



Project: Buxton Naval Facility FUDS Property

RAB Meeting

Date: April 30, 2026, 5:30 pm

Location: Cape Hatteras Anglers Club, 47231 Light Plant Rd, Buxton, NC 27920

Meeting Purpose: Quarterly RAB Meeting

Participants

RAB Members:

- Brian Harris, Community Co-Chair
- Brett Barley, Community member
- Betsy Gwin, Community member
- Alyson Flynn, NC Coastal Federation
- Stewart (Bud) Nelson, Community member
- Carla Reynolds, Community member
- Michael Gould, Community member - Absent
- Meaghan Johnson, National Park Service
- Mary Ellon Ballance, Dare County Commissioner - Absent
- Shelia Davies, Dare County Department of Health & Human Services
- Lat Williams, Community member - Absent

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Savannah District

- COL Ron Sturgeon, Commander, Savannah District
- Thomas Woodie, Deputy District Engineer for Programs and Project Management (DPM)
- COL Rob Fairel, incoming Commander, Savannah District
- Sara Keisler, COR and FUDS Program Manager
- Gayle Garland, Project Manager and Co-Chair
- Kyle Lewis, Senior Environmental Assistant District Counsel
- Rob Anthony

North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ)

- George Adams, Engineer, Division of Waste Management, Superfund, Federal Remediation Branch

Dawson Solutions, LLC (DAWSON)

- Alyssa Drye, RAB Facilitator
- Elizabeth Caulfield, Environmental Scientist

Eastern Shawnee Bay West Joint Venture (ESPS-BW JV PM)

- Hillary Weber, Program Manager
- Ryan Stobaugh, Project Manager

Nicklaus EnSafe JV

- David Clextan, PG, Program Manager



** These meeting minutes are intended to capture and paraphrase overall discussions from the Buxton Naval Facility FUDS Property RAB Meeting held on April 30, 2026. The meeting was held as an in-person-only RAB meeting with 33 attendees present.*

RAB Meeting Welcome, Roll Call, Safety and Operational Announcements

The meeting began at 5:30 p.m. Ms. Alyssa Drye welcomed the RAB members and community participants and began the meeting with RAB member roll call. Safety and operational announcements were presented by Ms. Drye.

COL Ron Sturgeon gave opening remarks to the RAB. He thanked everyone for attending and acknowledged everyone's support during the transitional period. He noted leadership will continue to prioritize this project during the transition to COL Rob Fairel. COL Fairel introduced himself and thanked everyone for attending.

RAB Business

The RAB confirmed they have reviewed the FY25 Interim Response Action Completion Report (IRACR) and the Limited Containment and Removal Operation Technical Memorandum Report and have no comments.

Ms. Alyssa Drye proposed the new RAB meeting date for July 23, 2026. Two RAB members noted they would not be able to attend on this date. Ms. Gayle Garland and Ms. Drye agreed to create a SurveyMonkey questionnaire to find a date suitable for all RAB members.

Update on Current Buxton Naval Facility FUDS Property Environmental Restoration Projects

Ms. Gayle Garland gave a technical presentation on the Overview of Current Projects 01, 03, and 05 (see attached presentation). Ms. Garland discussed the project status and findings, and touched on challenges, lessons learned, and next steps. Following the presentation, the RAB members were given time to ask questions about the technical presentation. A copy of the presentation was requested.

2025 Interim Response Action

Ms. Hilliary Weber gave a presentation on the Interim Response Action that is being conducted by Eastern Shawnee Bay West Joint Venture (ESPS-BW JV) (see attached presentation). Ms. Weber shared monthly data, pictures, and graphics for the project. Ms. Weber noted the prior Heating Oil Plant area was identified as the largest area of impact, and they are now working on site restoration.

Ms. Weber presented a video of the site work conducted over time, showing each stage of the FY25 Interim Response Action, including excavation activities, the dewatering process, infrastructure debris removal, segregated waste, GAC Filtration, and daily backfill requirements.

The following reflects discussions related to the presentation:



COL Sturgeon said on behalf of the Savannah District, he was extremely proud of Bay West's work to mobilize quickly and remain transparent.

Mr. George Adams asked about the Oil Plant's whereabouts on the map. Ms. Weber noted it will be identified in the report by GIS.

