



Joint Base Andrews Naval Air
Facility Washington
Air Force Civil Engineer Center



United States Air Force Announces the Proposed Plan for No Action at CS-C503 Joint Base Andrews Naval Air Facility Washington

November 2019

Introduction

This **Proposed Plan** presents the United States Air Force's (USAF's) proposed response of "No Action" at CS-C503, referred to hereafter as the "site," located at Joint Base Andrews Naval Air Facility Washington (JBA) in Camp Springs, Prince George's County, Maryland. The purpose of this **Proposed Plan** is to describe the site, provide a summary of the site history, and provide the justification that No Action is appropriate for the site to ensure protection of human health and the environment. In addition, an explanation of how the public can participate in the decision-making process for the site is presented. To assist the reader, key technical or administrative terms are in **bold type**. A glossary of these specialized terms is included at the end of this plan.

The USAF, the lead agency for cleanup activities at JBA, in consultation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Region 3 and the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), issues this document as part of the public participation requirements under Section 117(a) of the **Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)** of 1980 and Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Section 300.430(f)(2). Title 40 CFR 300 is known as the **National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP)**. This **Proposed Plan** describes CS-C503 and summarizes detailed technical information from the **Phase I Remedial Investigation (RI) Report** and opportunities for the public to participate in the decision-making process for the site.

JBA was proposed for the **National Priorities List (NPL)** on July 28, 1998, and was formally placed on the **NPL** on May 10, 1999. The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System (CERCLIS) identification number for the base is MD0570024000. To remediate contaminated sites at JBA, the Department of Defense and USEPA entered into a Federal Facility Agreement (FFA), which became effective January 11, 2012. The FFA establishes a procedural framework for developing and implementing response actions as required by **CERCLA**. The agreement is also designed to facilitate cooperation and communication between the USAF and USEPA regarding the response actions.

This **Proposed Plan** is required by Section 117(a) of **CERCLA** and Section 300.430(f)(2) of the **NCP**. **CERCLA** and the **NCP** require public participation in the process of selecting a cleanup remedy. USAF and USEPA, in consultation with MDE, Prince George's County Health Department (PGCHD), and the public, will select a final cleanup plan for CS-C503. The selected cleanup plan will be announced in a local newspaper notice and a document called the **Record of Decision (ROD)**.

Mark Your Calendar for the Public Comment Period

Public Comment Period

December 2, 2019, to December 31, 2019

Submit Written Comments

Questions and comments are welcomed at the public meeting, if it is held, or in writing during the **public comment period**. New information provided during the **public comment period** could result in the selection of a response that differs from the preferred one included herein.

The USAF, in consultation with the USEPA, MDE, and PGCHD, will review written comments on this **Proposed Plan** that are submitted during the **public comment period**. To submit comments or obtain further information, please refer to the insert page.



Public Meeting

The public is encouraged to contact the USAF if they have an interest in attending a public meeting where the USAF will explain this **Proposed Plan** and respond to questions.

The USAF will issue additional public notices to announce the date, time, and location of any public meeting. Additional oral and written comments will also be accepted at a public meeting. See page 4 for more information.

If interested in attending a CS-C503 public meeting, please send a request to:

JBAenvironmental@baywest.com.



Location of Administrative Record

This **Proposed Plan** is based on site-related documents contained in the **Administrative Record** file, which provides detailed information documenting the site background, investigation, and evaluation pertaining to CS-C503. A copy of the **Administrative Record** is available as part of the site's **Information Repository** located at the Prince George's County Memorial Library, Oxon Hill Branch. The address and hours for the library are listed in the "Community Participation" section on page 4. A website is also available that provides information about environmental cleanup efforts at Joint Base Andrews. Steps to access this website and documents pertaining to CS-C503 are provided in the "Community Participation" section on page 4.

This **Proposed Plan** summarizes information that can be found in greater detail in the **Phase I RI** and other documents in the **Administrative Record** for CS-C503.

