

Non-Time Critical Removal Action for IR Program Site 8



Fact Sheet

Weapons Support Facility Seal Beach, California

March 1998



INTRODUCTION

The Department of the Navy (Navy), after evaluating comments received during a public comment period, will conduct a cleanup of soils contaminated with lead at the Weapons Support Facility, Seal Beach (WPNSUPFACSB). This cleanup will be conducted under the Installation Restoration (IR) Program. The purpose of the IR program is to identify, assess, characterize, and clean up or control contamination from past hazardous waste disposal operations and hazardous material spills at Navy installations. This program incorporates federal and state laws and regulations governing environmental investigation and cleanup, e.g. Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA); Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA); and the National Contingency Plan (NCP).

The California-EPA Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) and the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region (RWQCB) are providing regulatory oversight for all IR program activities. The Southwest

Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command (SWDIV), is administering the IR program.

The WPNSUPFACSB is an operating base and not currently scheduled for closure.

SITE BACKGROUND

The WPNSUPFACSB is located within the City of Seal Beach, approximately 30 miles south of Los Angeles. The Seal Beach National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), occupies approximately 911 acres within the boundaries of WPNSUPFACSB. Site 8 is located in the southwestern part of the facility, approximately 1800 feet from Seal Beach Boulevard. A portion of Site 8 is within the NWR.

From the time Building 235 was constructed in 1945, until 1975, neutralized (with sodium bicarbonate) waste battery acid was poured into a concrete sump within the battery shop. A drain pipe carried the neutralized battery acid from the sump to the southeast, under Kitts Highway and into the NWR marsh. The drain pipe was subsequently capped and abandoned in the late 1970s. The neutralized battery acid is known to contain lead which is the contaminant of concern in the soil at Site 8.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

DTSC will be holding a public comment period for their California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) negative declaration (ND). The ND states that the proposed removal action will not impact the environment. No excavation will be performed at Site 8 until comments are evaluated and a decision is made to either go forward with the project as proposed, or modify the project. Contract Mr. Rafat Abbasi, DTSC Project Manager at (562)590-4993 for more information. Notification of the comment period will be made through newspaper advertisement and direct mail.



PREVIOUS SITE INVESTIGATIONS

Between 1985 and 1995, a series of investigations were conducted at Site 8. Based on risk evaluations approved by the regulatory agencies, "no further action" was recommended for groundwater. Lead concentrations in groundwater were found to be below background concentrations.

The investigations did confirm the presence of lead in the soil at Site 8. The highest concentration of lead sampled was 755 milligrams/ kilogram (mg/kg), as compared to a background concentration of 36 mg/kg. The elevated concentrations of lead are confined to an approximate 40' x40' area, corresponding to approximately 450 cubic yards of impacted soil.

Due to the confined nature of the contamination, and its location within the NWR, the Navy decided to conduct a removal action, after consulting with the regulatory agencies.