Ms. Carla Reynolds asked why only 3.25 acres of the property were investigated, even though the site is over 6 acres. Ms. Reynolds asked for assurances about the job. Ms. Weber explained that much of the site had been lost to erosion and, therefore, was not investigated. Ms. Weber noted that they have sidewall and floor samples to address the remaining conditions in the upcoming report. Ms. Weber assured Ms. Reynolds that once the data are validated, the report will be shared. Ms. Weber noted that, despite limited volume capacity and time constraints, they worked diligently in coordination with USACE to support the continuation of excavation activities. Ms. Weber noted that testing this area will provide peace of mind regarding the remaining conditions.

Mr. Brett Barley asked Ms. Weber, in her opinion and based on the extent of excavation completed, whether additional excavation efforts should be anticipated at a later date. Ms. Weber noted that future site activities will require intensive efforts within the highest-concentration area at depth as well as removal of infrastructure. The challenge with removing the infrastructure is that it no longer provides protection from erosion. She mentioned the upcoming beach restoration as a possible remedy for erosion. She mentioned there may be potential for additional excavation. Ms. Weber noted Mr. Dave Clexton's investigation will drive the next phase. Ms. Weber emphasized that their work has taken years off the cleanup timeline and noted that groundwater needs to be addressed next.

Petroleum Comprehensive Sampling and Analysis

Mr. Dave Clexton, PG, gave a presentation on the upcoming Petroleum Comprehensive Sampling and Analysis (see attached), which will be performed by the Nicklaus EnSafe JV. Mr. Clexton introduced all lead and supporting staff and subcontractors for the Petroleum Comprehensive Sampling and Analysis and discussed the objective and the investigative approach.

The following reflects discussions related to the presentation:

Ms. Alyson Flynn asked how to determine when to stop sampling. Mr. Clexton responded that at a sandy site, there is nothing to stop it, so they expect to only go 30 feet below ground surface (bgs) during the first mobilization. He noted they will go up to 30 feet bgs with High Resolution Site Characterization (HRSC), collect soil samples to validate the HRSC, and then go deeper to collect a depth-discrete groundwater sample. Mr. Clexton noted that they will remobilize to collect groundwater samples up to 50 feet bgs if data show that the first mobilization did not yield good results.

Ms. Carla Reynolds asked why there is some orange shading, representing areas excavated by ESPS-BW JV, outside of the project area on the site map. Mr. Clexton noted that the contract includes options to move outside the boundary if needed, and that they



have good insight from the FY25 Response Action activities into what they expect to see. Mr. Clexton also stated that he has the same ability to investigate outside of the project area if necessary.

Questions from the Public/Additional Input

Ms. Drye opened the meeting to the public, noting that 15 minutes would be available for questions and comments. The following reflects questions or comments received:

Open to Public Questions-

Mr. Eugene Bridges asked a question on the Comprehensive Sampling grid map to identify where the softball field is located. Mr. Bridges was informed that this area is not included in any of the sampling. He noted that he was told a story that the softball field was built by a Coast Guard Commander, that practice was stopped due to contamination, and that the field could no longer be used. He noted that some investigation should be done, and Ms. Alyssa Drye responded that this was outside the scope of the RAB.

Mr. Dave Hallac with the National Park Service provided remarks. He informed the RAB that staging for beach nourishment will start the week of May 24. He noted that the groin repair will be staged either near the Old Lighthouse Road or at Lifeguard Beach. The debris pile will be removed over the next few weeks. The beach access was restricted due to debris and potential contamination, and they will assess the situation to determine if they can reopen as soon as possible. He thanked Bay West and the USACE Savannah District for their efforts and focus on Buxton. He noted he is happy that work is being done at Cape Hatteras to help restore the seashore and support the community.

Ms. Julie Youngman said the site looked amazing compared to last year. She asked whether the new investigation is only for petroleum or if other contaminants will also be tested. Mr. Clexton and Ms. Sara Kiesler noted they will test contaminants such as pesticides and metals as required by UST guidelines; however, no other chemicals are tested unless they are being disposed of, such as PFAS.

