PROPOSED PLAN
Military Munitions Response Program, Firing-in-Buttress (MRS SR002), Hancock Field Air National Guard Base, Syracuse, New York

1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Public Comment Period:
23 October – 22 November 2020
The ANG will accept written comments on the Proposed Plan. Requests for a public meeting shall be forwarded to Nicole Wireman, at nicole.wireman.1@us.af.mil by 8 November 2020

Public Meeting:
If requested, ANG, USACE, NYSDEC and NYSDOH will hold a public meeting at the Robert P. Kinchen Central Library to explain the Proposed Plan and answer questions. Oral and written comments will also be accepted at this meeting.

The Air National Guard (ANG) invites public review and comment on this **Proposed Plan** for No Further Action (NFA) under the **Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)** for the Firing-in-Buttress (FIB) Munitions Response Site (MRS) SR002 at the Hancock Field ANG Base (hereinafter referred to as Hancock Field) Syracuse, New York (Figures 1 and 2). Terms in bolded text are defined in the glossary on page 12.

The ANG is issuing this Proposed Plan as part of the public participation responsibilities under Section 117(a) of CERCLA, as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act, and the **National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP)** 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 300.430(f)(2) (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency [EPA] 1990).

The purpose of this Proposed Plan is to facilitate public involvement in the remedy selection process, provide basic background information about the preferred alternative for Hancock Field, the rationale for selecting the preferred alternative, and summarize the other alternatives considered. Final acceptance of this Proposed Plan is reserved until the conclusion of the public comment period and regulatory review of the ANG's **responsiveness summary**. The ANG (site owner) is the lead agency for this site and will select the final remedial action for this site and issue a **Record of Decision**.

Comments on this Proposed Plan will be documented in the Record of Decision for Hancock Field, which will set forth the final actions chosen for the site. The selection of the final remedial action is being conducted in consultation with the State of New York, represented by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH).

This Proposed Plan summarizes information that can be found in greater detail in the Comprehensive Site Evaluation (CSE) Phase I Report (Innovative Technical Solutions, Inc. [ITS] and Shaw Environmental, Inc. [Shaw] 2009), CSE Phase II Report (Sky Research, Inc. [Sky] 2012), Final Non-Time Critical Removal Action (NTCRA) Site-Specific Final Report (SSFR) (ANG 2016), and Final NTCRA SSFR (EA Engineering, P.C., and its affiliate EA Science and Technology [EA] 2020) for Hancock Field, as well as other reports contained in the **Administrative Record**. The 2016 (ANG 2016) and 2020 (EA 2020) NTCRA SSFRs are hereafter referred to as first NTCRA (2016) and 2020 second NTCRA (2020). The public is encouraged to review these documents to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the history and environmental activities conducted at Hancock Field.

As per 40 CFR 300.800(a) of the NCP, the Administrative Record contains the documents that form the basis for the selection of the response action. This Record, which includes the information relied on to develop the remedial alternatives, including the preferred alternative, is available for public review at the locations listed at right, as well as online using the following steps.

1. Go to https://ar.afcec-cloud.af.mil
2. Click on the Air National Guard radio button
3. Select "Hancock Field ANG Base, NY" in the "Installation List"
4. Click "Search".

The Hancock Field (FIB warrants No Further Action based on the results of the CSE Phase I (ITS and Shaw 2009) and II (Sky 2012) Reports, the first NTCRA (ANG 2016), and the second NTCRA (EA 2020). No adverse impacts to environmental media and no unacceptable risk to human health or ecological receptors have been identified. Hancock Field FIB soil meets Unlimited Use (UU)/Unrestricted Exposure (UE) criteria for lead (63 mg/kg) and copper (50 mg/kg) (NYSDEC 2006).

A 30-day public comment period will be held from 23 October to 22 November 2020. The public comment period may include a public meeting, if requested, during which the ANG, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), NYSDEC, and NYSDOH will present information and answer questions related to the site.

