

Alameda Point Focus

The Navy's Environmental Program Newsletter

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The Navy is conducting environmental investigations and cleanup at former Naval Air Station Alameda (Alameda Point). This newsletter provides updates on that work, along with contacts and how to get more information. The purpose of the investigation and cleanup is to protect human health and the environment from contamination resulting from past activities at Alameda Point. The Navy conducts this work with oversight from the regulatory agencies, which include the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (the lead regulatory agency), the California EPA Department of Toxic Substances Control (the lead state agency), and the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board). The Navy and regulatory agencies are committed to involving the public in the decision-making process, which includes providing these informational updates to let the community know about current work. Please share this information with your friends, neighbors, and anyone you think may be interested. If you have questions, please contact a member of the cleanup team, listed on page 7.

CLEANUP PROGRESS AT ALAMEDA POINT

Since Alameda Point closed in 1997, the Navy has been actively investigating and cleaning up the base. It is currently estimated that of the 845 acres identified as needing cleanup investigations and work: 13% is still being investigated, 32% is through investigation and the final remedy will soon be selected, 33% is undergoing final site cleanup, and 22% needs no further environmental work. All remedial actions at Alameda Point are projected for completion between 2011 and 2017. After these sites are remediated, property transfer to various entities can take place, paving the way for successful redevelopment by the local community. For a map of all the sites at Alameda Point, see page 4. The cleanup sites are called Installation Restoration (IR) Sites, and each one is numbered, so the IR number and the common name for the site are listed below. This issue of the newsletter is intended to highlight the successes and ongoing work at the base.

Debris Piles Gone, Sediment Cleanup Next - Seaplane Lagoon (Site 17)

- The Lagoon was constructed in the 1930s by dredging a former tidal flat and was historically used to store ships and seaplanes
- In the late 1960s, debris piles containing concrete, metal,



Removal of Debris Pile at Seaplane Lagoon

brick and contaminated soil had been placed near the ramps

- Between September 2008 and December 2009, 45,000 tons of soil and debris were excavated and the debris piles were removed
- The last remaining cleanup is of sediment in the northeast and northwest corners of the lagoon and is expected to be complete in fall 2011
- The Navy is cleaning up to commercial/ industrial standards. Projected date for the completion of the remedial action is early 2011

Successful Removal and Replacement of Radium - Impacted Storm Drain Lines - (Sites 5 and 10)



Replacement of Storm Drain Lines Sites 5 and 10

- During the 1940s and 1950s radium from Building 5 entered the storm drain system that discharges into Seaplane Lagoon
- Approximately 10,000 linear feet of existing pipe has been removed and replaced along with over 28,000 cubic yards of soil
- Approximately 1.5 million gallons of groundwater was treated on site and used for dust control
- This work will be completed in July 2010
- Since this is not a discrete site, it will not be “closed” but will help achieve closure for Sites 5 and 10, and for Seaplane Lagoon Site 17

Cleaning up Groundwater Beneath the Largest Building on Alameda Point – Building 5 (Site 5)



Electrodes for Six-Phase Heating at Building 5

- Former aircraft maintenance facility where painting and metal plating operations were conducted
- Contaminants are primarily chlorinated volatile organic compounds (VOCs) associated with paint and plating operations
- A technique called six-phase heating used large-scale electrodes installed beneath the ground surface to heat groundwater to about 200 degrees Fahrenheit. VOCs in soil and groundwater were released as vapor that was removed through a vacuum system
- Between July 2004 and February 2009 more than 3,250 pounds of contaminant were removed. There was a 99.9% reduction in VOC concentrations
- A Feasibility Study for IR Site 5, along with Sites 10 and 12, is currently being prepared
- The Navy is cleaning up to commercial/ industrial standards. Projected date for site closure is 2017

Final Stage of Fuel Line Cleanup – Corrective Action Area C

- Aircraft fueling activities and fuel lines near Building 23 historically resulted in contaminated groundwater beneath the site
- In July 2008 the Navy began dual-phase vacuum extraction (DVE), to remove both liquid and vapor contamination

- DVE system was successful in removing nearly 85,000 pounds of gasoline from the groundwater
- An air sparge system was used to remove the gasoline compounds dissolved in groundwater
- Remediation was completed in November 2009, with nearly 120,000 pounds of petroleum hydrocarbons removed
- The Water Board concurs that the site is almost ready for closure. The Navy is conducting additional monitoring, and will then prepare a formal site closure request later this year

ISCO: Turning Harmful Chemicals into Harmless Ones

In-situ chemical oxidation uses chemicals, or oxidants, to help change harmful chemicals into harmless ones, like water and carbon dioxide. Instead of removing contaminated groundwater, it is treated in-place by drilling wells into the area, and pumping oxidants to break down the harmful chemicals. In-situ means in place, so the treatment is done right there where the contamination is.

