

N63043_000653
NAS MERIDIAN, MS
SSIC 5000-33a

**FINAL COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PLAN NAVAL OUTLYING LANDING
FIELD JOE WILLIAMS NAS MERIDIAN MS**

08/01/2020
TETRA TECH, INC.

Approved for public release: distribution unlimited.



Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southeast
NAS Jacksonville, Jacksonville, Florida

Final

Community Involvement Plan

Naval Air Station Meridian and Naval Outlying Landing Field Joe Williams

NAS Meridian
Meridian, Mississippi

August 2020

This page intentionally left blank

Community Involvement Plan

Naval Air Station Meridian and Naval Outlying Landing Field Joe Williams Meridian, Mississippi



August 2020

This page intentionally left blank

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Community Involvement Plan (CIP) presents the Navy's plan to inform and involve the community in the Environmental Restoration Program which includes all the environmental clean-up projects at Naval Air Station (NAS) Meridian. The regulatory driver for the CIP is the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act. The methods of outreach described in this CIP were based on community interviews and an online survey conducted from April 2019 to July 2019, in accordance with federal, state and Department of the Navy regulations and guidance. The 23 survey respondents included local residents, current NAS Meridian/Naval Outlying Field Joe Williams employees, current and past members of the military, public or elected officials, business owners, and civic association members. The results of the survey and the methods selected to address community input are summarized in this CIP.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>SECTION</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	iii
ACRONYMS	viii
1.0 OVERVIEW OF THE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PLAN	1-1
2.0 NAS MERIDIAN AND NOLF JOE WILLIAMS INFORMATION	2-1
2.1 NAS MERIDIAN AND NOLF JOE WILLIAMS LOCATION	2-1
2.2 NAS MERIDIAN AND NOLF JOE WILLIAMS MISSION	2-2
2.3 NAS MERIDIAN AND NOLF JOE WILLIAMS HISTORY	2-3
2.4 ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION SITES	2-4
3.0 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES	3-1
3.1 NAVY	3-1
3.1.1 Remedial Project Manager	3-2
3.1.2 NAS Meridian Staff.....	3-3
3.1.3 Contractor Support Personnel	3-3
3.2 REGULATORY AGENCIES.....	3-4
3.3 LOCAL GOVERNMENT	3-4
3.4 COMMUNITY	3-4
4.0 COMMUNITY BACKGROUND	4-1
4.1 COMMUNITY PROFILE	4-1
4.1.1 Community and Setting.....	4-1
4.1.2 Population and Growth	4-2
4.1.3 Diversity Profile	4-3
4.1.4 Businesses.....	4-4
4.1.5 Nearby Regional Centers/Residential Groupings	4-5
4.1.6 Economics.....	4-5
4.1.7 Public School Systems	4-6
4.1.8 Need for Translation Services.....	4-7
4.2 HISTORY OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT	4-7
4.3 KEY COMMUNITY CONCERNS	4-7
4.4 RESPONSE TO COMMUNITY CONCERNS	4-9
4.5 SUMMARY OF COMMUNICATION NEEDS.....	4-9
5.0 NAS MERIDIAN COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PLAN	5-1
5.1 CIP PROPOSED PATH FORWARD	5-1
5.2 CIP POINT OF CONTACT.....	5-4

TABLES

<u>NUMBER</u>		<u>PAGE</u>
2-1	Description of ERP Sites at NAS Meridian	2-6
5-1	Community Involvement Activity Schedule	5-6

FIGURES

<u>NUMBER</u>		<u>PAGE</u>
2-1	Location of NAS Meridian/NOLF Joe Williams	2-1
2-2	Location of ERP Sites at NAS Meridian	2-7
3-1	The Navy's ERP Process	3-2
4-1	NAS Meridian / NOLF Joe Williams Neighboring Communities	4-2

APPENDICES

A	NAS MERIDIAN/NOLF JOE WILLIAMS ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION SITE FACT SHEETS
B	NAVY ERP PROCESS
C	NAVY, FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONTACTS
D	COMMUNITY INTERVIEW QUESTIONNAIRE
E	SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY COMMENTS BY CATEGORY

ACRONYMS

AO	Agreed Order
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CIP	Community Involvement Plan
CLEAN	Comprehensive Long-term Environmental Action Navy
EE/CA	Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis
EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
ERP	Environmental Restoration Program
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
FS	Feasibility Study
LTM	Long-term Monitoring
LUC	Land Use Control
MDEQ	Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
NAAS	Naval Auxiliary Air Station
NAS	Naval Air Station
NAVFAC	Naval Facilities Engineering Command
NOLF	Naval Outlying Landing Field
NTTC	Naval Technical Training Center
PA	Preliminary Assessment
PAO	Public Affairs Officer
PCB	Polychlorinated Biphenyl
RAB	Restoration Advisory Board
RD/RA	Remedial Design/Remedial Action
RI	Remedial Investigation
ROD	Record of Decision
RPM	Remedial Project Manager
SAR	Small Arms Range
SI	Site Investigation
USMC	United States Marine Corps
USN	United States Navy

1.0 OVERVIEW OF THE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PLAN

The Department of the Navy, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) recognize that all Americans have the right to be involved in government decisions that may affect their lives. Frequent community involvement and sharing of information is critical to the overall success of the Environmental Restoration Program (ERP) at Naval Air Station (NAS) Meridian and Naval Outlying Landing Field (NOLF) Joe Williams. By involving stakeholders early and often, community concerns and issues can be identified and a site-specific Community Involvement Plan (CIP) can be developed that addresses those concerns in a timely and effective manner.

These are the overall goals of the NAS Meridian and NOLF Joe Williams CIP:

- Inform, involve, and engage community members and other interested stakeholders in dialogue and communication regarding the ERP at NAS Meridian and NOLF Joe Williams.
- Advocate and strengthen early and meaningful community participation.
- Listen carefully to identify community concerns, issues and questions and take the time necessary to address them.
- Keep the community and interested stakeholders informed and up-to-date regarding actions relating to the ongoing NAS Meridian and NOLF Joe Williams ERP.
- Encourage and enable all interested stakeholders to continue to participate in the decision-making process.
- Consider stakeholder input and take appropriate action where such inputs have merit.



*The CIP is the roadmap for
informing and involving the
community and other interested
stakeholders regarding the
environmental restoration
program at NAS Meridian and
NOLF Joe Williams.*

2.0 NAS MERIDIAN AND NOLF JOE WILLIAMS INFORMATION

2.1 NAS MERIDIAN AND NOLF JOE WILLIAMS LOCATION

NAS Meridian and NOLF Joe Williams are located in east-central Mississippi. NAS Meridian encompasses 8,060 acres in Kemper and Lauderdale Counties; 5,297 acres of the facility are actively managed forest. NAS Meridian is located approximately 15 miles north-northeast of the City of Meridian, Mississippi, and 8 miles west of the Mississippi-Alabama border. NOLF Joe Williams is located 19 miles northwest of NAS Meridian in Kemper County, and encompasses 1,254 acres (see Figure 2-1). Both facilities are fenced, and all entrances are secured to restrict unauthorized personnel from trespassing onto the properties.

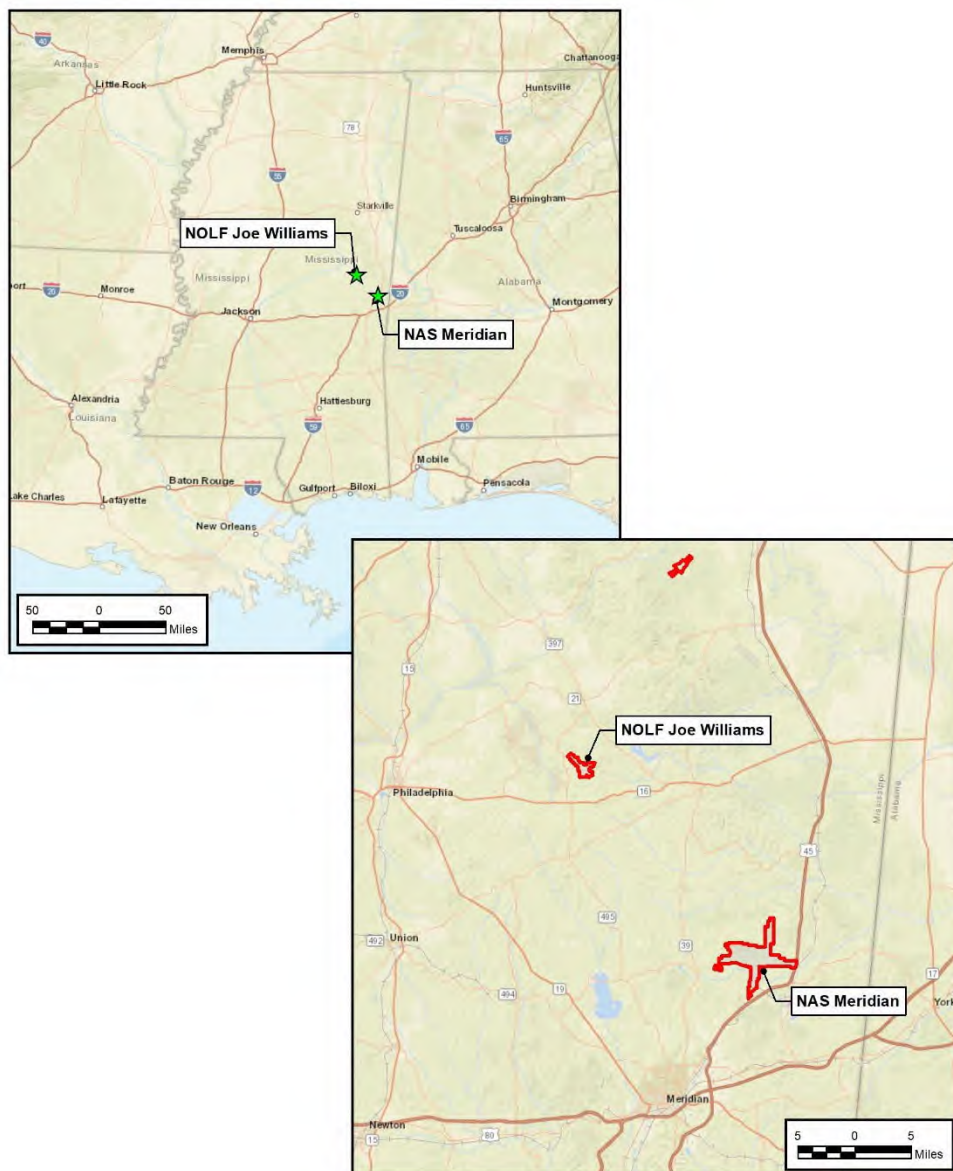


Figure 2-1: Location of NAS Meridian and NOLF Joe Williams

2.2 NAS MERIDIAN AND NOLF JOE WILLIAMS MISSION

NAS Meridian and NOLF Joe Williams maintain and operate facilities and provide services and material in support of the training of Sailors and Marines in aviation and related technical fields.

NAS MERIDIAN MISSION STATEMENT

Enable and Sustain Warfighter Readiness from the Shore

NAS Meridian contributes to maximum military readiness by providing support to military and civilian tenant activities, providing Strike Pilot training to USN/USMC/foreign nationals, specialized enlisted rate training, and regional civilian police counter-drug training.



Photos: NAS Meridian Public Affairs

2.3 NAS MERIDIAN AND NOLF JOE WILLIAMS HISTORY

On July 16, 1957, the first shovel of earth was thrown, marking the beginning of Naval Auxiliary Air Station (NAAS) Meridian, which was commissioned on July 14, 1961. Training Squadron Seven (VT-7) arrived at NAAS Meridian July 12, 1961, then split on December 15 to form its sister squadron, Training Squadron Nine (VT-9). NAAS Meridian continued to grow, and by July 1968, the station became a full naval air station.

In August 1971, Training Air Wing One (TW-1) was commissioned and Training Squadron Nineteen (VT-19) was established. The Wing motto became "Readiness for Victory at Sea through Training." That October saw the arrival of the TA-4J, the new advanced jet trainer based on the A-4 "Skyhawk." In April 1973, President Richard M. Nixon, accompanied by Senator John C. Stennis and many other high-ranking military and civilian officials, attended the dedication of the new Naval Technical Training Center (NTTC), known locally as the Stennis Center. It was officially commissioned April 17, 1974.

Naval Air Station Meridian was selected and upgraded to a Major Shore Command on October 1, 1982. In March 1984, NAS Meridian was one of 15 installations chosen for the Department of Defense Model Installation Program. In 1987, outlying field "Bravo" was renamed after Captain Joe W. Williams, Jr., NAS Meridian's second commanding officer and the recipient of the Navy Cross.

In July 1994, Training Squadron Twenty-Three (VT-23) moved from Kingsville, Texas, to NAS Meridian. In October 1998, VT-19 was re-designated VT-9. The TA-4J "Skyhawk" was retired in 1999. In December of that year, VT-7 assumed the advanced training mission using the T-45C "Goshawk," the Navy's newest jet trainer. At that time, VT-23 was disestablished.

Following the closure of Naval Reserve Center Jackson, Naval Reserve Center Meridian opened July 15, 2000, and had its first drill weekend two weeks later, one month before its official dedication ceremony, August 26, 2000. In July 2004, the last T-2C "Buckeye" left NAS Meridian marking the end of Navy strike pilot training in that aircraft. Two months later the Search and Rescue mission was divested. In 2011, NAS Meridian celebrated its 50th anniversary.



NAS Meridian is Lauderdale county's largest employer.

NAS Meridian has undergone consistent expansion since the 1960s and is a major contributor to the local economy. Based on data from the East Mississippi Business Development Corporation, NAS Meridian is Lauderdale county's largest employer, employing 3000 people¹.

2.4 ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION SITES

NAS Meridian has been in operation since 1964. As a result of decades of industrial operations and material stockpile and storage, a total of 15 sites have been identified at NAS Meridian where releases of hazardous substances have historically occurred (Table 2-1 and Figure 2-2). Detailed information for each of the sites can be found at <https://go.usa.gov/xPbC7>. At the time of this plan's publication, no sites have been identified at NOLF Joe Williams.

Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Southeast and NAS Meridian personnel have been actively working with the MDEQ to identify, investigate, and clean up these sites since the late 1980s. As a result, significant progress has been made in the ERP at NAS Meridian over the past three decades. Remedial actions have been completed and no further action determinations have been received for eight sites. Remedial actions have been completed and long-term monitoring is ongoing at three sites. Studies and remedial actions are currently underway for four sites. Community involvement activities are expected to continue for the duration of the program; however, frequency of meetings and outreach activities may decrease depending on interest as final actions at the remaining environmental sites are completed.

