# Environmental Restoration Program

## Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach Detachment Concord
## Inland Area Fact Sheet — July 2007

http://www.bracpmo.navy.mil/brac2005/bracbases/ca/concord/default.aspx

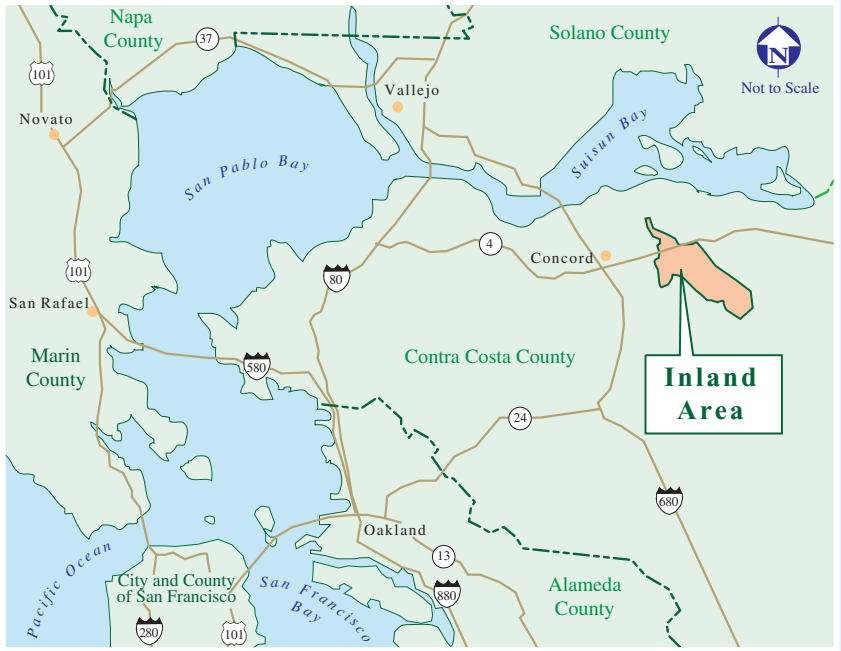
### Introduction

This fact sheet provides an update on the environmental restoration activities in the Inland Area of the Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach Detachment Concord (NAVWPNSTA Seal Beach Det Concord). Specifically, information is provided on the status of the environmental sites in the Installation Restoration (IR) Program and Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP), points of contact, and opportunities for public involvement in the U.S. Department of the Navy's (Navy) Inland Area Environmental Restoration (ER) Program.

### General History of the Base

NAVWPNSTA Seal Beach Det Concord is located in north-central Contra Costa County, in Concord, California. Throughout its history and into the 1990s, Concord was a major port for naval munitions transshipment and storage. NAVWPNSTA Seal Beach Det Concord consists of two primary areas separated by the Los Medanos Hills: the Inland Area, which is about 5,200 acres and the Tidal Area, which is about 7,700 acres. The focus of this fact sheet is the Inland Area, which was used primarily for ammunition storage, but also included facilities for maintenance, administration, and housing. The majority of the Inland Area was acquired by the Navy in 1944 when the Navy's operations in the Tidal Area necessitated more storage and administration capacity.

In 1999, the Inland Area was placed in a reduced operational status. In November 2005, the Defense Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) commission recommended the Inland Area of NAVWPNSTA Seal Beach Det Concord, with the exceptions noted below, be operationally closed and eventually transferred from federal ownership. Additionally, the BRAC commission recommended the realignment of the Tidal Area and approximately 115 acres of the Inland Area to be transferred from the Navy to the U.S. Department of the Army to remain an active Army installation. As a result of federal screening efforts, two existing housing areas, located on approximately 59 acres in the Inland Area, was transferred from the Navy to the U.S. Coast Guard.




**Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach Detachment Concord Inland Area**

# Environmental Restoration Program

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### CERCLA Program

In response to environmental impacts resulting from past hazardous waste handling and disposal practices, in 1980 Congress directed the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) to develop a program to manage and control past disposal and spill sites. This program is known as the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act or CERCLA, as amended by the 1986 Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA), and is commonly referred to as "Superfund." These laws establish a phased process for the investigation and restoration of hazardous waste disposal and spill sites nationwide. A schematic of the CERCLA process is shown on the right.

