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From: Commander, Western Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command  
To: Distribution

Subj: REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION/FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR NAVAL STATION  
TREASURE ISLAND, SAN FRANCISCO

Encl: (1) Ecological Risk Assessment Site Walk Summary

1. Enclosure (1) is provided for your information.
2. Thank you for your guidance and involvement in this project. For further information, please call me at (415) 244-2560.

Original signed by:

ERNESTO M. GALANG  
By direction

Distribution:

California Department of Toxic Substances Control (Attn: Mr. Tom Lanphar)  
California Regional Water Quality Control Board (Attn: Ms. Gina Kathuria)  
California Department of Fish and Game (Attn: Dr. Michael Martin)  
US Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX (Attn: Ms. Rachel Simons)  
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Bay Area Air Quality Management District (Attn: Mr. Julian Elliot)  
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NAVSTA Treasure Island (Attn: Mr. Jim Sullivan)  
NAVSTA Treasure Island (Attn: Mr. Eddie Sarmiento)  
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**NAVAL STATION TREASURE ISLAND  
REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION/FEASIBILITY STUDY  
ECOLOGICAL RISK ASSESSMENT SITE WALK SUMMARY**

On June 3, 1994, the ecological risk assessment site walk was performed at Naval Station Treasure Island (NAVSTA TI), California. Based on the outcome of this site walk, two bird surveys were conducted by the Navy and PRC Environmental Management, Inc. (PRC) on June 15 and June 22, 1994. The following is a summary of the site visits. A list of the participants is attached.

**JUNE 3, 1994, SITE WALK**

Participants met at NAVSTA TI in the parking lot in front of Building 1 between 0530 and 0600. The sites on Yerba Buena Island (YBI) were visited first, beginning with the sludge disposal area (Site 08). Site 08 is directly under the San Francisco - Oakland Bay Bridge west of Building 262 on the eastern end of YBI. It covers an area about 100 by 400 feet, and was used as a disposal area for sludge from the waste treatment facility from 1968 to 1976. Waste sludge was transported from the wastewater treatment plant and spread on the ground. Currently, the site is overgrown with small trees and shrubs and is not used for any activity. Several birds and insects were observed at the site. Participants spent approximately 45 minutes walking the site.

The next site viewed was the Yerba Buena landfill (Site 11), which is at the southern edge of the eastern part of YBI. The area was used as a dump. The volumes and types of materials previously disposed of have not been identified. The site is covered with grasses, shrubs, and some trees. Birds were observed using the site and a harbor seal was seen swimming offshore. Participants spent approximately 45 minutes walking the site.

The Clipper Cove tank farm (Site 16) was visited next. The Clipper Cove tank farm was on the east side of the isthmus joining TI and YBI. Ten 50,000-gallon aboveground storage tanks were at the tank farm from at least 1943 until they were dismantled in the 1960s. The storage tanks contained automotive diesel and aviation gasoline. Unknown quantities of sludge were reportedly deposited on bare ground at an unspecified distance east of the tanks. Currently, the site is unpaved and contains a picnic area surrounded by shrubs and eucalyptus trees. Participants spent approximately 40 minutes walking the site and the beach area below the site.

At approximately 0900 the group visited the following sites on TI: 01, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 09, 10, 12, 14, 15, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, and 25. All the TI sites consist of either industrial paved areas, open lots, or landscaped areas. Due to the limited habitat, the majority of TI sites were observed from the van; Sites 7, 10, 12, and 25 were observed on foot.

The last site visited was the west side on- and off-ramps to the Bay Bridge and the area surrounding the ramps (Site 28). The on- and off-ramps have been in operation since the Bay Bridge was built in 1936 to the present. The soil beneath and surrounding the on- and off-ramps may be contaminated with lead and other metals as a result of both vehicle emissions and bridge and ramp maintenance. The area consists of a stand of trees, primarily eucalyptus. Several birds were observed using the site.

After all the sites had been visited, the participants discussed the results of the morning observations. It was concluded that the TI sites do not have sufficient terrestrial habitat to warrant any additional efforts besides a complete description of the conditions at the sites. The Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) was concerned that plants and birds had not been adequately identified on YBI and recommended that bird and plant surveys be performed on all areas of YBI, not just the Navy's property. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) agreed that a thorough survey of YBI along with additional contaminant characterization is necessary. It was noted that the initial chemical characterization of the sites is presented in the draft phase I remedial investigation (RI) report and additional chemical characterization will be performed in the phase II RI. An additional concern of all agencies was the impact of the terrestrial sites and stormwater outfalls on the quality of the marine ecosystem.

Based on the results of the morning observations, the afternoon and evening visits were cancelled and the site walk was concluded. However, additional bird surveys were scheduled.

#### **JUNE 15 AND JUNE 22, 1994, BIRD SURVEYS**

Nola Chow and Jeff Lewis, wildlife biologists for the Navy, and PRC staff conducted bird surveys at NAVSTA TI in response to conclusions made after the June 3, 1994, site walk. A June 27, 1994 summary report of the surveys is attached.

The California Native Plant Society (CNPS) was contacted regarding plant surveys on YBI. CNPS has not performed any surveys there, and the society knew of none that had been done. Other local scientist and museums will be contacted concerning plants on YBI. If no surveys have been performed on YBI, a survey will be done as part of the phase II ecological risk assessment.

Results from both the bird and plant surveys will be used to augment the existing species lists for NAVSTA TI.

