



This fact sheet is designed to keep the community of Colorado Springs and all interested persons informed as to the progress of environmental restoration activities at the U.S. Air Force Academy. The following highlights program activities and achievements since our last update in 2015. As noted in previous updates, all restoration sites have been closed with regulatory concurrence, except Landfill No. 1 and Landfill No. 2.



NEW SINCE OUR 2015 UPDATE

December 2015: The Annual Long-term Monitoring (LTM) Report for Landfills 6 and 7 was approved. This report presents the results from the 2015 annual groundwater and surface water monitoring. The metals concentrations for both ground and surface waters were found to be minimal at both landfill sites. And consistent with Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) February 2015 letter, the frequency of long-term ground and surface water monitoring was reduced from annually to every two and a half years (30-months).

March 2016: An Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) was published. The EE/CA was to evaluate alternatives for an interim removal action (IRA) for polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH)-contaminated soil at Abandoned Skeet Range (also known as Munitions Response Site [MRS] TS014). The alternative chosen was to do excavation and off-site disposal of the TS014 MRS site.

June 2016: A Final Action Memorandum, Interim Removal Action for TS014 was proposed for a soil IRA. The proposed IRA mitigated unacceptable risks posed to human health and the environment at the MRS. The recommended removal alternative was to address the PAH contamination as described above. Thusly, this Action Memorandum accepts the preferred alternatives recommended in the EA/CA.

January 2017: The Site Specific Final Report USAFA, MMRP Interim Action, TS014, Abandoned Skeet Range was published. This Site-Specific Final Report (SSFR) summarized the activities and results of an IRA performed at the TS014 site. The primary scope of the IRA involved the surface removal of munitions debris (MD), excavation and disposal of soil contaminated with PAHs, and removal of clay pigeon debris. The objectives of the overall project were to remove soils with PAHs to support unlimited use/unrestricted exposure (UU/UE) of the property.

January 2017: The CDPHE wrote a letter addressing the Site Specific Final Report USAFA, MMRP Interim Action, TS014, Abandoned Skeet Range. The Division concurred with the conclusions and recommendations in this report.

January 2017: The Academy's contractor completed inspections for landfill caps, surface water controls, warning signs, and seep covers. Minor cracks were noted for Landfill No. 7. Some suggestions for tree and noxious weed removal were made by the contractor.

March 2017: The Academy completed a status report on Colorado Environmental Covenants Certification Form, to comply with the requirements found in the Notice of Environmental Use Restrictions for Landfills 6 and 7. The report was provided to CDPHE and was included in the administrative record at the East Branch Library.

March 2017: USAFA announced the Proposed Plan for Munition Response Actions for taking no further remedial action at the Abandoned Skeet Range MRS TS014 site.

December 2017: The Academy submitted the Final Second Five-Year Review Report Site 6 (landfill No. 1) and Site 7 (Landfill No. 2) to CDPHE for review. This five-year review (FYR) for 2016 constitutes the second required review and reporting period for the USAFA, and includes data and findings from June 2011 through June 2016. The conclusions drawn from this Review were:

- (1) To continue implementing approved remedies specified in the approved RODs until such time as groundwater contaminant of concern (COC) are below Colorado Basic Standards for groundwater;
- (2) Reduce monitoring frequency from annually to once every 30 months;
- (3) Include 1,4 dioxane for next scheduled sampling round in order to assess it is present; and
- (4) Remove small pine trees at Site 6 and Russian olive trees at Site 7.

The Administrative Record for the Academy Environmental Restoration Program can be found at:
East Branch of Pike's Peak Library (ask at Reference Desk) 5550 North Union Blvd.
Colorado Springs, CO 80918

Have questions or want to be put on the email list to receive this update each year?
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