

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**

U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, SACRAMENTO CORPS OF ENGINEERS 1325 J STREET SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814-2922

REPLY TO CESPK/PMM-B/FUDS PARKS AFB

July 10, 2020

Re: Community Outreach and Establishment of Administrative Record – Former Parks Air Force Base (AFB)

The United States Army Corps of Engineers Sacramento District is contacting you as part of an effort to assess your interest in establishing a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) to provide input on the environmental restoration at the former Parks AFB, a Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS). The Corps of Engineers will tailor its outreach based on the feedback provided by you and other community members. The Army Corps also is informing you of the intent to establish an Administrative Record regarding the former Parks AFB project at the Dublin Public Library in Dublin, California. This administrative record, plus additional information regarding the FUDS Program,

can also be found at the following online location: https://www.spk.usace.army.mil/Missions/Military-Projects/FUDS/Former-Parks-AFB/

Former Parks Air Force Base (AFB) was used by the U.S. Navy, U.S. Army, and U.S. Air Force at various times between 1943 to 1973. In 1943 the area called Camp Parks, Camp Shoemaker and the U.S. Naval Hospital Shoemaker were established by the U.S. Navy, and operated as "Fleet City" during World War II. Since 1980, much of the original property has been operating as an active U.S. Army Reserve Forces Training Area. Between 1957 and 1972 various portions of the former Parks AFB were transferred to multiple private and municipal land owners. It is this area which is eligible for the FUDS Program and is the subject of this effort.

The objectives of the current project is to collect scientifically defensible site information to support development of a risk assessment and determine the need for remedial actions to protect human health, safety and the environment. This information will be used to develop and evaluate remedial alternatives for presentation to the public and other stakeholders.



As the environmental restoration process moves forward at the former Parks AFB, we want your input on what type(s) of community engagement best meets your needs given available time and resources. Options include establishing a formal RAB to review and advise the Corps of Engineers on technical issues related to site remediation or conducting regular public outreach and education activities to provide updates on project status. While these options are not mutually exclusive, we are seeking to implement a process that is meaningful, effective, and informative to as many interested community members as possible.

#### Community Outreach Option 1: Establishing a RAB

A RAB is an advisory board made up of interested and concerned community members who reflect the diverse interests of the local community, as well as local, state, and federal government agencies. A RAB is co-chaired by a representative of the Corps of Engineers and a public citizen, and is strictly an advisory body. The Corps of Engineers is the ultimate authority for all restoration decisions related to the former Parks AFB. RAB members function in a voluntary capacity (no compensation provided) for a one to two-year term, and must commit to reporting information related at RAB meetings back to the community.

Examples of RAB responsibilities include:

- Participating in up to 3 meetings per year, to be held in a convenient location, locally, and each is anticipated to last up to three hours in duration;
- Learning about the background, schedule, type, and status of environmental restoration activities;
- Reviewing and commenting on environmental restoration documents (ranging from 10-300+ pages) and proposed field activities (document review and comments may also be requested at times between regular RAB meetings);
- Providing information to the community on behalf of the Corps of Engineers and the RAB membership; and
- Receiving input from the community and reporting back to the Corps of Engineers.

More information related to RAB member duties and responsibilities is attached. To implement a successful RAB, there must be demonstrated interest by a reasonable number of the area residents that reflect the broad diversity of the community, and members must commit to active participation for the duration of their term.

If there is not sufficient or representative community interest and a RAB is not established, the Corps of Engineers is committed to sharing and collecting information from the community using tools such as meetings, publications, and fact sheets.

#### Community Outreach Option 2: Public Information Meetings

Another option to engage with community members is through regular project communications such as public open houses, informational materials, and fact sheets provided in print and/or electronic formats. These communication tools allow community members to be informed about the restoration process, receive information on current remediation efforts and submit comments directly to the Corps of Engineers. We anticipate holding at a minimum one public outreach activity per year (such as an open house) during the time period remediation activities are being conducted at the former Parks AFB.