The USAF and USEPA will make a final decision on the remedy for the site, in consultation with MDE and PGCHD, after reviewing and considering all information submitted during the 30-day **public comment period** for this **Proposed Plan**. The proposed decision on the remedial approach may be modified, or a remedial action may be selected, based on new information or public comments received. The final remedial decision for the site will be documented in the **ROD** for the site.

Site Background

JBA Description and History

JBA encompasses approximately 4,360 acres, which include runways, airfields, industrial areas, and housing and recreational facilities. Residential housing is the second largest land use on JBA after the airfield. Most of the housing is located on the west side of JBA.

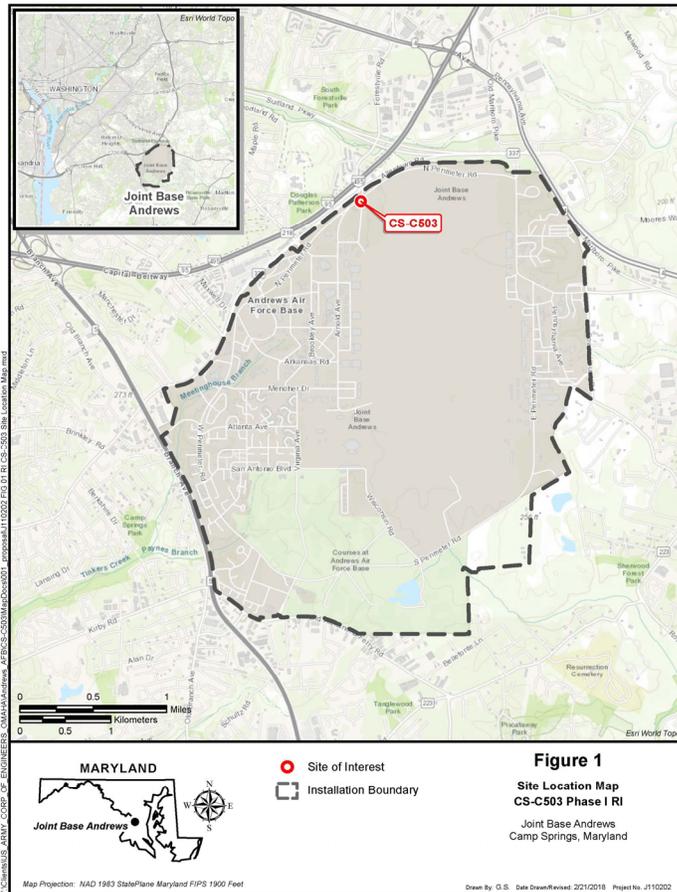
Outdoor recreation land use includes golf courses, ball fields, a tennis court, running tracks, and picnic areas. Most of the outdoor recreation facilities are concentrated west of the airfield in the southwest corner.

More than 12,000 active military personnel are stationed at JBA, which also employs more than 4,000 civilians. Currently, JBA is home to a variety of mission partners that include the following:

- 11th Wing—the JBA host wing
- Air Force District of Washington
- 89th Airlift Wing
- Air National Guard Readiness Center
- 113th Wing, District of Columbia Air National Guard
- 459th Air Refueling Wing
- Naval Air Facility
- 11th Medical Group

The history of JBA, formerly Andrews Air Force Base, began during the Civil War (1861–1865), when

Figure 1. Site Location Map CS-C503 Phase I RI



the Union Army used the area as an encampment. In 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt ordered a military airfield to be built in the area. The airfield was named Camp Springs Army Air Field, and it became operational in 1943. In 1945, the name of the airfield was changed to Andrews Field in honor of Lt. Gen. Frank M. Andrews, a USAF founding father.

In 1947, the Army Air Forces were abolished, and the USAF was established as a separate and equal element of the United States armed forces. In 2009, Andrews Air Force Base and the Naval Air Facility Washington became a joint base known as Joint Base Andrews Naval Air Facility, or Joint Base Andrews. JBA is best known for its special air missions—the transportation of senior government and military leaders. In March 1962, JBA officially became the "Home of Air Force One," the airplane for the President of the United States.

