NAVAL AIR STATION
NORTH ISLAND

Fact Sheet No. 13 August 2001

Removal Action at Site 5, Unit 2

This fact sheet will tell you about . . .

- ***removal of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from the soil and groundwater at Site 5, Unit 2,***
- ***how you can review the Removal Action Work Plan (RAW) and RAW Addendum for this removal, and***
- ***how to obtain more information.***

Introduction

This fact sheet updates the status of the cleanup program and environmental restoration ongoing at NAS North Island (Figure 1). Since 1917, Naval Air Station (NAS) North Island has supported aviation activities of the Naval operating forces. During the operation and maintenance of aircraft at NAS North Island, hazardous substances have been generated. These include paint, used oil, scrap metal, solvents, and contaminated rinsewater. Past disposal practices, although acceptable at the time, often resulted in contamination of soil and groundwater at various locations on NAS North Island.

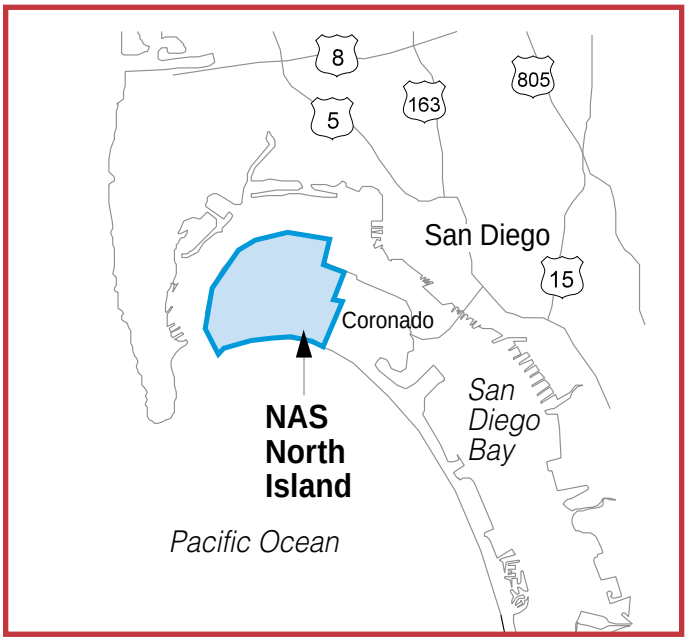

Figure 1 — Vicinity Map

Background

The Navy is inviting the public to review and comment on a Removal Action Work Plan (RAW) and a RAW Addendum about a proposed removal action at Installation Restoration Site 5, Unit 2 at Naval Air Station (NAS) North Island. This removal action is being taken under the authority of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980. The objective of this removal action is to reduce the risk associated with volatile organic compound (VOC)-impacted soil and groundwater to comply with contaminant levels mandated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the state of California. VOCs are chemicals (many of which are carcinogenic) that readily evaporate at room temperature. This action will substantially eliminate the potential for exposure to VOCs. The removal action is expected to take place from September through December 2001. The public review and comment period is August 13 to September 12, 2001 (see page 3, Public Comment Period).

Site 5, Unit 2

Site 5, Unit 2 is located in the southeast portion of NAS North Island, south of Site 5, Unit 1 (Figure 2). Site 5, Unit 1 is a former landfill that has been converted into a golf course. The golf course borders Site 5, Unit 2 to the north and south, and golf cart paths are located adjacent to the site. The nearest residential area is approximately 1,800 feet east of the site, in the city of Coronado.

During operation of the former landfill, two small disposal pits were located at Site 5, Unit 2 (Figure 2). Disposed waste included VOCs and petroleum hydrocarbons, which have impacted soil and groundwater at Site 5, Unit 2.

The VOC-impacted groundwater (the Site 5, Unit 2 groundwater plume) is shown on Figure 2 as the site outline. The southern end of the plume terminates within 200 feet of a slough that conveys stormwater runoff to the Pacific Ocean. The plume has the potential to migrate to the slough in the future.

You Are Invited to Attend

To learn more about the proposed removal action, the public is invited to attend the Restoration Advisory Board meeting on August 23, 2001, at 6:30 p.m. in the Winn Room of the Coronado Public Library, 620 Orange Avenue, Coronado.

Removal Action

The Action Memorandum, published in December 1999, stated that the contaminants at Site 5, Unit 2 might endanger public health or the environment in the future if a removal action is not conducted. Published in February 2001, the RAW concluded that, based on a pilot study (or test run) conducted at the site, *in situ* chemical oxidation would effectively reduce the mass of VOCs in the soil and groundwater, thereby reducing future threats to public health and the environment.

Oxidation is a rapid and heat-producing reaction. Contaminants are oxidized to carbon dioxide, water, and chloride and do not adversely affect groundwater. *In situ* chemical oxidation is accomplished by creating a reaction in the subsurface by injecting hydrogen peroxide (an oxidizer), ferrous sulfate (a catalyst), and hydrochloric acid (for pH treatment) into the contaminated groundwater.

