



# Adak Island UPDATE

## Institutional Controls and Education Plan

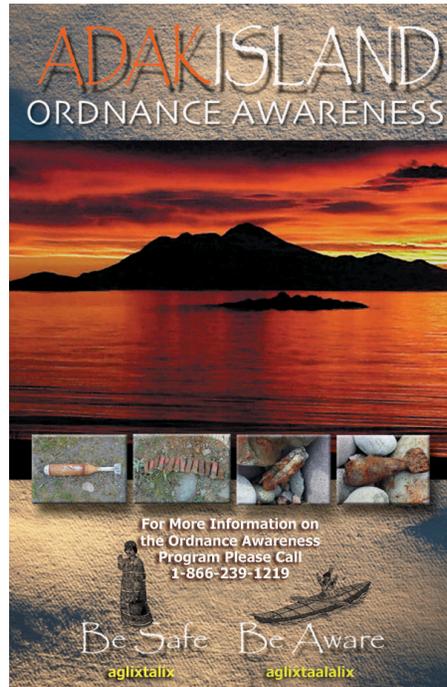
APRIL 2003

### Institutional Controls

Institutional Controls (ICs) are an important part of the cleanup for Operable Units (OUs) A and B on Adak Island. ICs are measures to prevent or limit exposure to hazardous substances left at a site. On Adak, they include land use restrictions, fish advisories, excavation permits and reporting on maintaining land use controls. There are also engineering controls such as fences and signs in the Navy ordnance areas; landfill covers; and treatment and monitoring systems, including groundwater monitoring wells.

Land use restrictions are used to ensure that land use assumptions used in establishing cleanup levels remain. If the site is an industrial area, and it is anticipated to remain industrial, chemical cleanup levels may be higher than for a residential area. The chemical levels may be safe for workers at an industrial site, but may not be safe for full-time residents. In such a case, ICs are necessary to restrict land use to industrial purposes.

To ensure that the land use cleanup levels protect community health, the Navy's institutional control management plan (ICMP) provides for a layered or safety-net system. If there is a failure in one of the controls, another layer of protectiveness provides a safety net. These controls are discussed in the following paragraphs.



### Land Transfer Documentation

There are two types of ICs involved in the land transfer documents. The first is a Notice under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). This lists hazardous substances that were stored for one year or more, and that were known to have been released or disposed of. The second is an equitable servitude. Equitable servitudes are part of the land transfer documentation. They notify future property owners of the restrictions on the property.

### Soil Excavation Permits

There are two types of soil excavation restrictions included in the ICMP.

- ❑ Institutional Control Excavation Notifications: These notifications are for excavations below a depth of 2 feet at each of the institutional control sites. The Navy will evaluate excavation projects at these sites to make sure that the activity remains consistent with the land use assumptions.
- ❑ Absolute Excavation Prohibitions: Digging is prohibited at some sites where protective covers are in place as a remedy, such as landfills. The Navy may have to excavate the property for repairs to the covers. However, re-use of the landfills will be limited to activities that protect or enhance the soil covers—such as a ball field or a golf course or where it is necessary to protect the integrity of the ongoing petroleum cleanups. Such prohibited use will be reflected in the equitable servitude on the title of the sites that have this restriction. Excavation that is conducted to repair protective covers *will* be permitted, but only under authority of Navy personnel.

## Groundwater Use Restrictions

Domestic use of groundwater in the downtown area is restricted because of the potential for petroleum compounds and other chemicals in the groundwater. The excavation permit program addresses control of drilling activities, while visual inspections address unauthorized use of groundwater. The groundwater use restriction will be included in the equitable servitude for the property.

## Inspections and Reporting

ICs identified in the ICMP will be inspected and reported on as necessary. The reports will assess the need for additional (or reduced) inspection requirements, as well as determine whether the institutional controls in place are effective.

## Engineering Controls

Ordnance hazard signs are in place on the island around Operable Unit B-2, also known as the Navy-retained lands or Parcel 4. Over the years as the signs become illegible from weathering, they will be replaced. Fences and gates also provide safety barriers to Navy-retained sites. Other engineering controls include groundwater monitoring wells, which are part of monitored natural attenuation remedies, and piping systems for petroleum product recovery.

## Education Plan

Education is fundamental to the success of ICs on Adak Island. **The Adak Education Plan is intended to familiarize residents and visitors about fish advisories, ordnance safety awareness, and institutional controls.**

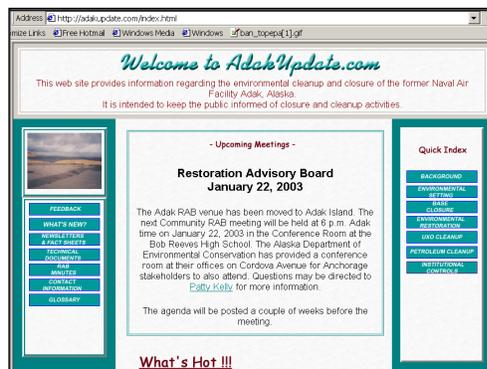
**The ordnance awareness program is already in place. It discusses the history of ordnance use, storage, handling, and disposal on Adak Island; basic characteristics of ordnance items; and the procedures that should be followed if a suspected ordnance item is found.**

Although the Navy retains ultimate responsibility for the education plan, as with the other institutional controls, day-to-day adherence to them rests with the local community. In order to meet the community's needs, the Navy's educational program is based upon the following guidelines:

- Relevant to the culture of the reusers
- Portable
- Flexible in terms of content and format
- Interesting
- Low maintenance

Parts of the educational plan that are already available include:

- Adak Community Safety Plan
- Ordnance Safety Awareness videos for children and adults
- Ordnance awareness posters and coloring books
- Adakupdate.com* website
- On-line education modules
- Hiking trail maps, available at USFWS office
- "Keep out" signs around Navy-retained OU B-2



Some of these materials are in the process of being changed in order to meet community needs. Much of the material focused on the history of Adak when the military owned the property, and is not reflective of the Aleut culture. The revised material will include updated videos, posters, and information pamphlets that reflect the status of environmental issues on island. New material is also being developed, such as safety information cards that can be used while hiking, and coffee mugs and refrigerator magnets that will be a continuing safety reminder in residents' households. Once these materials become available, they will be distributed to the island residents and the City of Adak.