

# MEETING MINUTES

November 1, 2005

Project: Former Camp Butner Restoration Advisory Board  
Date: October 27, 2005, 6:30 – 8:30pm  
Place: Butner Town Operations Building,  
Butner, North Carolina  
Attendees: LTC Bud Jones, USACE Wilmington (Co-Chair, Government Representative);  
Amy Blalock, Granville County Resident (Co-Chair, Community  
Representative); Ken Lucas, EPA Region IV (Federal Representative); Art  
Shacter, NC Division of Environment and Natural Resources (State  
Representative); Hope Taylor-Guevara, Granville County Resident/ Clean Water  
for NC; Kent Cash, Durham City employee; Edgar Smoak, Granville County  
Resident/Granville County Planning Board; Barry Baker, Granville County  
Senior Planner; Doug Logan, Granville County Emergency Management  
Director; Tom McGee, Butler Town Manager; Scott Strickland, Butler Police  
Department; Public (John Baden and Bob Keistler, USACE Wilmington; Diana  
Degen, University of North Carolina)  
Prepared By: Robert Nore, USA Environmental  
Topic: RAB Meeting 5

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## INTRODUCTION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Ms. Amy Blalock opened the meeting by ensuring that all participants had received the meeting agenda (Attachment 1), and then asking for corrections to the minutes from the August 25 meeting. After a minor correction, the minutes were unanimously approved by the Board.

## PRIORITIZATION OF REMAINING AREAS OF INTEREST:

Ms. Blalock and Ms. Taylor-Guevara then reviewed their progress since the last meeting on development of a prioritization list (Attachment 2). They noted that Areas 4G and 4F are new sectors selected by looking at EE/CA data on where UXO was found in Area 4 Proper, and considering Barry Baker's information on development plans for that area. A general discussion focused on the two new sectors.

In Area 4G, it was noted that the Hester Ranch had been sold and was being developed into a subdivision. There is one new house there and the property sits within two range fans. Mr. Shacter asked how the addition of these new sectors would affect the EE/CA and Action Memorandum. LTC Jones thought that it would not be a major issue.

For Area 4F, Ms. Taylor-Guevara noted that there is currently no action, but that 3 UXO were found during the EE/CA. Although this site is at the bottom of the list, its status could change as development occurs.

Mr. Keistler asked the Board to consider that at Lakeview the USACE had done a Time Critical Removal Action to a 6-inch depth, which may make that site safer than the others. Ms. Blalock answered that she and Ms. Taylor-Guevara had been concerned that 6 inches doesn't provide that much protection, as many activities around the yard can go deeper than 6 inches. Ms. Blalock and Ms. Taylor-Guevara reminded the RAB that the USACE has also recommended removal to depth in the footprint of homes. Mr. Strickland asked if anyone knew what the true occupancy of Lakeview was, as he seldom sees activity there when he makes his rounds. The response was that it probably didn't make much difference, since the houses were there and could be occupied at any time.

Mr. Baker suggested that the entire Camp Butner be gridded out for easier reference when identifying specific area. Mr. Baden noted that USA Environmental is preparing a master grid system for use during their removal actions. Mr. Nore committed to providing the Board a site map overlaid with the master grid system. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried, to transition to a master grid system.

Ms. Blalock asked for a motion to approve the priority listing. Mr. Cash moved, Mr. Smoak seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously. Mr. Keistler told the Board that this approval was timely, as knowing the priorities now will help USACE better plan funds for the next funding cycle. He said that USACE Wilmington has nearly \$1 million for work this year, which will cover Areas 1A, 4C, and Lakeview. Mr. Cash asked if the USACE contract had a contingency for TCRA, and Mr. Keistler responded that USACE would have to go after new money if a TCRA was necessary.

#### PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAM UPDATE:

Mr. Logan reported that, since the last meeting, he and Ms. Diana Degen had met with Granville County Board of Education and with Parent Teacher's Organizations for Butner Elementary School, Butner Middle School, Christian Faith Center, and Hawley Public School to discuss the need for a public education program. Mr. Logan stated that the educational materials were well received.

Ms. Degen reported that the PTOs were considering a program that addresses grades 1 through 6 in the first year, then one class each year as a continual program. The Board of Education has Family Safety Month in October, and was considering integrating UXO educational awareness into that program. The schools were also looking at the Army DENIX program to get speakers for the children. Ms. Degen was also told that one of the schools had used the Cherry Point EOD unit for a previous session. She had received a favorable recommendation from a teacher at Fort Ord, California, regarding the use of DENIX. Mr. Logan noted that they had discussed incentive programs with the schools that would reward students for recognizing and reporting correctly.

