

FACT SHEET

Environmental Restoration Program: Site 9 – Dirt Roads



Naval Support Activity (NSA) Cutler
Cutler, Maine



Where is Installation Restoration (IR) Site 9?

The Dirt Roads (Site 9) area consists of 1.4 miles of gravel-covered roadway located on the northern portion of Cutler's Very Low Frequency (VLF) Area. This road is located between the Maintenance Building to the northeast and the Power Plant to the southwest. The topography of the Dirt Roads slopes downhill from the Maintenance Building to the Power Plant. Drainage swales and open ditches are located along the sides of the gravel-covered road.



What is the history of the site?

The concern at Site 9 was the spreading of waste oil, possibly containing polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), for dust suppression. According to former Cutler personnel, the waste oil was reported to have been lubrication oil originating from the generators located at the Power Plant. The duration of these oil-spreading activities and volume of oil applied were unknown.

What work has been done at the site to date?

In 2007 and 2009, field investigations were performed along the extent of the dirt roads to evaluate the presence and nature of contamination and to determine if historical activities resulted in contaminant levels that might present a risk to human health or the environment. During the investigations, a total of 22 soil samples and two surface water samples were collected and tested for PCBs, metals, and petroleum. PCBs were detected, but at concentrations below screening criteria. Metals were generally within the range of background concentrations. Petroleum constituents were detected, but below screening criteria. PCB and petroleum concentrations were not detected in the two surface water samples. The metals detected were the essential nutrients and included calcium, magnesium, potassium, and sodium. The detected PCBs appeared to be paint chip related and will be addressed with paint-related contamination across the VLF Peninsula as part of the Site 4 investigation. As a result of documenting the findings of several investigations, Site 9 was closed in August 2016.

What work is planned for Site 9 in the future?

No future environmental restoration work is planned for Site 9. Appropriate response actions have been taken to investigate and clean up the site. No further action has been documented to be protective of human health and the environment.

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.