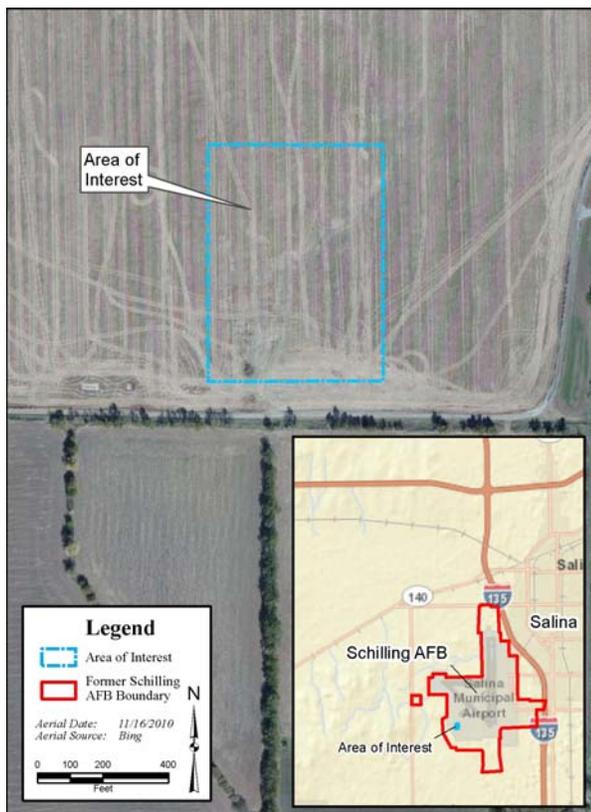


BACKGROUND

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is the Department of Defense organization that is responsible for environmental restoration of properties that were formerly owned by, leased to, or otherwise possessed by the United States and under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Defense. Such properties are managed under the Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) Program. The former Schilling Air Force Base (AFB) was designated as a FUDS property in 1991 and certain areas within the former base were identified as requiring further investigation under the FUDS Program.

USACE identified the Gas Instruction Area, which is located in the southwestern portion of the former Schilling AFB, as a project that required further investigation. The Gas Instruction Area is depicted in the figure below.

A detailed history of the Gas Instruction Area, including chemical agents used at the site, is included in a separate fact sheet available online at: <http://www.nwk.usace.army.mil/Missions/Environmental/EnvironmentalProjects/Schilling.aspx>.



Site Location

USACE INVESTIGATIONS

Historical documents suggest that the Gas Instruction Area was used for chemical agent training and that Chemical Agent Identification Sets (CAIS), which contained chemical agents in liquid form, were delivered to the site. However, there is no evidence that CAIS were disposed of on site.

Based on the known history of the site, the results of the June 2010 Site Inspection, and the Remedial Investigation field work that was completed in the summer 2012, there has been no release of chemical agents at the site. For this reason, no risks to human health or the surrounding environment were identified as they relate to chemical agents that were historically present at the site.

The field effort for the Remedial Investigation included the investigation of underground buried metallic items that were identified during a geophysical survey performed in 2010. The underground buried metallic items were dug up to determine whether these locations were used for disposal of CAIS.

The photograph to the right shows one of three trenches that were excavated in areas where the underground buried metallic items were identified in 2010.

Each trench was 50 feet long and approximately 2 feet wide.



Trench

Rusted metal items were found in all three trenches. The metal items are not related to CAIS and do not pose a threat to human health or the environment.

The following types of rusted metal items were found in the trenches at depths ranging from 1 inch to 36 inches: rebar, scrap, nails, bolts, cable, wire, a tube, a concrete-filled pipe, a gear housing, pliers, a stake, a railroad spike, and an electric motor part. All items were approximately 12 inches or less. Some of the items are pictured below.



Pliers



Metal Cable



Railroad Spike

Based on the Remedial Investigation findings, there is no known or suspected hazard within the former Gas Instruction Area. The recommendation for the site is No Department of Defense Action Indicated (NDAI), which requires no further action at the site.



Rebar

The Kansas Department of Health and the Environment and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency support the NDAI recommendation. However, these agencies encourage the public to submit comments regarding the results of the Remedial Investigation and the NDAI recommendation.

PROPOSED PLAN

The Proposed Plan highlights the preferred alternative, or recommendation, for the former Gas Instruction Area. Other alternatives were not assessed because there was no evidence of a release at this site.

DECISION DOCUMENT

Public comment on the proposed remedy is considered prior to preparing a Decision Document that documents the final decision on the site, which in this case is NDAI.

PUBLIC AWARENESS

Public awareness is an important part of the USACE FUDS Program. The public will be given an opportunity to provide USACE written comment on the Proposed Plan. The information leading to the finding of no release at the site is presented in the Remedial Investigation report that is available for public review at the Salina Public Library. Details regarding the library are presented below. The **public comment period** will last 30 days and will be held from **February 21, 2013, through March 25, 2013.**

In addition to the public comment period, USACE will hold a public meeting to explain the preferred alternative of NDAI. Details regarding the meeting are presented below.

INFORMATION REPOSITORY

Salina Public Library
301 W. Elm
Salina, KS 67401
(785) 825-4624

<http://www.salinapubliclibrary.org/>

Hours of Operation:

Monday – Thursday
9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Friday – Saturday
9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Sunday
1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

PUBLIC MEETING

Date: March 13, 2013

Time: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Location: South High School –Common Area
730 East Magnolia Rd.
Salina, KS 67401

For more information about the Gas Instruction Area, contact the USACE, Kansas City District Public Affairs Office by telephone at:

(816) 389-3486

or by email:

dll-NWK-PA@usace.army.mil