



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT
696 VIRGINIA ROAD
CONCORD MA 01742-2751

CENAE-EDG

22 August 2018

MEMORANDUM FOR Record

SUBJECT: Answers to questions during 07-August-2018 RAB meeting in Jamestown, RI

The following questions and answers are in response to comments from the 07-August-2018 Gould Island RAB meeting held at the Jamestown Town Council Chamber.

1. Will the RAB have an advanced view of the chemistry findings before the next meeting?
 - a. Yes. For chemistry results and other project documents, the RAB will receive a 'Stakeholder Draft' copy. This means that the Army Corps team and the primary contractor, Credere LLC, have created an initial draft version of the document that is ready for feedback from official stakeholders, such as Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) and the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB). After receiving comments from these Stakeholders and addressing any concerns, a final draft of the document or final version of the data will be published. This fulfills the RAB mission of providing advice to how the project progresses. Changes to the program can be made based on comments received from Stakeholder Draft reviews.
 - b. Chemistry data will also be discussed at the next RAB meeting, scheduled for 15-November-2018.
2. Is there a tribal interest and/or partnership in Gould Island?
 - a. There is not currently a tribal partnership on Gould Island, and there has not been any formal interest to date. The Army Corps is open to working and partnering with Tribal groups who have an interest in Gould Island. Tribal interests in the island should first go through the landowner (State of Rhode Island).
3. Is there any flood/storm inundation mapping of Gould Island?
 - a. Yes. There is a Gould Island Floodzone map created from RIGIS attached to this sheet.
4. Have there been any documentation of historic structures on the island? Are there structures or sites of historical significance? (USACE and RIDEM)
 - a. USACE partnered with the State's Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission to ensure that there were no historical structures that would be affected by the project. Please see the attached letter. Further coordination will be made with the State prior to any building removal actions.
5. Is there a possibility of Native American artifacts being found on the island?
 - a. There is likely to be very little in the way of archaeological sensitivity or undisturbed areas of the island due to the heavy military modifications and usage over the years.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Any Native American archaeological sites would be in undisturbed areas, of which there are few-to-none given the long period of use as a military site, or along the coast. If sites are found in the future, that may be an incentive for Tribal involvement or interest, and field work in the area would cease until an archeological assessment could be made. At last check there were no recorded sites on South Gould Island in the SHPO database.

6. Is the aquifer connected to Jamestown's aquifer? Is it a sole-source aquifer?

- a. Sole-source aquifer designation: The EPA does not list the Gould Island aquifer as a sole source aquifer. Reference:
(<http://www.dem.ri.gov/programs/benviron/water/quality/prot/pdfs/ssaqmap.pdf>).

It could be considered 'sole source' by strict definition, since there are no surface water bodies which could be used to supply drinking water. However, many of the monitoring wells installed on the island show tidal influence and would likely not produce much, if any, fresh water before brackish and salt water infiltrated into the wells. There are currently no drinking water wells located on the island.

- b. Connected to Jamestown?: No. Tidal influence observed in monitoring wells along the shoreline indicate that the fresh water aquifer does not extend far, if at all, past the shoreline of Gould Island. The thickness of fresh water below islands can be thought of as a 'bowl' shape, deepest in the middle (directly under the center of the island) and shallowest at or just off the coast line. The aquifer on Jamestown and the aquifer on Gould Island are not hydraulically connected.

7. Which three buildings were identified in the 1991 INPR as BD/DR eligible?

- a. The torpedo assembly building (the big building), the maintenance building, and the fire station (last two buildings form an 'L' shape and are connected). Notably absent: incinerator, boiler house, and bunkers.

The point of contact for this memorandum is the undersigned at 978-318-8051 or erik.m.patton.cpt@usace.army.mil.

Erik M. Patton
Captain, U.S. Army