CS-C503 Description

CS-C503 is a stormwater retention pond located along the northwestern edge of JBA. The pond usually contains approximately 3 feet of water. The area is designated as open space in the **Installation Development Plan**.

Site Contamination

No **contaminants of concern (COCs)** are identified at CS-C503.

Site Characteristics

CS-C503 is a 50-foot-by-500-foot retention pond located near the intersection of Arnold Avenue and North Perimeter Road and directly north of Building 1889. The retention pond drainage area includes the Base Exchange (BX), Building 1811. Runoff from the building, asphalt loading area, and adjacent asphalt parking lot is conveyed via the storm sewer from the BX building to an outlet at the south end of the retention pond.

CS-C503 lies on the northern side of a surface water drainage divide. Based on the site topography and the existing stormwater drainage system, the overflow stormwater from the CS-C503 retention pond drains northeast to Henson Creek via a stormwater culvert and ultimately drains to the Potomac River. The elevation of the bottom of the retention pond is approximately 250 feet above mean sea level (amsl). In addition, the water level elevation is approximately 253 feet amsl, resulting in a normal water depth of 3 feet.

Previous Investigations

Prior to the **Phase I RI Report** discussed below (Bay West LLC [Bay West], 2013), no **CERCLA** removal actions or RIs were completed at CS-C503.

Based on historical aerial imagery review, the retention pond was constructed between 1993 and 1998. The retention pond was reconstructed in 2007 with the objective of removing excess sediment, trees, and vegetation, and returning the site to a dry-bottom pond according to the Project Summary Report and associated construction as-builts (Bay West, 2013). The scope of work included excavating approximately 870 tons of sediment over a 220-foot-by-35-foot area. Prior to excavation, two composite samples were collected from the sediment in the retention pond for waste characterization. The samples were collected from the influent and effluent areas of the pond. Results of the analysis indicated that **Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs)** and **Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons** were present in excavated

sediment. Due to groundwater seeps encountered during excavation, the site was restored to a wet-bottom pond (Bay West, 2013).

In 2009, URS Corporation completed a Final Evaluation Report, Air Force Compliance Clean-Up Sites, Identification and Evaluation of Defense Environmental Restoration Account (DERA) Eligibility for Multiple Locations at JBA. The report concluded that there was a release of **PCBs** at the site based on the 2007 waste characterization sampling, and CS-C503 was determined to be DERA-eligible.

A **Phase I RI Report** was completed by Bay West in December 2013 to document the investigation of potential **PCB** contamination at CS-C503 (Bay West, 2013). Soil, sediment, and surface water samples were collected throughout the retention pond and retention pond drainage area. **PCBs** were not detected in the surface water or sediment samples. **PCBs** were detected in four soil samples collected around the perimeter of the retention pond; however, all detected concentrations were below the USEPA **Residential Regional Screening Levels**. The only **PCB** compound detected at concentrations greater than the laboratory detection limit in soil samples was PCB-1260, which was detected in four soil samples at concentrations ranging from 11 µg/kg to 53 µg/kg; however, none of the PCB-1260 concentrations exceeded the USEPA **residential regional screening level (RSL)** of 220 µg/kg. In addition, PCB concentrations are well below the PCB cleanup levels in the Toxic Substances Control Act regulations in 40 CFR subsection 761.61(a)(4)(i)(A) for both low- and high-occupancy areas.

Total Organic Carbon (TOC) was detected in all of the soil samples and the field duplicate at concentrations ranging from 5,600,000 micrograms per kilogram (µg/kg) to 29,000,000 µg/kg. There is not an **RSL** or **MDE** interim standard for **TOC**. The Phase I RI Report concluded that the site presented no unacceptable risk to human health and/or the environment under CERCLA. Therefore, no action is warranted and no Feasibility Study is required.

Samples were also analyzed for petroleum compounds to indicate whether oil-related **PCBs** were present. **Diesel Range Organics (DRO)** was detected in all three surface water samples and the field duplicate at concentrations ranging from 140 µg/L to 540 µg/L. All of the **DRO** concentrations detected in surface water samples exceeded the MDE interim final cleanup standard of 47 µg/L. **Gasoline Range Organics (GRO)** was not detected at concentrations greater than the laboratory limit of detection in any of the surface water samples.