¹ <https://www.embdc.org/economic-development/existing-industry/>

Table 2-1: Description of ERP Sites at NAS Meridian

Site Number	Site Name	Period of Operation	Waste Types	Sources	Cleanup Status*
1	Former Firefighting Training Area	1961 to 1969	Jet fuels, aviation gasoline, oils, solvents, and possibly PCB-containing transformer oils	Firefighting training activities (which included the burning of fuel, oils, and solvents) took place in an unlined gravel pit.	Response Complete: The immediate risk to human health and the environment was eliminated.
2	Jet Engine Test Cell	1975 to present	Jet fuel, solvents, oils, pesticides, and metals	Jet engine performance testing.	Response Complete: The site was recommended for site closeout.
3A	Lake Martha Landfill	1968 to 1985	Cardboard, brush, yard waste, household garbage, automobile engines, oils, fuels, paints, paint strippers, solvents, cleaning compounds, and batteries	Both authorized and unauthorized dumping of materials into several trenches.	Long-Term Management: Long-Term Monitoring (LTM) and Land Use Controls (LUCs) in progress. Selected remedy is in place, functioning as designed, and protective of human health and the environment.
3B	Metal Landfill	Mid-1960s to 1985	Scrap metal, automobile chassis, gasoline tanks, paint and unlabeled cans	Both authorized and unauthorized dumping of materials into a 30-ft ravine.	Response Complete: Environmental restoration completed. The site was recommended for site closeout.
4A, 4B, 4C, 4D	Sludge Disposal Areas 1, 2, 3, and 4	1961 to 1990	Household sewage, grease, paint stripping waste, and waste from aircraft paint booth water curtain	Disposal of dried sludge generated from a wastewater treatment facility and grease disposal from the facility cafeterias.	Response Complete: Monitoring wells were recommended for abandonment.
5	Former Pesticide Mixing Area	1961 to 1985	Pesticides, PCBs, and Inorganics	The mixing of pesticides.	Long-Term Management: LTM and LUCs in progress. The immediate risk to human health and the environment was eliminated.
6	Former Fire-fighting Training Area	1969 to 1987	Jet fuel, aviation gasoline, fuel contaminated water, oil, solvents, and possibly pesticides/PCBs and other inorganics	Firefighting training, and the burning of waste generated during aircraft and vehicle maintenance.	Long-Term Management: LTM and LUCs in progress. The immediate risk to human health and the environment was eliminated.
7	Turnkey Generator Lift Station	1961 to 2008	Diesel fuel	2007 diesel fuel leak from backup generator.	Response Complete: Site was recommended for site closeout.
8	Former Wash Rack	1963 to 2006	Solvents, cleaning products, fuels, hydraulic fluid, and engine oil	Release from the former oil-water separator that collected rinse water from jet cleaning activities.	Feasibility Study (FS) in progress. Performance groundwater monitoring and LUC inspections are ongoing.

9	Bulk Fuel Storage Area	1961 to present	Jet fuel and chlorinated solvents	Release associated with fuel storage and transfer operations	FS underway in conjunction with groundwater performance monitoring.
10	Lake Opal Landfill	1980 to 1990	Metallic and non-metallic construction debris	Both authorized and unauthorized dumping of material into the ravine at the site.	Response Complete: No Further Action has been recommended.
	Small Arms Range (SAR) West	1963 to 1978	Munitions constituents (antimony, arsenic, copper, lead, nickel, zinc)	Munitions constituent accumulation in the berm/soil at the site.	Response Complete: No Further Action has been recommended.
<p>* Descriptions of Site Status terms can be found in Appendix B.</p> <p>LTM = Long-term Monitoring LUC = Land Use Control PCB = Polychlorinated Biphenyl</p>					

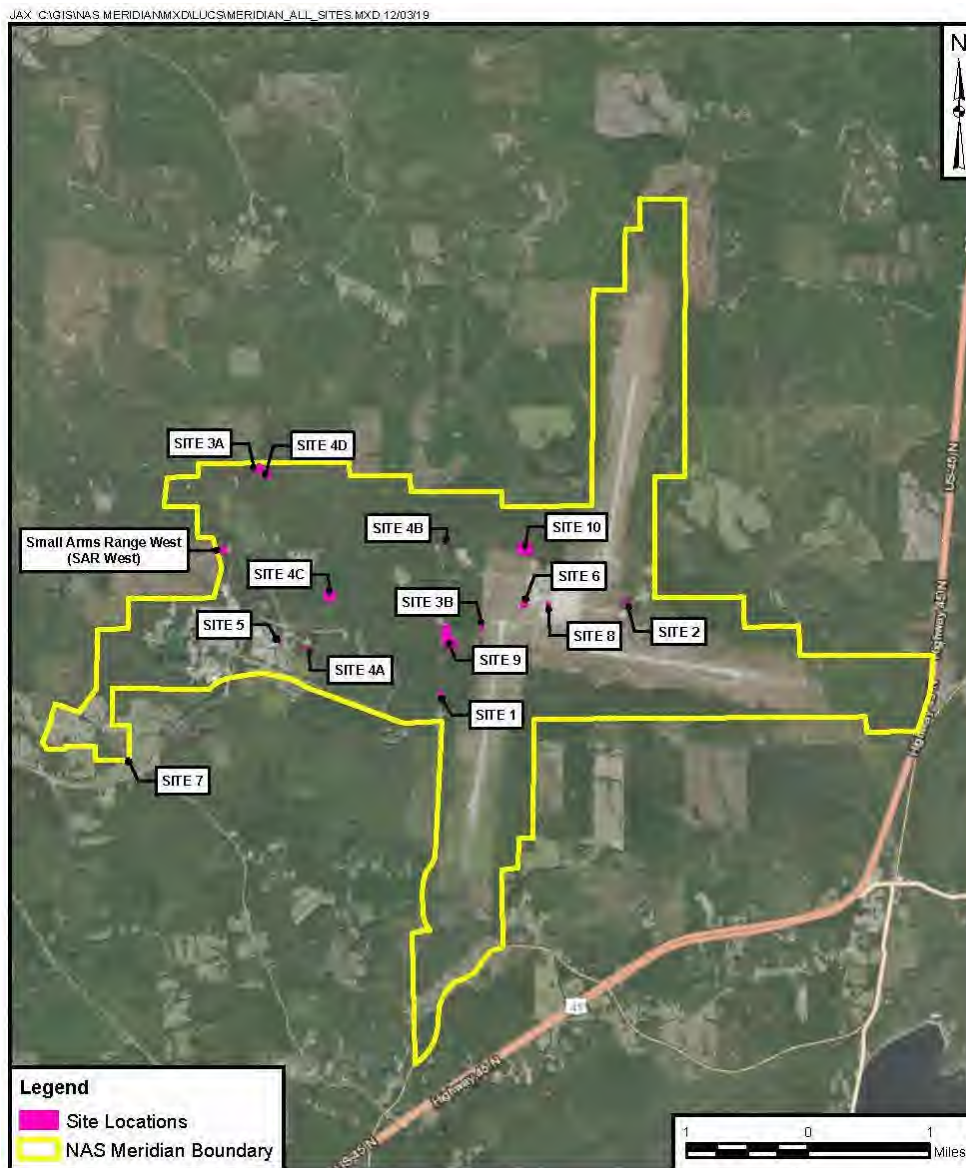


Figure 2-2: Location of ERP Sites at NAS Meridian

Of the 15 sites identified, the areas can be broken down into the following general categories:

• Former landfill/disposal areas	7
• Former fire-fighting training areas	2
• Jet engine test cell	1
• Former pesticide mixing area	1
• Turnkey generator lift station	1
• Former wash rack	1
• Bulk fuel storage area	1
• Small arms range	1
Total:	15

Additional information on each NAS Meridian ERP site is provided in Appendix A.

3.0 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

3.1 NAVY

Navy installations provide a wide range of support functions for our nation's aircraft, submarines, and ships. Historical waste management practices and accidental spills associated with these activities sometimes resulted in the release of contaminants to the environment. Since the early 1980s, the Navy has been conducting environmental restoration activities at installations nationwide to identify, characterize, and clean up these historical sites.

The purpose of the ERP is to reduce the risk to human health and the environment from historical waste disposal operations and hazardous substance spills on Navy properties. At NAS Meridian, environmental restoration is guided both by the Navy's ERP and by the MDEQ Agreed Order (AO). Both programs are conducted in accordance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act, and are supported by federal and state regulatory agency participation. CERCLA is the federal law, commonly known as Superfund, which guides the cleanup of historical waste disposal sites at both public and privately-owned facilities nationwide. The ERP follows the established Superfund process (Figure 3-1) and is fully consistent with EPA regulations and federal law. Together, the Navy, federal, and state programs provide the necessary guidance and oversight to ensure that mutual, long-term cleanup goals at NAS Meridian and NOLF Joe Williams are met.

The Navy's ERP at NAS Meridian follows the established "Superfund" cleanup process and is fully consistent with EPA regulations and federal and state environmental laws. (See Appendix B for additional details.)

The Navy is the lead federal agency responsible for the ERP at NAS Meridian. Within the Navy, there are many organizations, commands, activities, and personnel that work together to execute and manage the ERP successfully. The ERP for NAS Meridian is managed by NAVFAC Southeast headquartered in Jacksonville, Florida. NAVFAC Southeast has assigned a Remedial Project Manager (RPM) to manage all aspects of the ERP for NAS Meridian. The RPM is routinely assisted by NAS Meridian staff and contractor support personnel. Individual roles and responsibilities are briefly highlighted in the following sections. More information on the Navy's ERP Process can be found in Appendix B.

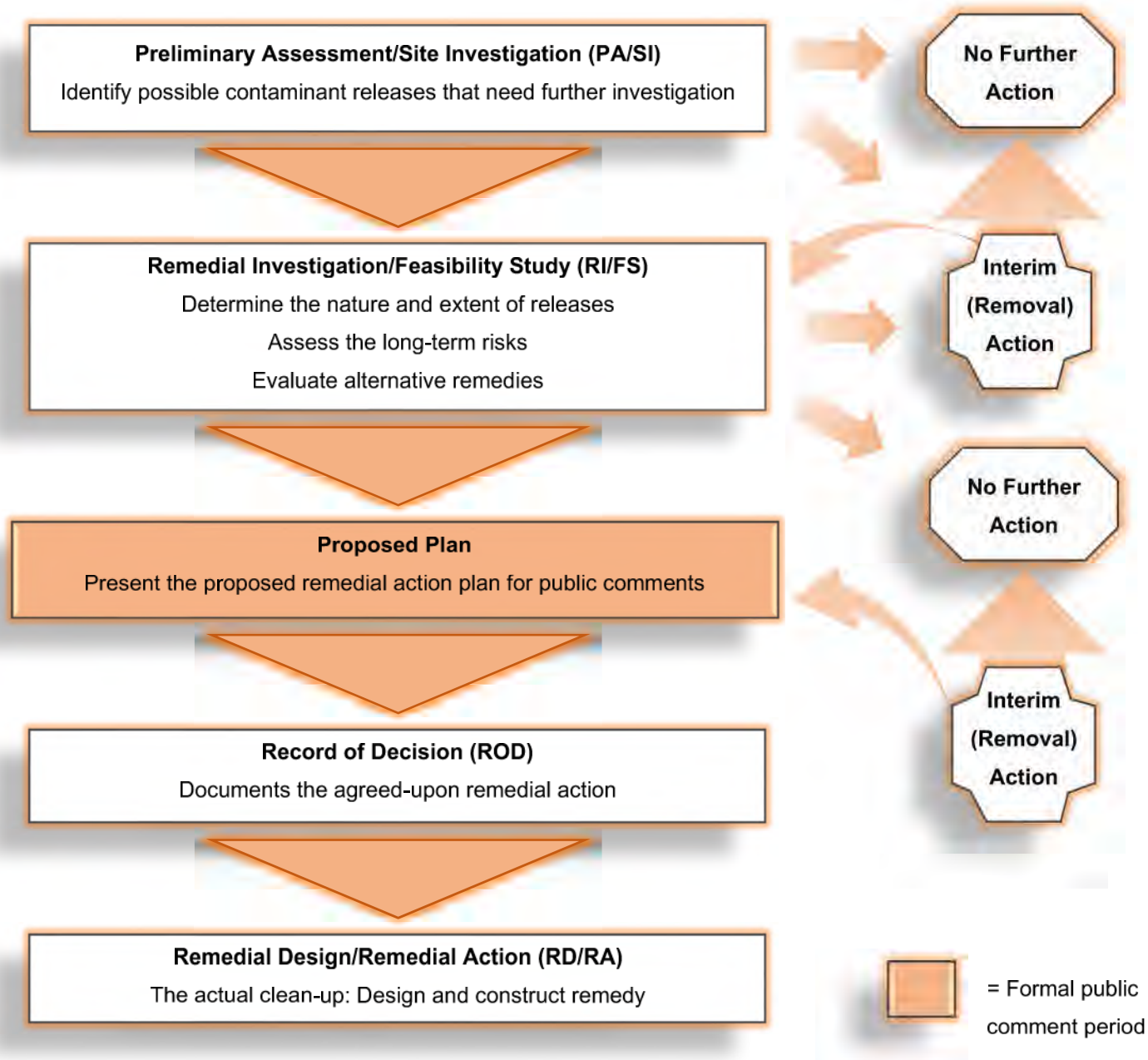


Figure 3.1: The Navy's ERP Process

3.1.1 Remedial Project Manager

The RPM is the single individual responsible for all aspects of the NAS Meridian ERP including interagency relationships, funding, scheduling, design, and remedial action. The RPM's core responsibility is to identify the resources needed to implement the ERP in a cost-effective, timely, and efficient manner. Major RPM responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Coordinating, directing, and reviewing all ERP site work.
- Maintaining a close working relationship with installation personnel to ensure effective communication and minimize potential impacts to NAS Meridian property, personnel, and/or mission.
- Maintaining a close working relationship with the local community surrounding NAS Meridian and ensuring that communication is effective, and concerns are met.
- Coordinating with federal and state regulatory agencies and natural resources stakeholders/trustees to facilitate communications and minimize conflict.
- Developing statements of work, independent government estimates, and related documentation as necessary to ensure successful implementation of the NAS Meridian ERP.
- Preparing contract/task order modifications and tracking changes in scope, cost, or schedule.
- Maintaining files and administrative records.
- Reviewing daily field logs, proposals, technical documentation, etc. relating to the ERP.
- Ensuring overall compliance with local, state, and federal environmental laws and Navy policy.

3.1.2 NAS Meridian Staff

Personnel from NAS Meridian routinely assist the RPM with document reviews, site visits, public outreach, base access, logistics, etc. On-site NAS Meridian staff involvement is critical to ensure that the interests of the center are fully considered in all ERP actions and that impacts to day-to-day operations are minimized. The NAS Meridian ERP Manager is the local point of contact for the ERP at NAS Meridian. See Section 5.3 of this CIP for additional details regarding this position.

3.1.3 Contractor Support Personnel

Contractor support personnel continue to play a critical support role to the RPM and the ERP program. Contractor personnel are key members of the Navy team and are responsible for providing much of the routine technical support, data collection and analysis, and reporting during the site investigation, characterization, remediation and long-term management phases of the ERP. RPMs typically rely heavily on contractor support to help manage daily ERP operations. This allows the RPM to focus on the overall management of the project and ensure it is executed on time and within budget.

Under the Comprehensive Long-term Environmental Action Navy (CLEAN) contract, contractor support personnel at NAS Meridian are responsible for providing professional engineering services during the study and design phases of the ERP. Contractors are also responsible for planning and coordinating public meetings and other community involvement activities and outreach events.

