

**FORT WINGATE DEPOT ACTIVITY (FWDA)
RECORD OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION
PARCEL 10B**

March 11, 2015

PROJECT TITLE: LAND TRANSFER OF PARCEL 10B TO THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Fort Wingate was established by an Executive Order dated February 18, 1870 which withdrew a 100 square mile area of land from the Public Domain. Parcel 10B contains approximately 112 acres and is within this area.

This parcel was used as a buffer area to maintain explosive safety distance from munitions formerly stored in the earth covered magazines (igloos) on the northwest side of the Depot. The former pre-WWII Administration Area and dirt airfield resided in this parcel but were demolished between 1935 and 1948. An earthen berm was constructed near the rail lines as a protective barrier in case a rail car carrying ordnance became unstable. No habitable structures remain inside the area. Munitions are no longer stored in the vicinity of the parcel thus eliminating the need for its use to maintain safe distances from stored munitions.

On March 13, 1990 the US Army Corps of Engineers submitted to the Bureau of Land Management a Notice of Intention (NOI) to Relinquish the withdrawals of Public Domain lands. The NOI was superseded by revised NOI's on June 28, 1995 and January 26, 2007. The 2007 NOI includes the latest property map and metes and bounds description entitled "Administrative Survey of Certain Parcels Within Fort Wingate Army Depot, New Mexico Supplemental Plat" dated December 6, 2006. The Plat was prepared by the Bureau of Land Management. Parcel 10B is within the area under the NOI.

On December 1, 2005 the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) issued Fort Wingate a RCRA Post-Closure Care Permit requiring environmental restoration of several Solid Waste Management Units (SWMUs) and Areas of Concern (AOCs). Parcel 10B was included under this Permit because it is part of FWDA and it contained Area of Concern (AOC) 44 and Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) 26. AOC44 was the former Administration Area and pre-1940 dirt runway. SWMU 26 was the earthen berm mentioned above. SWMU 26 was also incorrectly thought to be a suspected petroleum dump site. The Army investigated the sites and submitted a Resource Conservation Recovery Act (RCRA) Facility Investigation (RFI) to the NMED dated March 2012. The Army concluded no release occurred at the sites and no further action was needed.

The NMED reviewed the report and issued an approval with modifications letter dated May 7, 2013 contingent upon the Army demonstrating that the detected arsenic values are representative of background concentrations. The Army responded to the NMED letter on September 18, 2013 with a letter. In addition, NMED issued a separate letter dated December 18, 2013 determining the arsenic values in Parcel 10B are acceptable, and followed with an approval letter dated February 17, 2014 stating the Army may petition for corrective action completion for Parcel 10B. On February 25, 2015 NMED

issued a Modification to Remove Parcel 10B from the Permit. This action satisfies New Mexico's RCRA requirements and frees up the parcel for transfer. See the attached map for the site location. The land will be transferred as is and no renovations or disturbances will occur as part of this transfer.

ANTICIPATED DATE AND/OR DURATION OF PROPOSED ACTION: The Army will prepare transfer documents and submit them to the Department of the Interior in 2015.

REASON FOR USING RECORD OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION: This property transfer action satisfies the screening criteria under 32 CFR Part 651.29(a). There are no extraordinary circumstances associated with this action (32 CFR Part 651.29(b)) that preclude the use of a categorical exclusion. This action is Categorically Excluded under provisions of 32 CFR Part 651 Appendix B Section II (f)(3) which requires a REC. Section (f)(3) states: *Transfer of real property administrative control within the Army, to another military department, or to other federal agency, including the return of public domain lands to the Department of Interior, and reporting of property as excess and surplus to the GSA for disposal (REC required).*

PROPONENT:

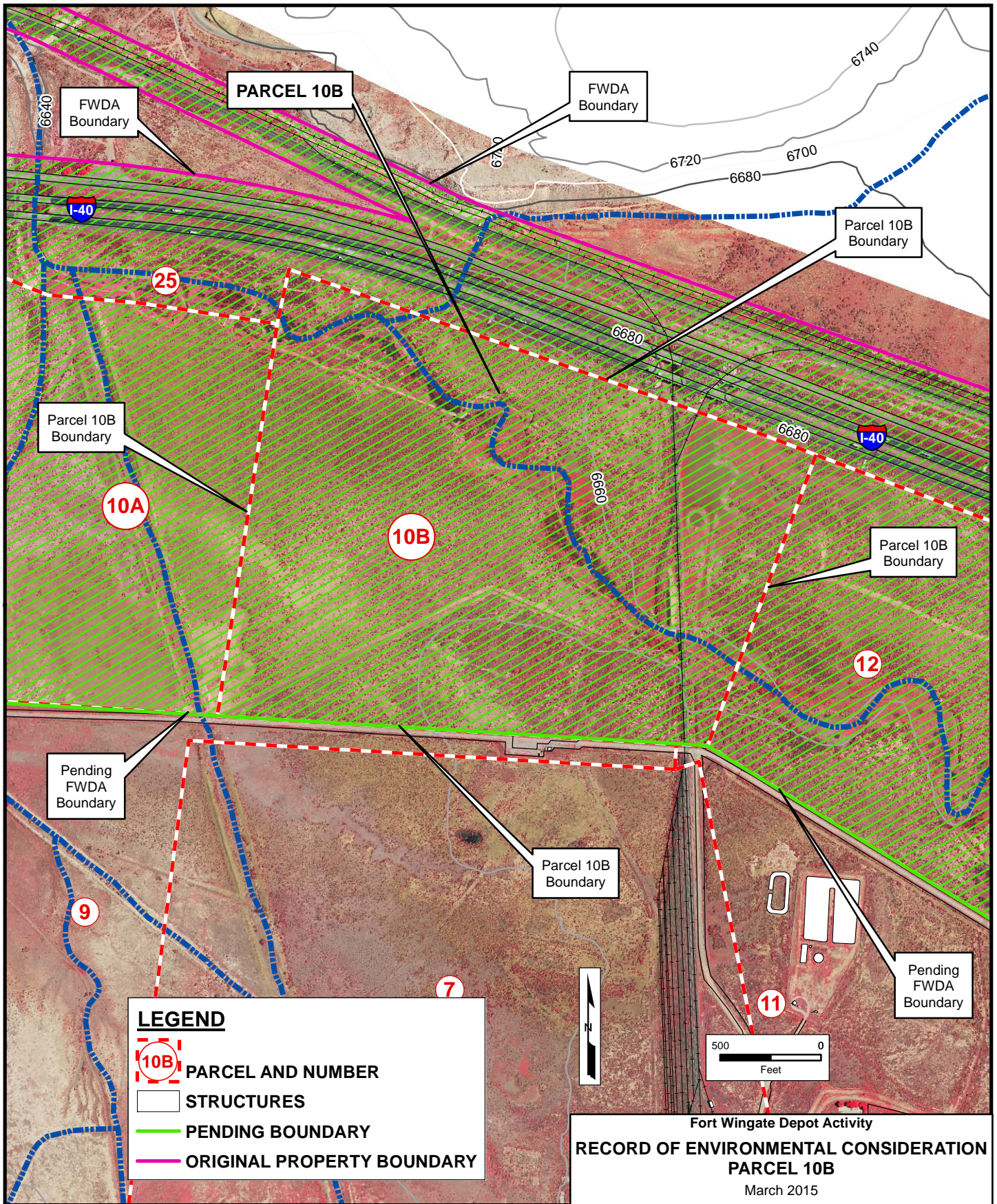
William J. O'Donnell, II
Chief, Reserve, Industrial and Medical Branch

Date

BRAC ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR:

Mark Patterson
Fort Wingate BRAC Environmental Coordinator

Date



PARCEL 10B

FWDA Boundary

FWDA Boundary

Parcel 10B Boundary

Parcel 10B Boundary

Parcel 10B Boundary

Pending FWDA Boundary

Parcel 10B Boundary

Pending FWDA Boundary

LEGEND

- 10B PARCEL AND NUMBER
- STRUCTURES
- PENDING BOUNDARY
- ORIGINAL PROPERTY BOUNDARY



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