

**FINAL
DECISION DOCUMENT FOR THE
FORMER FOG OIL STORAGE AREA WEST OF THE SKEET RANGE, PARCEL 122(7)
FORT McCLELLAN, CALHOUN COUNTY, ALABAMA**

ISSUED BY: THE U. S. ARMY

MARCH 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 Former Fog Oil Storage Area West of the Skeet Range, Parcel 122(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 with regard to hazardous, toxic, and radioactive waste (HTRW). Unexploded ordnance (UXO)-related issues may be present at the site and are being addressed separately by the U.S. Army.

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 is comprised of representatives from the U.S. Army, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 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 completed at the Former Fog Oil Storage Area West of the Skeet Range, Parcel 122(7), the U.S. Army will implement no further action at the site with regard to HTRW. UXO-related issues may be present at the site and are being addressed separately by the U.S. Army. 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 Former Fog Oil Storage Area West of the Skeet Range, Parcel 122(7). A list of background documents for Parcel 122(7) is presented on Page 2. A copy of the administrative record for Parcel 122(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.

PRIMARY BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS FOR PARCEL 122(7)

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

Fort McClellan (FTMC), 1997, *Fort McClellan Comprehensive Reuse Plan*, prepared under contract to the Calhoun County Commission, November.

IT Corporation, 2001, *Final Site Investigation Report, Former Fog Oil Storage Area West of the Skeet Range, Parcel 122(7), Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama*, March.

IT Corporation, 1998, *Site-Specific Field Sampling Plan Attachment for Former Fog Oil Storage Area West of the Skeet Range, Parcel 122(7), Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama*, December.

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 consists of 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 comprises 18,929 acres, is bounded on the east by the Choccolocco Corridor, which previously connected the Main Post with the Talladega National Forest. Pelham Range, which comprises 22,245 acres, is located approximately 5 miles due west of the Main Post and adjoins the Anniston Army Depot on the southwest.

The Former Fog Oil Storage Area West of the Skeet Range is located just west off of Iron Mountain Road on the Main Post near the skeet range (Figure 1).

The dates of use for the site could not be determined. The parcel, which covers approximately 3.5 acres, is bounded by mostly wooded or undeveloped areas. The overgrown remains of a dirt road traverse the site from northeast to southwest. This road and the cleared area (Parcel 122[7]) are visible only in the 1949 photograph composite of the Environmental Photographic Interpretation Center report. The entire site is now covered with trees and brush. Near the center of the site, concrete blocks, metal stays, and brackets were found by IT Corporation personnel during a June 1998 site walk. These items may be the remains of fog oil drum racks.

Fog oil was used by the military to produce an obscurant for concealing troops, beach landings, and supplies during World War II and the Korean War. Fog oil is the middle distillate product of crude petroleum oil and can be described as mineral oil, petroleum distillate, or

hydrotreated heavy naphthenic base oil.

Parcel 122(7) slopes to the southeast and ranges in elevation from approximately 805 to 835 feet above mean sea level. Surface runoff follows topography and flows south-southeast toward a tributary to Remount Creek, which runs west to east through the southern portion of the site.

SCOPE AND ROLE OF PARCEL

Information developed from the Environmental Baseline Survey (Environmental Science and Engineering Inc., 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

**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.

Contaminated Parcels (Categories 3 through 7), and CERFA Qualified Parcels. The Former Fog Oil Storage Area West of the Skeet Range, Parcel 122(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 require further evaluation (Environmental Science and Engineering Inc., 1998).

With the issuance of this Decision Document, Parcel 122(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.

SITE INVESTIGATION

A site investigation was conducted at the Former Fog Oil Storage Area West of the Skeet Range, Parcel 122(7), to determine whether chemical constituents are present at the site at concentrations that would present an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment (IT Corporation, 2000).

Sixty-three surface soil screening samples, four subsurface soil

samples, one surface water sample, and one sediment sample were collected at the site. Surface soil screening samples were collected from the upper 0.5 foot of soil; subsurface soil samples were collected at depths greater than 1 foot below ground surface. The surface water and sediment sample was collected from the tributary to Remount Creek. Surface soil screening samples were analyzed for total petroleum hydrocarbons-diesel range organics (TPH-DRO) using a screening-level version of EPA Method 8015B. Subsurface soil, surface water, and sediment samples were analyzed for target analyte list

semivolatile organic compounds (SVOC). In addition, the sediment sample was analyzed for total organic carbon and grain size.

The surface soils screening for hydrocarbons at the Former Fog Oil Storage Area West of the Skeet Range, Parcel 122(7), indicated that TPH-DRO were present in surface soils. TPH-DRO concentrations ranged from less than the reporting limit (11 milligrams per kilogram) to 100 milligrams per kilogram. However, the TPH-DRO data were collected for screening purposes only, therefore, the quantitative results of the screening level TPH-DRO analyses should be considered estimated.

SVOCs were not detected in any of the subsurface soil, surface water, or sediment samples collected at the site (including two subsurface soil samples that were relocated to areas with elevated surface soil screening results). In the future land-use scenario, portions of Parcel 122(7) will be reused for retail, passive recreation, and for the Eastern Bypass (FTMC, 1997). Under these land-use scenarios, the concentrations of TPH-DRO in surface soils are not expected to pose a significant threat to human health or ecological receptors.

SITE REMEDIAL ACTIONS

Remedial actions were not conducted at the Former Fog Oil Storage Area West of the Skeet Range, Parcel 122(7).

DESCRIPTION OF NO FURTHER ACTION

Remedial alternatives were not developed for Parcel 122(7). No further action is selected because remedial action is unnecessary to protect human health or the environment at this site. The low levels of TPH-DRO in surface soils do not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment. Therefore, the site is released for unrestricted land reuse with regard to HTRW. UXO-related issues may be present at the site and are being addressed separately by the U.S. Army. Furthermore, Parcel 122(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. With regard to HTRW, the U.S. Army will not take any further action to investigate, remediate, or monitor the Former Fog Oil Storage Area West of the Skeet Range, Parcel 122(3) (formerly Parcel 122[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 Former Fog Oil Storage

Area West of the Skeet Range, Parcel 122(3) (formerly Parcel 122[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 with regard to HTRW. UXO-related issues may be present at the site and are being addressed separately by the U.S. Army. Parcel 122(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 further remedial costs associated with implementing no further action at the Former Fog Oil Storage Area West of the Skeet Range, Parcel 122(3) (formerly Parcel 122[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
DOD	U.S. Department of Defense
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
FTMC	Fort McClellan
HTRW	hazardous, toxic, and radioactive waste
SVOC	semivolatile organic compound
TPH-DRO	total petroleum hydrocarbons-diesel range organics
UXO	unexploded ordnance

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