Mr. Cash reported on his efforts to generate interest within Durham and Parson County schools. He reported that he had furnished the materials, showed the DVD, and invited the school officials to the RAB meeting. They expressed interest but there has been no active response so far. He said he would continue to pursue the school system, and possibly get them to review the Granville program when it is ready.

A general discussion addressed the problem of reproducing brochures or coloring books. It was noted that the schools had no problem with using their own print shop to reproduce coloring books. One of the RAB members expressed concern that this type of training might increase children's curiosity and tempt them to go looking for ordnance. Ms. Degen stressed that in her discussions with teachers who have gone through this process, she has learned that even though kids may get excited by such training, their awareness is raised to the hazard, and that's a good thing.

#### AREA 1A UPDATE:

Mr. Nore briefed the Board on the status of the Removal Action project. He stated that the draft work plan had been submitted, comments had been received from the USACE, and USA Environmental was ready to conduct an on-board review to go over the comments. He stated that he was hoping for a review during the following week, but that would depend on Huntsville USACE. He stated that, if the Explosive Safety Submission was approved by then, USAE hoped to get into the field by mid-November. When asked how long the fieldwork would last, Mr. Nore replied 6 weeks, which would mean the work could be finished just before Christmas.

Mr. Baden stated that the ESS and the Work Plan would be posted to the Administrative Record when finalized.

Ms. Taylor-Guevara asked if the Corps was issuing press releases for RAB meetings. Mr. Keistler stated that he would check with his PAO.

Questions from the RAB members concerned notification of residents, whether evacuations were possible, and whether a public meeting would be scheduled. Mr. Baden responded that USACE was pursuing rights of entry from all of the affected residents. He said he has identified six residences that need rights of entry. Mr. Nore noted that evacuations were possible, but that USA would be using engineering controls to minimize evacuations. Mr. Baden added that it was also possible that as the clearance gets closer to the houses that evacuations may not be necessary due to the absence of ordnance items of concern.

In regard to public meetings Mr. Nore responded that it was up to USACE whether a public meeting is held or not. Mr. Lucas read from the previous minutes that Mr. Nore had stated that there would be a public meeting before the work started. After a brief discussion, Mr. Keistler offered to suggest an agenda for a public meeting before the work starts. The agenda would, in addition to announcing the fieldwork, bring the public up to date on the RAB's accomplishments, such as the prioritization list.

Mr. McGee and Mr. Strickland asked that they be notified of USA's plans for mobilization as soon as a date is set. Mr. McGee wants a phone call. Mr. Baden said he would make the call.

#### UXO SIGN INSTALLATION (see Attachment 3)

Mr. Keistler reviewed his discussions with the various property owners regarding UXO sign installation. The State and National Guard were no problem. Department of Transportation thought the signs were too busy and they don't use bilingual signs. The USACE would like to put signs in places like the boat ramps around and in Complex Areas 1 and 2. As long as the signs are not deterrents to traffic and they have larger lettering, DOT will be okay with them, and will even install them. Mr. Keistler asked for the RAB's help in locating on a map of Camp Butner suggested locations for signs. He hopes to have all the signs erected this fiscal year but will have to coordinate with DOT for new sign layouts. Mr. McGee suggested a sign at the water tank in Area 1A.

Mr. Cash moved that the Corps get DOT approval of sign design and notify the RAB of the new design. The motion was seconded and approved. Mr. Smoak made a motion that signs should be posted at regular intervals anywhere the ranges scheduled for clearance adjoins a public road. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Shacter brought up the possibility of putting brochures in display cases in public locations. Mr. Keistler asked for locations. Mr. Shacter suggested boat ramps. Mr. McGee suggested the gazebo in Butner Park and at other public bulletin boards in Butner. He offered to work with the Corps to find locations for the brochures.

