

ALAMEDA POINT FOCUS

THE NAVY'S ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM NEWSLETTER

www.bracpmo.navy.mil/bracbases/california/nas_alameda

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BRAC
PMO WEST

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INTRODUCTION

This newsletter provides interested community members with information about the U.S. Navy's environmental activities at Former Naval Air Station Alameda, now commonly referred to as Alameda Point, in Alameda, California. Environmental activities began at Alameda Point in the early 1980s and continue today. These activities include investigations, remedial actions, and site restoration. Your input is important for the program. Please contact the Navy if you have questions, want more information, or would like us to make a brief presentation about plans for Alameda Point at your next community group event. If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please fill out the mailing coupon at the back of this newsletter. The Navy welcomes the opportunity to share information about the ongoing environmental activities at Alameda Point with as many community members as possible. I'm always available to answer your questions or to help you learn more about our environmental program.

Sincerely,
Thomas L. Macchiarella
Alameda Point BRAC Environmental
Coordinator
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Alameda Team Wins the Prestigious Chief of Naval Operations Award

On February 20, 2007, the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Environmental Readiness Division announced the Alameda Point Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Team was selected as a winner of the CNO Environmental Awards Competition. The award is for work completed in fiscal year 2006, and the team won under the category of Environmental Restoration - Installation. The annual Naval program recognizes individuals, teams, ships, and installations for exceptional environmental stewardship; this year there were 24 honorees. In addition to environmental restoration, competition categories also include natural resources conservation, cultural resources management, environmental quality, pollution prevention, and environmental planning.

In a congratulatory message to the winners, William G. Mattheis, Deputy Director of the CNO Environmental Readiness Division stated "By winning this award, you are being recognized for your efforts to protect human health and the environment by cleaning up identified [Department of Navy] sites in a timely, cost-efficient, and responsive manner, and for having made a significant contribution to environmental restoration."

The award was presented on June 7, 2007, in a ceremony at the U.S. Navy Memorial and Naval Heritage Center in Washington, D.C. Lead Remedial Project Manager, John Kowalczyk and Base Closure Manager Alan Lee were present to accept the award on behalf of the team.

"This award is a testament to the last few years of hard work, and our team is gratified by that," said Thomas Macchiarella, BRAC Environmental Coordinator. "We're also very proud to share the prestige of this national award with other Navy BRAC bases in California." For more information about the award, see the Department of Navy website at www.navy.mil.



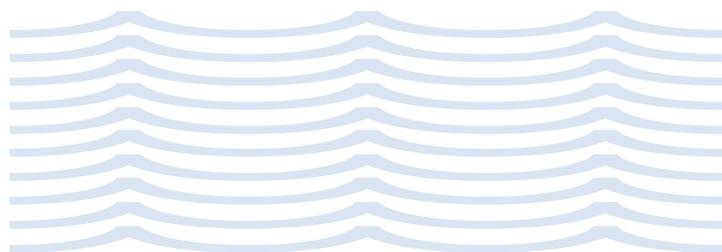
Vice Admiral Michael K. Loose, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations, Presents the CNO award to John Kowalczyk and Alan Lee

Alameda Point RAB Seeks & Receives TAPP Grant

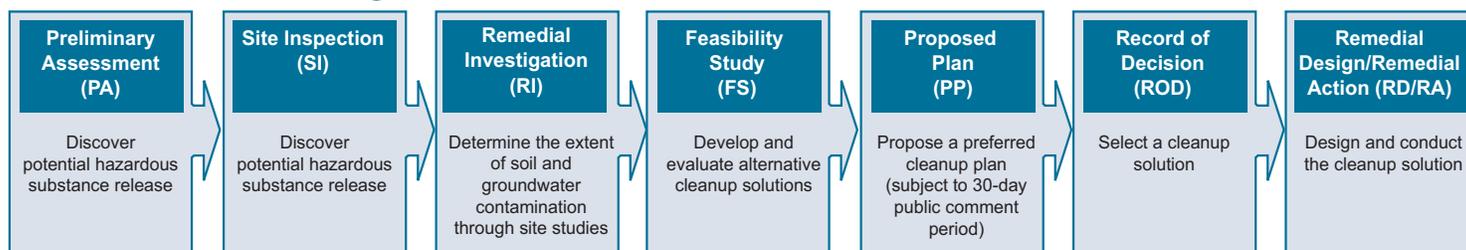
The Alameda Point Restoration Advisory Board (**RAB**) recently took advantage of a Department of Defense program that provides funds for the RAB to obtain objective, independent technical analysis of cleanup documents. The program is called **TAPP**, or Technical Assistance for Public Participation. This program provides grants up to \$25,000 per year, with a maximum limit of \$100,000, to any single RAB.

