

**NAVAL STATION NEWPORT  
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
July 16, 2003**

**MINUTES**

On Wednesday, July 16, 2003, the NAVSTA Newport Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) gathered at the Oliphant School Administration Building for their monthly meeting. The meeting began at 7:00 p.m. and ended at 8:45 p.m.

In attendance were John Vitkevich, Thomas McGrath, David Brown, Emmet Turley, Thurston Gray, Tom Reardon, Christopher Burnett, Howard Porter, Manuel Marques, Claudette Weissinger, Stephen Parker (TtNUS), Franco LaGreca (EFANE), David Barclift (EFANE), David McConaughy (NEHC), Stacey McFadden (TAG/AICAB), David Dorocz (NAVSTA), Cornelia Mueller (NAVSTA), Kathy Marley (NAVSTA), Gregg Kolhweiss (NAVSTA), Paul Kulpa (RIDEM), Kymberlee Keckler (USEPA), Pamela Harting-Barrat (USEPA), and David Peterson (USEPA).

Mr. David Dorocz opened the meeting and welcomed the group. Mr. David Brown announced that he would be resigning as the Public Information Committee chair to concentrate on his overseas career in international development. Mr. Brown told the group he plans to remain a member of the RAB.

**MEETING MINUTES**

There were no changes to the minutes of the June meeting. Mr. Dorocz asked for a motion to accept the minutes, which was seconded and then carried.

**SOIL REMOVAL ACTION - OLD FIRE FIGHTING TRAINING AREA (OFFTA)  
PRESENTATION BY- STEPHEN PARKER**

Mr. Stephen Parker began with an overview of the proposed removal action. A copy of the slide show presented during the discussion is included as enclosure (1). Enclosure (2) is the Fact Sheet for OFFTA. The Fact Sheet was presented at the Open House and provides further information on the Navy's proposal.

The remedial investigation for the site has been completed and the soil removal action is being performed to address the contaminants in the soil.

The OFFTA is presently being evaluated to calculate the risk by exposure to contaminants at the site. Mr. Parker stated the contaminants present at the site exceed the residential standards, to allow for an unrestricted use of the property.

Enclosure (2) includes a graphic that shows the various soil depths that exceed the removal action goals for recreational/residential use of the land. The Navy proposes to excavate soil and rubble at different depths up to the high tide line, but not below the top of the bedrock and only minimally below the water table.

The proposed soil removal action will improve the recent conditions at the site and placement of quarried stone along the shoreline will protect the soil from erosion. Mr. Parker stated the rocky shoreline will also provide a natural habitat substrate.

Mr. Emmet Turley asked how much of an increase in traffic is anticipated. Mr. Parker stated there is an approximate estimate of 20 trucks a day for a period of six months.

Ms. Claudette Weissinger asked how many cubic yards of soil would be removed. Mr. Parker stated that the draft feasibility study currently estimates 58,000 cubic yards of soil for removal.

Ms. Weissinger asked if performing the clean up of both the onshore and offshore at the same time would be more economical. Mr. Parker stated the exact cause of the risk associated with the site will continue to be evaluated. He further stated the Navy, EPA, and RIDEM will need to concur on any permanent solution identified in the future.

Ms. Weissinger asked if performing the onshore and offshore clean up at the same time would prevent the movement of the contaminants. Mr. Parker stated that the proposed onshore clean up would be an effective action which would not directly affect the clean up of the offshore area.

Mr. John Vitkevich asked if performing the onshore and offshore clean up at the same time would extend the construction time. Steve Parker stated that with an increase in volume, the construction time frame would need to be extended.

Ms. Stacey McFadden asked what the Navy planned to do with the storm water lines located at the site. Steve Parker stated the storm lines would need to be removed and

replaced. Mr. Parker further stated a vortex system has been installed to one of the primary storm line outfalls to reduce the discharge of contaminants.

Ms. McFadden stated that eliminating any potential sources of contamination would be helpful in identifying the source of contamination.

Mr. Thomas McGrath stated it was discussed in a past RAB meeting that last year was very dry and there was not as much parking lot run off. He asked if there was an improvement in the monitoring data. Mr. Parker stated that the data collected last year did show the highest concentration of contamination along the shoreline to be in the outfall area.

Steve Parker told the RAB that the Navy has requested feedback from the RAB and the general public on the proposed removal action. Enclosure (2) includes a comment form. Comments will be accepted until August 15, 2003.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Project Committee - Emmet Turley**

Mr. Emmet Turley gave an update to the Providence River and Harbor Dredging Project. Mr. Turley discussed a recent article published by the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council (RICRMC). Enclosure (3) is a Project Committee report with the updated article from RICRMC.

### **Planning Committee - Thomas McGrath**

Mr. Thomas McGrath announced that Mr. Thomas Reardon will also be part of the Planning Committee. Mr. Reardon will act as committee chairman in the event of Mr. McGrath's absence.

Mr. McGrath provided the RAB with a copy of an updated planning schedule for the next six months. Mr. Franco LaGreca proposed changes be made to the planning schedule. Enclosure (4) is a copy of the final planning schedule.

As noted on enclosure (4) there is no schedule for the month of August. Mr. John Vitkevich asked for a motion to cancel the meeting for the month of August, which was seconded and then carried.

Ms. Stacey McFadden was introduced to the RAB. Ms. McFadden from LFR Levine Fricke has been contracted by the Aquidneck Island Citizens Advisory Board to serve as their technical advisor under their Technical Assistance Grants (TAG) Program from EPA.

Ms. Kymberlee Keckler explained to the group that the TAG program is an EPA grant program to provide technical assistance to the communities. Ms. Keckler further stated that TAG members may be invited to do a presentation at an upcoming RAB meeting.

### **Membership Committee - Thurston Gray**

Mr. Gray stated the revised Mission Statement has been changed to include two types of membership: **active** and **inactive**. Mr. Gray further stated that six members have been removed from the active status of the mission statement and have been placed into inactive membership.

Mr. Gray announced Ms. Susan Hester has formally submitted her resignation as a member of the RAB. Mr. Gray asked for a motion to accept the resignation, which was seconded and then carried.

Mr. Thurston Gray announced there are presently 12 community members. There were nine community members present at the meeting.

Mr. Vitkevich introduced Mr. Christopher Burnett who was attending the meeting as a prospective new member.

Mr. Gray announced a community based website has recently been established. The Navy has recently purchased the website for the RAB to administer. The new RAB website address is [www.rabnewportri.org](http://www.rabnewportri.org).

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Naval Station Newport hosted an Open House to present plans for removing the soil at the OFFTA located on Coasters Harbor Island. Individuals from the Navy were on hand to answer questions and provide information.

In an effort to inform the general public of the Navy's clean up proposal, the Open House announcement was published three days in the Newport Daily News and the Providence

Journal East Bay Edition. The announcement was also published twice in the Sakonnet Times weekly newspaper.

Ms. Cornela Mueller stated a media announcement was made on the local radio station WADK, and on the Rhode Island subsidiaries of ABC, NBC, and CBS television.

Additionally, 750 flyers were sent via mail, and the Providence Journal East Bay Edition did a front-page story on the site, Open House and the soil removal action.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

There will be no meeting in the month of August.

The next meeting of the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) will held on September 17, 2003, at 7:00 p.m. at the Officers' Club.

#### Enclosures:

- (1) Soil Removal Action OFFTA - Presentation Slides
- (2) Fact Sheet for the Soil Clean up at OFFTA
- (3) Project Committee report dated July 16, 2003 and an RICRMC news article
- (4) Planning Committee - six month Planning Schedule

# RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

To be held Wednesday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, 7-9 p.m.  
Oliphant School Administration Building  
Front Entrance  
26 Oliphant Lane  
Middletown, RI

## MEETING AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

APPROVE PREVIOUS MINUTES – June 2003

OLD FIRE FIGHTING TRAINING AREA - SOIL REMOVAL  
PRESENTATION – Mr. Stephen Parker (Tetra Tech NUS, Inc.)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PROJECT – Mr. Emmet E. Turley

EDUCATION – Dr. Kathy Abbass

PLANNING – Mr. Thomas McGrath

MEMBERSHIP – Mr. Thurston Gray

NEW BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING - August 20, 2003

ADJOURN



# WELCOME

## RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD PRESENTATION: SOIL REMOVAL ACTION OLD FIRE FIGHTING TRAINING AREA (KATY FIELD)

Presented By:

NAVAL STATION NEWPORT

Installation Restoration Program



Enclosure (1)

Tetra Tech NUS Inc.