Low levels of **DRO** and **GRO** were found in sediment (**DRO** in one sediment sample exceeded the MDE interim final cleanup standard), and **DRO** and **GRO** were also detected in all of the soil samples at concentrations greater than the laboratory detection limits but less than applicable human health screening criteria.

Ecological screening criteria for **GRO** and **DRO** have not been established. Therefore, none of the compounds detected in soil samples were evaluated further in the **Ecological Screening Comparison Summary (ESCC)**. The **Phase I RI** did not include a site-specific habitat assessment; however, habitat potential within the Henson Creek drainage area (where CS-C503 is located) is very limited, as documented in the Basewide Ecological Risk Assessment (CH2M Hill, 2005).

The detections of **DRO** and **GRO** found in the drainage pond were expected given that the drainage area of the pond is the BX parking lot. The retention pond surface water and sediments are regulated and managed under the USEPA National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). The retention pond is maintained by JBA Stormwater Management, and sampling is conducted at the outfall in accordance with USEPA NPDES. Under general maintenance of the retention pond, sediments may be excavated and disposed of under **Resource Conservation and Recovery Act** regulations; however, no **CERCLA** action is warranted.

Principal Threats

There are no **principal threats** in soil, sediment, and surface water at CS-C503, as analysis of the data gathered during the **Phase I RI** indicates that the potential contaminants detected in the soil, sediment, and surface water do not present unacceptable risks to human health and the environment.

Scope and Role of Remedial Action

Given that there are no **COCs** at CS-C503, a No Action preferred alternative is recommended. Following issuance of the **Proposed Plan** and public comment period, a **ROD** will be issued. The No Action **ROD** will result in the site being closed.

Summary of Site Risks

Analytical results of soil, sediment, and surface water samples collected from CS-C503 were evaluated to identify potential health impacts to current and future human receptors and to ecological receptors.

PCBs were not detected in any of the samples at concentrations greater than the laboratory detection limits except for **PCB-1260**, which was detected in four soil samples at concentrations less than USEPA **residential RSLs** and less than USEPA Region 3 BTAG freshwater sediment and freshwater screening criteria.

DRO and **GRO** were detected in soil, surface water, and sediment samples collected during the **Phase I RI**. The only detection at concentrations that exceeded human health screening levels was **DRO** in one sediment sample and all of the surface water samples (Bay West, 2013). Detections of **DRO** are anticipated in the storm sewer networks and stormwater retention ponds, which are regulated under the USEPA NPDES and not **CERCLA**. Therefore, **DRO** was not further evaluated in the **Phase I RI**. In addition, ecological screening criteria for **DRO** and **GRO** have not been established; therefore, ecological risks due to **DRO** and **GRO** concentrations were not further evaluated in the **Phase I RI**.

As a result, the preferred alternative for CS-C503 is No Action.

Community Participation

Information Repository Address and Hours

The USAF makes information regarding the JBA cleanup of CS-C503 available to the public by maintaining a copy of the **Administrative Record** as part of the site's **Information Repository**. The **Information Repository** is located at:

Prince George's County Memorial Library
Oxon Hill Branch
6200 Oxon Hill Road
Oxon Hill, Maryland

Telephone: (301) 839-2400

Library hours:

Monday–Wednesday: 10:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m.

Thursday–Friday: 10:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.

Saturday: 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 1:00 p.m. –5:00 p.m.

Website Access

This **Proposed Plan** and associated documents describing investigations at CS-C503 are available at the Prince George's County Memorial Library and also online. To access these documents via the internet, please visit <https://cww.baywest.com/public/>.

Public Notice

In addition, site information is made available to the public by publishing announcements in a local newspaper (*The Enquirer-Gazette*). JBA hosts a public website regarding environmental efforts at the base: <http://www.jba.af.mil/About-Us/Environmental-Mission/>

The USAF encourages interested members of the community to use these resources to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the site and the **CERCLA** activities that have been conducted at JBA.

