



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

N00236.002176
ALAMEDA POINT
SSIC NO. 5090.3

May 3, 2001

Mike McClelland
Department of the Navy, Southwest Division
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
1220 Pacific Highway
San Diego, CA 92132-5190

RE: Draft Final Seaplane Lagoon Fish Tissue Evaluation Work Plan, Alameda Point

Dear Mr. McClelland:

EPA has reviewed the above referenced document submitted by the Navy and received in our offices on April 10, 2001. I have enclosed comments from Dr. Ned Black, EPA's ecologist/microbiologist who provides technical support for EPA on Alameda Point. Please call Dr Black or me at (415) 744-2367 if you have any questions regarding his comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anna-Marie Cook".

Anna-Marie Cook
Remedial Project Manager

enclosure

cc: Andrew Dick, SWDiv
Michael Pound, SWDiv
Mary Rose Cassa, DTSC
Brad Job, RWQCB
Dina Tasini, City of Alameda

**EPA Comments on Draft Final Seaplane Lagoon Fish Tissue
Evaluation Work Plan, Alameda Point**

I have reviewed this document and wish to commend the Navy for agreeing to perform this work and for producing such a robust work plan so quickly. I have also read the reviews of this document written by James Haas (US Fish & Wildlife Service), James Polisini, Ph.D. (California Dept. of Toxic Substances Control/Human and Ecological Risk Division), and Laurie Sullivan (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration). I agree with and endorse all of the comments written by these reviewers and condition acceptance of this work plan on the Navy's successfully addressing these comments in consultation with these reviewers and myself. I wish to emphasize two points.

1. The Navy must modify the work plan and data quality objectives to allow for keeping all fish collected with subsequent sorting of the fish into groups based on species and size. Furthermore, the plan for the sampling grid must be flexible enough to ensure that sufficient fish are collected with an emphasis on collection near the northeast and northwest corners of the lagoon.
2. The Navy should carefully coordinate the sampling date with all of the regulatory and trustee biologists and plan for a conference call immediately after the fish are collected to achieve consensus on how the fish will be sorted into groups and which, if any, fish will be discarded.

It should be a simple matter for the Navy to comply with all of the reviewers comments without significantly delaying this project. I can be reached at 415-744-2354 to discuss this further.