Restoration Advisory Board Newsletter

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Dear RAB Members and others with interest, first some general news. At our last RAB meeting, we had a presentation about the control and containment system for the MTBE plume at Port Hueneme. Installation of the system is on track and should be well underway by the next meeting. We'll be taking a tour of this site and others as detailed in the enclosed agenda. Mr. Omo Patrick who has served the Navy as the Site Mitigation Manager at the Department of Toxic Substances Control has accepted another position and will be replaced by Mr. Quang Than. We look forward to briefing Mr. Than regarding all the IR work ongoing at the Port Hueneme Site as well as thanking Mr. Patrick for all his suggestions and advice since 1994. We wish Omo well in his new position.

HUENEME

Harbor Dredging Project...

The Port Hueneme Harbor sediments were sampled recently in support of the dredging project discussed in the last issue. This sampling event represents a culmination of efforts between the United State Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the Oxnard Harbor District, the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), and the U.S. Navy.

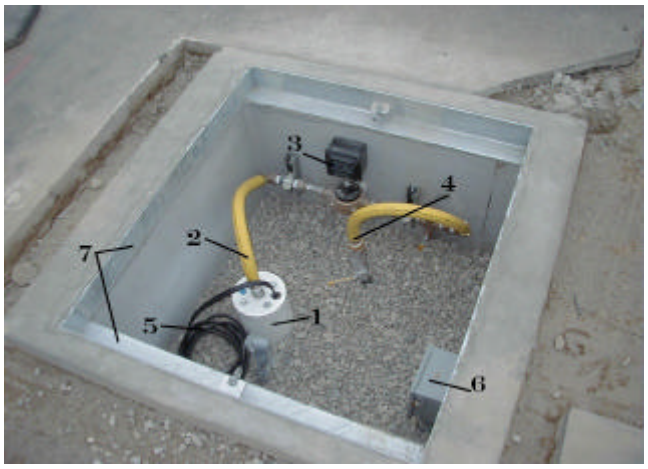
Sediment Sampling Team at the Port Hueneme Harbor

As you can see from the photo at the right, the sampling team did not escape our fog bank nor did they allow it to prevent them from their appointed task. A dive team from the Navy's Public Works Center in San Diego spent a week in April extracting over 20 core samples from the harbor floor.

These samples are currently undergoing laboratory analysis for the full range of potential contaminants including metals, PCBs, total petroleum hydrocarbons (gasoline & diesel fuel), and, poly-aromatic compounds. A preliminary review of this data shows slight contamination in some locations. The next step in this process is to submit the analytical results to the risk assessor who will determine the correct path to proceed with the placement of the dredge spoils. Dredging operations are scheduled for this December. We will have more definitive information regarding this project at our next RAB meeting.

MTBE Control and Containment Project..

The construction of the pump and treat system to control and ntain the MTBE plume moving across the Port Hueneme Site has made significant progress since reporting it in the last issue. We started the system in early June and will spend approximately one month adjusting the numerous pumps that will



Typical vault for housing an extraction well as part of the control & containment of the MTBE Plume project.

extract the groundwater. We call this "optimizing" the system. The photo above shows the typical configuration for the 15 extraction wells in the system. A pump at the bottom of the extraction well (1) pumps groundwater up and through a flow meter (2 and 3). Following the flow meter, the water is fed (4) into an extraction manifold (not shown) and water flows to a nearby treatment pad for further processing. To accomplish water flow in an efficient manner, electrical power and signal lines (5) are provided to the submersible well pump through an electrical junction box (6). Power is received at the box from the nearby treatment pad. To protect this equipment from the weather and to provide a workable surface, a steel frame (7) is mounted on top of the vault and fitted with a steel cover (not shown). The system layout is very well organized with sufficient room to conduct maintenance and repair when needed.

Wondering?? Soil conservation measures, part of a base wide flood control improvement project.

MUGU

The innovative electrokinetics process operating at Site 5 recently completed 6 months of the one-year pilot test. Mid year progress sampling was performed in late May; results will be available at the July meeting. The system is currently turned off for routine maintenance. Did anyone catch the recent article in the Los Angeles Times?

The bioremediation pilot test at Site 6, known as the "Got Milk, Jr." site, ran out of it's lactic acid food source. Additional lactic acid was added during the first week of June.

Work on phase 2 of the bioremediation pilot test ongoing at Site 24, the "Got Milk, Sr." site, started in May. Phase 2 work includes baseline sampling, injection of an oxygen containing chemical, and post test monitoring. The goal of phase 2 is to accelerate cleanup time from the current projection of 20 years to two years.

The draft Groundwater/Surface Water study for the Point Mugu Site, labeled a Remedial Investigation, was released the first week in June.

Sampling work at Site 26 on San Nicholas Island, an antenna site, is tentatively scheduled for July.

That's our news since March. Please make plans to join us on July 12th! If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me, Gail Pringle, at 989-9256 or e-mail pringlegl@cbcph.navy.mil.