# OFFTA Soil Removal Action

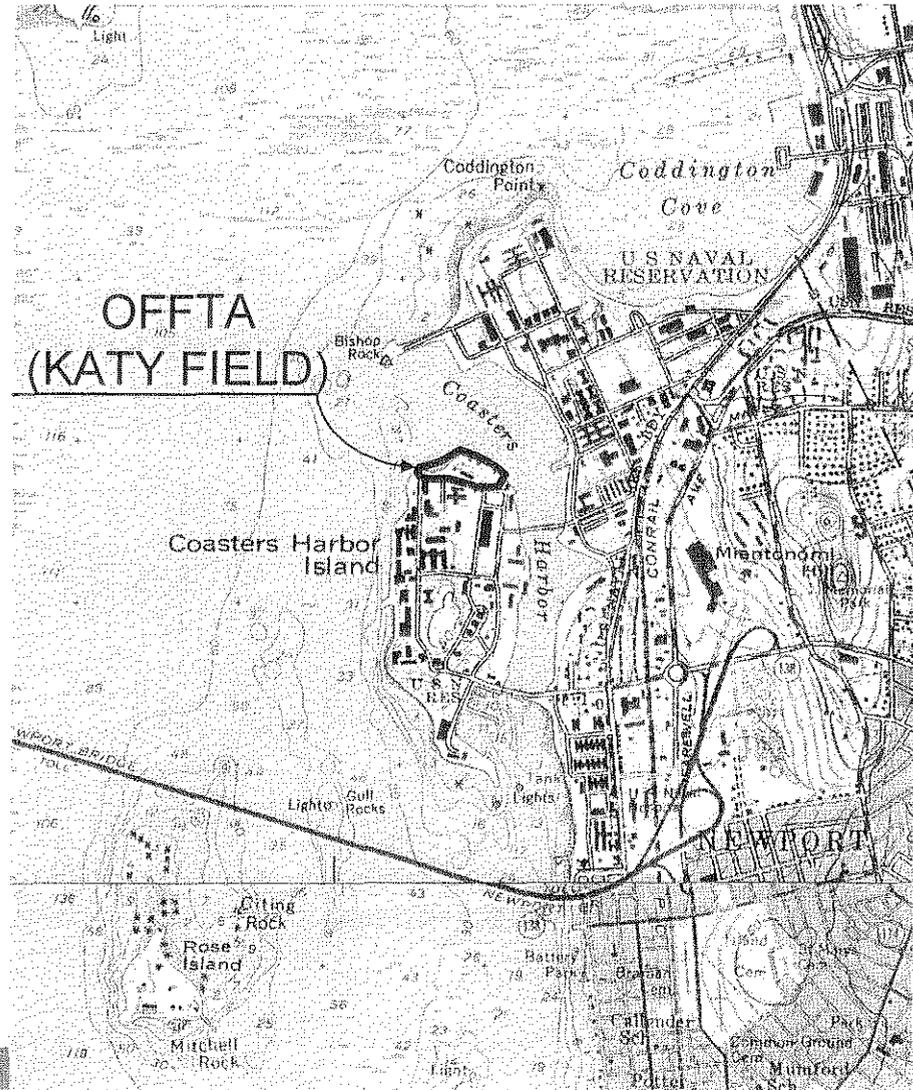
## Presentation

- Overview of the Old Fire Fighting Training Area
- Need for Conducting a Removal Action
- Selection of the Removal Action
- Description of the Removal Action
- Removal Action as Part of a Permanent Solution
- Request for Comments

# OFFTA Soil Removal Action

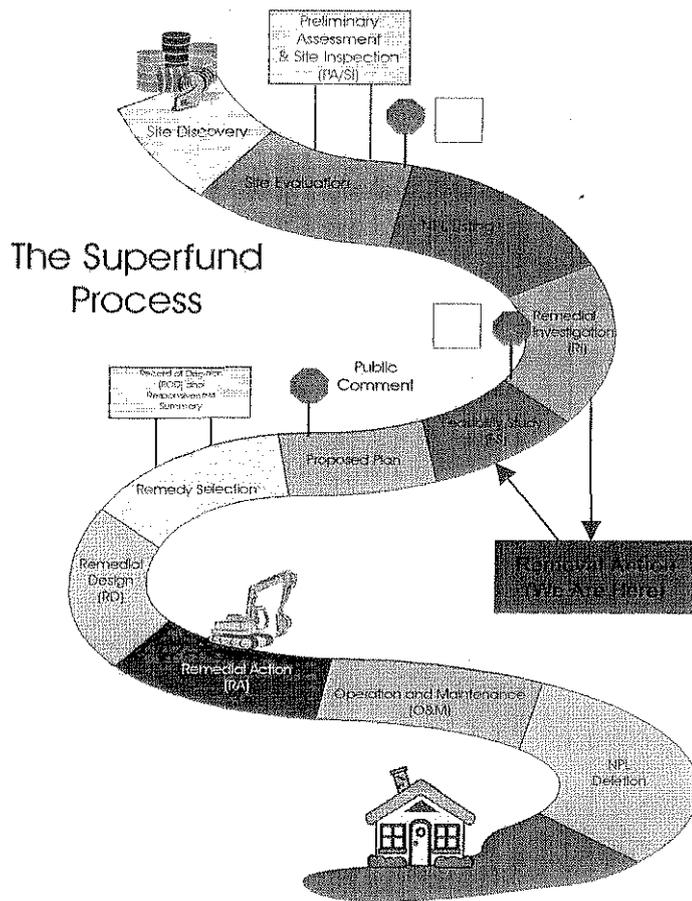
## Overview: Location

- Site is located on the north end of Coasters Harbor Island.
- Site is accessible only from Navy property or by water.



