

**FINAL
DECISION DOCUMENT FOR THE
GROUND SCAR AT SOUTH END OF CONFIDENCE COURSE, PARCEL 158(7)
FORT McCLELLAN, CALHOUN COUNTY, ALABAMA**

ISSUED BY: THE U. S. ARMY

JULY 2001

**U.S. ARMY ANNOUNCES
DECISION DOCUMENT**

This Decision Document presents the determination that no further remedial action will be necessary to protect human health and the environment at the Ground Scar at South End of Confidence Course, Parcel 158(7), at Fort McClellan (FTMC) in Calhoun County, Alabama. The location of the parcel at FTMC is shown on Figure 1. In addition, this Decision Document provides the site background information used as the basis for the no further action decision.

This Decision Document is issued by the U.S. Army Garrison at FTMC with involvement by the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Cleanup Team (BCT). The BCT consists of representatives from the U.S. Army, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IV, and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management. The BCT is responsible for planning and implementing environmental investigations at FTMC.

Based on the results of the site investigation (SI) completed at the Ground Scar at South End of Confidence Course, Parcel 158(7), the U.S. Army will implement no further action at the site. This decision was made by the U.S. Army with concurrence by the BCT.

This Decision Document summarizes site information presented in detail in background documents that are part of the administrative record for the Ground Scar at South End of Confidence Course, Parcel 158(7). A list of background documents for Parcel 158(7) is presented on Page 2. A copy of the administrative record for Parcel 158(7) is available at the public repositories listed on Page 3.

**REGULATIONS GOVERNING
SITE**

FTMC is undergoing closure by the BRAC Commission under Public Laws 100-526 and 101-510. The 1990 Base Closure Act, Public Law 101-510, established the process by which U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) installations would be closed or realigned. The BRAC Environmental Restoration Program requires investigation and cleanup

of federal properties prior to transfer to the public domain. In addition, the Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act (CERFA) (Public Law 102-426) requires federal agencies to identify real property on military installations scheduled for closure that can be transferred to the public for redevelopment or reuse. Consequently, the U.S. Army is conducting environmental studies of the impact of suspected contaminants at parcels at FTMC. The BRAC Environmental Restoration Program at FTMC follows the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) process.

SITE BACKGROUND

FTMC is located in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains of northeastern Alabama near the cities of Anniston and Weaver in Calhoun County.

FTMC comprises two main areas of government-owned properties: the Main Post and Pelham Range. Until May 1998, the FTMC installation also included the Choccolocco Corridor, a 4,488-acre tract of land that was leased from the State of Alabama. The Main Post, which occupies 18,929

PRIMARY BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS FOR PARCEL 158(7)

Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc. (ESE), 1998, *Final Environmental Baseline Survey, Fort McClellan, Alabama*, prepared for U.S. Army Environmental Center, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, January.

IT Corporation (IT), 2001, *Final Site Investigation Report, Ground Scar at South End of Confidence Course, Parcel 158(7), Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama*, July.

IT Corporation (IT), 2000, *Final Human Health and Ecological Screening Values and PAH Background Summary Report, Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama*, July.

QST Environmental, Inc. (QST), 1998, *Final Site Investigation Work Plan, Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama*, March.

Science Applications International Corporation, 1998, *Final Background Metals Survey Report, Fort McClellan, Alabama*, July.

acres, is bounded on the east by the Choccolocco Corridor, which previously connected the Main Post with the Talladega National Forest. Pelham Range, which occupies 22,245 acres, is located approximately 5 miles due west of the Main Post and adjoins the Anniston Army Depot on the southwest.

The Ground Scar at South End of Confidence Course, Parcel 158(7), is located in the central portion of the FTMC Main Post, near the intersection of Blacman Road (formerly MacArthur Avenue) and Baldwin Drive (formerly 25th Street) (Figure 1). The site was identified on aerial photographs taken in 1964 and 1973 as a roughly rectangular ground scar at the south end of the Confidence Course. The ground scar measured approximately 180 feet by 120 feet. Additional information regarding the ground scar was not available (Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc. [ESE], 1998). Evidence of disposal activities was

not observed during an SI site visit.