Based on new information that becomes available, or public comments, the ANG, in consultation with NYSDEC and NYSDOH, may modify the remedial alternative outlined within this Proposed Plan. Therefore, the public is encouraged to review and comment on the alternative discussed within this document.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Hancock Field, as shown in Figure 1, is located south of and adjacent to the Syracuse Hancock International Airport, approximately 5 miles north of the City of Syracuse in Onondaga County, New York. The installation's mission is to maintain well-trained, well-equipped units available for prompt mobilization during war and to provide assistance during national emergencies (i.e., natural disasters or civil disturbances). During peacetime, the combat-ready and support units are assigned to most United States Air Force (USAF) major commands to carry out missions compatible with training, mobilization readiness, and humanitarian and contingency operations. Mission-related activities include vehicle, aircraft, and runway maintenance; fueling operations; and military training operations (USACE–Omaha District 2013).

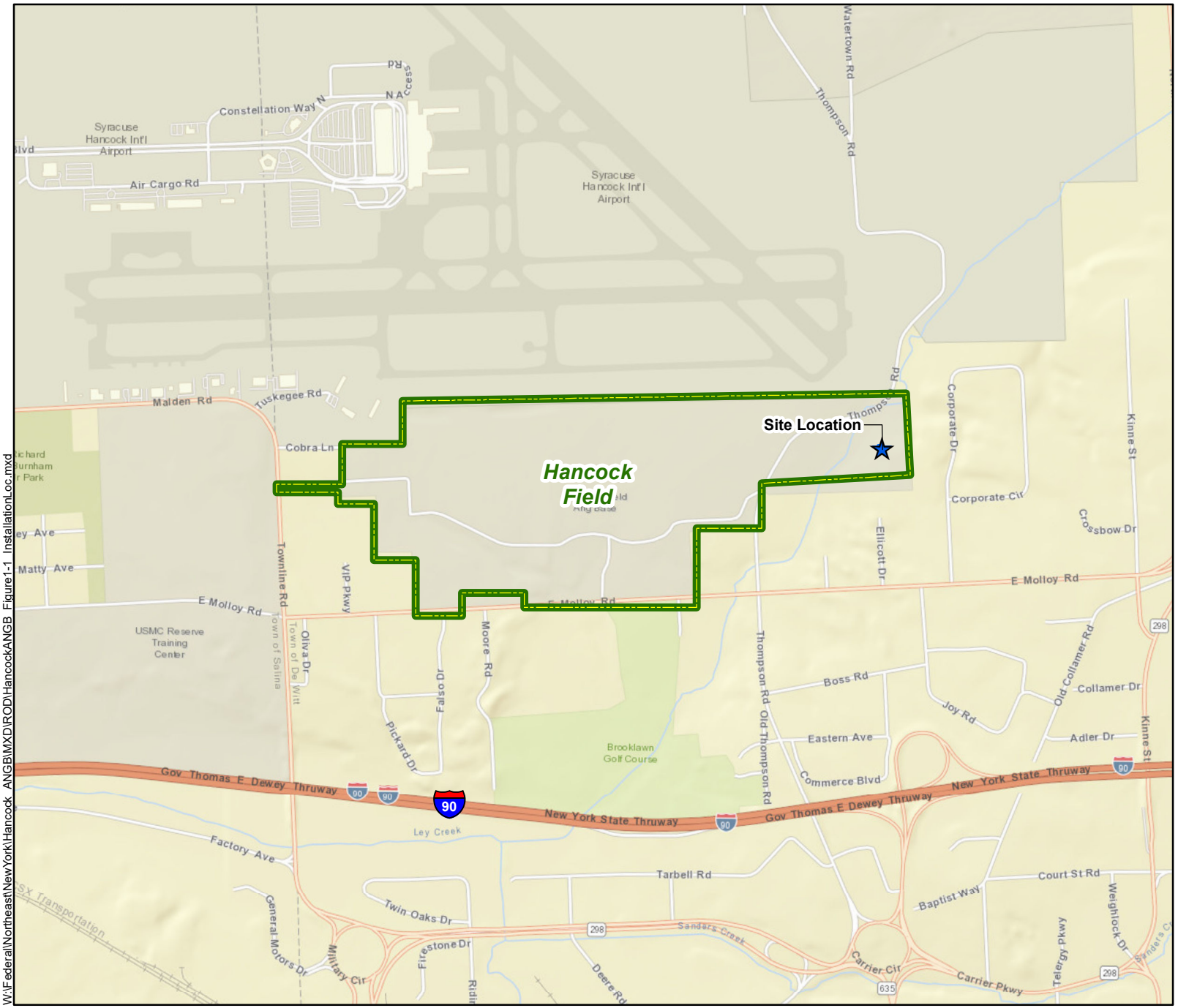
Administrative Record File/Information Repository:

Air National Guard
Sheppard Hall
3501 Fetchet Avenue
Joint Base Andrews, MD
20762-5157

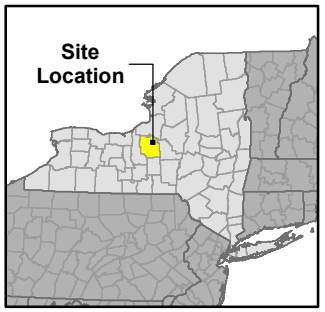
Onondaga County Public Library
Robert P. Kinchen Central Library
447 South Salina Street
Syracuse, New York 13202
315-435-1900

Hours (may vary due to COVID-19 concerns):
Monday, Thursday, and Friday
8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday and Wednesday
8:30 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Saturday
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Sunday – Closed

Currently, Hancock Field is home to the 174th Attack Wing of the New York ANG. The 174th Attack Wing began as the 138th Fighter Squadron on 28 October 1947. In 1962, the 138th Fighter Squadron was officially renamed the 147th Tactical Fighter Group. In 1979, there was a status change from Tactical Fighter Group to Tactical Fighter



VICINITY MAP



Legend

Installation Boundary

Data Sources:
ESRI 2012

Map Date: 2/17/2020

N

0 1,000 2,000

Feet

Figure 1
Installation Location
Hancock Field
Syracuse, New York

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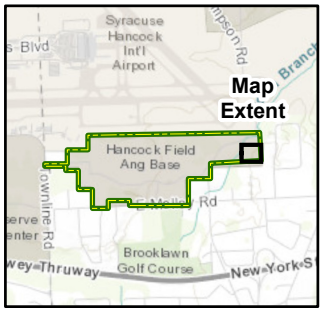
VICINITY MAP



Legend

- Firing-In Buttress Structure
- MRS SR002
- Installation Boundary

Data Sources:
Google Earth 2015

Map Date: 6/26/2020

N

0 50 100

Feet

Figure 2
Firing-In-Butress (MRS SR002) Location Map
Hancock ANGB
Syracuse, New York

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Wing. In 1992, the Tactical Fighter Wing was re-designated the 174th Fighter Wing. In 2012, the 174th Fighter Wing was renamed as the 174th Attack Wing. Aircraft historically utilized by the unit include the P-47D Thunderbolt, F-84B Thunderjet, F-86H Sabre, A-10A Thunderbolt II, and F-16A Fighting Falcon (USACE–Omaha District 2013).

The installation currently encompasses approximately 357 acres and consists of several buildings and operational facilities. It is divided into two tracts of land: Tract II and Tract III. Tract III encompasses approximately 270 acres and includes MRS SR002. Both tracts are owned by the USAF (fee-owned) with a license to New York State for ANG use. The City of Syracuse owns the land bordering Tract II and the land north of Tract III (USACE–Omaha District 2013).

The FIB located at Hancock Field, MRS SR002, encompasses approximately 0.1 acre of land within the Town of Dewitt, NY (currently zoned for Industrial Use), and included the former FIB structure and the soil contained within the structure. The structure was comprised of concrete with an interior and front face covered in wood timbers.

The exterior was covered with grass sod and vegetation. The opening of the structure was approximately 15 feet (ft) high by 80 ft wide by 25 ft deep. The inside of the structure contained the soil impact berm.

The intended use of the FIB was as a backstop and safety berm to clear jammed rounds from aircraft gun systems. It was also used by F-86 aircraft for test firings of gun systems and boresight alignment, which reportedly included the use of Small Arms Ammunition (SAA) of various caliber (up to 0.50-caliber). Based on the munitions debris (MD) observed in the FIB, aircraft may have also fired 20-millimeter (mm) target practice projectiles and 3.5-inch (in.) rockets. The FIB has been inactive since 1976 (USACE–Omaha District 2013).

2.1 Site Characteristics

The FIB has been inactive since 1976 and much of the airbase has been converted to civilian use as the Syracuse Hancock International Airport. No structures are occupied by personnel within MRS SR002.