3.2 REGULATORY AGENCIES

The Navy routinely coordinates ongoing ERP actions with both federal and state regulatory agencies. Since NAS Meridian is not on the National Priorities List for cleanup, the EPA has minimal involvement in the overall cleanup program. As a result, the primary agency for regulatory oversight is the MDEQ. The Navy is the lead agency for all aspects of the ERP including document reviews, project consultations, remedial decision-making, and enforcement. It is the Navy's goal to continue open and honest communications with all regulatory agencies to ensure they have adequate opportunity to participate in all phases of planning and selection of appropriate response actions for each ERP site.

3.3 LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Local government can also provide input into the NAS Meridian ERP. Although there is typically limited involvement at the local level, NAS Meridian routinely advises and consults with local officials when ongoing environmental projects have the potential to have off-base impacts.

3.4 COMMUNITY

The community plays an active role in the NAS Meridian ERP through the following activities, as described more fully in Appendix B --The Navy ERP Process:

- Reviewing documents and providing comments on specific Navy documents such as a Proposed Plan. (A Proposed Plan is a specific CERCLA document. See Sections 16.1 and 16.6 of the DON ERP.)
- Participating in Public Meetings and other community involvement programs (per Section 16 of the DON ERP).
- Providing input, advice, and recommendations to Navy leadership regarding ongoing environmental restoration activities during Public Comment Periods (per Section 16 of the DON ERP).

The NAS Meridian public website, including the Information Repository, can be found online at <https://go.usa.gov/xPbC7>.

The Navy is committed to continuing to provide information to the community regarding the NAS Meridian ERP. Community members are encouraged to get involved in the process and provide their input, questions, and/or concerns directly to the Navy project team. Points of contact for the NAS Meridian ERP are listed in Appendix C.

4.0 COMMUNITY BACKGROUND

4.1 COMMUNITY PROFILE

The city of Meridian community profile is summarized in the following subsections. Information is also included about the communities that are located closer to NAS Meridian and NOLF Joe Williams, as well as the counties in which the installations are located.

4.1.1 Community and Setting

The city of Meridian is located in Lauderdale County on the eastern border of Mississippi 200 miles northeast of New Orleans, Louisiana (95 miles east of Jackson, Mississippi). Meridian covers approximately 46 square miles and is the sixth largest city in Mississippi.

Communities near NAS Meridian include Collinsville to the northwest, Marion to the northeast, and Toomsba to the east. NOLF Joe Williams is located approximately 49 miles to the north of Meridian on State Route 495. Towns near NOLF Joe Williams include De Kalb to the east and Philadelphia to the west. Figure 4-1 shows the locations of the Navy facilities and neighboring communities.

Meridian is located on land that was originally settled by the Choctaw Indians, which was bought by the United States according to the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek in 1830. The city developed a largely rail-based economy as it grew around the intersection of the Mobile and Ohio Railroad and the Southern Railway of Mississippi. The city was the largest in Mississippi between about 1890 and 1930 and was a leading center for manufacturing in the South. The city's economy was devastated by the decline of the railroad industry, resulting in a decreasing population. In the past 20 years the city has focused on revitalizing the downtown area to attract business and industry. There are nine historic districts, as well as shopping opportunities and hotels scattered throughout the downtown and suburbs. The areas around NAS Meridian and NOLF Joe Williams are rural, and in many places, forested.

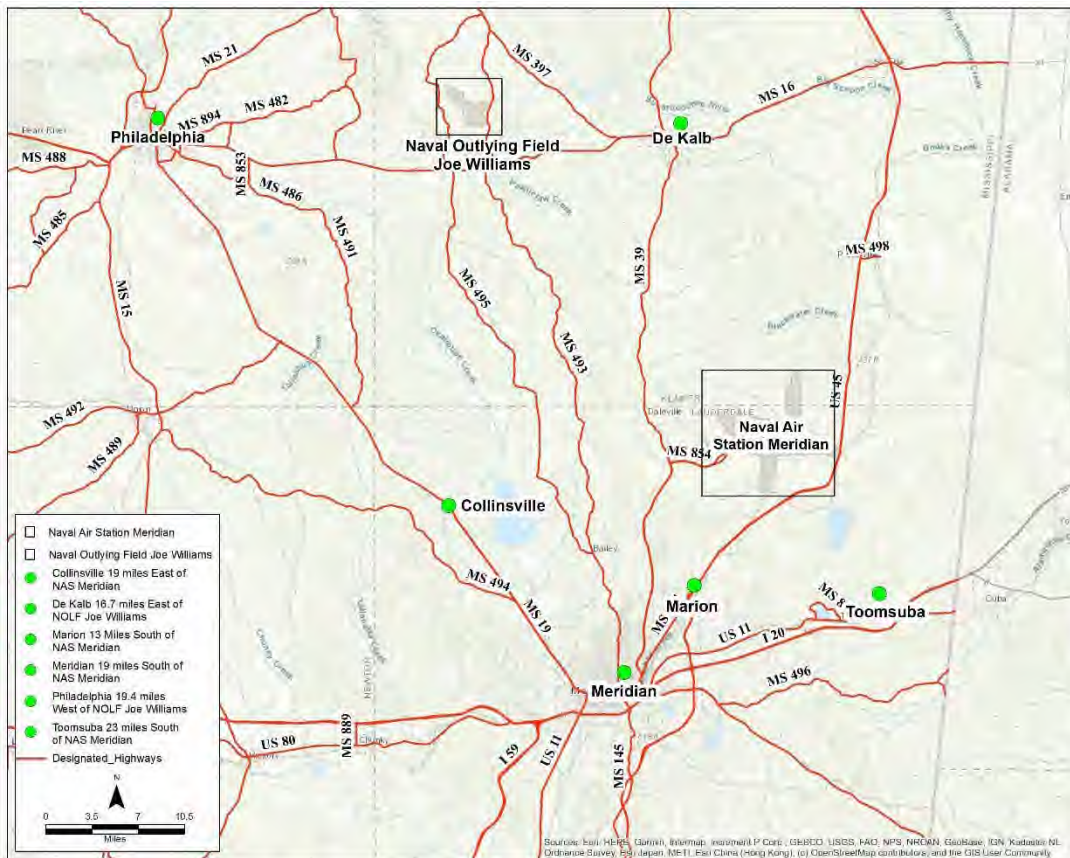


Figure 4-1: NAS Meridian / NOLF Joe Williams Neighboring Communities

4.1.2 Population and Growth

Meridian is the principal city of the Meridian Micropolitan Statistical Area. As of the 2010 census, the city of Meridian had a total population of 41,148. The most recent population density is estimated at 694.56 people per square mile (268.17 per square kilometer)². Comparing the 2000 and 2010 census data, the population of the city increased by approximately 3 percent. Based on the 2010 census data, Meridian's current population distribution is as follows:

Age Group	Number of people	% of total population
Under age 5	3,286	8
5 to 19	9,043	22
20 to 44	13,172	32
45 to 64	16,871	24
65 and over	5,698	14

² This information is based on the American Community Survey 2018 population estimate of 37,325.

The number of males (19,021 or approximately 46 percent of the total population) was slightly less than the number of females (22,127 or approximately 54 percent of the total population). The number of people in the city 18 years and older was 30,191 or 73.4 percent of the total population. The median age for the Meridian population was 35 years old.

The tables below provide population information about the incorporated communities closest to the installations, and the counties in which the facilities are located. Recent population information was not available for the two communities mentioned in section 4.1.1 – Collinsville and Toomsba.

Location	Population (2010)
De Kalb	1,164
Marion	1,479
Philadelphia	7,477
Kemper County	10,456
Lauderdale County	80,261

KEMPER COUNTY (2010 Data)		
Age Group	Number of people	% of total population
Under age 5	696	6
5 to 19	2,185	21
20 to 44	3,154	30
45 to 64	2,786	27
65 and over	1,635	16

LAUDERDALE COUNTY (2010 Data)		
Age Group	Number of people	% of total population
Under age 5	5,698	7
5 to 19	16,927	21
20 to 44	25,719	32
45 to 64	20,599	26
65 and over	11,318	14

4.1.3 Diversity Profile

Based on the U.S. Census Bureau's 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, the racial makeup of Meridian is as follows:

Racial Group	Number of people	% of total population
Black or African American	23,661	60.3
White	14,458	36.9
Two or More Races	420	1.1
Asian	311	0.8
Some Other Race	295	0.8
American Indian and Alaskan Native	68	0.2

The racial makeup of Kemper and Lauderdale Counties is as follows:

Kemper County		
Racial Group	Number of people	% of total population
Black or African American	6,078	60.3
White	3,617	35.9
Two or More Races	9	.1
American Indian and Alaskan Native	378	3.7

Lauderdale County		
Racial Group	Number of people	% of total population
Black or African American	33,518	42.9
White	42,612	54.5
Two or More Races	966	1.2
Asian	525	.7
Some Other Race	449	.6
American Indian and Alaskan Native	126	.2

4.1.4 **Businesses**

According to estimates derived from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, the total population of Meridian (16 years and older) is approximately 30,500. Of this total, 17,944 are in the labor force with the following employment status:

Civilian (Employed)	16,267
Civilian (Unemployed)	1,547
Armed Forces	130

The most recent figures estimate the unemployment rate in the Meridian workforce to be approximately 8.7 percent in 2017.

Major employers include educational services, health care and social assistance; retail trade; and arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food service. These three business categories account for over 50 percent of jobs held by the employed population of Meridian.

Business Category	Number of jobs	% of jobs
Educational Services, Health Care, and Social Assistance	4,469	27.5
Retail Trade	2,134	13.1
Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, Accommodation, and Food Service	1,870	11.5
Manufacturing	1,386	8.5
Construction	1,141	7.0
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	983	6.0
Public Administration	959	5.9
Professional, Scientific, Management, and Administrative and Waste Management Services	869	5.3
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	754	4.6
Other Services (Except Public Administration)	709	4.4
Wholesale Trade	377	2.3
Information	342	2.1
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting, and Mining	274	1.7
Armed Forces	130	0.4

4.1.5 Nearby Regional Centers/Residential Groupings

The major regional population and industrial centers near NAS Meridian are listed in the table below.

Major Regional Centers	Population	Distance (miles) from NAS Meridian
Jackson, MS	164,422	93
Birmingham, AL	212,237	154
New Orleans, LA	391,006	202
Memphis, TN	652,236	231
Atlanta, GA	498,044	297

The area around NAS Meridian is mainly rural. Based on the U.S. Census Bureau's 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates data, there were 19,260 housing units in Meridian, at an average density of 419.6 per square mile (161.8 per square kilometer). The city had 83.2 percent of its housing units occupied. There was an average of 2.6 persons living in each occupied housing unit.

4.1.6 Economics

Based on the U.S. Census Bureau's 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, the median household income for Meridian was \$31,664, and the median income per family was \$40,246. Males had a median income of \$52,323 versus \$36,636 for females. The per capita income for the city was \$22,110. Approximately 29.7% percent of the population and 26.6 percent of families were below the poverty line. Out of the total population, 49.3 percent of those under the age of 18 and 15.2 percent of those 65 and older were living below the poverty line.

Total Household Income	# of households	% of total number of households
Less Than \$10,000	1,763	11.0
\$10,000 to \$14,999	1,674	10.4
\$15,000 to \$24,999	3,196	19.9
\$25,000 to \$34,999	1,916	12.0
\$35,000 to \$49,999	2,062	12.9
\$50,000 to \$74,999	2,097	13.1
\$75,000 to \$99,999	1,438	9.0
\$100,000 to \$149,999	1,219	7.6
\$150,000 to \$199,999	301	1.9
\$200,000 or more	361	2.3
Median household income (dollars)	\$31,664	
Mean household income (dollars)	\$51,160	

4.1.7 Public School Systems

There are currently seven elementary schools, three middle schools, and three high school/alternative education centers serving the Meridian school district. The schools and their locations are listed in the table below.

Grades	School	Location
PreK-5th	Crestwood Elementary	730 Crestwood Drive
PreK-5th	Oakland Heights Elementary	601 59th Avenue
K-5th	Parkview Elementary	1225 26 th Street
PreK-5th	Poplar Springs Elementary	4101 27 th Avenue
K-5th	T.J. Harris Lower Elementary	3930 14 th Street
K-5th	T.J. Harris Upper Elementary	3951 12 th Street
PreK-5th	West Hills Elementary	4100 32nd Street
6th-8th	Carver Middle	900 44 th Avenue
6th-8th	Magnolia Middle	1350 24 th Street
6th-8th	Northwest Middle	4400 32 nd Street
9th-12th	Meridian High School	2320 32 nd Street
Alternative	Marion Park	100 Perry Street
Alternative	Ross Collins Career and Technical Center	2640 24 th Avenue

Kemper County is served by two elementary schools, one middle school, and two high school/alternative education centers. All of the schools are in De Kalb, with the exception of one elementary school that is in Scooba.

The Lauderdale County school system is comprised of four elementary schools, four middle schools, and four high schools.

4.1.8 Need for Translation Services

Based on the U.S. Census Bureau's 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates and experience to date with public meetings and other community outreach initiatives, there is no current need for translation services for non-English speaking residents or for signing for the hearing impaired. If translation becomes a need, the Navy will work with the community to accommodate requests.

4.2 HISTORY OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Throughout the implementation of the Environmental Restoration Program, NAS Meridian has complied with the requirement for public participation during the planning and implementation of removal and remedial actions at the facility by completing the following activities:

- Maintaining an Information Repository and Administrative Record file (found online at: <https://go.usa.gov/xPbC7>).
- Providing opportunities for public input into cleanup decisions by holding Public Comment Periods for Proposed Plans and Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) documents prepared for the program (per Section 16 of the DON ERP).
- Placing notices in the *Meridian Star* and *Kemper County Messenger* to announce the availability of Proposed Plans and EE/Cas (per Section 16 of the DON ERP).
- Placing a notice in the papers to announce the availability of the Five-Year Review for NAS Meridian.

In 2017, NAS Meridian held public meetings in support of an off-base private drinking well water investigation for communities surrounding NAS Meridian and NOLF Joe Williams.

The most recent community involvement activities are related to the community survey conducted as part of the development of this Community Involvement Plan.

4.3 KEY COMMUNITY CONCERNS

One of the methods used by NAS Meridian to update their community involvement planning is to conduct community interviews and surveys. Conducting interviews and surveys allowed NAS Meridian to identify community questions/concerns, information needs, and general useful feedback and recommendations for improving community involvement regarding the base ERP. The most recent community interviews were conducted from April through July 2019 by personnel from the ERP contractor (Tetra Tech). Twenty-three surveys were conducted either over the phone or through an online survey tool. A copy of the survey questions is provided as Appendix D. Respondents included local residents, current NAS Meridian/NOLF

Joe Williams employees, current and past members of the military, public or elected officials, business owners, and civic association members.

The responses from the community surveys are summarized in the following general categories:

- Lack of community involvement in and lack of information about the ERP at NAS Meridian and NOLF Joe Williams;
- Ideas for enhancing the relationship between NAS Meridian/NOLF Joe Williams and the local community and
- General environmental concerns.

Each of these concerns is discussed in more detail in the following sections and in Appendix E.

