

FACT SHEET

June 2003



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 sampling and extraction activities that were conducted by the Navy during the period from December 2002 through June 2003 at the NASA Crows Landing Flight Facility (the facility), formerly known as the Naval Auxiliary Landing Field (NALF), Crows Landing in Stanislaus County, California.

Routine groundwater sampling activities were conducted at various monitoring points throughout the facility from 12 May through 15 May 2003. Samples were collected from Installation Restoration Program (IRP) Site 11 (Disposal Pits), IRP Site 17 (Demolished Hangar Area and Administration Area Plume (the plume)), Underground Storage Tank (UST) Sites 109, 117, UST Cluster 1, and UST Cluster 2. The May 2003 sampling event represents the 11th quarterly sampling event since November 2000. Many of the monitoring wells were also sampled quarterly during the period from 1994 through 1998.

The groundwater monitoring program includes the collection of continuous water level measurements from several wells at the facility. The water level measurements are evaluated for seasonal influences and potential influences caused by the pumping of groundwater from nearby irrigation water supply wells. The information is presented in graphical format in the quarterly groundwater monitoring reports, and copies of the most recent groundwater reports are available in the local information repository at the library in Patterson, California. The report for the 10th quarterly sampling event was published in early June 2003, and the report for the 11th quarterly sampling event will be published in September 2003.

Photograph. Transferring water level measurements from the data logger at a monitoring well during May 2003.



(U.S. Navy Photograph)

Piezometers were constructed at the eastern section of the plume along Bell Road from December 2002 through February 2003. A piezometer is a small-diameter well that will be used for the collection of water level measurements. Continuous water level recorders (data loggers) have been installed in some of the piezometers.

A new extraction well was constructed west of Bell Road and east of UST Site 117. Pump tests were conducted during mid-March 2003, and continuous groundwater extraction activities commenced following the completion of the pump tests. The most significant contaminants in the new well are benzene, 1,2-dichloroethane (1,2-DCA), and chloroform. Approximately 41,000 gallons of groundwater have been extracted as of June 2003. Extracted water is transported off-site to a treatment facility.

The Navy is preparing to conduct a groundwater remediation demonstration project beginning in the Summer 2003. The project is designed to increase the dissolved oxygen concentration in the groundwater, and thereby, increase the rate of biodegradation of contaminants in the vicinity of Bell Road. Detailed plans for the demonstration project were issued in June 2003, and the plans are available for inspection at the local information repository.

Groundwater extraction continues in the vicinity of a former dry well at UST Cluster 1 in the southern section of the plume. Two groundwater wells have been utilized for extraction activities, and more than 70,000 gallons have

been extracted during the period from December 2002 through June 2003. More than 50 pounds of contaminants (primarily acetone, benzene, and gasoline) have been removed from the groundwater near the former dry well during 2003.

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, and it was transferred to NASA on July 1, 1994. In October 1999, NASA was authorized by legislative act of the 106th 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 installation restoration program. The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, the California Department of Toxic Substances Control, and the California Integrated Waste Management Board provide regulatory oversight.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Navy will provide periodic updates to the community through these Fact Sheets. The Fact Sheets are available for viewing on the Navy's Environmental web site at the following address:

<http://www.efdswn.navy.mil/Environmental/CrowsLanding.htm#facts>.

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:

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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.

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