



# Guardian

America's First Choice for Environmental Restoration

A Publication of the Environmental Restoration Program

Travis Air Force Base, California

April 2018

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### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

April 5, 2018 - May 7, 2018

The Air Force will accept written comments on the Proposed Plan during the comment period. Comments should be submitted by May 7, 2018 and sent to:

Merrie Schilter-Lowe  
60th AMW Public Affairs  
400 Brennan Circle  
Travis AFB, CA 94535  
Phone: 707-424-7520  
[merrie.schilterlowe@us.af.mil](mailto:merrie.schilterlowe@us.af.mil)

For more information on the Old Skeet Range, see the Administrative Record at <http://afsec.publicadmin-record.us.af.mil/>. From the "Installation List" on the left, select "Travis AFB, CA." Enter "TS060" in the Subject or Title block and click "Search." Scroll down to see available documents and click on the magnifying glass to open and view a document. To find the Comprehensive Site Evaluation reports, type "Comprehensive Site Evaluation" in the Subject or Title block. Use the other search blocks to find related documents that do not have the site name in the subject or title.



(Photograph by Angel Santiago)

**The Big Soil Scrape:** Heavy equipment operators scoop up lead- and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH)-contaminated soil as part of a soil removal action at the Old Skeet Range. By the end of the field work, the cleanup levels for all chemicals of concern were attained.

## Proposed Plan 2018 Edition

### Air Force Proposes No Further Soil Action at Old Skeet Range

This Proposed Plan describes the rationale for taking no further remedial action (i.e., No Further Action) at the Old Skeet Range (Site TS060) on Travis Air Force Base (AFB). Site TS060 was identified for investigation under the **Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP)** to determine the potential presence/absence of **munitions and explosives of concern (MEC)** and **munitions constituents (MC)** resulting from Department of Defense ownership and use. The goal of the MMRP is to make **Munitions**

**Response Areas (MRAs)** safe for reuse and to protect human health and the environment. This Proposed Plan is based on information contained in the **Travis AFB Administrative Record (AR)** (see link in the box to the left to view an electronic copy of AR documents). A paper copy of the Travis AFB AR is located in the Travis Installation Support Section office (550 Hickam Avenue, Building 248, Travis AFB, CA 94535). A glossary of terms in **bold font** is on page 6.

Travis AFB is located in Solano County, California, approximately 50 miles northeast of San Francisco and

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Travis Air Force Base, California

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The *Guardian* is published by the Air Force Civil Engineer Center's Western Region Restoration Support Team, located at Travis Air Force Base. The newsletter is designed to inform and educate the public about the ongoing environmental cleanup program at Travis Air Force Base. Contents expressed herein are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force. Additional information about the program can be obtained from the public web site at <http://www.travis.af.mil/enviro>. Questions and comments about the program may be sent to this address:

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# Why No Further Action

**VIEWPOINT**

Lonnie A. Duke  
Travis AFB Restoration  
Program Manager

then carried out to clean up the less risky residual contaminants.

Since there was not a large amount of risk from lead shot and fragments from clay pigeon skeet targets at the Old Skeet Range, we selected soil cleanup levels that would achieve residential cleanup standards and avoid having to carry out a second cleanup action. So, when we excavated the contaminated soil and trucked it to appropriate off-base landfills last summer, the Old Skeet Range became suitable for residential uses and was ready to be closed.

Both the ERP and MMRP comply with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), a Federal law that requires public involvement and a final decision for all cleanup actions. So, even though the field work is done and all cleanup standards have been attained, we cannot officially close the Old Skeet Range until we publish a Proposed Plan and record the final decision in a Record of Decision, even if that decision is NFA.

So, please use page 7 of this Proposed Plan to write and submit your written comments on our NFA proposal. Or follow the other ways described on page 5 to submit your feedback. By reviewing this Proposed Plan and providing your input on this proposed remedy, you are actively supporting the CERCLA decision-making process and contributing to the Travis AFB restoration efforts.