Lack of Community Involvement in and Lack of Information About the Environmental Cleanup Program at NAS Meridian and NOLF Joe Williams

Twenty of the 23 people surveyed indicated that they were not familiar with the NAS Meridian/Joe Williams Field ERP, and only 1 person indicated that they recalled seeing public notices about the ERP. The survey indicated that the public is interested in receiving more information regarding the ERP and identified the preferred methods and frequency of receiving information. The survey also completed the required assessment of the need to form a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB). There was minimal interest identified in the formation of a RAB; therefore, the formation of a RAB is not recommended at this time.

Ideas for Enhancing the Relationship Between NAS Meridian/NOLF Joe Williams and the Local Community

Thirteen of those surveyed indicated an “Above Average” or “Excellent” perception regarding the level of community involvement, communication, and/or trust about the relationship of NAS Meridian/Joe Williams Field with the surrounding communities. In contrast, five respondents indicated an “Average” rating, while the remaining five respondents selected a “Poor” rating for these topics.

General Environmental Concerns

Survey responses regarding NAS Meridian/Joe Williams Field’s commitment to the environment ranged from Excellent to Poor. Numerous responses indicated concern about issues such as air quality, water quality, and environmental impacts to soil/ground. Concerns extended to the potential environmental impacts on quality of life and health.

Additional concerns were expressed related to noise from base operations and the conditions of base housing and base recycling programs. These issues are not within the scope of the ERP but were passed along to the base for further consideration.

4.4 RESPONSE TO COMMUNITY CONCERNS

NAS Meridian is committed to responding to community concerns and questions raised by the most recent round of interviews as outlined in Section 5 to follow.

4.5 SUMMARY OF COMMUNICATION NEEDS

The recently completed community survey highlighted that the communities around NAS Meridian and NOLF Joe Williams share many of the same concerns.

The survey identified the types of information the participants want to receive relating to the ERP and about the installations in general, as follows:

Information about the ERP the community would like to receive:

- Details and status of cleanup, including what is being cleaned up and how it is being disposed.
- Meetings/events that have been scheduled.
- Impacts on agriculture, forestry, hunting and fishing.
- Opportunities for community involvement.

Information about NAS Meridian and NOLF Joe Williams the community would like to receive:

- Noise abatement, including funding from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).
- Impacts on health and air quality from base actions such as jet traffic.

Issues related to noise abatement and current base activities are not covered by the ERP and therefore are not addressed in this plan. These comments have been shared with the appropriate base representatives.

The survey also identified the preferred communication channels and frequency of distribution, as summarized below:

Preferred methods of communication:

Those interviewed indicated they preferred to receive such information via e-mail and regular mail, with television, newspaper, and meetings listed as other possible alternative methods (in decreasing order of preference).

Preferred frequency of communication:

Eleven of those interviewed stated that they would prefer to be contacted monthly; five respondents stated a preference for quarterly updates, and the remaining four stated that they would like to be contacted whenever new information or updates are available.

5.0 NAS MERIDIAN COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PLAN

The overall goal of the NAS Meridian CIP is to promote effective, two-way communication between the base and the surrounding community regarding the ongoing ERP.

5.1 CIP PROPOSED PATH FORWARD

Since the ERP for NAS Meridian is mature and investigations and remedial actions are in place or proposed for all sites, community involvement activities are expected to decrease over the coming years. The methods described in this section are designed to fulfill CERCLA community involvement requirements for the ERP and to address community interests and/or concerns identified during the survey process.

Method 1: Maintain the ERP Public Website

The U.S. Department of the Navy (Navy) shall continue to maintain a public website regarding the NAS Meridian ERP (<https://go.usa.gov/xPbC7>). This website provides up-to-date information about the ERP to the general public, with an opportunity to include information about public participation activities. It also houses the NAS Meridian and NOLF Joe Williams Administrative Record and Information Repository which contain documents pertinent to the environmental restoration activities at each of the facilities.

Timing: Provide program updates as information becomes available.

Method 2: Regularly Assess Public Interest in Forming a RAB

It is a CERCLA requirement to assess public interest in establishing a RAB. A RAB provides the opportunity for face-to-face exchange of information between local community members, scientists, engineers, and Navy leadership involved in the NAS Meridian ERP.

To determine public interest in establishing a RAB, the base Public Affairs Officer (PAO) will provide a biennial update to the Partnering team on the level of community interest. The next updates will be in 2021 and 2023; this update will be included on the Partnering agenda. A community survey will be conducted every 5 years, in conjunction with the required update of this Community Involvement Plan.

Timing: Partnering team update will be provided every 2 years. Community survey will be conducted every 5 years.

Method 3: Maintain an ERP Mailing List

NAS Meridian will create, maintain, and periodically update accurate mailing lists (postal and e-mail) of all stakeholders, community members, and other parties interested in the NAS Meridian ERP; and relevant

local, state, and federal officials. Also included on these lists will be residents contiguous to the base, local businesses, churches, etc. NAS Meridian will provide program information via postal mail or e-mail to all individuals and organizations on this list. NAS Meridian will continue to solicit interested parties and stakeholders as additions to this list via publication of periodic fact sheets, newspaper articles, etc., and through public meetings and continuous community dialogue. In addition, an email list will be developed for parties interested in accessing the NAS Meridian ERP website and information repository.

Timing: The mailing list will be revised as needed.

Method 4: Publish Public Notices

Public Notices will announce Public Comment Periods and other key milestones in the NAS Meridian ERP. These Public Notices will appear in the *Meridian Star* and *Kemper County Messenger* newspapers, on the NAS Meridian Facebook page, in the base newspaper, and on the NAS Meridian ERP public website to announce these project milestones:

- EE/CA availability for public comment.
- Proposed Plan public comment period.
- Proposed Plan availability.
- Remedial alternative selection.
- Record of Decision signoff.
- Remedial design, action, or settlement that differs significantly from the design, action, or settlement previously proposed and subjected to public comments.

Timing: Post public notices for the project milestones cited above or when there is a need to inform the public.

Method 5: Prepare and Distribute Fact Sheets

Fact sheets that are brief, easy-to-understand documents intended to inform stakeholders about technical information and progress of investigations and cleanups associated with the NAS Meridian ERP. CERCLA requires preparation of fact sheets that summarize Proposed Plans, the Remedial Design after completion, and the Remedial Action before implementation. NAVFAC SE may develop additional fact sheets as needed that discuss various milestones or technical topics throughout the program. Distribution of fact sheets will occur via posting on the NAS Meridian public website, handouts at meetings, and by mail.

Timing: Fact sheets will be prepared upon completion of Proposed Plans and Remedial Designs, and as needed throughout the program.

Method 6: Hold Public Meetings and Public Comment Periods

NAS Meridian will hold Public Meetings and/or 30-day Public Comment Periods as required to provide opportunities for the Navy and the community to share information about proposed cleanup activities and remedial actions, and to allow the public the opportunity to comment about proposed cleanup activities. Public meetings will proceed in a poster session format and may be recorded verbatim by a court reporter. If a meeting is transcribed, the NAVFAC SE will place the transcript in the NAS Meridian ERP Online Information Repository. CERCLA regulations and guidelines require Public Comment periods based on specific project milestones (e.g., at completion of a Proposed Plan for a remedial action or an EE/CA of a removal action). The NAVFAC SE will announce these Public Comment Periods via a Public Notice published in local newspapers, a mailed meeting flyer, e-mail notifications to the base mailing list, on the base Facebook page, and on the public website.

Timing: As required by CERCLA regulations and guidelines. See Chapter 16 of the NERP for more information.

Method 7: Assess Additional Methods of Distributing Information

The Navy will continue to investigate the overall effectiveness of the methods the Meridian community proposes, and periodically will distribute ERP information to the community via mailings and newspaper articles. The Navy will also evaluate potential applicability of other methods identified via the community interview process, including the following:

- Using social media to share information about upcoming meetings and other key ERP information; continuing to use the base Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/NASMeridian>) to post project information.
- Sharing information with local organizations, schools, churches, and civic groups.

Timing: As needed and as information or updates become available.

Method 8: Engage Community and Civic Groups

While continuing to use existing communication channels, NAS Meridian will investigate opportunities for partnerships and additional ways to inform and engage the community and civic groups about the ongoing ERP at NAS Meridian/NOLF Joe Williams Field. Actions in this regard will include but not be limited to the following suggestions from the April through July 2019 community survey:

- Broaden distribution of meeting announcements, updates, and general information as described in Table 5-1.

- Partner with local organizations, civic groups, etc., to participate in local environmentally themed events and activities.
- Engage local community leaders regularly (particularly churches and religious groups).
- Encourage increased participation in such programs by NAS Meridian senior military leadership (including the NAVFAC RPM) and encourage the Public Affairs Officer to publicize such efforts in the local media and on the NAS Meridian public website and Facebook page.
- NAS Meridian, NAVFAC Southeast, and PAO personnel will coordinate efforts to provide maximum visibility of such community partnership opportunities.

Timing: Ongoing.

Method 9: Highlight Navy's Commitment to the Environment:

Craft community involvement products to highlight protection of the environment and natural resources (with particular emphasis on water and air quality), as well as the Navy's commitment to long-term environmental stewardship.

Timing: As needed to supplement ongoing community outreach efforts.

5.2 CIP POINT OF CONTACT

The ERP Manager is the main point of contact for questions regarding the ERP and the CIP and his assigned tasks are:

- Respond to questions regarding the ERP.
- Track community issues and concerns and recommend additional community involvement activities as appropriate.
- Coordinate media inquiries with the NAS Meridian PAO.
- Manage the mailing list for the ERP with assistance from the Navy CLEAN contractor.
- Oversee the status of the Information Repository and Administrative Record with assistance from the Navy CLEAN contractor.
- Attend public involvement activities such as public meetings.

Additional points of contact are provided in Appendix C.

APPENDIX A

**NAS MERIDIAN/NOLF JOE WILLIAMS ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION SITE
FACT SHEETS**

This page intentionally left blank

NAVAL AIR STATION MERIDIAN, MS

FACT SHEET: Site 1 – Former Firefighting Training Area

November 2019

Naval Air Station Meridian
255 Rosenbaum Ave
Meridian, MS 39309



Where is Site 1?

Site 1, a former firefighting training area, is located in a remote area near Rabbit Road approximately 2,000 feet south of the bulk fuel storage area. A circular area in the center of the site is believed to be the former fire-fighting training pit.



What is the history of the site?

Site 1 was in use from 1961 until 1969, when the new firefighting training area (Site 6) was constructed. A circular area at the center of the site, visible in aerial photographs from the mid-1960s, is believed to be the firefighting training pit that was used to burn JP-4 and JP-5 jet fuels and aviation gasoline, as well as waste oil and solvents generated by aircraft and vehicle maintenance activities. The burn pit was likely unlined, and gravel was placed on the ground to provide a suitable surface for training activities. Approximately 1,600 gallons of fuel, waste oil, and solvents were burned each month at Site 1.

What work has been completed to date?

The site investigation, completed in 1992, found five metals (aluminum, antimony, beryllium, iron, and lead) in the groundwater and Aroclor-1260, arsenic, and total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH) in the soil at concentrations requiring further investigation and/or action.

Based on the site investigation, an interim removal action was completed in 1996. This action included the excavation of impacted soil for off-site disposal, the collection of confirmation soil samples to verify the soil removal had been successful, and the backfilling and restoration of the removal areas. A review of the confirmation soil sampling procedures concluded that the sampling program used during the 1996 interim removal action did not conform to Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) guidelines in place at the time. As a result, additional confirmatory soil sampling was conducted in 2002; only metals were detected in subsurface soil and groundwater. Furthermore, concentrations of the detected metals did not pose harm to human health or the environment.

The interim removal action addressed the principal threats posed by contaminants in soil at Site 1 and the site was recommended for No Further Action. The Decision Document for Site 1 was signed in 2007.

A Five-Year Review was prepared for the Site in 2015. The review concluded that the remedy at Site 1 continues to be protective of human health and the environment. Therefore, the site was recommended for site closeout.

What work is planned in the future?

Per the Five-Year Review conclusions and recommendations, the Navy is in the process of closing Site 1 and no further work is planned.

Where can I go for more information?

If you have specific questions regarding the NAS Meridian Environmental Restoration Program, please contact the NAS Meridian Environmental Program Manager at (601) 679-2918. For additional information regarding Site 1 or the ERP at NAS Meridian, please visit our website at <https://go.usa.gov/xPbC7>.

NAVAL AIR STATION MERIDIAN, MS FACT SHEET: Site 2– Jet Engine Test Cell

November 2019

Naval Air Station Meridian
255 Rosenbaum Ave
Meridian, MS 39309



Where is Site 2?

Site 2, the Jet Engine Test Cell, is located near the intersection of the northern and eastern runways at NAS Meridian. Site 2, a paved area of approximately 8,500 square feet, is used for testing the performance of new or repaired jet engines.



What is the history of the site?

Prior to 1975, waste JP-5 fuel, water, and B&B 3100 (a petroleum-based solvent used as an engine gas path cleaner) generated from site activities were collected in a trailer-mounted tank and transported offsite for disposal. Beginning in 1975, a runoff collection system collected the jet wash-related liquid waste in a concrete catch basin. The basin drained to an oil/water separator (OWS), then the runoff from the site was discharged via a drainage swale to an intermittent stream north of the site. This stream drains into the Big Reed Creek drainage basin to the north.

Spills and leaks of waste JP-5 and B&B 3100 into the intermittent stream occurred after the runoff collection system was installed in 1975. The runoff collection system functioned intermittently prior to 1983, when it was upgraded to improve performance. Stained soils were at one time visible over an area approximately 10 feet by 50 feet near the outlet of the OWS. The area with stained soils has been repeatedly disturbed by tree logging equipment, causing significant turnover of the surface soil.

In 1997, the original OWS was replaced with a new double-wall fiberglass OWS containing a holding tank for waste oil. The waste oil is periodically removed and transported offsite for disposal.

What work has been completed to date?

The site investigation (SI), completed in 1992, identified total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH) in soil at concentrations exceeding the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) Target Remediation Goal (TRG). The SI report recommended conducting additional studies to determine the extent of TPH contamination at Site 2.

An expanded site investigation (ESI), conducted in 2007, further evaluated the impacted soil at Site 2. Of the sixteen samples collected, TPH was only detected in ten. Additionally, TPH concentrations were all below the TRG. The 2007 ESI concluded that the TPH concentrations observed in soil during the SI had naturally attenuated over the 15-year period between the two sampling events.

In 2008, groundwater monitoring wells were installed, and water and soil samples were collected in a second ESI. Nine compounds, including TPH, were detected in soil. However, none exceeded their respective TRG values. Four compounds were detected in groundwater, including 1,1-dichloroethane, acetone, benzene, and total xylenes. None of these compounds exceeded their respective groundwater TRGs.

Based on the results of the 1992 SI and the 2007 and 2008 ESIs, no remedial action was necessary to protect human health and the environment from exposure to contaminants in soil and groundwater at Site 2. Site 2 was recommended for No Further Action.

A Five-Year Review was prepared for the site in 2015. The Five-Year Review confirmed that Site 2 continues to be protective of human health and the environment without the necessity of an active remedy, and the site was recommended for closeout.

What work is planned in the future?

Based on the Five-Year Review conclusions, the site is recommended for closeout.

Where can I go for more information?

If you have specific questions regarding the NCBC Environmental Restoration Program, please contact the NAS Meridian Environmental Program Manager at (601) 679-2918. For additional information regarding Site 2 or the ERP at NAS Meridian, please visit our website at <https://go.usa.gov/xPbC7>.