The site is located on the crest of a hill. The ground surface is relatively flat in the immediate vicinity of the ground scar with a prominent downward slope in the area just north of the site. The site is covered by small pine trees and is surrounded by larger trees (QST, 1998).

SCOPE AND ROLE OF PARCEL

Information developed from the environmental baseline survey (ESE, 1998) was used to group areas at FTMC into standardized parcel categories using DOD guidance. All parcels received a parcel designation for one of seven CERFA categories, or a non-CERCLA qualifier designation, as appropriate. The seven CERFA categories include CERFA Uncontaminated Parcels (Categories 1 and 2), CERFA Contaminated Parcels (Categories 3 through 7), and CERFA Qualified Parcels. Parcel 158(7) was categorized as a

CERFA Category 7 parcel in the environmental baseline survey. CERFA Category 7 parcels are areas that are not evaluated or that require further evaluation (ESE, 1998).

With the issuance of this Decision Document, Parcel 158(7) is re-categorized as a CERFA Category 3 parcel. Category 3 parcels are areas where release, disposal, and/or migration of hazardous substances has occurred but at concentrations that do not require a removal or remedial response.

SITE INVESTIGATION

In 1998, QST Environmental, Inc. (QST) conducted an SI at the Ground Scar at South End of Confidence Course, Parcel 158(7), to determine whether chemical constituents are present at the site at concentrations that present an unacceptable risk to human health

**PUBLIC INFORMATION REPOSITORIES
FOR FORT McCLELLAN**

Anniston Calhoun County Public Library

Reference Section

Anniston, Alabama 36201

Point of Contact: Ms. Sunny Addison

Telephone: (256) 237-8501

Fax: (256) 238-0474

Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Houston Cole Library

9th Floor

Jacksonville State University

700 Pelham Road

Jacksonville, Alabama 36265

Point of Contact: Ms. Rita Smith (256) 782-5249

Hours of Operation: Monday – Thursday 7:30 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Friday 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 3:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

or the environment (QST, 1998; IT Corporation [IT], 2001).

QST collected five surface soil samples and two subsurface soil samples during the SI at the site. Surface soil samples were collected from the upper 1-foot of soil. Subsurface soil samples were collected at a depth of 3 to 4 feet below ground surface. IT installed three permanent monitoring wells to depths of hollow stem auger refusal (32 to 46 feet below ground surface). However, groundwater was not present in any of the wells and no groundwater samples were collected. The soil samples were analyzed for metals, volatile organic compounds (VOC), semivolatiles organic compounds (SVOC), pesticides, and polychlorinated

biphenyls (PCB). In addition, two surface soil samples and one subsurface soil sample were analyzed for total organic carbon.

To evaluate whether detected constituents present an unacceptable risk to human health and the environment, the analytical results were compared to human health site-specific screening levels (SSSL) and ecological screening values (ESV) for FTMC (IT, 2000). The SSSLs and ESVs were developed as part of human health and ecological risk evaluations associated with SIs being performed under the BRAC Environmental Restoration Program at FTMC. Additionally, metals concentrations exceeding SSSLs and ESVs were compared to media-

specific background screening values (Science Applications International Corporation, 1998).

The potential threat to human receptors is expected to be low. Although the site is projected for reuse as a mixed business area, the analytical data were screened against residential human health SSSLs to evaluate the site for unrestricted land reuse. With the exception of iron in one subsurface soil sample, the metals concentrations that exceeded SSSLs were below their respective background concentration or within the range of background values. The polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH) compound benzo(a)pyrene exceeded its SSSL in one surface soil sample. VOC

and pesticide concentrations were below SSSLs. PCBs were not detected in site media.