# Plan

From page 1

40 miles southwest of Sacramento. Site TS060 occupies approximately 9.2 acres in the west-central part of the base, adjacent to an active skeet and trap range. Figure 1 shows the location of Site TS060.

The United States Air Force (USAF) may consider a response action not presented in this Proposed Plan as an alternative to No Further Action (NFA), based on new information or public comments. Therefore, the public is encouraged to review and comment on all of the alternatives presented in this Proposed Plan.

The USAF is issuing this Proposed Plan as part of its public

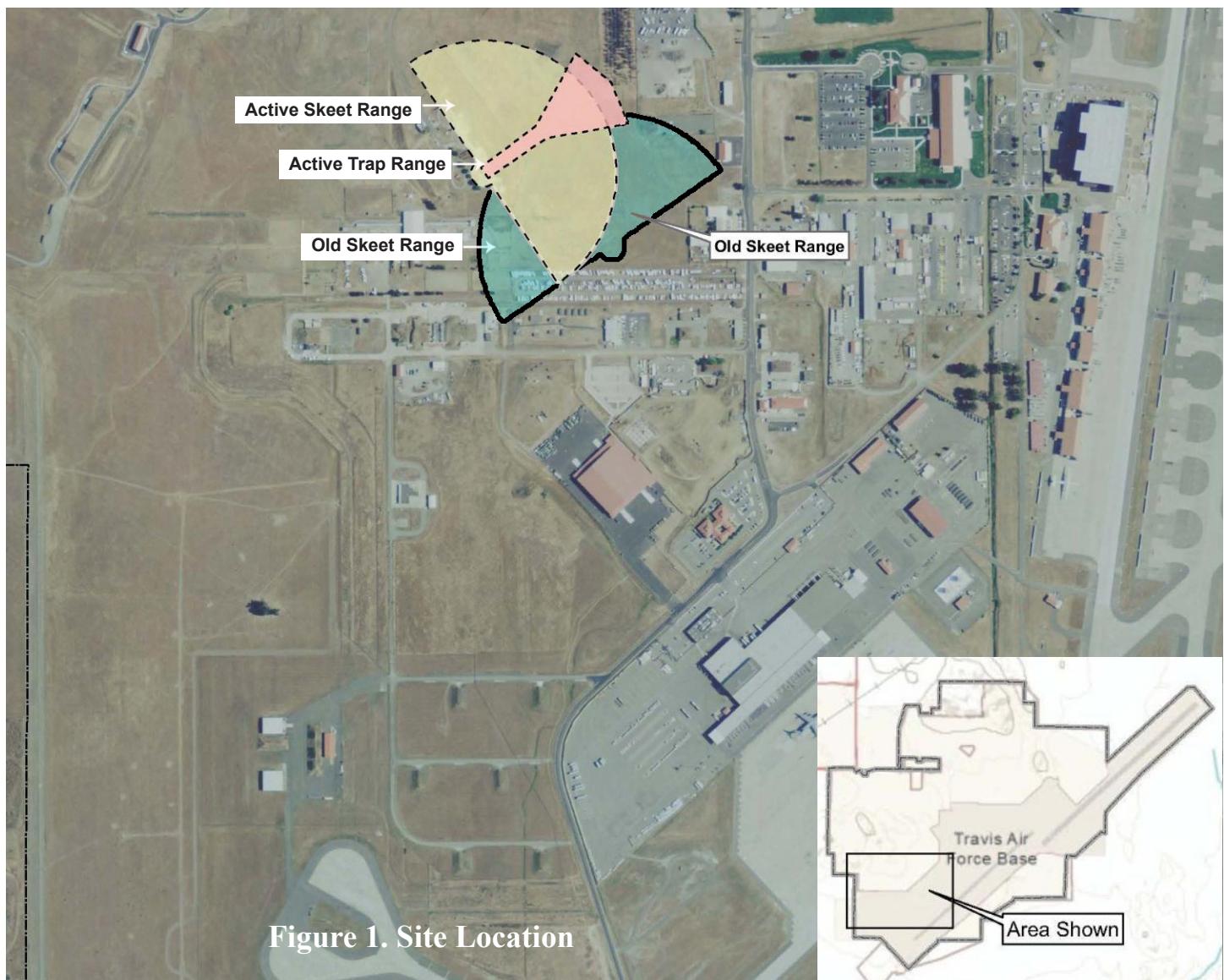
participation responsibilities under Section 117(a) of the **Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)**, 42 USC § 9617(a) and Section 300.430(f)(3) of the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan. This Proposed Plan provides information that can be found in greater detail in the Site TS060 Removal Action Completion Report and other documents found in the Travis AFB AR. The USAF, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), and California Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) encourage the public to review