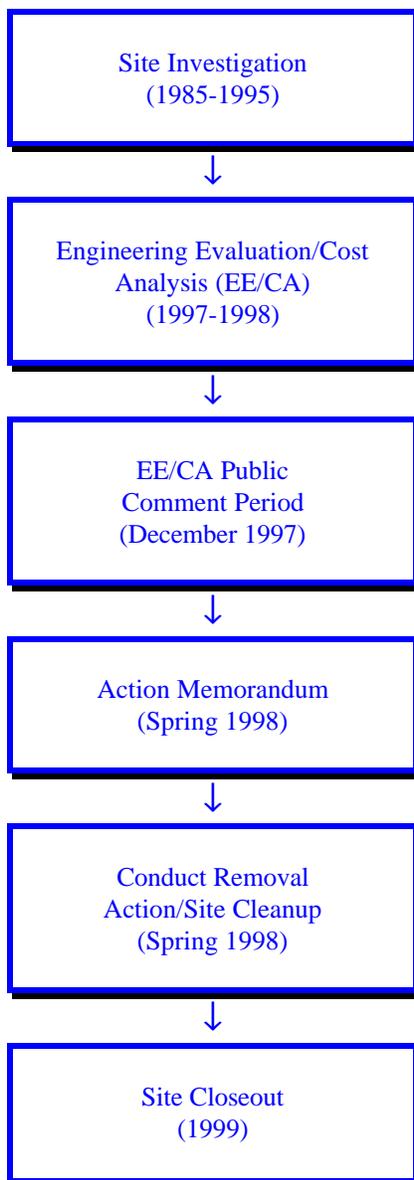
REMOVAL ACTIONS

There are various types of removal actions outlined in the laws and statutes. Since this proposed removal action presents no immediate threat to human health and the environment, a non-time critical removal action was selected. This type of removal is documented through an Engineering Evaluation/ Cost Analysis (EE/CA).

The EE/CA provides information on the source, nature, and extent of contamination, and risks present at the site. It also identifies the basic objective of the removal action and analyzes the cost, effectiveness and implementability of various alternatives that may be used to satisfy these objectives. The draft EE/CA for this removal action was

prepared in November 1997; the 30-day public comment period was in December 1997; and the EE/CA was finalized in February 1998. A draft Action Memorandum/ Remedial Action Work Plan (AM/RAW) has been prepared to document the Navy's decision on the recommended alternative.