Ms. Susan Sigmon owns a house in the area and said she attended a community meeting in the past. She expressed gratitude for the work conducted and noted COL Sturgeon stuck with his commitment to see this project through. She asked what the next steps would be if petroleum was found. Ms. Kiesler noted that the next steps will depend on numerous factors, such as concentration and exactly what is found, to help form a plan of action. COL Sturgeon noted that even though funds will need to be approved by Congress, progress will not halt. COL Sturgeon noted the use of funds goes to a priority project and has noted Buxton has been a priority. He noted everyone has been transparent, and it will not stop.

Ms. Sheila Davies asked if the Corrective Action Plan would cover the next stages of work that would be needed. She was informed that the FY28 Decision Document will include the chosen remedy for cleaning the site, along with any other work that may be needed on-site.



Ms. Drye provided closing remarks and thanked everyone for coming.

Action Items:

Set a date for the next RAB Meeting.

Attachments

- A. Update on Current Projects Presentation
- B. 2025 Response Presentation
- C. Comprehensive Sampling Presentation

These meetings are approved by the Buxton Naval Facility FUDS property RAB Co-Chairs:

X

Gayle Garland
USACE Co-Chair

X Brian R. Harris

Brian Harris
Community Co-Chair



BUXTON NAVAL FACILITY FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITE

**Technical Presentation
Cape Hatteras Anglers Club
April 30, 2026**



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Buxton Projects

- Project 01 Petroleum Comprehensive Soil and Groundwater Sampling
Current Status – 2025 Interim Response Action Fieldwork complete May 06, 2026
- Project 03 Groundwater Monitoring
Current Status – Paused until comprehensive sampling is complete
- Project 05 Small Arms Range
Current Status – Approved July 30, 2025. Not currently on the approved workplan for funding, but once funding is available a site inspection to evaluate lead will be performed



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Project 01

2024 Interim Response Action

Objective: Deploy a team to remove visible, petroleum-impacted soil and perform confirmatory soil sampling in areas along the beach and dunes that have exhibited odors and sheen.

Current Status: Fieldwork completed. Excavations started on October 2, 2024, and were completed on December 10, 2024.



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Project 01 Updates

2024 Interim Response Action

Ongoing Work: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) received comments on the Interim Response Action Completion Report (IRACR) from all stakeholders on January 13, 2026. Revised IRACR submitted to stakeholders for review April 7, 2026.



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Project 01

2025 Interim Response Action

Objective: Contain petroleum contamination to prevent migration and remove petroleum-impacted soil from the beach and dunes.

Current Status: Excavations are complete with demobilization to conclude by May 7, 2026.



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Project 01 Updates

2025 Interim Response Action

Fieldwork included soil excavation with and without water, encompassing both the unsaturated and saturated zones. Removal of impacted soil from the saturated zone required dewatering and proper management of the associated groundwater. Large quantities of impacted soil and water were removed from a likely secondary source area, the former Heating Oil Plant.



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Project 01 Updates (Continued)

Buxton Removal Volumes		Through April 18, 2026
Impacted Soil (Tons)		
Staged On Site	Transported For Disposal	Total Removed
13,110.70	11,796	24,907
Impacted Water (Gal)		
Staged On Site	Transported For Disposal	Total Removed
-	325,981	325,981
Concrete and Infrastructure debris (abandoned utilities, fencing, Asphalt, etc.) (lbs)		
Staged On Site	Transported For Disposal	Total Removed
-	7,904,486	7,904,486
Asbestos Pipe Removed (LF)		
Staged On Site	Transported For Disposal	Total Removed
29	274	303
Volume of Storm Water treated by GAC and Discharged On Site (Gal)*		
		122,500



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Project 01 Excavations Status

Pink Shading = Project Area

Black Circles/Squares/ Rectangles = Former Navy/
Coast Guard Structures

Gray Shading = Excavation Underway (not complete)

Green Shading = Excavated Areas without Petroleum
Impacts

Orange Shading = Excavated Areas with Petroleum
Impacts



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Project 01 Challenges

- Weather events
 - Excavation delays
 - Stormwater management
 - Erosion of the investigation area
- Extent of investigation and excavations
 - High volumes of material to dispose of



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Project 01 Lessons Learned

- Consider alternate contractual methods to allow for more variability in disposal and replenishment quantities
- Geophysical investigation results proved helpful in locating impacted areas



