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Issue 5

March 2001

Restoration Advisory Board Newsletter

Dear RAB Members and others with interest, this is Issue 5 of our newsletter. We had a good turnout at our last RAB meeting. Information about the various MTBE technology demonstrations at Port Hueneme was presented. At our next meeting, as a follow on topic, we will outline specifics of the control and containment system for the plume and discuss progress to date on system installation. An agenda for the April 5th meeting is enclosed.

HUENEME

Harbor Dredging Project.

The United State Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is planning to deepen the Port Hueneme Harbor in late 2001. The Oxnard Harbor District, the project's sponsor, states that the deepening process will take place in the harbor's Approach, Entrance, Turning Basin and Channel A (see photo at right).

As you all know, the harbor is listed in the installation restoration (IR) program as IR Site #19.

Actually, the harbor represents a portion of Site #19 since the site also incorporates the drainage ditches at the Port Hueneme Site, i.e., the former CBC. The USACE conducted a feasibility study which included harbor sediment dredging and spoils disposition. The study determined that the preferred alternative is to place the dredged spoils on or near Hueneme Beach located southeast of the site to satisfy beach nourishment requirements. The US EPA reviewed the harbor sediment sampling results and approved this alternative. The Navy and the DTSC have informed the USACE that the CERCLA process needs to be followed during the harbor dredging project. The Navy is using Bechtel National, Inc. to review the existing data and determine what additional work,

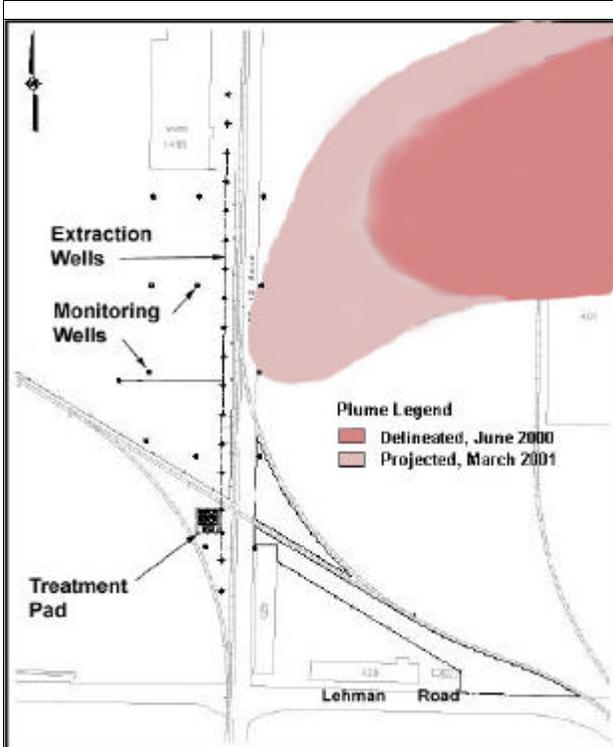


View of Port Hueneme Harbor

if any, will be required to satisfy the legislative procedure we normally follow. The USACE would provide any further required sediment characterization data and the Navy would use this data to provide the proper CERCLA documentation. In this case, an engineering evaluation and cost estimated analysis (EE/CA) would be prepared.

MTBE Control and Containment Project .

A pump and treatment system has been designed and will soon be installed at the Port Hueneme Site as an interim step for controlling and containing an MTBE plume. The system components include 15 extraction wells which will extract MTBE contaminated groundwater and transfer it to a treatment pad for treatment. Each well can pump water at a rate between 1.5 to 7.0 gallons per min-



Plan view of Pump & Treatment System planned for installation at the Port Hueneme Site.

ute. This will allow the Navy to vary the pumping rate and optimally control the plume. Twenty monitoring wells will be installed to track the performance of the system as well as track detailed movement of the plume. The treated water will be discharged to the base sanitary sewer system in accordance with a discharge monitoring plan developed in cooperation with the Oxnard Waste Water Treatment Plant. More on this at our next meeting.

MUGU

The innovative electrokinetics process operating at Site 5 is continuing. You may recall this process is designed to remove metals by applying an electric current to the ground. The control measures that were put in place to prevent the migration of chloroform away from the site are working. The monitoring program requires sampling every week; 12 samples have been taken since the process was restarted. All have been "non-detect" until the most recent sample that recorded 40 parts per billion, still well below the

100 parts per billion point of compliance.

At the same site, about 1500 feet away, six monitoring wells have been installed to investigate an old sewer line. This line was discovered during the preliminary site investigation as a potential additional cause of contamination. A report detailing the results will be available in early May. The results may affect the final remedy chosen for the site.

A Japanese industrial firm visited PM Site 24. They are interested in importing the in-situ bioremediation technology being demonstrated at this site.

An ecological health risk assessment is underway at PM Site 11, the lagoon. The assessment will evaluate whether contaminants in the lagoon are adversely affecting natural resources such as the federally endangered Least Tern. If adverse effects are confirmed, the assessment will recommend cleanup actions needed to prevent further injury to natural resources.

The draft Feasibility Study for PM Site 1, the landfill, was submitted to the Department of Toxic Substances Control and the Regional Water Quality Control Board in January. Any RAB members interested in reviewing this document should contact Steve Granade at 989-3806.



A Snowy Plover with young in a habitat established at the Point Mugu Site

That's our news since January. Please make plans to join us on April 5! If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me, Gail Pringle, at 989-9256 or e-mail pringlegl@cbcph.navy.mil.