

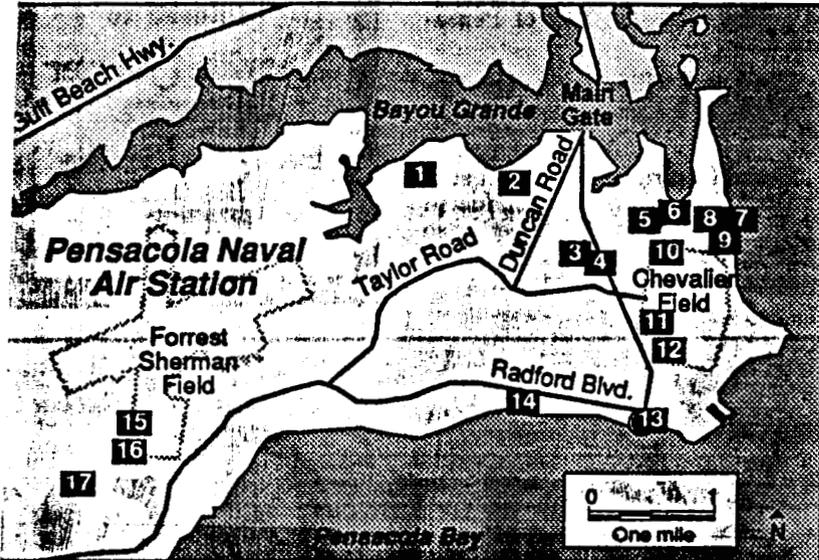
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LOCAL

Waste storage sites at Pensacola Naval Air Station

The Navy will spend more than \$100 million to study and clean up hazardous waste disposal sites at three Navy bases in Florida, including Pensacola Naval Air Station. An agreement signed Tuesday between the Navy, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Florida Department of Environment Regulation covers cleanups at Jacksonville Naval Air Station, Cecil Field Naval Air Station, near Jacksonville, and Pensacola NAS.



News Journal Graphic

Deal signed to clean up NAS

By David Tortorano
News Journal

State and federal officials signed an agreement Tuesday for the study and cleanup of hazardous waste sites at three Navy bases in Florida, including Pensacola Naval Air Station.

The Navy has estimated it will take \$100 million to clean sites at Pensacola NAS, Jacksonville Naval Air Station and Cecil Field Naval Air Station. The sites are contaminated with oil, solvents, paints and spilled fuel.

The agreement was signed in Tallahassee by Jacqueline Schaefer, assistant secretary of the Navy, Greer C. Tidwell, regional administrator for the Environmental Protection Agency, and

Dale Twachtman, secretary of the Department of Environmental Regulation.

The 68-page federal facilities agreement outlines the responsibilities of the parties, said Hagan Thompson, a spokesman for EPA's region four in Atlanta.

The sites are on the Superfund list, but money for the studies and cleanup will come from a special fund for military sites.

Harry White, a spokesman for Pensacola NAS, said it is not yet clear how much money will be spent to clean the sites at Pensacola NAS. But he said the estimate is \$30 million.

Pensacola NAS has 37 hazardous waste sites, but no remedial efforts are expected to be neces-

sary at 20 of the sites. In August, base officials hired a Tallahassee firm, Ecology and Environment Inc., to determine the levels of contamination.

The first phase involves sinking monitoring wells. White said the study by the Tallahassee firm has a ceiling of \$5 million. He said the base has spent \$3.4 million since 1982 to look into the problem.

The most critical site at NAS is "Site No. 1," the old sanitary landfill just west of the golf course. White said that over a 20-year period sanitary and industrial wastes were dumped there.

The site contains solvents, PCBs, pesticides, oils, paints and mercury. Officials think the site also may contain some asbestos.