



Published to keep the Galena community informed of the Air Force's environmental cleanup progress | July 2011

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Clockwise from top: Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) members from L to R: Al Weilbacher, Air Force Co-Chair; Tim Bodony, Community Co-Chair; March Runner, Loudon Tribal Council; Phil Koontz, RAB member; John Stam, RAB member. Not pictured: Norman Burgett, RAB member; Marvin Thurman, RAB member

Alaska Department of Transportation (ADOT) representative: Colette Foster. Not pictured: Sam Myers

Alaska Department of Conservation (ADEC) representatives from L to R: Fred Vreeman, Amanda Loomis, Andy Larson (contractor), and Linda Liu

Galena FOL Restoration Contacts

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Feedback, Comments, and More Information

I would like more information about the environmental cleanup of former Galena FOL.

I would like more information about the Restoration Advisory Board for former Galena FOL.

Please let us know how we are doing. Your comments and opinions are welcome and assist the Air Force in providing the most accurate and up-to-date information regarding the cleanup of former Galena FOL. Fill out this form and send it to the address listed below.

Name (Mr./Mrs./Ms.) _____

Organization _____

Street address _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Additional Comments _____

Detach and mail this section in a stamped envelope to: AFRPA/Public Affairs, 2261 Hughes Ave., Suite 121, San Antonio, TX 78236-9821

Performance Based Contracts

The Air Force Base Realignment and Closure Program is constantly innovating to meet the needs of communities it serves. To help achieve the goal of returning land back to the community faster, the Air Force is using Performance Based Contracts. PBCs focus on results rather than methods, allowing private industry contractors to provide the best and brightest solutions to achieve site closure in a shorter time frame. Simply put, the Air Force identifies "what" needs to be done and the contractor proposes "how" to get it done.

The Air Force still leads the cleanup effort and will maintain a strong presence at Galena to ensure completion of remedial action. The contract is expected to be awarded in fall 2012 and will include all sites at the former base.

In anticipation of the upcoming Galena PBC contract award, contractors will be onsite July 27, 2011 to visit the sites and take a look at the existing remediation systems.

The Air Force will hold a meeting for community members interested in providing services, labor, equipment, or lodging to prospective PBC contractors on Tuesday, July 26, 2011 at 3 p.m. at Larson Charlie Community Hall.

Please contact Al Weilbacher at 210-395-8239 (adolph.weilbacher@us.af.mil) if you are interested in attending or would like more information.

Interim Removal Action Ahead

The Air Force contracted CH2M Hill to conduct an Interim Removal Action (IRA) beginning August 1, 2011 at six locations around the former Galena FOL. The goal of the IRA is to excavate soil with the highest levels of petroleum-contamination and then transport it to a landfarm for treatment. Once treated, the soil will be given to the City of Galena for use as landfill cover. Until the landfarm is constructed next year, soil will be temporarily stockpiled on the old Campion runway.

To maximize soil cleanup, the plan is to remove as much of the contaminated material as possible during the low-water season from August to October 2011. Sites SS005 near the former Wilderness Hall and AST1569 near the former RAPCON building will be excavated first to ensure work is completed prior to the start of school. The Air Force is hopeful all contaminated soil at these two sites can be removed during the IRA eliminating the need for further soil cleanup.

During the IRA, normal vehicular and pedestrian traffic routes will be affected. The next page shows maps of detours and road closures to help you plan ahead and avoid delays.

Throughout the duration of the IRA, the Air Force will remain engaged with the community to keep you informed of the latest developments.

Big Plans for Remainder of 2011

In addition to the IRA, the Air Force and its contractor, CH2M Hill, plan to complete field investigations at the remaining sites around Galena to complete the characterization of contamination. The team will continue sampling at sites started in 2010 and begin the investigations at the remaining sites. These sites are some of the more contaminated areas of the former base.

“We are confident 2011 will go a long way toward completing cleanup at Galena,” said BRAC Environmental Coordinator Al Weilbacher.