### Navy Environmental Restoration Program

The Navy's ER Program consists of two main programs; the IR Program and the MMRP. The IR Program is specific to military facilities and its purpose is to identify, investigate, and environmentally restore sites with hazardous substances to reduce the risk to human health and the environment.

The MMRP addresses environmental health and safety hazards from unexploded ordnance, discarded military munitions, and munitions constituents. Incidental to hazardous waste remediation, a limited number of hazards associated with military munitions (such as training grenades used at the Site 24A Pistol Range) were previously addressed under the IR Program. The Navy created the MMRP to more thoroughly address potential hazards remaining from its past use of military munitions.

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) is a law containing requirements for environmental investigation and restoration

| PHASE | |
|---|---|
| PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT/ SITE INSPECTION (THE FIRST LOOK) | **Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection -** An initial review of the site, including review of historic records and visual inspections. Sampling and analysis of soil, surface water, and/or groundwater may occur to evaluate whether the site needs to move to the next phase for further investigations. |
| REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION (A CLOSER LOOK) | **Remedial Investigation -** A closer look, including collecting and analyzing samples to assess risk to human health and the environment. A Removal Action may also be performed at this point. |
| FEASIBILITY STUDY (WHAT WORKS) | **Feasibility Study -** Results of the risk assessments, along with the data collected during the Remedial Investigation are used to evaluate cleanup alternatives that have been screened for effectiveness, implementability, and cost. |
| PROPOSED PLAN (PUBLIC COMMENTS) | **Proposed Plan -** A fact sheet that describes cleanup alternatives evaluated in the Feasibility Study and explains the preferred alternative. This step requires a meeting be held to provide information to the public and allow the public to comment on the preferred alternative. |
| RECORD OF DECISION (DECISION) | **Record of Decision -** The selected cleanup alternative is documented and publicized in this document. A summary and responses to all comments on the Proposed Plan are included in this document. |
| REMEDIAL DESIGN (PLAN FOR CLEANUP) | **Remedial Design -** A design for implementing the selected cleanup alternative is prepared. A fact sheet is sent to the public before the Navy begins work on the cleanup remedy. |
| REMEDIAL ACTION (CLEANUP) | **Remedial Action -** The cleanup remedy is carried out and the public is kept informed. |

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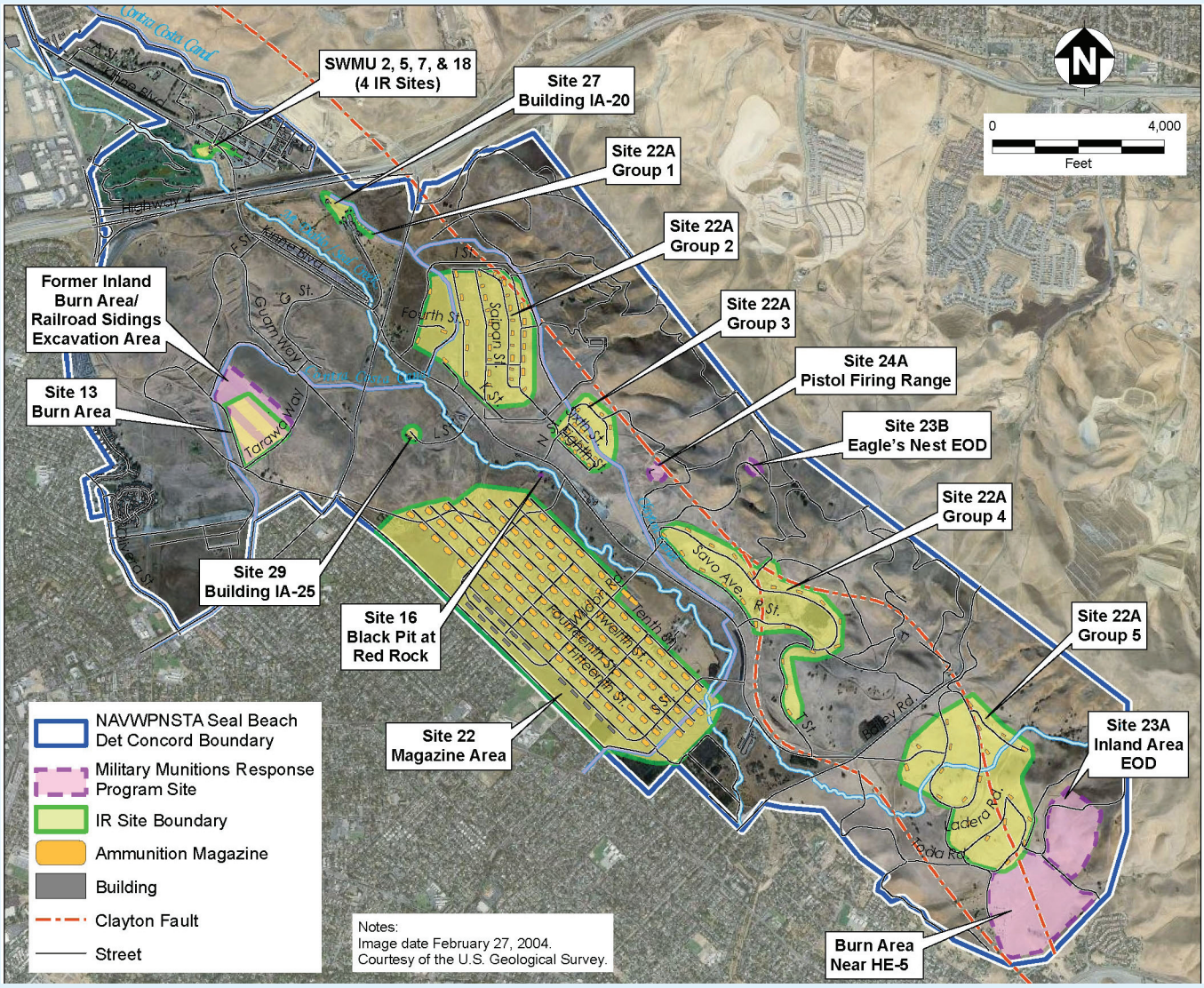
### Inland Area Environmental Restoration Program