The climate at Hancock Field is mild during summer and very cold during winter with abundant precipitation. Monthly mean high temperature ranges from 31 degrees Fahrenheit (°F) in January to 82°F in July. Monthly mean low temperature ranges from 15°F in January to 60°F in July. Average annual precipitation is approximately 38.3 in. Annual mean snowfall is approximately 107.1 in. (USACE– Omaha District 2013).

Hancock Field is located within the Ontario-Mohawk Lowland Region of the Central Lowland Physiographic Province. This province has a relatively flat topography created by glacial erosion and deposition during the Wisconsin Glaciation. The installation is part of an area of flat lowlands situated between Lake Ontario and the Onondaga Escarpment in Syracuse, New York. Topography across the installation rises gradually from approximately 385 ft above mean sea level at the southeast end of the installation to approximately 425 ft above mean sea level at the west-northwest part of the installation (USACE–Omaha District 2013).

Soils are composed of silts with varying amounts of clay and fine to medium sand. Specifically, soils within the wood structure at the FIB (MRS SR002) consist primarily of sandy soils. Subsurface soils beneath the berm consist of Ontario loam (EA and USACE-Omaha District 2016).

Hancock Field is located in an area of flat lowlands between Lake Ontario and the Onondaga Escarpment. Multiple layers underlie the Base, including unconsolidated lake sediments from 0 to 50 ft below ground surface (bgs), glacial till from 50 to 100 ft bgs, and sedimentary bedrock beneath the till. The lake sediments are

composed of silts with varying amounts of clay and fine to medium sand. The glacial till is composed of gravel and large cobbles in a silty clay matrix. The sedimentary bedrock consists of shale and siltstone of the Vernon Formation (USACE–Omaha District 2013). The lake sediments contain an unconfined, non-sole-source water table aquifer that is several feet below ground surface. Due to low yield resulting from low transmissivity, the aquifer is not a suitable source of potable water. A confined aquifer is found in the bedrock below the glacial till. The glacial till layer serves as a barrier to vertical groundwater migration between the overlying lake sediments and underlying sedimentary bedrock. There is a strong upward flow potential between the confined bedrock aquifer and the unconfined water table aquifer (USACE–Omaha District 2013). Groundwater may be encountered 3 ft bgs at the FIB (MRS SR002) (USACE–Omaha District 2013).

Hancock Field and its surrounding areas contain naturally occurring swamps and poorly drained areas. These natural lowlands and swamps have been drastically altered by development of this area into its current use as a transportation center and military facility. There are mapped wetlands located in the southern and eastern areas of the installation. In general, surface drainage near the FIB (MRS SR002) is south-southeast toward the North Branch of Ley Creek (USACE–Omaha District 2013).

2.2 History of Site Investigations

2.2.1 Investigations

In support of the Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP) at Hancock Field, a CSE Phase I was completed in 2009 to identify potential Munitions Response Areas (MRAs), evaluate actual or potential releases of Munitions Constituents (MC) to the environment, and to evaluate associated targets of concern. The CSE Phase I investigated 10 potential MRAs at Hancock Field, including the FIB (SR002) MRA. Based on the findings of the CSE Phase I, it was determined that there was no evidence of MC releases that would warrant immediate action. However, a potential for environmental impacts from MC was identified. NFA or transfer to the Formerly Used Defense Sites Program was recommended for the remaining 8 MRAs.

The CSE Phase I identified lead, copper, and iron as the primary MCs of concern at MRA SR002. Additionally, a 3.5 in. high explosive anti-tank (HEAT) M28A2 rocket was identified at the FIB, which resulted in explosives being included as contaminants of concern. It was recommended that a CSE Phase II be conducted to assess the potential for environmental release of MC (USACE–Omaha District 2013). Lead accounts for approximately 85% by weight of typical projectiles (ITRC 2003) and is the most pervasive constituent driving small arms range cleanup efforts, lead concentrations in soil were used to define the extent of contamination during the CSE Phase II (Sky 2012). Copper is likely from use in bullet jackets and can constitute upwards of 30% of typical small arms munitions by weight.