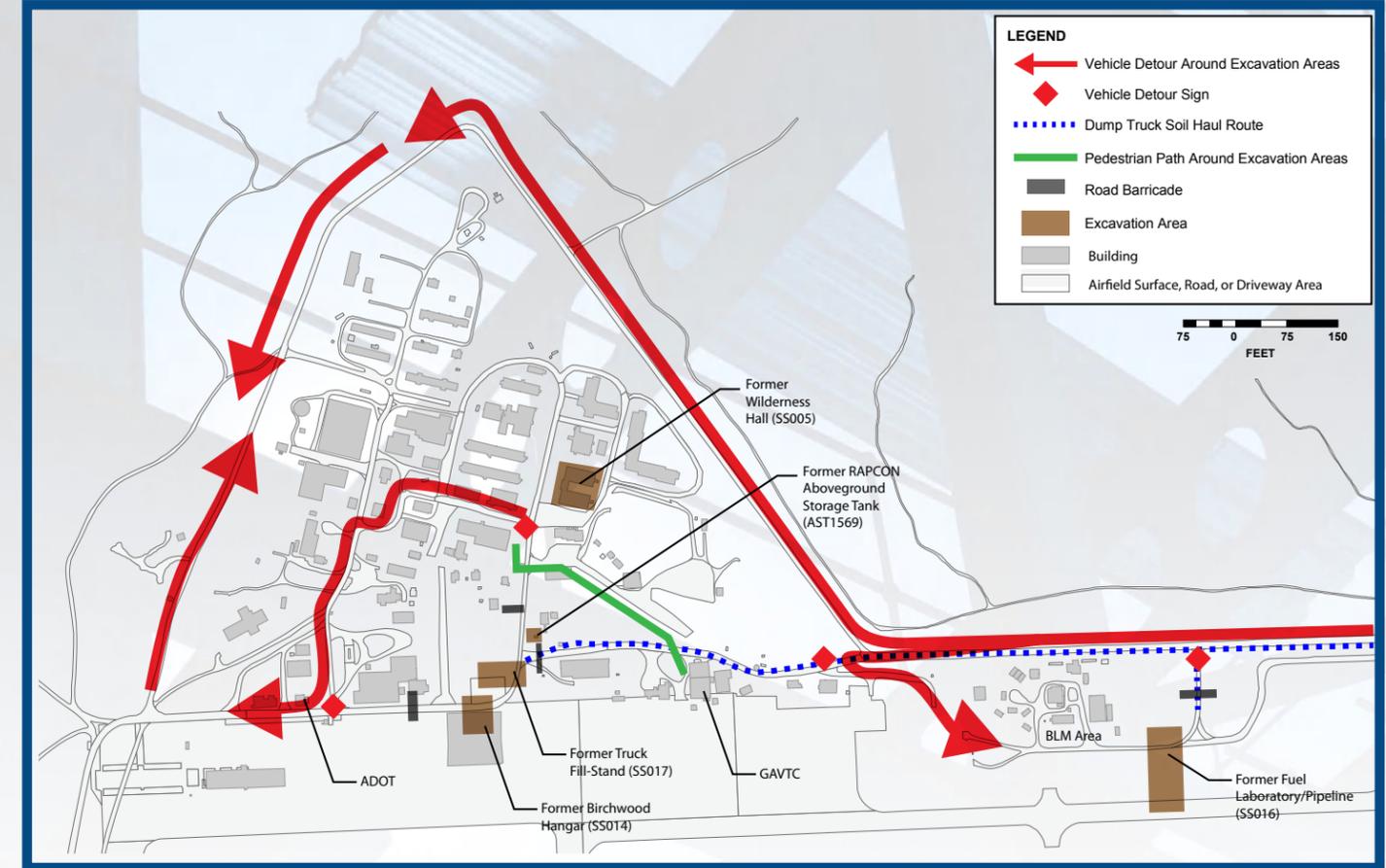
The team will continue groundwater contamination investigations, conduct additional aquifer testing and install monitoring wells. The first group of monitoring wells is being installed now and additional wells will be added as information from the field investigations becomes available.