NON-TIME CRITICAL REMOVAL ACTION PROCESS



IDENTIFICATION AND ANALYSIS OF REMOVAL ACTION ALTERNATIVES

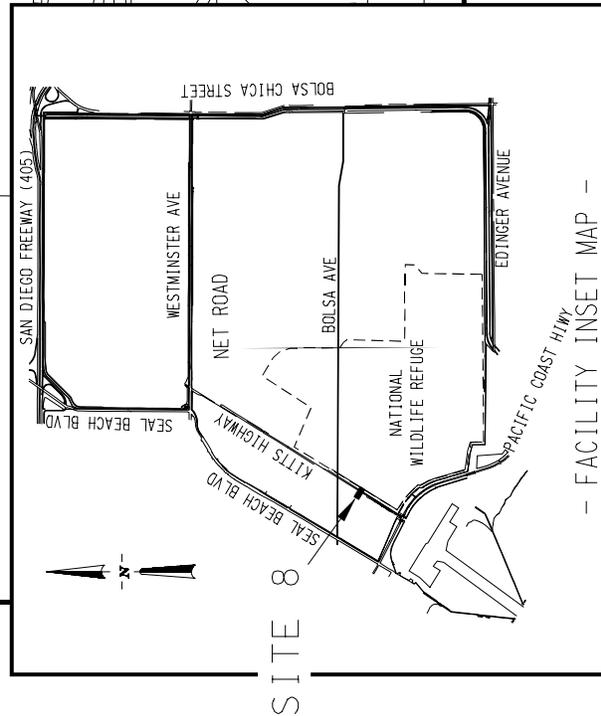
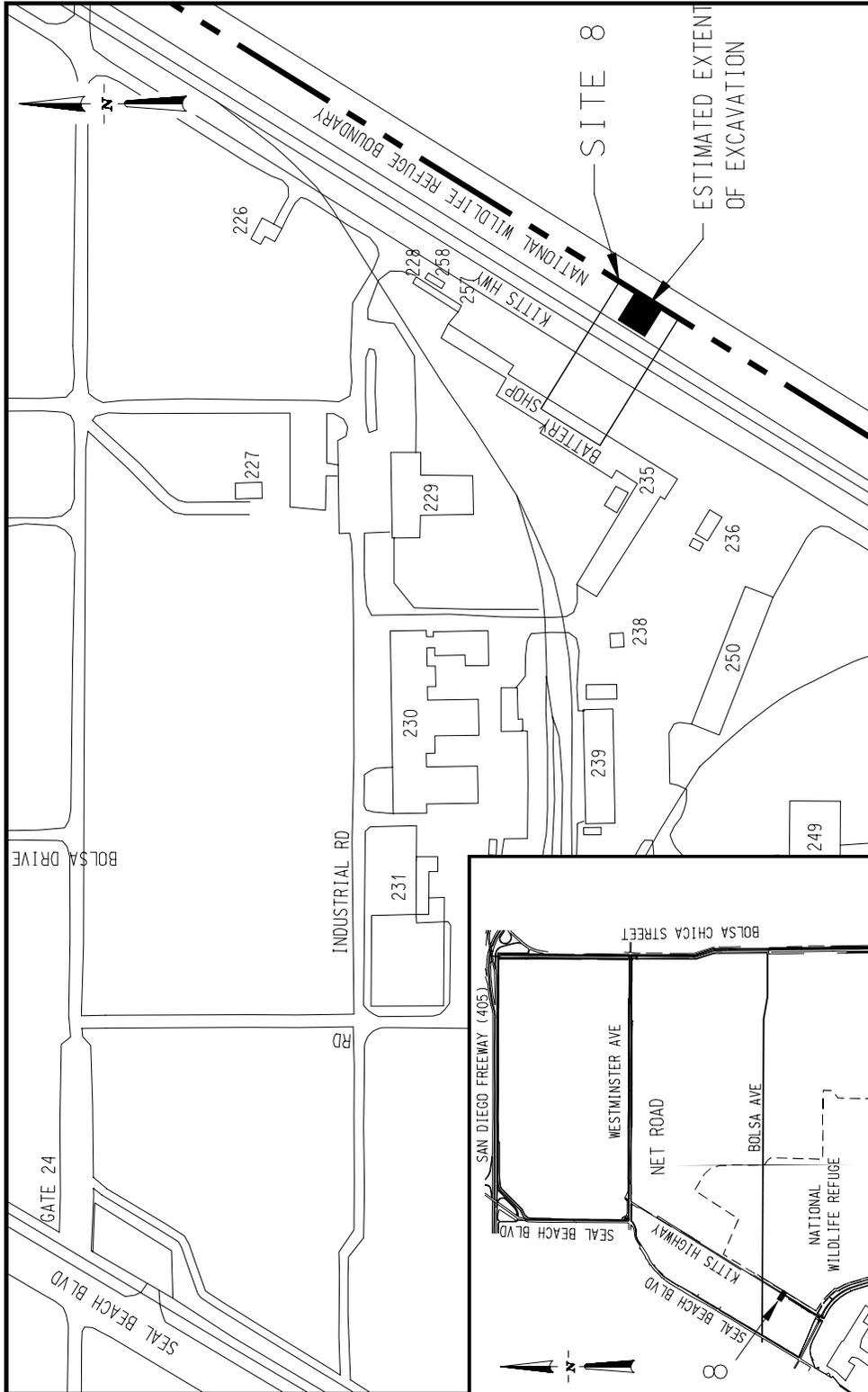
The EE/CA for Site 8 identified and evaluated seven removal action alternatives, representing a broad range of treatment and disposal options which were selected based on site characteristics and the chemical of concern (lead):

- Alternative 1 - Excavation and Off-Site Disposal;
- Alternative 2 - *In-situ* (in place) Treatment using Soil Washing;
- Alternative 3 - Excavation, On-Site Treatment using Soil Washing, and Off-site Disposal or Reuse as Backfill;
- Alternative 4 - *In-situ* (in place) Solidification/Stabilization;
- Alternative 5 - Excavation, On-site Treatment using Solidification/Stabilization, and Reuse as Backfill;
- Alternative 6 - Containment (Capping); and
- Alternative 7 - No Action.

RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE

Of the seven alternatives evaluated in the EE/CA, the Navy recommended Alternative 1 because it best meets removal action objectives and regulatory requirements.