#### NOTIFICATIONS ON INDIVIDUAL SURVEYS:

Mr. Baker advised the RAB that UXO notifications have been appearing on plats or zoning permits since 2003. However, he knew of no documents that transferred that same information to the landowners, but speculated that the Perc Test form could be stamped with the information when issued to the homeowner. Mr. Cash remarked that the developer knows of UXO but the landowner does not. Mr. Baker replied that local real estate people know of the UXO problem and realtors appear to divulge UXO potential to prospective buyers. Ms. Blalock suggested the RAB establish a relationship with the Board of Realtors. Mr. McGee suggested that it may be better to notify the State Real Estate Commission of the problem, and ask them to remind realtors of their obligations to disclose known conditions. Mr. Keistler noted that the Corps did extensive notification of real estate organizations during previous investigations. Mr. Baker suggested also notifying the Home Builders' Association.

UPDATE ON ORDNANCE DISCOVERIES:

Mr. Logan reported that there were no ordnance discoveries in the area since the previous meeting.

FREQUENCY OF RAB MEETINGS IN 2006:

After a brief discussion, Mr. Smoak moved to hold future RAB meetings on a quarterly basis on the fourth Thursday at 6:30 PM. Mr. Cash seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Ms. Blalock asked for input from the RAB on duration of the Co-Chair's term. Mr. Keistler suggested a two-year term. He also urged the RAB to consider whether a couple of members who do not participate should be removed or replaced. Mr. Smoak suggested advertising in the paper for anyone interested in serving on the Board. After general discussion, Mr. Cash move that Ms. Taylor-Guevara develop a press release to advertise in the newspaper. Mr. Keistler committed to emailing application forms to Ms. Blalock.

HIRING OF LOCAL PROFESSIONAL TO TAKE RAB MINUTES:

There was some discussion of the qualifications and duties involved in capturing the meeting minutes. USA will provide someone to document the minutes at future meetings, and Mr. Smoak and Mr. Baker committed to referring potential minute-takers to Mr. Nore.

CLOSING

At 8:40pm, Mr. Cash made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Mr. Lucas. The meeting was adjourned.

**Next meeting: Thursday January 26 2006 at 6:30pm,  
Town of Butner Operations Building**

ATTACHMENT 1 – AGENDA

**Former Camp Butner  
Restoration Advisory  
Board (RAB) Meeting**

**10/27/2005  
6:30 PM to 8:30 PM  
Butner Town Operations Center**

**Agenda**

Prioritization of Remaining Areas of Interest	RAB	30 minutes	Action
Area 1 A Update	USA	10 minutes	Information
Feedback on Coloring Books/DVDs	RAB	10 minutes	Information
Summary of POC Discussion for UXO Sign Installation	USACE	10 minutes	Information
Discuss UXO Signs/Recommend Locations	USACE/RAB	45 minutes	Action
Update on Ordnance Discoveries	Emergency Management/RAB	5 minutes	Information
Closing		10 minutes	

**Additional Information**

## ATTACHMENT 2 – PRIORITY OF AREAS OF INTEREST

### **Former Camp Butner Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Subcommittee Recommendations for Clean-Up Priority of Areas of Interest**

#### Subcommittee Members:

1. Amy Blalock, community co-chair
2. Hope Taylor-Guevara

Following are the second set prioritization recommendations for clean-up of the locations identified by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers' (USACE) EE/CA survey results.

Attached is the scorecard that takes into consideration the weighted values we felt were important in determining this second priority listing. Since all of the locations fit the top criteria of being currently inhabited and having UXO found on site, we further defined our criteria to include the following ratio of factors in order of importance:

1. Number of residents located in that specific area where the UXO was found (current active land use).
2. Number of UXO items found in that specific area (type of threat).
3. Density of UXO/residence and specific location of ordnance relative to residences (i.e., Area 4 proper has largest number of residences, but the EE/CA describes the UXO as being mostly in areas that are not currently residential as of the time of the EE/CA).
4. Current or future residential growth that has taken place since the completion of the EE/CA.

As agreed up during our last RAB meeting, the following two areas are recommended for initial clean-up in the order of importance.

1. Lakeview – 7 UXO items found – 6 residences
2. Area 4C – 3 UXO items found – 10+ residences

Of the remaining areas, the following list, in order of importance, for clean-up:

3. Area 4A – 1 UXO item found – 3+ residences
4. Area 4D – 1 UXO item found – 6 residences
5. Area “4G” (newly designated, formerly a part of Area 4 proper) – 2 UXO items found – 1+ residence\*
6. Area 4B – 1 UXO item found – 2 residences
7. Area 4E – 1 UXO item found – 1 residence
8. Area “4F” (newly designated, formerly a part of Area 4 proper) – 3 UXO items found – no evidence of development at this time\*

\*\*It is the subcommittee's recommendation that Area 4 proper receive further resectorization to narrow down the area where UXO has been found; this area of 21,139 acres is too broad in its current designation.

