

**Camp Navajo
Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) Meeting**

Thursday, January 8, 2004
11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Camp Navajo Administration Building
Bellemont, AZ

Minutes

Members in attendance:

Alan Anderson, Coconino National Forest
Tom Britt, community member
Stacy Duffy, ADEQ
Shaula Hedwall, USFWS
Michele James, Grand Canyon Trust
Lee Luedeker, AGFD
Tom Scott, City of Flagstaff
LTC Pete Tosi, Camp Navajo

Interested Parties:

Mylea Bayless, AGFD
Daniel Criswell, ADEMA
Patsy Meehan, Brown & Caldwell
MAJ Bill Myer, Camp Navajo
Tom Parker, ADEMA
Margaret Pisa, Journal of Environmental
Management of AZ
Marty Rozelle, The Rozelle Group

Members absent:

Duane Miller, community member
Randy Wilkinson, NGB

The following acronyms may be used throughout this document

ADEMA	Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs
ADEQ	Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
AGFD	Arizona Game & Fish Department
AZARNG	Arizona Army National Guard
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
FSP	Final Sampling Plan
FWPDBA	Former White Phosphorous Detonation and Burn Area (Chemical Canyon)
MAP	Management Action Plan
MEC	Munitions and Explosives of Concern
NAAD	Navajo Army Depot
NGB	National Guard Bureau
OB/OD	Open Burning/Open Detonation
ORS	Ordnance Related Scrap
QAPP	Quality Assurance Project Plan
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
SAG	Stakeholder Advisory Group
SSHP	Site Safety and Health Plan
USFWS	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
UXO	Unexploded Ordnance

The following matters were discussed, recommended, and/or decided.

1. Welcome, Introductions and Announcements

- KAFF Radio ran several announcements on January 7, 2004 about the upcoming SAG meeting. They interviewed Lee Luedeker.

2. Status of Action Items from November 12, 2003 SAG Meeting

- Stacy Duffy provided copies of a CD, entitled “Environmental Statute Review Course,” produced by the National Enforcement Training Institute, October 1997. Anyone who wants a copy should contact Stacy.
- The final report, “Sampling to Determine Migration and Possible Food Chain Contamination from PCB Contaminated Soil Stockpile,” prepared by Kary Environmental Services, Inc. November 1994, Revised October 1995 is available from Lee.

Action: Lee or Michele James with create an electronic copy of the report and email it to SAG members.

3. Raptor Tagging Program

Mylea Bayless of AGFD presented information on the research program being conducted within the Camp Navajo Installation boundaries. This research focuses on the winter distribution of bald eagles, the perching and foraging characteristics of winter raptors, and the antelope response to low-level helicopter overflights.

Bald eagles

A primary task is to determine how many bald eagles use Camp Navajo as a winter roosting area. In 2003 biologists began attaching radio-transmitters to the eagles. Camp Navajo staff has been involved in eagle captures. Between December 2002 and April of 2003, nine eagles have been trapped. As of early January 2004 two more have been tagged.

Winter raptor survey

The purpose of the Winter Raptor Survey is to learn where raptors perch and forage on the Camp Navajo Installation. More than 4,500 acres of roads in the most heavily developed portion of the installation have been surveyed. Perch characteristics have been measured. A preliminary tally of raptor observations (which can be the same bird observed more than once) from November 6, 2003 through January 2, 2004 includes:

Red-tailed hawks	88	Northern harriers	9
Bald eagles	9	Prairie falcon	1
Kestrels	9	Rough-legged hawks	2

Pronghorn antelope response

The third project is the study of the pronghorn antelope response to low-level helicopter training exercises. Researchers intend to trap 14 pronghorn antelope to act as surrogates for the endangered Sonoran pronghorn.

The AGFD is working adjacent to the OB/OD area. They will not follow these animals if they move into the OB/OD area.

West Buffer Area

Mylea reviewed several ongoing projects in West Buffer Area: spotted owls surveys, Abert’s squirrel surveys, songbird/small mammal surveys, snag retention study, turkey response to restoration, and tree-roosting bat response to forest restoration.

