

# Qawalangin (regional) Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting



Amaknak, Chernofski, Cape Wislow, Fort Learnard, and Ugadaga Bay FUDS 6:00-8:00 PM

Monday, May 13, 2024

Unalaska Public Library 64 Eleanor St, Unalaska, AK

### Join Zoom Meeting:

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85800952133?pwd=ael0CSAibNfMaf5ca5GR4F4a2m7Fqj.1

Meeting ID: 858 0095 2133

Passcode: 358121

### Call in:

Dial 1-646-568-7788
Enter 858 0095 2133 # (meeting ID)
Enter # (Personal ID, # to skip)
Enter 358121 # (Passcode)

### **AGENDA**

5:50-6:00 PM Pre-meet and greet, and technology check/troubleshoot

1. 6:00 – 6:10 Welcome and Introduction/Opening Remarks

a. Roll Call/Quorum

James (Jim) T Paulin
Elise Contreras
Okalena Patricia Lekanoff Gregory
Kale Bruner
David M Gregory
Michael Tutiakoff
Ben Leon-Guerrero
Ellis Berry
Taylor Borgfeldt, USACE Co-Chair

- b. Meeting Goals and Objectives
- 2. 6:10 6:25 Community Introductions/Local Updates/Public Comment
- 3. 6:25 6:30 Cape Wislow FUDS Project Update (Forrest Kranda)
- 4. 6:30 6:35 Chernofski FUDS Project Update
  - a. Melinda Brunner, New USACE Project Manager
- 5. 6:35 6:40 Fort Learnard FUDS Project Update (Jeremy Craner)



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Amaknak, Chernofski, Cape Wislow, Fort Learnard, and Ugadaga Bay FUDS 6:00-8:00 PM

Monday, May 13, 2024

- 6. 6:40–6:50 Amaknak FUDS and Ugadaga Bay FUDS Project Update
  - a. Taylor Borgfeldt, New USACE Project Manager
  - b. Property summaries
  - c. Amaknak project ranking activity
- 7. 6:50 7:00 Risk Conversation (Lori Verbrugge)
  - a. Open house 14 May at the Library with USACE
- 8. 7:00 7:05 Break
- 9. 7:05 7:10 Revise/Adopt Minutes
  - a. November 8, 2023
  - b. February 21, 2024
- 10. 7:10 7:45 Review and revise March 1, 2023 RAB Operating Procedures
  - a. Review Responsibilities of the RAB (2.)
    - Vote 1: Review RAB meeting frequency (2.b). Quarterly meetings or revise?
    - Vote 2: Add day of week (Mon, Tues, or Wed)
  - b. Review RAB Member Responsibilities/Recruitment
    - i. Review Responsibilities of the USACE Chair (7.a)
    - ii. Review Responsibilities of the Community Chairs (7.b)
    - iii. RAB tri-chair (4.b)
      - **Vote 3**: Review number of community chairs. Tri-chair (as it was) or revise back to Co-chair?
    - iv. Election of Community Chair (6.)
      - Vote 4: Election of Community Chair(s).
    - v. Review Responsibilities of RAB community members (7.c)
    - vi. Call for nominations for a local youth seat (4.c)
  - vii. Replacing absent members (5.c)
    - Vote 5: Replace absent members with new members?
- 11. 7:45 7:55 Next Steps
  - a. Next RAB Meeting: Hybrid (In-person and Virtual), August (Monday, Wednesday)



# Qawalangin (regional) Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting



Amaknak, Chernofski, Cape Wislow, Fort Learnard, and Ugadaga Bay FUDS 6:00-8:00 PM

Monday, May 13, 2024

- i. Keep in mind: Camp Q, 4th week of every month City Council, OC Board, and Q Tribe Council meetings, Holidays?
- b. Action Item Review
- 12. 7:55 8:00 Other Announcements/Unplanned Items/Open Discussion
  - a. Recap of Old Business/New Business
  - b. Closing Remarks, Adjourn

### **Contact Information**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Alaska District
Public Affairs Office
(907) 753-2520, Public.affairs3@usace.army.mil

Amaknak FUDS, Ugadaga Bay FUDS, and RAB Co-chair Taylor Borgfeldt, USACE Project Manager (907) 753-2798, Taylor.M.Borgfeldt@usace.army.mil

### Cape Wislow FUDS

Forrest Kranda, USACE Project Manager/Archaeologist (907) 753-2736, Forrest.J.Kranda@usace.army.mil

### Chernofski FUDS

Melinda Brunner, USACE Project Manager (907) 753-2855, Melinda.S.Brunner@usace.army.mil

### Fort Learnard FUDS

Jeremy Craner, USACE Project Manager (907) 753-2628, <u>Jeremy.D.Craner@usace.army.mil</u>

### USACE Toxicologist/Risk Assessor

Lori Verbrugge, USACE Toxicologist/Risk Assessor (907) 753-2847, Lori.A.Verbrugge@usace.army.mil



### **DRAFT Meeting Minutes**

Subject: Qawalangin (regional) Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) Restoration Advisory

Board (RAB) Meeting

Amaknak, Chernofski Harbor Supply and Storage Site, Cape Wislow AWS Station,

Fort Learnard, and Ugadaga Bay Station

Date: Wednesday, November 08, 2023

Time 6:00-8:00 PM

Location: City Council Chambers

43 Raven Way, Unalaska, AK

Attendees: RAB Members Present:

Alyssa K. McDonald, Community Co-

Chair (virtual)

Elise Contreras (virtual)
Kale Bruner (by phone)
Ben Leon-Guerrero (virtual)

Rena B Flint, USACE Co-Chair (virtual)

**RAB Members Not Present:** 

James (Jim) T Paulin (excused)

Okalena Patricia Lekanoff Gregory

David M Gregory Michael Tutiakoff

In person Attendees:

Douglas Quist (Stantec)

Ellis Berry

Natalie Cale (OC)

Thomas Rufous (City of Unalaska)

Theo Greenly (KUCB)
Vince Tutiakoff (City/OC)
Jason Westenskow (OCE)

Laresa Syverson (OC)

Virtual Attendees (26):

Beth Astley (USACE)

**Brent Lucyk** 

Caryn Orvis (Ahtna)

Cascade Galasso-Irish (ADEC) Denise Rankin (Ounalashka

Corporation)

Donna Van Flein (OCE)

Forrest Kranda (USACE)

Jennifer Anderson (Aleut Remediation)

Jeremy Craner (USACE)
Karen Pletnikoff (APIA)
Kenneth Andraschko (EPA)
Levi Collins (EA Engineering)

Mandy Salimen (Qawalangin Tribe of

Unalaska)

Melissa Scully (USACE)

Natasha Albee (Qawalangin Tribe of

Unalaska) Nikita Somov Piama R. Oleyer

Sara Hadden (Aleut Remediation)

Richard Ragle (USACE) Wendy Hansen (USACE)



- 1. Welcome and Introductions
  - a. Rena kicked off the meeting with opening remarks and started recording the meeting for note taking purposes.
  - b. Roll call conducted.
  - i. With five (5) there is a quorum.
  - c. Meeting Goals and Objectives
    - Rena reviewed the agenda.
- 2. Revise/Adopt August 2, 2023 Minutes
  - a. Rena asked for a motion to Revise/Adopt August 2, 2023 Minutes
  - b. Alyssa motioned to adopt minutes from August 2, 2023. Elise seconded the motion to adopt minutes from August 2, 2023.
  - c. Rena also stated that those meeting minutes were provided in the meeting materials as well as posted on the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers public website.