# OFFTA Soil Removal Action

## Overview: The CERCLA Process

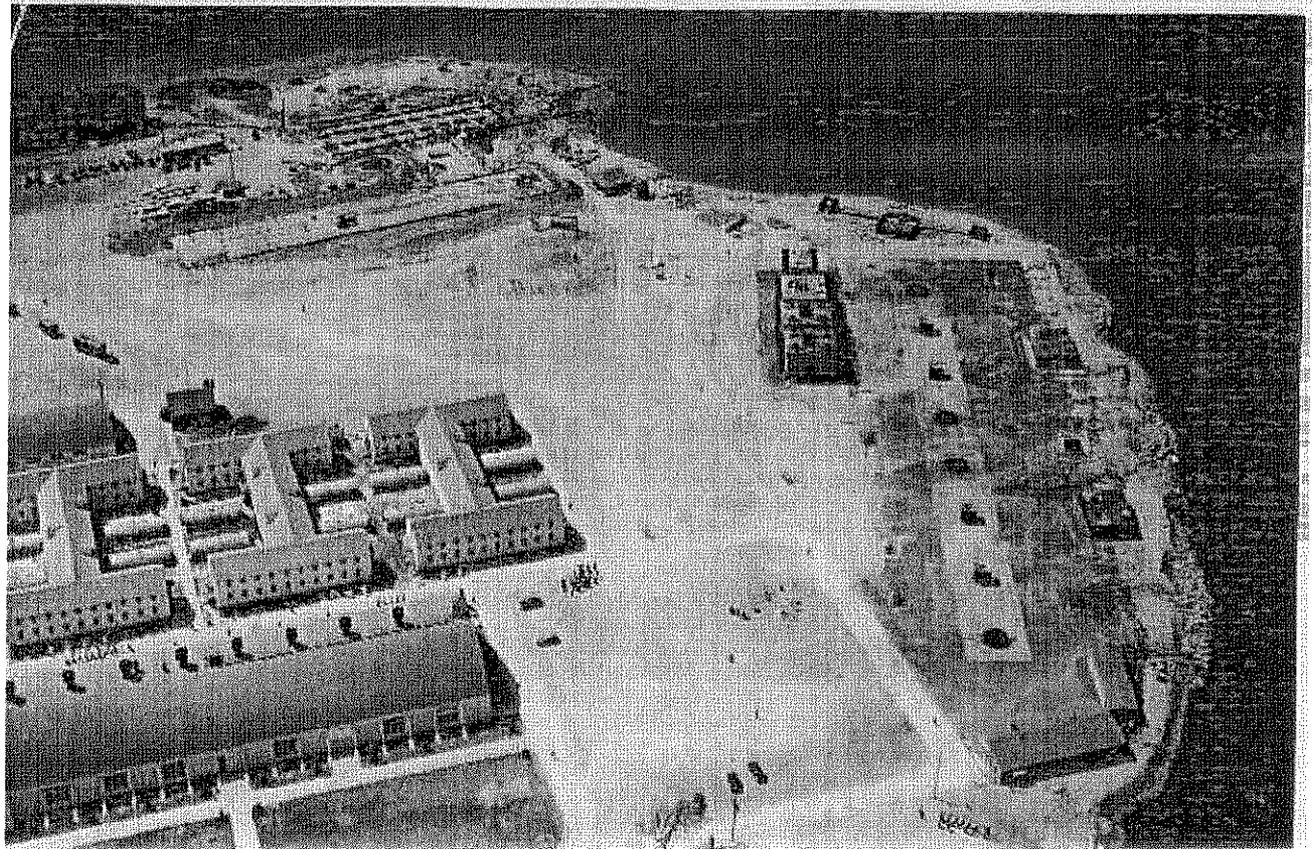


- A remedial investigation was completed in 2001.
- A feasibility study has been drafted and is under consideration for revision.
- The removal action will address contaminants that pose highest risk.
- The Navy will select a permanent solution after the feasibility study is completed.

# OFFTA Soil Removal Action

## Overview: Historical View

- The site was used as a fire training facility from the 1940s to 1972.

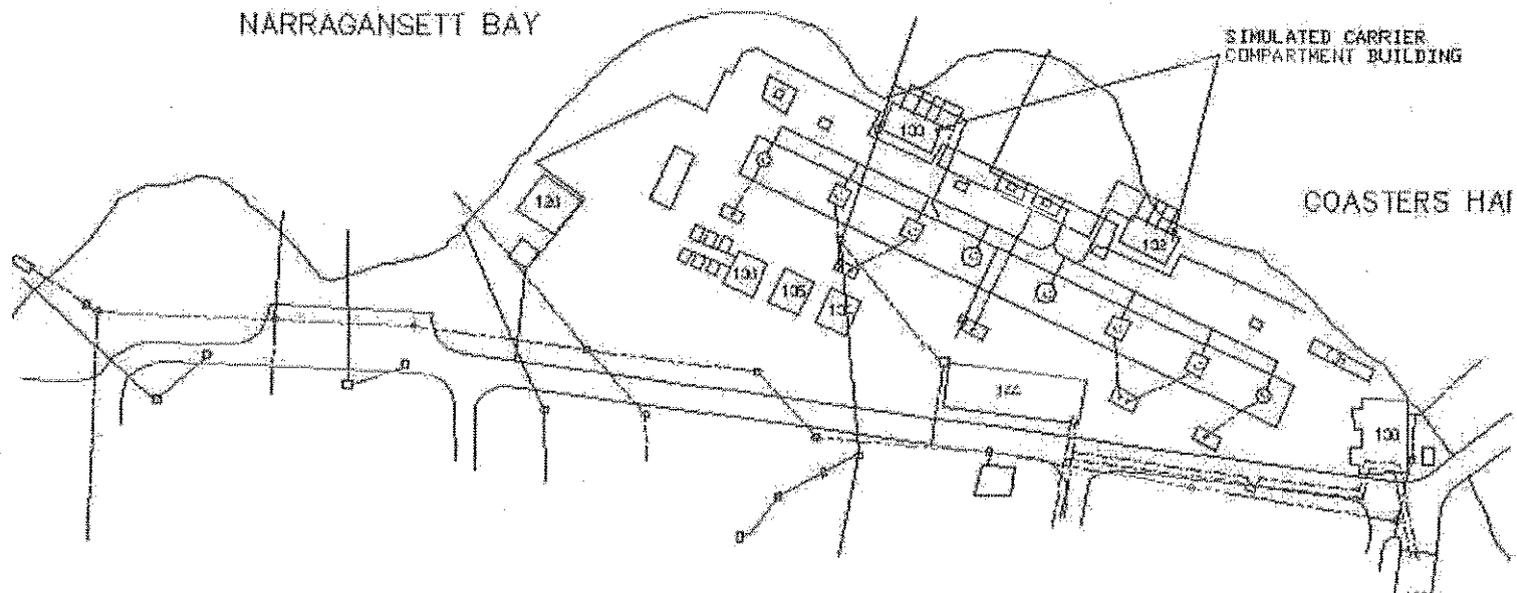


Air Photo ca 1940

# OFFTA Soil Removal Action

## Overview: Historical View

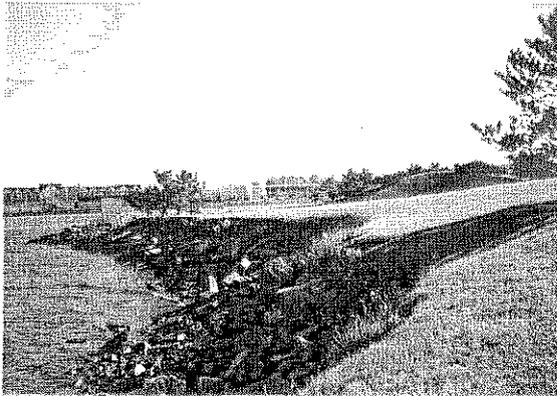
- Test Fires were ignited in pits and structures.
- Oil and other fuels were used as fuel for these fires.



# OFFTA Soil Removal Action

## Overview: Recent Conditions

- In 1972, the training facility was demolished, the rubble was pushed into three mounds, and the entire area was covered with 1-2 feet of topsoil and replanted.
- The site was reopened in 1976 as a park and ball field.
- The site was closed and fenced in 1998 as a precaution until risk assessments and other actions could be completed.



# OFFTA Soil Removal Action

## Need for Removal Action: Contaminants Present

- PAHS: By-products and remnants of fuels, fuel burning and asphalt
- Metals: arsenic, lead and manganese
- “Free” petroleum and petroleum hydrocarbons
- These contaminants exceed RIDEM criteria for areas to be used for residential purposes.

# OFFTA Soil Removal Action

## Need for Removal Action: Summary of Risk

- Risks from soil:
  - We modeled increased incremental cancer risk of 2.5 in 100,000 for a lifetime resident for exposure to surface soil.
  - We also modeled increased incremental cancer risk of 4 in 100,000 for a lifetime resident for exposure to subsurface soil.
  - RIDEM considers recreational risk the same as residential risk.
- Highest risk measured at the site is from soil contaminants under a residential use scenario.

# OFFTA Soil Removal Action

## Need for Removal Action: Removal Action Goals

- Prevent exposure to soils containing contaminants exceeding acceptable levels:
  - Calculated levels from risk assessment
  - State residential criteria
- Allow unrestricted re-use of the property.