NAVAL STATION TREASURE ISLAND  
REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION/FEASIBILITY STUDY  
ECOLOGICAL RISK ASSESSMENT

SITWALK AND MEETING  
JUNE 3, 1994

	PERSONNEL	ORGANIZATION	PHONE NO.
1.	James Sullivan	NSTI	(415) 395-5454
2.	ANNE ORDING	PRC EMI	415-222-8255
3.	NOLA CHOW	WESTDIV. 29F2	244-3729
4.	TIMO ALLISON	PRC EMI	415-222-8235
5.	Randy Fish	PRC	415 222-8239
6.	Barbara M Smith	SFWQCB	(510) 286-4222
7.	A Callahan	EPA	415/744-2314
8.	Tom Lanphar	CAL-EPA/DTSC	510 5403809
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11.			
12.			
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15.			
16.			

June 27, 1994

MEMORANDUM

From: Nola Chow, Wildlife Biologist, WESTDIV,  
To: Doug Pomeroy, WESTDIV  
Mary Doyle, WESTDIV  
Emily Pimentel, PRC  
cc: Timo Allison, PRC, Ernie Galang, WESTDIV, Jeff Lewis, WESTDIV  
Subj: Summary Report of bird surveys on NAVSTA TI

I have completed my biological surveys on NAVSTA TI as part of the IR biological assessment. The main objectives were to assess bird species found on Yerba Buena and Treasure Islands, especially species of concern such as the peregrine falcon, least terns, and brown pelicans, and to look for mammals, reptiles, and amphibians (or their sign). I went out on 15 June 94 and 22 June 94 and surveyed from 0600 to approximately 1100 on each day. Accompanying me in the field were Jeff Lewis (both visits), Timo Allison (15 June), Susan Russo, PRC (22 June), and Jim Baker, PRC (22 June). The weather on 15 June was very sunny and warm, and thus there was a lot of activity throughout the morning, but on 22 June the weather cloudy and cool until mid-morning and so there were fewer birds about. The survey was divided by area and date: 1) YBI general area 2) USCG area and 3) TI. Below are the results of the surveys:

<u>Species</u>	<u>Location(s)</u>	<u>Date Observed</u>
<b>Aves</b>		
Podicipedidae		
western grebe	3	15, 22 June
Phalacrocoracidae		
double-crested comorant	1, 3	15, 22 June
Ardeidae		
great blue heron	1	15 June
black-crowned night heron	2	15, 22 June
snowy egret	2	15 June
Anatidae		
mallard	3	15 June
Laridae		
western gull	1,2,3	15, 22 June
herring gull	2,3	15 June
caspiian tern	2,3	15, 22 June
Forster's tern	3	22 June
Accipitridae		
red-tailed hawk	1,2	22 June
* red-shouldered hawk	2	15 June
Falconidae		
peregrine falcon	1	15, 22 June

Columbidae		
morning dove	1,2,3	15, 22 June
Trochilidae		
Anna's hummingbird	1,2	15, 22 June
Allen's hummingbird	1,2	15, 22 June
* rufous hummingbird	1,2	22 June
Hirundinidae		
barn swallow	1,2	15, 22 June
Corvidae		
common raven	1	15 June
Paridae		
chestnut-backed chickadee	1,3	15, 22 June
Aegithalidae		
bushtit	1,2	15, 22 June
Certhiidae		
brown creeper	1	22 June
Sittidae		
*red-breasted nuthatch	1	15, 22 June
Mascicapidae		
American robin	1,2,3	15, 22 June
Sturnidae		
European starling	1,2,3	15, 22 June
Emberizidae		
white-crowned sparrow	1,2	15, 22 June
song sparrow	1,2	15, 22 June
red-winged blackbird	1,2	15 June
brewer's blackbird	1,3	15, 22 June
brown-headed cowbird	1	15, 22 June
Fringillidae		
American goldfinch	1,2	22 June
house finch	1,2,3	15, 22 June
<b>Mammalia</b>		
Phocidae		
Harbor seal	1,2,3	15, 22 June
Canidae		
domestic dog	2	22 June
Felidae		
domestic cat	2,3	15, 22 June
<b>Reptilia</b>		
Iguanidae		
*western fence lizard	1	15, 22 June

\* uncertain identification

In addition, several nests have been found on YBI, but identification of them to species is impossible. On an earlier visit to the IR "site 8" area. I found a cup nest in the grass with different eggshell fragments nearby. On the 22 June visit, a pendulum nest made of lichens and feathers was found hanging from a small oak tree near the radio tower. A skate or ray was also spotted swimming near the shores of Clipper Cove.

Along with this survey, I am including a summary list of previous incidental bird observations I made in the spring of 1993. Please contact me if you have any questions or comments at 244-3729.

Nola Chow

**Yerba Buena Island Species List (from East Point of YBI)**  
**Nola Chow**

14 March 93

- \*cormorant-1
- \*western grebe-2-3pairs
- \*western gull
- \*peregrine falcon-pair
- \*white crowned sparrow
- \*harbor seal

25 March 93

- \*wren
- \*bushtit?
- \*white crowned sparrow
- \*raven-3
- \*western gull
- \*purple finch
- \*red wing blackbird
- \*brewer's blackbird

27 March 93

- \*brown pelican
- \*white crowned sparrow
- \*bufflehead-6
- \*crow

4 April 93

- \*cormorant
- \*western gull
- \*clark's grebe
- \*Allen's hummingbird
- \*Anna's hummingbird
- \*red winged blackbird
- \*purple finch
- \*song sparrow

93 April 5

- \*loon (pacific?/common?)

17 April 93

- \*canada goose- 3