### Decision: Adopt August 2, 2023 minutes as written.

- 3. Local Updates/Community Introductions/Public Comment
  - Rena requested Thomas to facilitate any kind of introduction for those in the room.
  - b. Thomas also asked for anyone in the room to sign in. There were no introductions.
  - c. Rena asked for anyone on the phone or virtually to come off mute that wanted to.
  - i. Karen Pletnikoff with the Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association (APIA) thanked the RAB for being so active and for covering sites past Unalaska Island and for getting so much accomplished. Karen also stated that APIA is interested in two things that came out of the environmental justice listening session with the Department of Energy and some other participants, including USACE. She thanked the USACE team for bringing leadership to listen. First, they note that it has been since 2004 since the region has made a formerly used defense sites (FUDS) priority list. They think it's a good time to consider revisiting that list, to see what progress has been made on those sites and talk about whether or not it is time to offer a new set of priority sites or to potentially even prioritize if that was what the body wanted. Separately, they are interested in following up in partnership with the Aleut corporation on greater environmental justice initiative for the region that has been so impacted by activities. The environmental justice throughout the region is something that they're interested in and doesn't have a direct funding source at this time, but it would certainly be something that we could work on through EPA gap programs and search for other funds.
  - ii. Mandy Salimen introduced herself as the Environmental Program Director the Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska.
  - iii. Ken Andraschko introduced himself as the contaminated ANCSA sites coordinator for the EPA. Ken will add his contact info to the chat for anyone with question about the program (see below).
  - iv. Richard Ragle introduced himself as the FUDS program manager for Ugadaga Bay



- v. Cas, DEC project manager for sites in Unalaska, introduced herself and gave props to the City and Ounalashka Corporation for all of the hard work to get cleanup funding to cleanup sites.
- vi. Natasha Albee introduced herself as a new Qawalangin Tribe employee.
- 4. City of Unalaska Brownfields Advisory Board Update
  - a. Thomas Roufos gave the announcement that they have approval of the Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) as of today. He also briefed that they recently had a productive meeting with Qawalangin Tribe about Unalaska Lake, and they are hoping to collaborate to survey the lake.
  - b. Doug Quist, chemist and environmental scientist over at Stantec, gave an update including details on programmatic QAPP approval, area-wide Regulated Building Survey Program, eligibility determinations (EDs) within the Brownfields Program were completed for Strawberry Hill and for Pyramid Valley, and finalizing web based inventory of all of the digitized features.
  - c. Alyssa asked how many quonset huts in town are being utilized? Doug stated that it's not just limited to Quonset huts. Quonset huts and cabanas are included in the inventory that is being developed. Alyssa also asked if the city will be in contact with the owners? Some are inhabited and she wondered if they will be tested for issues that may be present. Thomas answered that the City Planning Department will be doing the outreach for that. The testing will be voluntary to the owners, and renters would have to ask property owners for permission. Alyssa asked if the property owners will have some sort of help in mitigating that damage? Thomas answered that the goal is to use the survey research to apply for other funding and timeframe will depend on funding.
  - d. Theo also asked about the Light Detection and Ranging (Lidar) and what the next steps are after that, specifically timeline wise. Thomas answered hopefully, sometime next summer to be flying the drone and doing the bathemetry. The goal is to work with the Tribe's program to utilize their money for mobilization and possibly combine projects and programs with simmilar scopes.
  - e. Rena also said that the Amaknak FUDS has a Lidar need in the future for the Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP) remedial investigation, so perhaps we could try to sync the programs. Thomas asked Rena to follow up with what area FUDS is planning to looking at. Rena indicated Amaknak Island would be the initial focus.
  - f. Doug added that there was some talk about potentially including an infrared survey. They've had great success using infrared and Lidar in combination in the past for identifying sites, temperature gradients, seeps, preferential pathways for contamination, and identifying potential locations for sampling and or remediation.

### <u>Action item:</u> Rena will follow up with Thomas about the area Amaknak FUDS has planned for Lidar.

- 5. Alaska Public Media Video about the Unalaska Valley Cleanup
  - a. Theo Greenly (KUCB and channel 8 TV) has been doing stories on FUDS program in general and Amaknak FUDS the last few years. Alaska Public Media, specifically the show Alaska Insight, reached out to collaborate on a story about primarily the Ski Bowl site (Amaknak FUDS Unalaska Valley UST 3260). It is going to be about four and a half minutes long segment which goes into a panel discussion. Rena may be a panel guest for the



- discussion. The release of the story has been pushed back to an upcoming Friday, possibly 17 November.
- b. Rena added that at the Unalaska Valley Ski Bowl site the excavation was completed, super sacks of contaminated soil were transported to the disposal facility and the fieldwork is complete.
- c. Ben asked if Theo could track the release date of the Alaska Public Media segment and send an update. Theo answered that it will air locally and will be posted on the KUCB website. He will also send a link out the RAB email list when it is available.
- d. Theo also asked what the status was on the rest of the Unalaska Valley sites. Rena stated that they will make a final recommendation in the report for decommissioning of a handful of monitoring wells, and if approved, they will come back out and do monitoring well decommissioning sometime in 2024.

### Action item: Theo will email a link to the story to the RAB/email list when it is available.

- 6. Rena motioned to take a five-minute break from 1843 to 1848.
- 7. Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) Look Ahead Chernofski Harbor Supply and Storage Site FUDS
  - Wendy Hansen (technical lead and acting project manager) gave a presentation that included:
  - i. Vicinity map showing location of Chernofski Harbor, particularly relative to Dutch Harbor.
  - ii. A brief recap of the 2022 field work and presentation that occurred during the May 2023 RAB meeting. This included a map of various locations visited during the field effort, a big picture overview that five batteries, three tanks, thirteen drum remnants, 3,200 tons of contaminated soil (largely petroleum), and 1,200 feet of fuel pipeline were removed across the Chernofski Harbor projects in 2022. In addition, a large investigative effort took place that included inspecting WWII building footprints for the presence of batteries and collecting soil samples, installation of approximately 260 screening probes, 200 soil borings and thirty-seven groundwater monitoring wells, and the collection of sediment and porewater samples at tank sites. It was also announced that the after-action report for these activities and a newly drafted Community Relations Plan will soon be sent to the Unalaska library where the documents will be available for public viewing.
  - iii. An update on Containerized Hazardous, Toxic and Radioactive Waste (CON/HTRW) projects (i.e., drums; tanks; batteries): a) Investigation and removal of paint cans and batteries across Chernofski Harbor is complete. b) A Decision Document is now required and planned to address petroleum contamination that remains. The project team will request funding once we have worked through that process and approval is obtained. Field work might occur as early as fiscal year 2025 or 2026.
  - iv. Future planning includes a Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Remedial Investigation/ Feasibility Study (RI/FS) to address non-petroleum contamination at Chernofski Harbor.
  - v. An Archaeological Update (high level):
    - a) USACE lead archaeologist Kelly Eldridge is tracking progress for the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) deliverables.
    - b) Old Chernofski Village Report was finalized in March of 2022. Stakeholders were



provided hardcopies in March of 2023. The distribution list included the Alaska State Library and Museum of the Aleutians where the public should be able to access the document.

- c) A draft of the Chernofski Harbor World War II District Historical Report was sent to stakeholders via DoD SAFE 12 October 2023. USACE has requested comments by 24 November 2023 and anticipates finalizing the document by 31 December 2023. If parties to the MOA do not have the document and would like a copy, please let Wendy Hansen or Kelly Eldridge know so a new link for download can be provided.
- d) A draft report for UNL-160 is in progress.
- e) Artifacts Update: Artifacts excavated in 2019 are at the Museum of Aleutians. Those removed in 2022 are at USACE in Anchorage for analysis and will be accessioned to the Museum of Aleutians.
- FY24 Look Ahead Fort Learnard FUDS
  - a. Jeremy Craner gave a quick update on the MMRP project at Fort Learnard FUDS.
  - USACE will continue to provide documents for review as they work through the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) cleanup process.
  - c. Next Systematic Project Planning (SPP) and community meetings are planned for May 2024.
- 9. FY24/25/26 Look Ahead Ugadaga Bay Station FUDS
  - a. Richard Ragle introduced himself and gave a brief overview of Ugadaga Bay including background and where the project is in the CERCLA process.
  - b. Natalie Cale (OC) asked why there was so much lag time between Preliminary Assessment/ Site Inspection (PA/SI) and RI.
  - c. Richard answered that there are limited resources and energy was focused on sites within populated areas of the island.
  - d. Rena added that there was also a right-of-entry issue due to a landowner lease in 2019 and limited ability to narrow the project scope at that time that added to the delay.
- 10. FY24 Look Ahead Cape Wislow AWS Station FUDS
  - a. Forrest Kranda gave a brief look ahead at what is planned for 2024 including a site background, pending results, and reporting.
- 11. FY24 Look Ahead Amaknak FUDS
  - a. Rena Flint gave an overview on each of the eleven (11) projects in Amaknak FUDS.
- 12. RAB Membership Changes/ Recruitment
  - a. Denise Rankin has resigned from the RAB as of October 1, 2023.
  - b. Thomas Rufous has volunteered to join the RAB and will be submitting an application. He suggested that some of the regular meeting attendees apply to be on the RAB. It may also be a good idea to reach out to RAB members that have not been participating and see if they would have someone in mind to take over their responsibilities.
  - c. Alyssa has been working on potential recruitment and can make a PSA announcement on



KUCB.

- d. Denise thought it would be a good idea to have a community youth on the board.
- e. Karen Pletnikoff asked if Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska had been represented on the RAB. It was confirmed that there is a current Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska RAB member, Elise.
- 13. Review Next Meeting Dates/Identify Next Steps
  - a. Rena discussed that the next RAB Meeting would be Hybrid (In-person and Virtual) in February and on a Wednesday. Options could be February 7, 14, 21. She also reminded the RAB of potential conflicts: 4th week of every month City Council, OC Board, and Q Tribe Council meetings, Feb 5-9 is Alaska Forum on the Environment, and Feb 19 is Washington's Birthday.
  - b. Rena asked for a motion to select a date for the next meeting. Alyssa made a motion for February 21, 2024. Elise seconded the motion. Alyssa added that she and Rena should get together to talk about how the PSA should be worded.

