

## St. Juliens Creek Annex (SJCA) Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting Summary: May 17, 2006

### RAB Members Present:

Agnes Sullivan	Navy Co-Chair NAVFAC Mid-Atlantic
Tim Reisch	NAVFAC Mid-Atlantic
Kelley Anderson	NAVFAC Atlantic Public Affairs Office
Todd Richardson	EPA (Region III)
Josh Barber	EPA (Region III)
Karen Doran	Virginia DEQ

Bob Mann	Community Co-Chair (Geneva Shores)
Glenn Manning	Community Representative
Frank Fender	SPAWAR
Kim Henderson	CH2M HILL
Janna Staszak	CH2M HILL

FROM: Janna Staszak/CH2M HILL

DATE: June 16, 2006

Location: SJCA, Chesapeake, Virginia

### SJCA Site Visit

In lieu of a traditional RAB meeting, a SJCA Installation Restoration Program (IRP) site tour was conducted. At 3:30, prior to the tour, Ms. Agnes Sullivan presented opening remarks and introductions. Mr. Tim Reisch presented an overview of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) process. A fact sheet about the SJCA IRP, including a description of SJCA and summaries of the active sites, was distributed to the RAB members (attached). The following sites were visited and discussed during the tour:

- Site 2: Former Waste Disposal Area B
- Site 3: Former Waste Disposal Area C
- Site 4: Landfill D
- Site 5: Former Building Grounds
- Site 6: Small Arms Unit
- Site 19: Former Building 190
- Site 21: Industrial Area

Next Meeting: Tentatively scheduled for October of 2006.

Meeting Adjourned.

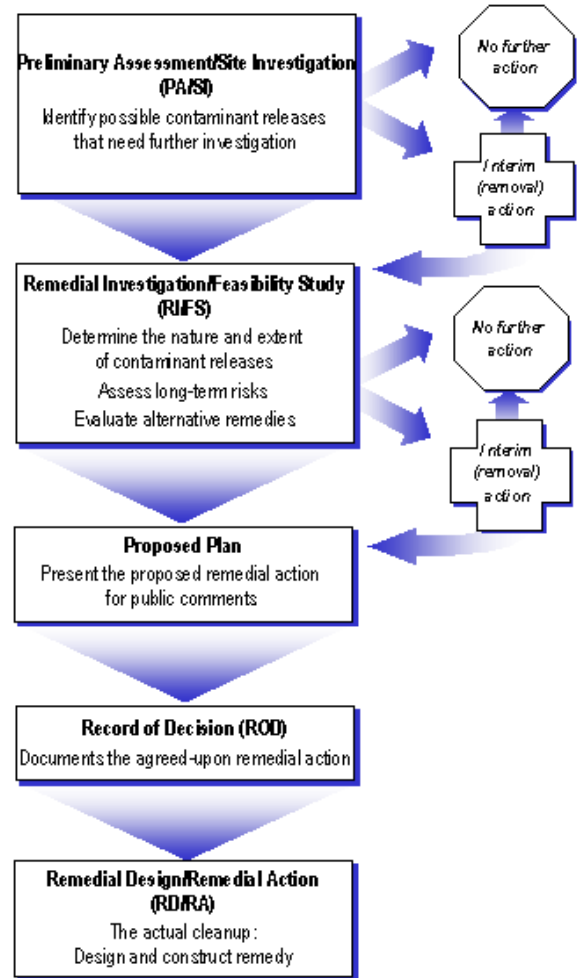


# St. Juliens Creek Annex, Chesapeake, Virginia Installation Restoration Program

## Installation Restoration Program

In 1975 the Department of Defense (DOD) initiated the Installation Restoration Program (IRP) to identify contamination and remediate problems associated with the past environmental releases of hazardous substances or petroleum products. In 1980, the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), or "Superfund," was passed and in 1981 became the governing regulation for investigating and remediating the areas identified under the DOD IRP. In August 2000, St. Juliens Creek Annex (SJCA) was listed on the National Priorities List (NPL). To manage the IRP and the CERCLA process, SJCA works in partnership with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Community participation at SJCA includes a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB), public meetings, information repository, fact sheets, public notices, and a web site (<http://public.lantops.ir.org/sites/public/sjca/>). The RAB was formed in 1999 and consists of community members and representatives of the Navy, VDEQ, and EPA. RAB meetings are held every May and October and are open to the public to provide opportunity for comment and input on the IRP.



