Navy Restoration Status and Progress

I am exceptionally proud of our environmental restoration progress in Fiscal Year 2001. We had planned to complete 156 sites during the year and we completed 256. More importantly, we had planned to complete all sites at 6 installations during the year and we completed 12 installations. As more and more sites are being completed, we need to begin to shift our focus towards ensuring the long-term viability of any land use controls.

—H.T. Johnson, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Installations and Environment)

The United States has always been dependent on the sea. A vast country with thousands of miles of coastline, our nation requires the ocean's resources and commerce routes in order to survive and flourish. The U.S. Navy provides the maritime presence that enables the United States to protect vital American interests around the world. These measures include strategic deterrence, crisis response, and humanitarian efforts in support of national security objectives and global interests—both military and environmental. To ensure military readiness, the Department of Navy (DON) constantly seeks solutions that will enable our forces to perform missions, training, weapons maintenance, and other necessary activities while preserving human health and the environment.

To ensure military readiness and environmental quality, the DON established its Installation Restoration program (IRP). The IRP combines aggressive cleanup policies with modern technology to restore and preserve property under Navy/Marine Corps stewardship. Environmental cleanup initiatives are engineered to work effectively without impairing the ability to defend our nation. The Navy/Marine Corps cleanup program ensures that, in years to come, DON will provide a healthy environment for those who work, live, and train on bases or live in nearby communities. An important part of this effort is the preservation and improvement of local ecosystems, including wildlife near Navy and Marine Corps bases. Data on program status are presented in the site status pie charts on page 73.

Navy has issued policy on assessing chemical contaminants encountered at installations in support of implementation of remediation techniques. This policy emphasizes the consideration of background chemical levels, or "background," as part of the risk assessment process. To assist environmental restoration personnel in performing accurate background assessments, the policy describes procedures for—

- ❏ Identifying chemicals that are in the environment due to releases from the site
- ❏ Eliminating from the baseline risk assessment process any naturally occurring and anthropogenic chemicals that are present at levels below backgrounds
- ❏ Ensuring documentation and discussion of the potential risk from elevated chemical levels that are close to the background
- ❏ Developing remediation plans for chemical levels that are not below background.

Navy Facts

In Fiscal Year 2001 (FY01)....

- ❏ The Navy completed 63 interim actions at active-installation sites, bringing the total number of completed interim actions at such sites to 993 at 686 sites.
- ❏ The Navy completed 27 interim actions at BRAC sites, bringing the total number of interim actions completed at Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) sites to 339 at 284 sites.
- ❏ Sixty-three active-installation sites were brought to response complete (RC) status through cleanup activities; 211 active installation sites were determined to be RC or to require no further action based on appropriate investigation and analysis.
- ❏ Analysis or cleanup actions are in progress at 1,620 remaining active-installation sites (including 12 Military Munitions Response program (MMRP) sites). Thirty-nine percent, or 642, of these sites are categorized as high relative-risk.
- ❏ Fifty-eight BRAC sites were brought to RC status through cleanup activities, and 68 additional BRAC sites were determined to be RC or to require no further action based on appropriate investigation and analysis. Four BRAC installations were disposed of.

Through FY01...

- ❏ DON has identified 4,688 potentially contaminated sites at 246 installations. Of these sites, 2,795 require no further action.
- ❏ By the end of FY01, 2,048 of the 3,668 potentially contaminated active sites at Navy and Marine Corps installations had been brought to RC status through cleanup actions or verification that no cleanup action was required.
- ❏ Fifty-five Navy and Marine Corps installations are being or have been cleaned up under the IRP as a result of the BRAC 1988, 1991, 1993, and 1995 lists.
- ❏ Navy installations have formed 41 BRAC cleanup teams to support cleanup. Local redevelopment authorities have completed reuse plans at 33 Navy BRAC installations. To date, 60 Navy BRAC installations have been disposed of. Reuse plans have been initiated at three additional installations.
- ❏ Environmental baseline surveys and BRAC cleanup plans have been completed for all BRAC installations. At the end of FY01, 90 percent of Navy's BRAC property was environmentally suitable for transfer.
- ❏ Of the 1,020 Navy BRAC sites, 747 have achieved RC.