#### Establishment of Administrative Record

In addition to the potential establishment of a RAB and/or Public Information Meetings, the US Army Corps of Engineers intends to establish an Administrative Record at the Dublin Public Library, 200 Civic Plaza, Dublin, California. This will be a location where project-specific information will be maintained for public review and for printing or copying if desired. Documents such as project work plans, responsiveness summaries, the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Report, Proposed Plan and Decision Document will be made available as they are generated. This Administrative Record will be established pending library availability to the public (facility is currently closed due to COVID-19 concerns). It will also be made available online at <a href="https://www.spk.usace.army.mil/Missions/Military-Projects/FUDS/Former-Parks-AFB/">https://www.spk.usace.army.mil/Missions/Military-Projects/FUDS/Former-Parks-AFB/</a>

#### Next Steps

After reviewing this letter, please respond by **August 10, 2020**, if you are interested in establishing a RAB or if you prefer regular community-wide project communications. If you recommend establishing a RAB, please

indicate your willingness to commit the voluntary time (yours or a representative of your agency or organization) necessary for a successful RAB. The Corps of Engineers will evaluate the responses and make a determination on the most effective and beneficial engagement process for interested community members and for the Corps of Engineers. Your consideration and response is appreciated.

Responses may be sent via email to: *SPK\_FUDS@usace.army.mil* 

Or via mail to: *FUDS Parks AFB RAB United States Army Corps of Engineers Sacramento District CESPK-PMM 1325 J Street Sacramento, CA 95814* 

If you have any questions, or would like more information about the former Parks AFB FUDS, please call the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District, Public Affairs office at 916-557-5100, or via e-mail at SPK\_FUDS@usace.army.mil. Thank you for your feedback.

Sincerely,

FUDS Project Manager U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Sacramento District

Enc. RAB Membership Fact Sheet RAB Community Interest Form



# **RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARDS at FUDS**

## **U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS**

## **BUILDING STRONG**.

## Former Parks Air Force Base

## Background

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Sacramento District is undertaking environmental restoration activities at the Former Parks Air Force Base as part of the Defense Environmental Restoration Program's Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) program.

Former Parks Air Force Base (AFB) was used by the U.S. Navy, U.S. Army, and U.S. Air Force at various times between 1943 to 1973. In 1943 the area called Camp Parks, Camp Shoemaker and the U.S. Naval Hospital Shoemaker were established by the U.S. Navy, and operated as "Fleet City" during World War II. Since 1980, much of the original property has been operating as an active



U.S. Army Reserve Forces Training Area. Between 1957 and 1972 various portions of the former Parks AFB were transferred to multiple private and municipal land owners. It is this area which is eligible for the FUDS Program and is the subject of this effort.

The objectives of the current project is to collect scientifically defensible site information to support development of a risk assessment and determine the need for remedial actions to protect human health, safety and the environment. This information will be used to develop and evaluate remedial alternatives for presentation to the public and other stakeholders.

In keeping with the goal of full public involvement in FUDS restoration decisions and activities, the Army and the Army Corps of Engineers encourage the creation of Restoration Advisory Boards (RABs) at Formerly Used Defense Sites where there is sufficient community interest in having such a forum. "Sufficient community interest" is typically defined as 50 or more individuals.

## **Involving the Public**

Restoration Advisory Boards are forums for discussion and exchange of information about the work being done at a FUDS property. A RAB is an advisory body designed to act as a focal point for the exchange of information between Sacramento District and the local community regarding environmental restoration activities at the property. The RAB is intended to bring together community members who reflect the diverse interests within the local community, enabling the early and continued two-way flow of information, concerns, values and needs between the affected community and the Army Corps of Engineers. It establishes a forum for public participation in the decision-making process and ensures active and timely stakeholder input. RAB community members will provide individual advice to decision makers on restoration issues. A RAB complements other community involvement efforts Sacramento District has used at Former Parks Air Force Base.

A RAB will be established when there is evidence of sufficient, sustained community interest, as determined by the Sacramento District commander. If there is insufficient community interest, the district will focus on involving the community in other ways.