Also ahead in 2011 is the removal of abandoned Air Force equipment; performing supplemental investigation near the former munitions sites; and optimizing the remediation systems currently in place.

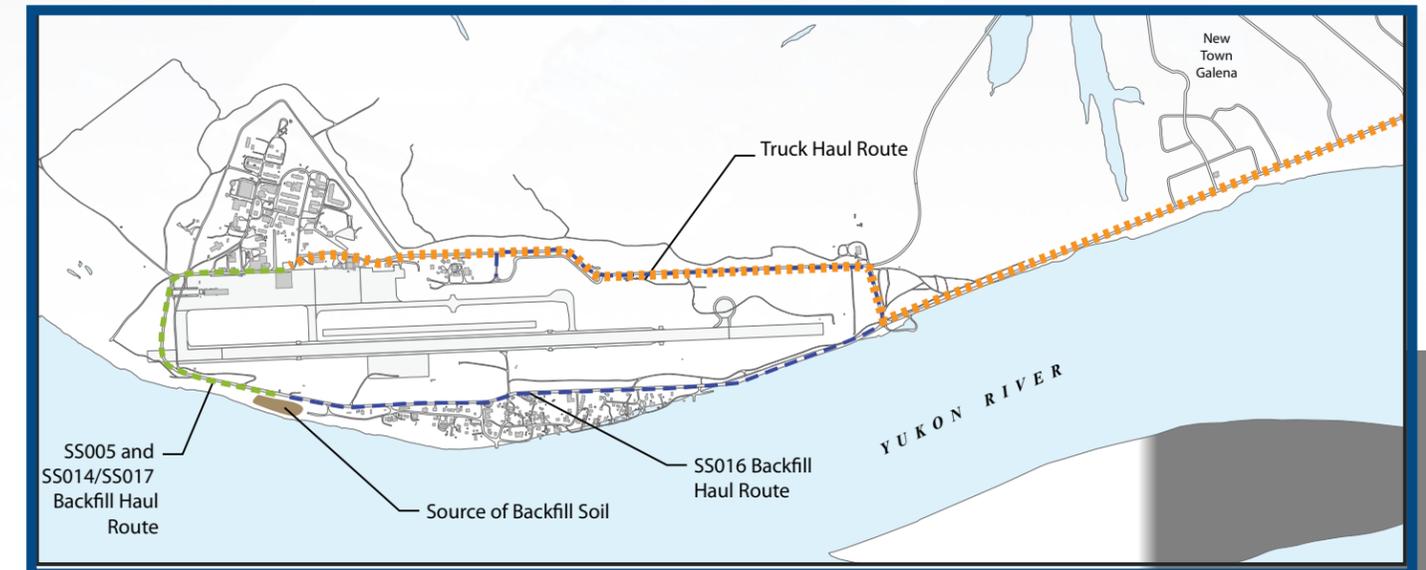
“We are confident 2011 will go a long way toward completing cleanup at Galena.”

*- AL WEILBACHER
AIR FORCE BRAC ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR,
FORMER GALENA FOL*

Left: Among the major things accomplished in 2010 was the installation of a bioreactor at Site SS015 just south of the runway. The bioreactor is essentially an excavation filled with locally produced mulch and vegetable oil that will break down the groundwater contaminants over time, demonstrating “green technology”. The solar panels, shown here, power the pumps that recirculate the contaminated groundwater through the bioreactor.



Above: Map detailing detour route around the former Galena FOL. Signs will be posted near the detours to help guide residents throughout the duration of the IRA.



Above: Map showing the various truck routes. Expect approximately 40 round trips per day, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., on each route as follows:

- Truck Haul Route: Aug 1 - Sep 30
- SS005 and SS014/SS017 Backfill Haul Route : Aug 1 - Sep 30
- SS016 Backfill Haul Route: Aug 23 - Sep 30