Goals and Priorities

DON's IR program goals and priorities are based principally on a risk management approach. In this approach, Navy considers site risk, as assigned through the Department of Defense (DoD) Relative-Risk Site Evaluation (RRSE) framework, along with other risk factors, including—

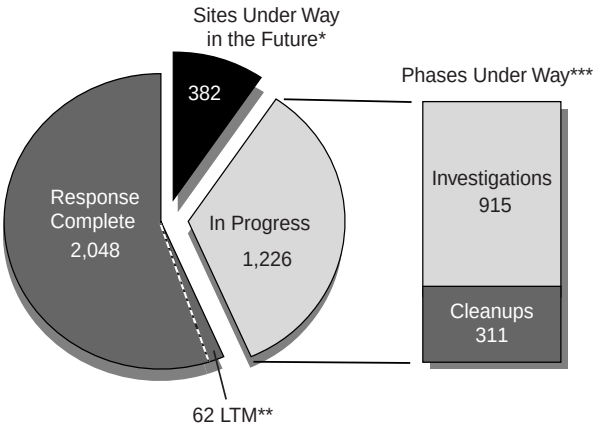
- ❑ Reuse (for BRAC properties)
- ❑ Legal requirements
- ❑ Economic considerations
- ❑ Stakeholder concerns.

Cleanup at Navy's active installation sites is funded by the Navy's Environmental Restoration Account (ER, Navy). To facilitate completion of its environmental restoration program, DON endorses a stable-funding approach that is consistent with achieving DoD's environmental restoration program goals.

DON's goal is to spend at least 70 percent of its total program budget on high relative-risk sites. This goal puts the proper emphasis on relative-risk reduction while allowing appropriate flexibility for addressing stakeholder concerns and other risk management considerations.

During FY01, DON decreased the number of its sites that had not been evaluated for relative-risk from 225 to 80. Eighteen of the 80 remaining unevaluated sites are new sites that DON will evaluate in FY02. The remaining unevaluated sites do not require evaluation or cannot be evaluated because of technical considerations in the DoD RRSE model (see pie charts on the following page).

Active Site Status (as of September 30, 2001)



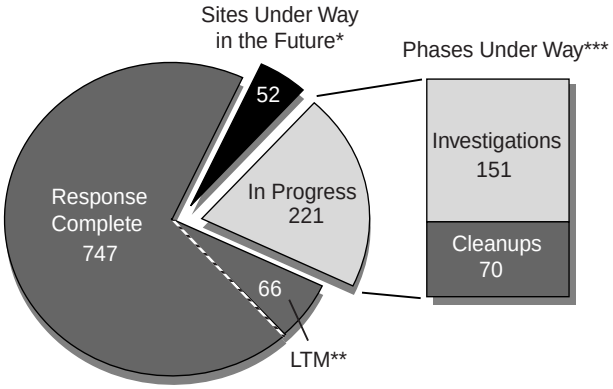
Total Sites: 3,656****

MMRP Site Status (ER)

Investigation Under Way	6
Investigation Planned	6
Total MMRP Sites	12†

†Investigations Under Way may not add up to Total MMRP Sites because some sites have multiple phases under way.

BRAC Site Status (as of September 30, 2001)



Total Sites: 1,020

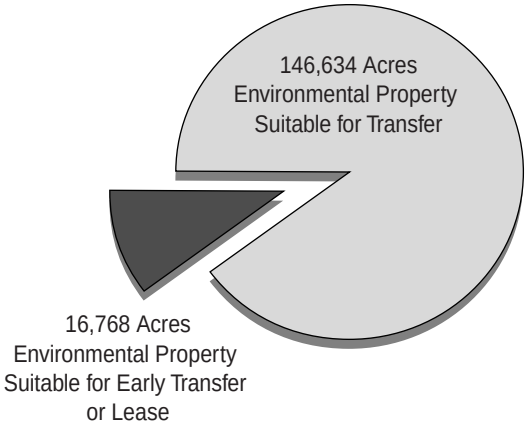
*Includes sites with future preliminary assessment starts planned and cleanup projects that are between phases.
**LTM is a subset of Response Complete.
***Phases Under Way may not add up to Sites in Progress because some sites have multiple phases under way.
****Does not include 12 MMRP sites.

