

# FACT SHEET

JULY 2002



## Navy Environmental Restoration Program Update National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Crows Landing Flight Facility

[Former Naval Auxiliary Landing Field, Crows Landing]

The purpose of this Fact Sheet is to provide an update on the groundwater extraction activities at the Administration Area Plume at the NASA Crows Landing Flight Facility (the Facility), formerly known as the Naval Auxiliary Landing Field (NALF), Crows Landing in Stanislaus County, California.

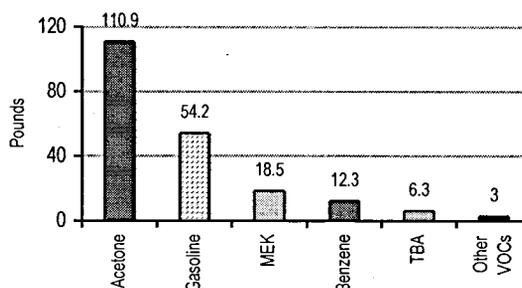
Within the eastern section of the Facility is Installation Restoration Program Site 17. This site includes the demolished hangar area, where former aircraft maintenance hangars were located, and the underlying groundwater plume that is also known as the Administration Area Plume (the Plume). The Plume consists of petroleum hydrocarbons and solvents. Carbon tetrachloride, chloroform, acetone, benzene, gasoline, ethylene dibromide (EDB), methyl ethyl ketone (MEK), tertiary butyl alcohol (TBA), methyl isobutyl ketone (MIBK), toluene, ethylbenzene, xylenes, and 1,2-dichloroethane (1,2-DCA) have been identified in the Plume.

Groundwater extraction activities continue at two areas within the Plume. One area is located near a former dry well within the Underground Storage Tank (UST) Cluster 1 facility at the southern section of the Plume. The former dry well, a cobble-filled pit, may have been used for disposal of liquid wastes. The dry well was demolished in 1994 when the tanks were removed from the UST Cluster 1 facility. The other area is located near the former UST Site 117, a former gasoline storage tank site.

As of late June 2002, approximately 160,000 gallons of contaminated groundwater have been extracted with

approximately 205 pounds of contaminants. More than one pound of contaminants has been removed during each week of extraction, and extraction activities are still in progress as of early July 2002. Extracted groundwater is transported off-site to a treatment facility. Chart 1 shows contaminant mass removal estimates for selected contaminants in the Plume.

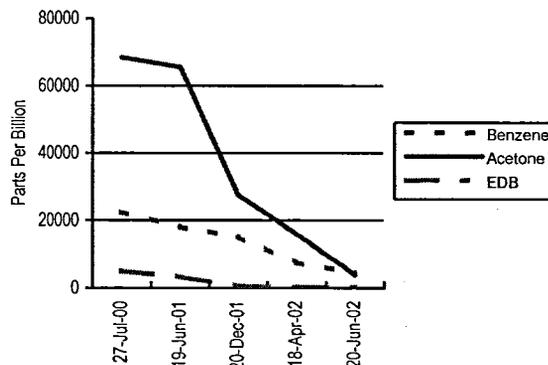
Chart 1. Contaminant Mass Removal As Of Late June 2002  
 Administration Area Plume



Explanation of Contaminant Abbreviations in Chart 1:  
 MEK: methyl ethyl ketone TBA: tertiary butyl alcohol  
 Other VOCs: Other Volatile Organic Compounds include ethylbenzene, toluene, xylenes, methyl isobutyl ketone (MIBK), 1,2-dichloroethane (1,2-DCA), and ethylene dibromide (EDB).

Some of the contaminant concentrations have been reduced significantly since groundwater extraction activities began. Chart 2 shows concentrations of three contaminants – acetone, benzene, and EDB – in groundwater samples collected from well CL1-MW-12(S). The contaminant concentrations are identified in parts per billion.

Chart 2. Concentrations of Acetone, Benzene, and EDB at Well CL1-MW-12(S)  
 near the Former Dry Well at the Administration Area Plume



Groundwater conditions are monitored routinely. An annual groundwater report, for the period November 2000

through August 2001, was issued in April 2002. Routine groundwater monitoring activities were conducted in May 2002, and the next routine monitoring activities will be conducted in August 2002.

### *Historical Background*

The former NALF Crows Landing was commissioned in May 1943 and has served primarily as an auxiliary airfield for operations from Naval Air Station, Moffett Field.

The Navy closed the Facility in 1994 in accordance with the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Act. The Facility was transferred to NASA on July 1, 1994. In October 1999, NASA was authorized by legislative act of the 106<sup>th</sup> Congress of the United States of America to transfer the facility to Stanislaus County. On April 10, 2001, the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors adopted the Crows Landing Flight Facility Reuse Plan. Phase 1 of the Reuse Plan maintains the status quo, with ongoing environmental remediation, agricultural production, and planning. Phase 2 of the Reuse Plan adds general aviation uses to those listed as Phase 1. The Reuse Plan was approved following adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration and is in full compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act.

The Navy is responsible for the restoration of contaminated sites that were the result of historical Navy operations at the Facility. The Navy is the lead agency for the implementation of the environmental restoration program, and regulatory oversight is provided by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, the California Department of Toxic Substances Control, and the California Integrated Waste Management Board.

### **OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

The Navy will provide periodic updates to the community through these Fact Sheets. The most current project correspondence, plans, reports, and other documents are available for inspection by the public at the local information repository at the Patterson Branch Library. If you have comments or questions pertaining to the Navy's projects, please send them to Ms. Marianna Potacka, Southwest Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, 1220 Pacific Highway, San Diego, CA 92132-5190.

### **Environmental Restoration Program Mailing List Update Form**

To better serve the community regarding the Navy's Environmental Restoration Program projects at the NASA Crows Landing Flight Facility, we are continuing to update our mailing list. If you would like to receive copies of fact sheets and proposed plans, please complete the form and return to the following address:

Southwest Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command  
BRAC Programs  
Code 06CC.LMH (Lynn Marie Hornecker)  
1220 Pacific Highway  
San Diego, California 92132-5190

Or Fax the form to Southwest Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command at (619) 532-0780.

Mailing List Update Form – Please provide all information:	
Name:	_____
Organization:	_____
Address:	_____
City:	_____
State & Zip Code:	_____

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

For more information pertaining to specific projects, please contact:

Ms. Marianna Potacka  
BRAC Environmental Coordinator  
Southwest Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command  
1220 Pacific Highway  
San Diego, California 92132-5190  
Telephone: (619) 532-0941; Fax: (619) 532-0940  
E-mail: [Potackamk@efdswn.navy.mil](mailto:Potackamk@efdswn.navy.mil)

Or

Ms. Lynn Marie Hornecker  
Project Manager  
Southwest Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command  
1220 Pacific Highway  
San Diego, California 92132-5190  
Telephone: (619) 532-0783; Fax: (619) 532-0780  
E-mail: [Horneckerlm@efdswn.navy.mil](mailto:Horneckerlm@efdswn.navy.mil)

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Administrative Record documents are available at the Information Repository at the Stanislaus County Library, Patterson Branch in Patterson. The Information Repository also includes an index of all documents contained within the CERCLA Administrative Record. The Navy's CERCLA Administrative Record is maintained at Southwest Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command in San Diego. For assistance with the CERCLA Administrative Record or requests for copies of documents contained within the CERCLA Administrative Record, please contact the records manager, Ms. Diane Silva, at (619) 532-3676.

## Transmittal

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