Several metals were detected in surface soils at concentrations exceeding ESVs. However, with the exception of mercury in two samples, the metals concentrations that exceeded ESVs were below their respective background concentrations or were within the range of background values. Two VOCs (tetrachloroethene and trichloroethene), two pesticides (4,4'-dichlorodiphenyldichloroethene [DDE] and 4,4'-dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane [DDT]), and three PAH compounds exceeded ESVs in surface soils. However, the levels of these chemical constituents were low (less than 0.5 milligram per kilogram) and are not expected to pose a significant threat to ecological receptors.

SITE REMEDIAL ACTIONS

Remedial actions were not conducted at the Ground Scar at South End of Confidence Course, Parcel 158(7).

DESCRIPTION OF NO FURTHER ACTION

Remedial alternatives were not developed for Parcel 158(7). No action is selected because remedial action is unnecessary to protect human health or the environment at this site. The metals and chemical compounds detected in site media do not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment.

Therefore, the site is released for unrestricted land reuse. Furthermore, Parcel 158(7) is recategorized as a CERFA Category 3 parcel. Category 3 parcels are areas where release, disposal, and/or migration of hazardous substances has occurred but at concentrations that do not require a removal or remedial response. The U.S. Army will not take any further action to investigate, remediate, or monitor the Ground Scar at South End of Confidence Course, Parcel 158(3) (formerly Parcel 158[7]).

The following costs are associated with implementing the no-action alternative:

Capital Cost:	\$0
Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs:	\$0
Present Worth Cost:	\$0
Months to Implement:	None
Remedial Duration:	None.

DECLARATION

Remedial action is unnecessary at the Ground Scar at South End of Confidence Course, Parcel 158(3) (formerly Parcel 158[7]). The no further action remedy protects human health and the environment, complies with relevant federal and state regulations, and is a cost-effective application of public funds. This remedy will not leave in place hazardous substances at concentrations that require limiting the future use of the parcel, or that require land-use control restrictions. The site is released for unrestricted land reuse. Parcel 158(7) is recategorized as a CERFA Category 3 parcel. Category 3 parcels are areas where release, disposal, and/or migration of hazardous

substances has occurred but at concentrations that do not require a removal or remedial response. There will not be any remedial costs associated with implementing no further action at the Ground Scar at South End of Confidence Course, Parcel 158(3) (formerly Parcel 158[7]).

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Any questions or comments concerning this Decision Document or other documents in the administrative record can be directed to:

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ACRONYMS

BCT	BRAC Cleanup Team
BRAC	Base Realignment and Closure
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CERFA	Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act
DDE	dichlorodiphenyldichloroethene
DDT	dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane
DOD	U.S. Department of Defense
ESE	Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc.
ESV	ecological screening value
FTMC	Fort McClellan
IT	IT Corporation
PAH	polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbon
PCB	polychlorinated biphenyl
QST	QST Environmental, Inc.
SI	site investigation
SSSL	site-specific screening level
SVOC	semivolatile organic compound
VOC	volatile organic compound

Prepared under direction of:

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16 July 01
Date

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Ronald M. Levy
BRAC Environmental Coordinator
Fort McClellan, Alabama

