

Project Contacts

If you have any questions or concerns about environmental activities at the former station, please feel free to contact any of the following project representatives:

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For More Information

A key document that details the cleanup of soil at Sites 8 and 12 is titled: "Final Remedial Design/Remedial Action Work Plan," December 2008. This and other reports for Sites 8 and 12 are available for review at the following locations:

- Heritage Park Regional Library, MCAS El Toro Information Repository, 14361 Yale Avenue, Irvine, CA 92714, (949) 551-7151.
- MCAS El Toro Administrative Record File, BRAC Office, Building 307 at former MCAS El Toro, contact Document Coordinator, (949) 726-5398.

Internet Connection

For more information on former MCAS El Toro environmental restoration activities, visit the web site at: www.bracpmo.navy.mil



FACT SHEET

Soil Cleanup at Sites 8 and 12 Installation Restoration Program Former Marine Corps Air Station El Toro

January 2009

Navy Proceeds with Soil Excavation and Off-Station Disposal

The Navy is proceeding with final Remedial Action of excavation and off-station disposal of shallow contaminated soil at Installation Restoration Program Sites 8 and 12 at former Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) El Toro.

Cleanup Decisions

Cleanup decisions were formally documented in the Final Record of Decision (ROD), where remedial action was selected for shallow soil at Site 8 (Units 1, 3, and 4) and at Site 12 (Unit 3). The Final ROD for Sites 8 and 12 also established target cleanup goals for excavating contaminants in shallow soil in these areas to protect human health and the environment. No action was selected in the Final ROD for soil at Site 8 (Units 2 and 5) and at Site 12 (Units 1, 2, and 4), and for groundwater beneath both Sites 8 and 12.

Site Descriptions

Site 8 is a former Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office Storage Yard which consists of a main storage yard (Units 1 through 4) and an old salvage yard (Unit 5). The yards were used for storing containerized liquids, scrap, and salvage material from former MCAS El Toro and former MCAS Tustin.

Site 12, former Sludge Drying Beds, is associated with a former industrial wastewater treatment plant that operated between 1943 and 1972. This site consists of two sludge drying beds (Units 1 and 2), an unlined drainage ditch (Unit 3), and an industrial wastewater treatment plant (Unit 4).



Soil samples were collected and later analyzed in the laboratory to optimize excavation limits at Site 12, Unit 3.



At Site 8, Unit 3 pre-excavation activities using sophisticated sampling equipment were also conducted to optimize excavation limits.

Base Realignment and Closure
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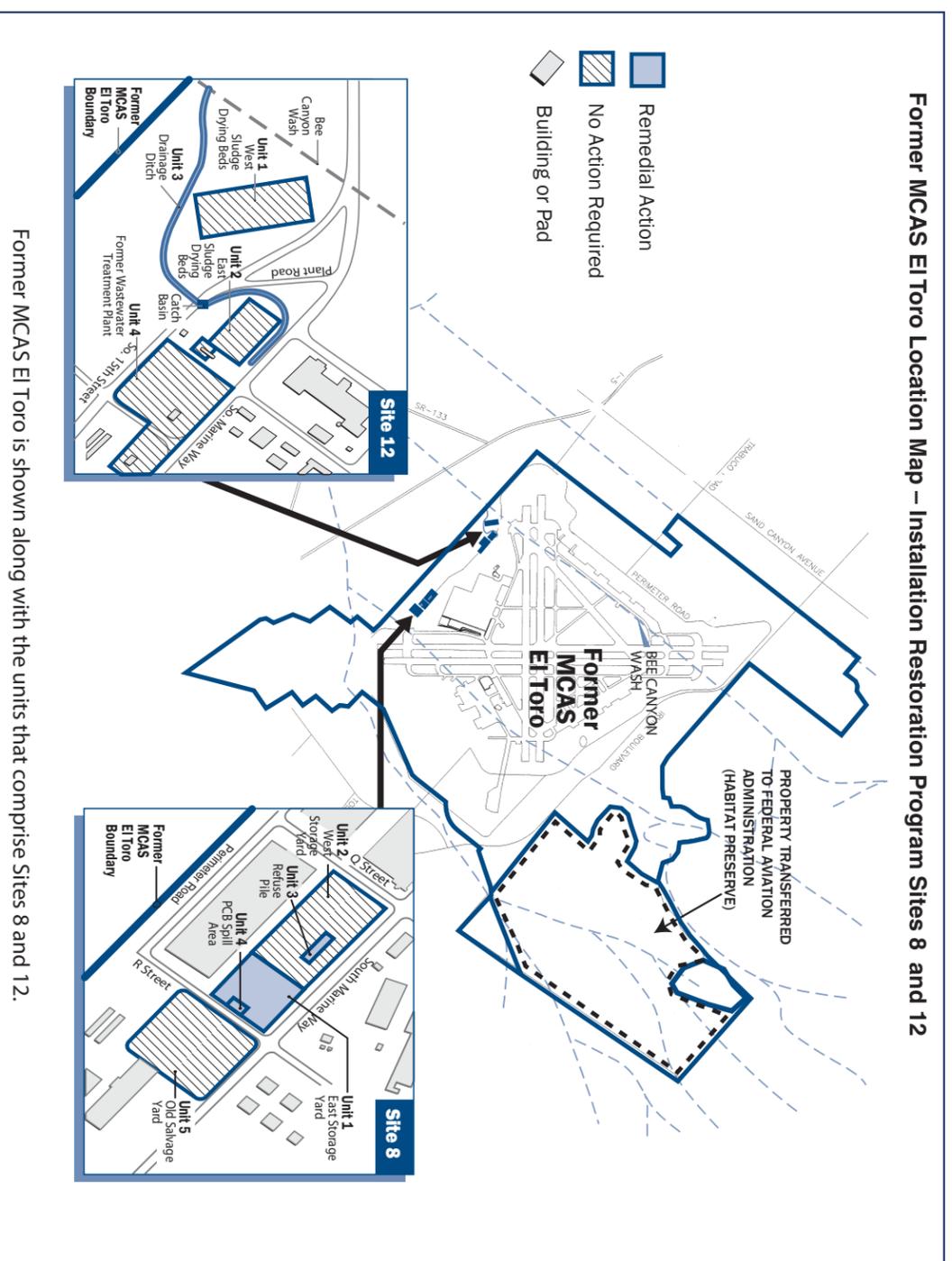
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Former MCAS El Toro Location Map – Installation Restoration Program Sites 8 and 12