Public Meeting

The USAF has not scheduled a public meeting for this **Proposed Plan** because of low public interest in this site as well as other JBA sites (i.e., Spill Site 26, Fire Training Area No. 4, Solid Waste Management Units 75 and 76 – Former Water Towers, and Historic Base Chapel). No members of the public attended the **Proposed Plan** public meeting (July 13, 2015) for those four sites. However, the USAF encourages the public to contact the USAF if they are interested in attending a public meeting regarding this **Proposed Plan**.

The public may request a meeting for this **Proposed Plan** through the following email: JBAenvironmental@baywest.com

Alternatively, written requests for a public meeting may be submitted to:

11th Wing Public Affairs Office
William A. Jones III Building
1500 West Perimeter Road, Room 2330
Joint Base Andrews, Maryland 20762

Should a public meeting be scheduled, the USAF will issue additional public notices in local newspapers to announce the date, time, and location of any public meeting for CS-C503. Members of the project team will be in attendance to discuss details and respond to questions regarding the site. Additional oral and written comments will be accepted at a public meeting.

Public Comment Period

The 30-day **public comment period** for this **Proposed Plan** begins on December 2, 2019 and ends at midnight Eastern Standard Time (EST) December 31, 2019. However, the comment period will be extended upon receipt of a timely request or a request to hold a public meeting. All comments received at the public meeting and during the **public comment period** will be summarized, and responses will be provided in the responsiveness summary section of the **ROD**.

Written Comments

Written comments may be submitted up to midnight EST on December 31, 2019, via mail or email and should be directed to:

11th Wing Public Affairs Office
William A. Jones III Building
1500 West Perimeter Road, Room 2330
Joint Base Andrews, Maryland 20762
(240) 612-4428

Public Comment Email:

JBAenvironmental@baywest.com

If you have any questions about the public comment process, please contact the 11th Wing Public Affairs Office.

The Next Step

The USAF, in consultation with USEPA, MDE, and PGCHD, will evaluate public comments on the preferred alternative of No Action for CS-C503 for this **Proposed Plan** during the **public comment period**.

Based on new information or public comments, the USAF may modify its plan of No Action for CS-C503 in this **Proposed Plan**. If there are significant changes to this **Proposed Plan** prior to finalization, it will be reissued for public comment.

When the **ROD** is finalized, the USAF will announce the selected cleanup plan in a local newspaper advertisement, make the **ROD** available through the JBA Public Affairs website, and place a copy of the **ROD** in the **Administrative Record**.

References

Bay West, 2012. *Uniform Federal Policy Quality Assurance Project Plan (Field Sampling and Analysis Plan), Phase I Remedial Investigation at CS-C503, Performance-Based Restoration, Joint Base Andrews Naval Air Facility Washington, Camp Springs, Maryland*. December.

Bay West, 2013. *Phase I Remedial Investigation for CS-C503*. December.

CH2M Hill, 2004. *Basewide Background Study Report, Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland*. March.

CH2M Hill, 2005. *Basewide Ecological Risk Assessment Step 7, Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland*. March.

USEPA, 2018. *Letter: Approval of No Feasibility Study at CS-C503*. February.