Attenuation Please - Former Firefighter Training Area (Site 14)

- Historically used for training firefighters, parking equipment, defueling planes, cleaning machinery, storing fuel and solvents
- The Navy and regulatory agencies have agreed that no further action for soil is required. ISCO was complete in August 2009, and monitoring has shown that VOC concentrations have been reduced to cleanup goals in 20 of the 25 wells
- As specified in the Work Plan, a transition to monitored natural attenuation is being considered. Natural attenuation is a natural reduction in contamination. The fourth round of post-cleanup monitoring will take place in July 2010
- The Navy is cleaning up to standards that allow for unrestricted use. Projected date for site closure is early 2014

ISB: These Bugs Are Good to Have Around

In-situ bioremediation uses microscopic bugs to digest harmful chemicals. When the bugs have digested the chemicals, they release harmless ones, like water and carbon dioxide. To be successful, the microscopic bugs have to have the right amount of air and nutrients, which may be injected into the area if necessary. If there are not enough naturally occurring microscopic bugs, then sometimes bugs are added to the area being treated.

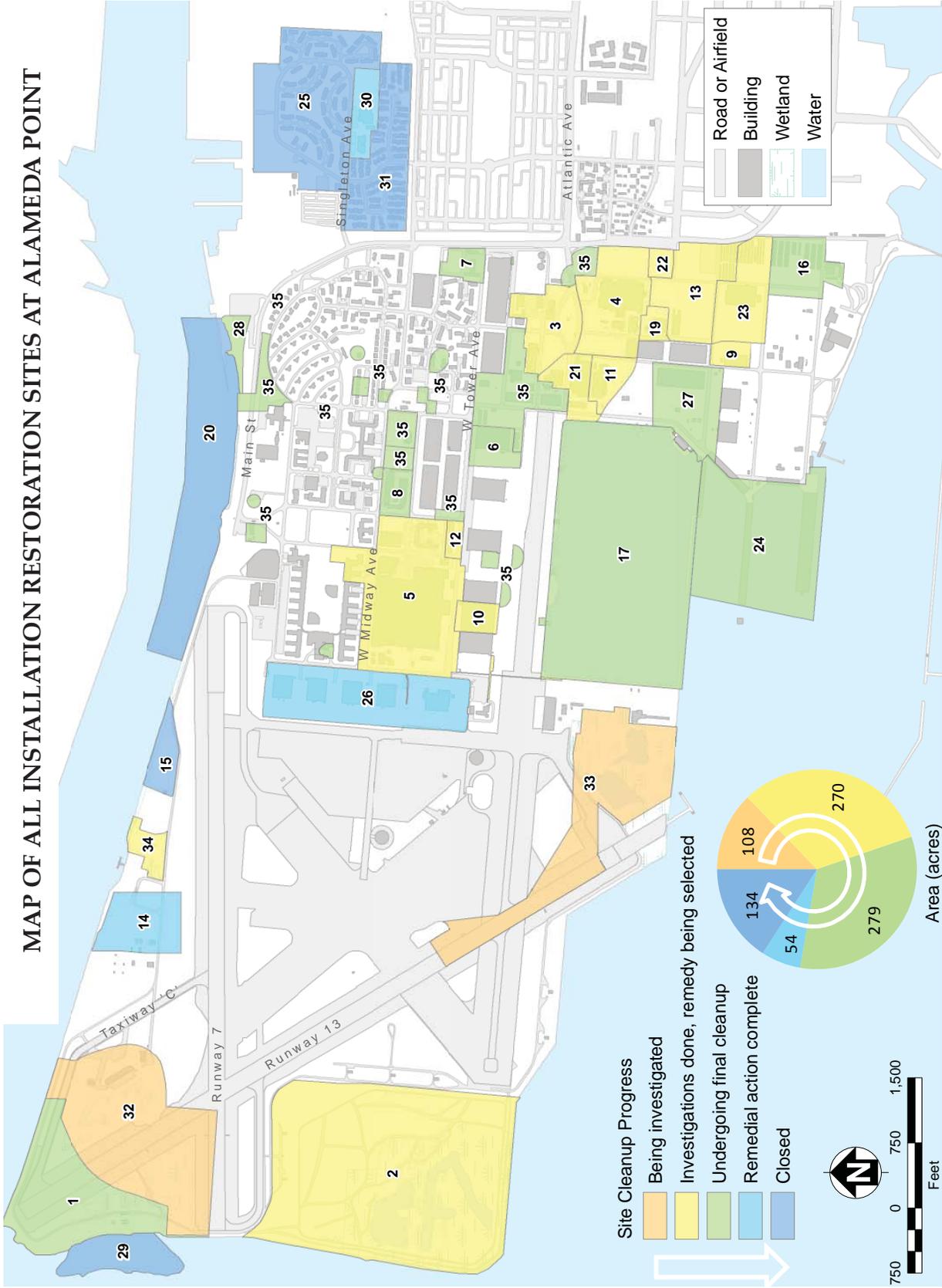
Vegetable Oil to the Rescue - Former Western Hangar Zone (Site 26)