During the removal action, approximately 45 injection wells will be installed, covering the majority of Site 5, Unit 2. The area of treatment will be divided into two areas (Figure 3). Area 1 will encompass the former disposal pits, which make up the estimated source area. Area 2, the plume extent outside of Area 1, will be used to monitor the treatment progress and will be used for treatment injections, as needed, based on the monitoring results.

The RAW Addendum, published in June 2001, recommended excavation of approximately 600 cubic yards of VOC-contaminated soil under the easternmost former disposal pit (Figure 3), in addition to *in situ* chemical oxidation, to further reduce future threats to public health and the environment. The work

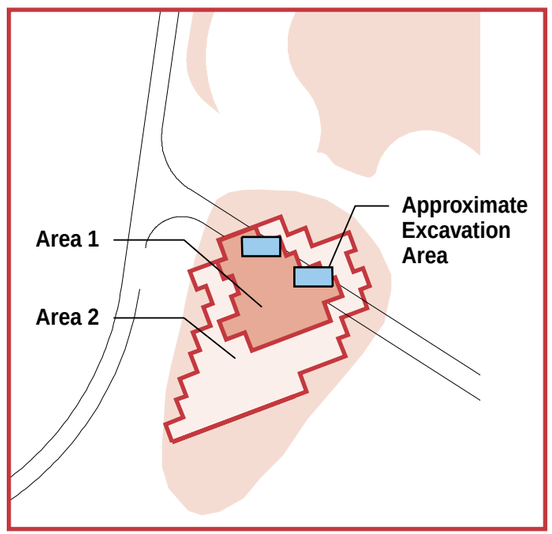

Figure 3 — Site 5, Unit 2 Removal Areas

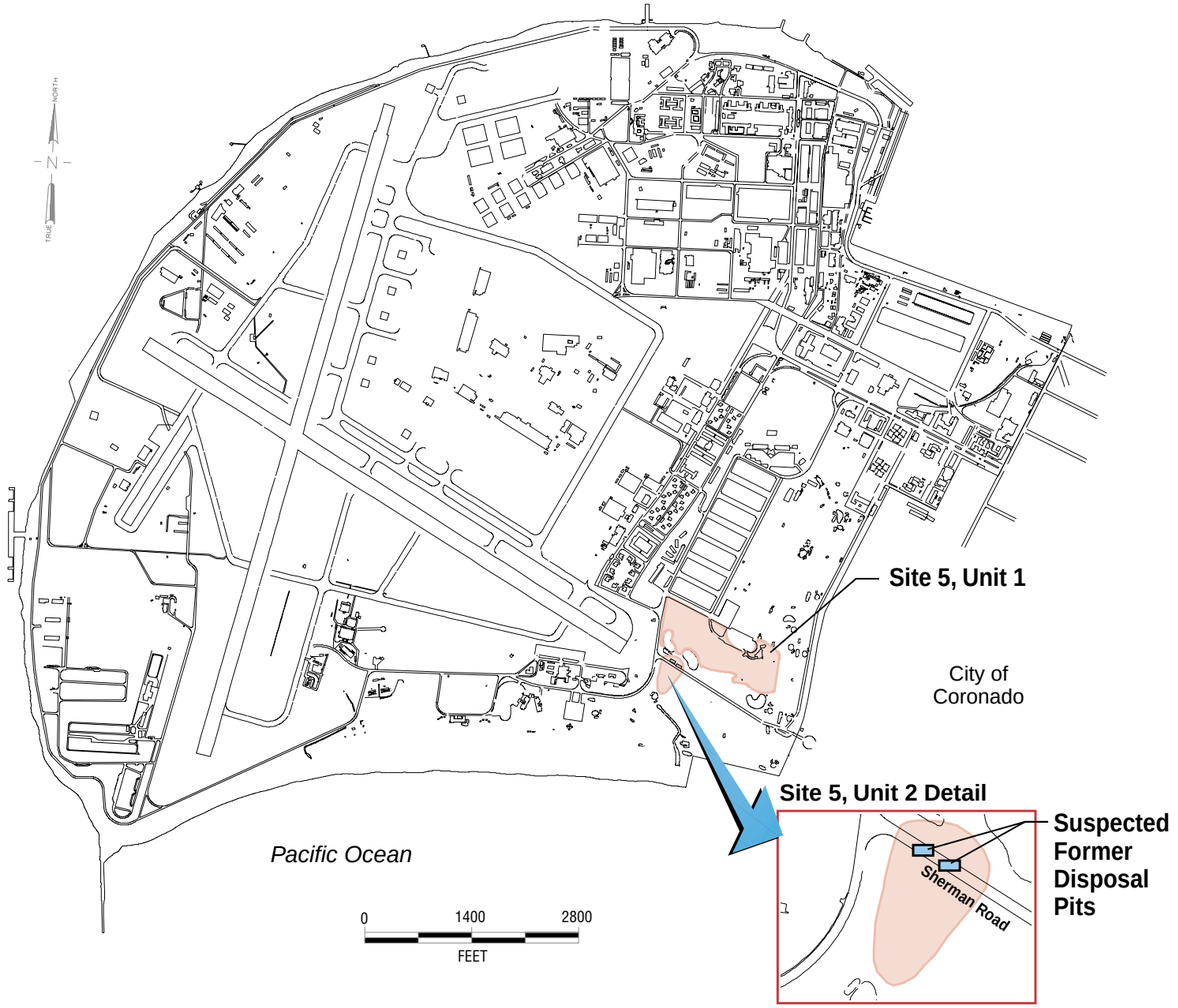

Figure 2 — Site 5, Unit 2 Location Map

(excavation and subsequent backfilling with clean soil) will take place on a Friday night, in order to limit human exposure. Sherman Road will be closed during the weekend and on the following Monday, while it is repaved. Traffic will be diverted through the main entrance during that time.

Dust-control measures and air-monitoring equipment will be used to assure strict compliance with state and federal requirements and protect public health. Vapors will be kept to a minimum by keeping the excavation area moist and by placing the excavated soil directly into storage bins, which will then be sealed. Work will be conducted at night to minimize production of vapors. Although vapors are not expected to migrate to nearby residential areas, the NAS North Island/city of Coronado boundary and other perimeter locations will be monitored to assure safe conditions. Noise levels will also be monitored. Safety will be the top priority during the removal action. The site will be fenced and warning signs will be posted to keep unauthorized persons from entering the cleanup area.

The sealed bins of material will be stored near the contractor's staging area in the south-central portion of NAS North Island. The sealed bins will be incrementally hauled off the base to an appropriate, permitted disposal facility. Material will be transported at a rate of approximately five trucks per day, during a 3-week period, in order to limit truck traffic. All trucks will carry placards signifying the type of material being hauled. The trucks will exit the base via the main gate and will be routed through the city of Coronado via Fourth Street, across the Coronado Bridge to Interstate 5. The Navy will notify and implement requirements of state and local highway, transportation, and public safety authorities.

The California Environmental Protection Agency Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is responsible for enforcing both the federal and state hazardous waste regulations associated with this removal action. All aspects of the removal action will comply with applicable laws and requirements, including the Endangered Species Act (concerning bird species at NAS North Island), land disposal restrictions, and Air Pollution Control District requirements.