Environmental Restoration Process

For more information about the RAB or the SJCA

IRP contact:

**LCDR Robert Mehal (Navy Public Affairs Officer)**

757-322-2853

**Ms. Agnes Sullivan (Navy Co-Chair)**

757-444-4120

The Information Repository for SJCA is:

Major Hillard Library

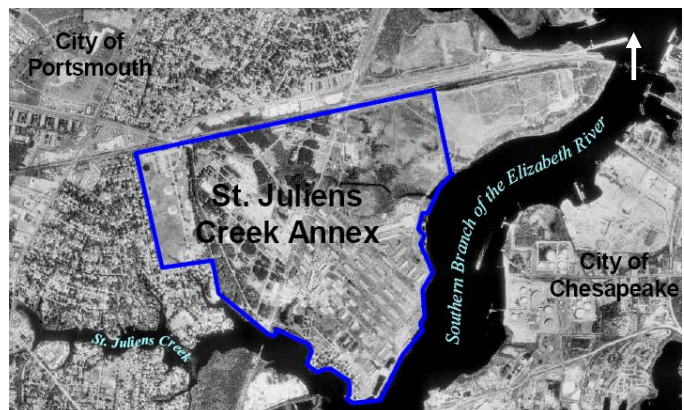
824 Old George Washington Hwy

Chesapeake, VA 23323

757-382-3600

## St. Juliens Creek Annex

The SJCA facility covers approximately 490 acres at the confluence of St. Juliens Creek and the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River in the City of Chesapeake in southeastern Virginia. Most surrounding areas are developed and include residences, schools, recreational areas, and large industries.



SJCA began operations as a naval ammunition facility in 1849. For a majority of its history, the SJCA facility has been used for the storage and transportation of ammunition and ordnance. Past operations at SJCA have included ordnance operations involving wartime transfer of ammunition to various other naval facilities throughout the United States and abroad. SJCA has also been involved in non-ordnance operations, including degreasing operations, paint shops, machine shops, vehicle and locomotive maintenance shops, pest control shops, battery shops, print shops, electrical shops, boiler plant operations, wash rack operations, potable water and salt water fire-protection systems, fire-fighter training operations, and storage of oil and chemicals.

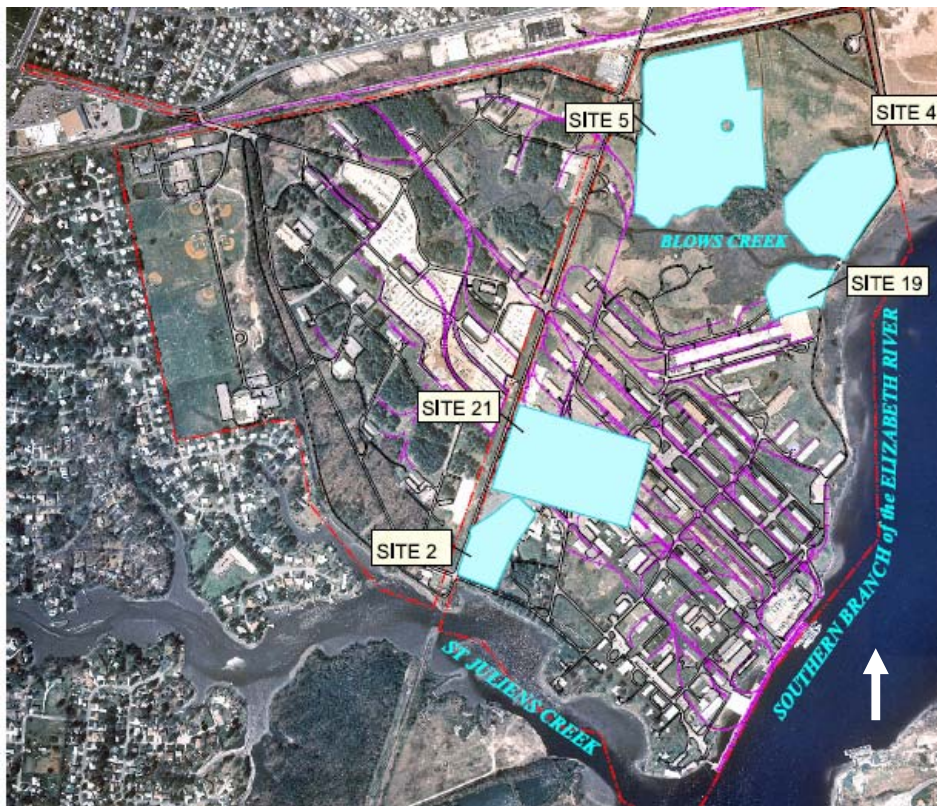
Activity at SJCA has decreased in recent years and many of the aging structures are being demolished. The current primary mission of SJCA is to provide a radar-testing range and various administrative and warehousing facilities for local naval activities.

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## ***Installation Restoration Program Sites***

There are currently five IRP sites that are being investigated and remediated using the CERCLA process. Forty-six IRP sites have been closed with no further action and two sites have been remediated with no further action (NFA).

**Further Action Sites:**



### ***Site 2: Former Waste Disposal Area B***

**Background:** Site 2 is an unlined waste disposal area covering approximately 4.4 acres in the southern portion of SJCA. In the center of Site 2 is a tidal inlet that is connected to St. Juliens Creek through a 24-inch culvert. The waste disposal area operated from 1921 to 1947 where garbage, acids, and waste ordnance were reportedly disposed by open burning and the ash was used to fill the adjacent inlet. Abrasive blast media (ABM) from ship overhaul and repair operations were also disposed of at the site.