ISCO set up at Site 26

- Historical use included aircraft parking, maneuvering, washdown, fueling, and maintenance
- Groundwater is impacted with VOCs in the area southeast of Building 20 and with petroleum hydrocarbons southwest of Building 23
- Remedy is transitioning from ISCO to In-situ Bioremediation, or ISB (with emulsified vegetable oil) using similar recirculating techniques found to be successful at Site 14
- The Navy is cleaning up to standards that allow for unrestricted use. Projected date for site closure is early 2011

MAP OF ALL INSTALLATION RESTORATION SITES AT ALAMEDA POINT



Alameda Point has 34 Installation Restoration (IR) sites. The 34 sites are grouped into 10 operable units (OU), and are in varying stages of investigation and cleanup. Currently 8 sites have reached closure or have the final remedy completed and are ready to close; 10 sites are undergoing active cleanup, where a final remedy has been selected and is being implemented, 14 sites are through investigation and the best remedy is still being selected with input from the public, and 2 sites are still under investigation.

CONGRATULATIONS ALAMEDA TEAM – WINNER OF CNO AWARD!

The Alameda Team was recently awarded the prestigious Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Environmental Award. The annual CNO Environmental Awards competition recognizes Navy ships, installations, and people for exceptional environmental stewardship. Specifically, the team won under the Environmental Restoration Individual or Team category for the work done on Installation Restoration Site 1 in fiscal years 2008 and 2009.

Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Gary Roughead praised the recipients and stated: *"I have been most impressed this year with the degree to which the commands and individuals partnered with civic leaders, students and volunteers from local communities because they're not only preserving the environment, they're leading the Navy, indeed, to be a more responsible neighbor and community builder."*

On June 1, 2010 Navy team members Amy Jo Hill, Bill McGinnis and Captain Dave Hellman attended the awards ceremony at the U.S. Navy Memorial and Naval Heritage Center in Washington D.C. to accept the award for the team. The Alameda team extends its congratulations to the regulatory agencies, local reuse authority and community for their collaborative effort that resulted in the IR Site 1 Record of Decision!



Amy Jo Hill, Bill McGinnis and Captain Dave Hellman accepting CNO award from Admiral Gary Roughead

ISCO Success at Dock Zone (Site 27)

- Historically used for ship docking and repair
- No threat to human health or the environment from soil was found at the site; ISCO selected as the remedy for groundwater
- Two phases of ISCO have successfully reduced contaminants to levels at or near cleanup goals. Six areas will receive a final phase of ISCO
- Quarterly monitoring will begin in fall 2010
- The Navy is cleaning up to standards that allow for unrestricted use. Projected date for site closure is mid 2014

Keep On Truckin' – Soil Removal Almost Complete (Sites 6, 7, 8, and 16)



Soil Excavation at Site 7

- Historically used for aircraft and auto maintenance, a gas station and incinerator, and storage of hazardous materials. Contaminants included metals, VOCs, PAHs PCBs, and pesticides
- Sites 6, 7, and 16 had oil/water separators, which were removed in 2009 and early 2010
- The Navy expects to complete the extensive soil removal, over 200 truckloads, in July 2010
- Will complete ISCO treatments for groundwater in 2010, with groundwater monitoring to occur through 2015
- The Navy is cleaning up to standards that allow for unrestricted use. Projected date for site closure is 2014

Alameda Point Team Member Profile – Bill McGinnis

Bill McGinnis is part of the Navy team that is actively investigating and cleaning up Alameda Point to prepare it for transfer to the City of Alameda. Read on to find out how this Lead Remedial Project Manager for Alameda Point supports the environmental cleanup work at Alameda Point, and when cleanup is expected to be complete.

AP Focus: Bill, what are your responsibilities on the Alameda Point project?

McGinnis: My key responsibility is to ensure the overall coordination between the Navy project managers, making sure we apply regulations and standards consistently. I keep my eye on the big picture for Alameda Point, and I provide input to budget and execution plans.

AP Focus: What do you want the community to know about Alameda Point?

McGinnis: The Navy is here, working hard to clean up the base. I also want them to know that all of the cleanup is done with regulatory oversight and concurrence. I'm impressed with the team of folks working on the project, both at the Navy and the regulatory agencies, some of whom have been working on the project for several years. Alameda Point has one of the largest cleanup programs, with many innovative technologies being used to address both soil and groundwater contamination.

AP Focus: How Close is Alameda Point to Being Cleaned up?