The IR Program at NAVWPNSTA Seal Beach Det Concord began in 1983 with an Initial Assessment Study (IAS) to collect and evaluate information on past base operation. The IAS indicated contaminants may have been released to soil, sediment, and/or groundwater. The Navy has identified 21 IR sites at the NAVWPNSTA Seal Beach Det Concord Inland Area; six of these sites have been closed, eight sites are currently being investigated under the IR Program, and seven sites have been transferred to the MMRP. The site description table of Installation Restoration Sites on the next page presents a description of each site, the former operations, type of contamination, and current status. With the exception of the fire station at Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) 2, none of the sites are currently used. The map below shows the location of ER Program sites that are currently being investigated

**NAVWPNSTA Seal Beach Det Concord Inland Area Sites**



# Environmental Restoration Program

## Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach Detachment Concord
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## Site Description Table - Installation Restoration Sites

| Current Installation Restoration Program Sites | Contaminants of Potential Concern | Current Status |
|---|---|---|
| **SWMUs 2, 5, 7 and 18*** Industrial complex, includes locomotive steam cleaning and maintenance, paint shop, and a fire station | Solvents, petroleum hydrocarbons in groundwater | A groundwater treatment pilot study was conducted to evaluate the effectiveness of a solvent cleanup technology. Results are currently being incorporated into a revised Feasibility Study. |
| **Site 13** Former Inland Burn Area Area used for open burn destruction of ordnance items | Metals, flares, napalm, propellants | IR Program investigations completed in 2006. MMRP SI is currently being conducted. |
| **Site 14** Kinne Boulevard Wells Abandoned groundwater supply wells | Fuel oil | **Site Closed** No further action (NFA) recommended in 1996. |
| **Site 15** Railroad Classification Yard | Methyl bromide and shell casings | **Site Closed** NFA recommended in 1983 Initial Assessment Study. |
| **Site 16** Black Pit at Red Rock Small discolored pit | Metals, solvents | IR Program investigations completed in 1996. MMRP SI is currently being conducted. |
| **Site 17** Building IA-24 Forklift maintenance and storage | Metals, fuel | **Site Closed** NFA Record of Decision (ROD) signed by EPA on 9/30/05. |
| **Site 18** Building IA-25 Potential burn pit and solvent disposal area | Paints, solvents | **Site Closed** NFA recommended in 1983 Initial Assessment Study. |
| **Site 19** Seal Creek Disposal Area Debris and rubble disposal area near creek | Asphalt, construction debris, material washed in from off base | IR Program investigations completed in 1994. 2007 MMRP PA recommended NFA. |
| **Site 20** Old homestead at Seal Creek Area used for disposal by ranchers prior to Navy property ownership | Household wastes such as cans, coffee pots, bed pans; no hazardous wastes identified | **Site Closed** NFA recommended in 1983 Initial Assessment Study. |