12 Oct 01
Date

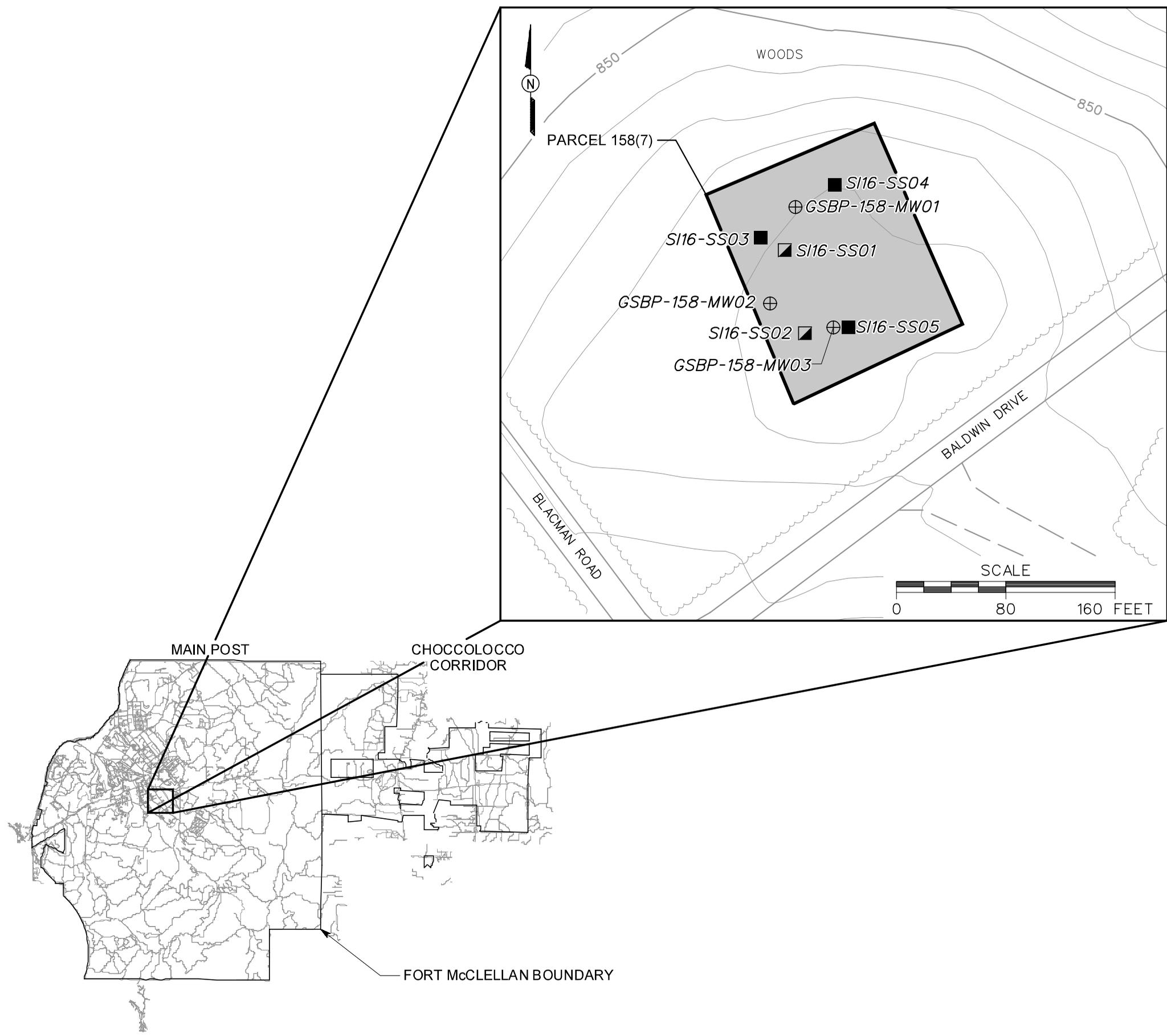
Approved by:

Glynn D. Ryan

Glynn D. Ryan
Site Manager
Fort McClellan, Alabama

10/12/01
Date

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LEGEND

-  UNIMPROVED ROADS AND PARKING
-  PAVED ROADS AND PARKING
-  BUILDING
-  TOPOGRAPHIC CONTOURS (CONTOUR INTERVAL - 5 FOOT)
-  TREES / TREELINE
-  PARCEL BOUNDARY
-  SURFACE AND SUBSURFACE SOIL SAMPLE LOCATION
-  SURFACE SOIL SAMPLE LOCATION
-  RESIDUUM MONITORING WELL LOCATION

FIGURE 1
SITE MAP
 GROUND SCAR AT SOUTH END
 OF CONFIDENCE COURSE
 PARCEL 158(7)

U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
 MOBILE DISTRICT
 FORT McCLELLAN
 CALHOUN COUNTY, ALABAMA
 Contract No. DACA21-96-D-0018