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Next Steps

Petroleum Comprehensive Sampling

82	Project Planning	214 days	Mon 11/18/24	Thu 9/11/25		
110	Modification Award	129 days	Mon 4/6/26	Thu 10/1/26		
111	Revised Draft UFP-QAPP	30 days	Mon 4/6/26	Fri 5/15/26		
112	PDT Review: Revised Draft UFP-QAPP	5 days	Mon 5/18/26	Fri 5/22/26	111	
113	Response to Comments on Revised Draft Review	5 days	Mon 5/25/26	Fri 5/29/26	112	
114	PDT Approval of RTCs	3 days	Mon 6/1/26	Wed 6/3/26	113	
115	EMCX Review: Revised Draft UFP-QAPP	10 days	Thu 6/4/26	Wed 6/17/26	114	
116	Response to Comments on EMCX Revised Draft Review	5 days	Thu 6/18/26	Wed 6/24/26	115	
117	PDT Review of RTCs on EMCX Comments: Revised Draft UFP-QAPP	5 days	Thu 6/25/26	Wed 7/1/26	116	
118	Revised RTCs	5 days	Thu 7/2/26	Wed 7/8/26	117	
119	EMCX Approval of RTCs	3 days	Thu 7/9/26	Mon 7/13/26	118	
120	Revised Draft Final UFP-QAPP	5 days	Tue 7/14/26	Mon 7/20/26	119	
121	Stakeholders Review: Revised Draft Final UFP-QAPP	20 days	Tue 7/21/26	Mon 8/17/26	120	
122	Response to Comments on Revised Draft Final Review	10 days	Tue 8/18/26	Mon 8/31/26	121	
123	PDT Approval of RTCs	5 days	Tue 9/1/26	Mon 9/7/26	122	
124	Stakeholder Backcheck: Revised Draft Final UFP-QAPP	5 days	Tue 9/8/26	Mon 9/14/26	123	
125	PDT/Stakeholder Approval of Revised Draft Final UFP-QAPP	3 days	Tue 9/15/26	Thu 9/17/26	124	
126	Final UFP/QAPP	5 days	Fri 9/18/26	Thu 9/24/26	125	
127	FUDSChem eQAPP Setup	5 days	Fri 9/25/26	Thu 10/1/26	126	
128						
129	Task 2: Site Investigation and Reporting	253 days	Tue 9/22/26	Thu 9/9/27		
130	Site Investigation	103 days	Tue 9/22/26	Thu 2/11/27		
131	Procurement, Mobilization, and Utility Clearance	15 days	Fri 9/25/26	Thu 10/15/26	126	
132	High-Resolution Site Characterization (HRSC) - Mobilization 1	20 days	Fri 10/16/26	Thu 11/12/26	131	
133	Soil and Groundwater Sampling - Mobilization 1	5 days	Fri 11/13/26	Thu 11/19/26	132	
134	Receipt of Analytical Results from Mobilization 1	15 days	Fri 11/20/26	Thu 12/10/26	133	
135	Groundwater Sampling - Mobilization 2	10 days	Fri 12/11/26	Thu 12/24/26	134	
136	Receipt of Analytical Results - Mobilization 2	15 days	Fri 12/25/26	Thu 1/14/27	135	
137	Receipt of Data Validation Report	20 days	Fri 1/15/27	Thu 2/11/27	136	
138						



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Next Steps

FY25 IRACR – Fiscal Year (FY) 26 Q4*

Petroleum Comprehensive Sampling Report – FY27 Q4*

Corrective Action Plan – FY28 Q3*

**subject to change*



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For More Information

Project Website:



www.sas.usace.army.mil/Missions/Formerly-Used-Defense-Sites/Buxton-Naval-Facility/

Project Photos:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/savannahcorps/albums/72177720328649228/>

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/savannahcorps/albums/72177720321102827/>

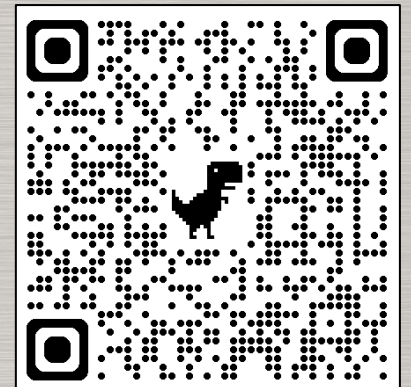
Email: cesas-FUDS@usace.army.mil



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2025 Interim Response Action

