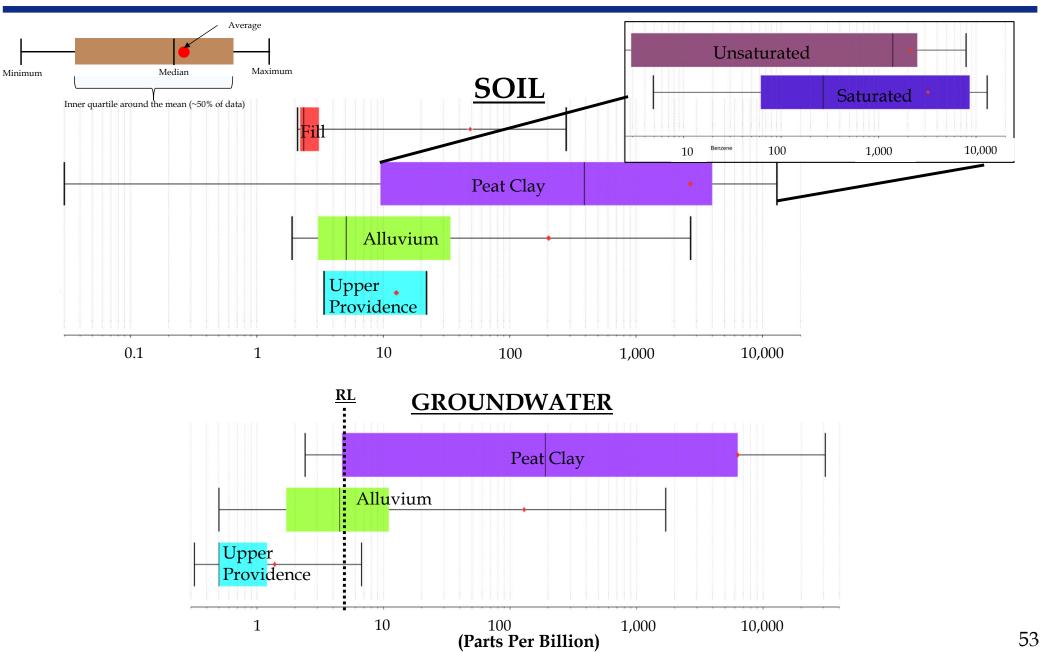


Analytical Data (Chlorobenzene in Groundwater)



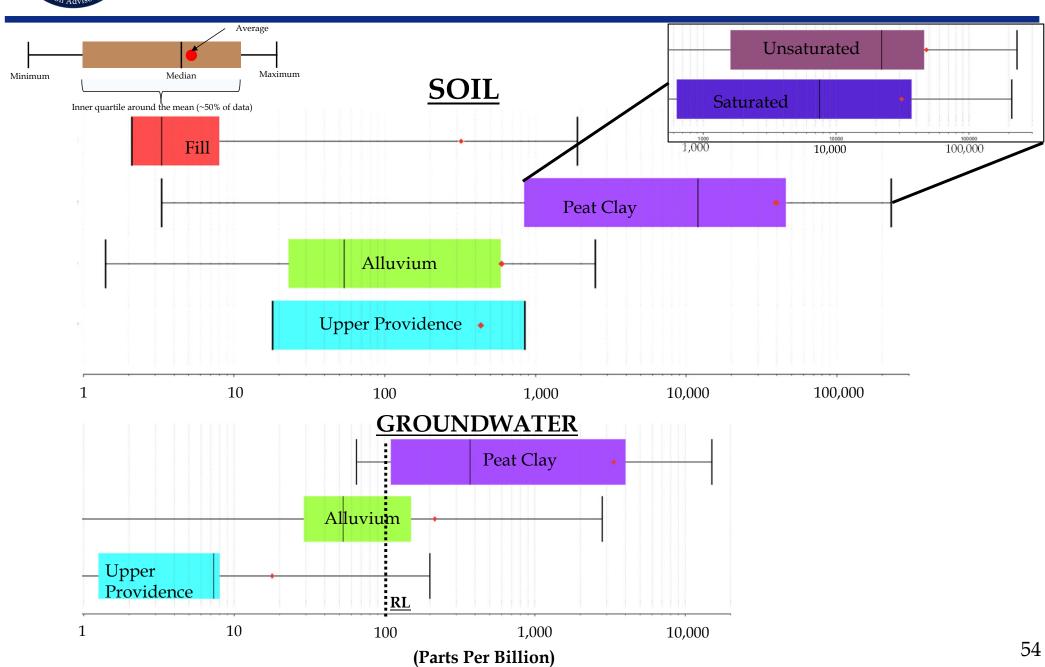


Analytical Data (Benzene)





Analytical Data (Chlorobenzene)