NAVAL AIR STATION MERIDIAN, MS

FACT SHEET: Site 3A – Lake Martha Landfill

November 2019

Naval Air Station Meridian
255 Rosenbaum Ave
Meridian, MS 39309



Where is Site 3A?

Site 3A, the Lake Martha Landfill, is located approximately 1,000 feet northeast of Lake Martha along the base's northern boundary.



What is the history of the site?

Site 3A, the Lake Martha Landfill, commonly referred to as the “Paper Landfill,” was operated from approximately 1968 to 1985. Trench and fill operations took place at this site during its active period. The southern section of the site contained several 50-foot by 12-foot by 10-foot-deep trenches, and the western section contained several 50-foot by 12-foot by 6-foot-deep trenches into which waste material was disposed. These trenches were backfilled with approximately 2.5 feet of fill material after operations ceased in 1985.

Wastes reportedly disposed within the Lake Martha Landfill included cardboard, brush, yard waste, construction debris, and household garbage. Numerous instances of unauthorized dumping of materials such as automobile engines, paint, and solvent cans reportedly occurred. In addition, an estimated 100 to 150 batteries and an unknown number of aerosol cans were also disposed of within the landfill. Site 3A is wooded and not currently in use.

What work has been completed to date?

The Site Investigation (SI), completed in 1992, identified arsenic in the soil at concentrations greater than the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) Target Remediation Goal (TRG) and bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate, iron, lead, and manganese in groundwater at concentrations above the MDEQ TRGs. The SI recommended supplementary investigations to evaluate the potential impact of contaminated groundwater.

An expanded site investigation (ESI), completed in 2007, found arsenic in the surface soil and benzo(a)anthracene, benzo(a)pyrene, benzo(b)fluoranthene, dibenzo(a,h)anthracene, indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene, and arsenic in subsurface soil at concentrations requiring further investigation and/or action. Arsenic and iron were found in sediment and iron and thallium were found in surface soil at concentrations requiring further investigation and/or action.

A second ESI, completed in 2009, included an assessment of the landfill cover thickness and vertical hydraulic conductivity as well as sediment, surface water, and groundwater sampling. The 2009 ESI recommended preparing an engineering evaluation/cost analysis to identify and analyze remedial alternatives for Site 3A. The remedy selected for Site 3A during the engineering evaluation/cost analysis included landfill cover stabilization measures, land use controls to manage the property in a manner that will not damage the landfill cover, and long-term monitoring of groundwater.

A Five-Year Review, prepared in 2015, found the selected remedy for Site 3A to be in place, functioning as designed, and protective of human health and the environment. Exposure pathways that could result in unacceptable risk have been controlled through erosion and slope stability control measures, and are continuing to be controlled through institutional controls that prohibit the following: intrusive activity into or disturbing the existing cover or contents of the landfill; development on the site; and the use of shallow groundwater at the site. There have been no changes in the physical conditions of the site that would affect the protectiveness of the remedy.

Long term groundwater monitoring has been conducted at Site 3A since September 2012. For the first year, groundwater monitoring was conducted semiannually. Monitoring was reduced to annually in April 2014.

What work is planned in the future?

Long-Term Groundwater Monitoring and Land-Use Control inspections are ongoing. Site 3A will be included in the next Five-Year Review, which will be prepared in 2020.

Where can I go for more information?

If you have specific questions regarding the NAS Meridian Environmental Restoration Program, please contact the NAS Meridian Environmental Program Manager at (601) 679-2918. For additional information regarding Site 3A or the ERP at NAS Meridian, please visit our website at <https://go.usa.gov/xPbC7>.

NAVAL AIR STATION MERIDIAN, MS FACT SHEET: Site 3B – Metal Landfill

November 2019

Naval Air Station Meridian
255 Rosenbaum Ave
Meridian, MS 39309



Where is Site 3B?

Site 3B, Metal Landfill, is located along the northwestern portion of the south runway, east of the bulk fuel storage area.



Site 3B Location Map

What is the history of the site?

The Metal Landfill was in operation from the mid-1960s until 1985. This landfill was designated as a metals-only landfill and was primarily used to dispose of scrap materials generated by personnel from the aircraft hangar located northeast of the site. The materials were pushed into the 30-foot-deep ravine, and the disposal areas were then backfilled with sandy fill and concrete. In addition to scrap metal, wastes reportedly disposed within the Metal Landfill included automobile chassis, gasoline tanks, paint cans, and unlabeled 5-gallon cans. Site 3B is wooded and not currently in use. The resulting landfill was approximately 100 feet wide, 140 feet long, and 20 feet deep.

What work has been completed to date?

The Site Investigation (SI), completed in 1992, identified dieldrin, arsenic, and iron in soil and trichloroethene, aluminum, cadmium, iron, lead, manganese, and mercury in groundwater at concentrations requiring further investigation and/or action.

In 2006, an expanded site investigation (ESI) found arsenic and iron in surface and subsurface soil, arsenic in sediment, and thallium in surface water at concentrations that required further investigation and/or action. In 2007, a soil cover was placed on the landfill to cover and contain materials.

A second ESI, completed in 2009, reviewed the results of previous site SIs and recommended preparing an engineering evaluation/cost analysis to identify and analyze remedial alternatives for Site 3B. In 2010, additional data collection activities were performed, including a geophysical survey, landfill gas assessment, test pit/trenching, and soil, sediment, and groundwater sampling. The engineering evaluation/cost analysis determined that a removal action was necessary to protect human health and the environment.

In 2012, surficial and buried waste were removed from the site for offsite disposal, the area was graded, and the site was restored. Two post-remedial action groundwater monitoring events were recommended by the NAS Meridian Tier I Partnering Team and were conducted in July 2012 and January 2013. No compounds were detected at levels of concern. The removal action eliminated the risk of exposure to surficial and buried landfill wastes and the potential for unacceptable risk to human health and the environment. The Action Memorandum for Site 3B was signed in May 2011. Site 3B was recommended for No Further Action status.

A Five-Year Review was prepared for this site in 2015. The Five-Year Review confirmed that the remedy at Site 3B continues to be protective of human health and the environment. There have been no changes in the physical conditions or use of the site that would affect the protectiveness of the remedy. Therefore, the site was recommended for site closeout.

What work is planned in the future?

Based on the Five-Year Review conclusions, the Navy is in the process of closing Site 3B and no further work is planned for this site.

Where can I go for more information?

If you have specific questions regarding the NAS Meridian Environmental Restoration Program, please contact the NAS Meridian Environmental Program Manager at (601) 679-2918. For additional information regarding Site 3B or the ERP at NAS Meridian, please visit our website at <https://go.usa.gov/xPbC7>.

Naval Air Station Meridian
255 Rosenbaum Ave
Meridian, MS 39309



Where is Site 4A?

Site 4A, Sludge Disposal Area 1, is located south of Fuller Road, adjacent to the former wastewater treatment plant.



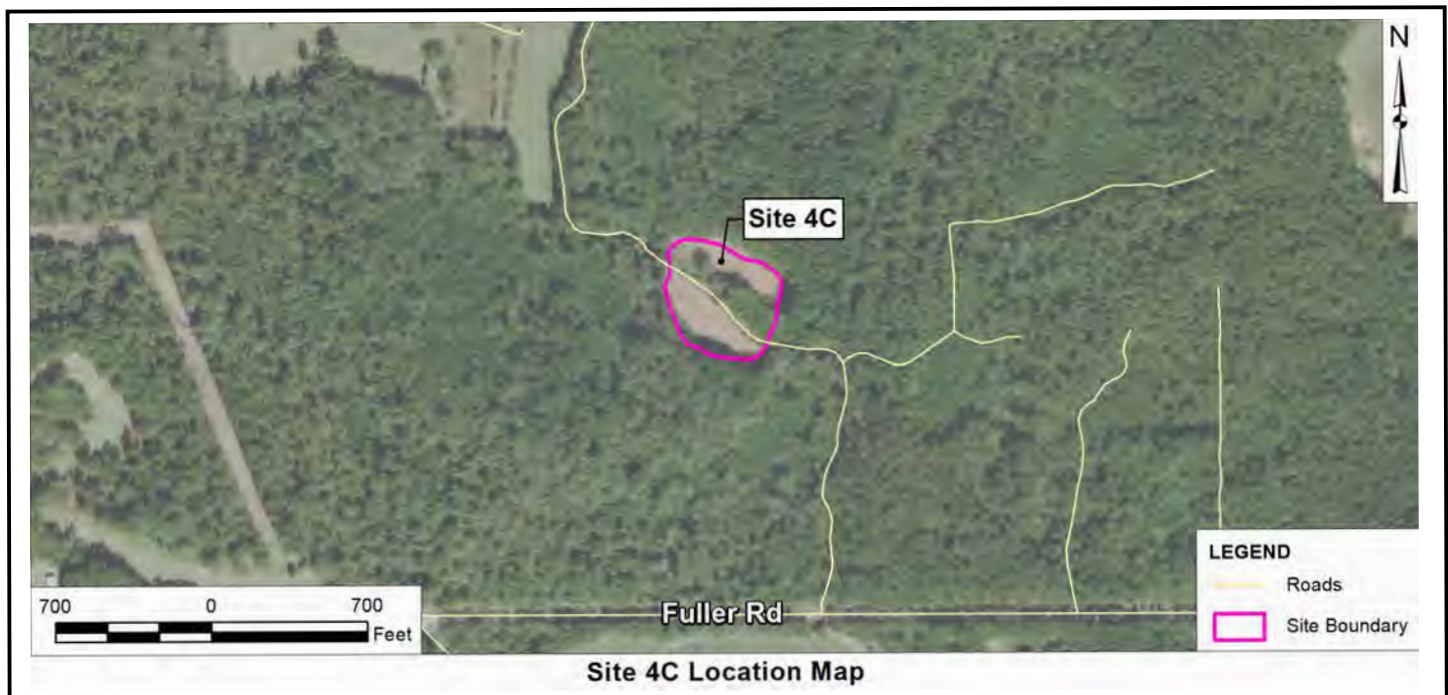
Where is Site 4B?

Site 4B, Sludge Disposal Area 2, is located in a wooded area northeast of the Mud Road and Rabbit Road intersection.



Where is Site 4C?

Site 4C, Sludge Disposal Area 3, encompasses approximately two acres and is located 2,000 feet north of Fuller Road in a remote area of NAS Meridian.



Where is Site 4D?

Site 4D, Sludge Disposal Area 4, is located northeast of Lake Martha along Skip Road.



What is the history of the sites?

Sites 4A, 4B, 4C, and 4D were used as disposal areas for dried sludge generated from a wastewater treatment facility that operated at NAS Meridian from 1961 until 1990.

- **Site 4A**, Sludge Disposal Area 1, was the last sludge disposal area to be used before NAS Meridian's transition to municipal wastewater treatment. Four or more pits excavated at the north end of the site were previously used for grease disposal from the facility cafeterias.
- **Site 4B**, Sludge Disposal Area 2, was used for sewage sludge disposal beginning in January 1988. The exact length of time the site was in use is unknown.
- **Site 4C**, Sludge Disposal Area 3, was used for sludge disposal beginning in either 1983 or 1984 and continued through at least 1989; the exact year disposal activities ceased is unknown. Small piles of sludge were once visible next to the dirt road used to access the site. These sludge piles were not observed during the 1992 site investigation (SI).
- **Site 4D**, Sludge Disposal Area 4, consisted of two small piles of sludge located in an area approximately 6 feet wide by 20 feet long. The period during which Site 4D was used to dispose of sludge is unknown.

What work has been completed to date?

The Site Inspection (SI), completed in 1992, identified the following contaminants in soil at concentrations requiring further investigation and/or action:

Site 4A - Benzo(a)pyrene; arsenic

Site 4B – Arsenic

Site 4C - Arsenic

Site 4D - Benzo(a)pyrene; arsenic

The SI report recommended additional analysis of soil and groundwater at sites 4A, 4B, and 4D.

In 2009, an expanded site investigation (ESI), consisting of additional sampling activities and monitoring well installation, concluded that the impact to soil and groundwater from the surface disposal of wastewater treatment sludge shows no unacceptable risk to human health and the environment at Sites 4A, 4B, 4C, and 4D. Because no remedial action was necessary to ensure protection of human health and the environment, No Further Action (NFA) was recommended for Sites 4A, 4B, 4C, and 4D and a Decision Document (DD) was prepared and signed on December 2, 2010.

A Five-Year Review prepared in 2015 concluded that there have been no changes in the physical conditions of the site that would affect the protectiveness of human health and the environment.

What work is planned in the future?

The next Five-Year Review for Sites 4A, 4B, 4C, and 4D will be prepared in 2020.

Where can I go for more information?

If you have specific questions regarding the NAS Meridian Environmental Restoration Program, please contact the NAS Meridian Environmental Program Manager at (601) 679-2918. For additional information regarding these sites or the ERP at NAS Meridian, please visit our website at <https://go.usa.gov/xPbC7>.

NAVAL AIR STATION MERIDIAN, MS

FACT SHEET: SITE 5 – Former Pesticide Mixing Area

November 2019

Naval Air Station Meridian
Installation Environmental Program Director
PWD Environmental Division
429 Allen Road, Bldg. 429
Meridian MS 39309



Where is Site 5?

Site 5, the Former Pesticide Mixing Area, is located approximately 150 feet east of the Public Works Building (Building 229) and encompasses an area of approximately 100 square feet.



What is the history of the site?

The Former Pesticide Mixing Area was in use from 1961 until 1985. During this time, the area consisted of a storage building and a mixing area. Site activities included mixing and blending pesticides. Spills reportedly occurred in this area during the mixing process. Site 5 is in a developed area, among several buildings and sheds. Site 5 is currently in use as a general equipment storage area for base maintenance.

What work has been completed to date?

The site investigation (SI), completed in 1992, identified three pesticides, 4,4'-DDE, 4,4'-DDT, and dieldrin, as well as arsenic at concentrations requiring further investigation and/or action. An interim removal action was conducted in 1996. During this action, soil was excavated from the site, confirmation samples were collected, and the evacuated area was backfilled and restored.

A review of the 1996 confirmation soil sampling results concluded that the sampling program used during the interim removal action did not conform to Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) guidelines in place at the time. Additional sampling conducted in 2002 and found arsenic in soil and manganese in groundwater at concentrations above the MDEQ Target Remediation Goal (TRG). Because residual soil and

groundwater contaminants were found, long-term monitoring (LTM) was recommended. Beginning in February 2007, groundwater LTM was conducted semiannually.

A Five-Year Review, completed in 2018, found that the selected remedy at Site 5 continues to be protective of human health and the environment. The immediate risk to human health and the environment was eliminated by removing impacted soil during the interim removal action. There have been no changes in the physical conditions of use of the site that would affect the protectiveness of the remedy.

What work is planned in the future?

Long term monitoring is currently being conducted on an annual basis and Land Use Control inspections are conducted semiannually. Site 5 will be included in the next Five-Year Review.

Where can I go for more information?

If you have specific questions regarding the NAS Meridian Environmental Restoration Program, please contact the NAS Meridian Environmental Program Manager at (601) 679-2918. For additional information regarding Site 5 or the ERP at NAS Meridian, please visit our website at <https://go.usa.gov/xPbC7>.