Figure 2. Site Map CS-C503

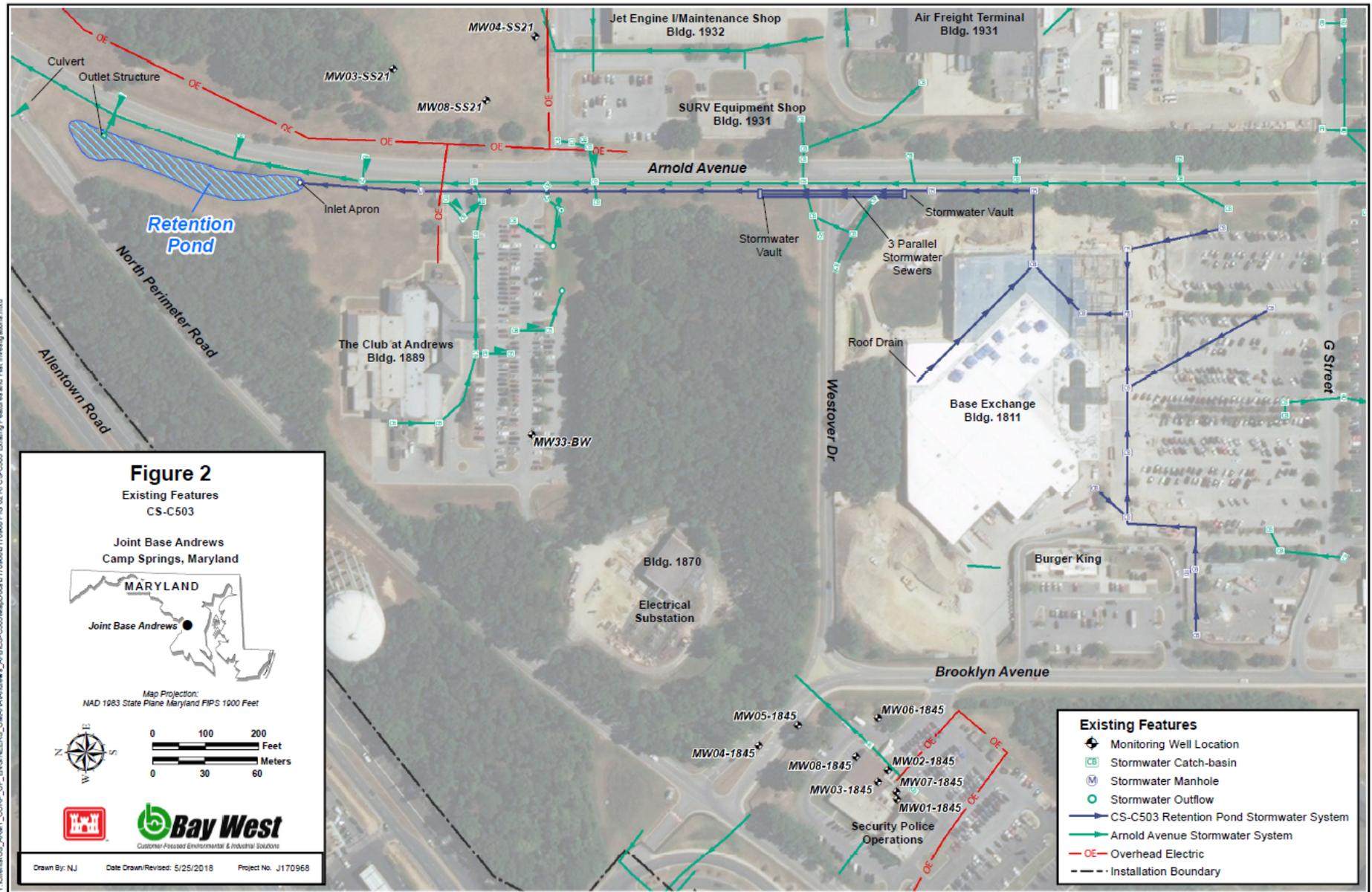
