

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 2014. 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 2014 UPDATE

February 2014: A Comprehensive Site Evaluation (CSE) Phase 1/2 was completed for the Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP). The goal of the CSE is to identify areas where past military munitions activities or potential munitions response areas may pose a risk to human health or the environment.

July 2014: The Academy's contractor completed inspections of landfill caps, surface water controls, warning signs, and seep covers. Groundwater and surface water locations were sampled for metals. Minor cracks were noted in the Landfill No. 2.

February 2015: Long term monitoring plan was completed.

February 2015: The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) reviewed and accepted final versions of long term monitoring plans. CDPHE has accepted a reduction in annual groundwater/surface water monitoring from annually to once every 30 months.

March 2015: The Academy completed a status report on environmental covenants at both landfills, to comply with the requirements found in the Notice of Environmental Use Restrictions. The report was provided to CDPHE and will be included in the administrative record at the East Branch Library.

2014 MONITORING RESULTS

Groundwater: As was reported in 2014, only downgradient point of compliance wells were sampled for metals. Metals (dissolved arsenic, iron, and manganese) continue to exceed Colorado standards at Landfill No. 1 in two monitoring wells. At Landfill No. 2, dissolved iron and manganese exceeded Colorado groundwater standards in (2) monitoring wells.

Surface Water Landfill No. 1: Dissolved manganese exceeded Colorado surface water standards at (2) locations.

Surface Water Landfill No. 2: Total iron exceeded Colorado surface water standards at one location. Dissolved manganese exceeded standards at all three sampling locations

Soil Sampling at the Abandoned Skeet Range (TS014): Two areas were identified as part of this evaluation and were eligible under the MMRP. These include a former ammunition building 1009 (Site-SA015) and an abandoned skeet range (Site-TS014). There was no evidence of visual military munitions at SA015, however there was evidence of debris including broken clay pigeons at TS014. Subsequent soil sampling found concentrations of Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAH) analytes above human health screening criteria and metal analytes below this criteria.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES THIS REPORTING PERIOD

- *Continue long-term groundwater and surface water monitoring. Continue landfill remedy inspections and repair cracks in Landfill No. 2.
- *Provide inspection and monitoring reports to CDPHE for review. Update the administrative record and make it available to the public.
- *Contaminated soil removal is scheduled for 2015/2016 at TS014.

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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