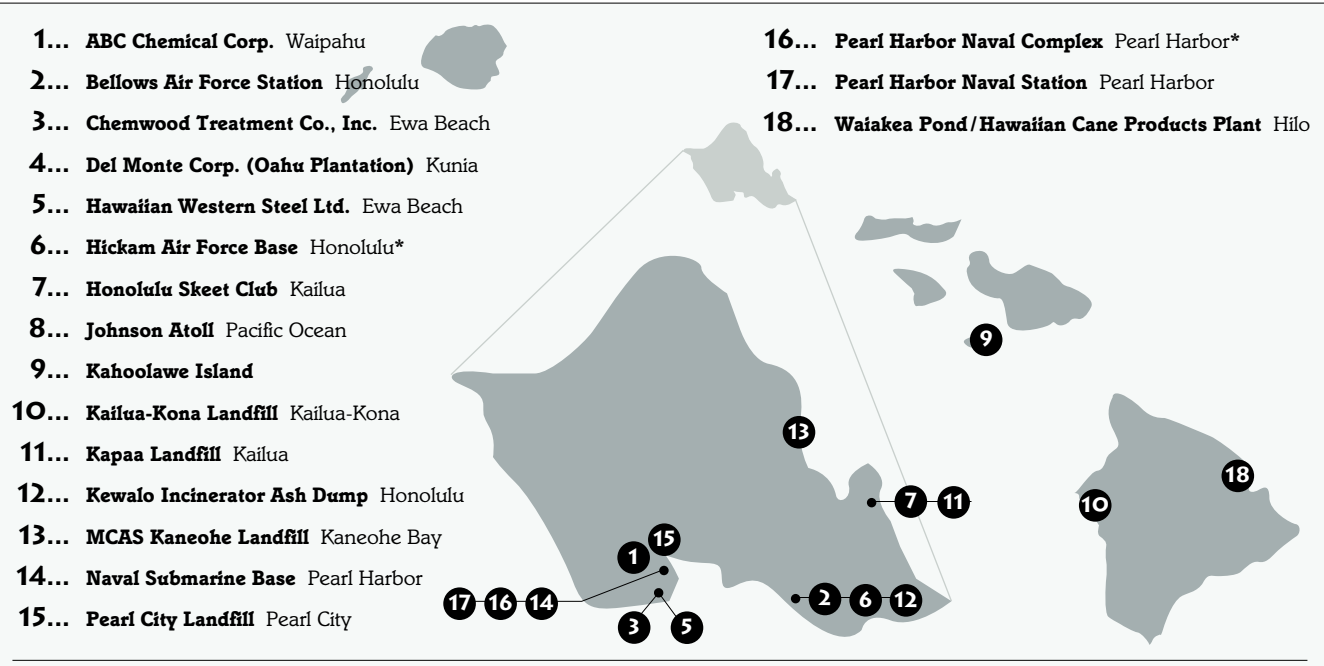


NOAA Coastal Resource Coordination Program Hawaii Sites

OFFICE OF RESPONSE AND RESTORATION

CRC PROGRAM MISSION...

NOAA acts on behalf of the Secretary of Commerce as a Federal trustee, under CERCLA and other laws, for natural resources in coastal and marine areas. NOAA's mandate is to protect and restore trust resources that are injured by Superfund site contaminants. NOAA fulfills its responsibilities through an effective network of Coastal Resource Coordinators (CRCs) placed in eight EPA regional offices, as well as an interdisciplinary support group located in Seattle. NOAA CRCs respond to local technical requirements by identifying risks to natural resources, recommending protective remedial measures, and designing projects to restore injured resources and habitats in cooperation with the U.S. EPA, the State of Hawaii, and other trustee agencies. Our goal is to ensure that future generations can enjoy the benefit of healthy coastal ecosystems, abundant fishery stocks, and robust populations of marine mammals.



NOAA has developed a one-page fact sheet for sites marked with an asterisk. The fact sheets provide a physical description of the site and the contamination present, list the NOAA resources of concern, and summarize NOAA's involvement in the cleanup process.

NOAA TRUSTEE RESPONSIBILITY IN HAWAII...

NOAA trust species in Hawaii include several amphidromous endemic finfish ('o'opu'akupa, 'o'opu naniha, and 'o'opu nakea) with a unique life history: they spend their adult life in freshwater and spawn close to estuaries. Upon hatching, eggs drift out to the ocean as planktonic larvae, returning as post-larvae and ascending freshwater streams. Other important fish include surgeonfish, eagleray, bonefish, parrotfish, and barracuda. Endemic invertebrates include Hawaiian crab, blue claw crab, and stone crab. The Hawaiian and green sea turtle, both federally threatened species, are also found in Hawaiian waters.

NOAA CRCs AND THE SITE CLEANUP PROCESS...

NOAA CRCs provide technical expertise to EPA on resources and ecological risk assessment, mitigative measures, and cleanup strategies to ensure protection NOAA trust resources. Federal and state trustees' early involvement and coordination in the scoping of ecological risk assessments ensures that assessments and the entire remedial process adequately evaluate the risk to natural resources. Designing a cleanup that protects natural resources as well as human health is a cost-effective and efficient way to address the threat posed by coastal waste sites. Through CRC participation in the cleanup process, the government saves time and money by avoiding duplication of effort and litigation. Responsible parties benefit from an early resolution of natural resource damage liability. Best of all, environmental threats are addressed sooner, increasing the chances for effective protection, recovery and/or restoration of coastal and marine resources.

MILITARY SITES IN HAWAII...

Hawaii is dotted with 418 military installations and formerly used defense areas, comprising 657 DoD sites. The nature of defense-related activities involves chemicals that are highly toxic and persistent in the environment. In Hawaii, military-related contaminants of concern include VOCs, PCBs, PAHs, heavy metals, pesticides, and solvents. In 1992, NOAA conducted a Coastal Hazardous Material Site Review of the Pearl Harbor Naval Complex. NOAA has been assisting in the scoping and analysis of contaminants in sediment throughout Pearl Harbor. Results of this sediments study will be used to produce a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) during the summer of 1998. NOAA is also providing technical assistance to the Air Force to assess potential risks to Hickam Air Force Base. NOAA currently is reviewing Air Force data reports to provide recommendations for further action. NOAA's input is needed now to ensure cleanups that are protective of coastal natural resources as well as human health. NOAA offers technical expertise and a neutral perspective valued by both the military and the local public.

AREAS OF SPECIAL CONCERN IN HAWAII...

The NOAA CRC program works to protect and restore natural resources throughout Hawaii. The Waikale Stream and Pearl Harbor support a vital ecosystem which provides valuable spawning, nursery, and forage habitat for a number of NOAA trust resources. The habitats of primary concern to NOAA are the surface water and sediments of Pearl Harbor.

FYI...

For more information about NOAA's CRC program in Hawaii, please contact:

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