The RAB identified the Site 1 Proposed Plan and the Site 2 Feasibility Study as documents where independent technical analysis would help them participate more effectively in the Navy's environmental program. The Navy administers the TAPP Grant acquisition process. The RAB submitted an application for the TAPP Grant through the Navy RAB Co-chair, Thomas Macchiarella. The application was approved based on a statement of work prepared together by the RAB Co-Chairs, and the RAB members suggested several preferred TAPP providers. The RAB then formed a special subcommittee to evaluate and rank the several received proposals. The Navy was able to approve awarding the Grant to the subcommittee's highest ranked provider.

The selected TAPP Grant consultant, Mr. Peter Strauss, reviewed the Proposed Plan and the Feasibility Study and related documents, met with the RAB to discuss the documents, and presented his comments at the November 2006 RAB meeting. The RAB then reviewed all of the information and submitted written comments on the Site 1 Proposed Plan and the Site 2 Feasibility Study. Currently, the Navy is addressing all of the comments received and making applicable changes to the projects. The Navy would like to thank the RAB members for taking their time to pursue the TAPP Grant, meet with the consultant, and provide their input on these technical documents.



CERCLA Process Diagram



Checklist of 2006 Accomplishments

Last year was busy for the Alameda Point environmental team. A summary of documents completed for calendar year 2006 is presented below.

Please refer to the CERCLA Process Diagram below for a summary of each step in the CERCLA process.

Under the **CERCLA** (Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act) Program, the following items were completed:

- ✓ *Two* Final Site Investigations (a total of 159 acres of property)
- ✓ Final Remedial Investigation Work Plans for *Four* sites (a total of 412 acres of property)
- ✓ *One* Final Remedial Investigation (a total of 110 acres of property)
- ✓ *One* Final Feasibility Study (a total of 16 acres of property)
- ✓ *Seven* Proposed Plans (a total of 290 acres of property)
- ✓ Final Records of Decision for *Two* sites (a total of 38 acres of property)

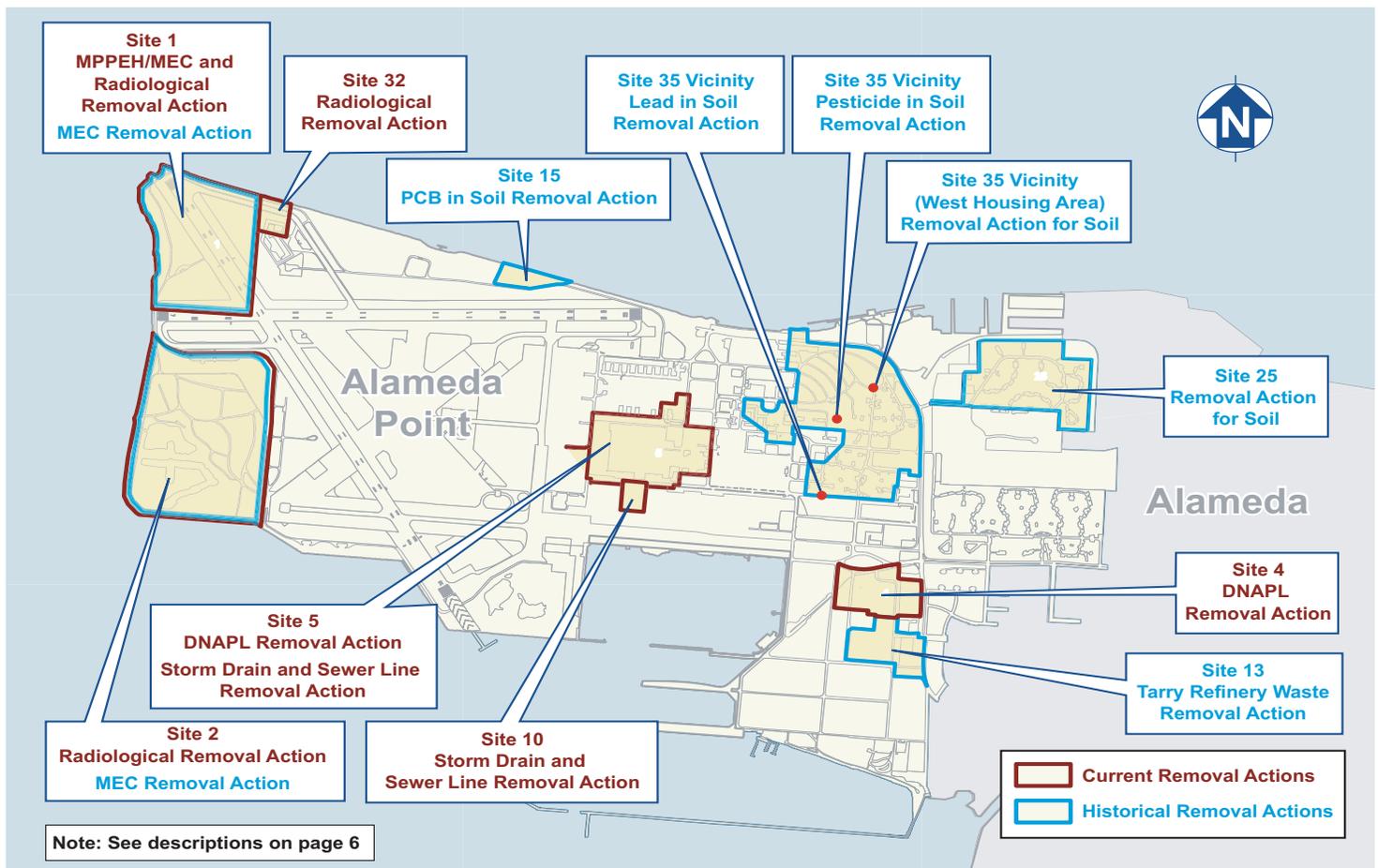
Most of the documents are readily available to the public at the Information Repository for Alameda Point, see page 8 for location. If you need help locating a specific document, please contact Thomas Macchiarella (see contact information on front page).

