



NIAGARA FALLS STORAGE SITE - LEWISTON, NEW YORK
Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program

Location

- 1397 Pletcher Road, Town of Lewiston, NY. The site is a federally owned property of 191 acres. It is a part of the former 7,500-acre Lake Ontario Ordnance Works.

Project Description

- Operate and maintain the Niagara Falls Storage Site (NFSS) to ensure the physical security and environmental integrity of site grounds, infrastructure, buildings, and the 10-acre Interim Waste Containment Structure (IWCS).
- Conduct annual environmental surveillance to ensure radioactive materials and residues in the IWCS and other contaminants across the site are not migrating off site and are not posing an unacceptable risk to the public and site workers.
- Perform a comprehensive environmental investigation to assess the nature and extent of FUSRAP contamination, the associated human health and ecological risks, and identify and implement clean up actions as needed to address site hazards.
- The objective of FUSRAP is to remediate sites to a risk level commensurate with projected future use of the site.

Importance

- The long-term protectiveness of the IWCS and clean up of existing contamination across the site is a critical health and safety issue for the local community.
- As is, the site does not pose an unacceptable risk to human health and the environment; however, elevated levels of radionuclides and chemical compounds exist that exceed requirements and limitations promulgated under federal environmental laws.
- The IWCS is designated by the Department of Homeland Security as critical infrastructure.
- The Corps signed a record of decision in 2019 to completely remove the entire IWCS and its contents for off-site disposal.
- This cleanup action is estimated to cost over \$500M and take over ten years to complete.

Consequences

- The site requires daily maintenance to prevent degradation of the IWCS which could subject the public to a radiological dose and radon exposure and could increase the possibility of contaminant migration to adjacent properties.
- The site requires physical and electronic security systems and procedures to protect against criminal and terrorist threats.

Project Phase	Estimated Federal Cost	Funding through FY20	FY22 Requirement	FY22 Budget	FY23 Requirement	FY23 Budget
*Investigation, Annual Site O&M, and Environmental Surveillance	\$647.9M	\$98.6M	\$29.3M	\$0	\$41.6M	TBD

* Investigation phase includes remedial investigation, feasibility study, proposed plan, and record of decision. The scope of this project now includes three operable units (NFSS-IWCS, NFSS soils [Balance of Plant (BOP)], and NFSS groundwater). The ultimate Federal project cost for closing out all operable units will be known upon completion of records of decision for all seven operable units. Total Federal cost is to be determined after the completion of feasibility studies for all operable units.

Project Customer

- Stakeholders include the property owner (Department of Energy); affected communities; elected leaders; and local, state, and federal environmental and health agencies.

Congressional Interests

- Representative Chris Jacobs R NY-27
- Senator Charles Schumer D NY
- Senator Kirsten Gillibrand D NY

Current Status

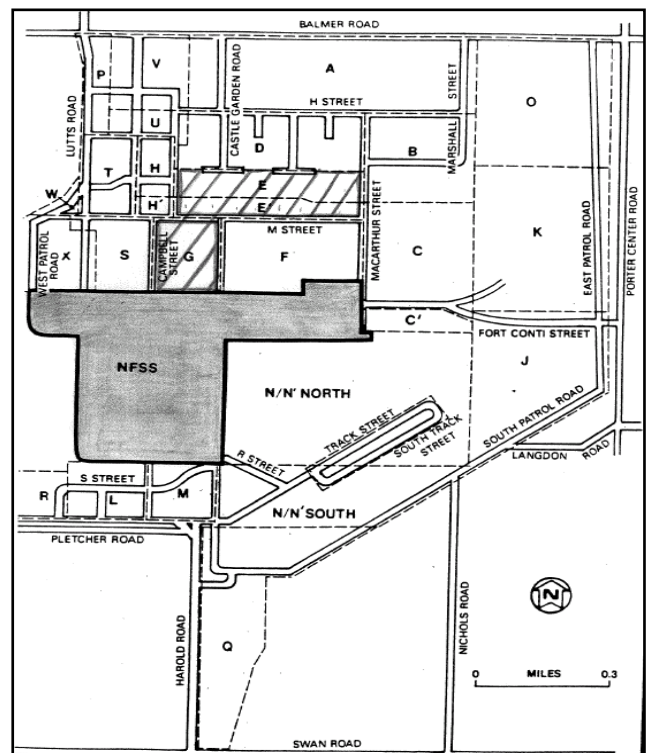
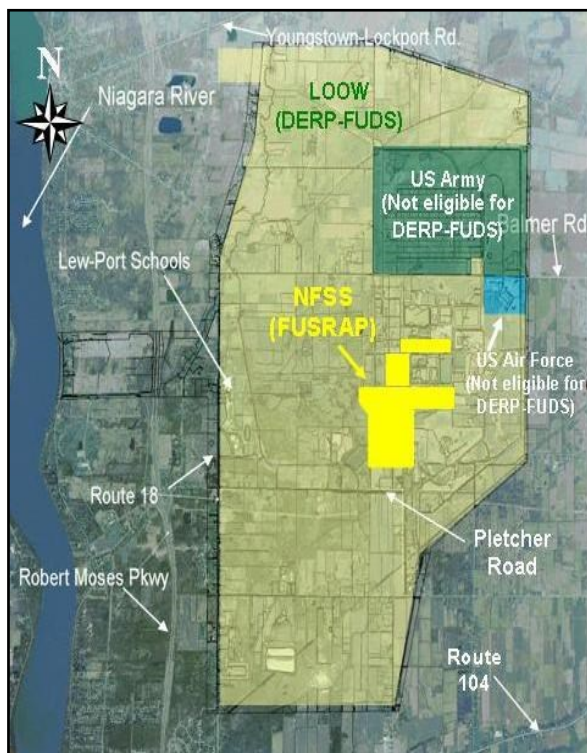
- In FY21 Buffalo District awarded the remedial design contract for the removal of the Interim Waste Containment Structure.
- In FY22 Buffalo District will start the remedial design for removal of the IWCS with the award of the first task order in the second quarter.
- In FY22 Buffalo District will complete the record of decision for the FUSRAP contaminated soils and groundwater

outside the IWCS (known as the "Balance of Plant").

- In FY23 Buffalo District will award the cleanup contract for the Balance of Plant which is expected to take approximately four years.
- Following completion of the cleanup of the Balance of Plant and pending future appropriations, the Buffalo District will install the necessary infrastructure to safely remove the IWCS.
- Completion of the entire project is expected to take at least until FY33.
- The Buffalo District will sustain its comprehensive environmental surveillance program to verify the integrity of the IWCS and protectiveness of human health and the environment. Results to date confirm the IWCS is performing as designed and remains protective of human health and the environment.

Issues

- None



Project Manager: Brent LaSpada, (716) 879-4446, Brent.R.LaSpada@usace.army.mil