FINAL
DECISION DOCUMENT FOR THE
RANGE 4A FOG OIL STORAGE AREA, PARCEL 123(6)
FORT McCLELLAN, CALHOUN COUNTY, ALABAMA

ISSUED BY: THE U. S. ARMY

APRIL 2002

U.S. ARMY ANNOUNCES DECISION DOCUMENT

This Decision Document presents the determination that no further remedial action will be necessary to protect human health and the environment at Range 4A Fog Oil Storage Area, Parcel 123(6), at Fort McClellan (FTMC) in Calhoun County, Alabama. The location of the parcel at FTMC is shown on Figure 1. In addition, this Decision Document provides the site background information used as the basis for the no further action decision with regard to hazardous, toxic, and radioactive waste (HTRW). Issues related to unexploded ordnance (UXO) may be present at the site and are being addressed separately by the U.S. Army.

This Decision Document is issued by the U.S. Army Garrison at FTMC with involvement by the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Cleanup Team (BCT). The BCT consists of representatives from the U.S. Army, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IV, and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management. The BCT is responsible for planning and implementing environmental investigations at FTMC.

Based on the results of the site investigation (SI) completed at Range 4A Fog Oil Storage Area, Parcel 123(6), the U.S. Army will implement no further action at the site with regard to HTRW. UXO-related issues may be present at the site and are being addressed separately by the U.S. Army. This decision was made by the U.S. Army with concurrence by the BCT.

This Decision Document summarizes site information presented in detail in background documents that are part of the administrative record for Range 4A Fog Oil Storage Area, Parcel 123(6). A list of background documents for Parcel 123(6) is presented on Page 2. A copy of the administrative record for Parcel 123(6) is available at the public repositories listed on Page 3.

REGULATIONS GOVERNING SITE

FTMC is undergoing closure by the BRAC Commission under Public Laws 100-526 and 101-510. The 1990 Base Closure Act, Public Law 101-510, established the process by which U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) installations would be closed or realigned. The BRAC Environmental Restoration Program requires investigation and cleanup of federal properties prior to transfer to the public domain. In addition, the Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act (CERFA) (Public Law 102-426) requires federal agencies to identify real property on military installations scheduled for closure that can be transferred to the public for redevelopment or reuse. Consequently, the U.S. Army is conducting environmental studies of the impact of suspected contaminants at parcels at FTMC. The BRAC Environmental Restoration Program at FTMC follows the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) process.

PRIMARY BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS FOR PARCEL 123(6)

Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc. (ESE), 1998, ***Final Environmental Baseline Survey, Fort McClellan, Alabama***, prepared for U.S. Army Environmental Center, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, January.

IT Corporation (IT), 2002, ***Final Site Investigation Report, Range 4A Fog Oil Storage Area, Parcel 123(6), Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama,*** April.

Science Applications International Corporation, 1998, ***Final Background Metals Survey Report, Fort McClellan, Alabama,*** July.

U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventative Medicine, (CHPPM), 1999, ***Draft Preliminary Assessment No. 38-EH-1775-99, Fort McClellan Army National Guard Training Center, Fort McClellan, Alabama***, June.

SITE BACKGROUND

FTMC is located in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains of northeastern Alabama near the cities of Anniston and Weaver in Calhoun County. FTMC consists of two main areas of government-owned properties: the Main Post and Pelham Range. Until May 1998, the FTMC installation also included the Choccolocco Corridor, a 4,488-acre tract of land that was leased from the State of Alabama. The Main Post, which occupies 18,929 acres, is bounded on the east by the Choccolocco Corridor, which previously connected the Main Post with the Talladega National Forest. Pelham Range, which occupies 22,245 acres, is located approximately 5 miles due west of the Main Post and adjoins the Anniston Army Depot on the southwest.

Range 4A Fog Oil Storage Area, Parcel 123(6), is located in the north-central portion of Pelham Range and is approximately 0.8 acres in size (Figure 1). The area has been designed for storage of fog oil used to generate smoke for training exercises at FTMC and Pelham Range. Based on interpretation of aerial photographs, the area is believed to have been in use since at least 1964. The Fog Oil Storage Area consists of two concrete structures: a 15- by 15-foot drum handling area and a 60- by 60-foot loading and storage area. Both the drum handling area and the loading and storage area, are fenced. Each concrete structure is equipped with drains connected to an oil/water separator (OWS) and an underground storage tank (UST). The drains are designed to collect spilled oil and precipitation (U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine [CHPPM], 1999).