Public Involvement Activities included the following:

- ✓ *Eleven* RAB Meetings
- ✓ *Seven* Proposed Plan Public Meetings
- ✓ *One* RAB Site Tour
- ✓ *Two* issues of the community newsletter

In addition to the many other milestones achieved in each of the CERCLA, **RCRA** (Resource, Conservation, and Recovery Act) and petroleum programs, the Navy conducted several "Removal Actions" which resulted in significant reduction of chemical mass in the subsurface. See *Removal Actions* Graphic on page 4 for a description, and the article on page 5.

Map of Current and Historical Removal Actions at Alameda Point



Alameda Point Team Member Profile:

John Kowalczyk

John Kowalczyk recently joined the Alameda Point BRAC Team as the Lead Remedial Project Manager. John began working in BRAC in 1999 as a contractor. He has been with the Navy for three years with experience at installations including Point Molate Fuel Depot in Richmond, Mare Island Naval Shipyard in Vallejo, Novato Housing in Novato, and Crows Landing Auxiliary Airfield. Prior to his Navy work, John worked as an environmental consultant on projects throughout California.

As the Lead Remedial Project Manager, John is responsible for consistency and accuracy of all Alameda Point documents; planning and tracking schedules and budgets; and coordination of work and policies among other Remedial Project Managers (RPM), as well as working on some Alameda Annex projects. Currently John is getting up-to-speed on new issues that arise every week, but for him, learning about something new every week is one of the most rewarding parts of the job. "It's a joy to work with experienced and talented BRAC Closure Team members, Navy RPMs, and consultants. Everyday is something new."

