



Naval Air Station

Alameda

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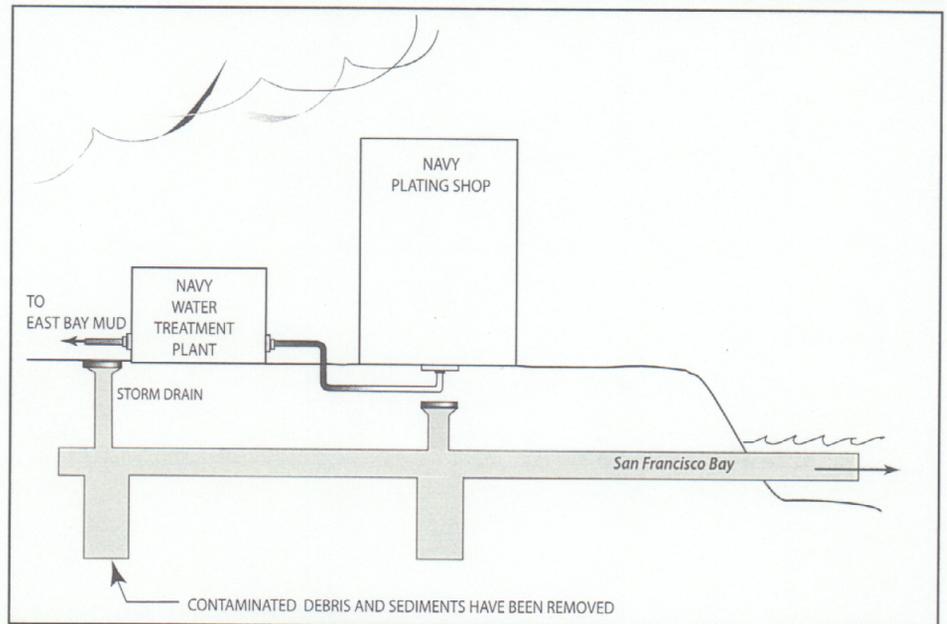
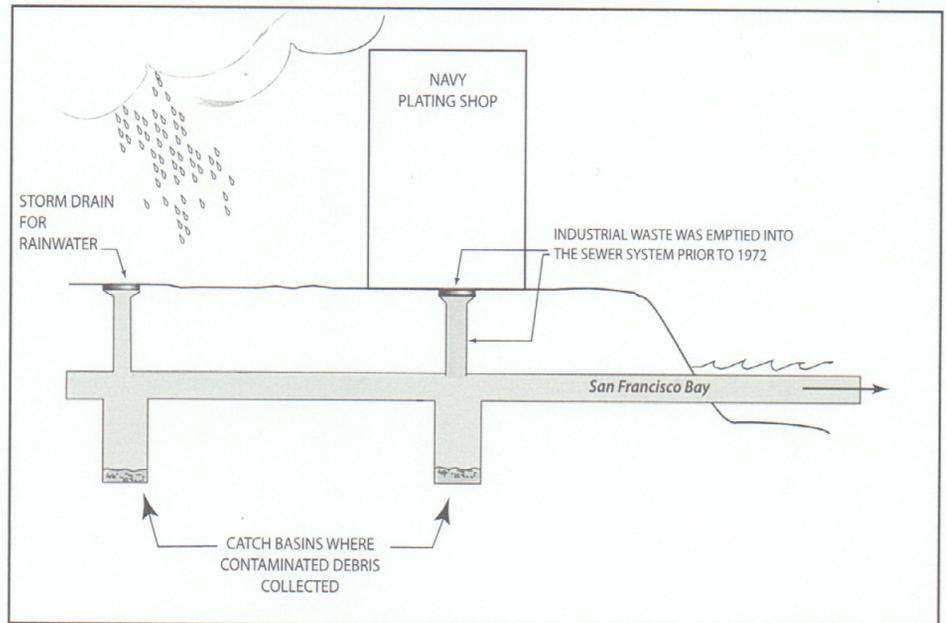
NAVAL AIR STATION ALAMEDA CONTINUES TO CLEAN UP THE WATERFRONT

In keeping with its commitment to protect human health and the environment, the Navy continues to take action to protect the waterfront area at Naval Air Station (NAS) Alameda (see Fact Sheet No.6, Waterfront Actions, August 1995). This fact sheet explains how the Navy is protecting the waterfront by cleaning out sediments and debris from the storm water lines.

Prior to the federal Clean Water Act becoming law in 1972, it was common practice to discharge industrial waste water into storm water systems. The storm water system at NAS Alameda has about 194,000 feet of piping. As a result of the Clean Water Act, the Navy stopped direct discharge to the storm water system at NAS Alameda in 1972.

Industrial waste water treatment plants were installed at NAS Alameda, and the Navy started a storm water management program. As part of the storm water management program, the Navy sampled the sediment and debris in the storm water drains and catch basins. Residues of pesticides, metals and other chemicals were

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Prior to 1972, it was a commonly accepted practice to discharge industrial waste into the storm water system. Since 1972, industrial waste has been treated on site then routed to East Bay Municipal Utility Department.

detected. These residues are thought to be left over due to past waste water disposal through the storm water system.

Cleanup of the storm drains and catch basins was recently completed. Now the Navy wants to clean out the storm water lines between the storm drains and catch basins. Cleaning the storm water lines will remove any impacted sediments and debris, preventing them from being carried through the storm water outlets into the waterfront areas at NAS Alameda.