these documents to gain a better understanding of Site TS060 as well as the investigations and cleanup activities that took place there.

## SITE CHARACTERISTICS

The Old Skeet Range is a flat grassy area, currently used for horseback riding and as a horse pasture. The property is considered to be open space, and there are currently no future plans to change this land use. This site is classified as a closed range. Based on aerial photography, the Old Skeet Range was used between 1952 and 1964 and is likely where U.S. cartridge

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**Plan**

■ From page 3

-12, -20, and -28 gauge lead shot ammunition, which are considered small arms, was expended. The shooting direction at the Old Skeet Range was in the northwest direction, which resulted in undesirable shooting positions, because the prevailing winds generally travel in the southwest-to-northeast direction. The base opened up an active skeet and trap range adjacent to the Old Skeet Range around 1962.

### **SITE EVALUATION**

A Comprehensive Site Evaluation (CSE) Phase I was performed at the Old Skeet Range in 2006, and a CSE Phase II was performed in 2009. The CSE Phase I was similar to a CERCLA Preliminary Assessment and consisted of historical records review, visual reconnaissance, and interviews. The CSE Phase I resulted in the establishment of two MRAs: the Old Skeet Range and the Munitions Storage Area South. The CSE Phase I found no evidence of MEC but recommended surface soil sampling to assess if MC had been released to the environment.

The CSE Phase II was similar to a CERCLA Site Inspection and consisted of visual surveys and limited soil sampling and analysis. Clay target fragments (a potential source of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons [PAHs]) and one shotgun shell casing (a potential source of lead) were found during the visual surveys. The extent of lead contamination in surface soil was delineated using field X-ray fluorescence and confirmed by laboratory correlation sample analysis. The CSE Phase II included a screening level Human Health Risk Assessment and a screening

level Ecological Risk Assessment. The CSE Phase II resulted in the establishment of the Old Skeet Range as a **Munitions Response Site (MRS)** which is a discrete location within an MRA that is known to require a munitions response. The MMRP designation of the Old Skeet Range is Site TS060. The MC at the Old Skeet Range that exceeded residential human health regulatory action levels consisted of lead from the lead shot and PAHs (benzo[a]pyrene, benzo[a]anthracene, benzo[b]fluoranthene, dibenzo[a,h]anthracene, and inde-no[1,2,3-cd]pyrene) from the clay target debris. It also concluded that no further munitions response action was required at the Munitions Storage Area South.

The MMRP approach for addressing MC is to evaluate Non-Time Critical Removal Actions (NTCRAs) through the use of an **Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA)**. The EE/CA is similar to a CERCLA Remedial Investigation, Feasibility Study, and Proposed Plan combined. The TS060 EE/CA identified the removal action objectives of a NTCRA based on the effectiveness, implementability, and cost of three alternatives: No Action, **Land Use Controls**, and an active NTCRA such as soil removal. This EE/CA was completed in October 2012 and concluded that a NTCRA best met the objectives of protecting people, plants and animals from potential hazards associated with the MC in the TS060 soil.

The November 2016 **Action Memorandum** documented the selection of and regulatory concurrence with a NTCRA at Site TS060. The Action Memorandum explained the need for the NTCRA, described the details of the NTCRA

(excavation), and identified the soil cleanup levels. The goal was to remove lead- and PAH-impacted soil. The targeted PAHs and their cleanup levels in micrograms per kilogram (a unit of measure often described as parts per billion) consisted of benzo(a)anthracene (100), benzo(a)pyrene (16), benzo(b) fluoranthene (130), chrysene (160), dibenz(a,h) anthracene (16), inde-no(1,2,3-cd)pyrene (17.32), naphthalene (33), and total high molecular weight PAHs which exceeded the minimum concentrations required for residential use (1,100).