NAVAL AIR STATION MERIDIAN, MS FACT SHEET: Site 6 – Former Firefighting Training Area

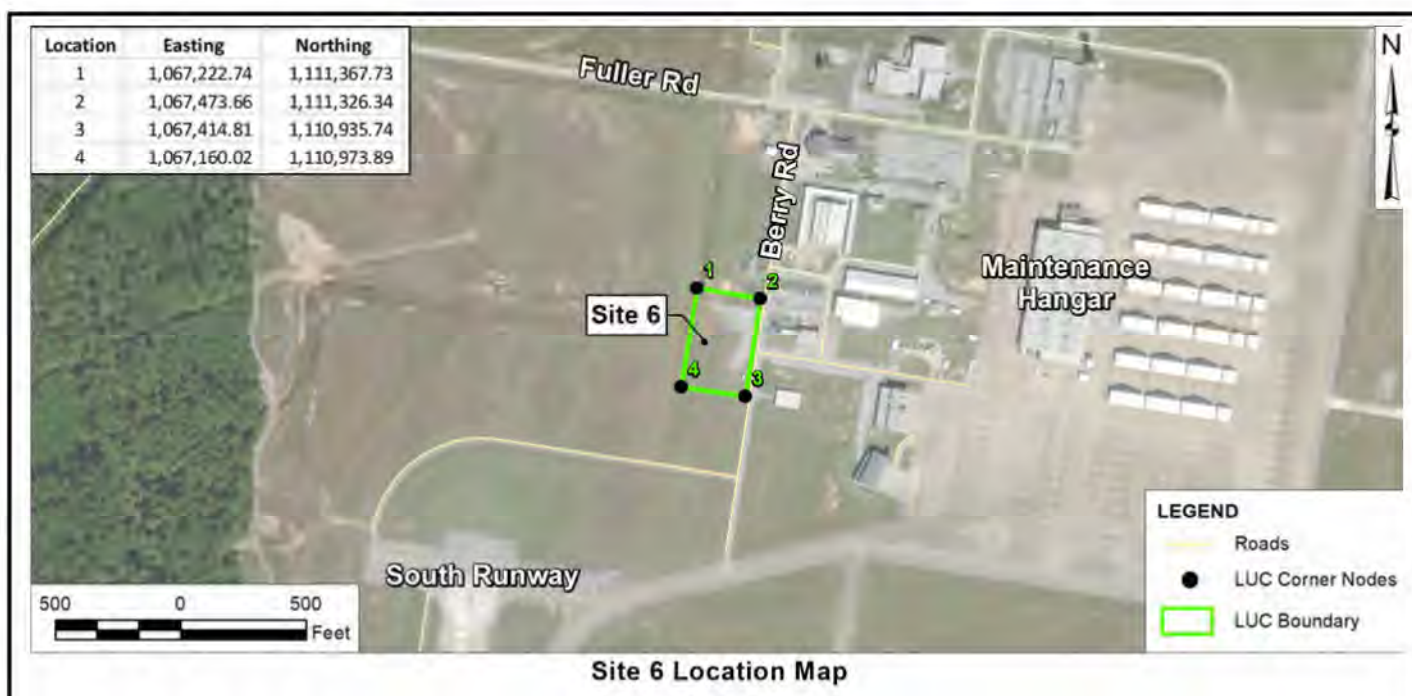
November 2019

Naval Air Station Meridian
255 Rosenbaum Ave
Meridian, MS 39309



Where is Site 6?

Site 6, the Former Firefighting Training Area, is located along the west side of Barry Road in a cleared area northeast of the south runway.



What is the history of the site?

Site 6, the Former Firefighting Training Area, was in use from approximately 1969 (when the previous firefighting training area, Site 1, was closed) until 1987. The site contained three concrete lined circular burn pits, drainage pipes, an oil/water separator (OWS), a waste oil underground storage tank (UST), drums, and debris. In addition, fuel stains were visible on the soil around each of the circular burn pits. Approximately 400 gallons of JP-5, JP-4, aviation gasoline, and some fuel contaminated water were burned in the circular pits during each of approximately four monthly training exercises. Waste oil containing solvents, generated during aircraft and vehicle maintenance operations, was occasionally burned during training exercises as well. The small burn pit was reportedly also once used for temporary storage (less than 90 days) of hazardous waste. Site 6 is located in a cleared, generally flat, and grassy area near the south runway. Site 6 is currently used for mobile contractor offices and as a laydown site for contractor equipment.

What work has been completed to date?

The site investigation, completed in 1992, identified dieldrin, arsenic, and total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH) in soil and dieldrin, aluminum, antimony, barium, beryllium, iron, and manganese in groundwater at concentrations requiring further investigation and/or action.

An interim removal action, completed in 1996, included excavating impacted soil for off-site disposal and collecting confirmation soil samples to verify the soil removal had been successful. A review of the 1996 confirmation soil sampling results concluded that the sampling program used during the interim removal action did not conform to Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) guidelines in place at the time. Additional confirmatory soil sampling, conducted in 2002, found dieldrin, TPH, arsenic, iron, and mercury were detected in soil and aluminum, barium, beryllium, iron, lead, and manganese in groundwater at levels requiring further investigation and/or action. Long term monitoring of groundwater began in January 2006.

A Five-Year Review, prepared for the Site in 2015, found the remedy selected at Site 6 to be protective of human health and the environment. The immediate risk to human health and the environment was eliminated by removing the impacted soil and structures. It was recommended that a downgradient monitoring well be installed and groundwater sampling for VOCs, SVOCs, pesticides, PCBs, metals, and TPH be conducted.

What work is planned in the future?

Long term monitoring and Land Use Control inspections continue to be conducted on a semiannual basis. Site 6 will be included in the next Five-Year Review.

Where can I go for more information?

If you have specific questions regarding the NAS Meridian Environmental Restoration Program, please contact the NAS Meridian Environmental Program Manager at (601) 679-2918. For additional information regarding Site 6 or the ERP at NAS Meridian, please visit our website at <https://go.usa.gov/xPbC7>.

NAVAL AIR STATION MERIDIAN, MS

FACT SHEET: SITE 7 – Turnkey Generator Lift Station

November

Naval Air Station Meridian
255 Rosenbaum Ave
Meridian, MS 39309



Where is Site 7?

Site 7, the Turnkey Generator Lift Station, is located on the western portion of the base in the housing development area of NAS Meridian.



Site 7 is a former lift station that was used to collect and transfer sewage from the base housing units to an onsite wastewater treatment plant until 1990. The onsite wastewater treatment plant was in operation from 1961 until 1990. After 1990, the lift station transferred waste to an offsite municipal wastewater treatment plant. The lift station was decommissioned in 2008 when the housing units associated with the lift station were demolished.

The former lift station consisted of transfer pumps, a backup generator, two sumps, and one diesel fuel aboveground storage tank (AST). The AST had a capacity of 500 gallons and was used to power the backup generator.

What work has been completed to date?

In February 2007, diesel leaked from the backup generator. Because Site 7 is located adjacent to the NAS Meridian perimeter fence, some of the diesel fuel migrated offsite, onto property not owned by the federal government. The former residential area surrounding Site 7 is mainly flat and currently consists of a large grass field with small trees scattered throughout the area. Site 7 is not currently in use and the site is not maintained by NAS Meridian public works personnel.

An initial soil removal action was conducted in 2007, and approximately 168 tons of petroleum contaminated soils were removed for offsite disposal. Confirmatory soil sampling was conducted and total petroleum hydrocarbon (TPH) was found in remaining soil at concentrations requiring further investigation and/or action.

An engineering evaluation/cost analysis performed in 2011 selected additional soil removal as the site remedy. The risk to human health and the environment was eliminated by removing the diesel-impacted soil. The Action Memorandum for Site 7 was signed in November 2011.

A Five-Year Review, prepared in 2015, found that there have been no changes in the physical conditions or use of the site that would affect the protectiveness of the remedy at Site 7 and that the remedy continues to be protective of human health and the environment.

What work is planned in the future?

Based on the results of the Five-Year Review, the site is recommended for closeout.

Where can I go for more information?

If you have specific questions regarding the NCBC Environmental Restoration Program, please contact the NCBC Environmental Program Manager at (601) 679-2918. For additional information regarding Site 7 or the ERP at NAS Meridian, please visit our website at <https://go.usa.gov/xPbC7>.

NAVAL AIR STATION MERIDIAN, MS FACT SHEET: Site 9 – Bulk Fuel Storage Area

November

Naval Air Station Meridian
255 Rosenbaum Ave
Meridian, MS 39309



Where is Site 9?

Site 9 is located in the central portion of NAS Meridian, between Fuller Road and Rabbit Road, approximately 2,000 feet west of the south runway.



What is the history of the site?

Site 9, the Bulk Fuel Storage Area, is the location where fuel was delivered from 1961 until 1978 by rail car tankers along a former spur that entered the site from the south. During this time, fuel was unloaded from the rail car tankers using belowground transfer piping, located along the spur near the western edge of the site, and transferred to three aboveground storage tanks (ASTs). In 1979, the railroad spurs were removed and fuel was delivered using tanker trucks and an underground pipeline. In 1993, during replacement of a waterline transecting the site, contaminated soil and liquid-phase petroleum products were discovered. The waterline replacement was temporarily halted due to safety concerns related to the presence of liquid-phase petroleum products and contaminated soil. Only contaminated soil near the waterline was excavated and disposed offsite. In 2011, during a routine Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasures Plan inspection, damage to a well associated with Site 9 was noted. Upon further inspection by NAS Meridian Environmental personnel, the well was observed to bear absorbent material that contained liquid-phase petroleum products. Additionally, a strong petroleum odor was observed coming from the well. Site 9 currently receives fuel via tanker trucks and an underground pipeline. Fuel is then stored in three 1-million-gallon ASTs located onsite.

What work has been completed to date?

In 2010, during the Expanded Site Investigation (ESI), subsurface soil samples were collected from the site and analyzed for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and results showed low-level detections, including fuel constituents and chlorinated solvents. Additional soil and groundwater investigations were deemed necessary to determine the nature and extent of contamination at the site.

In 2012 and 2013, a remedial investigation was conducted. During this investigation, semivolatile organic compounds (SVOCs), metals, and total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH) were detected in soil. VOCs and metals were detected in groundwater at concentrations requiring further investigation and/or action. A human health risk assessment was conducted to evaluate potential human health risks associated with exposure to soil and groundwater. The results of the risk assessment did not identify any contaminants of concern for soil. However, several VOCs and SVOCs were identified as contaminants of concern for groundwater, including: benzene, ethylbenzene, TCE, benzo(a)anthracene, dibenz(a,h)anthracene, pentachlorophenol, naphthalene, and 1,1-biphenyl.

In 2016, a pilot study began, whereby subsurface soils containing free-phase petroleum were excavated using Hydrovac and the excavations were backfilled with a long-term oxygen release compound to stimulate biodegradation of dissolved-phase petroleum hydrocarbons in groundwater.

What work is planned in the future?

Currently, groundwater performance monitoring activities associated with the pilot study are being performed. The pilot study is expected to continue through 2020. A Feasibility Study (FS) is underway to determine the best course of action for clean-up at Site 9.

Where can I go for more information?

If you have specific questions regarding the NAS Meridian Environmental Restoration Program, please contact the NAS Meridian Environmental Program Manager at (601) 679-2918. For additional information regarding Site 9 or the ERP at NAS Meridian, please visit our website at <http://go.usa.gov/xPbC7>.

NAVAL AIR STATION MERIDIAN, MS FACT SHEET: Site 10 – Lake Opal Landfill

August 2020

Naval Air Station Meridian
255 Rosenbaum Ave
Meridian, MS 39309



Where is Site 10?

Site 10, the Lake Opal Landfill, is a former landfill (approximately 3 acres) located north of Fuller Road and to the northwest of man-made Lake Opal.



What is the history of the site?

Site 10 was reportedly used for disposal of NAS Meridian-generated construction debris, scrap metal, Base refuse, and other unknown materials from 1980 until 1990. The specific contents of the landfill were not documented, but NAS Meridian Environmental personnel report that metallic and non-metallic construction debris were dumped and buried. Construction debris was reportedly pushed or dumped into the ravine with portions of the debris covered at various times with onsite soil. After disposal activities ceased in 1990, a cover using available onsite soil was placed over a portion of the debris. No known chemical spills or releases occurred during disposal activities at Site 10. Currently, Site 10 is located within an area of open field covered by 3- to 5-year-old pine trees and grass.

What work has been completed to date?

In 2013 and 2014, a Remedial Investigation was conducted at Site 10. Laboratory analytical results found no compounds detected above the project screening criteria or background concentrations for the area. The footprint of the buried debris was also mapped during the investigation. Although the presence of the debris did not appear

to have negatively impacted the adjacent soil or groundwater, the presence of buried and exposed debris was considered a safety risk.

In 2017, an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis was completed to evaluate alternatives for managing the buried debris at Site 10. Removal of buried and surficial debris was selected as the preferred alternative. The Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis was made available to the public for a 30-day comment period on June 27, 2017. No comments were received.

In 2018, an Action Memorandum was completed which documented the approval of the proposed removal action for Site 10. The Action Memorandum documented that the goal for Site 10 was to mitigate potential risks to human health and the environment from buried and surface debris, while satisfying project implementation and cost requirements.

Excavation of buried debris began in April 2019. Approximately 5,000 cubic yards of soil and debris were excavated from two distinct disposal areas and transported to a processing area. The debris removed from the excavation areas consisted of concrete, asphalt, rebar and other metals, roof tar, and rock debris. Combined debris and soil were screened using a mobile screening plant to separate recyclable materials (concrete), non-recyclable materials, and soil. Screened soil was stockpiled and analyzed to evaluate suitability for reuse as backfill. All screened soil met the guidelines for reuse as backfill material and was returned to the excavation areas. A total of 150 cubic yards of recyclable materials were recovered and transported off-site for recycling. An additional 621 tons of non-hazardous, non-recyclable debris was transported off-site for disposal at Waste Management's Pine Ridge Recycling and Disposal Facility. Upon completion of the project, the disturbed areas were graded and stabilized using hydroseeding and various other erosion control methods. The project was completed in May 2019.

The Removal Action Completion Report indicated that all remedial action objectives were achieved. Surface and subsurface debris were removed and the potential risks to human health and the environment were eliminated. No Further Action with Unrestricted Use/Unrestricted Exposure site closure was recommended.

On June 29, 2020, the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality issues a letter notifying the Navy of its full concurrence with the Removal Action Completion Report and would offer adequate support for a declaration of No Further Action with Unrestricted Use/Unrestricted Exposure site closure.

What work is planned in the future?

No additional remedial actions are planned for Site 10. The Navy will submit a letter to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality officially requesting No Further Action with Unrestricted Use/Unrestricted Exposure for Site 10.

Where can I go for more information?

If you have specific questions regarding the NAS Meridian Environmental Restoration Program, please contact the NAS Meridian Environmental Program Manager at (601) 679-2918. For additional information regarding Site 10 or the ERP at NAS Meridian, please visit our website at <https://go.usa.gov/xPbC7>.