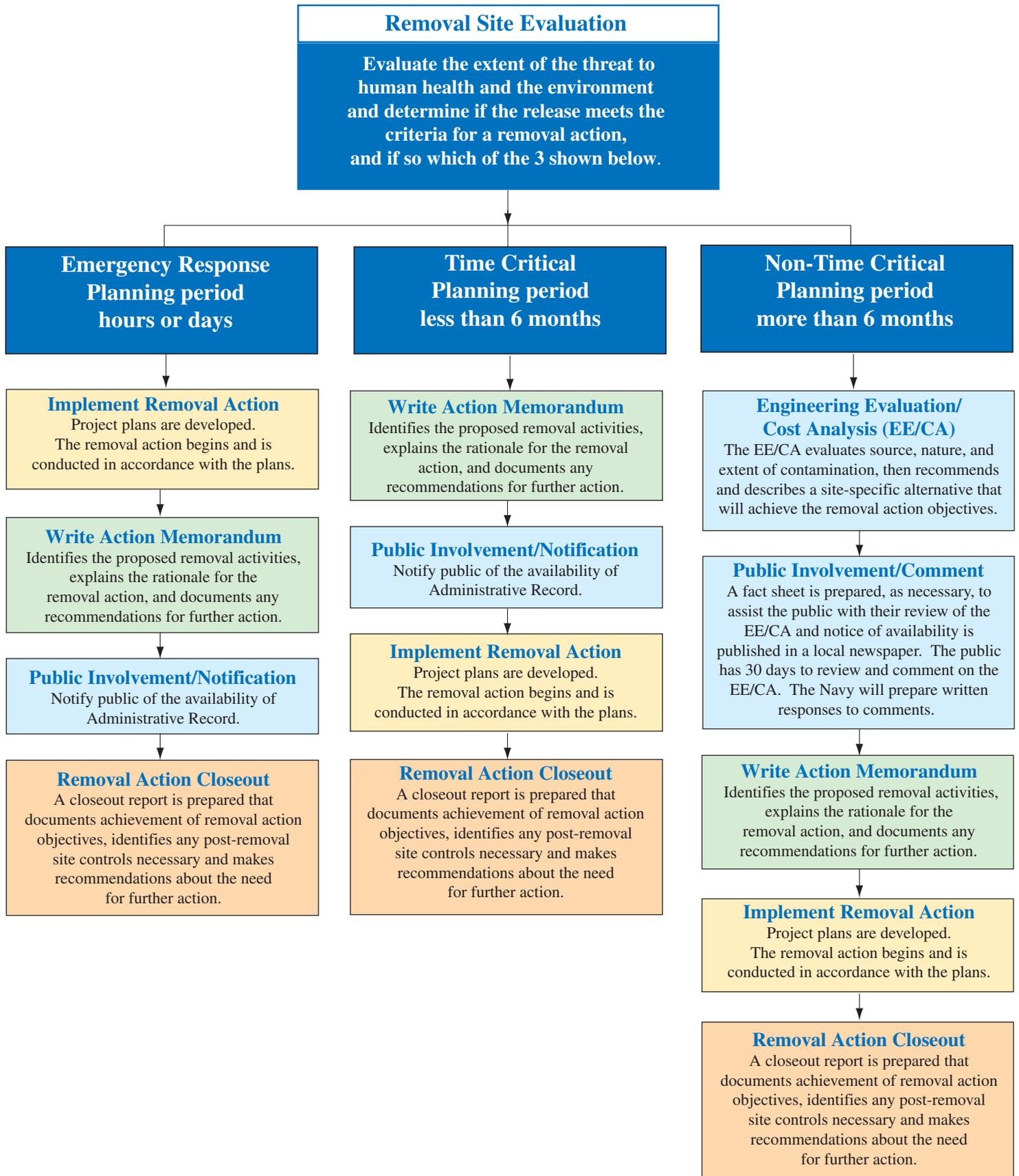
John holds a Bachelor of Science degree in geophysics from the University of California at Santa Barbara and a Master of Science degree in Computer Science from National University. John is a registered Professional Geologist in California.

Living in Southern California, John takes advantage of the beaches and deserts for family camping trips and relishes the opportunity to hunt around for rocks and fossils with his kids "before they get too old and cool to hang out with me!" *Welcome to the Alameda Team, John.*



John Kowalczyk
Navy Lead Remedial
Project Manager

CERCLA Removal Actions



Removal Actions - - What are They?

At any time during the CERCLA process, the Navy may conduct a "Removal Action" to address hazardous substances at a site. Removal Actions can be the cleanup or removal of released hazardous substances, or actions that may be necessary to monitor, assess and evaluate the release or threat of release of hazardous substances, or other actions that may be necessary to prevent, minimize or mitigate potential threats to public health and the environment. Removal Actions can be as simple and straight-forward as placing fencing around a site or excavating and removing contaminated soil. On the other hand, Removal Actions can be more complex and long-term projects, such as groundwater treatment. A Removal Action may be an interim action or may be the final cleanup for a site.

Removal Actions are carried out in accordance with Federal and State requirements. The Navy can conduct a Removal Action if one or more of the following criteria are met: 1) an imminent threat to human health or the environment exists, 2) the source of the contamination can be removed quickly and effectively, 3) access to contamination can be limited, or 4) a Removal Action is the fastest way to clean up the site.