Navy's risk management philosophy also considers expediting restoration of BRAC property slated for reuse and the need to plan for, and take advantage of, projects that provide economies of scale. The Environmental Condition of BRAC Property chart summarizes the Navy's progress in making property environmentally suitable for transfer. The Navy achieves economies of scale by addressing similar, proximate sites in a coordinated way as part of the same project, instead of initially addressing only high relative-risk sites and then addressing related low relative-risk or medium relative-risk sites individually at a later date. In such cases, flexible management allows medium and even low relative-risk sites to be included in a project along with the associated high relative-risk site(s) that receive top budgetary priority.

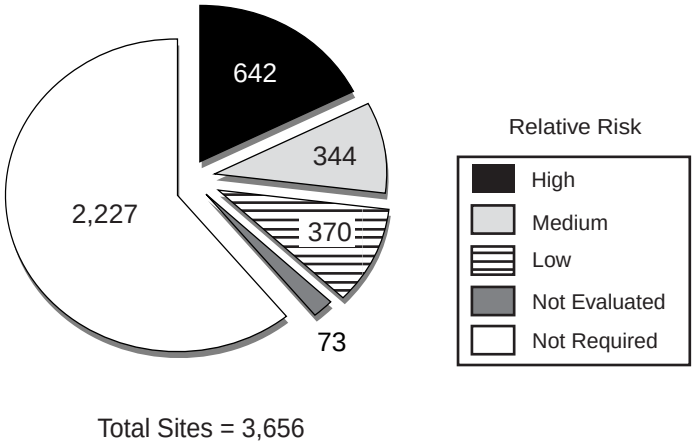
DON also has an initiative under way to accelerate the restoration or closure of all sites at installations that have only a few, generally less complex, sites. This initiative is geared toward closing out the restoration program at these installations. By doing so, DON will avoid the continuing overhead costs associated with maintaining a program at these installations.

DON continues to emphasize cleanup, while maintaining a necessary level of investment in site analysis. The DON goal is to spend at least 60

Environmental Condition of BRAC Property

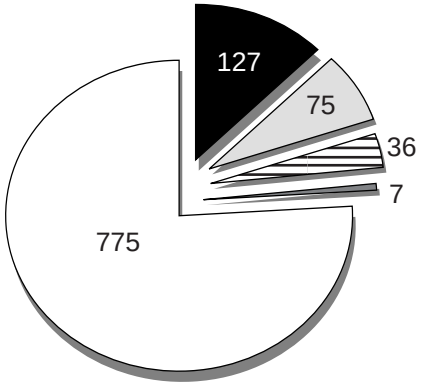


Relative-Risk Ranking for Active Sites in Progress*



Total Sites = 3,656

Relative-Risk Ranking for BRAC Sites in Progress



Total Sites = 1,020

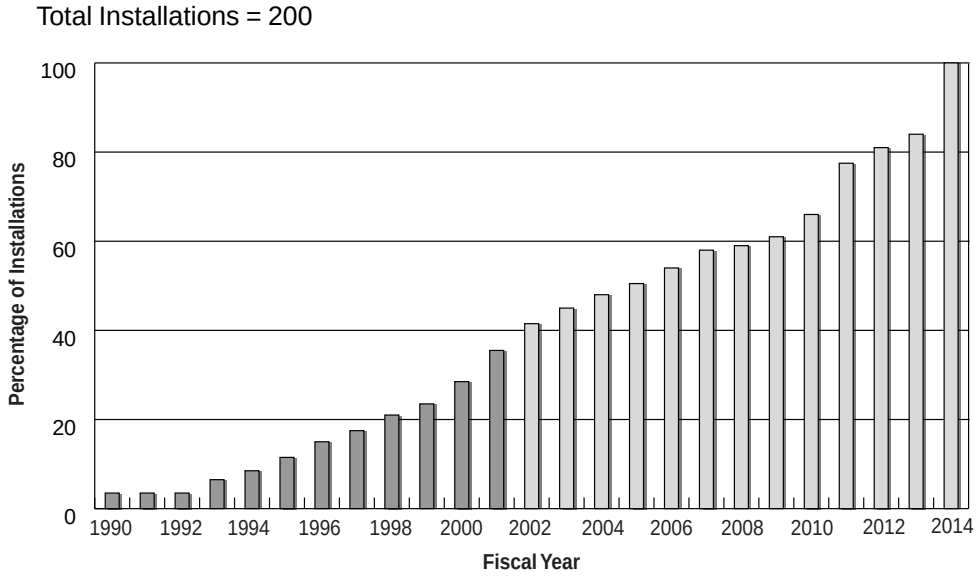
*Excludes 12 MMRP sites.

