



FACT SHEET

December 2003

Navy Environmental Restoration Program Update National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Crows Landing Flight Facility

[former Naval Auxiliary Landing Field, Crows Landing]

The purpose of this Fact Sheet is to provide an update on the activities that were conducted by the Navy during calendar year 2003 at the NASA Crows Landing Flight Facility (the Facility), formerly known as the Naval Auxiliary Landing Field (NALF), Crows Landing in Stanislaus County, California.

Installation Restoration Program (IRP)

The Navy conducted field work at IRP Site 11, IRP Site 11A, and IRP Site 17 during 2003. The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), the California Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), Central Valley Region, and the California Integrated Waste Management Board provide regulatory oversight for the IRP.

IRP Site 11 (Disposal Pits): IRP Site 11 was used for disposal of facility refuse and ordnance material from the off-site practice bombing ranges from the 1960's until approximately 1982. A draft Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) and draft project plans for the excavation and removal of buried waste and ordnance debris from Site 11 were completed in early Summer 2003. Waste characterization sampling was completed in September 2003. Regulatory comments are being addressed as of December 2003, and field activities are tentatively scheduled for early 2004.

IRP Site 11A (Sewer Systems): IRP Site 11A includes the original sewage treatment plant, constructed in

approximately 1943, and the most recently used sewage treatment plant, constructed in the early 1950's. The NASA research area is located at a portion of the original plant. Approximately 19,800 tons of buried wastes and construction debris were excavated and removed from a large section of the former oxidation pond area adjacent to Bell Road in Spring 2003. The excavated waste and debris were disposed of at off-site disposal facilities. The excavated areas were filled with clean soil. Soil gas samples were collected for analysis from the perimeter of the NASA research area in May 2003 and methane was not detected above laboratory reporting limits.



Photograph 1. Restoring Excavated Areas at Former Oxidation Pond Area in June 2003.
(U.S. Navy Photograph)

IRP Site 17 (Demolished Hangar Area and Administration Area Plume): IRP Site 17 encompasses the demolished hangar area and the underlying groundwater plume, the Administration Area Plume (the Plume), near the east central section of the Facility

Extraction of contaminated groundwater in the vicinity of a former dry well continued during 2003. Acetone, 1,2-

dichloroethane (1,2-DCA), benzene, gasoline, methyl ethyl ketone, methyl isobutyl ketone, tert-butyl alcohol, and other volatile organic compounds are present in the groundwater near the former dry well. Approximately 290 pounds of contaminants (primarily acetone, gasoline, benzene, and methyl ethyl ketone) have been removed with the extracted groundwater since extraction activities began. More than 70 pounds of contaminants were removed during the year 2003. Extracted groundwater is transported to an off-site treatment facility.

A demonstration project that provides for the injection of oxygen into the contaminated groundwater began in late September 2003. The oxygen enhances the in situ biodegradation of contaminants. The demonstration is being conducted in the vicinity of former Underground Storage Tank (UST) Site 117, a source of petroleum hydrocarbons, benzene, and 1,2-dichloroethane in the groundwater.



Photograph 2. Groundwater Remediation Demonstration Project Site in September 2003.
(U.S. Navy Photograph)

The groundwater extraction and demonstration project activities will continue during 2004.

Underground Storage Tank (UST) Program

Field work was conducted at UST Cluster 1 during 2003. The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, provides regulatory oversight for the UST Program.

UST Cluster 1 (former location of aviation fuel tanks CL-1, CL-2, and CL-3): Soil vapor extraction (SVE) testing operations continued during 2003 with a portable SVE treatment unit. Since summer 2000, approximately 29,000 pounds of petroleum hydrocarbons and 5 pounds of benzene have been removed from the soil. Approximately 3,000 pounds of petroleum hydrocarbons have been

removed during 2003, and testing activities are in progress as of December 2003.

The groundwater underlying UST Cluster 1 is managed as the Administration Area Plume (IRP Site 17).