Public Comment Period

The RAW and RAW Addendum will be available at the information repository at the Coronado Public Library for public review and comment from August 13 to September 12, 2001. Written comments on the documents may be sent to John Locke, Navy Region Southwest, Environmental Department – N4512.JL, 33000 Nixie Way, Building 50, Suite 326, San Diego, CA 92147-5110, (619) 524-6405 or his e-mail address: locke.john.b@asw.cnrsw.navy.mil. **Comments must be postmarked by September 12, 2001.**

DTSC has proposed a negative declaration, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, for the removal action. The proposed negative declaration indicates that the removal action will not have a significant effect on the environment as defined in the Public Resources Code, Section 21068. The negative declaration is available for public review at the information repository at the Coronado Public Library from August 13 to September 12, 2001. Comments on the negative declaration can be sent to Daniel Cordero, DTSC Project Manager, 5796 Corporate Avenue, Cypress, CA 90630, (714) 484-5428, or his e-mail address: dcordero@dtsc.ca.gov.

The information repository is a publicly accessible location where Navy Installation Restoration Program-related documents and information are kept. It is located at the Coronado Public Library, 620 Orange Avenue, in the city of Coronado. Library hours are:

Monday – Thursday:
10:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Friday – Saturday:
10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Sunday:
1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

John Locke
Navy Region Southwest
Environmental Department – N4512.JL
33000 Nixie Way, Building 50, Suite 326
San Diego, CA 92147-5110

Inside:

Information on Removal of
Volatile Organic Compounds
NAS North Island

For More Information

For more information on the Installation Restoration Program underway at NAS North Island, or to find out more about the Restoration Advisory Board, please contact:

John Locke
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Environmental Department – N4512.JL
33000 Nixie Way, Building 50, Suite 326
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Leticia Hernandez
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e-mail: lhernand@dtsc.ca.gov

Also visit the Navy's Web Sites: http://nelp.navy.mil or http://www.efdsw.navfac.navy.mil/pages/Environmental/EnvHome.htm

MAILING LIST

If you did not receive this fact sheet in the mail, then you are not on our mailing list. If you wish to be placed on the NAS North Island mailing list, please complete this form, clip, and mail to: **John Locke, Navy Region Southwest, Environmental Department – N4512.JL, 33000 Nixie Way, Building 50, Suite 326, San Diego, CA 92147-5110, (619) 524-6405, e-mail:** locke.john.b@asw.cnrsw.navy.mil

Name _____

Address _____

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Phone ( ) _____

Affiliation (optional) _____

E-mail address _____