McGinnis: We have a document called the Site Management Plan, or SMP, that details the current status, the path forward, and the timeline to closure for all of the sites. We update it every year, and it's available at the information repository for those who are interested. The bottom line is that many of the sites are already closed or close to it, with active remediation projected out to 2017. Some sites will have long-term monitoring after closure, but in general that is when we project the environmental cleanup will be completed.

AP Focus: Can the public be involved in the decisions about cleanup?

McGinnis: Yes! The Navy and regulatory agencies want to involve the community in the decision-making process. In fact, there are legal requirements we must follow as far as asking for

public comment. People can always get information by reading the newsletters and fact sheets that are published, contacting the Navy, and looking at our website. But I would say a key method for being involved in decision-making is to review and comment on the documents, especially the Proposed Plans. That's a fact-sheet-style document that is mailed to the entire community mailing list. It details possible alternatives to clean up a given site, and the public is invited to comment. We always have a public meeting, or for those who don't want to attend meetings, they can send in comments. This helps the Navy and regulatory agencies understand public concerns and interests and address them during selection of the cleanup remedy. It's important to get on the mailing list so you receive all of the updates and Proposed Plans when they are issued. (You may use the mailing coupon on the back page.)

Want additional news about cleanup, or have a question for Bill? See page 7 for how to get more information, or for Bill's contact.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PLAN UPDATE

The Navy has prepared an update to its Community Involvement Plan (CIP). The CIP summarizes interviews that the Navy and regulatory agencies conducted with the community, including what people are interested in or concerned about when it comes to the environmental cleanup. It also outlines methods the Navy will employ to involve the community in the cleanup decision-making process. In addition, the plan provides:

- Background information about Alameda Point
- A table listing all environmental sites and their status, including a map
- Information about the local community
- A list of past community involvement activities
- Applicable regulatory requirements, and
- Contact information for the cleanup team

The document is available on the Navy's website, or as a hard copy you can review at the information repository (for location, see right hand column).

GET INVOLVED

There are numerous ways to get more information about the Navy's cleanup program at Alameda Point. You can visit a website, contact a member of the cleanup team, sign up to receive mailings or emails updates, or view hard copies of environmental documents. See page 7 for details.

View the Navy's BRAC Website:

www.bracpmo.navy.mil

Attend a Tour

The Navy is hosting a site tour of Alameda Point which includes visiting several environmental sites on Saturday July 17, from 9am-11am. RSVP by July 3, 2010 to tommiejean.valmassy@tetrattech.com, or (510) 302-6232.

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) 749-5800
Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

In addition, a smaller selection of the most current documents can be found at the Alameda Free Library, 1550 Oak Street, Alameda, CA 94501 (510) 747-7777, call for hours.

Attend a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting

The RAB is a volunteer group of community representatives who advise the Navy as well as state and federal regulatory agencies on community concerns about the environmental cleanup at Alameda Point. You are invited to attend the monthly RAB meetings to learn more about cleanup activities at Alameda Point. The RAB is always looking for new members with an interest in the cleanup, but you don't have to be a member to attend. 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 the Navy's website.

Contact a Member of the BRAC Cleanup Team

Name	Affiliation	Title	Address	Phone	Email
Mr. Derek Robinson	Navy	BRAC Environmental Coordinator	1455 Frazee Rd., Suite 900 San Diego, CA 92108-4310	(619) 532-0951	derek.j.robinson1@navy.mil
Mr. Bill McGinnis	Navy	Lead Remedial Project Manager	1455 Frazee Rd. Suite 900 San Diego, CA 92108-4310	(619) 532-0907	william.mcginnis1@navy.mil
Ms. Anna-Marie Cook	U.S. EPA, Region 9	Remedial Project Manager	75 Hawthorne St. San Francisco, CA 94105	(415) 972-3029	cook.anna-marie@epa.gov
Mr. James Fyfe	California Department of Toxic Substances Control	Project Manager	700 Heinz Avenue Berkeley, CA 94710	(510) 540-3850	jfyfe@dtsc.ca.gov
Mr. John West	San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board	Project Manager	1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400 Oakland, CA 94612	(510) 622-2438	jwest@waterboards.ca.gov

Receive Newsletters and Mailings from the Navy

To be included in the Navy’s mailing list for Alameda Point please complete and return this mailing coupon. The Navy mails newsletters one to two times a year, and periodically sends announcements and site specific information to the mailing list. In addition, the Navy sends monthly reminders about Restoration Advisory Board meetings to the email distribution list. You may choose to be on our hard copy mailing list, our email distribution list, or both. Use the mailing list coupon, or send an email with your full name and complete mailing or email address to Derek Robinson: derek.j.robinson1@navy.mil.

NAME _____

E-MAIL (optional) _____

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CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

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DELETE ME FROM THE MAILING LIST



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