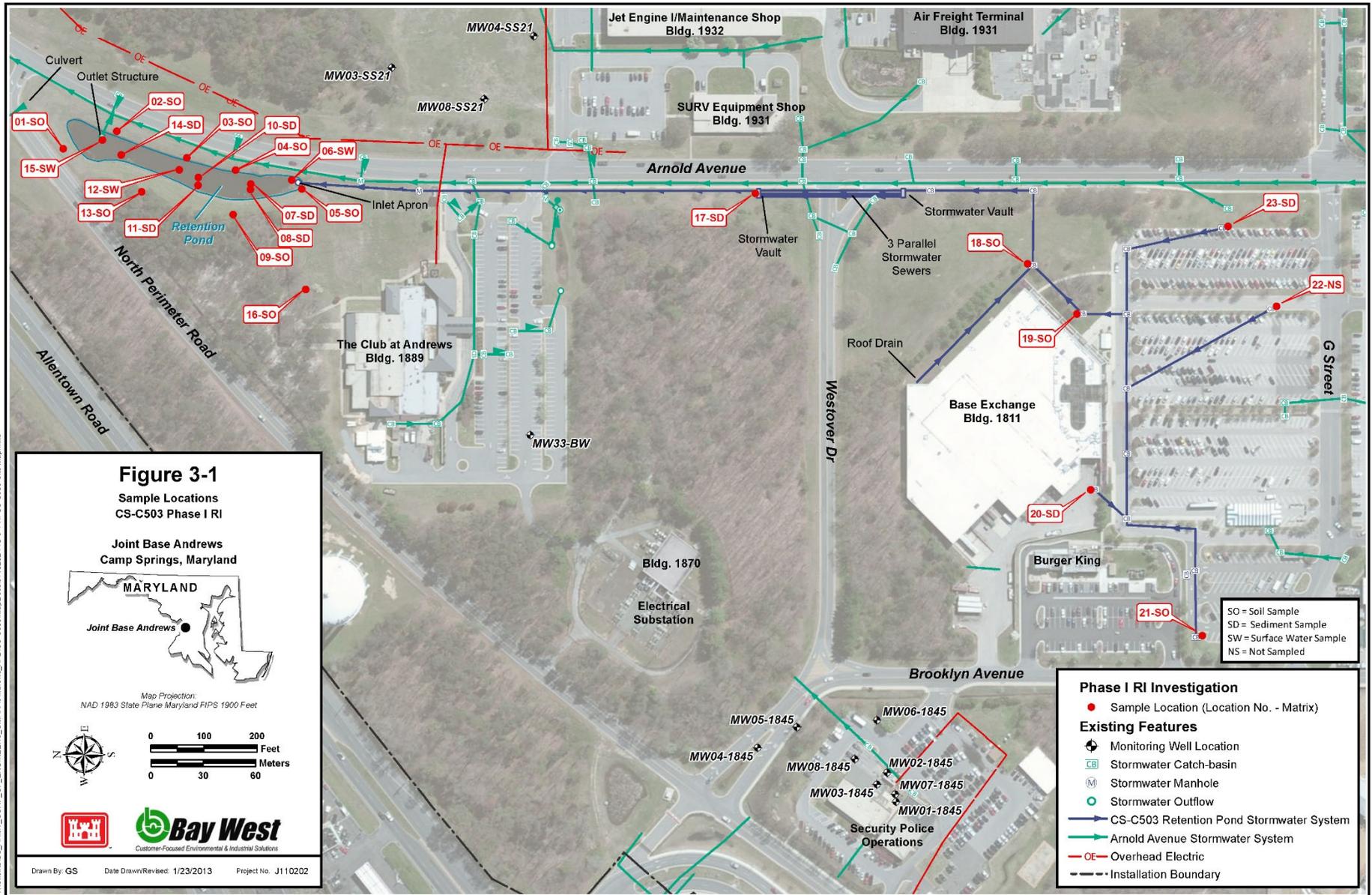