### <u>Decision:</u> The next meeting is scheduled for 21 February 2024

Action: Alyssa and Rena will get together to create a PSA for recruitment.

- c. Next Steps/Action Item Review
  - i. Mel reviewed action items.
- 14. Other Announcements/Unplanned Items/Open Discussion
  - a. Recap of Old Business/New Business
  - i. Ellis Berry added that Sofia does 'Island Interviews' on KUCB if the board wanted to reach out to schedule something with her (may help with recruitment and outreach). He may volunteer to join the RAB. Rena will send membership information.
  - ii. Karen Pletnikoff added that if anyone was interested in the regional planning effort/ individual priorities list, they would be happy to hear from them. She will add contact information to the chat (see below).
  - b. Rena asked for a motion to adjourn. Alyssa made a motion to adjourn. Elise seconded the motion.

Decision: The meeting was adjourned at 1948.

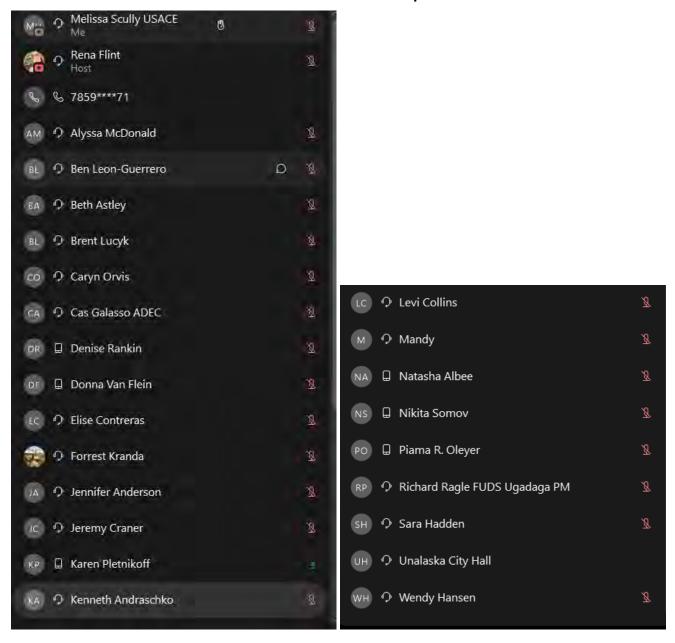
Action: Rena will send RAB membership information to Ellis Berry.



DECISION SUMMARY			
Decision	Motion made by	Seconded motion	
Adopt August 2, 2023 minutes as written.	Alyssa	Elise	
The next RAB meeting is scheduled for 21 February 2024	Alyssa	Elise	
The meeting was adjourned at 1948.	Alyssa	Elise	
ACTION ITEM SUMMARY			
Action	Owner	Status	
Rena will follow up with Thomas about the area Amaknak FUDS has planned for Lidar.	Rena	Open	
Theo will email a link to the story to the RAB/email list when it is available.	Theo Greenly	Open	
Alyssa and Rena will get together to create a PSA for recruitment.	Rena/Alyssa	Open	
Rena will send RAB membership information to Ellis Berry.	Rena	Closed	

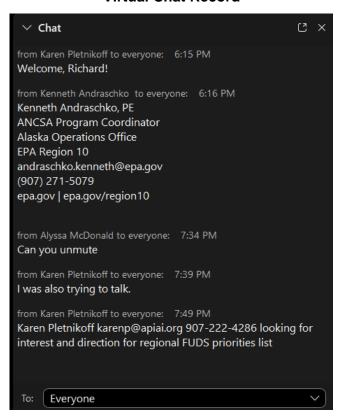


### **Virtual Participant List**





### **Virtual Chat Record**





Subject: Qawalangin (Regional) Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) Restoration Advisory Board

(RAB) Meeting

Amaknak, Chernofski Harbor Supply and Storage Site, Cape Wislow AWS Station, Fort

Learnard, and Ugadaga Bay Station FUDS

Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2024

Time 6:00-8:00 PM

Location: Unalaska Public Library

64 Eleanor St., Unalaska, AK

and Virtually on Zoom

Attendees: RAB Members Present:

Elise Contreras (virtual)

Ben Leon-Guerrero (virtual)

Rena B Flint, USACE Co-Chair (virtual)

Denise Rankin (OC/OCE: Meeting Contractor-In-

Person Moderator)

Laresa Syverson (OC/OCE: Meeting Contractor –

Ginny Hatfield (Museum of the Aleutians)

Technology Coordinator)

Virtual Attendees (18):

**RAB Members Not Present:** 

James (Jim) T Paulin

Okalena Patricia Lekanoff Gregory

David M Gregory Michael Tutiakoff Alyssa McDonald Kale Bruner

vid M Gregory Melissa Scully (USACE)

Taylor Borgfeldt (USACE)
Mike MacMillan (USACE)

Wendy Hansen (USACE)

Sasha Rankin (OC)

Marc Hansmeier (Ahtna)

Jeff Estes (EPA) Cas Galasso (ADEC) Sarah Bernhardt (ADEC)

Andy Dietrick (Aleutian Aerial LLC)

Kenneth Andraschko (EPA)

Paola Kennedy Levi Collins (EA)

Natalie Cale (OC/OCE: Meeting Contractor -

Contract Manager)
Karen Pletnikoff (APIA)

Cameron Dean (City of Unalaska)

Travis Swangel

In person Attendees (17):

Ellis Berry

Thomas Rufous (City of Unalaska)

Andy Lusk (KUCB)
Summer Smith (OC)
Forrest Kranda (USACE)
Kelly Eldridge (USACE)
Sean O'Donnell (USACE)

Nick Lekanoff

Rufina ShaishnikoffEthan Nichols

Ken Reeves Sofia Stuart-Rasi Chris Price (Q Tribe)

Jason Westenskow (OCE: Meeting Contractor – Project Manager) Donna Van Flein (OC/OCE: Meeting Contractor – Meeting Recorder)



### 1. Welcome and Introductions

- a. Moderator Denise Rankin kicked off the meeting with opening remarks and started recording the meeting for note taking purposes.
- b. Roll call conducted.
  - i. 3 members present. There is no quorum.
- ii. Members agreed to induct Ellis Berry as a Board member without quorum present as it was already agreed to via email.
- c. Meeting Goals and Objectives
- i. Denise gave an overview of the purpose of the RAB Meeting and introduced OCE as the USACE contractor facilitating the RAB Meetings for USACE.
- ii. Rena reviewed the agenda.

### 2. Revise/Adopt November Minutes

i. Without a quorum, the Board will have to adopt November 2023 and February 2024 minutes at the May 2024 meeting.

**Action Item:** Add approval of minutes for November and February meetings to the May 2024 agenda.

### 3. March 1, 2023 RAB Operating Procedures

- i. Rena introduced the topic for an open discussion on meeting frequency. Comments were made that indicated that quarterly meetings were not enough and were packed with a lot of information that more frequent meetings would be better. Rena requests feedback.
- ii. Denise suggested having more meetings or breaking the quarterly meetings up with fewer presentations for more in depth discussions with each of the sites in the RAB. Denise also mentioned the set up of the room in a roundtable style instead of the Council Chambers was very nice and hoped it would promote more free discussion. Denise stated she felt less nervous sitting and talking rather than in front of a mic. Denise opened the discussion to the RAB Board Members on meeting frequency.
- iii. Laresa proposed inviting more non-profit organizations to the meetings to see if they have anything to contribute or learn more. She listed Unalaskans Against Sexual Assault and Family Violence, Museum, Wellness Center, Clinic, Ginny suggested the Visitors Bureau. Denise proposed that maybe we reach out to the High School History class.
- iv. Ben concerned about people's time restrictions that maybe shorter meetings better.
- v. Rufina, an elder in the community stated she didn't know much about the RAB meetings but saw the poster and wanted to learn more. She suggests that they encourage younger people to come. She also talked about the Senior Center Denise suggests reaching out to the High School.
- **vi.** Elise suggests a hybrid of meetings including the quarterly meetings but have some smaller informal discussion on certain projects.
- **vii.** Rena stated that monthly meetings in the past were hard to do. Suggests every six weeks.
- **viii.** Ben believes this meeting is for community and how much they can participate needed for input.