To ensure that the NTCRA at the Old Skeet Range was conducted properly, several rounds of pre-removal sampling took place, but it became apparent that the distribution of MC looked different from that typically found at a skeet range. PAHs were found at depths and distances away from the former firing points that suggested significant mixing of the Site TS060 soil had taken place. Therefore, additional sampling and analysis in accordance with a follow-on 2014 work plan, and the full extent of MC contamination was presented in a June 2015 Site Characterization Report.

### **SITE CLEANUP**

The TS060 NTCRA took place during the summer 2017 and consisted of the excavation (up to 4 feet in depth in some areas) and off-base transport and disposal of 1,694 tons of lead-contaminated soil and 5,497 tons of PAH-contaminated soil. Confirmation samples were collected from the excavation areas and sent to an off-base laboratory, and their chemical analysis confirmed that this

# Plan

■ From page 4

removal action met the specified cleanup levels for unrestricted land use. A detailed description of the completed removal action activities is provided in the March 2018 Site TS060 Removal Action Completion Report.

## SCOPE AND ROLE OF THE ACTION

This Proposed Plan addresses the Old Skeet Range (Site TS060), the only MRS at Travis AFB. This is also the only MMRP site on the base. Other non-munitions-related restoration activities are taking place as part of the Travis AFB Environmental Restoration Program in accordance with the CERCLA remedial process and the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan. However, these activities do not impact the post-removal action remedy selection for Site TS060 in this Proposed Plan. Also, this Proposed Plan does not address the active skeet and trap ranges (shown on Figure 1) next to Site TS060.

## SUMMARY OF SITE RISKS

No evidence of MEC was found during any site investigation. Further, there is no history of explosives use at this MRS. There are no known or suspected explosive hazards present in Site TS060. The removal action for Site TS060 fulfilled the requirements of the Action Memorandum by removing soils exceeding residential land use cleanup levels for PAHs and lead. This property is now available for unlimited use and unrestricted exposure. Also, the selected cleanup levels took into account ecological sediment screening levels and lead background levels. So, this property no longer poses a potential risk

to ecological receptors in adjacent habitats.

## RATIONALE FOR TAKING NO FURTHER ACTION

The removal action attained residential cleanup levels, ecological sediment screening levels, and lead background levels (which are higher than ecological surface water screening levels); and explosive hazards are not present and are not anticipated based on the site history. Therefore, the NFA alternative will protect human health and the environment without requiring further remedial action.

Community acceptance of the NFA decision will be formally evaluated after the public comment period on this Proposed Plan.

## SUMMARY OF THE NO FURTHER ACTION DECISION

Based on the findings from the Site TS060 Removal Action Completion Report, the following conclusions are provided:

- The lack of any MEC at the Old Skeet Range (Site TS060) indicates that there is no explosive hazard to potential receptors.
- Confirmatory soil sample results indicate that lead and PAHs levels at the Old Skeet Range are below residential cleanup standards, ecological sediment screening levels, and lead background levels. Therefore, there is no unacceptable human health or ecological risk at this site.

Based on the information available at this time, the USAF believes the NFA decision will protect human health and the environment. The USAF may modify the NFA decision in response to public com-

ments or new information. The EPA, DTSC, and RWQCB concurs with the selection of the NFA alternative.

## COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

The USAF is providing information and soliciting public input regarding the Site TS060 cleanup through the Travis AFB Administrative Record and an announcement published in the Vacaville Reporter, Fairfield Daily Republic and Travis Tailwind. The USAF and EPA encourage the public to gain a better understanding of the site and the cleanup activities that have already been conducted.

