

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS



BUILDING STRONG®

November 2024 Drury Gulch Dump Formerly Used Defense Site Fourth Five-Year Review Fact Sheet

What is a Five-Year Review?

The purpose of a five-year review (FYR) is to determine if remedies at a site are/remain protective of human health and the environment. If any issues that affect protectiveness are found during the FYR recommendations are made to address them. The report addresses three major questions:

- Is the remedy functioning as intended?
- Are the exposure assumptions, toxicity data, cleanup levels, and remedial action objectives (RAOs) used at the time of remedy selection still valid?
- Has any other information surfaced that could affect the protectiveness of the remedy?

Introduction

The Drury Gulch Dump Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS) is located approximately five miles southwest of downtown Kodiak, Alaska, near the main entrance of the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Base Support Unit complex. The site is a drainage that channels water from multiple basins to the northeast, eventually emptying into Womens Bay (Figure 1).



The lower drainage channel at the Drury Gulch Dump FUDS.

The Drury Gulch Dump FUDS is a non-National Priorities List, post-Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 remediation site on Kodiak Island, Alaska, with contaminants remaining on site above concentrations that would allow for unlimited use and unrestricted exposure.

Site Chronology

- 1993 Initial limited site investigation (SI) found elevated concentrations of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in soil
- **1999** Additional SI and time-critical Interim Removal Action (IRA)
- 2000 Remedial Investigation (RI)/Feasibility Study (FS)
- **2002** Additional RI activities (test pits) to investigate suspected subsurface debris
- **2003** Proposed Plan issued for public review and an open house was held

- 2003 Decision Document (DD) signed, selecting the remedy
- 2005 Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD)
- 2003 to 2008 Remedial Action-Construction (RA-C)
- 2008 Remedial Action (RA) Report finalized
- **2011** Land Use Control Implementation Plan finalized
- 2012 First FYR Report signed
- 2016 Second FYR Report signed
- 2021 Third FYR Report signed
- 2022 Ecological Risk Assessment completed



U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

FACT SHEET

BUILDING STRONG®

Site History

Drury Gulch and the surrounding area was used by the United States Navy until 1972 when the area was transferred to the USCG. The presence of PCBs at the Drury Gulch Dump FUDS was believed to be the result of dumping metal debris, including electrical components containing PCBs, or from PCB-contaminated fill material used at the site. The majority of metal and debris was removed from the site during the rerouting of the Rezanof Highway in the mid-1970s and mid-1980s or was buried onsite when the surface was re-graded.

In 1993, the initial limited SI resulted in surface soil sample results above the PCB cleanup level of 1.0 milligram per kilogram (mg/kg). In 1999, a second SI was conducted with a broader scope to delineate contamination. The Lower Gulch area contained soil with PCB concentrations up to 897 mg/kg. This prompted a time-critical IRA to limit potential exposure pathways, which removed approximately 172 cubic yards of PCB-contaminated soil. In the Upper Gulch area, soil was brought in to cover the surface soil, which contained lower levels of PCBs.

In 2000, an RI/FS was conducted, with 94 soil borings and five groundwater monitoring wells installed. The FS recommended an RA that included a cover, limited soil excavation and disposal, and institutional controls (ICs). In March 2003, a Proposed Plan was distributed to the residents of Kodiak describing the proposed remedy. The July 2003 DD documented the selection of the following remedy:

- Excavation and offsite disposal of soil and sediment containing PCBs at concentrations greater than 10 mg/kg.
- Capping the entire disturbed and reworked areas of the site containing PCB-impacted soils with a 2-foot minimum cap and revegetation.
- Installation of a new channel lined with geotextile fabric and rip-rap to cover sediment containing PCBs within Drury Gulch.
- Development of an IC Plan to establish appropriate ICs for the site and a Monitoring and Maintenance Plan, which includes semi-annual site inspections.

The selected remedy was implemented over the course of 5 years (2003 to 2008). During the RA-C activities, PCB-contaminated soil was more extensive than previous investigations had indicated, which prolonged the completion of the RA-C phase and prompted an ESD in 2005. At the completion of the RA-C phase, over 11,000 tons of PCB-contaminated soil was removed from the site, clean soil cover was placed at a minimum depth of 2.5 feet, the drainage channel was realigned and fortified, and fencing was installed around the site, successfully implementing the selected remedy.

In 2009, the monitoring and maintenance phase began, which included storm event inspections, quarterly maintenance inspections, surface water and sediment sampling and analysis, maintenance activities (additional hydroseeding, sediment removal, installation of stormwater control measures, and drainage repairs), and a limited hydrology evaluation. Monitoring and maintenance activities have been conducted from 2009 to present; however, the maintenance inspection frequency was decreased to semi-annual in 2012. To evaluate the protectiveness of the selected remedy the first FYR Report was prepared and signed in 2012, the second was signed in 2016, and the third was signed in 2021.

Third FYR – Issues, Follow-Up Actions, Schedule Dates, and Protectiveness Statement

In 2021, the third FYR Report was prepared and signed. The third FYR protectiveness statement could not be made because the focused ecological risk assessment (ERA), which was recommended in the second FYR, was not completed. The purpose of the ERA was to identify sensitive receptors and specific investigations areas, if any, that potentially pose an unacceptable risk to ecological receptors from exposure to PCBs in soil and sediment.



FACT SHEET

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG®

Major Development Since Third FYR

In 2022, following the completion of the Third FYR, the ERA was completed. The ERA concluded that there was little or no potential for adverse effects to terrestrial wildlife, soil communities, or aquatic-oriented wildlife and benthic communities from PCB exposure in soil and sediment and the calculation of ecological soil/sediment cleanup goals was not warranted. One of the RAOs in the DD established the To Be Considered ecological benchmark screening level for PCBs in sediment of 0.031 mg/kg. The ERA determined that the RAO was not applicable for receptors at the Drury Gulch Dump FUDS. A second ESD for the Drury Gulch Dump FUDS is currently being prepared to revise the RAOs for PCBs remaining in sediment.

Fourth FYR Activities

The fourth FYR activities will include a site inspection and development of the fourth FYR Report. The report will take into consideration the results from the ERA and summarize the second ESD.

Contact Information

Joshua Barsis U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Project Manager Joshua.Barsis@usace.army.mil (907) 753-5680