Mylea can be reached at 928-213-9591 or mbayless@gf.state.az.us. Her PowerPoint presentation will be placed on the project web site.

4. Site Update

Field Work

UXO clearance

- Completed geophysical surveys on 5.5 miles or more than 25 acres of primary roads and fence lines within the Pyrotechnic Range east of Volunteer Canyon. No intrusive MEC clearance work is scheduled for the roadway that has been digitally surveyed and mapped.
- Surveyed and surface cleared by grid 6.6 acres in Chemical/White Phosphorous Canyon and 29 acres in Volunteer Canyon.
- Currently working with ADEQ to determine the density of buried items and depth needed to clear. Picked up approximately 20,000 pounds of scrap metal in Chemical and Volunteer Canyons. Approximately 426 items with UXO or phosphorous were collected from both surveys. Few items were found in Volunteer Canyon and all were safe to move.

Soil Sampling

Soil samples were collected and submitted to the laboratory for characterization analysis.

- 30 soil and 2 sediment samples from FWPDBA canyon floor
- 4 soil samples from Volunteer Canyon floor
- 4 soil samples from base of NAAD 09C
- 5 QC (4 duplicate soil and one field blank) samples

Document Status

- Completed reproduction and distribution of Master QAPP, FSP, and SSHP (four copies were delivered to Camp Navajo on 12/08/03. Master Work Plan was delivered week of 12/12/03.
- Prepared and submitted cost estimates for Work Plans for NAADs 01, 02, 03/06, 09C, combined burn areas, and buffer zone areas.
- Prepared and submitted Draft Prove-out Report to Camp Navajo and USACE-Huntsville.
- Working with ADEQ and USFWS on Chemical Canyon Landfill Workplan
- Volunteer Canyon – survey the floor to decide if they can dig. If high density is found, the plan may have to be revised. Did not receive intrusive clearance in November or December to dig down to two feet. A surface clearance was done.

Upcoming Field Work

- The Cultural Resources Survey of the unsurveyed 600-acres within the Department of the Army Waiver Area will begin as soon weather permits.
- G-Tek will resume surveys in mid-January.
- Open detonation is proposed for January 14 if snow cover allows.

5. Status of Community Involvement Program

Two public information meetings were held: December 10 at Camp Navajo and December 11 in Flagstaff. Nineteen members of public attended. Publicity for the meeting was extensive and included: news articles, radio and television stories,

hand delivery or mailing of 1,000 notices, paid newspaper display advertisements. All media coverage was positive.

Alan Anderson suggested holding future meetings in separate weeks. Some people missed both meetings due to being out of town.

The SAG meeting schedule for 2004 was announced at these meetings and is another forum for public to become involved. MAJ Myer proposed changing the time of these meetings to the evening to be more accessible to the public. Members agreed, and the July meeting will be held in the evening.

Action: Lee will reserve the AGFD conference room for July 8, 2004.

6. Open Detonation Schedule

A small controlled detonation of some unexploded munitions is scheduled for 01/15/04 and/or 01/16/04, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. within the boundaries of the Camp Navajo Open Burn/Open Detonation area. This area is at least two miles away from the nearest home. MAJ Myer reviewed the public notification protocols. These protocols include notification of the Federal Aviation Administration, Coconino County Sheriff, city and county offices, and Wherry Housing residents. Notices will be posted at the main Camp Navajo gate, the Bellemont Truck Stop and Post Office and the Parks Post Office. Local newspapers, radio and television stations will receive a news release.

Safety controls will be established prior to the detonation to assure the maximum public safety. When necessary, engineering controls will be used to minimize the blast and fragmentation. With these controls in place, there is no risk to residents of nearby areas. Specific procedures also will be followed to minimize impacts on the wintering bald eagles and Mexican spotted owls. Shaula Hedwall, USFWS, will be closely involved during the detonation.

7. Call to the Public

No one from the public was present.

8. Future Meetings

The next SAG meeting is April 8, 2004 at 10:00 a.m. at Camp Navajo. The July 8, 2004 meeting will be at 6:00 p.m. at the AGFD in Flagstaff.