



fact sheet



May 2001

U.S. Navy to Conduct Environmental Work at Mare Island Elementary School Site

The purpose of this fact sheet is to notify all concerned that the U.S. Navy will be completing an environmental evaluation and restoration of a portion of the Mare Island Elementary School site this summer. In anticipation of a formal transfer of the property to the Vallejo City Unified School District, the Navy will be conducting soil testing and soil removal as described below. The soil that is being removed contains low levels of petroleum and diesel fuels. Previous sampling has indicated that these soils, and groundwater beneath the site, do not pose a risk to site workers, school children or school staff. However, the Navy has elected to remove the soil to ensure that there are no permanent impacts to the property. The Navy is conducting this evaluation and restoration in coordination with State and Federal regulators to ensure that the site is safe and clean.

Between 1854 and 1996 Mare Island was occupied by the Navy as the Mare Island Naval Shipyard. The shipyard was used as a base to conduct a variety of maritime and industrial activities. The Mare Island Elementary School is located on property that is part of the former shipyard.

Industrial activities conducted by the Navy near the elementary school consisted of storing and transferring fuel oil. The fuel was a combination of diesel and heavy oil used to power naval vessels. There was an aboveground storage tank located on what is currently the school's playground area, and there was an underground storage tank located just north of the school fence line. Both of these tanks and most of the associated underground pipelines were previously removed from the site.

The Navy is completing the following activities at the school to ensure there are no permanent impacts to the property as a result of those historic activities:

1. Perform subsurface sampling in the areas of the former buried fuel pipelines
2. Remove one segment of abandoned buried pipe that runs beneath 9th Street
3. Remove soil from underneath the playground area where the former aboveground storage tank was located.

The Navy will conduct these activities when school is out of session for summer break. All work is planned to take place between July 27, 2001 and September 6, 2001. The Navy will ensure that the areas being evaluated will be restored to safe conditions prior to the end of summer break.

A summary report of restoration activities and findings will be prepared by the Navy and reviewed by State and Federal regulatory agencies. The Navy will address any regulatory comments and obtain their final acceptance before project closure. If the Navy and the regulatory agencies agree that the project has been successfully completed, a Finding of Suitability of Transfer will be prepared, and the property will be eligible for transfer to the Vallejo City Unified School District. The Navy understands that the District plans to independently assess the condition of the property prior to transfer of the land.

If you have questions about the Navy's environmental evaluation and restoration activities at this site, please call one of the contacts in the table on the backside of this fact sheet.

Points of Contact Regarding Site Activities

Navy Point of Contact:

- Jerry Dunaway, BRAC Environmental Coordinator, (707) 562-3104, (619) 532-0975
- Duane Rollefson, Project Manager, (619) 532-4343

Vallejo City Unified School District Point of Contact:

- Melvin Jordan, Director of Facilities and Planning Department, (707) 556-8986

Project Regulatory Agencies:

- Gary Riley, California Environmental Protection Agency, Regional Water Quality Control Board, (510) 622-2462
- Charles Gribble, California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Toxic Substances Control, (510) 540-3773
- Carolyn d’Almeida, United States Environmental Protection Agency, (415) 744-2225