Based on the recommendations from the CSE Phase I, a CSE Phase II was conducted in 2010. The objectives of the CSE Phase II were to determine whether releases of MC to the environment had occurred and if there was a need for an emergency response and/or other munitions response actions. The CSE Phase II activities were conducted between 8 and 17 September 2010, and included visual surveys, ex situ X-ray fluorescence (XRF) analysis of surface and subsurface soil, a **human health risk assessment (HHRA)**, and an ecological risk assessment. Although Ley Creek runs through MRA SR002, creek sediment and surface water were disqualified as media of concern as a result of this investigation, due to MC concentrations below UU/UE criteria reported in all soil samples collected adjacent to the creek (Sky 2012). Lead soil concentrations were utilized to delineate the extent of contamination. Samples were not analyzed for explosives during the CSE Phase II because significant evidence of MEC use was not identified during the visual survey and the rocket found at the FIB did not constitute a significant

enough source to warrant sampling. Sky (2012) performed a correlation analysis between field XRF readings and laboratory concentrations of lead in soil to modify the XRF screening level to more accurately predict laboratory results based on XRF readings collected in the field. It was determined that an XRF screening level of 261 mg/kg lead would correlate to a laboratory result of 400 mg/kg (residential use standard for lead in soil). Three samples exceeded the modified screening level for lead of 261 mg/kg; these samples were located within and at the center of the FIB. A screening level HHRA and screening-level ecological risk assessment indicated that lead concentrations were not likely to present a significant human health risk under a residential land use scenario. However, the assessment concluded that lead was present at concentrations that exceeded the ecological risk screening criterion intended to be protective of soil invertebrates, plants, and wildlife.

Evidence of small arms use was observed during the visual inspection at SR002, including blank 5.56-mm casings, plastic small arms 5.56-mm magazine, and 0.50-caliber steel cores. In addition, 20-mm target practice MD and a rocket spacer were observed. Although the CSE Phase I identified explosives as a contaminant of concern due to the identification of the 3.5-in. HEAT rocket, samples were not analyzed for explosives during the CSE Phase II because no other evidence of Munitions and Explosives of Concern (MEC) was observed and did not constitute a significant enough source to warrant sampling.

XRF samples were collected and analyzed for lead at MRA SR002. Results are described in detail in the CSE Phase II Report (Sky 2012).

Based on the results of the CSE Phase II, MRA SR002 was divided into two MRSs. Further munitions response was recommended for approximately 0.1 acre, designated as MRS SR002. It also recommended NFA for approximately 5.7 acres, designated as MRS SR002a (USACE-Omaha District 2013). This Proposed Plan refers to SR002 only, as SR002a is a separate MRS, which achieved site closure in 2013.

2.2.2 Removal Actions

An Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) (ANG 2013a) and subsequent Action Memorandum (AM) (ANG 2013b) were prepared recommending NTCRA, to include excavation and offsite disposal of soil exceeding residential use standards for lead and copper. Reduction of human health risks and elimination of MC migration potential from soil to other site media were identified as remedial action objectives (ANG 2016).

The first NTCRA to remove high lead and copper concentrations from soil in the FIB (MRS SR002) was completed between 16 June 2014 and 22 August 2014. Soils with lead concentrations exceeding 400 mg/kg and/or copper concentrations exceeding 270 mg/kg (residential use standards; NYSDEC 2006) were excavated for offsite disposal. Excavation extent and confirmatory sample results are detailed in the 2016 NTCRA SSFR (ANG 2016).

No MEC were identified during the first NTCRA. At SR002, approximately 600 lb of M55A2 20-mm target practice projectiles and a ballistic nose cone from a 3.5-in. HEAT rocket were recovered. All MD discovered during the NTCRA was certified as material documented as safe and transported offsite for recycling (ANG 2016).

Upon completion of the first NTCRA for lead and copper in soil at the FIB (MRS SR002), the MEC hazard assessment tool was completed to assess the potential exposure hazard to MEC at the FIB. The first NTCRA for MRS SR002 concluded that since no MEC were identified at MRSs during the NTCRA, it confirmed historical conclusions that only small arms and inert 20-mm target practice projectiles were used at the MRSs. Therefore, there is no potential explosive hazard associated with MEC at the FIB (MRS SR002). Groundwater at MRS SR002 reported regulatory exceedances of total iron in 2 of the 4 samples collected (all

other MCs, including lead and copper, were below regulatory standards), which was attributed to the high turbidity observed in the wells. Dissolved MCs reported below regulatory criteria for all analytes in each sample (ANG 2016).