percent of its total program budget on actual cleanup. Continued use of interim remedial actions and removal actions is helping DON achieve these aggressive cleanup goals. The bar charts on pages 75-77 demonstrate the status of BRAC and active installations towards achieving RIP/RC, as well as the cumulative interim actions and RC status at both active and BRAC sites.

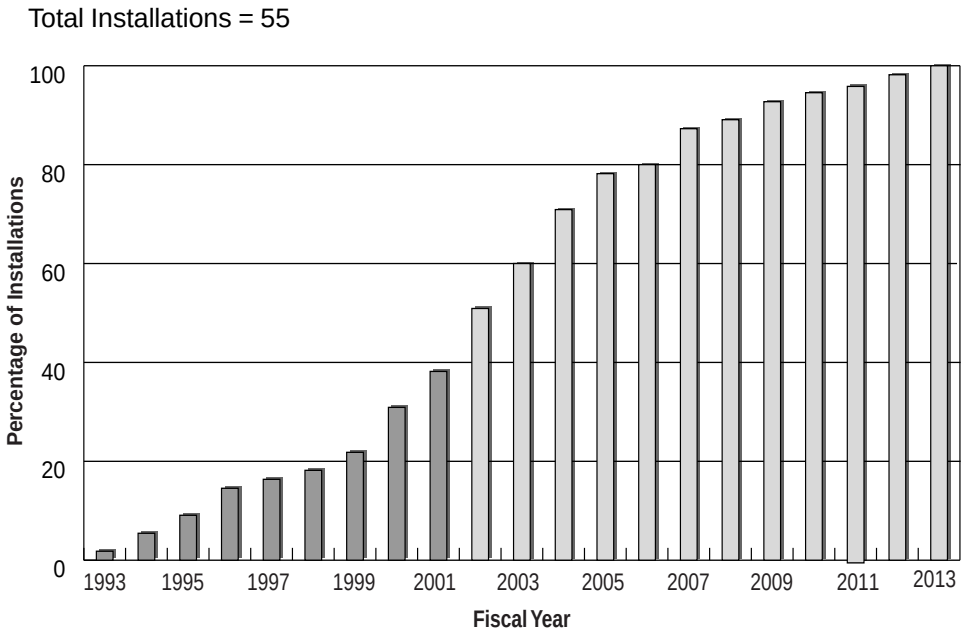
Organization and Management

The DON hierarchy responsible for implementing the Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP), as outlined in the organizational chart (see page 78), begins with the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Installations and Environment). Under the Assistant Secretary, the Chief of Naval Operations and the Commandant of the Marine Corps rely on a host of internal and external organizations to accomplish their DERP goals. DON executes its restoration program through the Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) and its eight Engineering Field Divisions and Activities (EFD/As) nationwide (see map on page 78). Remedial project managers (RPMs) are assigned for each installation in each geographic region covered by an EFD/A. The RPMs reside at the EFD/As but work closely with the installations and the regulators in planning, setting priorities, establishing budgets, and coordinating project execution. RPMs and the support staff at the EFD/As centrally manage contracting,

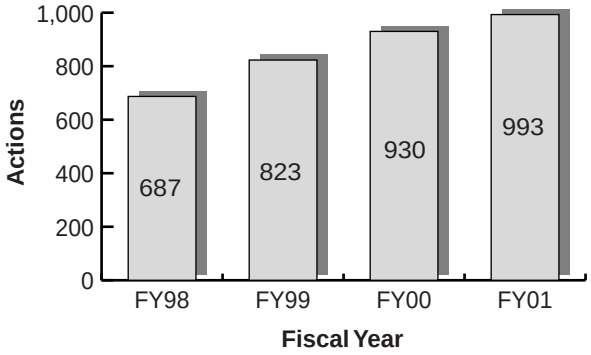
Active Installations Achieving Final Remedy in Place or Response Complete (cumulative and projected, FY90 through completion)