The EPA has defined three types of Removal Actions: Emergency, Time-Critical (TCRA), and Non-Time-Critical (NTCRA). Emergency Removal Actions occur when cleanup situations need immediate attention and are expected to be completed within 30 days after it is determined a Removal Action is necessary; TCRAs occur when the planning period is expected to be 6 months or less; and NTCRAs occur when the planning period is expected to exceed 6 six months. NTCRAs require preparation of an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) and an Action Memorandum prior to conducting the action.

An EE/CA is the first step in the NTCRA process, and describes and evaluates cleanup alternatives for a site, listing the Navy's preferred alternative. The final decision about the cleanup technology selected is documented in the Action Memorandum, which also contains responses to public comments received on the EE/CA. More information on Removal Actions can be found at the EPA Superfund website, <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/>.

The Navy has conducted several Removal Actions at Alameda Point, some of which are listed on page 6 and 7. See the map on page 3 for locations.

Planned Activities for 2007

This year is shaping up to be another productive year for the Alameda Point Team. Planned documents are listed below. To get more information about a project, you can talk to Navy representatives, attend a RAB meeting, view the Navy's website, or visit the Information Repository. See the contact information on page 8.

- Six Final Records of Decision
- Three Final Remedial Investigations
- Two Final Feasibility Studies
- Two Action Memorandums
- Two Final Work Plans for Time-Critical Removal Actions
- Two Draft Remedial Action Work Plans
- One Final Remedial Action Work Plan
- Final Remedial Designs for Two Sites
- Data gathering events at Multiple Sites
- Three Site Inspections

Attend A RAB Meeting



The RAB is a group of community representatives who advise the Navy as well as state and federal regulatory agencies on community concerns about environmental cleanup issues and strategies for Alameda Point. You are invited to attend all of the monthly RAB meetings to learn more about cleanup activities at Alameda Point. The RAB meetings are typically held from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month at the City of Alameda offices, 950 West Mall Square, Building 1, Room 140. See you there! For a current schedule, see our website at:

[www.bracpmo.navy.mil/bracbases/
california/nas_alameda](http://www.bracpmo.navy.mil/bracbases/california/nas_alameda)

Current Removal Actions at Alameda Point Include:

Site	Purpose	Timeframe	Action
<p>Sites 1, 2, and 32 Material Potentially Presenting an Explosive Hazard (MPPEH) Munitions of Concern (MEC) and Radiological Time-Critical Removal Action (TCRA)</p>	TCRA to remove soil potentially impacted by radiological material or MPPEH	Spring/Summer 2007	Approximately 5,000 cubic yards of soil excavated and screened; removal of 52-cubic yards of radiologically contaminated soil and 50 discrete point sources; and removal of the firing range berm and debris pits with recovery of 55,339 20mm Casings (none were live).
<p>Sites 4 and 5 Dense Nonaqueous-Phase Liquid (DNAPL) Removal Action</p>	Non-time critical removal action (NTCRA) to remove DNAPL plumes from groundwater	February 2001 to present	Heating electrodes in soil and groundwater to 200 degrees Fahrenheit and maintaining temperature for weeks at a time while using a vacuum system to remove the DNAPL volatilized by the heating process. To date approximately 3,400 pounds of DNAPL have been removed (this number includes plumes 4-2, 5-1, and 5-3).
<p>Sites 5 and 10 Storm Drain and Sewer Line TCRA</p>	TCRA to remove the radiologically contaminated storm and sewer lines from Buildings 5 and 400 to Outfall F entering Seaplane Lagoon	September 2007-April 2008	This is the removal of the contaminated storm drain and sewer lines from Buildings 5 and 400 (Sites 5 and 10) all the way to Outfall F entering into Seaplane Lagoon along with the replacement of the storm drain system.

Historical Removal Actions at Alameda Point Include:

Site	Purpose	Timeframe	Action
<p>Sites 1 and 2 MEC Removal Action</p>	Emergency removal action to remove MEC in preparation of a NTCRA for radiological material	October 1998	Over 14,000 inert ordnance items and 335 live items were removed from the 8-acre site.
<p>Site 13 Tarry Refinery Waste Removal Action</p>	TCRA to prevent exposure to tar seeps by installing fencing	Winter/Spring 2004	Approximately 1,475 feet of fencing installed with driven line and cemented corner posts to provide stability and security for the site. Enclosed about 3 acres of land.
<p>Site 15 Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB) in soil Removal Action</p>	NTCRA to address soil contaminated with lead and PCBs in a former transformer storage area	October 1995 to November 1997	Thirty-six tons of Quonset hut debris, 491 tons of concrete, and 100 cubic yards of soil were shipped off-site. PCBs were reduced to below 1 mg/kg and lead was reduced to below 130 mg/kg.