The loading and storage area is surrounded by a 5-foot-high concrete berm and elevated containment areas. The concrete pad is sloped to divert spilled oil and precipitation to a floor drain, connected to the OWS. Seams in the concrete pad were once reported to be leaking and may have led to seepage of fog oil into the ground beneath the pad. The seams in the concrete pad have been sealed (Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc. [ESE], 1998).

Originally, drums of fog oil were stored on bare soil enclosed with earthen berms. The surface soil was reportedly stained with oil from the storage and handling activities. The loading and storage area was designed to store approximately 75,000 gallons of fog oil. However, in 1986, quantities greater than

PUBLIC INFORMATION REPOSITORIES FOR FORT McCLELLAN

Anniston Calhoun County Public Library
Reference Section
Anniston, Alabama 36201
Point of Contact: Ms. Sunny Addison
Telephone: (256) 237-8501
Fax: (256) 238-0474
Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Sunday 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Houston Cole Library
9th Floor
Jacksonville State University
700 Pelham Road
Jacksonville, Alabama 36265
Point of Contact: Ms. Rita Smith (256) 782-5249
Hours of Operation: Monday – Thursday 7:30 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.
Friday 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 3:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

75,000 gallons were observed. The loading and storage area was modified to its current configuration sometime between 1986 and 1990 (CHPPM, 1999).

Historically, drums were stored on their sides in the elevated containment areas. Approximately 150 30-gallon drums were stored at the facility in June 1999 and to be removed from the facility by October 1999, because of the closure of FTMC. Three half-full 30-gallon drums were found during a site visit conducted by IT on November 6, 2000. In addition to fog oil, clean rags, used rags, dry sweep, and small amounts of fuel were stored at the Range 4A Fog Oil Storage Area (CHPPM, 1999).

The drum handling area, located north of the loading and storage area, is a 2-foot-deep concrete pit covered with a metal grate, connected to the OWS via underground piping. Design drawings indicate that the drum handling area was originally a sandpit (CHPPM, 1999). During site visits conducted by Weston in June 1990, oil spills were observed in and around the staging area. The soils outside of the original drum staging area were noticeably stained (Roy F. Weston, Inc., 1990).

SCOPE AND ROLE OF PARCEL

Information developed from the environmental baseline survey was used to group areas at FTMC into standardized parcel categories using DOD guidance (ESE, 1998). All parcels received a parcel designation for one of seven CERFA categories, or a non-CERCLA qualifier designation, as appropriate. The seven CERFA categories include CERFA Uncontaminated Parcels (Categories 1 and 2), CERFA Contaminated Parcels (Categories 3 through 7), and CERFA Qualified Parcels. Parcel 123(6) was categorized as CERFA Category 6 parcels in the environmental baseline survey. This CERFA category identifies the recorded release of

fog oil onto the ground at the drum handling area and the loading and storage area at the site. The Range 4A Fog Oil Storage Area required additional evaluation to determine the environmental condition of the parcel (ESE, 1998).

With the issuance of this Decision Document, Parcel 123(6) is re-categorized as CERFA Category 3 parcels. Category 3 parcels are areas where release, disposal, and/or migration of hazardous substances has occurred but at concentrations that do not require a removal or remedial response.

SITE INVESTIGATION

An SI was conducted at the Range 4A Fog Oil Storage Area, Parcel 123(6), to determine whether chemical constituents are present at the site at concentrations that present an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment (IT Corporation [IT], 2002). Environmental sampling conducted during the SI consisted of the sampling and analysis of five surface soil samples, three depositional soil samples, four subsurface soil samples, and five groundwater samples. In addition, five permanent monitoring wells were installed in the saturated zone to facilitate groundwater sample collection and to provide site-specific geological and hydrogeological characterization information.

Chemical analysis of samples collected at the Range 4A Fog Oil Storage Area indicated that metals and volatile organic compounds were detected in the environmental media sampled. To evaluate whether detected constituents pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment, the analytical results were compared to human health site-specific screening levels, ecological screening values, and background screening values for FTMC. In addition, a preliminary risk assessment was performed to further characterize the potential threat to human health (IT, 2002).