UST Cluster 2 (former location of aviation fuel tanks CL-7, CL-8, and CL-9): SVE testing and treatment operations were conducted from January 2000 through December 2001, and more than 5,000 pounds of petroleum hydrocarbons have been removed from the soil.

Closure documentation for UST Site CL-7 was submitted to the RWQCB during Summer 2003, and in September 2003, the RWQCB concurred that no further response actions are required. Work is in progress on closure documentation for UST Sites CL-8 and CL-9 as of December 2003.

UST CL-40 (former waste oil tank): Information describing historical and current soil conditions at UST Site CL-40 was submitted to the RWQCB in Summer 2003. In September 2003, the RWQCB concurred that no further response actions are required at UST Site CL-40.

UST Site 109 (former fuel oil tank site) and UST Site 117 (former motor vehicle fuel tank site): Work is in progress on closure documentation for UST Sites 109 and 117 as of December 2003.

Miscellaneous Activities

Quarterly groundwater monitoring activities were conducted at IRP Site 11, IRP Site 17, UST Cluster 1, UST Cluster 2, UST Site 117, and UST Site 109 during 2003. Four quarterly monitoring reports and one annual groundwater monitoring report were issued during 2003.



Photograph 3. Routine Groundwater Sampling Activities in November 2003.
(U.S. Navy Photograph)

Continuous automated water level measurements were collected at the Administration Area Plume vicinity including Bell Road, UST Cluster 1, UST Cluster 2, and IRP Site 11 vicinity during 2003.

A plan to close more than 20 inactive groundwater wells was completed and approved during Summer 2003. Well closure activities are tentatively scheduled for early 2004.

Historical Background

The former NALF Crows Landing was commissioned in May 1943 and has served primarily as an auxiliary airfield for operations from Naval Air Station, Moffett Field.

The Navy closed the facility in 1994 in accordance with the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Act, and the facility was transferred to NASA on July 1, 1994. The Navy is responsible for the restoration of contaminated sites that were the result of historical Navy operations at the facility.

In October 1999, NASA was authorized by legislation to transfer the facility to Stanislaus County. On April 10, 2001, the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors adopted the Crows Landing Flight Facility Reuse Plan. Phase 1 of the Reuse Plan allows for continuation of ongoing environmental remediation, agricultural production, and planning. Phase 2 of the Reuse Plan adds general aviation uses. The Reuse Plan was approved following adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration and is in full compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Navy will provide periodic updates to the community through these Fact Sheets. The Fact Sheets are available for viewing on the Navy's Environmental web site at the following address:

<http://www.efdsww.navfac.navy.mil/Environmental/CrowsLanding.htm#facts>.

Environmental Restoration Program Mailing List Update Form

To better serve the community regarding the Navy's Environmental Restoration Program projects at the NASA Crows Landing Flight Facility, we are continuing to update our mailing list. If you would like to receive copies of fact sheets and proposed plans, please complete the form and return to the following address:

Southwest Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command
BRAC Programs
Code 06CC.LMH (Lynn Marie Hornecker)
1220 Pacific Highway
San Diego, California 92132-5190

Or Fax the form to Southwest Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command at (619) 532-0780.

Mailing List Update Form – Please provide all information:	
Name:	_____
Organization:	_____
Address:	_____
City:	_____
State & Zip Code:	_____

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information pertaining to specific projects, please contact:

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Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Administrative Record documents are available at the Information Repository at the Stanislaus County Library, Patterson Branch, 46 North Salado Avenue, Patterson, California. The Information Repository also includes an index of all documents contained within the CERCLA Administrative Record. The Navy's CERCLA Administrative Record is maintained at Southwest Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command in San Diego.

For assistance with the CERCLA Administrative Record or requests for copies of documents contained within the CERCLA Administrative Record, please contact the records manager, Ms. Diane Silva, at (619) 532-3676.

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