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| Current Installation Restoration Program Sites | Contaminants of Potential Concern | Current Status |
|---|---|---|
| **Site 21**<br>Building 97 Fuel Tanks<br>Four underground storage tanks for rocket fuel storage | Rocket Fuel | **Site Closed**<br>Site was transferred to the Underground Storage Tank Program and all four tanks were closed by Contra Costa County. |
| **Site 22**<br>Magazine Area<br>Munitions storage bunkers | Arsenic in shallow soil | A Remedial Investigation Report was completed February 2007.<br>A Feasibility Study is being prepared. |
| **Site 22A**<br>Group 1-5 Magazine Areas<br>Munitions storage bunkers | Arsenic in soil | Soil investigations will be initiated in July 2007. A Remedial Investigation Report will be prepared. |
| **Site 23A**<br>Inland Area EOD<br>Area used as an explosive destruction range | Explosives | IR Program investigations completed in 1993.<br>MMRP supplemental PA will be conducted. |
| **Site 23B**<br>Eagles Nest EOD<br>Area used as an explosive destruction range | Explosives, metals | IR Program investigations completed in 1993.<br>MMRP SI is currently being conducted. |
| **Site 24A**<br>Pistol Firing Range<br>Small arms and practice grenade launching range | Lead, explosives | Active firing range until 2005.<br>MMRP SI is currently being conducted. |
| **Site 24B**<br>Bore Sighting Range | Lead, explosives | IR Program investigations completed in 1993.<br>2007 MMRP PA recommended NFA. |
| **Site 27**<br>Buildings IA-20 and IA-36<br>Chemical laboratory and materials testing building and boiler house | Chlordane in soil | Soil investigations will be initiated in August 2007. A revised Remedial Investigation Report will be prepared. |
| **Site 29**<br>Building IA-25<br>Used for manufacture and testing of explosives | Metals, solvents, paints, explosives | Soil and groundwater investigations were initiated in May 2007.<br>A revised Remedial Investiation Report will be prepared. |

**Notes:**

**EOD** Explosive ordnance disposal
**IR** Installation Restoration
**MMRP** Military Munitions Response Program
**NFA** No further action
**PA** Preliminary Assessment
***** SWMU 2, 5, 7, and 18 are four separate IR sites

**ROD** Record of Decision
**SI** Site Inspection
**SWMU** Solid waste management unit

Sites 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 25, 26, 28, 30, and 31 are in the Tidal Area portion of the base and therefore are not included in this fact sheet.

# Environmental Restoration Program

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### Inland Area Military Munitions Response Program

The MMRP at NAVWPNSTA Seal Beach Det Concord was initiated in May 2003. The Navy has identified 11 MMRP sites in the Inland Area, and is finalizing a Preliminary Assessment (PA) on 10 of those sites. The Navy plans to conduct Site Inspections (SI) on several sites recommended for further evaluation in the PA. The site description table below presents a summary of each of the current MMRP sites.

## Site Description Table - Military Munitions Response Program Sites

| MMRP Sites | Suspect Activities | Current Status |
|---|---|---|
| **Dredge Fill and Borrow Area** | A dredge fill and borrow area | 2007 MMRP PA recommended NFA. |
| **Railroad Siding Excavation Area/ Former Inland Burn Area** (IR Site 13) | Trenches used as a burn area for destroying flares, smoke chemicals, thermite grenades, small arms ammunition, pyrotechnic and explosive powders | 2007 MMRP PA recommended further assessment. An SI is being conducted. |
| **Red Rock Disposal Area** | Trash and debris disposal at Red Rock Disposal Area | 2007 MMRP PA recommended NFA. |
| **Black Pit at Red Rock** (IR Site 16) | Open burning of munitions at Black Pit at Red Rock | 2007 MMRP PA recommended further assessment. An SI is being conducted. |
| **Burn Area near HE-5** | Training, and burning of bulk propellants, explosives, pyrotechnics, small arms and grenades | 2007 MMRP PA recommended further assessment. An SI is being conducted. |
| **Disposal Area-Seal Creek** (IR Site 19) | Disposal of trash and debris | 2007 MMRP PA recommended NFA. |
| **Inland Area EOD** (IR Site 23A) | Open detonation of munitions | A Supplemental PA is being conducted. |
| **Eagle's Nest EOD** (IR Site 23B) | Open detonation of munitions including bulk propellants and explosives, pyrotechnics, small arms and grenades | 2007 MMRP PA recommended further assessment. An SI is being conducted. |