Although Parcel 123(6) is projected for continued use by the Alabama Army National Guard, the SI analytical data were screened against residential human health site-specific screening levels to evaluate the site for possible unrestricted land reuse. The preliminary risk assessment concluded that exposure to site media is unlikely to pose an unacceptable threat to human health in either the proposed reuse scenario or the residential (i.e., unrestricted) reuse scenario.

Three metals (copper, nickel, and zinc) in the surface soils were identified as chemicals of potential ecological concern at the site. The zinc results were within the range of background values determined by Science Applications International Corporation. The copper and nickel results in one surface soil sample location (PR-123-MW03) exceeded the background values. However, the copper result (46.1 milligrams per kilogram [mg/kg]) and nickel result (31.8 mg/kg) only minimally exceeded their ecological screening values (40.0 mg/kg and 30.0 mg/kg, respectively). These metals are not expected to pose a significant threat to ecological receptors.

SITE REMEDIAL ACTIONS

Remedial actions were not conducted at Range 4A Fog Oil Storage Area, Parcel 123(6).

DESCRIPTION OF NO FURTHER ACTION

Remedial alternatives were not developed for Parcel 123(6). No further action is selected because remedial action is unnecessary to protect human health or the environment at this site. The metals and chemical compounds detected in site media do not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment. Therefore, the site is released for unrestricted land reuse with regard to HTRW. Furthermore, Parcel 123(6) is re-categorized as CERFA Category 3 parcels. Category 3 parcels are areas where release, disposal, and/or migration of hazardous substances has occurred but at concentrations that do not require a removal or remedial response. UXO-related issues may be present at the site and are being addressed separately by the U.S. Army. With regard to HTRW, the U.S. Army will not take any further action to investigate, remediate, or monitor the Range 4A Fog Oil Storage Area, Parcel 123(3) (formerly Parcel 123[6]).

The following costs are associated with implementing the no-action alternative:

Capital Cost:	$0
Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs:	$0
Present Worth Cost:	$0
Months to Implement:	None
Remedial Duration:	None.

DECLARATION

Remedial action is unnecessary at Range 4A Fog Oil Storage Area, Parcel 123(3) (formerly Parcel 123[6]). The no further action remedy protects human health and the environment, complies with relevant federal and state regulations, and is a cost-effective application of public funds. This remedy will not leave in place hazardous substances at concentrations that require limiting the future use of the parcel, or that require land use control restrictions. The site is released for unrestricted land reuse with regard to HTRW. UXO-related issues may be present at the site and are being addressed separately by the U.S. Army. Parcel 123(6) is re-categorized as CERFA Category 3 parcels. Category 3 parcels are areas where release, disposal, and/or migration of hazardous substances has occurred but at concentrations that do not require a removal or remedial response. There will not be any further remedial costs associated with implementing no further action at the Range 4A Fog Oil Storage Area, Parcel 123(3) (formerly Parcel 123[6]).

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Any questions or comments concerning this Decision Document or other documents in the administrative record can be directed to:

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ACRONYMS

BCT	BRAC Cleanup Team
BRAC	Base Realignment and Closure
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CERFA	Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act
CHPPM	U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine
DOD	U.S. Department of Defense
ESE	Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc.
FTMC	Fort McClellan
HTRW	hazardous, toxic, and radioactive waste
IT	IT Corporation
mg/kg	milligrams per kilogram
OWS	oil/water separator
SI	site investigation
UST	underground storage tank
UXO	unexploded ordnance

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7/30/02
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Date

