

FACT SHEET

Environmental Restoration Program: Site 5 – Drum Disposal Area

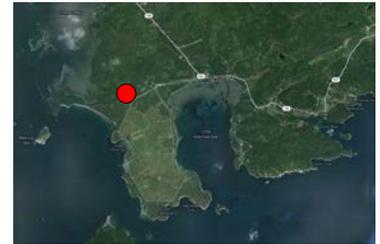


Naval Support Activity (NSA) Cutler
Cutler, Maine



Where is Installation Restoration (IR) Site 5?

The Drum Disposal Area (Site 5) is located at the Very Low Frequency (VLF) Area. The VLF Area is situated on a 2,860-acre peninsula located on the coast of Maine near the town of Cutler. Site 5 is a portion of Site 1 (the former Fire Training Area), and includes an open field located on the southwestern portion of Site 1. Site 5 is surrounded by open fields to the north and east, undeveloped forested land to the south, and a gravel parking area to the west.



What is the history of the site?



Site 5 is located along the perimeter of a former borrow pit that was used by the Navy for firefighting training exercises from the early 1960s into the 1980s. Site 5 was discovered in 2006 during the preparation of a soil removal action at the former Fire Training Area (Site 1). While grading the land to establish a staging area for treatment equipment, seven buried drums were discovered. The drums were removed and a sample of their contents indicated petroleum hydrocarbons. During 2007 and 2008, additional buried drums were encountered and removed. Follow up testing

at Site 5 detected Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in the soil. As a result of discovering PCBs, the Navy elevated AOC 31 to Site 5 in 2010 and in 2012 the Drum Disposal Area was combined with the former Fire Training Area (Site 1) due to their geographical proximity and similar contaminants. As a result of this action, Site 5 was closed and all contamination associated with Site 5 is being addressed under Site 1.

What work has been done at the site to date?

Environmental investigations and removal actions have been conducted at Site 5. Sampling and testing have determined the extent of contamination. A total of 76 buried drums, several crushed drums, some scrap metal, and two stockpiles (371.77 tons) of contaminated soil were excavated and removed from Site 5.

What work is planned for Site 5 in the future?

In 2012, Site 5 migrated into Site 1 and this combined area is now treated as part of Site 1. Substantial funds are anticipated to be saved by completing the restoration of Site 5 under Site 1.

Where can I go for more information?

- Compliance with Environmental Laws and Regulations: Contact the Maine Department of Environmental Protection at (207) 287-7688.
- NAVFAC Mid-Atlantic, Norfolk, Virginia General Questions: Contact the Public Affairs Officer at (757) 341-1410.