



NAVY MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT FORMER MARE ISLAND NAVAL SHIPYARD



MARCH 3, 2005

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USS Camden

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Department of the Navy (Navy) prepared this monthly progress report (MPR) to discuss progress and issues in relation to the environmental cleanup of the former Mare Island Naval Shipyard in Vallejo, California. This MPR does not discuss cleanup work performed by the City of Vallejo and its developers, Lennar Mare Island and Weston Solutions, through the Navy's Environmental Services Cooperative Agreements. The work completed under the Navy Environmental Services Cooperative Agreements is reported separately by each respective party. This MPR discusses progress made during the reporting period from January 28, 2005 through March 3, 2005. The information provided below includes updates to field work and removal actions; document submittals; and the progress of regulatory reviews, issues associated with Navy environmental programs, and Remedial Project Manager (RPM) and Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meetings.

2.0 FIELD WORK AND REMOVAL ACTIONS

During the February reporting period the Navy hosted a Controlled Detonation Chamber demonstration by the Army Corps of Engineers. See Section 3.0 for details. Currently, no field work is scheduled to for the March reporting period.



A 3-inch projectile prior to its detonation in the chamber.

A view of the 3-inch projectile after it was detonated in the chamber, resulting in inert scrap metal.



AFTER

BEFORE

3.0 INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATION

From February 22 through 24, 2005, the Army Corps of Engineers contracted a professional firm, DeMil International, Inc., owned by CH2M Hill, to conduct a demonstration of the Controlled Detonation Chamber (CDC) in the Western Magazine Area at Mare Island. The demonstration was part of a larger study by the Army Corps of Engineers to evaluate the cost and performance of the CDC in disposing of munitions. The CDC can handle approximately 13 pounds of net explosive weight at one time. Munitions are safely prepared with a donor charge, detonated in the contained chamber (pictured below), inspected to ensure there are no residual explosives, and then the inert scrap metal is cleared from the chamber for appropriate off-site disposal.

On February 24, 2005, RAB members were invited to the site to see this technology up-close. Tyler Boswell of DeMil International Inc. served as a guide for the group, describing the process, and then carefully escorting everyone to the exclusion zone 660 feet from the CDC, before the actual detonation took place. For the demonstration a 3-inch projectile (pictured left) was wrapped in explosive sheet material, placed on a hook in the middle of the CDC, and detonated. The resulting blast was minor, emitting a small sound heard by the group.

The Army Corps of Engineers is continuing their study, transporting and using the CDC at many locations along the West Coast. The CDC is effective at handling small munitions, though it is limited in the size of munitions it can handle, and the cost-effectiveness for future use at Mare Island has yet to be determined.

RAB members Myrna Hayes (far left) and Diana Krevsky (far right) stand in front of the CDC with Senior Chamber Operator Tyler Boswell.



4.0 DOCUMENT SUBMITTALS AND PROGRESS OF REGULATORY REVIEW

The Navy submitted six documents to the regulatory agencies during the February reporting period. These documents include the following: 1) Draft Work Plan, Time-Critical Removal Action Marine Corps Firing Range and Historic Outfall Feasibility Study; 2) Draft Investigation Area FI Remedial Investigation Report; 3) Confirmation of groundwater monitoring well abandonment for conditional closure of Building 505 underground storage tank; 4) Draft Paint Waste Area PA/SI Report; 5) Draft Conceptual Site Model Technical Memorandum for Investigation Area K; and 6) Draft Watershed Contaminated Source Document.

The Navy received 6 comments from the regulatory agencies during the February reporting period. The DTSC, Water Board, and the EPA submitted comments on the Draft Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis for Investigation Area (IA) H2. In addition, the DTSC and the Water Board submitted comments on the Draft Work Plan for the removal action at IA H2. The DTSC submitted comments on the Draft Final Site Management Plan for Fiscal Year 2005.

Number of Documents Submitted by the Navy in 2005	8
Number of DTSC Comments Received by the Navy in 2005	2
Number of EPA Comments Received by the Navy in 2005	1
Number of Water Board Comments Received by the Navy in 2005	3

A view of the entire CDC. At the far right, community members look into the empty chamber, which flows into an expansion box in the middle, and then the blue filter.



5.0 POTENTIAL EARLY TRANSFER PARCELS

Early Transfer of Property at Mare Island

- Weston:** Remainder of Regional Park (Parcel VII-B)
- Lennar:** Reuse Area 1 (Parcels II and XV-B)
DRMO Site (Parcel XVII)
MCFR Site (Parcel XIX and portion of I)
Reuse Area 10 (Parcels V and VI)

The Navy continues to work with the City of Vallejo to make progress on the early transfer of the parcels listed above. The Navy met with the City on February 10, 2005 to discuss the path forward for early transfer. The Navy and the City discussed recent changes at Reuse Area 1 as well as the conceptual path forward to address all of the parcels listed above. The Navy's goal is to include all remaining properties scheduled to transfer to the City of Vallejo in one early transfer. These parcels are listed above. Future transfers will be based on reaching agreements on property transfer schedules and acceptable cleanup cost proposals.

**RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING SCHEDULE**

Thursday, March 3, 2005*
Thursday, March 31, 2005
Thursday, April 28, 2005

Meetings begin at 7:00 p.m.

*(Note that the February meeting has been moved to March 3)

Location: John F. Kennedy Library
505 Santa Clara Street
Vallejo, California 94590

NAVY CONTACT INFORMATION

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<http://www.efdswww.navy.mil/EnvironmentalMareIsland.htm>