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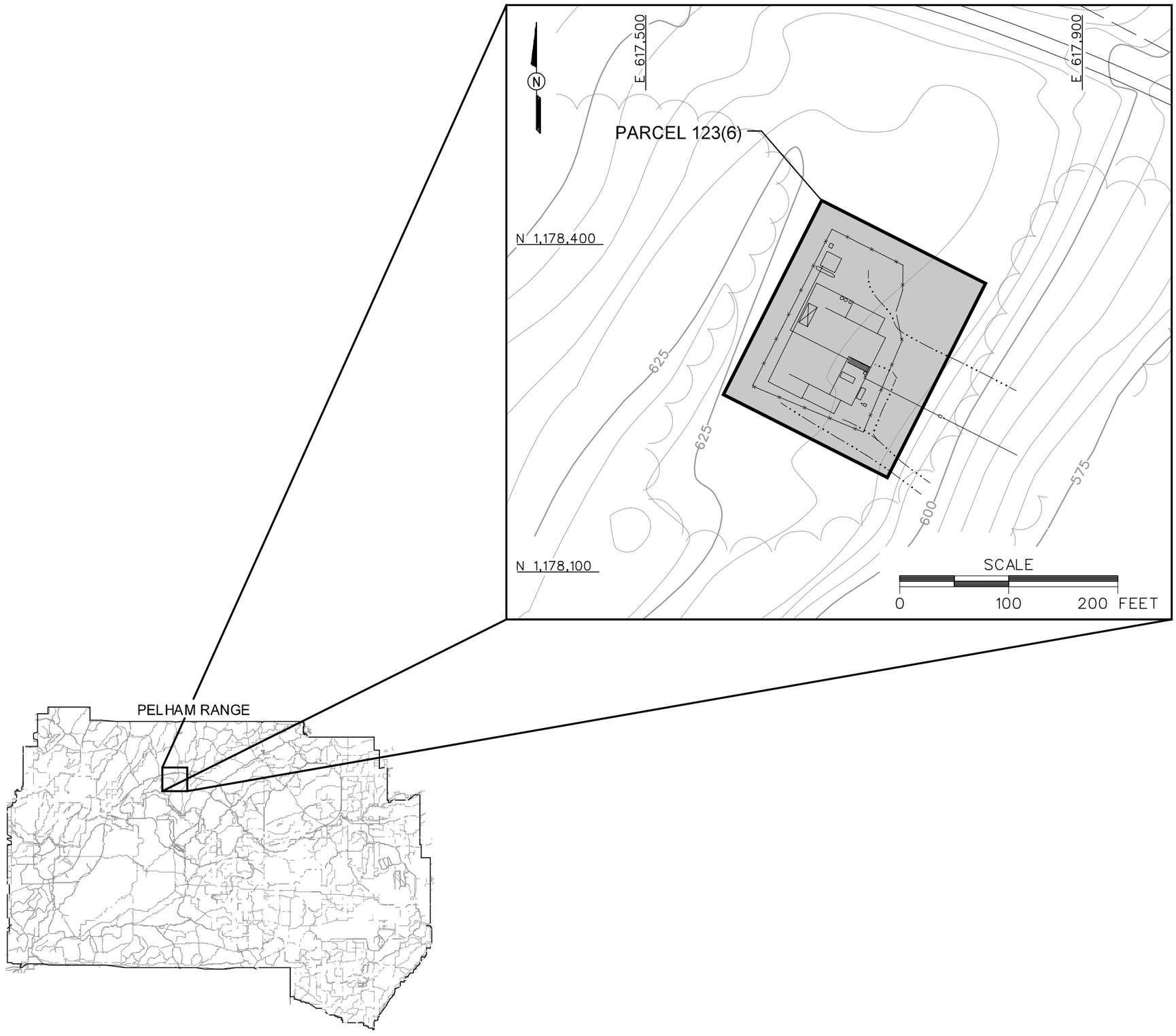
12 April 2004
Date



LEGEND

- UNIMPROVED ROADS
- PAVED ROADS
- BUILDING
- TOPOGRAPHIC CONTOURS (CONTOUR INTERVAL - 5 FOOT)
- TREES / TREELINE
- PARCEL BOUNDARY
- SURFACE DRAINAGE
- FENCE

FIGURE 1
SITE MAP
RANGE 4A FOG OIL STORAGE AREA
PELHAM RANGE - PARCEL 123(6)

U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
MOBILE DISTRICT
FORT McCLELLAN
CALHOUN COUNTY, ALABAMA
Contract No. DACA21-96-D-0018

IT CORPORATION
A Member of The IT Group

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STARTING DATE:04/08/02	DRAWN BY: D. BOMAR	ENGR. CHCK. BY:S. MORAN	PROJ. MGR.: J. YACOUB	PROJ. NO.: 774645