Restoration Advisory Board Meeting

April 2026

Agenda

01

Project Summary

02

Remote Site Visit

03

By the Numbers

Project Summary

- 7 Months
- Over 31,500 labor hours
- 10 pieces of yellow iron
- 3 RAB meetings



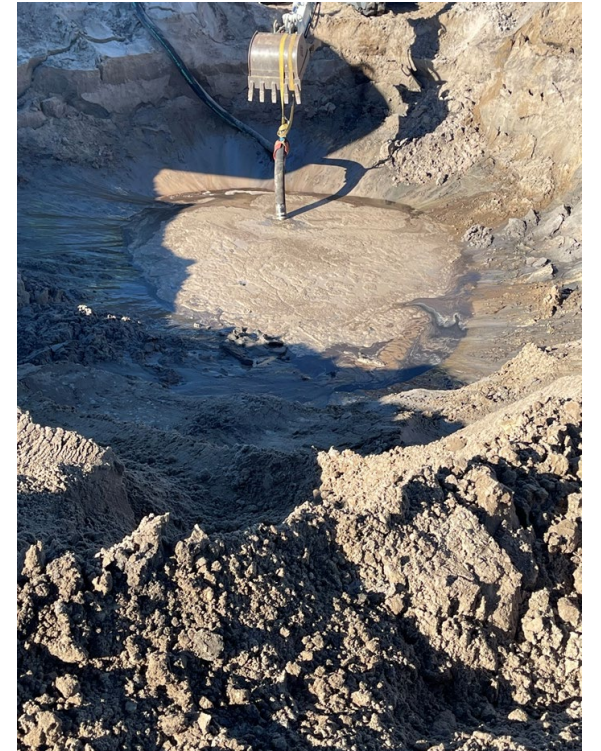
September – Mobilization and Site Prep



October – Site Prep Continues, Excavation Begins



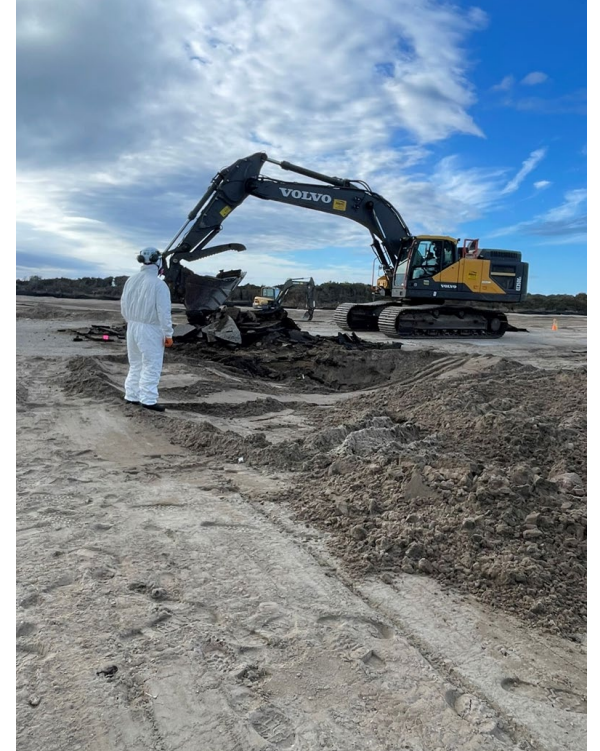
November – Storm Recovery, Excavation Continues



December – Excavation Continues, Begin GAC Water Filtration, First Soil Load-Out



January – Excavation Continues, Second Soil Load-Out



February – Excavation Continues, Rate of Impacted Soil Removal Increases



March – Excavation Continues, Magnetic Anomalies Investigated



April – Excavation Concludes, Final Soil Load- Out, Site Restoration, and Demobilization



Virtual Site Visit

By the Numbers

- Over 17,000 CY impacted soil excavated and removed
- Over 3.25 acres excavated to a minimum depth of 10'bgs
- Over 315,000 gallons of impacted water removed
- Over 275 ft asbestos pipe removed
- Over 5,000,000 lbs of concrete removed
- Over 2,800,000 lbs of infrastructure debris (abandoned utilities, fencing, asphalt etc) removed

