Environmental Restoration Program

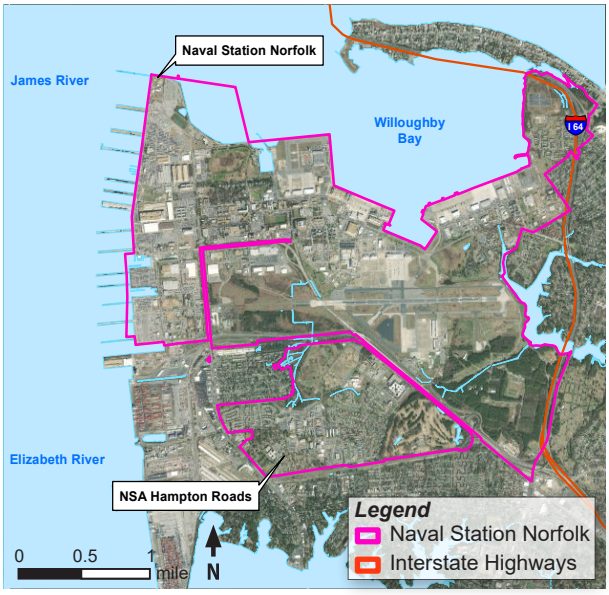
Naval Station Norfolk
Norfolk, Virginia
April 2021

Site Description

This fact sheet provides information on environmental investigation and restoration activities at Naval Station Norfolk (NSN). NSN, located in the northwest portion of the City of Norfolk, Virginia, began operations in 1917, when the Navy acquired 474 acres of land to develop a naval base to support World War I activities. An additional 143 acres of land were acquired in 1918 and officially commissioned as Naval Air Station Norfolk. NSN is now situated on 4,631 acres of land surrounded by Willoughby Bay, the confluence of the Elizabeth and James Rivers, and the City of Norfolk. NSN includes approximately 4,000 buildings, 20 piers, and an airfield. The western portion of NSN is a developed waterfront area containing the piers and facilities for loading, unloading, and servicing naval vessels. Land use in the surrounding area is commercial, industrial, and residential.

The waterfront area south of NSN provides shipping facilities and a network of rail lines. Residential and recreational areas border NSN at the southern, eastern, and northeastern boundaries. During its history, NSN has expanded to become the world's largest naval installation, with 105 ships homeported in Norfolk. The mission of NSN is to support the operational readiness of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet, providing facilities and services to enable mission accomplishment.

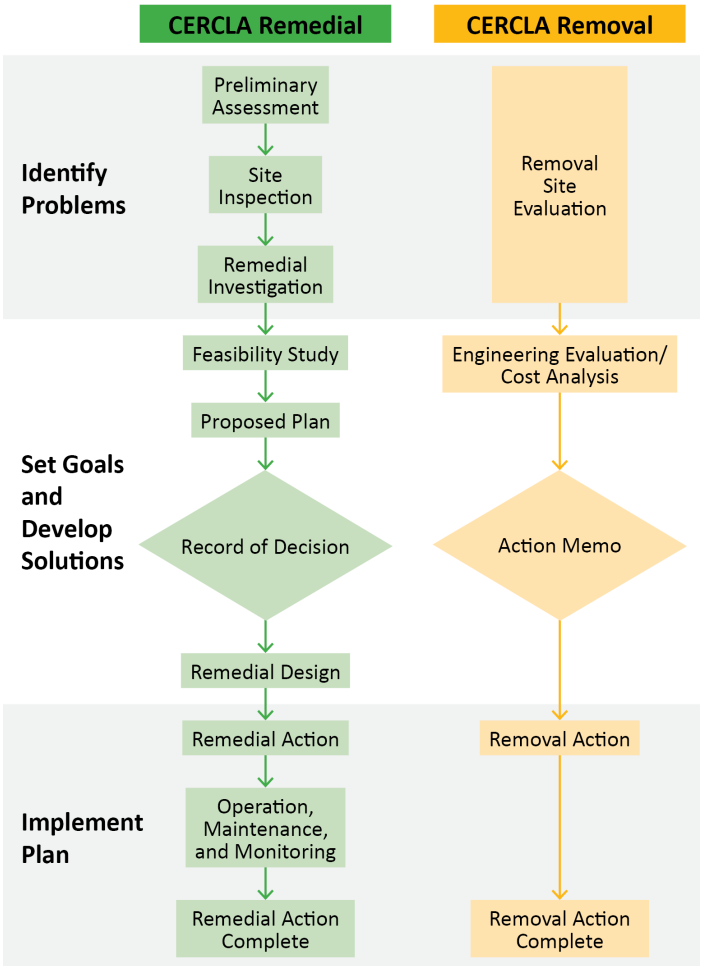
Naval Support Activity (NSA) Hampton Roads, which was originally named the Flag Administrative Unit, separated from NSN in 1948 and adopted its current name in 2011. Since its inception, NSA Hampton Roads has become a major Navy command with the responsibilities as the Installation Commander for three base installations and as the Program Director for Regional Support Services.



Environmental Restoration Program

The Environmental Restoration Program (ERP) was established to address releases of hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, and military munitions at military installations. NSN was added to the National Priorities List on April 1, 1997. NSN works in partnership with Virginia Department of Environmental Quality and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency using the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) process. In 2010, the Base achieved Construction Complete status under CERCLA. Five Year Reviews are completed to assess the protectiveness of the selected remedies at each site.

Under the CERCLA process, investigations and restoration of contaminated sites are conducted through the following steps:



Environmental Restoration Program Sites

Active ERP sites at NSN (see figure below) include the following:

- Site 1 – Camp Allen Landfill
- Site 2 – Naval Magazine Slag Pile
- Site 3 – Q-Area Drum Storage Yard
- Site 6 – Construction Debris Landfill
- Site 18 – Former Naval Magazine Waste Storage Area
- Site 20/Site 23 – LP-20 Site/LP-20 Plating Shop
- Site 22 – Camp Allen Storage Yard
- SWMU 14 – Q-50 Satellite Accumulation Area
- Other areas that are part of the basewide PFAS investigation*

Additional information on closed sites is provided on the NSN ERP website and the most recent Site Management Plan, which is available in the Administrative Record.

How to Find More Information

If you would like additional information about the ERP at NSN, contact:

Eric Ross, NSN Remedial Project Manager
(757) 341-0481
eric.g.ross@navy.mil

For other questions regarding NSN, contact:

Kelly Wirfel, NSN Public Affairs Officer
(757) 433-3131
kelly.wirfel@navy.mil

Information Repository

Information for NSN is available to the community at the following location:

Slover Library
235 East Plume Street
Norfolk, Virginia 23510
(757) 431-7491

Review the Administrative Record at the NSN public website: http://go.usa.gov/DyNe

* PFAS are compounds with heat-resistant properties that were used in some formulations of AFFF (firefighting foam). Two of these compounds, PFOS and PFOA, were present in AFFF used by the Navy. See the following website for more detail: http://www.secnav.navy.mil/eie/Pages/PFC-PFAS.aspx.