How are Storm Water Lines Cleaned ?

The Navy cleans the storm water lines with high pressure jets of water. The dirty line or pipes are "power" washed in sections, making sure each section is completely cleaned. As a standard method for cleaning storm water systems, several steps are taken:

Step 1: Clogged or damaged pipes in the storm water system are found using small video cameras.

Step 2: The damaged pipes are sealed off from the rest of the storm water system during the cleaning.

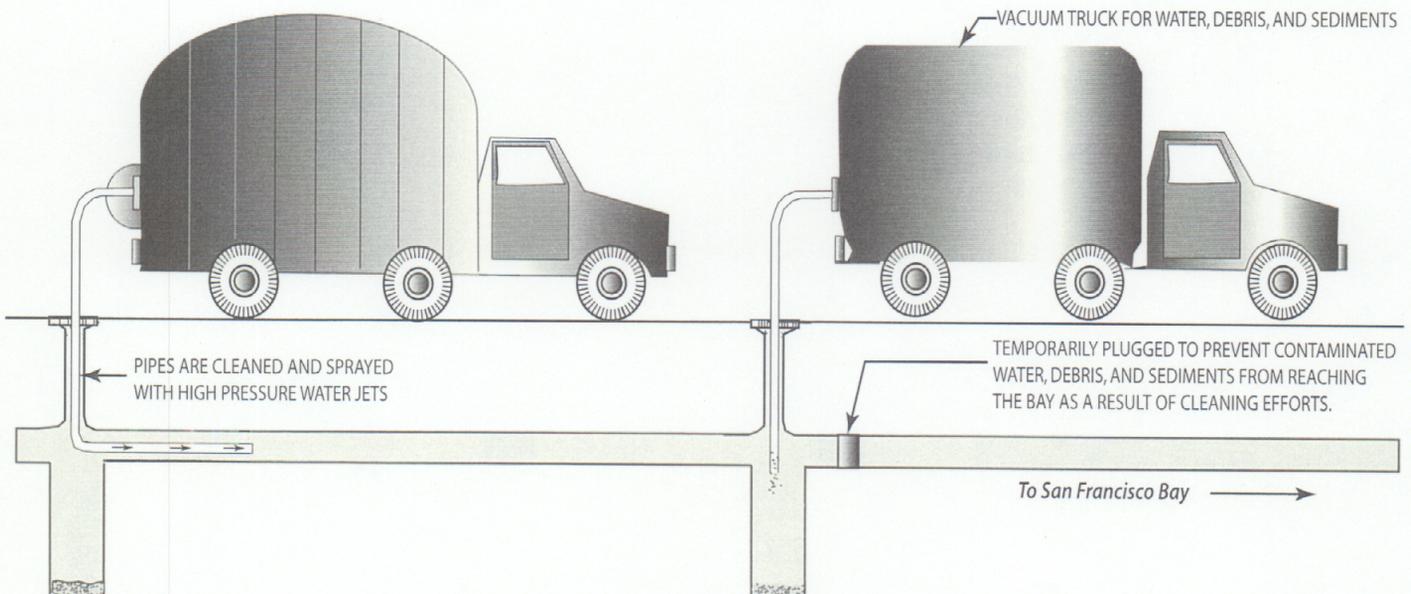
Step 3: Storm water outfalls are also sealed where they empty into the waterfront. This is done so that sediment, debris and wash water will not be washed into the Bay.

Step 4: A hose with a spray nozzle, connected to a high pressure pump, is placed into a section of storm water line or pipe. The spray nozzle pushes water through the line, washes the walls, and

pushes the sediment and debris toward the storm water manholes for collection.

Step 5: The sediment, debris and wash water are vacuumed up from the manhole by a vacuum truck fitted with a holding tank. The sediment, debris and water are then taken away for appropriate disposal.

Step 6: The clean lines will be videoed a second time to re-inspect their condition. This is done to be sure that the sediment and debris were removed. It will also show any pipe damage not seen before.



What Happens to the Sediment, Debris and Water?

The power wash method generates sediment and debris (removed from the pipes), and used wash water.

Sediment and Debris. Everything removed from the lines is put through a "filter system." The filter separates water from the sediment and debris. The sediment and debris are tested for chemicals and will be managed and disposed of following legal standards and requirements.

Used Wash Water. Water used during the power washing operation is either treated at NAS Alameda's industrial waste water treatment plant or sent to a disposal facility. The treatment plant is operated and monitored under a permit from the East Bay Municipal Utility District and the State of California.

How is industrial waste water being disposed of now?

Industrial waste water is now treated on site and sent to the East Bay Municipal Utility District for further treatment and disposal. The storm water system carries only rainwater runoff from streets, parking lots and other surfaces. The storm water system is monitored in accordance with the Navy's storm water management program and regulatory permits.



How Can I Learn More About the Environmental Program at NAS Alameda?

The Navy's ongoing community involvement program exists to ensure that the community's concerns and interests are heard and that its questions are answered throughout the environmental cleanup process. To learn more about the Navy's environmental program or how you can be involved, please call:

Hans Petersen
NAS Alameda Environmental Office
(510) 263-3706 extension 11

Or Visit

The NAS Alameda Information Repository
Alameda Public Library, Main Branch
2264 Santa Clara Avenue
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THE ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICE

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INSIDE: How the Navy is continuing to
cleanup the waterfront at NAS Alameda



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