Final Thoughts



Petroleum Comprehensive Sampling and Analysis at the Buxton Naval Facility Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS) Buxton, NC



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Savannah District



Contract No: W912HN-24-D-1001-1007
Task Order No: W912HN24D1005/
W912HN25F1002



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ENVIRONMENTAL CONTRACTOR

Nicklaus EnSafe JV

- **David Clexton, PG (Project Manager, Senior Geologist)**
- **Travis Darden, PG (Lead Field Geologist)**
- **Brad Closson, PG (Field Geologist)**

Supporting Staff:

- **David Warren (Senior Geologist)**
- **Amy Escalante (Lead Engineer)**
- **Christina Ashdown (Chemist)**
- **Heather Govenor (Risk Assessor)**

Key Subcontractors

- **Hana Engineers and Consultants, LLC (Drilling)**
- **Eagle Synergistic Optimizing Technologies, LLC (HRSC)**



Comprehensive Sampling Objective

Investigate the site for residual petroleum contamination that might have been left behind during previous removal efforts.

This effort includes:

- Quality Assurance Project Plan (currently under revision)
- High Resolution Site Characterization (HRSC) methods along with confirmation soil and groundwater sampling.
- Preparation of an Investigation Completion Report documenting the investigation findings.

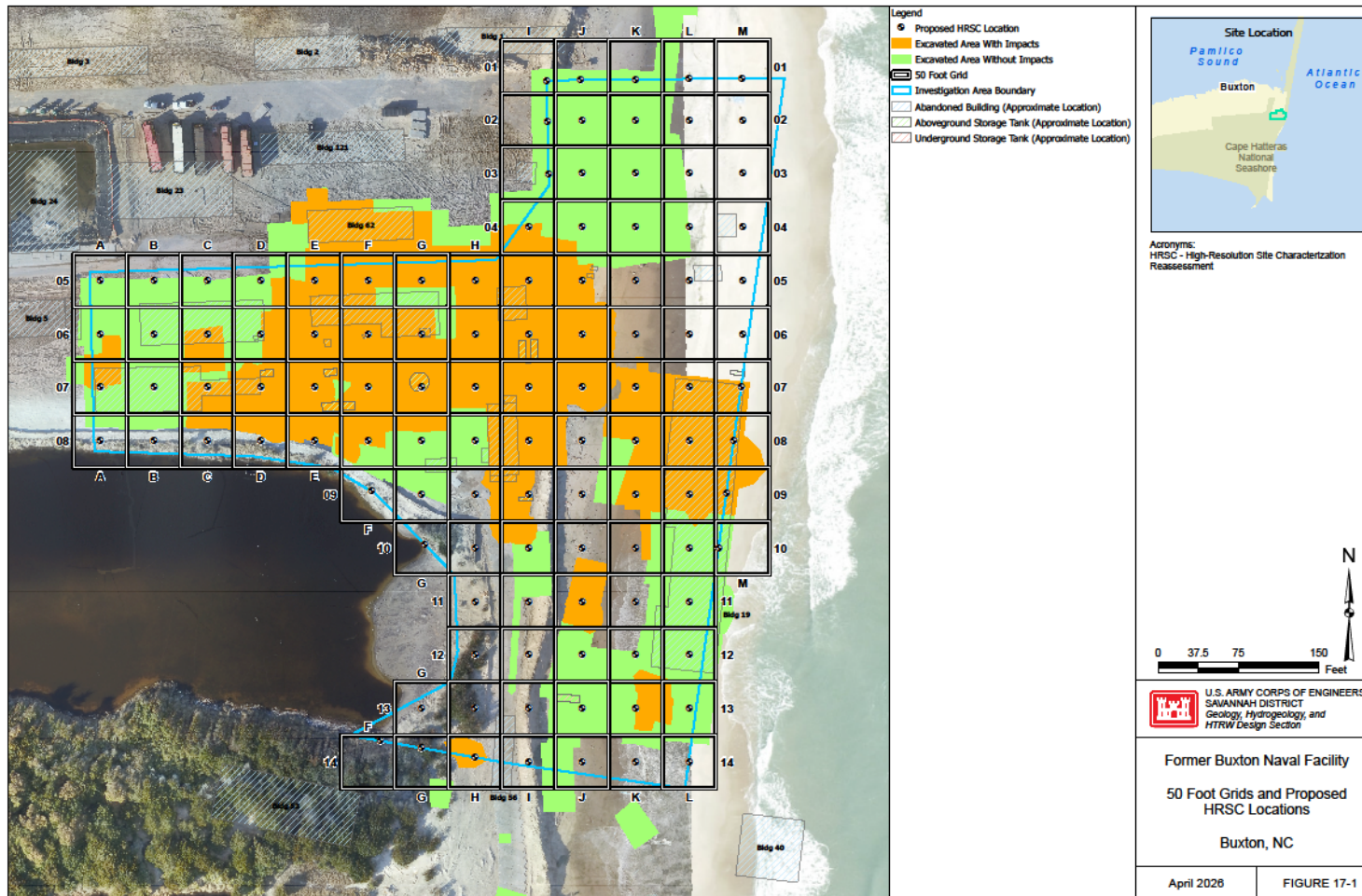
Why the Modification was Issued:

- Adapted to account for significant changes in site conditions following excavation activities and significant weather events.
- Implement a grid sampling approach to evaluate the entire site.
- Adds samples to eliminate remaining uncertainty.



Investigation Approach

- Establish 50' x 50' Grid of Investigation Area.



Investigation Approach

- **Mobilization 1 (~40 days):**
 - ▶ **Complete HRSC (OIHPT and MIHPT) at the center of each grid cell.**
 - 110 locations
 - ▶ **Collect confirmation soil and groundwater samples**
 - 28 locations
 - Up to 3 soil samples per location (84 samples)
 - Up to 2 samples per location (56 samples)
 - ▶ **Demobilize and analyze data from mobilization 1.**
- **Mobilization 2 (~10 days):**
 - ▶ **Collect deep groundwater samples at locations where exceedances are observed during Mobilization 1.**
 - Vertical groundwater delineation
 - Up to 33 deeper groundwater samples as needed.
- **Final Demobilization**
 - ▶ **Surveying, waste disposal, and site restoration**
- **Data Analysis and Reporting**
 - ▶ **Process sample analytical data and prepare draft Investigation Report.**



Comprehensive Sampling Methods

Direct Push Technology (DPT):

- Drilling equipment used to advance HRSC tooling.
- Used to drive hollow steel rods into the subsurface to collect soil and groundwater samples.
- Track mounted – ideal for sandy conditions



Comprehensive Sampling Methods

High Resolution Site Characterization (HRSC):

- **Optical Image Profiler & Hydraulic Profiling Tool (OIHPT)**
 - ▶ Specialized tooling advanced into the subsurface that detects petroleum product (LNAPL) in soil, soil permeability, and soil type/lithology.