### 4. Local Updates/Community Introductions/Public Comment

- i. Rena formally recognized and inducted Ellis Berry as a new RAB Board Member.
- ii. Rena invited anyone interested in the being a member of the RAB Board to contact her to receive an application. Suggests Thomas apply.
- iii. Rena introduced Taylor Borgfeldt as the new Project Manager and Co-chair of the RAB. Taylor introduces herself and is excited to work on the RAB and with the group. Melissa Scully introduced herself as the technical lead for the Amaknak FUDS Property.
- iv. Karen Pletnikoff with Aleutian Pribilof Island Association (APIA) introduced herself. She stated she is not a board member but makes most board meetings to stay up to date for APIA of what is going on in the region and advocate for sites that do not have a nearby tribe.
- v. Natalie Cale asked if Rena could explain what the RAB Board member position entails to help people decide if they would like to become a board member. Rena replied that she could send out the membership form along with the Operating Procedures. Attendance and participation in meetings and advising remedies of cleanup of FUDS. The position will also review documents, as much or as little as you want, but number one is being there and speaking at the meetings. Elise added it was a great way to stay informed and involved with the FUDS cleanup. Ben added that it is important to know what is being cleaned up and advise on areas that hold more weight. Rena added another aspect is being a conduit to the community to give information.
- vi. Sean O'Donnell was introduced as the new tribal liaison for the Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District. He is new to the job and is just learning at all the advisory meetings he attends throughout the state. His job is to help answer questions and navigate program areas to be a better resource in the community.
- vii. Cas Galasso of ADEC announced her transition out of her role, and introduced Sarah Bernhardt, who will be taking over on the active contaminated sites in the area.
- viii. Donna Van Flein mentioned that there are comment cards for those not comfortable asking questions to the group. They will be read and addressed later in the meeting.
- ix. Natalie Cale states that she is encouraged that cleanup has become not only a community issue, but USACE, EPA and Sen. Murkowski priority. The Tribe, City, OC, ADEC, USACE are working together to get a game plan to focus on areas to cleanup in an organized way. Creating a bigger picture for cleanup efforts. The community may add their priority, housing, recreation, etc. Natalie brought attention to all the funding that is available, especially the grants. She pointed out how all parties with grants are meeting so that everyone can put the money to good use on the island to get the areas cleaned up.
- x. Jeff Estes with EPA is interested in what the greater community's interests are to maximize the funds that EPA has to offer. He is also available for questions for anyone who needs help.
- xi. Marc Hansmeier is an engineer with Ahtna and is new to the RAB meeting.
- xii. Sarah Bernhardt with Alaska DEC is looking forward to working with everyone. Agreed that she will miss Cas at ADEC, but we will do our best to fill her shoes, and that her email is sarah.bernhardt@alaska.gov if anyone needed to contact her.
- xiii. Ken Andraschko is the EPA contaminated ANCSA Lands Program Coordinator. He pointed out all the funds that are available, like the Community Change Grants. He said



- please reach out if you need help and he will help find opportunities for the community.
- xiv. Karen Pletnikoff wanted to point out that along with all the other grants available there is also the Environmental Justice fund available as well. These could be sites impacted by climate change.
- xv. Thomas Roufos added Fire fighters local chapter would be another non-profit organization to invite to the RAB meetings.

### 5. City of Unalaska Brownfields Advisory Board Update

- a. Thomas Roufos is the Associate Planner for the City of Unalaska. He is giving the Assessment Grant update. They have finished Phase 1 of site visits, and that report should be available to the community in a month or two. Strawberry Hill is the first to be completed, then Pyramid Valley. All of this will be available on the City's website on a brownfields page under the planning section. He also mentioned they should have for the next meeting an inventory of sites and resources in the community and brownfields areas of interest. The city is working on the portal and dashboard so the community can access it. Thomas concurred that it is beneficial having this Brownfields group to work together and not duplicate efforts. The creation of the site inventory portal for the community will be beneficial for viewing the information of what all that is going on and what area it is happening in.
- b. Thomas spoke about the coordination meetings with OC, the consultants, Q Tribe, and USACE to coordinate cleanup in Unalaska. It helps to share information to better use the resources granted. Thomas stated it was an exciting opportunity to work together. He will report an update next meeting. Thomas discussed the city's area of focus on Strawberry Hill and Pyramid Valley. They will be doing a Lidar study of the areas as well as a bathymetry survey for Unalaska Lake and the lake on Standard Oil Hill, which they are working with the Tribe. They will announce a voluntary program for Cabana owners. They have received EPA approval to look for restricted building materials, like asbestos, lead paint and mold in the buildings. It will be more focused on the World War II era housing. This will give more information to get an additional grant to clean it up. Thomas announced that OC will be looking at a cleanup of the asbestos landfills on Strawberry Hill and outside Building 551 cleaning up PCBs.
- c. Natalie shared that OC was one of three recipients of the EPA ANCSA contaminated lands cleanup grant. Building 551 will be the site of that cleanup and will begin this spring. OC is working closely with Jeff Estes of EPA on this grant.
- d. Elise added that the Tribe is working on debris removal in Unalaska Valley and Pyramid Valley this summer.
- e. Cas questioned where the focus on Strawberry Hill will be, as there are tar ponds on the Strawberry Hill site. Thomas outlined the area from Tony's to before the two tanks, and out to the lake and avoid Rocky Point Management Area and tar ponds.

### 6. 5-minute break 18:55-19:05

### 7. Chernofski Harbor Supply and Storage Site FUDS Archaeology Update

- a. Kelly Eldridge, senior archaeologist at US Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District provided a report on the Chernofski Harbor Supply and Storage Site.
- b. Wendy Hansen, technical lead and Interim Project Manager for FUDS, USACE did removal actions and investigations. Last action was in 2022, but they were out there in 2017 and 2019. In 2022 USACE removed about 3,000 tons of petroleum contaminated soil.
- c. Kelly spoke about the cultural resources work under an MOA in 2018 with the various



stakeholders. SHPO, Q Tribe, St. Paul, TDX, the Russian Diocese, OC, and the Aleut Corp. TDX is the largest landowner. Kelly discussed the way that things should be approached due to the historical factors. As cleanup work is underway, they need to treat and approach the very extensive and ancient, culturally dense area for preservation of WWII history and the Unangan history in the Chernofski area. She has really enjoyed working there. She outlined the list of tasks that they own their shareholders. There will be an archaeological monitor on site. Evaluate archaeological sites for NHP. Conduct the excavation in 2022. Also need to conduct an excavation at UNL0034. It is an ancient and historical site right next to the WWII site.

- d. Kelly stated they are required to create a place-based curriculum document. They evaluated three WWII features; the old mess hall, garage, and tank farm. And performed an in-depth historical investigation on the WWII area based on archival records. They just finished this three weeks ago. Kelly dropped off the new Chernofski reports at the library.
- e. Kelly spoke about the significance of the recovery of over 23,000 stone tools and 432 osseo artifacts made of bone or ivory. Many of these artifacts were the first to be excavated from such site in the Aleutians. The Museum of the Aleutians is the repository for these artifacts.
- f. The Chernofski site was an active site until 1920's.
- g. Kelly discussed the CRC conducting an excavation at the Chernofski Village Site (UNL-00034). Within five weeks they excavated ten square meters. Seven fragments of charcoal were collected for C14 analysis in 2019. In 2022 seven additional fragments of charcoal were collected for C14 analysis.
- h. The older dates for UNL-00034 date back 3,000 years. They recovered 23,211 lithic artifacts, 432 osseous artifacts and 560 historical artifacts. And 9,293 animal skeletal elements were analyzed.
- i. In 2022 at UNL-00160, there was one square meter that was excavated at a depth of 1.3 meters where six fragments of charcoal were collected for C14 analysis. 3,658 lithic artifacts, 2 historical artifacts and 11 degraded faunal remains were found. Kelly explained the challenges faced in collecting data from a site disturbed by a military mess hall during World War II.
- j. Kelly also revealed findings from an older site that dated back between 4,000 and 5,000 years ago and a World War II site, primarily an army installation supporting Fort Glen. This village site is behind the slaughterhouse. Some animal bones were still there. Birds, fish, and one seal element.
- k. At the UNL-00235 World War II site, USACE contracted AECOM to conduct archival research at NARA facilities, Kelly said hopefully they will have those reports soon.
- I. Laresa asked about whether walrus items were found and if any other animal bones were found as well. Kelly said there were walrus, polar bear, ring seals and whales there. There were structural whale bones in Chernofski village site.
- m. Rufina asked if they had found anything from another country from 1600's to 1700's. Kelly explained that a Japanese coin was dated from Chernofski, and it looked to predate the arrival of Russians. It was briefly mentioned in his monitoring report that was recently added to the library in Unalaska. In the 1800's there were other countries artifacts found. Rufina also asked about beads. But unfortunately, none have been found as of today.
- 8. Amaknak FUDS CON/HTRW limited removal action, Summer Bay-Humpy Cove- Little South America.