# OFFTA Soil Removal Action

## Selection of the Removal Action: Technologies Evaluated

- **Treatment**
  - Bio-remediation / Bio-farming
  - Encapsulation
  - Soil washing
  - Venting and evaporation
  - Heating and capture of gasses
- **Excavation and Disposal**
  - Disposal on site
  - Disposal off-site
- **Limited actions**
  - Monitoring
  - Restricted use of the property

# OFFTA Soil Removal Action

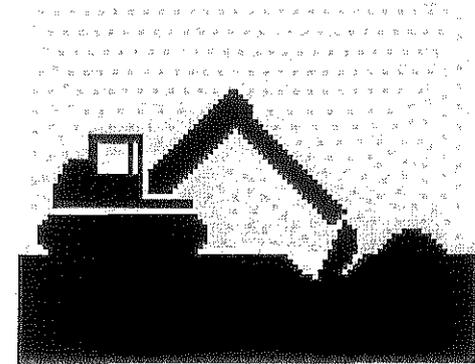
## Selection of the Removal Action: Alternatives Evaluated

1. No Action
2. Removal, Treatment and Backfill
3. Removal and Disposal

# OFFTA Soil Removal Action

## Description of the Removal Action: Components

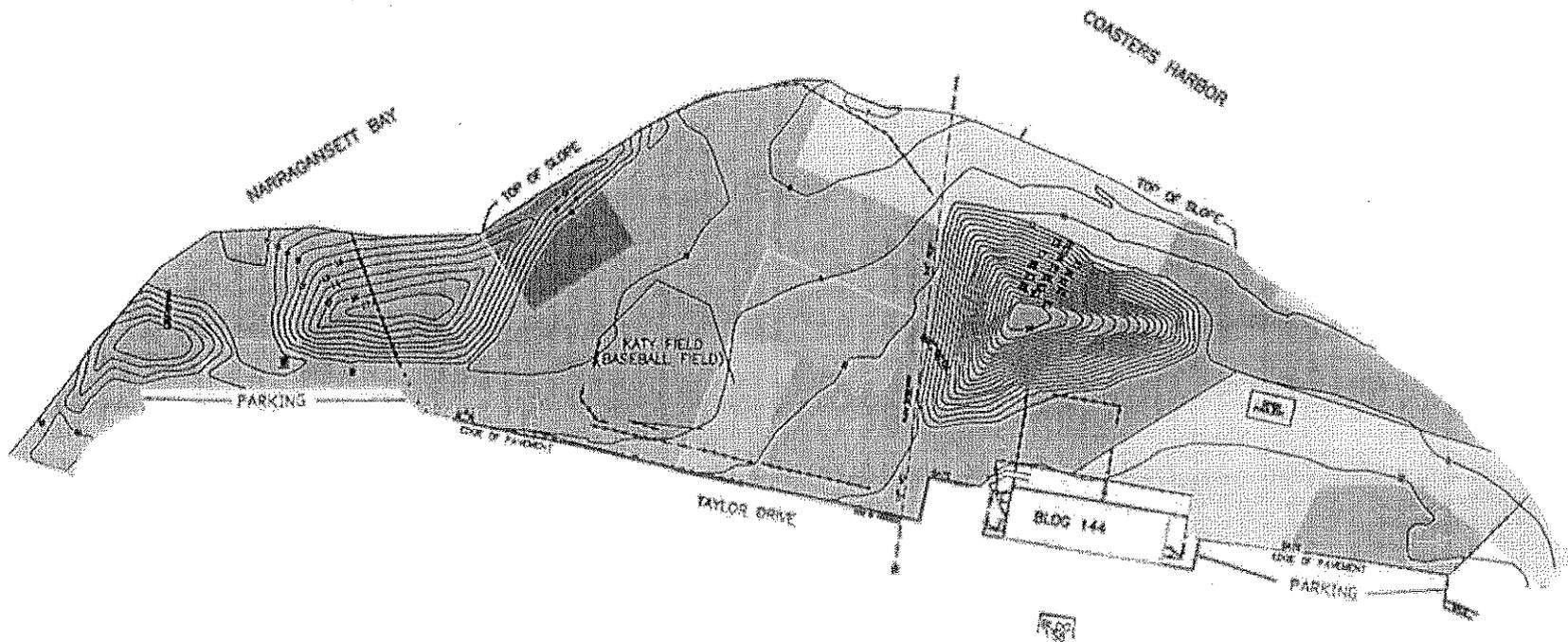
- The Navy proposes to excavate soil and rubble.
- Excavation will continue horizontally to the high tide line.
- Excavation will continue vertically as needed, but not below the top of bedrock and only minimally below the water table.



# OFFTA Soil Removal Action

## Description of the Removal Action: Action Areas

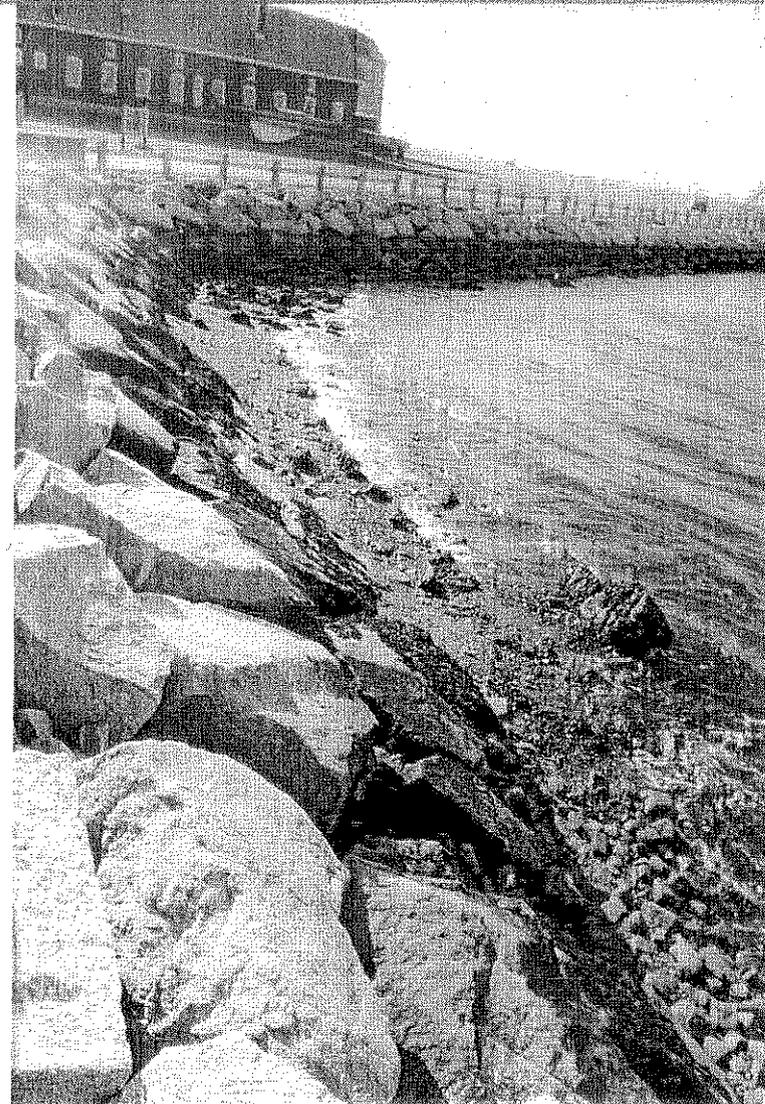
- Colored areas on the map below represent various soil depths that exceed removal action goals for recreational/ residential use of the land.
- These areas and depths will be refined before excavation.



# OFFTA Soil Removal Action

## Description of the Removal Action: Shoreline Protection

- Install a revetment as needed to protect soil from erosion.
- Revetment will use native or quarried stone
- Revetment provides somewhat natural habitat substrate.



# OFFTA Soil Removal Action

## Description of the Removal Action: Transportation and Disposal

- Soil will be transported by trucks.
- Transport will be routed from Gate 1 through rotary and either north or west on major routes.
- Most soil will be disposed as cover material for landfills.
- Limited amount will undergo special handling and disposal as “hazardous”.
- A six month construction period is anticipated.

# OFFTA Soil Removal Action

## Part of a Permanent Solution

- The removal action will eliminate risk from the soil, thereby minimizing risk from the on-shore portion of the site.
- The work will remove the remnant source of contaminants from fire training operations.
- This action will not interfere with any permanent solution identified in the future.