NAVAL AIR STATION MERIDIAN, MS

FACT SHEET: Small Arms Range (SAR) West

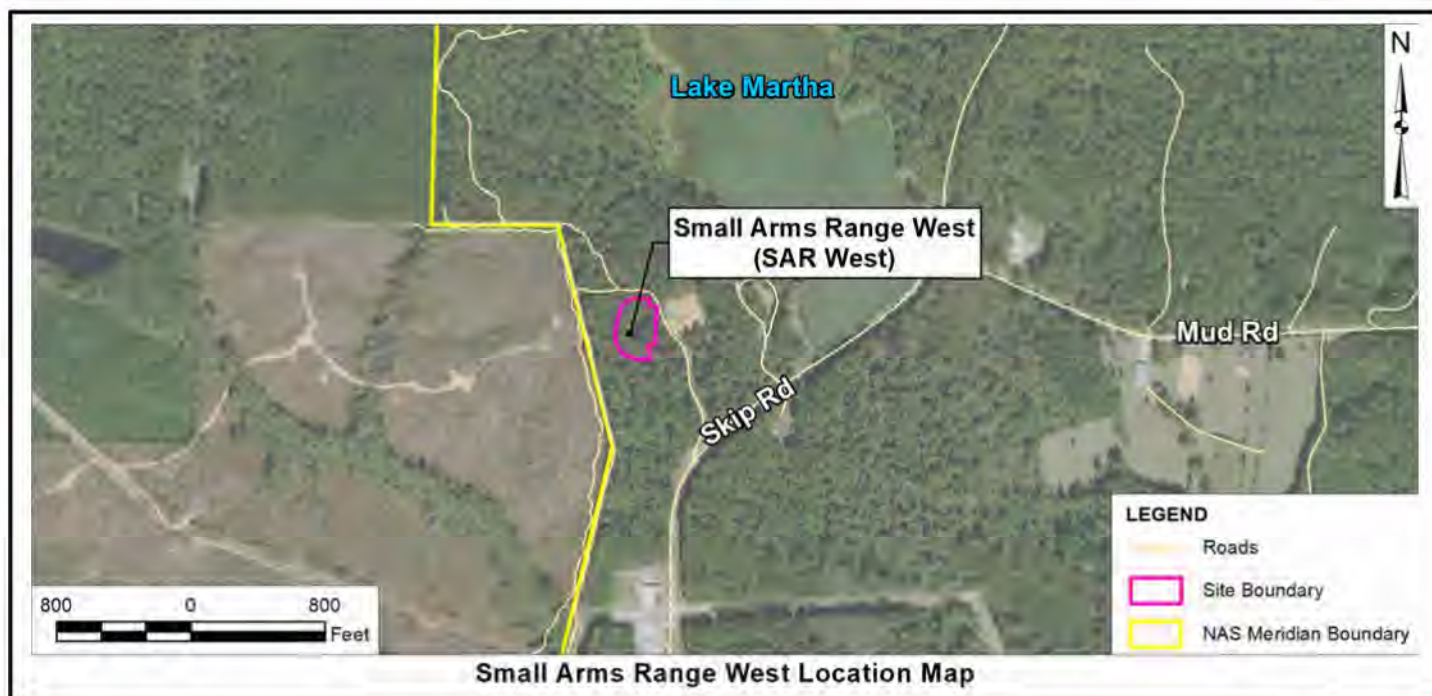
November 2019

Naval Air Station Meridian
255 Rosenbaum Ave
Meridian, MS 39309



Where is Small Arms Range (SAR) West?

SAR West is located in the western portion of NAS Meridian, approximately 0.2 miles west of Lake Martha. It can be found along a north-south dirt access road that connects to Whitaker Boulevard near the southern edge of Lake Martha.



What is the history of the site?

Small Arms Range (SAR) West was identified as a site during the Munitions Response Program (MRP) Preliminary Assessment (PA) conducted in 2013. Construction planning for SAR West began in 1963, and by 1968 the range was receiving heavy use from hunters and shooters in training. The range was used for both recreational shooting and organized competition until it was closed in 1978. Although the exact number and types of ammunition used at SAR West are unknown, SAR ammunition is a potential source of munitions constituents (MC). Possible MC include antimony, arsenic, copper, lead, nickel, and zinc; lead is the primary risk driver. The area is currently covered in vegetation and the berm is partially intact, with soil mounds scattered throughout the area.

What work has been completed to date?

The site investigation, conducted in 2015 and 2016, included digital geophysical mapping, berm trenching activities, and soil and groundwater sampling. Results of the field sampling activities at SAR West indicated that antimony, copper, and lead concentrations in berm soil and lead concentrations in surface soil exceeded background concentrations and at least one screening criterion. Berm soil was found to contain more than 4 percent bullets and bullet fragments based on metals concentrations in the three trenches that were excavated. The presence of bullets and bullet fragments at SAR West poses a source of metals that could contaminate environmental media in the future. An engineering evaluation/cost analysis recommended removal of berm soil. The removal action was completed in the spring of 2019.

What work is planned in the future?

An Action Memorandum will be completed to document the No Further Action determination by the NAS Meridian Partnering Team.

Where can I go for more information?

If you have specific questions regarding the NAS Meridian Environmental Restoration Program, please contact the NAS Meridian Environmental Program Manager at (601) 679-2918. For additional information regarding SAR West or the ERP at NAS Meridian, please visit our website at <https://go.usa.gov/xPbC7>.

NAVAL AIR STATION MERIDIAN, MS FACT SHEET: Naval Outlying Landing Field Joe Williams

November 2019

Naval Air Station Meridian
255 Rosenbaum Ave
Meridian, MS 39309



Where is Naval Outlying Landing Field Joe Williams?

Naval Outlying Landing Field (NOLF) Joe Williams is located approximately 19 miles northwest of NAS Meridian in Kemper County, MS.



NOLF Joe Williams Location Map

What is the history of NOLF Joe Williams?

NOLF Joe Williams is an outlying landing field supporting NAS Meridian, located in east-central Mississippi, approximately 19 miles northwest of NAS Meridian. Formerly known as outlying field "Bravo," it was renamed in 1987 after Captain Joe W. Williams, Jr., NAS Meridian's second commanding officer and the recipient of the Navy Cross. NOLF Joe Williams is currently operated by NAS Meridian's Air Operations Department with a primary mission to support Training Air Wing One undergraduate pilot training. The facility consists of one 8,000-foot runway that provides increased capacity and capabilities for Student Naval Aviator Training and several buildings located in the Main Operations Area south of the runway. Training conducted at NOLF Joe Williams includes touch-and-go operations, low approaches, and field carrier landing practice. No aircraft are currently stationed at NOLF Joe Williams. Personnel stationed at NOLF Joe Williams consist of fire-fighting, flight operations, and emergency response personnel.

What work has been completed to date?

A Preliminary Assessment (PA) was conducted in 2018 and recommended 23 areas to be included in a Site Inspection (SI). Site assessment activities associated with the SI are currently ongoing.

What work is planned in the future?

If necessary, additional environmental assessment activities will be conducted based on the findings in the SI report.

Where can I go for more information?

If you have specific questions regarding the NAS Meridian Environmental Restoration Program, please contact the NAS Meridian Environmental Program Manager at (601) 679-2918. For additional information regarding NOLF Joe Williams or the ERP at NAS Meridian, please visit our website at <https://go.usa.gov/xPbC7>.

APPENDIX B
NAVY ERP PROCESS

This page intentionally left blank

THE NAVY ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM (ERP) PROCESS

The Environmental Restoration Program (ERP) is the Department of the Navy (DoN) initiative to identify, investigate, and clean up contamination resulting from past waste disposal practices and accidental spills. The ERP is a step-by-step procedural process that is executed in accordance with the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) program. CERCLA was enacted in 1980 and is more commonly known as the Superfund cleanup program. The steps in the DoN ERP are fully consistent with the CERCLA program and EPA policy and guidance. These steps are listed below.

Preliminary Assessment (PA): The first step in the cleanup program is to identify those sites that may need to be cleaned up. This first step is designed to distinguish between sites that pose little or no threat to human health or the environment and sites that may pose a threat and require further investigation. This stage involves a review of historical documents and a visual site inspection. If the PA step identifies sites that are recommended for further investigation, those sites move on to the next step (site investigation).

Site Investigation (SI): The site investigation (SI) step collects more information through sampling and laboratory analysis. Media samples (such as water and soil) are typically collected during the SI step to confirm or deny the presence of potentially hazardous substances. If the additional sampling confirms that hazardous substances are present, those sites are then moved on to the next step in the investigation.

Remedial Investigation (RI): This step determines the type and extent of contamination at the site. The RI is designed to learn more about the site contamination and determine if any known contamination is leaving (i.e., migrating from) the site. During this phase, samples are usually collected from the soil, groundwater, surface water (such as creeks or lakes), soils and sediments. The resulting data provide information about the extent of possible contamination and rate of migration, if applicable. Interim cleanup actions to address contamination of immediate concern may also be taken at this time.

Risk Assessment: As part of the RI, a risk assessment is also conducted to identify potential impacts on human health and the environment.

Feasibility Study (FS): The next step in the process is called the Feasibility Study (FS). The FS develops and evaluates remedial alternatives for cleaning up the site. The FS may be conducted concurrently with the RI. The data collected in the RI influence the development of remedial (i.e., cleanup) alternatives able to meet the environmental standards, considering factors such as the degree of contamination and potential human health and environmental risks. A variety of remedial methods are considered, including the "No Action" alternative.

Proposed Plan: The Proposed Plan summarizes the remedial alternatives presented in the FS and proposes a preferred remedy.

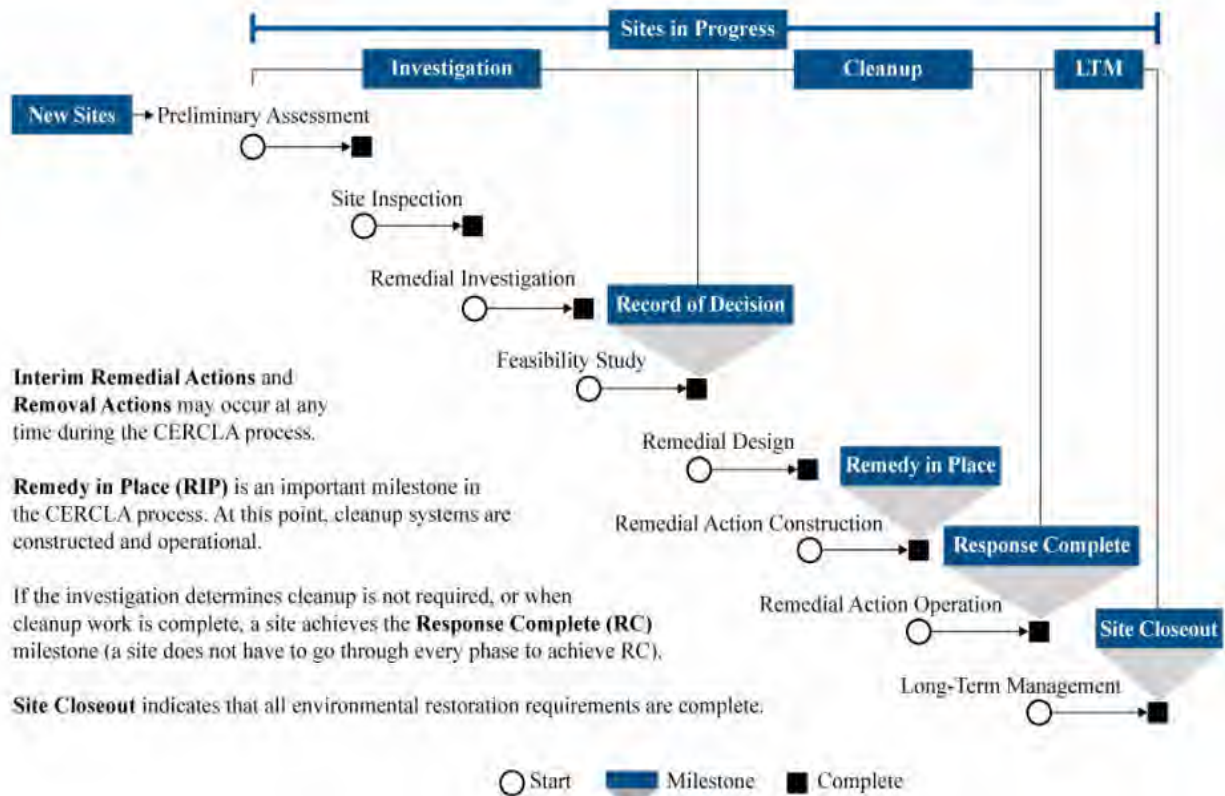
Public Comment Period: A formal comment period is held for each Proposed Plan to provide an opportunity for public participation in the decision-making process. Site information is compiled and placed in the general ERP Information Repositories established at local libraries for public review. The public comments are reviewed and the responses are recorded in a document called a Responsiveness Summary.

Record of Decision: At the end of the public comment period an appropriate remedial alternative is chosen to protect human health and the environment. The Record of Decision (ROD) document is issued that explains the selected remedial action and includes the Responsiveness Summary.

Remedial Design (RD)/Remedial Action (RA): The environmental cleanup remedy is implemented during this final phase. The RD phase is where the technical specifications for cleanup remedies and technologies are designed. The RA is the actual construction or implementation phase of the cleanup process.

(Actions completed after the RD/RA phase will vary according to site conditions and can include remedial action operation and long-term management. Appropriate milestones following RD/RA typically include remedy in place, response complete and (finally) site closeout. Please see the Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) manual for additional details regarding the overall Environmental Restoration process available at the following location:

<http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/corres/pdf/471520m.pdf>



APPENDIX C

NAVY, FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONTACTS

This page intentionally left blank

Name Title	Address	Contact Information
Capt. Brian S. Horstman NAS Meridian Commanding Officer	Naval Air Station Meridian 255 Rosenbaum Ave Meridian, MS 39309	(601) 679-2211
Penny Randall NAS Meridian Public Affairs Director	Naval Air Station Meridian 255 Rosenbaum Ave Meridian, MS 39309	(601) 679-2602
JP Beaudouin NAS Meridian Installation Environmental Program Director	Naval Air Station Meridian 255 Rosenbaum Ave Meridian, MS 39309	(601) 679-2922
J.D. Spalding Naval Facilities Southeast RPM	Naval Facilities Engineering Command Naval Air Station Jacksonville 135 Ajax Street Jacksonville, FL 32212-0030	(904) 542-2635

NAVY, STATE, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONTACTS

AGENCY	
Navy	
Navy	https://www.navy.com/
Local Government	
City of Meridian	https://www.meridianms.org/
State Government	
Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality RPM	Jimmy Crellin, (601) 961-5049
NAS Meridian Specific	
NAS Meridian	https://www.cnic.navy.mil/regions/cnrse/installations/nas_meridian.html
NAS Meridian Facebook Page	https://www.facebook.com/NASMeridian/

This page intentionally left blank

APPENDIX D

COMMUNITY INTERVIEW QUESTIONNAIRE

This page intentionally left blank

NAS Meridian Community Involvement Plan

A number of sites have been identified where historical releases of hazardous substances have occurred at both NAS Meridian and Joe Williams Field. Navy personnel have been working closely with the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality since the early 1980s to identify, investigate, and restore these sites.

