

# Former NAS Moffett Field Site 25 Update



**Moffett Field, California**

**September 2004**

## Introduction

This fact sheet provides an update on the U.S. Navy's cleanup plans for Site 25, which is part of the Navy's Installation Restoration Program at former Naval Air Station Moffett Field. Cleanup plans for the site are being updated to accommodate site-related developments.

## About the Site

Site 25 is located 10 miles north of San Jose and less than one mile south of San Francisco Bay. It includes the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) Stormwater Retention Pond and Eastern Diked Marsh, and Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District's (MROSD) Stevens Creek Shoreline Nature Study Area (see map).

For the past 50 years, Site 25 has been

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**An open house to discuss Site 25 studies currently underway will be held on October 14, 2004 from 5 to 9 p.m. in the Fourth Floor Gallery of the Mountain View City Hall, 500 Castro Street, Mountain View, California. Navy, NASA and regulatory representatives will be present to answer questions and concerns about the environmental cleanup at the site.**

used to manage stormwater at Moffett Field. Levees, which were constructed around the turn of the century, border the Stormwater Retention Pond and provide flood protection for NASA and the adjacent properties.

In the past it was assumed that Site 25 would only be used for stormwater management and therefore, previous cleanup strategies were based on that land use. This meant that the site would continue to be separate from the bay and would dry out for a few months during late summer and early fall. However, several developments have taken place in relation to the site, which could impact its future land use:

- In a 2001 public meeting the Navy learned of MROSD's plans to restore its portion of Site 25 (which is hydraulically connected to the rest of the site) to a tidal marsh. Community members and policy makers have also

expressed a strong interest in restoring the site to a tidal marsh.

- Several acres of salt ponds adjoining the site are currently undergoing restoration to tidal marsh, as a part of the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project ([www.southbayrestoration.org](http://www.southbayrestoration.org)). The Salt Pond Restoration Project is also looking to address the region's need for flood management, public access and recreation.

- NASA is in the process of evaluating the feasibility of creating a tidal marsh at Site 25, while maintaining a viable stormwater management system and protecting the facility from potential floods.



## Revised Cleanup Strategy

In response to these developments, the Navy is developing cleanup levels and alternatives that would allow property owners to implement tidal marsh restoration in the future. These alternatives will be evaluated along with previously developed cleanup alternatives for the seasonal wetland land use. As a part of this process the previously issued remedial investigation and feasibility study reports are being updated.

The Site 25 remedial investigation addendum will evaluate human and/or ecological risks for tidal marshland usage. It will also incorporate new data collected and evaluated since the original remedial investigation report. Based on preliminary work, the following species have been identified for consideration as receptors under the tidal marsh scenario - Mallard Duck, Alameda Song Sparrow, California Clapper Rail, Black-necked Stilt, Great Blue Heron, Northern Harrier, Salt Marsh Harvest Mouse, Salt Marsh Wandering Shrew, Red-legged Frog and Garter Snake.

Development of the feasibility study addendum will follow the remedial investigation report addendum. As a part of the feasibility study, the Navy will establish site-specific cleanup

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goals, develop alternatives to achieve the cleanup goals and evaluate the alternatives.

## Next Steps

The Navy is dedicated to cleaning up Site 25 and seeing it through to completion. To date the Navy has spent approximately \$90 million in cleaning up more than three-fourths of Moffett Field and it continues to actively pursue cleanup of the remaining sites, including Site 25.

The Navy and regulators are working to complete the Site 25 cleanup schedule this fall. The draft remedial investigation report addendum is expected to be issued later in 2004 and the draft feasibility study report addendum in 2005. Once these reports are completed, a Proposed Plan will be prepared to summarize the cleanup alternatives and propose a preferred alternative. The public will be invited to comment on the Proposed Plan and a formal public comment period and meeting will be held. Throughout this process, the public and interested parties will be kept informed and involved through fact sheets and public notices.

The Navy is committed to working with community members, regulatory agencies, property owners and policy makers to ensure a successful cleanup at Site 25.

### Project Point of Contact

All documents related to the Navy's environmental work at Site 25 are available daily for your review at the Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin Street, Mountain View, California. If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the following project team member:

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*For more information on the environmental work underway at Moffett Field, log on to [www.efds.w.navy.mil/environmental/moffett.htm](http://www.efds.w.navy.mil/environmental/moffett.htm)*