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| MMRP Sites | Suspect Activities | Current Status |
|---|---|---|
| **Pistol Firing Range** (IR Site 24A) | Small arms and grenade firing range | An SI is being conducted. |
| **Bore Sighting Range** (IR Site 24B) | Aircraft target range | 2007 MMRP PA recommended NFA. |

**Notes:**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **EOD** | Explosive ordnance disposal | **NFA** | No further action |
| **IR** | Installation Restoration | **PA** | Preliminary Assessment |
| **MMRP** | Military Munitions Response Program | **SI** | Site Inspection |

## Environmental Restoration Accomplishments

### Site 17 Record of Decision – Building IA-24 Forklift Repair and Equipment Storage

Data collected during environmental investigations at Site 17 were used to conduct ecological and human health risk assessments, which indicated the soil and groundwater at the site does not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment. A Record of Decision for No Further Action at Site 17 was signed by the Navy on June 15, 2005 and the U.S. EPA on September 30, 2005.

### SWMU Sites 2, 5, 7, and 18 Pilot Study – Industrial Complex

A pilot study was initiated in February 2007 to test the efficiency of a combination of groundwater cleanup technologies to degrade volatile organic compounds (VOCs). The pilot study evaluated air sparging and soil vapor extraction. Air sparging is the injection of air into the subsurface to volatilize the contamination from the groundwater. Soil vapor extraction is the extraction of contaminated soil vapor above the groundwater created from the air sparging. As part of the pilot study, the Navy installed a down gradient groundwater monitoring well and sampled existing wells. Following the completion of the groundwater pilot study, the Navy will revise the Feasibility Study.

### Site 22 Remedial Investigation – Main Magazine Area

The Main Magazine Area contains 116 bunkers that were used by the Navy to store munitions. In the mid-1940s, vegetation on and around the bunkers were sprayed with an herbicide that contained arsenic to reduce fire risk. From 2004 to 2006, the Navy conducted investigations of soil and groundwater at Site 22 to assess the presence of arsenic in surface soils. In February 2007, the Navy finalized a Remedial Investigation Report, which included an evaluation of potential risks to human health and the environment. The Navy is initiating a Feasibility Study to evaluate cleanup alternatives at Site 22.

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### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Navy is committed to keeping the community informed of the ER Program activities at the NAVWPNSTA Seal Beach Det Concord Inland Area by implementing a Community Involvement Program. The goals of this Community Involvement Program are threefold: (1) to provide information about the Navy ER Program for the Inland Area to members of the public, (2) maintain an ongoing dialogue with the public, and (3) to solicit feedback during key parts of the investigation and environmental restoration process. This program must meet certain objectives outlined in CERCLA, therefore federal and state guidance documents are used to guide the Navy's efforts. The community plays an important role in the success of the Navy's ER Program by providing valuable input to the environmental team.

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PLAN

The Navy is currently updating the 2003 Community Involvement Plan (CIP). The purpose of the CIP is to outline methods to ensure the local community (1) has access to technical information about Navy ER Program activities, and (2) has early and meaningful input into investigation and restoration activities. The CIP identifies and describes the ways the Navy will provide information to residents and interested parties, and the ways the public can raise issues and concerns to the Navy. In addition, the CIP provides background information about the base, environmental sites, local community, past community involvement activities, regulatory requirements, and summarizes recently conducted community interviews.

### WHAT IS THE NAVWPNSTA SEAL BEACH DET CONCORD RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB)?

The RAB is a forum for communication in an open environment between all interested parties providing an opportunity to participate in the ER Program at NAVWPNSTA Seal Beach Det Concord. It is composed of community members, Navy representatives, regulatory agency representatives, the City of Concord representatives, and other stakeholders who reflect the diverse interests of those living and working on or near the base. Among the responsibilities of the RAB are:

- ✓ Providing input on environmental cleanup issues
- ✓ Reviewing, evaluating, and commenting on environmental cleanup documents
- ✓ Identifying cleanup preferences among sites or projects
- ✓ Sharing information from RAB meetings with their neighbors and stakeholder groups