Historical Removal Actions at Alameda Point Include: (continued)

Site	Purpose	Timeframe	Action
Site 25 TCRA for Soil	Remove soil from areas with the highest concentrations of polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and the greatest likelihood for human exposure	2001 and 2002	Over 66,700 cubic yards of soil containing PAHs was removed from Site 25 and transported offsite for disposal. A total of 38 trees also were removed. The removed soil was replaced with clean imported backfill.
Site 35 Vicinity Pesticide Soil Removal Action	TCRA to remove soil contaminated with pesticides at a pesticide storage shed, Building 195	November 2001 to June 2003	Approximately 360 cubic yards of landscape debris and soil were excavated and disposed of at appropriate landfills. Soil impacted with concentrations of dieldrin, Aroclor 1260, and lead greater than established cleanup goals was removed.
Site 35 Vicinity Lead in Soil Removal Action	NTCRA to prevent resident exposure to soil contaminated with lead, possibly from lead-based paint from removed water towers and radio antenna	October 2002	Removed two water towers and a radio antenna and excavated approximately 820 cubic yards of soil that was contaminated with lead paint from the towers or antenna. Metal debris and contaminated soil were disposed off site. Site was backfilled and restored to original grade. Approximately 6,200 square feet of sod placed down over soil to aid site restoration.
Site 35 Vicinity (West Housing Area) TCRA for Soil	Remove soil from areas with the highest concentrations of PAHs and the greatest likelihood for human exposure	May to September 2003	Approximately 5,400 cubic yards of soil containing PAHs were removed from Site 35 and transported offsite for disposal. The removed soil was replaced with clean imported backfill.



Where do residents, workers, and visitors to Alameda Point get their tap water?

The tap water at Alameda Point is piped in from the East Bay Municipal Utility District, also known as East Bay MUD or EBMUD. The water that accumulates below the ground, known as groundwater, is not used for human consumption at Alameda Point. If you want to know more about your tap water provider, see the website for East Bay MUD at www.ebmud.com.

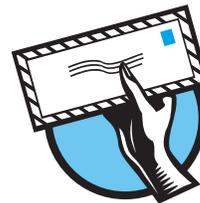
How Do I Get More Information?

Visit the Information Repository

The Navy maintains an Information Repository for Alameda Point that contains project documents and other reference materials related to the investigation and cleanup program. You are encouraged to review the documents to gain a more complete understanding of the environmental work. The repository is updated as new information becomes available. For the complete collection of Navy environmental documents for Alameda Point, visit the main Alameda Point Information Repository at the following location:

Alameda Point
950 West Mall Square, Building 1, Room 240
Alameda, CA
(510) 749-5952
Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Receive Newsletters and Mailings From the Navy



To be included in the Navy's mailing list for Alameda Point please complete and return the form on the back page of this newsletter. The Navy mails newsletters one to two times a year, and periodically sends announcements and site specific information to the mailing list.

View the Navy's BRAC Website

www.bracpmo.navy.mil or
www.bracpmo.navy.mil/bracbases/california/nas_alameda

Contact a Member of the BRAC Cleanup Team

Name	Organization	Phone	Address	E-mail
Mr. Thomas L. Macchiarella	Navy BRAC Program Management Office West BRAC Environmental Coordinator	(619) 532-0907	1455 Frazee Road, Suite 900 San Diego, CA 92108-4310	thomas.macchiarella@navy.mil
Ms. Anna-Marie Cook	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9 Remedial Project Manager	(415) 972-3029	75 Hawthorne St San Francisco, CA 94105	cook.anna-marie@epa.gov
Ms. Dot Lofstrom	California Department of Toxic Substances Control Project Manager	(916) 255-6449	8800 Cal Center Dr. Sacramento, CA 95826	dlofstro@dtsc.ca.gov
Mr. John West	San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board Project Manager	(510) 622-2438	1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400 Oakland, CA 94612	jwest@waterboards.ca.gov

Alameda Point Environmental Mailing List

NAME _____

PHONE (optional) _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PLEASE ADD ME TO THE MAILING LIST

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