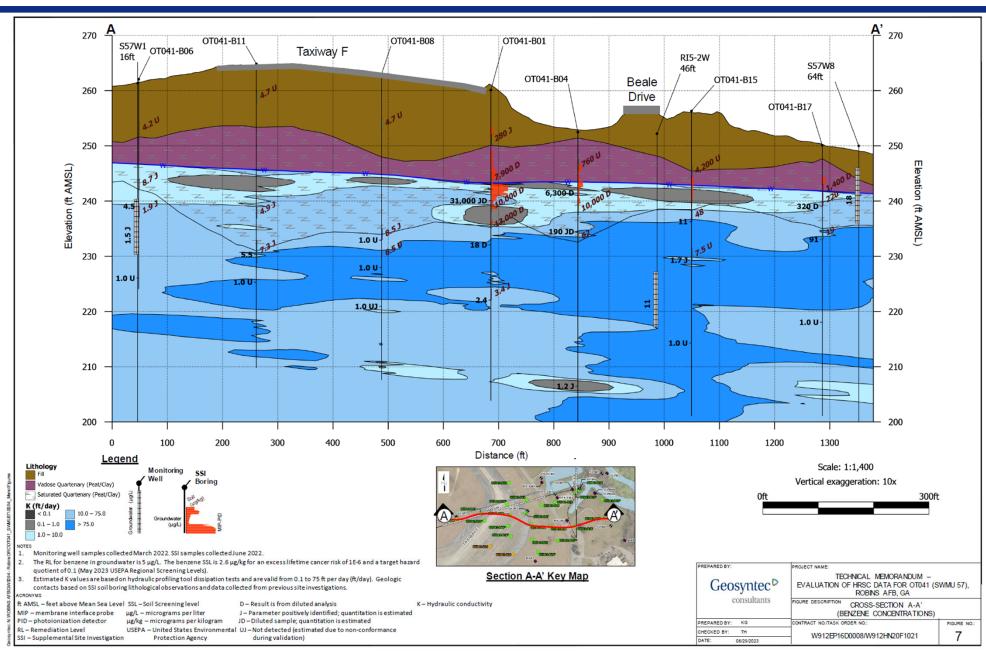


 COCs in groundwater and soil are collocated and highest concentrations are in peat/clay

- No indication that non-aqueous phase liquid (NAPL) is present
 - No visual indication
 - COC concentrations are below site-specific NAPL indicator levels

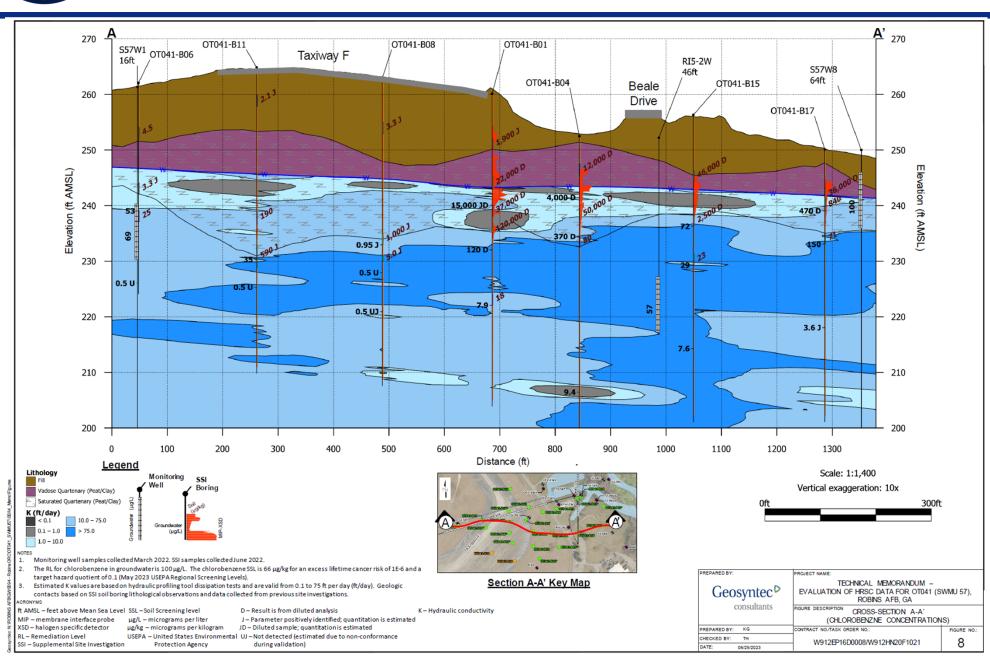


CSM Refinement (Benzene)





CSM Refinement (Chlorobenzene)





Path Forward

- Groundwater plume and CSM refinement
 - Monitoring well installation
- Source identification and natural attenuation evaluation
 - Compound Specific Isotope Analysis (CSIA)
- Contaminant mobility/storage assessment
 - Passive Flux Meter (PFM) deployment in peat/clay



Discussion



New Business and Program Closing

Dr. Linda Smyth
RAB Community Co-chair



Next RAB Meeting

Thursday, March 13, 2025





Please...

Complete the meeting evaluation and feedback form and return to sign-in table or leave at seat

Leave your name tag at the sign-in table or seat for the next meeting

Thank you!