# OFFTA Soil Removal Action Request For Comments

- Comments will be accepted until August 15, 2003.
- Navy will respond to all comments in writing in an “Action Memorandum”.
- Provide Comments by:
  - FAX - 401-841-2857
  - Email - [marleyk@nsnpt.navy.mil](mailto:marleyk@nsnpt.navy.mil)
  - US Mail, addressed to: **Kathleen Marley  
Naval Station Newport  
Environmental Department  
1 Simonpietri Drive  
Newport, RI 02841**

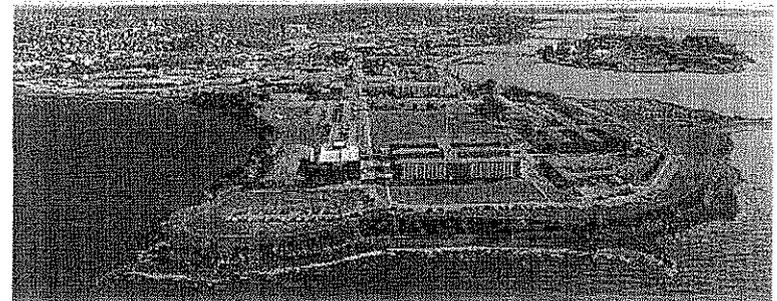
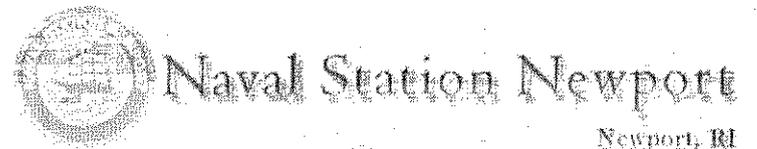


# THANK YOU

**RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD  
PRESENTATION:  
SOIL REMOVAL ACTION  
OLD FIRE FIGHTING TRAINING AREA  
(KATY FIELD)**

**Presented By:**

**NAVAL STATION NEWPORT  
Installation Restoration Program**



Tetra Tech NUS Inc.





# FACT SHEET

## SOIL CLEANUP AT THE OLD FIRE FIGHTING TRAINING AREA

### NAVAL STATION NEWPORT Installation Restoration Program Newport, Rhode Island

#### *The Cleanup Proposal...*

After careful study of the Old Fire Fighting Training Area, the Navy proposes to remove contaminated soil and fill (Figure 1 on Page 2) from the property. The Navy proposes to:

- **Excavate** contaminated soil and debris.
- **Dispose** of contaminated soil and rubble in an approved off-site facility.
- **Restore** the excavated areas for unrestricted use of the property.
- **Construct** a protective stone revetment and a fence to restrict access to the shoreline in this area.

#### How would the cleanup affect the local area?

The Navy invites you to attend the open house and meeting of the Restoration Advisory Board on July 16, 2003 to learn more about the proposed cleanup plan. The Navy will respond to your questions and concerns about the proposed cleanup and how it may affect you. For further information on the Restoration Advisory Board meeting, call Kathleen Marley at 401-841-2857.

#### Restoration Advisory Board Meeting to Present Cleanup Plan

**July 16, 2003**

**Open House: 5:30-7:00 PM  
Meeting: 7:00-9:00 PM**

**Oliphant School  
Administration Building  
Front Entrance  
26 Oliphant Lane  
Middletown, Rhode Island**

#### What do you think?

The Navy is accepting public comment on this removal action from July 16 to August 15, 2003. You don't have to be a technical expert to comment -- if you have a concern or preference, the Navy wants to hear it before making a final decision.

#### To comment formally:

**Offer oral comments** during the Restoration Advisory Board Meeting on July 16, 2003.

**Provide written comments** by fax, or by mail postmarked no later than August 15, 2003 to:

Kathleen Marley  
Naval Station Newport,  
Environmental Department  
1 Simonpietri Drive  
Newport, RI 02841  
Fax: (401) 841-2857

**E-mail comments** by August 15, 2003 to: [marleyk@nsnpt.navy.mil](mailto:marleyk@nsnpt.navy.mil)

*In accordance with the law that established the Superfund program (the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act - CERCLA), this document summarizes the Navy's cleanup proposal. For detailed information on the options evaluated for use at the site, see the Old Fire Fighting Training Area Draft Final Feasibility Study (September 2002) available for review at the information repositories at the Portsmouth, Middletown, and Newport Public Libraries.*

# A Closer Look at the Navy's Proposal...

## Excavate contaminated soil and debris.

Soil and fill at the site contains remnant contaminants from use of fuel and from fire training operations. Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), common in oil and produced by burning, exist in the soil along with residual oil and fill consisting of brick, concrete and rubble. Some metals that exceed state criteria for residential property are also present in soils.

The areas where soil and fill excavation would occur are shown on Figure 1. Approximately 58,000 cubic yards of material (5 acres) will have to be excavated. The basic steps for this action are described below:

- Perform a pre-design investigation to confirm the extent of contaminated soil and debris.
- Remove the clean topsoil from the target areas.
- Excavate the contaminated soil and debris using conventional earth-moving equipment.
- Transport the contaminated soil/debris off-site in trucks.
- Dispose of this material at an approved off-site facility.
- Backfill the excavated areas with clean soil.
- Stabilize the shoreline and protect from erosion with a new stone revetment wall.
- Install a fence to restrict access to the shoreline in this area

### What impacts would the cleanup have on the local community and the environment?

The construction effort is anticipated to require one six-month construction season, and residents may notice:

- Noise from construction activities.
- Increased truck traffic on the access road to Gate 1 and on local primary routes leading east or north.

### Why Does the Navy Recommend this Plan?

The Navy recommends a removal action that uses excavation to address contaminated soil at the site. These approaches:

- Quickly meet risk reduction goals.
- Address the highest risk by removing contaminated soil from the environment and disposing of it properly, thereby ensuring long-term protection of human health and the environment.
- Allows unrestricted use of the property

### Why is Cleanup Needed?

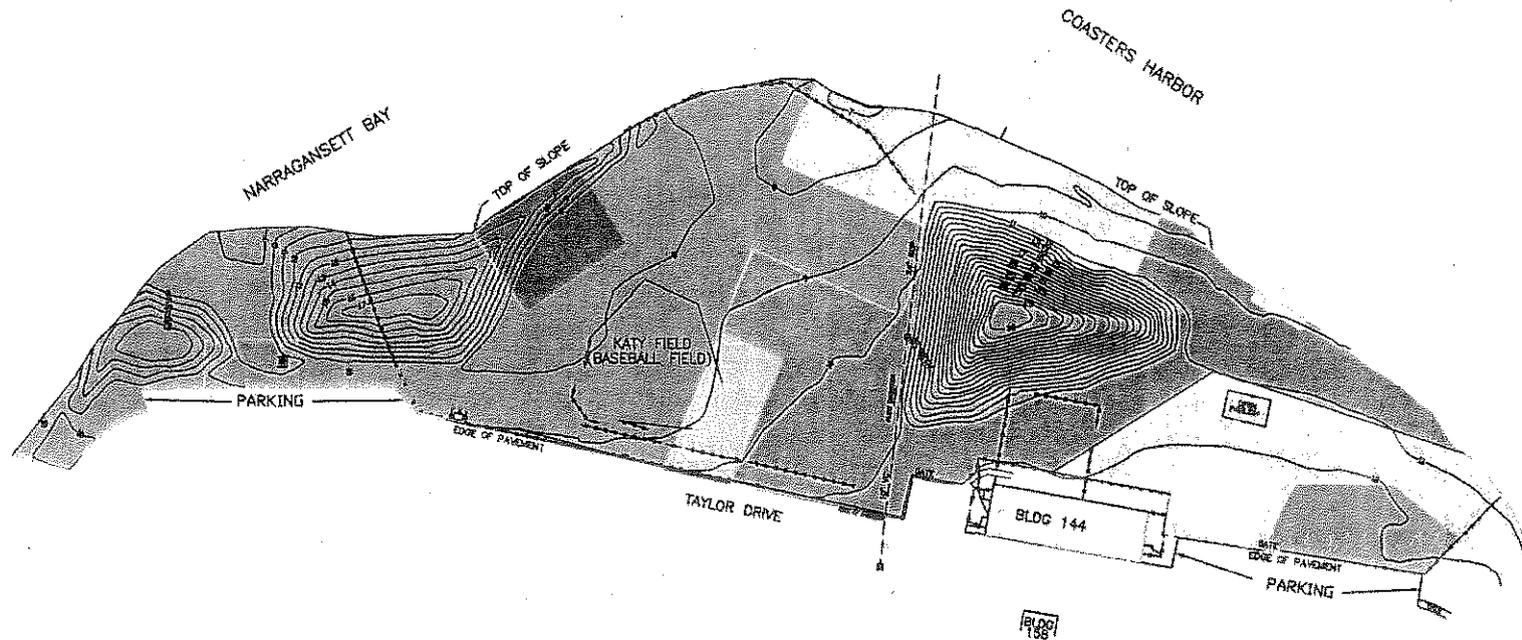
A human health risk assessment was conducted to evaluate possible risks from exposure to the contaminated soil.