Community members interested in finding out more about the RAB are encouraged to contact the Inland Area Navy Co-chair, Darren Newton, at (619) 532-0963 and attend meetings of the RAB, usually held on the *first Wednesday of every other month* at the Concord Police Department Community Room at 1350 Galindo Street in Concord, California, 94520. RAB meeting notices are published in the ***Concord Transcript, Pleasant Hill and Martinez Record, Contra Costa Sun, Contra Costa Times, Martinez News Gazette, and San Francisco Chronicle Datebook*** in the public meeting section or a community bulletin board during the week just prior to the meeting. Future RAB meetings are scheduled for September 5, 2007 and November 7, 2007

# Environmental Restoration Program

## Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach Detachment Concord Inland Area Fact Sheet

## Where Can I Find More Information on the NAVWPNSTA Seal Beach Det Concord Inland Area Environmental Restoration Program?

Technical reports, RAB meeting minutes, newsletters, fact sheets, public meeting announcements, and other environmental response information on the NAVWPNSTA Seal Beach Det Concord Inland Area are available for public review at:

**Navy information repository located at the Concord Public Library Government Records Section**
2900 Salvio Street
Concord, CA 94519
Phone: (925) 646-5455
Call for library hours

**Navy Administrative Records Center Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southwest**
Ms. Diane Silva
CERCLA Administrative Records Coordinator
Administrative Records Office, Code: ENV.DS
1220 Pacific Highway
San Diego, CA 92132
Phone: (619) 532-3676
Administrative Records Center Hours:
Monday through Friday: 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

For information on the
NAVWPNSTA Seal Beach Det Concord Inland Area program see:
**http://www.bracpmo.navy.mil/brac2005/bracbases/ca/concord/default.aspx**

## NAVWPNSTA Seal Beach Det Concord Inland Area Contact Information

If you would like more information on the Inland Area ER Program or the RAB, or if you would like to be added to our mailing list, please call (925) 246-4020 and leave a message and someone will return your call or contact:

**Darren Newton**
Navy BRAC Environmental Coordinator
Department of the Navy
Base Realignment and Closure Program Management Office West
1455 Frazee Road, Suite 900
San Diego, CA 92108-4310
(619) 532-0963
darren.newton@navy.mil

# Environmental Restoration Program

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### PARTNERS IN THE CLEANUP PROCESS

The NAVWPNSTA Seal Beach Det Concord Remedial Project Managers (RPMs) are representatives of the Department of the Navy, U.S. EPA, Cal/EPA Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), and the Cal/EPA San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Board (Water Board). The primary role of the RPMs is to participate in the planning and selection of response actions which includes information review, project consultation, and remedial decision-making.


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afriedman@waterboards.ca.gov

## Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach Detachment Concord

# RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The Navy maintains a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) for NAVWPNSTA Seal Beach Det Concord. Community members interested in the RAB are encouraged to return their completed application to:

Darren Newton (BRAC PMO West)
BRAC Environmental Coordinator
1455 Frazee Road, Suite 900
San Diego, California 92108-5190

## Conditions for Membership:

- Priority will be given to local residents.
- RAB members are expected to serve a two-year term and attend all RAB meetings or designate an alternate. Members who miss four or more consecutive meetings may be asked to resign.
- Duties and responsibilities may include reviewing and commenting on technical documents and activities associated with the environmental restoration at the NAVWPNSTA Seal Beach Detachment.
- Members will be expected to be available to other community members and groups to faciliate the exchange of information and/or concerns between the community and the RAB.

For more information visit the NAVWPNSTA Seal Beach Det Concord Website:
http://www.bracpmo.navy.mil/brac2005/bracbases/ca/concord/default.aspx

Name _____

Address _____
Street Apt No. City Zip Code

Phone: ( ) _____ Fax: ( ) _____ E-mail: _____

Briefly state why you would like to be considered for membership on the Restoration Advisory Board:

_____

_____

_____

_____

What has been your experience, if any, working as a member of a diverse group with common goals?

_____

_____

_____

Briefly summarize any experience you have that pertains to environmental issues: (optional)

_____

_____

By signing this application, you willingly agree to work cooperatively with the other RAB members to ensure the effective use of RAB resources in contributing to the environmental cleanup of Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach Detachment Concord.

_____ _____

Darren Newton
Navy BRAC Environmental Coordinator
1455 Frazee Road, Suite 900
San Diego, CA 92108-5190