Since land use changes are occurring rapidly in this area, we have resectorized this huge land mass into manageable sections to be investigated. According to Barry Baker with Granville County's Planning Department, the areas in the EE/CA identified on pages

3-5-2-2 and 3-5-2-3, one of the areas where the 5 UXO items were found is experiencing significant growth with 10 acre tracts and one minor subdivision planned.

The above ranking is **SUBJECT TO CHANGE** pending any demographic or development changes that may occur over the course of the clean-up.

We want to reinforce our earlier statement that our subcommittee concurs with the USACE's recommendation of the two-acre footprint to be cleared **to depth** on each of the above areas of interest for a footprint of 2 acres per residence.

The subcommittee also concurs with the USACE that site-wide institutional controls are an immediate necessity as well as community education efforts to inform residents of the potential danger and what to do when UXO is found.

## ATTACHMENT 3 – UXO Information Sign POC Phone Summary

This is a summary of the phone conversations by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Wilmington District and points of contact with various agencies for the installation of Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) information signs in the former Camp Butner area.

### **North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NCDAACS)**

Ray Livermore talked to Debbie Robertson of the NCDAACS on September 7, 2005 to reconfirm an agreement to allow the USACE install the UXO information signs on NCDAACS property. Ms. Robertson indicated the agreement was still valid and no formal authorization was necessary. Ms. Robertson stated Fred Smith at the Oxford Station would be the point of contact for installation of the signs and should be contacted prior to installation of the signs.

### **North Carolina National Guard (NCNG)**

Ray Livermore talked to Command Sergeant Major (CSM) Delton Foster of the NCNG on September 9, 2005 to reconfirm an agreement to allow the USACE to install the UXO information signs on NCNG property. CSM Foster indicated the agreement was still valid and stated an email would be sufficient to maintain this permission. Ray Livermore sent an email to CSM Foster on September 9, 2005 confirming this permission. CSM Foster did state notification to his office would be necessary prior to installation of the signs.

### **North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT)**

Ray Livermore talked with Joey Hopkins of the NCDOT on September 8, 2005 to discuss the installation of the UXO information signs on NCDOT property. Mr. Hopkins stated he would have to consult his office but didn't think the signs would be a problem as long as they didn't distract motorists. Ray inquired as to whether NCDOT could install the signs if funding was provided and Mr. Hopkins stated he would also research this issue. A picture of the UXO sign was emailed to Mr. Hopkins for his information on September 9, 2005.

Ray Livermore talked with Mr. Hopkins again on September 23, 2005. Mr. Hopkins expressed concern with the amount of information on the sign and stated North Carolina does not install bilingual signs. Mr. Hopkins stated there is too much information on the sign to read while traveling at a high rate of speed (i.e. Range Road). He indicated typical information signs are 4 feet by 4 feet. He also stated the letters would have to be at least 4" possibly 6" in order for motorists to read the signs while not detracting from safe driving.

Mr. Hopkins indicated the signs could be placed at boat ramps or in neighborhoods where the speeds are much slower. Mr. Hopkins indicated the requirements for DOT to assume maintenance of neighborhood roads is at least 4 residences and/or density of at least 2 residences per 10/mile. The installation of the current UXO information signs at intersections where stop signs or traffic lights existed was also discussed.

Mr. Hopkins stated the signs would still be a distraction and potentially prevent the motorist from paying attention to other traffic and light changes.

Mr. Hopkins indicated the position with NCDOT at the Oxford office that erects signs will be filled in November. He also stated he has changed positions from operations to maintenance and his former position would be filled sometime in October. He indicated his replacement would be the point of contact for further discussion regarding this issue but he would provide a transition to this new person to make them aware. Regarding the issue of NCDOT installing the signs, Mr. Hopkins stated this is not a problem as long as the funding is provided. He did state no formal agreement was necessary and whatever the Corps would require would be sufficient.

## **Recommendations**

Proceed with the determination of locations for the current UXO information signs. Discuss the need to create new signs for installation along roads in the Camp Butner area with the RAB. If the RAB agrees, design a revised sign for NCDOT approval to install in these areas.