As a member of the local community, your thoughts on this USAF proposed course of action are important to the decision-making process. You have several options available to ensure that your voice is heard:

- 1) Talk to us. You can contact Mr. Lonnie Duke, the Travis AFB Restoration Program Manager, at (707) 424-7520 or Ms. Merrie Schilter-Lowe, the Travis AFB Public Affairs official, at (707) 424-0135 to give us your comments directly.
- 2) Write to us. You can record your comments using the comment sheet on page 7 of this Proposed Plan and send them to the Travis AFB Public Affairs address shown on page 2 of this Proposed Plan.
- 3) Send us an email. The email addresses for both Ms. Schilter-Lowe and our environmental public affairs staff are provided on page 2 of this Proposed Plan.

Thank you in advance for your time and support of base environmental issues that affect us all.



## Glossary of Terms

**Action Memorandum** – A document that provides a concise written record of the selection and approval of a removal action. It describes the site’s history, current activities, and health and environmental threats; outlines the action, cleanup levels, and estimated costs; and documents approval of the proposed action by the lead and regulatory agencies.

**Administrative Record (AR)** – A compilation of all documents relied upon to select a remedial action pertaining to a Department of Defense Environmental Restoration Program.

**Comprehensive Environmental Response, Comprehension, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA)** – Also, called the Superfund Act. The federal law that establishes a program to identify, evaluate, and remediate sites where hazardous substances have been released to the environment and that present an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment.

**Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA)** – A technical evaluation that identifies the objectives of a removal action and analyzes for cost, effectiveness, and implementability the various alternatives that may be used to satisfy these objectives. An EE/CA is similar to a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study, although it is less comprehensive.

Bay West, Inc., 2015. *Site Characterization Report for the Old Skeet Range*. Prepared for Travis Air Force Base, California. Final. June.

Bay West, Inc., 2013. *Action Memorandum for the Old Skeet Range Non-Time-Critical Removal Action*. Prepared for Travis Air Force Base,

**Explosive Hazard** – A condition where danger exists because explosives are present that may react (e.g., detonate) in a mishap with potential unacceptable effects (e.g., death, injury, damage) to people, property, operational capability, or the environment.

**Land Use Controls (LUCs)** – Administrative, legal, or physical measures used to prevent exposure to contaminants that remain on-site either during or after remedial action and that present an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment. LUCs include restrictions on the use of the land that will be incorporated into base planning documents.

**Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP)** – A program developed in 2001 to address munitions-related concerns, including explosive safety, environmental, and health hazards from releases of unexploded ordnance (UXO), discarded military munitions (DMM), and munitions constituents (MC) found at locations other than operational ranges on active and closed installations.

**Munitions Constituents (MC)** – Any materials originating from unexploded ordnance (UXO), discarded military munitions (DMM), or other military munitions, including explosive and non-explosive materials, and emissions, degradation, or breakdown elements of such ordnance or munitions.

**Munitions and Explosives of Concern (MEC)** – Specific categories of military munitions that may pose unique explosives safety risks, including UXO, DMM, or MC (e.g., TNT, RDX) present in high enough concentrations to pose an explosive hazard.

**Munitions Response** – Response actions, including investigation, removal actions, and remedial actions to address the explosives safety, human health, or environmental risks presented by UXO, DMM, or MC, or to support a determination that no removal or remedial action is required.

**Munitions Response Area (MRA)** – Any area or a defense site that is known or suspected to contain UXO, DMM, or MC. An MRA is made up of one or more Munitions Response Sites.

**Munitions Response Site (MRS)** – A discrete location within an MRA that is known to require a munitions response.

**Unexploded Ordnance (UXO)** – Military munitions that (A) have been primed, fuzed, armed, or otherwise prepared for action; (B) have been fired, dropped, launched, projected, or placed in such a manner as to constitute a hazard to operations, installations, personnel, or material; and (C) remain unexploded, whether by malfunction, design, or any other cause. ((10 U.S.C. 101(5)(A) through (C)).

## References

California. Final. September.

Bay West, Inc., 2012. *Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis for the Old Skeet Range*. Prepared for Travis Air Force Base, California. Final. October.