**CERCLA Status:** Ongoing Remedial Investigation (RI) activities have indicated potential risks to human health and the environment from exposure to chemicals in waste, soil, sediment, and groundwater.

Next Steps: Continue RI field investigations to define the nature and extent of contamination.

#### *Site 4: Landfill D*

Background: Landfill D consists of 8.32 acres in the northeastern portion of SJCA at the confluence of Blows Creek and the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River. The first indication of activity at Site 4 was trenching identified on a historical aerial photograph from 1961. From 1970 until 1981, sanitary landfill operations were conducted at Site 4 and the wastes managed were primarily trash, wet garbage, construction material, and out-dated civil defense storage material. RI activities indicated potential risks to human health and the environment from exposure to chemicals in waste, soil, and drainage sediment.

CERCLA Status: A remedial action was conducted from March through October 2005 and included:

- Installation of a minimum 2 foot soil cover
- Removal of surface debris from the wetland area adjacent to Blows Creek
- Removal of drainage sediment and re-construction of site drainages
- Land Use Controls (LUCs) to prohibit digging into or disturbing the soil cover or landfill contents and prohibit residential use and development of the site

Next Steps: Because waste remains at the site, annual inspections and five year reviews will be conducted to ensure that the remedy is protective of human health and the environment.

#### *Site 5: Former Burning Grounds*

Background: Site 5 consists of approximately 21 acres located in the northeastern portion of SJCA. The site currently consists of an open field with a wetland in the center and a forested area to the south. Much of the Site 5 area was historically used for placement of dredge spoil material that reportedly originated from Blows Creek and the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River. Operations began at the Burning Grounds in the 1930s when waste ordnance materials were disposed of by open burning. Tetryl, trinitrotoluene (TNT), fuzes, solvents, paint sludge, pesticides, and various types of refuse were also disposed. In mid-1977, the Burning Grounds surface was used for facility-wide decontamination of ordnance equipment and material. The decontamination process included filling equipment from buildings with oil and straw and igniting them. Afterwards, the ground surface was reportedly covered with oil and straw and burned. The top 6 inches of soil was then diced, and the ground surface was covered with oil and straw and burned again. A 4.3-acre unlined waste disposal area is located in the center of the site. Ongoing RI activities have indicated potential risks to human health and the environment from exposure to chemicals in waste, soil, drainage sediment, and groundwater.

CERCLA Status: RI field investigations are ongoing to define the nature and extent of metals in groundwater. An EE/CA is currently being conducted to evaluate removal action alternatives to address potential risks to human health and the environment from waste and the associated impacted soil in the 4.3-acre waste area.

Next Steps: Continue RI field investigations to define the nature and extent of contamination. Conduct a partial removal action, currently planned for fiscal year 2007.

Blows Creek is a tidally-influenced brackish water tributary to the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River and runs through the center of SJCA. Several IRP sites are located within the Blows Creek drainage basin and have been identified as potential historical sources to Blows Creek. A Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment (BERA) investigation is currently being completed to characterize potential risks to the environment from chemicals in Blows Creek sediment. Any further action necessary will be conducted as part of IRP Site 5.

### *Site 19: Former Building 190*

Background: Building 190 was located just south of the mouth of Blows Creek at the confluence of the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River. The building was used for loading explosives into ammunition from the 1940s to the 1970s. In mid-1977, all ordnance-handling buildings were decontaminated by flushing with chemical solutions and water. Building 190 was demolished sometime after 2000 and the site is now a grass-covered field. Two concrete drainage culverts remain on site, leading underground from former Building 190 to the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River.

During Site Investigation activities, a Metallic Slag Area and Elevated Subsurface Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) Area were identified as the areas of concern. No explosives were detected in site soils, groundwater, or in outfall sediment. Based on the Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA), excavation and backfill of the areas of concern was selected as the removal action alternative to eliminate potential unacceptable risk to human health and the environment.

CERCLA Status: A removal action was conducted in early May 2006.

Next Steps: Complete site closeout documentation, including a Construction Closeout Report and CERCLA Site Closeout Report for NFA.

### *Site 21: Industrial Area*

Background: Located in a former industrial area in the south-central portion of SJCA. Buildings at Site 21 were historically used as machine, vehicle, and locomotive maintenance shops; electrical shops; and munitions loading facilities. A fuel service station was also located in the vicinity. Outdoor areas were used for equipment and chemical storage. Several of these buildings and/or their surrounding areas were former IRP sites. Many of the older buildings at the site have been demolished. The existing buildings and the Site 21 area are currently used for storage and maintenance activities. An active warehouse used by Mid-Atlantic Regional Maintenance Center (MARMC) was constructed in 1992. A storm sewer system runs through the site and drains to a downstream inlet (Site 2) to St. Juliens Creek.

CERCLA Status: During Site Investigation activities, several areas of chlorinated solvent (trichloroethene [TCE]) contamination have been identified in the groundwater. Chlorinated solvents have also been detected in the adjacent storm sewer.

Next Steps: Conduct a video survey of the storm sewer to detect any leaks and complete the necessary repairs, and complete a Treatability Study to evaluate potential groundwater treatment alternatives.