Although there was measurable risk for health effects under certain conditions, the studies concluded that the most significant potential for risk was from exposure to subsurface soils during residential use of the site. In addition, State of Rhode Island policy is to assume exposure at recreational property is the same as at residential property.

The Navy would like to have unrestricted use of the property. Therefore, it has been determined that a removal action should be conducted to remove the soil that poses unacceptable risk for any potential future use.

LEGEND

-  EXCAVATE TO 10 FT. BELOW GROUND SURFACE
-  EXCAVATE TO 9 FT. BELOW GROUND SURFACE
-  EXCAVATE TO 8 FT. BELOW GROUND SURFACE
-  EXCAVATE TO 6 FT. BELOW GROUND SURFACE
-  EXCAVATE TO 4 FT. BELOW GROUND SURFACE
-  EXCAVATE TO 2 FT. BELOW GROUND SURFACE



APPROXIMATE SCALE

0' 150'

1 INCH = 150 FEET

**FIGURE 1**  
CONCEPTUAL SOIL EXCAVATION  
PLAN

## *Site History*

The Old Fire Fighting Training Area, used as a fire training school by the Navy from the 1940s to the early 1970's, is located on 5.5 acres along the north end of Coasters Harbor Island.

**1940s:** The site opened as a Navy fire fighting training area. Fire training exercises were conducted, which involved using water to extinguish burning oil in a series of pits and small buildings, meant to simulate ship compartments. This water carried oil into the soils of the training area and to the shoreline of Coasters Harbor Island.

**1972 to 1974:** The fire training facility was closed. Most of the structures at the site were demolished, debris and some soils were pushed into three mounds at the site, and the whole site was covered with topsoil and seeded.

**1976:** The site was dedicated and reopened as Katy Field (ball field and picnic area).

**1983:** The Initial Assessment Study was completed for the Newport Navy base to identify, assess, and control contaminants from past hazardous materials management. Based on the information available, the site was not initially identified as a site requiring further action.

**1989:** NAVSTA Newport sites were added to EPA's National Priorities List. Oil-contaminated soils were found in a construction excavation.

**1991:** The Phase 1 Remedial Investigation was completed. This study found that contamination was present at OFFTA and recommended further investigation.

**1992:** A Federal Facilities Agreement, signed by the Navy, EPA, and RIDEM, identified responsibilities for cleanup activities and a schedule by which to implement them.

**1992:** Phase 2 Remedial Investigation for the site was completed. The study further delineates extent of contamination.

**1996:** A citizen's advisory committee called a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) was established to assist the Navy in addressing the Installation Restoration program sites.

**1997 and 1998:** Studies determined that oil-related contaminants are present in subsurface soil between two and ten feet below ground surface. The Site was closed to recreational activities and fenced to restrict access during remaining investigations and cleanup.

**1998-2000:** Risk assessments were conducted to determine risks to the off-shore environment from contaminants in the site soil and adjacent offshore sediment. Studies concluded that contaminants are present at concentrations that pose some increased risk to marine animals. The highest area of risk was found near one of the storm drain outfalls.

**2001:** The Remedial Investigation was completed documenting that there would be increased risks to persons using the area for residential property and to persons habitually ingesting shellfish (47 meals per year) collected from adjacent Coasters Harbor.

**2002:** A Feasibility Study was developed to evaluate remedial action alternatives for the soils, groundwater and the marine sediments of Coasters Harbor.

## What are the Cleanup Objectives?

Investigations concluded that there are contaminants in the soil at the site that pose unacceptable risk to persons using the site for uncontrolled residential and or recreational purposes.

The Navy identified three initial cleanup objectives to address the identified risks:

- Prevent people from contacting soil containing contaminants that exceed the acceptable levels for unrestricted use of the site.
- Address the soil in a manner that will prevent any degradation of groundwater at the site, and that will result in a decrease in groundwater contamination.
- Allow reuse of the site as an unrestricted area as soon as reasonably practicable.

Current state restrictions preventing shellfish collection, and Navy restrictions on use of the shoreline are the current measures in effect until a permanent solution can be reached to address contaminants in sediment. Additionally, groundwater shall not be used for water supply until a permanent solution can be reached to address contaminants in groundwater.

## What are the Next Steps?

The Navy expects to have reviewed all comments and signed an "Action Memorandum" describing the chosen removal action in the Fall of 2003. The Action Memorandum and a summary of responses to public comments will then be made available at the information repositories at the Portsmouth, Middletown, and Newport public libraries. The Navy will announce the decision through the local news media, the RAB, and a community mailing list.

## Is this the Final Action?

The proposed effort is an interim removal action that will contribute to the efficient performance of the long-term remedial action at the site as required by Section 104(a)(2) of CERCLA. Risks from contaminated groundwater and sediments still need to be addressed.

A final remedy for the entire site will be proposed to the public, as required by Superfund, before being selected. That final remedy will be proposed to the public through the RAB and other outreach efforts.

## Different Kinds of Cleanup

The Navy looks at numerous technical approaches to determine the best way to reduce the risks presented by a site. We then narrow the possibilities to approaches that would protect human health and the environment. Although reducing risks often involves combinations of highly technical processes, there are limited basic options for the soil.

### 1. Take no action:

Leave the site as it is.

### 2. Isolate the contaminants:

Provide a barrier between contaminants and receptors (people and wildlife). Barriers can be as simple as fences (to keep people away) or as complex as multi-layer cover systems.

### 3. Remove contaminants:

Remove contaminated soil and fill, and dispose of it or treat it elsewhere.

### 4. Treat contamination on site:

Use a chemical or physical process on the site to destroy or remove the contaminants. Treated material can be left on site. Contaminants captured by the treatment process are disposed of at an approved disposal facility.

### 5. Monitor the contaminants:

Many remedies are combined with monitoring after completing the remedial action to assure that the action achieved the cleanup objectives. If contaminant levels increase again after the action, it is likely that another solution will need to be identified.

### 6. Interim actions:

An interim action may be selected for one part of the site until another part of the site is restored. For instance, if the removal of soils is likely to result in a reduction in groundwater contamination, the interim action for groundwater may be to monitor the groundwater until that reduction is confirmed.

The proposal for this site is to conduct an interim action (#6) to remove the contaminants (#3).

# Soil Cleanup Alternatives for the Old Fire Fighting Training Area

The Navy developed three alternatives to address soil contamination. The Old Fire Fighting Training Area Feasibility Study report (draft final dated September 2002) was prepared to evaluate the options the Navy considered for cleanup. The options, referred to as "cleanup alternatives," are different combinations of ways to restrict access to, contain, remove, or treat contamination to protect public health and the environment.

During the upcoming comment period, the Navy welcomes your comments on the soil cleanup plan as well as the other approaches we evaluated. These alternatives are summarized below. A summary of the alternative evaluation is presented on Table 1 (attached). Please consult the Old Fire Fighting Training Area Draft Final Feasibility Study (September 2002) available at the Newport, Portsmouth, and Middletown public libraries for more detailed information.

## **Alternative 1: No Action**

- Leave the site as it is.
- Conduct 5-year reviews of the site contamination and risks.

## **Alternative 2: Removal, Treatment, Backfill**

- Remove soils exceeding cleanup levels from the site in sections.
- Segregate soil from debris, stones, and fill materials.
- Treat soils with a low temperature thermal system to remove PAHs.
- Treat soils using a soil washing processes to remove metals.
- Backfill excavated areas with cleaned soil.
- Dispose of debris and rubble off-site.
- Construct new stone revetment on shoreline.

## **Alternative 3: Removal and Disposal**

- Remove soils exceeding cleanup levels from the site in sections.
- Segregate soil from debris, and fill materials.
- Dispose of debris, fill and soil at appropriate landfills.
- Backfill excavated areas with clean fill.
- Construct new stone revetment on shoreline.

The need to address soil at the site is based on the objective to reduce the contaminants present, and to have an unrestricted use of the property. Therefore, Alternative 3 is the Navy's preferred alternative for soil.