Former MCAS El Toro is shown along with the units that comprise Sites 8 and 12.

Cleanup Action – Excavation and Off-Station Disposal

The Navy first conducted pre-excavation activities to better define the extent of the areas requiring excavation at Site 8 and Site 12. Contaminants in the soil were also characterized during this effort to optimize the future disposal of soil at regulated off-station facilities.

The cleanup will be accomplished by excavating and properly disposing of shallow contaminated soil that exceeds cleanup goals.

- Site 8 (Units 1 and 4) addresses Radium-226 (Ra-226), which was commonly used in luminescent paint on dials, gauges, and other equipment in aircraft serviced at former MCAS El Toro from the 1940s through the 1960s.
- Site 8 (Unit 3) addresses a polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB), which is a common material used in electrical transformers.

For the final remedial action at Site 8 (Unit 3), about 5 bank cubic yards of PCB-impacted soil will be excavated to a depth of about 5 feet below the ground surface in a 5- by 5-foot area. At Site 12 (Unit 3), PCB- and PAH-impacted soil that also contains pesticides and herbicides will be excavated along the length of the drainage ditch at an average depth of about 1.5 feet. At Site 8 (Unit 3) and Site 12 (Unit 3), approximately 2,400 bank cubic yards of soil will be excavated.

Once the areas have been excavated, soil sampling will be conducted to confirm that the contaminated soil has been removed and cleanup goals have been achieved. After all confirmation sampling and surveying has been completed at Sites 8 and 12, the excavated areas will be backfilled with clean soil. The clean soil will be compacted and contoured to prevent rainfall from accumulating at the site.

Excavated soil will be loaded into trucks and covered for transportation. It is estimated that approximately 250 truck loads of excavated soil will be hauled away from Sites 8 and 12 and be properly disposed of at appropriate off-site facilities.

Regulatory Agencies Concur on Cleanup Plan

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA), Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) concurred that the selected remedy presented in the Final ROD, which included excavation and off-station disposal of contaminated soil, is the most appropriate and effective alternative for areas at Sites 8 and 12 that require remedial action. Concurrence was based in part on a feasibility study that was conducted to develop and evaluate alternatives for site cleanup, and on community input on the Proposed Plan received during the public comment period. The regulatory agencies recently reviewed and approved the Final Remedial Design/Remedial Action Work Plan for cleanup of Sites 8 and 12.



Prior to the pre-excavation sampling at Site 12, a field technician is preparing to mark areas to guide the sampling effort.

Former MCAS El Toro Restoration Advisory Board (RAB):

The RAB is composed of community members and representatives from the Navy and the regulatory agencies. RAB meetings provide regularly scheduled opportunities for the public to participate in cleanup and decision making. The RAB helps identify environmental issues and provides a forum to communicate directly with the Navy and others who are involved in the environmental cleanup and restoration at former MCAS El Toro.

RAB Meeting Information:

RAB meetings occur four times a year on a quarterly basis in January, April, August, and November or December.

The next RAB meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 28, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. at Irvine City Hall in the Conference and Training Center.

RAB Points of Contact:

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