This effort requires a commitment to the community through continuous community involvement. Any information you provide will be kept strictly confidential and will only be used to prepare summary updates to the community involvement plan in a manner which will keep your identity private.

Please feel free to be open and candid with your responses - all responses will remain anonymous. This questionnaire is designed to capture the same information that will be gathered during in-person interviews and focus groups.

* Required

1. Do you live in the vicinity of NAS Meridian? *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

2. If yes, how long have you lived there?

3. Do you live in the vicinity of Joe Williams Field? *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

4. If yes, how long have you lived there?

5. How would you describe your current relationship with NAS Meridian/Joe Williams Field? *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ NAS Meridian Employee
- ☐ Joe Williams Field Employee
- ☐ Military/Former Military
- ☐ Environmental Group
- ☐ Local Resident
- ☐ Public/Elected Official
- ☐ Business Owner
- ☐ Civic Group/Homeowner Association
- ☐ Other: _____

6. If you checked other above, please describe.

7. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 5 being EXCELLENT and 1 being POOR, how would you describe NAS Meridian/Joe Williams Field's relationship to the surrounding community in the following key areas? *

Mark only one oval per row.

		5 (Excellent)	4	3	2	1 (Poor)
Community Involvement		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Trust		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Open Communication		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Commitment to the Environment		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
In General (overall)		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

8. If you selected Poor for any of the options, please explain why.

Environmental

9. In general, how would you describe the community's attitude toward environmental issues? *

10. What environmental issues tend to be the most important to the people in the Meridian area (energy, water, air, etc.)? *

11. Are you familiar with the environmental cleanup program at NAS Meridian/Joe Williams Field? *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

12. If yes, what is your understanding of the program?

13. Some communities surrounding Navy bases have formed a Restoration Advisory Board as a forum for community involvement in the Navy's environmental cleanup program. Do you feel there is a need to form a Restoration Advisory Board for NAS Meridian and/or Joe Williams Field? *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

14. Would you be interested in serving on a Restoration Advisory Board if one is formed? *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

15. Do you feel environmental issues at NAS Meridian or Joe Williams Field may have affected the community? *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

16. If yes, in what ways (i.e., health, property values, quality of life, etc.)?

Information/Communication

17. Have you ever seen public notices about the NAS Meridian environmental cleanup program? *

Mark only one oval.

☐ Yes

☐ No

18. If yes, where did you see them?

19. Would you like to receive more information about the ongoing environmental cleanup program at NAS Meridian/Joe Williams Field? *

Mark only one oval.

☐ Yes

☐ No

20. What type of information do you most want/need to know about NAS Meridian/Joe Williams Field?

21. How would you like to receive the information?

22. How often would you like to receive this information?

23. How do you typically get your information about the environmental cleanup program?

24. Thinking about how people in the area get their news and information, what is the most popular area: Newspaper?

25. TV Station?

26. Local cable station?

27. Radio Station?

28. Local Online Site/Social Media?

29. Other source(s) of information?

30. Do you consider your sources of information about NAS Meridian/Joe Williams Field to be reliable and accurate? *

Mark only one oval.

☐

Yes

☐

No

Besides receiving information, would you like to be involved in the process in any other way?

31. Have you had reason to contact NAS Meridian officials regarding environmental issues on the installation?

Mark only one oval.

☐

Yes

☐

No

32. If yes, have they been responsive to your concerns? Please explain.

33. Please use the space below to provide any other comments or suggestions.

34. If you indicated that are interested in serving on a Restoration Advisory Board, or would like to be contacted by a base representative, please provide your contact information (phone or e-mail) and name below, along with the reason you would like to be contacted. This information will not be included in the community involvement plan update.

35. Who else in the community should we talk to? Please provide name, affiliation, email address and/or phone number.

Thank you!

We appreciate you taking the time to complete this survey. Your participation is important to the ongoing environmental cleanup program at NAS Meridian and Joe Williams Field and will enable us to update the Community Involvement Plan to help address current community questions and concerns.

If you have any comments or concerns regarding this process or this survey, please contact Penny Randall, Public Affairs Officer, at (601) 679-2602.

Powered by



APPENDIX E

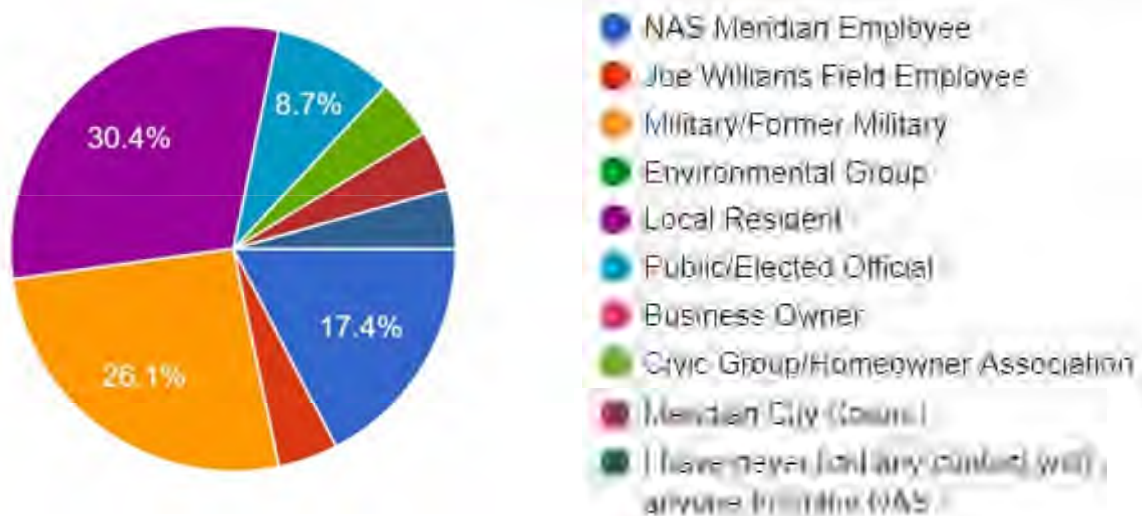
SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY COMMENTS BY CATEGORY

This page intentionally left blank

23 Individuals Responded to the Survey

Who They Are:

They classified their relationship in the following ways:



Description of relationship	Number selecting this response
Local Resident	7
Former Military	6
NAS Meridian Employee	4
Public/Elected Official	2
Joe Williams Field Employee	1
Civic Group/Homeowner Association	1
Meridian City Council	1
I have never had any contact with anyone from the NAS	1
Environmental Group	0
Business Owner	0

Where they live:

15 people (65%) live near NAS Meridian

8 people (35%) live near NOLF Joe Williams

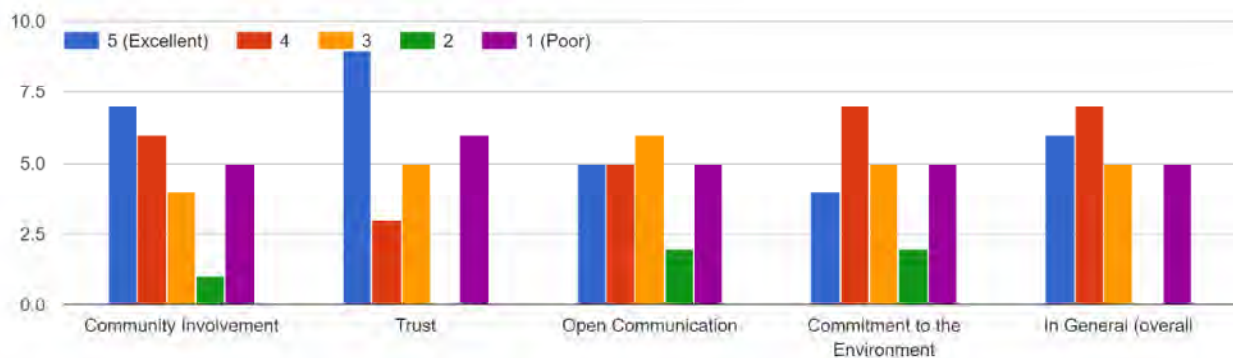
The length of time they described living in their respective areas ranged from one year to life-long residency (70+ years).

Time lived in the area	# living near NAS Meridian	# living near NOLF Joe Williams
1-5 years	6	-
6-15 years	1	2
15-25 years	3	3
25 or more years	5	3

What they think about the relationship of NAS Meridian/Joe Williams Field to the surrounding areas:

Respondents were asked to rate several key areas on a scale of 1 (Poor) to 5 (Excellent). The results are shown in the table and bar chart below.

	1 (Poor)	2	3	4	5 (Excellent)
	(Indicates how many survey respondents selected the option)				
Community Involvement	5	1	4	6	7
Trust	6	0	5	3	9
Open Communication	5	2	6	5	5
Commitment to the Environment	5	2	5	7	4
In General (overall)	5	0	5	7	6



The individuals who selected “Poor” for any category were given the option to provide additional information to explain their choice. These responses included the following:

- Lack of awareness of the Environmental Restoration Program (ERP).
- Lack of communication/information provided about the ERP.

Some individuals identified concerns about issues that are beyond the scope of the ERP. These issues included:

- Frequency of air traffic, jet noise, pollution from air traffic/jet fuel.
- Use of natural resources at NAS Meridian and Joe Williams Field.
- Lower level of community involvement with Kemper County residents, as compared to Lauderdale County engagement with NAS Meridian.

Environmental Issues

There was a wide range of responses used to describe the community's attitude toward environmental issues. These ranged from "poor/pretty bad" to "indifferent" to "it's very important". Some responses indicated that there are no major concerns due to lack of heavy industry in the area; others that issues aren't taken as seriously by residents as they should be. As in the previous section, some responses addressed issues that are outside of the ERP, including on-base recycling programs, and noise from base operations. Environmental Issues identified to be of highest importance are:

Water

Air

Energy

These were followed by noise, soil/ground, and issues beyond the ERP scope, such as mold and asbestos.

Community Impacts

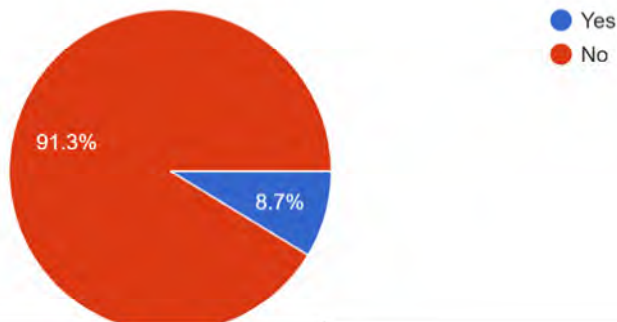
Responses were nearly evenly split as to whether environmental issues at either facility may have affected the community, with 52% saying the community had not been affected and 48% stating the community may have been affected.

Those who indicated the community has been affected were asked to provide additional feedback on the perceived areas of impact. Health, quality of life, and property values were the areas most frequently identified. Specific health concerns were mentioned, as was concern about impacts on local silviculture.

Nearly all the survey respondents (91%) were unfamiliar with the environmental cleanup program (ERP) taking place at NAS Meridian and Joe Williams Field.

Are you familiar with the environmental cleanup program at NAS Meridian/Joe Williams Field?

23 responses



The two individuals who were aware of the program, were unfamiliar with the specific details.

Community Involvement

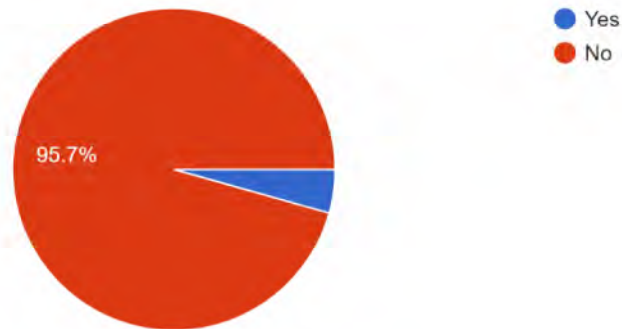
In some communities surrounding Navy bases, a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) is formed to serve as a forum for local community involvement in the Navy's ERP. When asked if there is a need to form a RAB for NAS Meridian/Joe Williams Field, two-thirds (65%) of survey respondents selected **Yes**; the remainder (35%) selected **No**. When asked if they would be interested in serving on a RAB, the responses were reversed, with 61% selecting **No**, and 40% choosing **Yes**.

Information/Communication

Almost none of the respondents (96%) recalled seeing public notices about the NAS Meridian environmental cleanup program. The two who had seen notices saw them in the newspaper, with one person being unsure if they were related to the larger environmental cleanup program.

Have you ever seen public notices about the NAS Meridian environmental cleanup program?

23 responses











Most respondents (80%) would like to receive more information about the environmental cleanup program.

The types of information requested include:

- History and explanation of, and current status of environmental cleanup program.
- Details on what is being cleaned up and how it is being disposed of, including the process and progress updates.
- Impacts on the community.
- General information including details of any meetings or events.
- Environmental issues, including impacts on soil, water, agriculture, and forestry.
- Topics outside scope of ERP (jet fuel issues, noise, noise abatement funding from FAA).

There were many methods suggested to communicate information about the environmental cleanup program. Nearly half of the responders indicated a preference for e-mail, followed by postal mail. The methods and number of responses identifying each method are listed in the table below.

Communication Method	# of responses identifying this method
 Electronic Mail	10
 Postal Mail	5
 Television	4
 Newspaper	2
 In-person communication	2
 Radio	1
 Social Media	1
 Telephone calls	1

Approximately half of respondents (11) indicated they would like to receive monthly updates, with a lower number (5 and 4, respectively) preferring updates on a quarterly or as-needed basis. While many of the survey participants stated they had not previously received information about the ERP, some had received information by word of mouth, email, postal news, radio, TV news, or through local government meetings. 16 of respondents said their sources of information about NAS Meridian and Joe Williams Field were reliable and accurate. Five respondents indicated they were interested in being involved in the process in another way (i.e., being involved in a planning committee and being informed about the origin and status of cleanup to date).

Survey respondents were asked to identify the most popular area media outlets. Their responses identified the following:

Newspaper: No specific paper was identified in a majority of responses; the *Meridian Star*, *Kemper Messenger*, and *Neshoba Democrat* were all mentioned.

Television Station: WTOK Channel 11.

Local cable station: No specific station was identified.

Radio Station: WOKK 97.1 received multiple mentions; 104.1 and 101.3 were also mentioned.

Local Online site/Social Media: Facebook pages, including the NAS Meridian page and the NAS Meridian Spouses page, were mentioned in multiple responses.

Other sources: Webinars; information shared through local organizations such as Navy League and Meridian Mississippi Moms in the Know.

Most respondents (74%; 17 people) have not had a reason to contact NAS Meridian officials regarding environmental issues on the installation. Of those who indicated they had contacted base officials, most of the responses were regarding issues that are beyond the scope of the ERP, including noise abatement funding, base housing concerns, and offsite dumping on private property.

Other comments included: concerns that environmental issues could have a negative impact on the community; looking forward to future communications; concerns about sampling for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in private wells; and comments about flight patterns near the respondent's home.

Several individuals provided their contact information related to serving on a RAB or a request for a base representative to contact them. Respondents were asked if there were others in the community who should be contacted regarding the survey; a few additional names were provided and contacted by the survey team.

This page intentionally left blank