

## Lake Ontario Ordnance Works 2013 Management Action Plan, Update 1 Fact Sheet

## U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Buffalo District

**Building Strong** ®

Defense Environmental Restoration Program for Formerly Used Defense Sites (DERP-FUDS) February 2013

Site Description and History

The former Lake Ontario Ordnance Works (LOOW) Site is located approximately 10 miles north of the City of Niagara Falls within the Towns of Lewiston and Porter in Niagara County, New York.

The original site encompassed approximately 7,500 acres and was established in 1942. A portion of LOOW, consisting of 6,500 acres, is eligible for inclusion in the Department of Defense (DoD) Defense Environmental Restoration Program for Formerly Used Defense Sites (DERP-FUDS). During World War II, the U.S. Army built and operated a trinitrotoluene (TNT) plant on approximately 2,500 acres of the site, known as the developed zone. The remaining 5,000-acre undeveloped zone served as a buffer area around the TNT plant. The plant manufactured bulk TNT for approximately nine months and was decommissioned in 1943. The Buffalo District is conducting an environmental investigation on the former LOOW Site in accordance with the phased Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA).

Current owners of the former LOOW Site include federal and local governments, individual private residents, and private corporations. Additional information regarding the former LOOW Site can be found on the web at:

www.lrb.usace.army.mil/Missions/HTRW/DERPFUDS/LakeOntarioOrdnanceWorks

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Due to the size of the former LOOW, the number of current real estate tax parcels (over 550), and the variability in site use (e.g., from a school to a Subtitle C landfill), the planning, funding, and execution of environmental response activities (including closure of those areas not adversely impacted by federal activities) has been challenging. The purpose of the LOOW Management Action Plan (MAP) is to integrate and evaluate information from prior U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reports and relevant non-Corps sources to establish a single comprehensive agency planning document in which the Corps formally communicates findings, conclusions, and framework to achieve the objectives of the Corps' CERCLA responsibilities at the former LOOW Site for each parcel group.

For the MAP, a parcel group is defined as a single parcel or multiple parcels with similar characteristics with regard to FUDS property eligibility, location relative to the developed area of LOOW, ownership, known or suspected DoD impacts, and land use. It is the unit for which each

Property Management Action Plan (PMAP) was developed and for which findings, conclusions, and strategies for eventual closure are presented.

The over 550 parcels that comprise the former LOOW Site have been divided into 33 separate parcel groups which are shown on the next page.

The LOOW MAP is not intended to replace or serve as a formal CERCLA decision document, but rather as a planning document with an anticipated path forward for completion of the DERP-FUDS mission at the property parcels comprising the former LOOW Site.

The MAP presents: objectives; methodologies; Corps' and other federal, state, and local agency authority and responsibilities; summary of findings and strategy; and explains why and how each of the real property parcels, defined by the Niagara County Department of Real Property, were combined into parcel groups.

The MAP and associated PMAPs were updated in February 2013. Text changes subsequent to the October 2009 version of the MAP and the PMAPs are highlighted and outlined to allow the reader easier access to updated information.

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