Figure 3. CS-C503 Phase I RI Sample Locations



Glossary

Administrative Record—Record or file made available to the public that includes all information considered and relied on in selecting a remedy for a site.

Basewide Ecological Risk Assessment (BERA) – Evaluates potential risks to ecological receptors. The basewide ecological risk assessment is used as a framework to evaluate potential ecological risks at various sites across JBA.

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)—Passed in 1980 and amended in 1986, CERCLA is commonly referred to as the Superfund Law. It provides for liability, compensation, cleanup, and emergency response in connection with the cleanup of inactive hazardous waste disposal sites that endanger public health and safety of the environment. CERCLA is codified at 42 USC Sections 9601 to 9675.

Contaminant of Concern (COC)—Chemicals detected in the site’s environment whose toxicity and exposure risk are evaluated in a quantitative (computable) human health and/or ecological risk assessment and determined to likely cause unacceptable risk to human health or the environment.

Diesel Range Organics (DRO)—A heavier fraction of hydrocarbons that may be present in a petroleum mixture. The analysis for DRO reports results for hydrocarbons in the molecular weight range of diesel fuel.

Ecological Screening Criteria Comparison Summary (ESCC) —Reported in the Phase I RI (Bay West, 2013). The ESCC assesses potential ecological impacts to site CS-C503 resulting from chemicals released at the site. The ESCC evaluates if 1) a site contains chemicals exceeding ecological screening benchmarks; 2) ecological habitat is present on, adjacent to, or potentially impacted by the site; and 3) there are possible chemical transport pathways from the site to ecological receptors.

Gasoline Range Organics (GRO)—A lighter fraction of hydrocarbons that may be present in a petroleum mixture. The analysis for GRO reports results for hydrocarbons in the molecular weight range of gasoline.

Information Repository—A single reference source for information about environmental restoration activities at the installation. It shall, at a minimum, contain items made available to the public, including documentation that is in the Administrative Record and

all public documents associated with the Remediation Advisory Board (RAB) or the RAB’s equivalent, if applicable.

Installation Development Plan—The Installation Development Plan provides the commander and key decision-makers with a summary of JBA’s current and future capability to support its assigned missions. The overall goal of the plan is to provide a framework for programming, design, and construction, and effective resource management.

National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP)—The Federal regulation that implements the CERCLA cleanup process.

National Priorities List (NPL)—The list of hazardous waste sites in the United States eligible for long-term remedial action (cleanup) financed under the Federal Superfund program. USEPA regulations outline a formal process for assessing hazardous waste sites and placing them on the NPL. The NPL is intended primarily to guide the USEPA in determining which sites warrant further investigation.

Phase I Remedial Investigation (RI)—A remedial investigation that involves data collection and site characterization activities intended to identify the type and magnitude of contamination present at a site. It includes sampling, monitoring, and gathering sufficient information to evaluate whether hazardous substances exceeding human health or environmental exposure criteria have impacted the environment.

Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs)—A group of man-made organic chemicals containing carbon, hydrogen, and chlorine with wide industrial applications. PCBs do not readily break down in the environment and can cause adverse health effects in humans and animals.

Principal Threat—Principal threat wastes are those source materials considered to be highly toxic or highly mobile that generally cannot be reliably contained or would present a significant risk to human health or the environment should exposure occur.

Proposed Plan—A document that presents the site history, summary of site investigations, and removal actions. It is the document in which the lead agency presents the selected action or preferred alternative to the public for public comment.

Public Comment Period—A limited time period during which the public has the opportunity to comment on findings or proposed activities contained in draft reports or documents. A minimum 30-day comment period is held to allow community members to review the Administrative Record file and to review and comment on the Proposed Plan.

Record of Decision (ROD)—An official public document that explains which cleanup alternative(s) will be implemented to remediate contamination at a NPL site or documents that No Action is warranted. The ROD is based on information and technical analysis generated during the RI, Feasibility Study, and consideration of public comments and community concerns. The ROD explains the remedy selection process and is issued by the USAF, in consultation with the USEPA and state and local regulatory agencies, following the public comment period.

Residential Regional Screening Levels—Concentration levels for contaminants determined by

the USEPA to be protective for humans over a lifetime. These concentrations are determined using chemical toxicity data and information concerning exposure of the chemicals to humans.

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act—Legislation that describes how to manage hazardous waste and nonhazardous solid waste.

Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons—An analysis that evaluates hydrocarbon mixtures. Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons analysis reports results for hydrocarbons across a wide molecular weight range.

**No Action Proposed Plan for CS-C503
Joint Base Andrews Naval Air Facility Washington, Camp Springs, Maryland
Comment Sheet**



Fold on the lines, secure open bottom edge with clear tape, place first class stamp, and mail



Place
Stamp
Here

**11th Wing Public Affairs Office
William A. Jones III Building
1500 West Perimeter Road, Room 2330
Joint Base Andrews, MD 20762**