- a. Melissa Scully, Environmental Engineer for USACE Alaska District, tech lead for Amaknak project team and interim PM last few months.
  - i. USACE awarded a contract to OCE to complete a removal action in Summer Bay-Humpy Cove and Little South America.
- ii. A brief overview of the 2024 summer plans. Humpy Cove is the first site to be worked on. Was part of Ft. Brumback and contained tactical artillery, troop housing, mess hall, latrines, power generation and utility systems. 1998 UST and 540 tons of contaminated soil removed. Plan to remove DRO soil contamination. Excavate soil below groundwater. We will perform removal action, install, develop, and sample on temporary well, then install, develop and sample two temporary wells downgradient to see if any contamination migrated. Then decommission the wells then restore the area.
- iii. The Little South America area includes a latrine site. This summer we are hoping to remove any DRO and determine if any of the contamination has migrated off the site. Removal action, install and develop some wells then restore the area. The second site in LSA was a mess hall, in prior removal action there was no fuel was noted in the tank but there was a fuel odor. This summer we hope to determine whether the residual DRO soil contamination is impacting the groundwater in this area. Plan to drill monitoring wells and decommission if impacting the groundwater.
- iv. Ellis asked if the residual contamination to bedrock may affect subsistence? Melissa said she could look at the CSM and get back with him on that. Rena also said she would have to get back with him.
- v. Rena asked specifically what subsistence the community is interested in knowing about. They are worried about the berries and mushrooms. Laresa also said the medicinal plants.

**Action Item:** Laresa to email list of medicinal plants to Rena for assessment of contaminant pathway risk.

- vi. Melissa gives a brief project schedule. Final Work Plan should be completed in March. A site visit in April, mobilization in June, Humpy Cove power plant, site prep, excavation, well installation in June through July, LSA building 1154 well install in late July, then monitoring well decommission in September. Then Reporting. January 2025 will have a draft report.
- vii. Kelly asked if there would be an archaeological monitor on site.
- viii. Melissa answered that there will be archaeological monitors on site.at Little South America sites.

**Action Item:** Rena/Taylor/Mel to consult risk assessor regarding the potential pathway of contamination to medicinal plants, mushrooms and berries for remaining contamination at LSA site. Rena/Taylor to provide response to Ellis, Laresa, and at next RAB regarding LSA site concentrations, depths, and potential for diesel uptake by berries, mushrooms, or medicinal plants.

### 9. Fort Learnard FUDS update

- a. Forrest Kranda, Archaeologist for FUDS. Presented about Eider Point which was a coastal artillery defense site. There are residual munitions in two areas on that site.
- b. An archaeological survey was done in 2023 to evaluate Fort Learnard. It was found to be



- eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and contributing to the national landmark of the Naval Operating Base.
- c. Future remediation of munitions field work will include Cultural Resources Monitoring Plan, onsite archaeological monitoring, avoidance of ancestral sites and return the WWII features to their pre-activity conditions to degree possible.
- d. Field work start date is anticipated for April. There is a Systematic Project Planning meeting planned for May 2024, followed by the Public Meeting.
- e. Kelly asked if the meetings. The SPP meeting will be technical including ADEC and SHPO, but there will also be a general public meeting.
- f. Question about CERCLA. Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act authorizes response to releases or threatened releases of hazardous substances into the environment. Forrest explained that most remedial plans and munitions removal must go through the process.
- g. Thomas asked what areas might not be safe to recreate. Forrest showed an Armco hut to where there would be munitions. There is one on the beach as well. Warned to watch where you step as there are things still on the ground. Coastal artillery rounds used were both 6-inch and 20mm ammunition.

### 10. Review Next Meeting Dates/ Identify Next Steps

- a. Next RAB meeting May 15, 22 or 29th (Wednesdays)
- i. Elise stated her preference is the 15 or 29.
- ii. Ben stated all dates could work for him.
- iii. Kelly advised that the Tribe has cultural nights on Wednesdays and Taylor is taking classes on Wednesdays. Kelly said Tribe recommended Mondays. Ellis said Mondays are good. Will send May 13, 15, 20 or 29 to RAB members. (May 27<sup>th</sup> Memorial Day)

**Action Item:** Taylor to send email request to board members regarding best date for next meeting. Save the date will be distributed once date is selected.

### 11. Other Announcements/Unplanned Items/Open Discussion

- I. Laresa announced the showing of a movie at the World War II Center. *Twice Colonized* is the name of the movie. There is a \$5 cover charge.
- II. Sarah Bernhardt from ADEC thanked everyone for welcoming her to the meeting and she looks forward to attending all the meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 20:04.

ACTION ITEM SUMMARY			
Action	Owner	Status	
Add approval of minutes for November and February meetings to the May 2024 agenda.	Taylor (USACE)	Open	
Laresa to email list of medicinal plants to Rena for the	Laresa (OC)	Open	



assessment of contaminants pathway risk.		
Consulting the risk accessors about pathway contaminants to berries, mushrooms, and medicinal plants for remaining contamination at LSA site. Distribute response.	Mel (USACE)	Open
Send email request to board members regarding best date for next meeting.	Taylor (USACE)	Open



### **Virtual Chat Record**

18:11:38 From Travis Swangel : Apologize...unmuted me somehow

18:40:17 From Sarah Bernhardt, Alaska DEC: Hello everyone! I'm looking forward to working with you all and attending these RAB meetings. We will miss Cas at DEC. We will do our best to fill her shoes. Sarah Bernhardt, you can reach me at sarah.bernhardt@alaska.gov

19:15:43 From Wendy Hansen (USACE): Thank you Kelly for mentioning the reports!

20:02:54 From Ginny Hatfield : Thanks!! Great meeting!

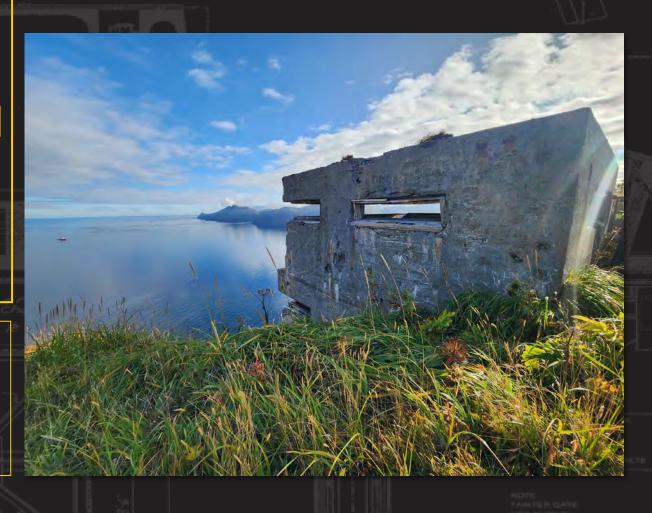
20:03:14 From Cas Galasso DEC : Thank you everyone! Great meeting.

# QAWALANGIN (REGIONAL) FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FUDS) RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB) MEETING

Amaknak, Chernofski, Cape Wislow, Fort Learnard, and Ugadaga Bay FUDS

Date: 13 May 2024







# **AGENDA**

- 1. Welcome and Introductions
- 2. Community Introductions
- 3. Project Overview
  - i. Chernofski
  - ii. Cape Wislow
  - iii. Fort Learnard
  - iv. Amaknak and Ugadaga
- 4. Risk Conversation

- 5. Break
- 6. Revise/Adopt Minutes
- 7. RAB Operating Procedures
- 8. Next Meeting Dates
- 9. Open Discussion
- 10. Closing Remarks



# 6:00 - 6:10 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

# Roll Call/Quorum

- James T Paulin
- Elisa Contreras
- Okalena Patricia Lekanoff Gregory
- Kale Bruner
- David M Gregory
- Michael Tutiakoff
- Ben Leon-Guerrero
- Ellis Berry
- Taylor Borgfeldt, USACE Co-Chair
- Meeting Goals and Objectives