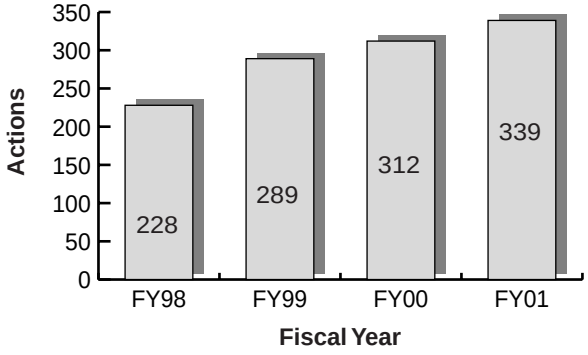
BRAC Installations Achieving Final Remedy in Place or Response Complete (cumulative and projected, FY93 through completion)



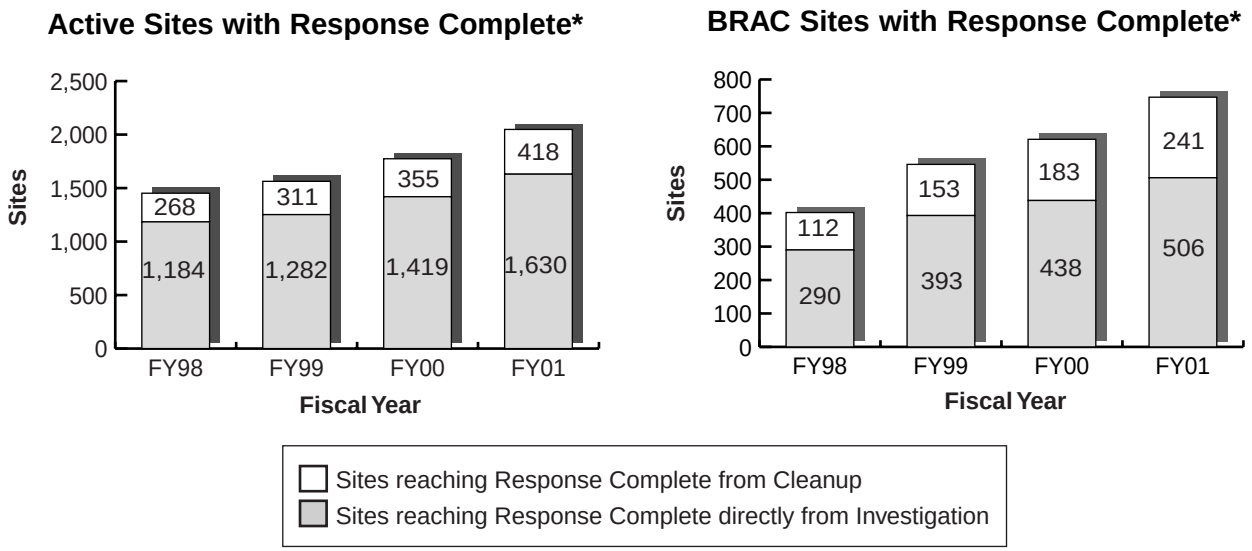
Cumulative Interim Actions Completed at Active Sites*



Cumulative Interim Actions Completed at BRAC Sites*



*FY98 through FY00 totals have been updated since the previous Annual Report to reflect new and revised data as of FY01.



*FY98 through FY00 totals have been updated since the previous Annual Report to reflect new and revised data as of FY01.

technical coordination, direction, and execution of the work. Installations generally take the lead in community relations, outreach, and public involvement, and maintain ultimate responsibility for their respective restoration programs.

