

Adak Island UPDATE

Fourth Five-Year Review Completed

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Northwest

Introduction

January 2017

The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), also known as the "Superfund law" requires reviews of cleanup actions to be conducted at least once every five years at Superfund sites where contaminants are above levels that allow for unlimited use and unrestricted exposure. The purpose of these five-year reviews is to ensure that the remedial actions chosen for a site are functioning properly and continue to protect human health and the environment. If the five-year review process identifies any problem related to the cleanup actions, recommendations for corrective action are developed.

This fact sheet provides a summary of the findings of the fourth five-year review at the Former Adak Naval Complex (Adak), Adak Island, Alaska. Adak is divided into three operable units (OUs) (OU A, B-1, and B-2) and State Adak Environmental Restoration Agreement (SAERA) sites. OU A deals with hazardous substances and releases to the environment at CERCLA sites, SAERA deals with petroleum releases, and OUs B-1 and B-2 focus on unexploded ordnance hazards, which are considered hazardous substances and pollutants, as well as safety hazards. OU B-2 addresses explosive hazards for sites within Parcel 4, which is currently the only portion of Adak where the Navy has

retained ownership of the land. The sites that comprise OU A, SAERA, and OU B-1 (except for portions of the Mount Moffett area) are located on land where ownership has been transferred to various federal, state and local entities. The approximate locations of the OU A and SAERA sites (i.e., CERCLA and petroleum sites) and the OU B-1 areas are shown on Figure 1.

The Navy's fourth five-year review was completed in December 2016 and focused on an assessment of remedies at OU A, SAERA, and OU B-1 sites. At this time, remedies have not been selected for the OU B-2 sites.

What is the basis for the Five-Year Review Process?

The five-year review process evaluates whether the remedies selected in the Records of Decision (RODs) and SAERA decision documents (DDs) remain protective and how well they have performed over the past five years. The RODs and DDs are the legal documents describing the selected cleanup actions, and they provide a road map for petroleum, chemical, and ordnance cleanup in specific areas on the former military base.

An interim action ROD was signed in 1995 to address Metals and Palisades Landfills. The RODs for OU A and OU B-1 were prepared and signed by the Navy, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the State of Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) during 2000 and

2001. The OU A ROD was amended in 2003 to remove 62 petroleum sites from CERCLA authority. Fourteen of these sites had only interim remedies selected in the OU A ROD. Because these sites were removed from CERCLA authority, final remedies were selected in accordance with Alaska regulations. The six DDs for these 14 sites were prepared and signed by the Navy and ADEC in 2005, 2006, 2007, and 2012.

Who participated in this Five-Year Review?

The Navy conducted the five-year review in partnership with the EPA and ADEC. In addition, community members provided input to the five-year review, including Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) members, representatives from the Aleutian Probilof Island Association, and several current and former citizens of Adak. The Navy also invited landowners to participate, including the City of Adak, The Aleut Corporation (TAC), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities. By including this diverse range of interests as part of the review team, the Navy expected to identify potential concerns regarding protectiveness of the remedies at Adak.

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How was the Review performed?

As part of the five-year review process, the Navy asked the following questions:

1. Are the remedies functioning as intended by the RODs and DDs (Functionality)?
2. Are the assumptions used at the time the remedies were selected still valid (Validity of Assumptions)?
3. Has any new information come to light that could call into question the protectiveness of the remedies (New Information)?

To answer these questions, the Navy reviewed documents describing the construction and monitoring of the selected remedies, evaluated the data collected at the sites during the 2011 through 2015 field seasons, conducted site inspections, interviewed persons familiar with the remedial actions at Adak, and reviewed any changes in relevant environmental regulations that may call into question the protectiveness of the remedy. The results of the fourth five-year review are summarized in the remaining sections of this Fact Sheet.

Functionality

The remedy is functioning as intended by the OU A ROD for all CERCLA sites. Except for three sites, the remedy is functioning as intended by the DDs for all SAERA sites. The technical assessment conducted as part of this five-year review determined that the remedy is not functioning as intended for the following three SAERA sites:

- ❑ SWMU 60
- ❑ SWMU 62
- ❑ Former Power Plant, Building T-1451

The OU B-1 remedy is functioning as intended by the OU B-1 ROD. The selected remedies have been implemented at all 50 action sites identified in the OU B-1 ROD. The Remedial Action Completion Report was completed in August 2014 and received concurrence from EPA and ADEC.

Validity of Assumptions

The remedial actions objectives used at the time of the remedy selection are still

valid. The exposure and toxicity data assumptions have been modified in OSWER 9200.1-120, resulting in changing endpoint criteria for fish/shellfish in Kuluk Bay and Sweeper Cove. The new values are higher than the current cleanup goals which suggest that cleanup to higher values will remain protective. Additionally, in 2008 ADEC revoked the rule that allowed for establishing endpoint criteria at ten times the level published in 18 AAC 75, which impacts the endpoint criteria at sites: Navy Marine Construction Battalion Building Area, T-1416 Expanded Area; South of Runway 18-36 Area; and SWMU 17, Power Plant No. 3 Area. Institutional controls remain in place at these sites; therefore, they remain protective.