# 6:10 - 6:25 COMMUNITY INTRODUCTIONS

- Community Introductions
- Local Updates
- Public Comment



# REGIONAL FUDS PROPERTIES AND PROJECTS



### **U.S. ARMY**



### **Melinda Brunner**

PM: Chernofski P: 907-753-2855

E: Melinda.S.Brunner@usace.army.mil



### **Forrest Kranda**

PM: Cape Wislow P: 907-753-2736

E: Forrest.J.Kranda@usace.army.mil



### **Jeremy Craner**

PM: Fort Learnard P: 907-753-2628

E: Jeremy.D.Craner@usace.army.mil

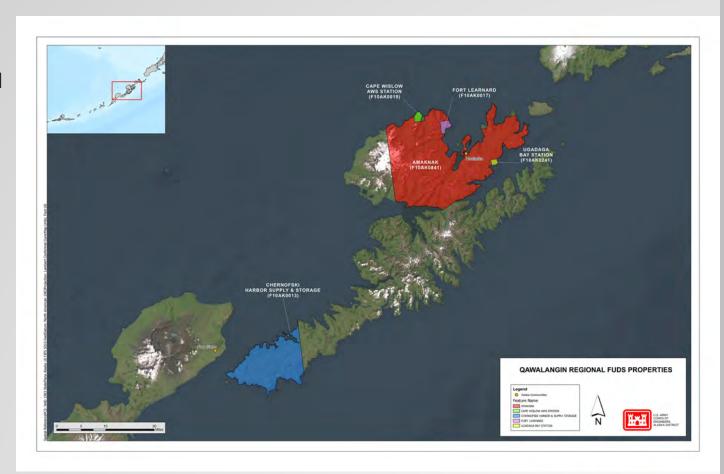


### **Taylor Borgfeldt**

RAB USACE Co-Chair PM: Amaknak, Ugadaga

P: 907-753-2798

E: Taylor.M.Borgfeldt@usace.army.mil

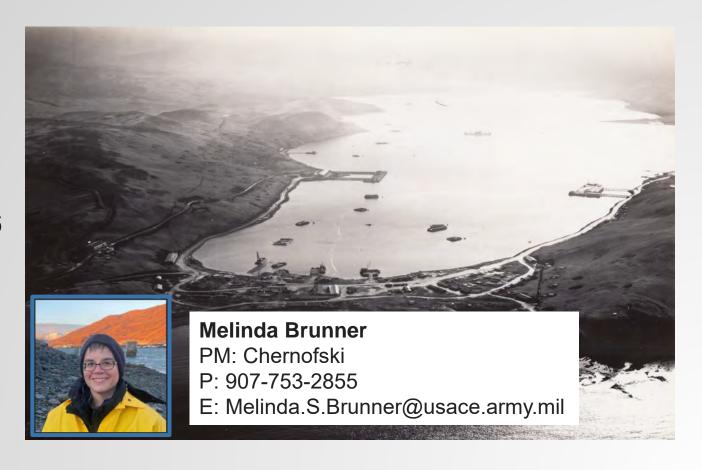


# **CHERNOFSKI – WHAT IS NEXT?**



- 1. Decision Documents Needed Petroleum Contaminated Soil
  - Drums
  - Tanks East
  - Gas Station/Tanks West
- 2. Investigation and Removal Needed
  - Drums
  - Tanks East
  - Gas Station/Tanks West
- 3. Field Work Anticipated Start 2026
  - Petroleum Contamination
- 4. Future

Remedial Investigation/ Feasibility Study (CERCLA)



**U.S. ARMY** 

# **CAPE WISLOW - LOOK AHEAD**

**Forrest Kranda** 

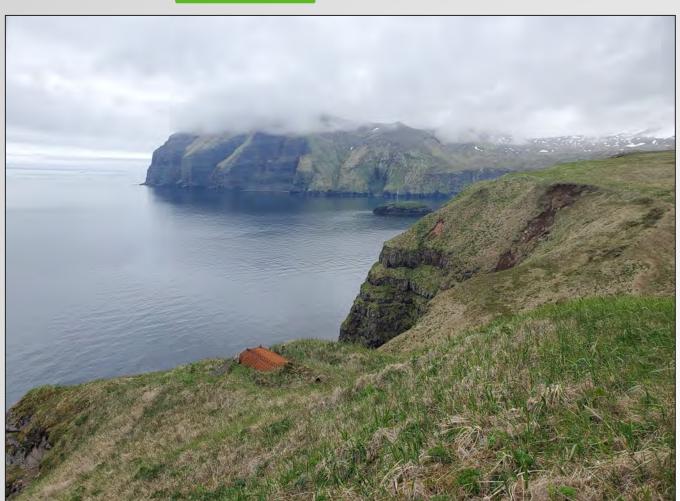
PM: Cape Wislow P:907-753-2736

E: Forrest.J.Kranda@usace.army.mil



- **Draft Field Sampling Report** 
  - 1. Submit to DEC for initial review
  - 2. Submit to landowners/stakeholders for review.
  - 3. Finalize report after reviews
- Archaeological Survey Report
  - > In Progress
- Preliminary Assessment (PA)
  - Start May 2024
- Inventory Project Report (INPR)
  - Assigns project to property
  - Start July 2024



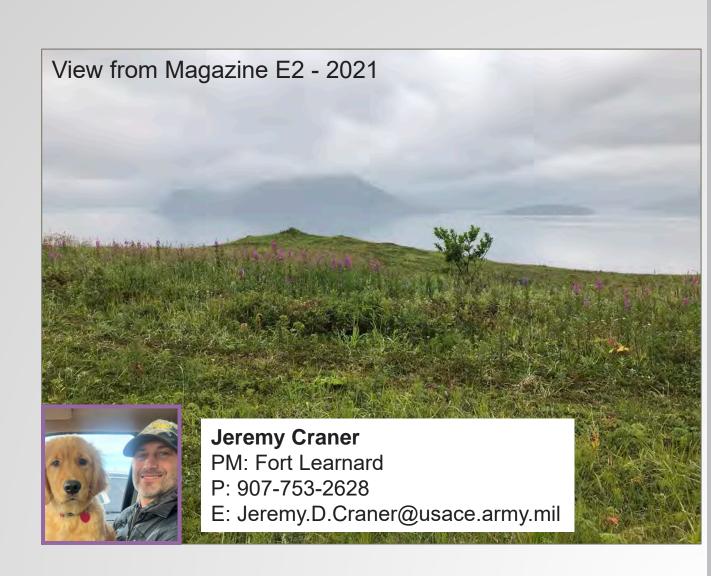




# **FORT LEARNARD** U.S. ARMY MAGAZINES E2 & J DETONATION - CERCLA



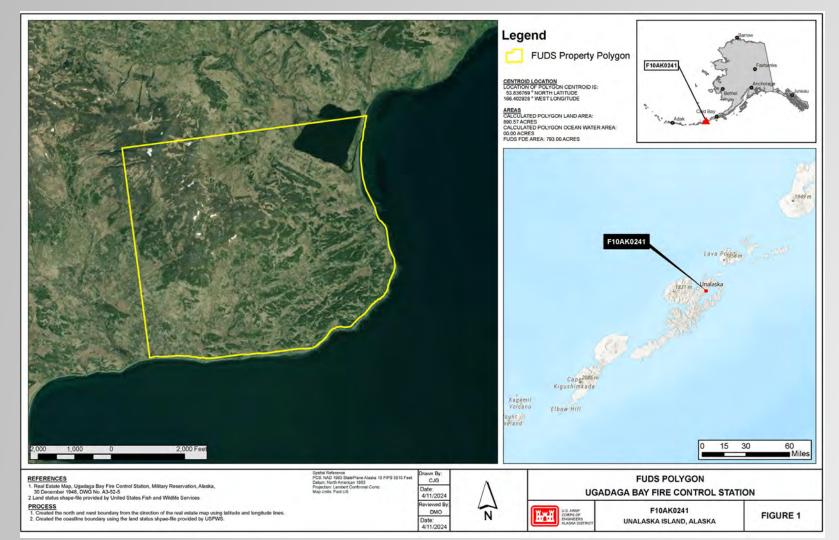
- Remedial Investigation (RI), Feasibility Study (FS), Proposed Plan (PP), and Record of Decision (ROD).
- Systematic Project Planning (SPP) #4 meeting conducted on April 9, 2024. Public Meeting TBD
- RI planned for 2024 summer field season. Field work started in early May 2024 with road improvements. Geophysical transects on foot then via drone to follow. All work conducted following proper safety protocols and field oversight.
- Stay tuned for updates and additional information. RAB will be updated as work progresses and events are formally scheduled.