CH2M HILL, 2018. *Site TS060 Removal Action Completion Report*. Prepared for Travis Air Force Base,

Californial Final. March

Sky Research, 2011. *Comprehensive Site Evaluation, Phase II*. Prepared for Travis Air Force Base, California. Final. October.

URS, 2007. *Comprehensive Site Evaluation Phase I*. Prepared for Travis Air Force Base, California. Final. June.

**USE THIS SPACE TO WRITE YOUR COMMENTS**

Your input on the Proposed Plan for Site TS060 on Travis Air Force Base is important to the U.S. Air Force. Comments provided by the public will help the Air Force select a final cleanup remedy for this site.

Please use this space for your comments, then mail them to: Merrie Schilter-Lowe, 60th AMW Public Affairs, 400 Brennan Circle, Travis AFB, CA 94535. Comments must be postmarked by 7 May 2018. If you have questions about the comment period, please contact Ms. Merrie Schilter-Lowe at (707) 424-2011. You may email [your comments to the Air Force at the following address: merrie.schilterlowe@us.af.mil](mailto:merrie.schilterlowe@us.af.mil).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

## Meeting Agenda

6:30 - 7:00 p.m. Open Forum:

The open forum allows RAB and community members to discuss ongoing Travis AFB restoration program activities with the Travis AFB environmental staff on a one-to-one basis.

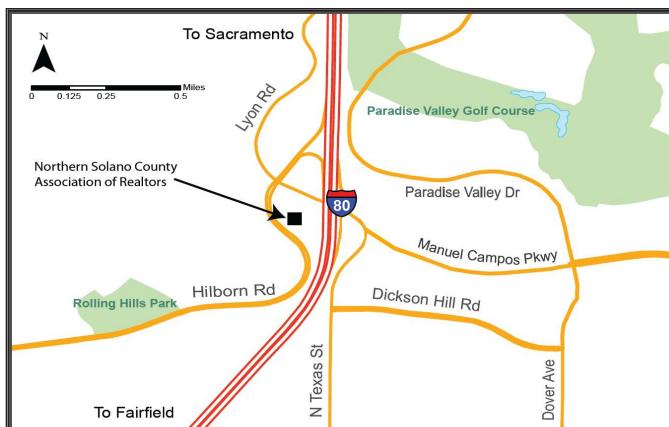
7:00 - 9:00 p.m. RAB General Meeting

- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Approval of Minutes
- III. Additional Agenda Items and Questions
- IV. Discussion Topics
  - Old Skeet Range Cleanup Break
- V. Cleanup Program Status
  - Perfluorinated Compound Status
- VI. Regulatory Agency Reports
- VII. Focus Group Reports
- VIII. RAB/Public Questions
- IX. Set Time and Place for Next RAB Meeting  
*Adjourn*

## Travis AFB Restoration Advisory Board Meeting

April 19, 2018  
7 p.m.

Northern Solano County Association of Realtors  
3690 Hilborn Road  
Fairfield, CA



## LOCATION OF INFORMATION REPOSITORIES

(FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION)

### Vacaville Public Library

1020 Ulatis Drive  
Vacaville, CA 95688

(707) 449-6290

**Monday-Thursday:** 10 a.m.

- 9 p.m.

**Friday-Saturday:** 10 a.m. -  
5 p.m.

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

### Fairfield-Suisun Com. Library

1150 Kentucky Street  
Fairfield, CA 94533

(707) 421-6500

**Monday-Thursday:** 10 a.m.

- 9 p.m.

**Friday-Saturday:** 10 a.m. - 5  
p.m.

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

### Mitchell Memorial Library

510 Travis Boulevard  
Travis AFB, CA 94535

(707) 424-3279

**Monday-Thursday:** 10 a.m.

- 9 p.m.

**Friday:** Closed

**Saturday:** 12 p.m. - 6 p.m.

**Sunday:** 12 p.m. - 6 p.m.

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If you would like more information or need special accommodations for the RAB meeting, please contact Lonnie Duke, (707) 424-7520.

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