Alternative 1 includes soil characterization, confirmation sampling, soil classification for disposal, excavating the contaminated soil, loading and hauling the material to a permitted off-site disposal facility, and backfilling the area with imported clean soil.



**SITE MAP - IR SITE 8
WEAPONS SUPPORT FACILITY SEAL BEACH**

- FACILITY INSET MAP -

ACTION MEMORANDUM/ REMEDIAL ACTION WORK PLAN

After evaluating all comments received, the Navy chose to remain with their proposed decision to perform excavation and offsite disposal at Site 8. This decision is documented in an Action Memorandum/Remedial Action Work Plan (AM/RAW). The AM/RAW is the primary decision document that substantiates the need for a removal action, identifies the proposed action, and explains the rationale for the particular type of removal action selected.

To satisfy California Health and Safety Code requirements, the Navy incorporated the RAW into the AM to substantiate the need for a removal action, identify removal activities, and explain why excavation and offsite disposal is the best alternative.

INFORMATION REPOSITORIES and ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

Two Information Repositories have been established for WPNSUPFACSB in accordance with CERCLA:

- 1) Seal Beach Public Library, Mary Wilson Branch, 707 Electric Avenue, Seal Beach, CA (562) 431-3584
- 2) WPNSUPFACSB, Bldg 110
For Access Contact:
Mr. Rob Robinson
(562) 626-6069

These Information Repositories are open to the public and include key project documents and background information on the nature of site problems, environmental investigations, planned response actions and public involvement activities.

The CERCLA Administrative Record (AR), also accessible to the public, is located at SWDIV, 1220 Pacific Highway, in San Diego. For access contact: Ms. Chris Potter, AR Coordinator, (619) 532-1144.



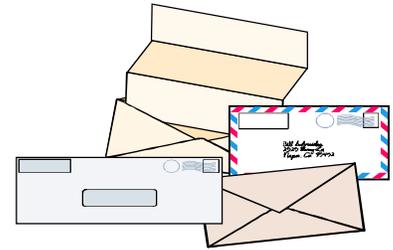
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES

A community-based Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) was formed at WPNSUPFACSB in response to President Clinton's Executive Order calling for greater public involvement in the environmental investigation and cleanup of military bases. RAB members review and comment on environmental documents, attend meetings, and act as a liaison between the facility's environmental program and the community.

The RAB established for the WPNSUPFACSB in January 1995 typically meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7 PM. These meetings are OPEN to the public. For more information

contact Mr. Mario Voce, RAB community co-chair at (562) 431-4760.

The RAB has been invited to review and provide comment on the EE/CA and the AM/RAW for Site 8. Comments are given serious consideration before finalizing the documents.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

The following individuals may be contacted for further information:

- Mr. Rob Robinson, WPNSUPFACSB Environmental Engineer, (562) 626-6069
- Mr. Dave Baillie, WPNSUPFACSB Environmental Director and RAB Navy Co-Chair, (562) 626-6068
- Mr. Danny Johnson, WPNSUPFACSB Public Affairs Officer, (562) 626-7215
- Mr. Ken Reynolds, SWDIV Remedial Project Manager, (619) 532-1228
- Mr. Rafat Abbasi, DTSC Project Manager, (562)590-4993
- Ms. Marsha Mingay, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, (562) 590-4881

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Weapons Support Facility Seal Beach
Commanding Officer
Attn: Rob Robinson, Code: 043
800 Seal Beach Boulevard
Seal Beach, CA 90740-5000



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WPNSUPFACSB Mailing List Request

I would like to be added to the WPNSUPFACSB mailing list.

I would like to receive Restoration Advisory Board information.

Mr. Mrs. Ms.

Name: _____

Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ FAX: _____

I would like my name entered as:

a resident representing an organization

a business an elected, city, county or state official

Note: Please clip and mail this coupon.

Weapons Support Facility Seal Beach
Rob Robinson (Code: 043)
800 Seal Beach Boulevard
Seal Beach, CA 90740-5000

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