A site visit, documented as a Memorandum for Record (MFR) dated 28 April 2015, was conducted by USACE–Omaha District to inspect the MRS and evaluate the potential of the MRS to contain MEC following completion of the first NTCRA. During the site visit, it was confirmed that the soil inside the FIB structure contained 20-mm target practice projectiles and small arms up to 0.50-caliber. Based on the analog magnetometer survey conducted during the site visit, the MFR concluded that it is unlikely that an intact 3.5-in. rocket or warhead is present inside the FIB structure, and that the wooden structure can be expected to contain 20-mm target practice projectiles, 0.50-caliber projectiles, and fragmentation from 3.5-in. rockets. The MFR recommended the MRS be classified as a low probability site regarding the potential to encounter MEC (Schneider and Kochefko 2015).

An EE/CA (EA and USACE–Omaha District 2016) for Hancock Field was developed to identify the objectives of the removal action; evaluate the effectiveness, implementability, and cost of various alternatives that may satisfy these objectives; and identify the recommended action for the FIB (MRS SR002).

The removal action alternative recommended by the EE/CA, presented as Alternative 3, was a second NTCRA to remove all debris associated with the FIB at MRS SR002. This recommendation was based on results of screening and detailed analysis of alternatives presented in the EE/CA. Although the MRS is considered industrial, the alternative allows for residential use.

Subsequent to the EE/CA, an AM (ANG 2018) was developed to present the selected alternative for the MRS at Hancock Field. The purpose of the AM was to request and document approval of the selected NTCRA (removal of all debris associated with the FIB). The AM concluded that the conditions at Hancock Field meet the NCP criteria for an NTCRA and recommended the approval of an NTCRA.

The second NTCRA for the FIB (MRS SR002) was completed in April 2019. A surface inspection was conducted, and debris was removed over accessible areas of the FIB. Vegetation and soil was removed from the top and sides of the FIB structure exterior and stockpiled for characterization. Impact berm soil located within the FIB was removed and placed into a portable vibratory screen to sift out any MEC, MC, or SAA. Debris that did not pass through the sifter was visually inspected by Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) Technicians. Subsequently, the wood lining of the FIB was inspected for explosive hazards (none were found) and embedded 20-mm target practice projectiles, which were removed by UXO Technicians using hand tools. A composite sample of the timbers removed from the FIB structure returned lead concentrations of 330 mg/kg, which is below the New York Residential Screening Level (400 mg/kg), allowing the timbers to be disposed of as construction debris at the Seneca Meadows Landfill. A mag and dig operation followed, clearing detected magnetic subsurface anomalies from the FIB interior floor. Composite samples were collected from the excavated FIB soil after soil sifting was complete and analyzed for lead and copper (EPA SW846 Method 6010B) as well as Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) metals to determine if soils are hazardous or non-hazardous, and soil from the floor of the FIB was screened using XRF. All soil samples reported lead and copper concentrations below UU/UE standards. The FIB structure was demolished, and soil removed from the FIB was used to regrade and restore the site, as it met Residential Use Standards. Field activities and results for the second NTCRA are detailed in the 2020 NTCRA SSFR (EA 2020).

2.2.3 Nature and Extent of Contamination

The presence of MC, and SAA at the Hancock

Field FIB (MRS SR002) was due to historical use for test firing of aircraft weaponry. Historical investigations and removal actions at the FIB have uncovered 20-mm and 0.50-caliber projectiles, and 3.5-inch rocket fragments in soil and timber. No MEC was found and no MC-related contamination is currently present in excess of UU/UE criteria at MRS SR002 (EA 2020).

2.2.4 Munitions and Explosives of Concern Exposure Pathway Analysis

During the CSE Phase II, and later during the first NTCRA, USACE site visit of SR002, and second NTCRA, no MEC were identified on the surface of the impact berm. Therefore, surface MEC exposure pathways for all receptors, including construction worker, trespasser, and future resident, are incomplete. Based on the MD observed from the 3.5-in. rocket fragment subsurface MEC exposure pathways for the construction worker and future resident were considered potentially complete (USACE–Omaha District 2013). However, no MEC was discovered in the subsurface soil during the second NTCRA, and MEC exposure pathways are considered incomplete for all potential current and future receptors.