## **The Criteria For Choosing a Cleanup**

The Navy uses three criteria to balance the pros and cons of removal action alternatives. Evaluation of these alternatives against these criteria is required for what are known in regulatory terms as "Non Time Critical Removal Actions" by CERCLA, the law that established the Superfund program. The Navy evaluated how well each of the cleanup alternatives developed for Old Fire Fighting Training Area meets these criteria (See Table 1 attached) in the Draft Final Feasibility Study Report (September 2002).

1. **Effectiveness:** Will it protect human health and the environment? Does the action comply with laws and regulations that guide cleanup? Will it be effective in the long term (will any permanent solution selected in the future likely have to undo any parts of this action)? The Navy will not choose a plan that does not meet this basic criterion.
2. **Implementability:** Is the alternative technically feasible? Are the right goods and services and space at an approved disposal facility available?
3. **Cost:** What is the total cost of an alternative over time? The Navy must find a plan that gives necessary protection for a reasonable cost.

Once comments from the EPA, the state, the Restoration Advisory Board, and the community are received, the Navy will answer those comments and modify/finalize plans, if necessary, before proceeding with the removal action.

## For More Detailed Information

This publication summarizes a number of reports and studies to help the public understand and comment on the proposal for the site. The Draft Final Feasibility Study (September 2002) and supporting documents prepared for the site have been provided to the following information repositories for Naval Station Newport:

Middletown Public Library  
W. Main Road  
Middletown, RI  
401-846-1573  
Hrs. M-F 10 – 8;  
F-S 10 - 5

Newport Public Library  
300 Spring Street  
Newport, RI  
401-847-8720  
Hrs. M 12:30 – 9  
T-Th 9:30 – 9  
F-Sa 9:30 – 6  
S 1 – 5

Portsmouth Public Library  
2658 E. Main Road  
Portsmouth, RI  
401-683-9457  
Hrs. M-Th 9 – 8  
F-S 9 – 5

**Additionally, information can be obtained by contacting the Navy, EPA, or RIDEM at:**

Franco LaGreca  
Head, New England Restoration Management Branch  
Engineering Field Activity Northeast,  
Naval Facilities Engineering Command  
10 Industrial Highway, Mail Stop 82  
Lester, PA 19113  
(610) 595-0567 ext. 166

Kymberlee Keckler  
Remedial Project Manager  
Federal Facilities, Superfund Section  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (HBT)  
One Congress Street – Suite 1100  
Boston, MA 02114-2023  
(617) 918-1385 or (888) 372-7341

Paul Kulpa  
Remedial Project Manager  
Office of Waste Management  
R.I. Department of Environmental Management  
235 Promenade Street  
Providence, RI 02908-5767  
(401) 222-2297 ext. 7111

**The public is invited to attend the Open House from 5:30-7:00 on July 16, 2003 at the Oliphant School Administration Building, and attend the regularly scheduled Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meetings held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. For information on RAB meetings, Contact Kathleen Marley, 401-841-2857.**

**TABLE 1**

**COMPARISON OF SOIL ALTERNATIVES**

<b>Criteria for Selecting a Removal Action</b>	<b>Alternative 1 No Action</b>	<b>Alternative 2 Removal, Treatment, Backfill</b>	<b>Alternative 3** Removal and Disposal</b>
1 – Effectiveness (does it protect human health and the environment)	NO	YES	YES
2 – Implementability (can it be done)	YES	YES	YES
3 – Cost (what is the estimated cost for the project)*	\$70,000	\$14 ,000,000	\$9,000,000
Time to complete	(Not Applicable)	Approximately 2 years	Approximately 6 months

YES = Meets criterion

NO = Does not meet criterion

\* Cost is estimated based on current data and conceptual design presented in the Draft Final Feasibility Study report (September, 2002). Actual costs will vary from those projected.

\*\*This is the Navy's preferred remedy for the soil.

## Use This Space to Write Your Comments Or to be added to the mailing list

The Navy wants your written comments on the options under consideration for reducing risk at Coasters Harbor Island that have been contaminated by chemicals from the Old Fire Fighting Training Area. You can use the form below to send or fax written comments. If you have questions about how to comment, please call Kathleen Marley at 401-841-2857. This form is provided for your convenience. Please mail this form or additional sheets of written comments, postmarked no later than *date, year* to:

Kathleen Marley  
NAVSTA Newport  
PWD, Building 1  
1 Simonpietri Drive  
Newport, RI 02841  
Fax: (401) 841-7071

Or E-mail to  
Kathleen Marley at: [marleyK@nsnpt.navy.mil](mailto:marleyK@nsnpt.navy.mil)

(Use reverse side and attach sheets as needed)

Comments Submitted by:

### MAILING LIST ADDITIONS, DELETIONS OR CHANGES

If you did not receive this through the mail and would like to

be added to the site mailing list  
note a change of address  
be deleted from the mailing list

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

please check the appropriate box and fill in the correct address information above.



Newport Restoration Advisory Board  
July 16, 2003  
Project Report: Providence River Dredging

The Providence River and Harbor dredging project is moving ahead after a twenty-year delay to dredge, and at a cost of \$43 million, with the state of Rhode Island expected to give \$7.4 million.

The project may last up to eighteen months and remove more than 6 million cubic yards of sediment to restore a 7-mile corridor, 40 feet deep and 600 feet wide in the Providence River Shipping Channel.

This updated article from RICRMC describes how and where the dredging will be done and what will happen to the sediment being removed. Some deemed safe will be buried in a site off shore and some considered contaminated will be placed in CAD (contained aquatic disposal cells) being dug in the Fox Point Reach.

The success of this dredging project may be able to help handle abnormal dredged material from private marinas as well as port facilities, which has been a long-standing problem.

Continued information will be provided to this group as it is made available.

Submitted by:

*Emmet E. Turley*

Emmet E. Turley, Chairperson

# Coastal Features

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 3

SPRING, 2003

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

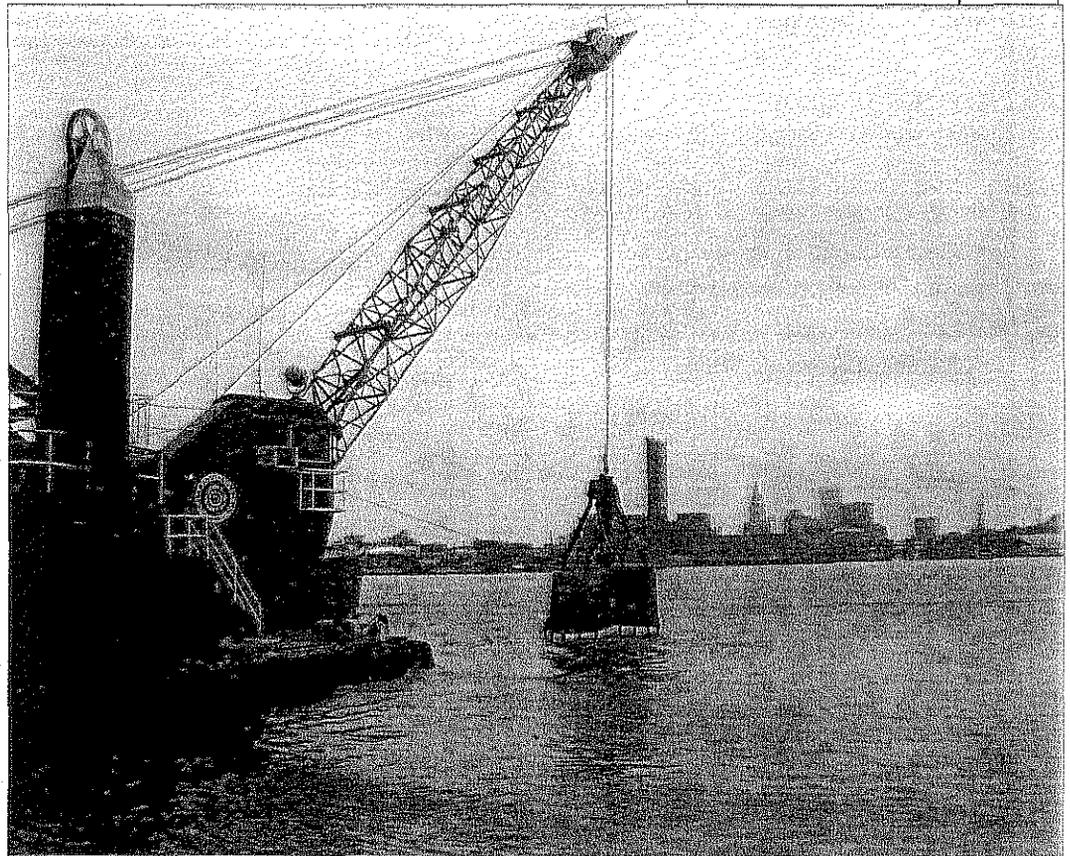
Habitat Restoration Portal	p.3
Annual Aquaculture Report	p.4
Eelgrass Transplant Schedule	p.5
Rivers Month Events	p.6
High Tech Habitat Restoration	p.7