## Forming a RAB

When a Restoration Advisory Board is established, its members are expected to:

- Provide relevant input on environmental restoration issues to the FUDS project team and regulatory agencies
- Attend and participate in regular meetings, which are publicly announced and open to the public at convenient times and locations
- Review and comment on project documents
- Recommend restoration priorities
- Serve as liaisons with the community and be available to meet with community members and groups as needed to facilitate the exchange of information and/or concerns between the community and the RAB
- Evaluate proposed cleanup levels
- Devote approximately 40 hours per year to the RAB
- Serve without compensation for their time and service.

The size of the RAB will depend on the complexity of the project site, the number of stakeholders and the diverse groups they represent, and the level of community interest. Normally a RAB consists of no more than 20 members. A RAB will be jointly chaired by the FUDS project manager for the property and a community representative elected by the community members of the RAB. RAB meetings are open to the public with meeting minutes recorded and made available to interested parties.

## **Next Steps**

At this time, Sacramento District is assessing the level of community interest in forming a RAB at Former Parks Air Force Base. The attached RAB community interest form asks whether there is interest in forming a RAB and if the respondent is interested in consideration to serve as a RAB member. All community interest forms must be received by August 6, 2020. If there is sufficient interest in forming a RAB, a selection panel that includes representatives from the Army Corps of Engineers, the state, and the community, as appropriate, will be formed to review applications and make a recommendation for the district commander's approval.

For more information about establishing a RAB at Former Parks Air Force Base or applying for RAB membership, please contact the Parks AFB FUDS Project Manager, at USACE Sacramento District, 1325 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95814; or SPK\_FUDS@usace.army.mil

More information about the FUDS program is available online at *www.fuds.mil* or the former Parks AFB FUDS project at *www.spk.usace.army.mil/Missions/Military-Projects/FUDS/Former-Parks-AFB/* 

## **Community Interest Form**

Restoration Advisory Board (RAB)

#### **FUDS Parks Air Force Base**

United States Army Corps of Engineers Sacramento District is assessing the level of community interest in forming a Restoration Advisory Board (please see attached fact sheet for further information) at the former Parks Air Force Base

Are you interested in having a Restoration Advisory Board formed at Parks Air Force Base? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

If a RAB is formed, are you interested in applying to serve as a volunteer member?

Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

If you answered "Yes" please complete the below portion of this form and also note: RAB members volunteer to serve a one- to two-year term and to attend all RAB meetings (frequency determined by the RAB and subject to change depending upon site activities, project phase and other circumstances). Duties and responsibilities include reviewing and commenting on technical documents and activities associated with the Defense Environmental Restoration Program at the former **Parks Air Force Base**. If a RAB is established, technical experts will be available to the RAB upon request. Members are expected to be available to community members and groups to facilitate the exchange of information and/or concerns between the community and the RAB. RAB community members can expect to devote approximately **40 hours per year** to the RAB. RAB members receive no compensation for their service.

Priority for RAB membership will be given to local residents who are impacted by the former **Parks Air Force Base**.

Name:		
Address:		
Phone:	Home	Fax
E-Mail Address:	Trone	Tux

Are you affiliated with any group related to environmental restoration activities? If yes, list the group and your position, if applicable. Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

- 1. Briefly state why you would like to participate on the RAB.
- 2. What experience have you had working as a member of a diverse group with common goals?
- 3. The community co-chairperson will be selected by community members of the RAB. Please indicate whether or not you are interested in being considered for the community co-chairperson position on the RAB.

Yes, I would like to be considered

\_\_\_\_No, I would not like to be considered

By submitting this form, you are indicating that you are aware of the time commitment that this appointment will require of you.

Privacy Act Statement

Authority: 10 U.S. Code (USC) 2705.

Principal Purpose: To identify members of the local community who are interested in serving on the RAB. The requested information will be used to develop a list of interested persons from which the community members of the RAB will be selected. The information will also be used by the Army to contact the individuals who are selected. Disclosure of the requested information is voluntary. Failure to provide all the requested information may prevent selection to serve on the RAB.

Applicant signature

Date

Please email this form by August 10, 2020 to:

Parks AFB FUDS Project Manager at SPK FUDS@usace.army.mil

Or mail it by August 6, 2020 to:

FUDS Parks AFB RAB United States Army Corps of Engineers Sacramento District CESPK-PMM 1325 J Street Sacramento, CA 95814