The regionally centralized approach offered by the EFD/As provides DON with a number of benefits, including—

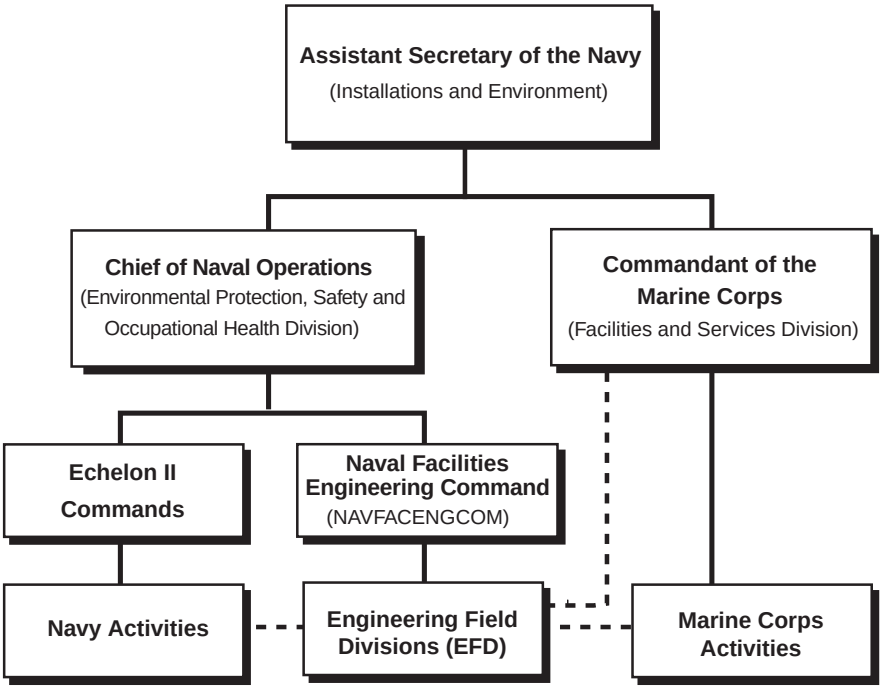
- ❑ Consistency
- ❑ Efficiency
- ❑ Economies of scale.

Some of these benefits are evident in the very successful partnering efforts between EFD/As, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Regions, and the states. The regional approach allows partnering efforts to be well coordinated and efficient and helps maintain program continuity over time. DON's investment in new technology, training, research, documentation, and innovative contracting methods has helped it accomplish restoration work faster, more effectively, and at a lower cost to the taxpayer.

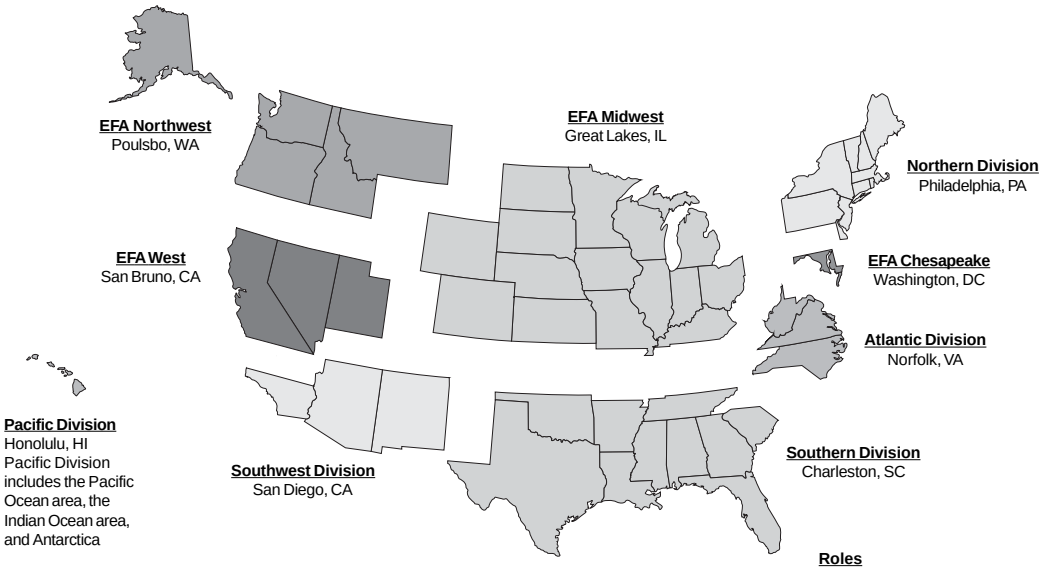
DON's IRP identifies, studies, and cleans up past hazardous waste disposal sites on Navy and Marine Corps installations in the United States. DON's policy for responsible cleanup is based on eight principles—

- ❑ Fully comply with the law
- ❑ Act immediately to eliminate any imminent risk of human exposure
- ❑ Clean up the greatest hazards first
- ❑ Partner with regulators
- ❑ Involve local communities
- ❑ Do not just study—act
- ❑ Consider planned land use
- ❑ Embrace new technology.