2.2.5 Munitions Constituents Exposure Pathway Analysis

Evidence of small caliber munitions and MC-contaminated soil was identified at MRS SR002 during the CSE Phase I and II investigations. During the first NTCRA, soils impacted by munitions-related metals (i.e., lead and copper) were excavated from MRS SR002, and composite samples taken from soils within the FIB during the second NTCRA were all below residential use standards. Because MC-impacted soils were excavated from the MRS, and no MCs are currently present in excess of UU/UE standards, MC exposure pathways for all receptors are incomplete.

2.3 Summary of Site Risks

Soil is considered the only medium of concern for MC impacts at MRS SR002, as previous investigations and removal actions have demonstrated that MEC is not present at the site and groundwater, surface water, and sediment meet regulatory standards and contamination pathways are considered incomplete (Sky 2012, ANG 2016).

An investigation of potential MEC and MC contamination at the FIB (SR002) MRA was completed during the CSE Phase I and II investigations. During the CSE Phase I, a 3.5-in. rocket (HEAT, M28A2) was found embedded in the FIB structure. During the CSE Phase II, survey teams observed MD consisting of one spacer from a 3.5-in. rocket (HEAT, M28A2) and 20-mm target practice debris in soil directly in front of the revetment. While sampling in the FIB revetment, 0.50-caliber debris was also identified. The FIB (MRS SR002) was historically used as a boresight range, so although 20-mm practice projectiles (that contain no high explosives) were observed at the MRS, it was determined unlikely that 20-mm high explosives were used at the MRS. During the MFR site visit, it was confirmed that soil inside the FIB structure contained 20-mm target practice projectiles and 0.50-caliber projectiles. It was determined unlikely that an intact 3.5-in. rocket or warhead is present inside the FIB structure, and that the wooden structure can be expected to contain 20-mm target practice projectiles, 0.50-caliber projectiles, and fragmentation from 3.5-in. rockets (USACE–Omaha District 2013). Sampling results from the second NTCRA indicate no MEC presence and no MC concentrations above residential use criteria, and therefore do not pose an unacceptable human health risk (EA 2020). Also, there is no unacceptable ecological risk related to MEC or MCs at MRS SR002. No MEC was identified at the Site and all confirmation soil samples collected during the second NTCRA reported MC concentrations below NYCRR Part 375 Restricted Use Soil Cleanup Objectives - Protection of

Ecological Resources standards (Lead: 63 mg/kg, Copper: 50 mg/kg; NYSDEC 2006) (EA 2020).

3. SCOPE AND ROLE OF THE RESPONSE ACTION

This Proposed Plan addresses MEC and MC contamination of surface and subsurface soil at Hancock Field in association with the FIB (MRS SR002). Although the western branch of Ley Creek is present at SR002, surface water and sediment are not considered media of concern, as sampling conducted during the CSE Phase II investigation discovered lead concentrations in soils proximal to the creek are below UU/UE standards (Sky 2012). Groundwater is not considered a medium of concern, as groundwater sampling results from the first NTCRA indicate that groundwater has not been impacted by MCs (ANG 2016).

In conjunction with previous investigations and removal actions, the results of the second NTCRA were assessed to determine that the site is no longer impacted by contaminants. Based on the results of the Phase I and II CSE, the first NTCRA (ANG 2016), and the second NTCRA (EA 2020), no unacceptable human health or ecological risk has been identified and Hancock Field SR002 meets UU/UE criteria. It is, therefore, the ANG's judgment that NFA is required to protect public health or welfare and the environment.

4. PREFERRED REMEDIAL ALTERNATIVE

Hancock Field MRS SR002 does not present an unacceptable risk to human health or ecological receptors; therefore, the preferred remedy is No Further Action, which includes no further environmental investigation or remediation. Under the No Further Action alternative, no monitoring, evaluations, or remedial measures would be required.

5. COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Pursuant to 40 CFR 300.430(f)(3)(i) of the NCP, the ANG is soliciting input from the community on the preferred alternative for Hancock Field MRS SR002. A 30-day public comment period will be held from 23 October to 22 November 2020. Anyone desiring a public meeting should contact Nicole Wireman (nicole.wireman.1@us.af.mil) by 8 November 2020. If requested, a public meeting will be held at the Robert P. Kinchen Central Library, where ANG, USACE, NYSDEC, and NYSDOH will present information and answer questions related to the sites. Given the current state of COVID-19, any public meeting, if requested, will be conducted in a safe fashion designed to protect attendees. Additional details regarding the site can be found in the Administrative Record file. The Administrative Record is available for public review online, as described in Section 1, and at the following locations.

