



Naval Base Ventura County RAB Executive Board:

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Mugu Site:	Mr. Steve Granade
Hueneme Site :	Mr. Steve McCarel

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Restoration Advisory Board Newsletter

Dear RAB members and others with interest, at our meeting in February, we heard from Mike Gonzales and Josh Fortenberry about work planned and funded for the coming year. In spite of all the news about budget cuts, the program at Naval Base Ventura County continues to be funded and make progress at a slow but deliberate pace.

You may recall a fact sheet summarizing the status of all sites at both bases that we developed two years ago when Mugu and Hueneme combined. We plan to update that information this summer and would appreciate any comments about the old fact sheet that could be used to produce a clearer, more informative new one.

Our meeting on Thursday, May 9 will feature a brief overview of a Remedial Action Plan (RAP) being developed to support the acceptance of the Biobarrier as the Final Remedy for the MTBE plume. Steve McCarel will present the concept.

Mugu

Site 5...

Fieldwork to establish the extent of contamination at the site is complete; results are not yet available. The electrokinetic test site has been "turned off" since mid February; TN and Associates will restart operations at the site in late May.

Site 24...

Oxygen and natural gas injection began at the site on April 19. Preliminary results should be available in late May. The purpose of the 5-6 week test is to determine if the injected gas accelerates degradation.

Sites 5 and 11...

The Navy and Department of Toxic Substances Control, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries have worked out the details of conducting an ecological risk assessment. The assessment will involve sampling food prey items at these sites to document potential harmful effects to vertebrates (birds and terrestrial mammals such as mice) from the contaminants present including

pesticides, PCBs and metals. The assessment will be conducted by Tetra Tech during the May 14-31 timeframe. These dates were selected because the tides will be especially conducive to the sampling required, and the work will not interfere with the nesting season.

Feasibility Studies for Sites 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 9 and 24...

Tetra Tech will conduct feasibility studies for these sites. The studies will determine either the best remedy for cleanup, or that the site needs no further action and can be closed. Preliminary investigations have indicated that sites 1, 6, and 24 will likely require a cleanup remedy; sites 2, 4, 8, and 9 can probably be closed.

Watershed Conceptual Model...

Tetra Tech is beginning to develop a model that will, in effect, describe how the Mugu Lagoon and surrounding areas work as part of the Calleguas Watershed. The work involved includes sampling incoming water and sediment, reviewing County planning records, discharge permits, recorded spills and other data. Potential sources of pollution to the area will be identified.

Hueneme

Site 12B & 23 Clean Up...

As mentioned at the last RAB meeting, we are in the midst of removing contaminated soil at Sites 12B & 23. The start-up of this work, however, was delayed a little by the last minute discussions between the Cal/EPA Department of Toxic Substances (DTSC) and the Navy regarding the cleanup level. With a cleanup level agreed to for the work at 1 ppm, the Commanding Officer for NBVC signed the Action Memorandum and the contractor began digging.



Figure 1: Site 12B containment procedures in place.

To date the contractor has removed approximately 2,400 tons of contaminated soil from both sites. As shown in Figure 1, the contractor is exercising excellent site control to prevent the spread of any contaminants. At Site 12B, the size of the excavation has increased due to the sidewalls of the excavation testing greater than 1.0 ppm, which is the goal



Figure 2: Site 12B open excavation.

for the clean-up action. The area is approximately 71' by 136' by 4' deep which is wider than originally proposed—see Figure 2. We are planning to remove approximately 400 additional tons of soil. The bottom of the excavation has tested well below the 1.0 ppm and, therefore, we have reached the vertical extent of the excavation. Once sampling and analysis demonstrates that we have reached the clean-up goal of 1 ppm on the sidewalls, the contractor will backfill the site with clean dirt and follow that with an asphalt patch. This will conclude the interim effort. The value of 1 ppm can only get the Navy to closure under an industrial land use; therefore, this site will need to move on to the feasibility study phase to determine the final action instead of the closure status we were expecting.

At Site 23, the news is better than at Site 12B. We have removed at least 1 foot of soil from across the site and conducted additional excavation in a hot spot area that had elevated levels of PCB contaminants in the soil. All the soil was removed and sent off base. Geofon, the remediation contractor, backfilled and compacted this site with clean sub base material. The PCB concentration in the soil at Site 23 is less than 0.22 ppm. This value meets the states preliminary remedial goal for closure with no further action; so, we'll propose that to the state in a closure report.



Figure 3: Open excavation at Site 23.

That's our news since January. Please make plans to join us on May 9th. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me, Gail Pringle, at 989-9256 or e-mail pringlegl@cbcph.navy.mil.