



**2016 RAB Solicitation
Gerstle River Test Site
Delta Junction, Alaska**

GERSTLE RIVER TEST SITE LOCATION

The Gerstle River Test Site (GRTS) consists of approximately 20,000 acres of land 11 miles southeast of Delta Junction and approximately 100 miles southeast of Fairbanks. The GRTS is located approximately 4 miles south of the Alaska Highway, and is bordered by the Gerstle River on the east, and the Gerstle River Expansion Area on the north, south, and west as shown in the figure below.

GERSTLE RIVER TEST SITE BACKGROUND

The GRTS was used by the U.S. Army to test chemical operations and munitions between 1952 and 1967. Tests were conducted to determine the operational capabilities of chemical agents and weapon systems under various climatic conditions. A number of investigation and cleanup activities have occurred at the site since 1970. The area remains under direct control of the U.S. Army, and public access is managed through the U.S. Army Recreation Tracking System (USARTRAK).

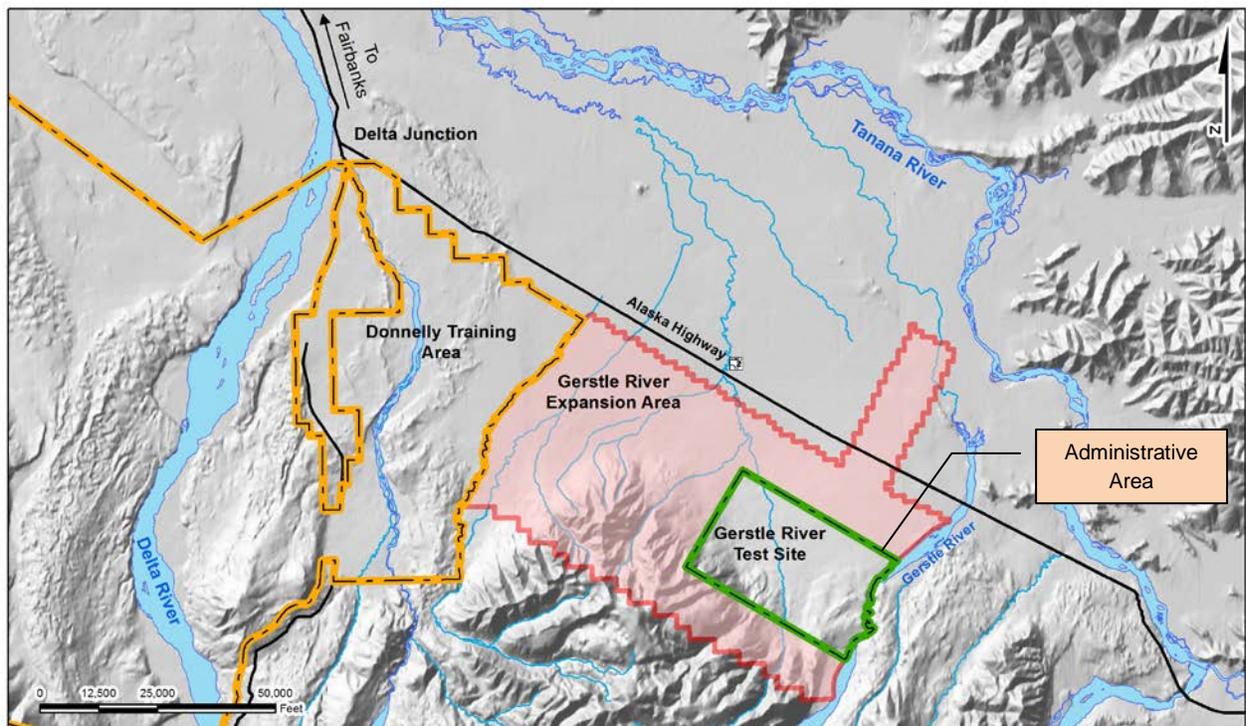
PROJECT OBJECTIVES

A comprehensive evaluation of site information was completed in 2014 and a Data Gaps Analysis (DGA) report was prepared. In 2015, a Long Term Management (LTM) plan was prepared which recommended Land Use Controls for areas of concern (AOCs) identified by the DGA.

Several actions recommended by the DGA and LTM plan will be implemented in 2017. The actions will be focused in the former Administration Area, and will include removal and investigation of the waste sump and discharge line, a Site Inspection of former building locations, location and closure of the former drinking water well, and administrative closure of the construction and asbestos landfills.

The project also includes an update of the LTM plan for the GRTS, incorporating results and findings from the 2017 activities.

All work for this project will be conducted in accordance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) regulations, and other applicable state and federal regulations.



WHAT IS A RAB?

A RAB is intended to improve public participation by involving the community in the restoration decision-making process. It consists of members who reflect the diverse interests of the local community, with the opportunity to provide input on restoration activities. Members serve voluntarily and are asked provide input regarding the ongoing activities at the GRTS. The RAB acts as a liaison between the community and the Army, and all RAB meetings will be open to the public.

Members will be expected to serve a term set by the RAB (generally two-years) and attend semi-annual RAB meetings. Each meeting will be approximately two hours in length and will be held in Delta Junction.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Department of Defense recognizes the importance of stakeholder participation in the contaminated sites restoration process, so public interest will periodically be assessed. Although insufficient to justify formation of a RAB (defined as a minimum of 20 responses requesting a RAB) at the time, the Army acknowledges that there was substantial feedback from the previous RAB solicitation in 2014. As part of the RAB process, the Army is required to re-solicit every two years if a RAB has not been established. The Fort Wainwright Directorate of Public Works-Environmental Division is therefore soliciting your interest in the formation of a RAB among the community and other stakeholders. If there is still insufficient interest in forming a RAB, the Army will continue to hold regular Public Meetings to update and keep the public informed of the status of activities at the GRTS.

APPLICATION

If you are interested in being part of the RAB, please fill out the application completely. In the space provided, please briefly state why you would like to be a member of the RAB and why you think you would be qualified to serve on the board. Please feel free to attach a separate sheet.

To return by mail, please attach any additional sheets and mail to:

Dept. of the Army
Directorate of Public Works
ATTN: IMFW-PWE Brian Adams
1046 Marks Rd, #4500
Fort Wainwright, Alaska 99703-4500

To return by fax, include a cover sheet and fax to the attention of Brian Adams:

DPW Environmental Office, (907) 361-9867

To return by e-mail, please scan the form, attach any additional pages, and send to:

Brian Adams: brian.m.adams18.civ@mail.mil

or

Joe Malen: joseph.s.malen.civ@mail.mil

APPLICATION DEADLINE

If you mail in your application, it must be postmarked by January 10, 2017. If you fax or e-mail your application, it must be received by 4:00 PM on January 10, 2017. Applications that do not meet the specified deadline requirements may be removed from consideration. All applications will be reviewed by a selection panel, consisting of representatives from Fort Wainwright, the USACE-Alaska District, and the Army Environmental Command, as appropriate.

If you have additional questions, contact:

Dept. of the Army
Directorate of Public Works
ATTN: IMFW-PWE Brian Adams
1046 Marks Rd, #4500
Fort Wainwright, Alaska 99703-4500
(907) 361-6623

*A **public meeting** to discuss the ongoing restoration activities and possible formation of a RAB at the GRTS is tentatively planned for **April 2017***



Response to RAB Solicitation Gerstle River Test Site Delta Junction, Alaska

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