# **U.S. ARMY**

# **UGADAGA BAY FUDS**





**Taylor Borgfeldt** RAB USACE Co-Chair

PM: Amaknak, Ugadaga

P: 907-753-2798

E: Taylor.M.Borgfeldt@usace.army.mil



### AMAKNAK FUDS – ACTIVE WORK



- **Amaknak Proj 03 Pre-WWII Tank Farms** 
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Periodic Review Finalized
  - 3rd Periodic Review Draft to Stakeholders ~27 May
- Amaknak Proj 09 Range Complex No. 1
  - Historical analysis in progress
- **Amaknak Proj 13 Unalaska Valley** 
  - Field work September 2024 decommission (remove, close) groundwater sampling wells
- Amaknak Proj 15 and 20 Summer Bay-Humpy Cove and Little South America
  - Work Plan for field work finalized
  - Site visit done April 2024
  - Field work June to October 2024
    - Soil excavation, install groundwater monitoring wells, soil and groundwater water sampling, well decommissioning

**Taylor Borgfeldt** RAB USACE Co-Chair

PM: Amaknak, Ugadaga

P: 907-753-2798

E: Taylor.M.Borgfeldt@usace.army.mil





# **AMAKNAK FUDS – PRIORITY RANKING REQUEST**



Proj#	Project Name	Status	In Progress	Priority
03	Pre-WWII Tank Farms	Long-term monitoring with periodic reviews 3 <sup>rd</sup> Per. Rev. Draft to Stakeholders ~27 May	X	n/a
09	Range Complex No. 1	Historical analysis in draft (MMRP site)	x	HIGH
New Pro	jects Delineated in 2020			
13	Unalaska Valley	Removal action, soil and groundwater sampling complete. Decommission wells summer 2024	X	1
14	Pyramid Valley/ Port Levashef			?
15	Summer Bay-Humpy Cove	Field work summer 2024	X	2 and 3
16	Margaret Bay/ Airport			?
17	Museum of the Aleutians			?
18	Mt Ballyhoo			?
19	Ballyhoo Spit			?
20	Little South America	Field work summer 2024	X	2 and 3



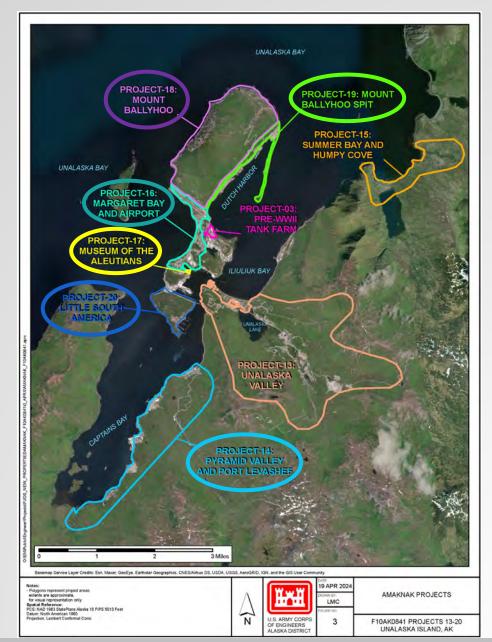
# **AMAKNAK FUDS – PRIORITY RANKING REQUEST**



# All remaining sites are petroleum aside from 2 MMRP/CWM

Proj#	Project Name	Priority
14	Pyramid Valley / Port Levashef	
16	Margaret Bay / Airport	
17	Museum of the Aleutians	
18	Mt Ballyhoo	
19	Ballyhoo Spit	

Projects are prioritized based on relative risk and other factors such as community concerns





# **QUESTIONS?**





**Melinda Brunner** 

PM: Chernofski P: 907-753-2855

E: Melinda.S.Brunner@usace.army.mil



**Forrest Kranda** 

PM: Cape Wislow P: 907-753-2736

E: Forrest.J.Kranda@usace.army.mil



**Jeremy Craner** 

PM: Fort Learnard P: 907-753-2628

E: Jeremy.D.Craner@usace.army.mil



**Taylor Borgfeldt** 

RAB USACE Co-Chair PM: Amaknak, Ugadaga

P: 907-753-2798

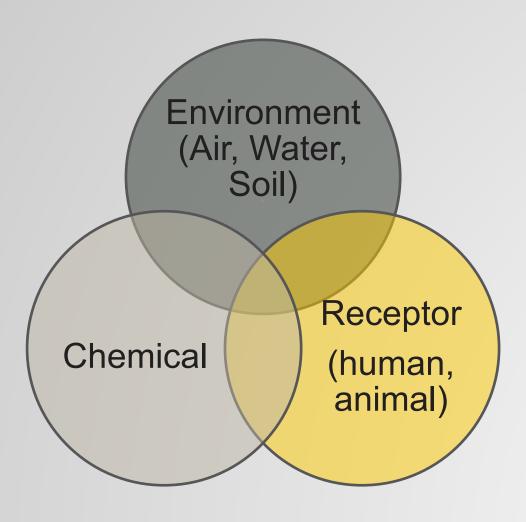
E: Taylor.M.Borgfeldt@usace.army.mil





# TO HAVE RISK, THERE MUST BE AN EXPOSURE PATHWAY







# ROUTES OF EXPOSURE







Ingestion



Injection

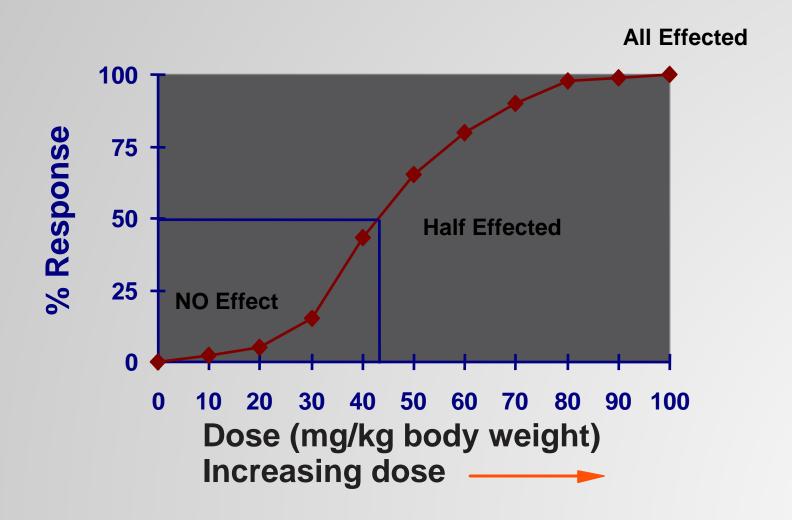


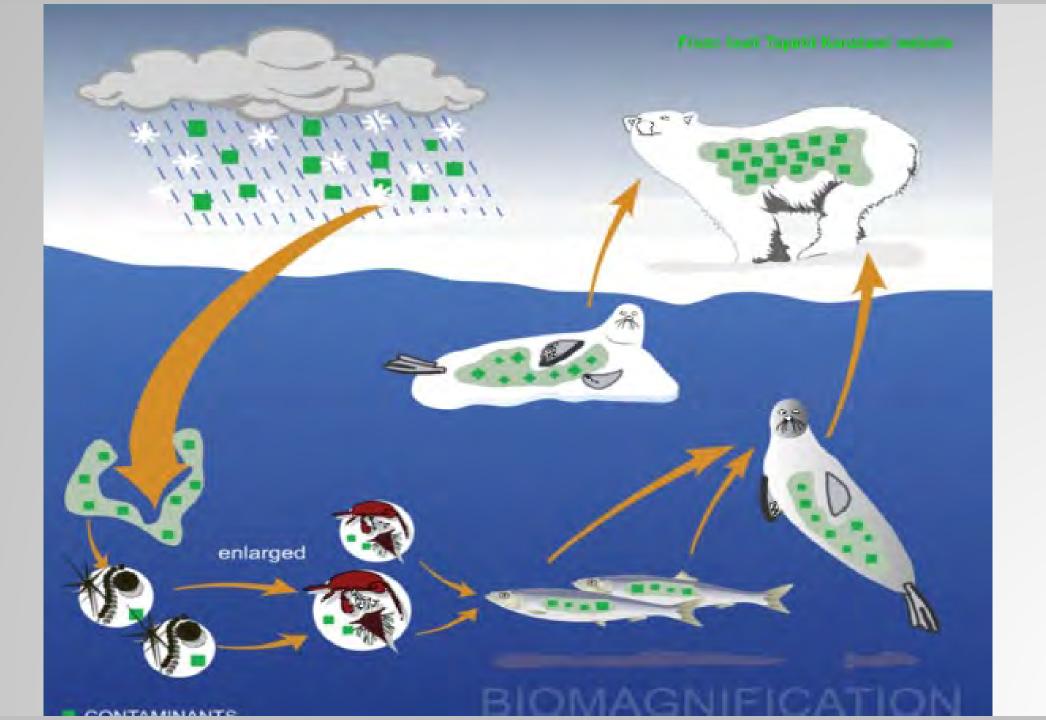
Skin



## THE RISK OF A HEALTH EFFECT DEPENDS ON THE DOSE THAT GETS INTO YOUR BODY











# WHERE DOES THE CHEMICAL WANT TO GO IN THE ENVIRONMENT?

"Like goes to like"
Some chemicals love water
Other chemicals love fat
Some chemicals stick strongly to
soil and won't budge from it