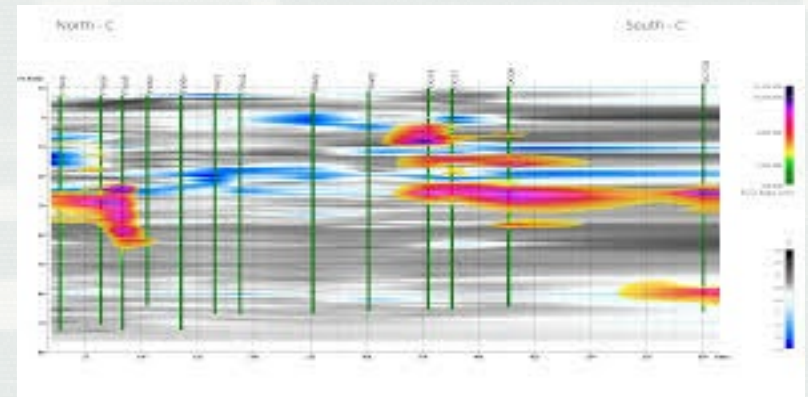
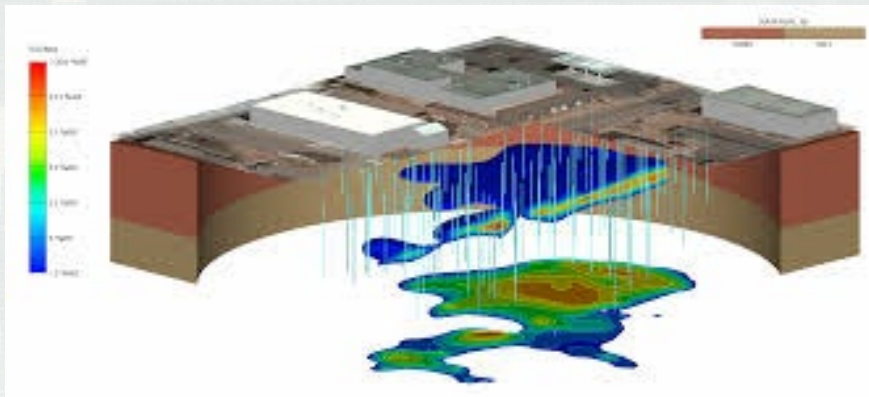
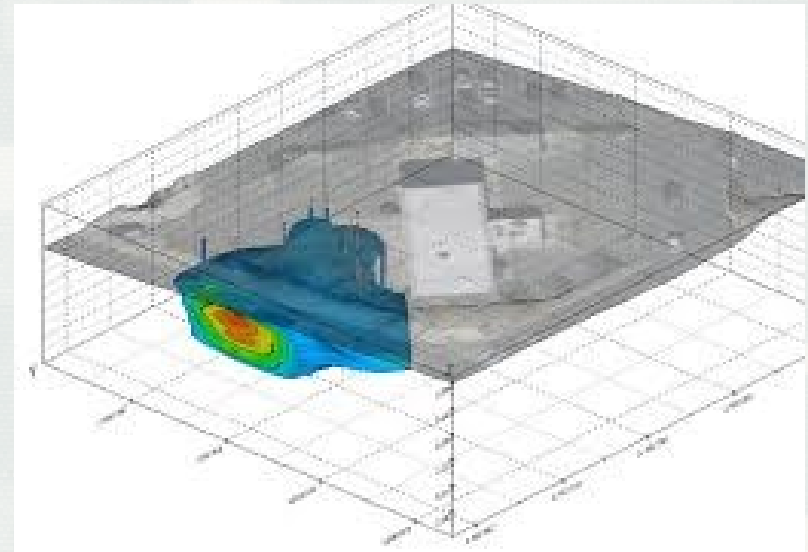
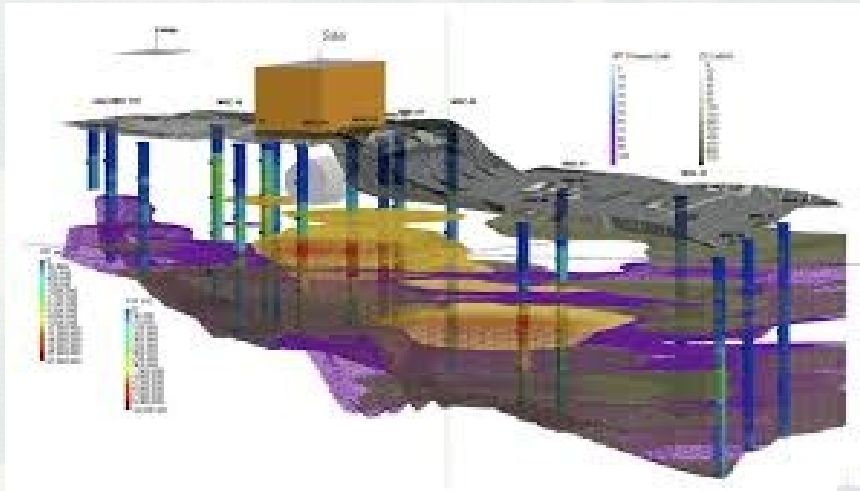
Comprehensive Sampling Methods

HRSC (cont'd)

- **Membrane Interface & Hydraulic Profiling Tool (MIHPT)**
 - ▶ Specialized tooling advanced into the subsurface that detects volatile petroleum hydrocarbons (VOCs) and some semi-volatile petroleum hydrocarbons (SVOCs), soil permeability, and soil type/lithology.



Examples of HRSC Output



General Schedule (Estimated)

Milestone	Target Date
QAPP (Work Plan) Revision	Summer 2026
Field Investigation	Late Summer/Fall 2026
Investigation Report	Following Data Evaluation



Questions

