

NAS JACKSONVILLE

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

Fact Sheet #8
September 15, 1994

ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION AT THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT AREA (OPERABLE UNIT TWO)

Introduction

Four sites in the wastewater treatment plant area have been identified for fall cleanup as a result of environmental investigations and studies stemming from the Installation Restoration Program at NAS Jacksonville.

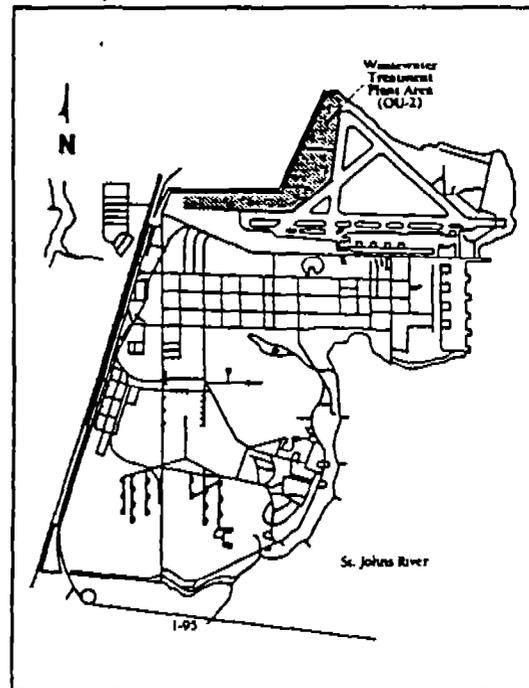
The sites identified are: the wastewater treatment plant sludge disposal area, the domestic waste sludge drying beds, the industrial waste sludge drying beds and the former fire fighting training area.

The Installation Restoration (IR) program is a Department of Defense program conducted at military installations nationwide to identify and, if necessary, clean up contamination resulting from past waste disposal practices which do not meet today's environmental standards.

The Wastewater Treatment Plant Area, known in technical literature as Operable Unit Two, is a group of six sites, or Potential Sources of Contamination (PSC), that are located near each other on the air station.

Location

The Wastewater Treatment Plant Area is located on the northern portion of the air station (see figure 1). It is bounded by the St. Johns River to the north, the Timuquana Country Club golf course to the west and by NAS taxiways and runways to the south and east.



The Wastewater Treatment Plant Area (Operable Unit Two) is located on the northern portion of the air station.

For more information about the work being done at NAS Jacksonville, call Miriam Lareau at 772-4032 or Kevin Gartland at 772-2717. A public information repository is also available at the Webb Wesconnett Branch Library on 103rd Street.

Access to OU2 is strictly limited because of its proximity to NAS taxiways and runways which have security requirements. A chain link fence and continuous patrols prevent unauthorized entrance to the area.

Potential Sources of Contamination

The area encompasses six individual Potential Sources of Contamination. Five are associated with the past operation of the domestic and industrial treatment plant. The sixth was formerly used for fire fighting training and is located just north of the treatment plant. The six sites include the following.

- **The Wastewater Treatment Plant Sludge Disposal Area** (PSC 3). Between 1962 and 1980, domestic and industrial sludge, reportedly containing metals and organic compounds, were disposed of in this 15-acre area.
- **The Pine Tree Planting Area** (PSC 4). Located south of the wastewater treatment plant, this area was used for the disposal of sludge, asbestos and petroleum products between 1968 and 1975. The area was planted with pine trees sometime after 1975.
- **The Domestic Waste Sludge Drying Beds** (PSC 41) were constructed in 1970 and utilized until 1987. This area received sludge--a semi-solid residue--resulting from waste processing. Before construction of the industrial sludge beds, sludges from industrial wastewater treatment plant operations also were channeled here. In 1991, the remaining sludge was removed and taken to an authorized landfill.
- **The Industrial Waste Sludge Drying Beds** (PSC 43) were constructed in 1980 to remove water from residue resulting from industrial electroplating operations. This area was utilized until 1988. In 1991, the remaining sludge was removed and disposed of at an authorized landfill.
- **The Wastewater Treatment Effluent Polishing Pond** (PSC 42). This area was built in 1970 to purify approximately 2.3 million gallons per day of combined domestic used industrial waste water treated prior to chlorination and discharge into the St. Johns River. The pond was removed from service in 1987 and is currently filled with water.
- **The Former Fire Fighting Training Area** (PSC 2) is a shallow, unlined pit approximately 100 feet in diameter which was used from 1965 to 1991 for fire fighting training. Obsolete vehicle chassis were covered with JP-4, JP-5, aviation gasoline or waste oil and ignited to simulate aircraft crashes. It is estimated that 6,000 gallons of fuel was burned annually. After this site was removed from service, NAS Jacksonville completed

construction of a new Fire Fighting Training Area just northeast of this site in 1992.

Suspected Wastes

Suspected wastes disposed of at these sites include aviation fuels, spent oils, domestic and industrial wastewater treatment sludges and asbestos. In the past, these materials came into contact with the environment through accidental spills, leaks in supply piping, landfilling operations and the burning of waste liquids during fire fighting training exercises.

Investigations

Field investigation work will be conducted at all six of the potential sources of contamination. Utilizing a systematic sampling grid, the air, surface soils, surface water, sediments and groundwater will be tested to identify the presence and location of contaminants. The results of the field investigation will be used to determine future investigations or cleanup of each site.

Information Repository

Information about NAS Jacksonville's environmental cleanup program is available to the public through an information repository which contains site information, program activities and findings. The repository is available at:

Charles D. Webb Wesconnett Branch
Jacksonville Public Library
6887 103rd Street
Jacksonville, Florida 32210
(904) 778-7305

Community Participation

Questions, comments and suggestions concerning NAS Jacksonville's Installation Restoration Program may be directed to the Deputy Public Affairs Officer at (904) 772-4032. The Public Affairs Office also maintains a mailing list for the distribution of periodic fact sheets. To be included on this list, please contact:

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