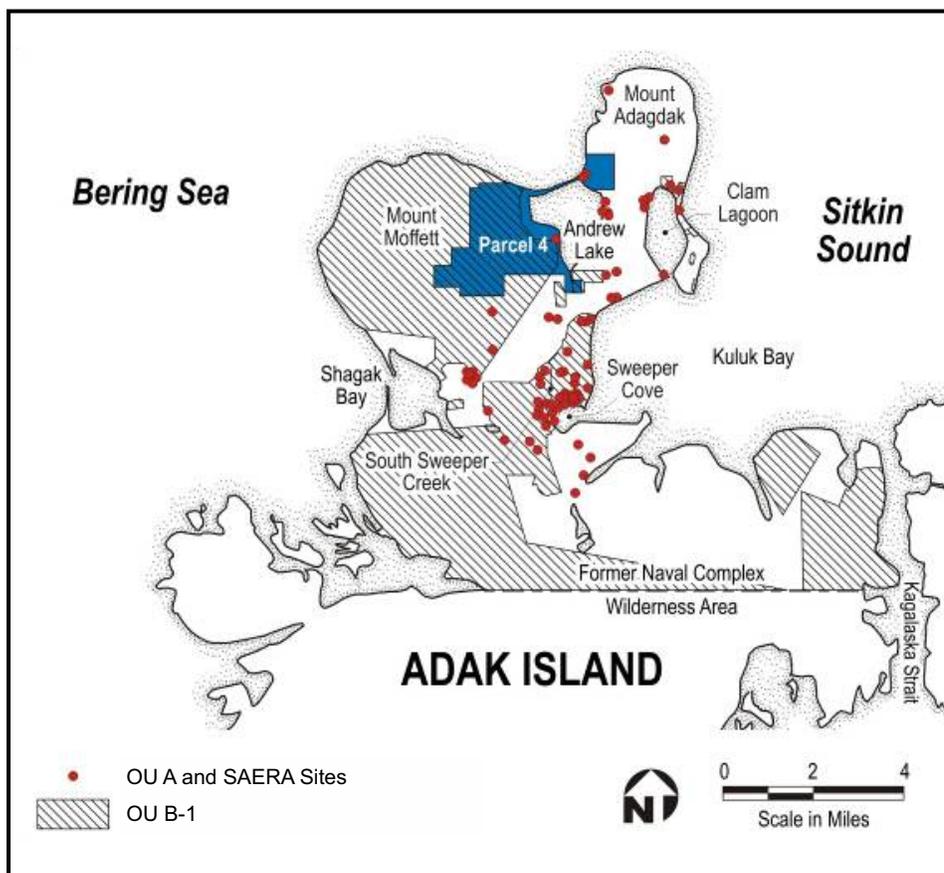


Figure 1. OU A, SAERA, and OU B-1 Site Location Map

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Issues and Recommendations

The following issues and recommendations were identified during the five-year review:

SAERA

- Surface water and sediment conditions in East Canal at the groundwater seep near Boom 3 do not achieve Water Quality Standards. These findings suggest the remedy at SWMU 62 may not be functioning as intended at one or more locations. At SWMU 62, a removal action under the SAERA petroleum program is being conducted to protect surface water downgradient of the sites.
- The vapor intrusion evaluation conducted as part of this five-year review has identified three wells within the residential area with results indicating that a potential vapor intrusion issue for naphthalene may be present. It is recommended that additional data be collected to determine if vapor intrusion is an issue.
- Surface water and sediment conditions in East Canal at the groundwater seep near Boom 11 do not achieve Water Quality Standards. These findings suggest the remedy at Building T-1451

may not be functioning as intended at one or more locations. In East Canal near Building T-1451, a removal action under the SAERA petroleum program is being conducted to protect surface water downgradient of the sites.

- Surface water and sediment conditions in South Sweeper Creek and free product observed in groundwater adjacent to South Sweeper Creek at SWMU 60 suggest the remedy may not be functioning as intended at one or more locations. In South Sweeper Creek near SWMU 60, it is recommended to determine if and what additional action under SAERA may be required to protect surface water downgradient of the site.

CERCLA/OUA

- The remedy at SWMU 4 currently protects human health and the environment in the short term because at the current water level depth of Andrew Lake, the landfill is contained. However, once remedial activity at OU B-2 is complete, periodic clearance of the mouth of Andrew Lake may no longer occur, impacting Lake drainage. The

elevation of the Lake surface could rise to threaten the landfill cap. It is recommended that potential impacts of discontinued clearing of the Andrew Lake spillway and the resulting elevated lake levels on SWMU 4 be evaluated. It should be determined if alternative actions are required to either manage the elevation of Andrew Lake or enhance the landfill shoreline protection to ensure protectiveness at the site in the long term.

- Heightened interest in the emerging contaminant, perfluorinated compounds (PFCs), are resulting in Department of Defense-wide investigations to determine the potential presence at sites that Aqueous Film-Forming Foam (AFFF) was historically used. SWMU 16 has been identified as a potential site. It is recommended that samples be collected at SWMU 16 and analyzed for PFCs per Navy guidance.

For More Information or To Comment

If you have questions, want to comment as part of the five-year review process, or need additional information, please contact:

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Detailed site information, including the third five-year review report, is available at the website

http://www.bracpmo.navy.mil/brac_bases/other_west/former_naf_adak/documents.html

and at the following information repositories:

Administrative Record
Naval Facilities Engineering
Command Northwest
1101 Tautog Circle
Silverdale, WA 98315

Bob Reeves High School
Mechanic Road
Adak, Adak Island, Alaska
907-592-4500