Administrative Record File/Information Repository:

Air National Guard
Sheppard Hall
3501 Fetchet Avenue
Joint Base Andrews, MD
20762-5157

Onondaga County Public Library
Robert P. Kinchen Central Library
447 South Salina Street
Syracuse, New York 13202
315-435-1900

Comments on this Proposed Plan will be summarized in the Responsiveness Summary section of the Record of Decision, which is the document that presents the selected remedy.

To send written comments or obtain further information, contact the following representative:

Air National Guard, ATTN: NICOLE WIREMAN
3501 Fetchet Avenue, Joint Base Andrews, MD 20762-5157, nicole.wireman.1@us.af.mil.

Written comments must be postmarked no later than the last day of the public comment period, 22 November 2020.

LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

°F	Degree Fahrenheit
ANG	Air National Guard
AM	Action Memorandum
bgs	Below ground surface
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CSE	Comprehensive Site Evaluation
EA	EA Engineering, P.C. and its affiliate EA Science and Technology
EE/CA	Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
FIB	Firing-in-Buttress
ft	Foot (feet)
HEAT	High Explosive Anti-Tank
HHRA	Human health risk assessment
in.	Inch(es)
ITS	Innovative Technical Solutions, Inc.
lb	Pound(s)
MC	Munitions Constituent
MD	Munitions Debris
MEC	Munitions and Explosives of Concern
MFR	Memorandum for Record
mg/kg	Milligram(s) per kilogram
mm	Millimeter(s)
MMRP	Military Munitions Response Program
MRA	Munitions Response Area
MRS	Munitions Response Site
NCP	National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan
NFA	No Further Action
NYSDEC	New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
NYSDOH	New York State Department of Health
NTCRA	Non-Time Critical Removal Action
SAA	Small Arms Ammunition
SSFR	Site-Specific Final Report
TCLP	Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure
UE	Unrestricted Exposure
USAF	United States Air Force
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
UU	Unlimited Use
UXO	Unexploded Ordnance
XRF	X-Ray Fluorescence

GLOSSARY

Administrative Record—A compilation of all documents relied upon to select a remedial action pertaining to the investigation and remediation of the project site. 40 CFR 300.800.

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)—CERCLA of 1980, as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986, is a law that provides broad federal authority to respond directly to releases or threatened releases of hazardous substances that may endanger public health or the environment. EPA/542/R-92/005.

Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA)—This assessment describes the formal step-by-step scientific process for quantifying health risks to human receptors (residents, workers, and trespassers); thereby, estimating the nature and probability of adverse health effects in humans who may be exposed to chemicals in contaminated environmental media under current or future scenarios. A risk assessment uses standardized tools, formats, and scientifically accepted assumptions. 40 CFR 300.430.

National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP)—A regulation that implements CERCLA, which outlines EPA's national program for response to releases of hazardous substances. The NCP outlines a step-by-step process for conducting both removal and remedial actions. In addition, the NCP defines the roles and responsibilities of EPA, other federal agencies, the states, private parties, and communities in response to situations in which hazardous substances or oil are released into the environment. EPA/542/R-92/005.

Proposed Plan—A document that identifies the alternative that best meets the requirements for selection of the remedy and presents that alternative to the public. The proposed plan briefly describes the remedial alternatives analyzed, proposes a preferred remedial action alternative, and summarizes the information relied upon to select the preferred alternative. 40 CFR 300.430(f)(2).

Record of Decision—Documents the decision to support the selection of a remedial action, to include all facts, analyses of facts, and site-specific policy determinations considered in the course of carrying out activities in this section. The Record of Decision is included in the Administrative Record and explains the evaluation criteria used to select the remedy. 40 CFR 300.430(f)(5).

Residential Use—Land use category that allows a site to be used for any use other than raising livestock or producing animal products for human consumption. Restrictions on the use of groundwater are allowed, but no other institutional or engineering controls are allowed relative to the residential use soil cleanup objectives.

Responsiveness Summary—A written summary of significant comments, criticisms, and new relevant information submitted during the public comment period and the lead agency response to each issue. This responsiveness summary is made available with the Record of Decision. 40 CFR 300.430(f)(3).

Unlimited Use/Unrestricted Exposure—Land use category that allows use without imposed restrictions, such as environmental easements or other land use controls.

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