## Providence River Dredging Underway

The Providence River and Harbor dredging project is underway after a more than twenty-year wait. The \$43 million project is expected to last 18 months, remove over 6 million cubic yards of sediment, and restore a 7-mile corridor in the Providence River Shipping Channel to its federally authorized dimensions of 40 feet deep by 600 feet wide. The State of Rhode Island will contribute approximately \$7.4 million to the cost of the project, which has been awarded to the Great Lakes Dredge and Dock Company.

The first load of sediment was scooped from the bottom of the channel on April 11 at the Rumstick Neck reach of the channel near the Town of Barrington. Now that the dredging has begun, it will continue around the clock until the entire project is finished. Working by that schedule, approximately 67,000 cubic

yards of material had been dredged from the Rumstick Neck site by April 24, for offshore disposal at a site in Rhode Island Sound that has been designated "69b." This was possible because the sediment at the Rumstick Neck site has been tested and found to be suitable for offshore disposal without causing significant environmental damage at site 69B, which is located in the separation zone between the two shipping channels



*A gaping clam shell bucket is lowered to the bottom of the Providence River to scoop out a load of sediment as part of the Providence River and Harbor Dredging Project. The project will restore the seven-mile long Providence River Shipping Channel to its federally mandated 40 foot depth and 600 foot width.*

(See Dredge on page 2)

(Dredge continued from page 1)

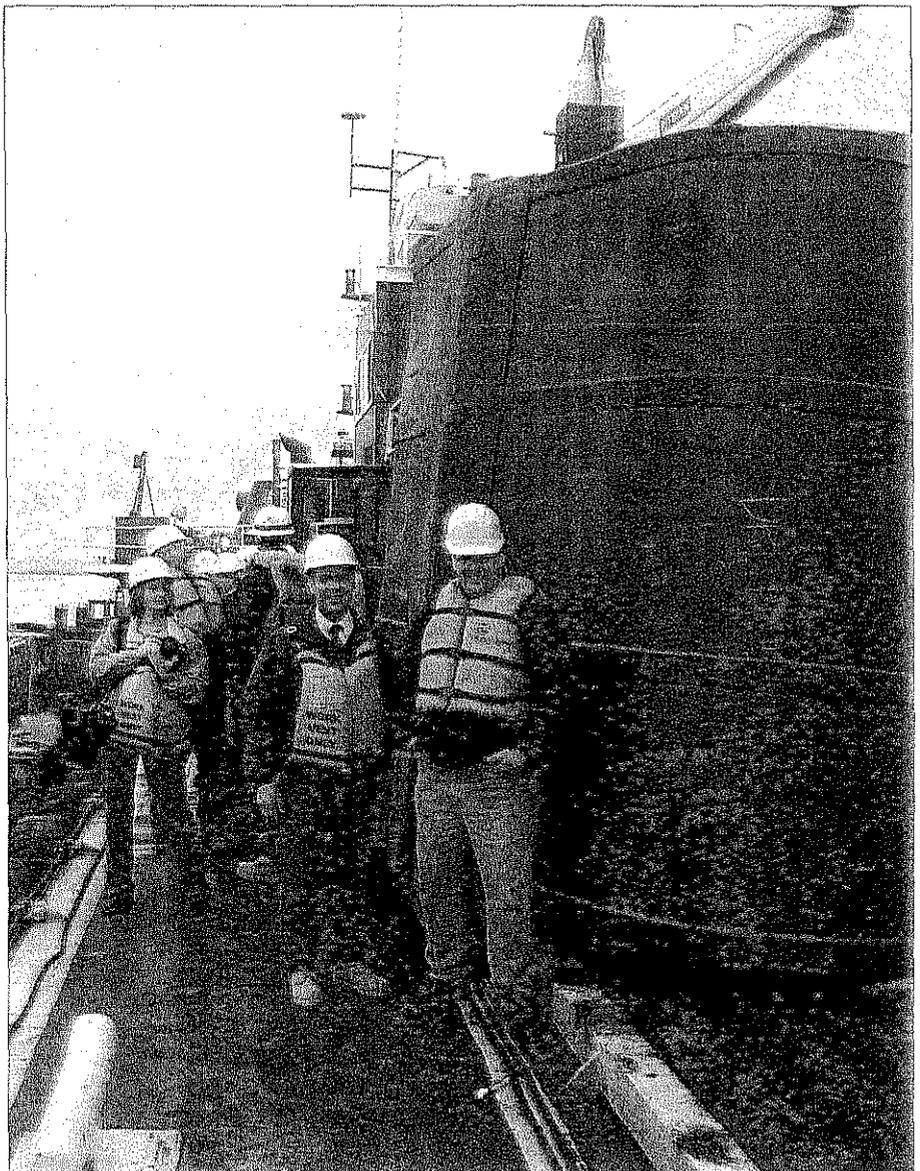
leading into Narragansett Bay.

A major consideration driving the dredging schedule is the possible effect of dredging on winter flounder, an important recreational and commercial finfish species which follows seasonal migration patterns in Narragansett Bay. The winter flounder also uses various parts of the bay as breeding and nursery grounds. Dredging operations were suspended at Rumstick Neck on May 7 and moved north to the Fox Point reach of the channel in Providence Harbor when a "dredging window" opened at this site due to the absence of winter flounder.

Dredging in the Fox Point reach early on in the project is critical as it will be the permanent burial site for the most contaminated sediments that will be dredged during the course of the project. A series of contained aquatic disposal cells (CAD) will be dug from the bottom at this location, and be filled with contaminated sediments from the federal navigation project (the Providence River Shipping Channel) as well as contaminated sediments from several private marinas and port facilities. These private entities will be allowed to use the CADs with the stipulation that they pay a fee to cover the cost of creating the storage capacity required to dispose of the additional sediment. An estimated 1.5 million cubic yards of sediment will be disposed of in the CAD cells, which will be capped with clean sediment in order to bury the contaminated dredged materials.

In addition, approximately 215,000 cubic yards of sediment dredged from the CAD cell sites will have a "beneficial use" as clean fill to accommodate a development project by Johnson and Wales University on property it owns at Fields Point in Providence.

*Coastal Features* is published by the RI Coastal Resources Management Council. It is financed in part by a grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration pursuant to the Coastal Zone Management Act, as amended. This issue of *Coastal Features* was edited by Kevin R. Cute. To comment on any article or to make address changes please contact the CRMC.



CRMC Chairman Mike Tikoian (l) and Executive Director Grover Fugate are dwarfed by a clam shell bucket on board the dredge barge.

NAVAL STATION NEWPORT INSTALLATION RESTORATION PROGRAM

August FY03

No meeting

September FY03

- NUWC Disposal Area - Work Update Presentation

October 2003 FY04

Activity Update Presentation

- IR Update- Navy Budget Status 03
- New Navy Budget & Execution Plan for FY 04
- Update to Anticipated Work FY 04 NAVSTA Newport

TAPP/TAG Overview

- Overview and Presentation by EPA TAG Members

November 2003 FY04

- Gould Island Work Plan Presentation

- Tank Farm's Clean up Status:  
*Presentations and Discussions*  
Presentation by Navy  
Presentation by RIDEM  
Presentation by EPA

December 2003 FY04

No meeting

January 2004 FY04

- Community Co-Chair election
  - Focus/Theme for Year
  - Strategic Plan for Year
- Meeting(s): Agenda Subjects/Event Plan for Feb-Nov