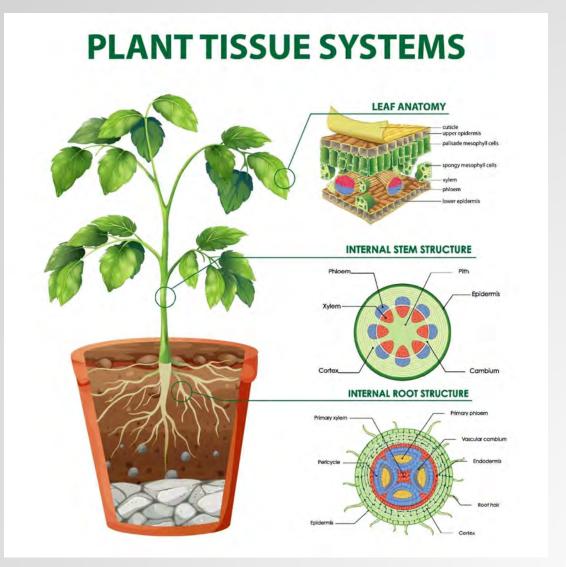


#### WHAT ABOUT PLANTS?



Some chemicals taken up through leaves or roots Roots take up water and minerals Waxy layer of cuticle on leaf -Fat-loving chemicals can cross more easily Xylem & phloem are distribution

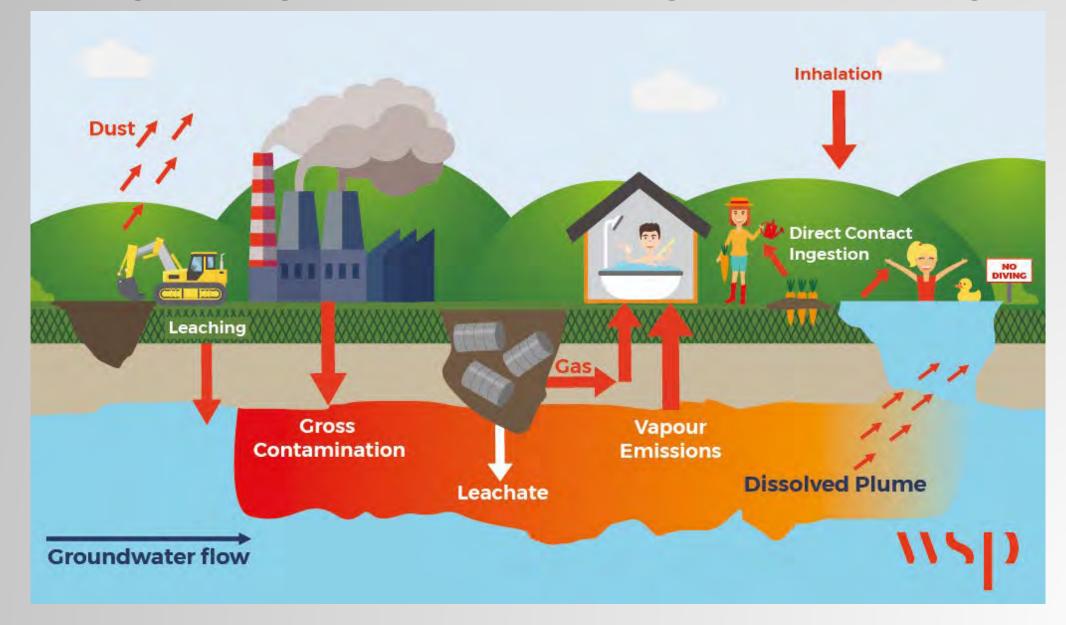
system Chemicals on dust may land on plants

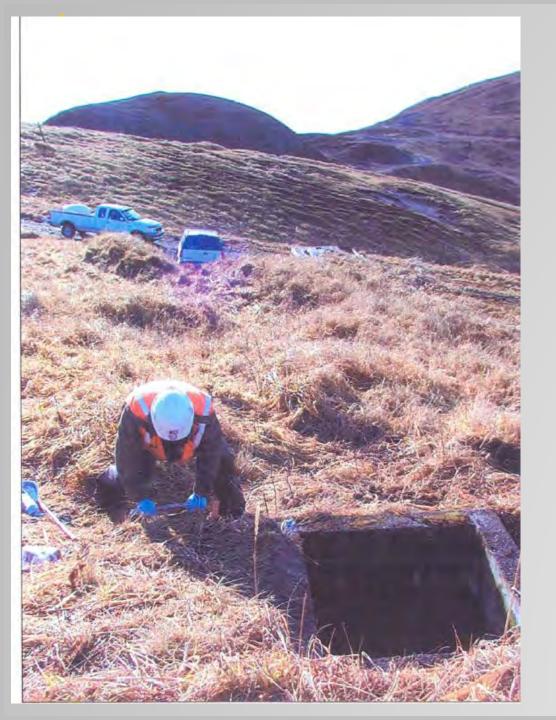


www.vecteezy.com

## EXAMPLE OF A CONCEPTUAL SITE MODEL U.S. ARMY EVERY SITE HAS DIFFERENT DETAILS AND PATHWAYS!







## ARE MY SUBSISTENCE FOODS IMPACTED BY CONTAMINANTS? ASK...



What chemical is there, and where is it?

- If soil…how deep?
- If groundwater.... Does the groundwater interact with surface water, or the ground surface? How deep is it?
- Which subsistence resources am I concerned about?
- Is there a pathway for the chemical to get into my subsistence food?

How much of the chemical is there?





#### I WOULD BE HAPPY TO **DISCUSS YOUR SPECIFIC CONCERNS ABOUT** SUBSISTENCE RESOURCES **AND RISK, AT ANY TIME!**



#### Lori Verbrugge

Toxicologist/Risk Assessor

P: 907-753-2847

E: Lori.A. Verbrugge@usace.army.mil

If you have questions, please consider attending our Open House tomorrow (14 May)!

We will be at the Library from 12 – 2 PM.

Virtual option available!



#### 7:00-7:05 BREAK

Reminder to provide feedback in polls (in-person or virtual)



## 7:05 – 7:10 REVISE/ADOPT NOVEMBER AND FEBRUARY MINUTES

- Revise/ Adopt November 8, 2023 Minutes
- Revise/ Adopt February 21, 2024 Minutes

#### 7:10 – 7:45 REVIEW AND REVISE RAB OPERATING



#### March 1, 2023 RAB Operating Procedures:

Review Responsibilities of RAB

**PROCEDURES** 

- Review Meeting Frequency
  - > **VOTE 1**: Quarterly meetings or revise?
- RAB Members/Recruitment
  - Review Responsibilities of USACE Chair (7.a)
  - Review Responsibilities of Community Chairs (7.b)
  - RAB Tri-Chair (4.b)
    - > **VOTE 2**: Review number of community chairs. Tri-chair or revise to co-chair?
    - > **VOTE 3**: Election of Community Chairs (Co- or Tri-)
  - Review Responsibilities of RAB Community Members (7.c)
  - Call for Nominations for Local Youth Seat
  - Replacing Absent Members (5.c)
    - VOTE 4: Replace absent members with new members?



#### 7:45 – 7:55 REVIEW NEXT MEETING DATES

#### Proposed Next Meeting Dates:

- Monday July 29
- Wednesday July 31
- Monday August 5
- Wednesday August 7

#### Keep in mind:

- Coordinate with Camp Qungaayux end July, early August
- 4<sup>th</sup> week of every month City Council, OC Board, and Q Tribe Council meetings
- Any other conflicts?



#### 7:55 - 8:00 OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Announcements
- Unplanned Items
- Open Discussion
- Recap of Old Business/New Business



#### **FUDS CONTACT INFORMATION**





Melinda Brunner

PM: Chernofski P: 907-753-2855

E: Melinda.S.Brunner@usace.army.mil



**Forrest Kranda** 

PM: Cape Wislow P: 907-753-2736

E: Forrest.J.Kranda@usace.army.mil



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PM. Fort Learnard P: 907-753-2628

E: Jeremy.D.Craner@usace.army.mil



#### **Taylor Borgfeldt**

RAB USACE Co-Chair PM: Amaknak, Ugadaga

P: 907-753-2798

E: Taylor.M.Borgfeldt@usace.army.mil



#### Lori Verbrugge

Toxicologist/Risk Assessor

P: 907-753-2847

E: Lori.A. Verbrugge@usace.army.mil



#### **USACE- Alaska District Public Affairs Office**

P: 907-753-2520

E: Public.Affairs3@usace.army.mil



- U.S. ARMY
  - FUDS Open House tomorrow, 14 May, 12-2 pm! Unalaska Library!
  - Fort Learnard engagement efforts
  - Cape Wislow Draft Field Sampling Report
  - Amaknak Proj 13 Unalaska Valley 3<sup>rd</sup> Periodic Review Draft
  - Find the RAB documentation here:
    - > http://www.poa.usace.army.mil/Library/Reports-and-Studies/
    - > Find 'Documents Available for Public Review'
    - > Expand 'Environmental Cleanup'
    - ➤ Look for 'Qawalangin RAB...' documents or Amaknak RAB for older documents



#### SUPPLEMENTAL SLIDES