



U.S. ARMY CHEMICAL MATERIALS AGENCY

MONTHLY UPDATE

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CMA announces new TOCDF Site Project Manager



The selection has been made—the Chemical Materials Agency has appointed Don Campbell as the new Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (TOCDF) Site Project Manager (SPM). Having most recently served as Deputy to the Deseret

Chemical Depot (DCD) Commander, Don brings valuable experience to his new position.

As TOCDF SPM, Don will manage the day-to-day activities at the TOCDF as the facility continues to move through the closure process.

“I’m thrilled to be part of the TOCDF team,” said Campbell. “I look forward to bringing my project management experience to the table as we work through the learning curves brought by this new phase of the project—closure brings new challenges and represents a whole new ball game.”

Campbell brings with him valuable experience—from chemical storage and disposal operations to closure and environmental restoration and remediation. Prior to coming to DCD in 2009, he managed the Department of Defense’s largest cleanup program at Rocky Mountain Arsenal. His duties included overseeing the shut down of the chemical demilitarization operations, decontamination and demolition of the chemical facilities and cleanup of the hazardous wastes.

Campbell has served nearly 20 years as a civilian project manager with the Department of the Army. During this time he directed Army programs in the area of chemical agent demilitarization and environmental restoration at such sites as Tooele Army Depot, Pine Bluff Arsenal and Aberdeen Proving Grounds. In addition to his time with the federal government, Don worked in the private industry as a Department of Defense Program Manager focused on chemical agent (See NEW TOCDF SPM on page 2)

Tag-team presentation

DCD and TEAD commanders talk to local chamber members

With less than a year left until Deseret Chemical Depot (DCD) hands its property over to Tooele Army Depot (TEAD), DCD Commander Col. Mark Pomeroy and TEAD Commander Col. Chris Mohan provided a joint presentation at the Tooele Chamber of Commerce luncheon last month.

“We have completed our chemical weapons storage and disposal missions; we now have a new mission, which is to close DCD and transfer the property to TEAD,” Col. Pomeroy explained. “And most importantly, is that we handover our property in a seamless fashion on July 11, 2013,” he added.

Col. Pomeroy discussed what DCD is doing to prepare for the property transfer, saying, “We may be done, but we’re not finished. We need to finish up our secondary waste disposal operations, Area 10 storage igloo clean up and continue working our environmental remediation efforts. It’s important to me that we do everything that we can to make it as easy as we can for them to takeover.”

DCD and TEAD are already working together to make this a smooth and successful transition. For example, as DCD cleans its storage igloos, TEAD is already taking them over and beginning to use them for storage of their conventional ammunition.

(See PRESENTATION on page 2)



Deseret Chemical Depot (DCD) Commander Col. Mark Pomeroy briefs community leaders as part of a dual-briefing with Tooele Army Depot (TEAD) Commander Col. Chris Mohan at the August Tooele County Chamber of Commerce luncheon. Col. Pomeroy and Col. Mohan discussed the plans for the transfer of DCD property to TEAD, which will happen next year on July 11, 2013.

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DCD supports assessment of local bat population

A survey of bats in and around Deseret Chemical Depot (DCD) demonstrates that the depot serves as a refuge, providing habitat for these unique mammals. The survey was part of a larger effort to survey the bat population throughout the state of Utah.

Bats make up one of the most diverse group of mammals and they play an important part in the ecosystem. In fact, nearly 70 percent of bats consume insects, sharing a large part of natural pest control. One bat can eat between 600 to 1,000 mosquitoes and other insects in just one hour.

"It was difficult to find a location on the depot to set up the trapping nets," explained Boyd White, DCD Natural Resource Manager. "Instead, a Sonobat recorder was used to record the echolocation of the bats in order to identify the species."

However, Ophir Creek provided an ideal location for the nets to further sample the local bat population. Biologists were able to catch more than 80 bats in two nights. This sample of bats included species such as the Hoary bat, Sliver Haired bat, Big Brown bat, Little Brown bat, Western Small-footed myotis (mouse-eared bats) and Long-eared myotis.

As the bats in Ophir were identified, biologists were able to do a positive identification of the bats that were recorded at DCD.

"These species were all picked up at DCD by the Sonobat recorder," White confirmed. "Another that was recorded, but not captured, was the Brazilian Free-tailed bat."

This survey is conducted every three years in order to document the various bat species in Utah and how the population and species diversity may be changing over time. This survey is planned to take place every three years.

Presentation

(continued from front page)

During Col. Mohan's briefing, he reiterated what Col. Pomeroy said, emphasizing that "We [TEAD and DCD] are absolute partners in this process....it would have been very easy for Col. Pomeroy to hand me the keys and walk away, but we both know that's not the right thing to do." Col. Mohan continued saying, "We have a very robust working group to make sure that this transition goes as smooth as humanly possible."



Wearing gloves to keep from getting bit, Boyd White, DCD Natural Resource Manager, carefully holds a Hoary bat that was captured in Ophir Creek. The Hoary bat is large, aggressive and strong—this bat requires extra care because they can easily bite through the glove.

New TOCDF SPM

(continued from front page)

related projects at sites such as Pueblo Chemical Depot, Ft. Ord, Sierra Army Depot and Camp Navajo.

Campbell replaces Ted Ryba, who left the TOCDF project to take on a new role as the Executive to the U.S. Ambassador of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons.

Safety Extraordinaire

Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (TOCDF) workers accomplished another amazing safety milestone on Aug. 21—achieving 15 million consecutive man-hours without a lost workday injury. Not only has TOCDF maintained its status as holding the highest safety record within CMA's chem demil sites, they have also become the first in the state of Utah—according to the National Safety Council—to reach the 15 million safe man-hours and the 16th across the country.

"This is a unique accomplishment and something to be proud of," said TOCDF Health and Safety Manager Paul Andersen.

The employees have been building up these hours since October 2005 and are aiming to keep their string of safe-hours going; completing the project without any lost workday injury.

"Based on our projections, we anticipate that by the end of the project, we should be able to surpass 17 million safe man-hours without a lost workday injury," Andersen added.

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