Department of the Navy



Department of the Navy Engineering Field Divisions and Activities Map



Roles
- Contracting
- Design & Construction
- Real Estate Acquisition & Disposal
- Navy Housing
- Base Realignment & Closure
- Environmental Support & Project Execution
- Public Works & Planning Support

BENEFITS OF THE NAVY'S REGIONAL APPROACH INCLUDE—

- ❑ CONSISTENCY IN POLICY AND GUIDANCE, MANAGEMENT AND TECHNICAL APPROACHES, AND PLANNING AND PRIORITY SETTING WITHIN A GIVEN U.S. EPA REGION
- ❑ ENHANCED COMMUNICATION AND SHARING OF INFORMATION AND LESSONS LEARNED AMONG RPMS
- ❑ EFFICIENCIES AND ECONOMIES OF SCALE IN CONTRACTING AND OTHER RESOURCE SUPPORT ACTIVITIES.

DON continues to make substantial progress toward completing its environmental restoration program in the face of unusual and complex challenges. Some of those challenges are directly associated with the DON mission and related operational factors. Most Navy and Marine Corps installations are located in coastal areas, which generally have environmentally sensitive habitats and populous surrounding communities. The heavily industrialized operations that typically exist at naval installations to support ships and aircraft add to the complexity of cleanup. Installations slated for closure or realignment also have a significant impact on the program, particularly for land reuse and fast-track cleanup.

Management Initiatives and Improvements

DON has completed the process of verification, validation and accreditation for the cost-to-complete system of estimating budget requirements and financial statement liabilities. This process will allow the Navy to provide an improved planning, programming, and budgeting system that supports the estimation and development of credible budgetary requirements and financial statement liabilities for the Navy's environmental program.

DON's environmental program continually seeks to match the type of work to be performed with the most cost-effective contractual vehicle for accomplishing the Navy's environmental mission. Navy's goal is to incorporate a variety of contract tools to meet our program requirements while addressing legislative mandates. Highlights of this strategy include increased use of fixed-price contracting mechanisms; a continued trend toward increased small-business participation; expedited closeout of task orders in existing and expiring contracts; and use of environmental in-house expertise for specific aspects of environmental cleanup (e.g., initial discovery of sites through remedy selection, monitoring, and optimization studies). All of these elements will be a part of DON's acquisition strategy.

Relative Risk Implementation

DON uses the DoD RRSE model to rank and prioritize ER, Navy and BRAC sites. Sites are ranked as high, medium, or low relative-risk based on the model. Sites for which insufficient information is available for completion of the evaluation are classified as "not evaluated." Sites where response is complete, a final remedy is in place and operational, or long-term management is under way are classified as "not required."

The IRP requires that sites ranked as high relative-risk receive priority for funding. In FY01, 41 percent of sites in progress had a high relative-risk ranking, receiving 71 percent of the funding.

Information and Technology Transfer (T2)

The area of information and technology transfer (T2) is one of DON's many strengths. NAVFAC directly coordinates the various installation restoration T2 efforts within its command and field offices, with technical support provided by the Naval Facilities Engineering Service Center (NFESC). The key groups in DON's technology transfer effort are—

- ❑ NFESC
- ❑ Navy Environmental Leadership Program (NELP)
- ❑ Alternative Restoration Technology Team (ARTT).

NFESC provides DON with specialized engineering, scientific, and technical products and services. The center is oriented toward the transfer of technology through consultation and technical assistance, licensing, cooperative research and development agreements, execution of memorandums of understanding and memorandums of agreement with other agencies, and direct rapid response to requests for technical support. NFESC continues to be the hub for the Navy's innovative environmental remedial technology demonstrations, evaluations, and technology information transfer efforts. Three important NFESC-led activities are—

Navy Facilities Engineering Service Center

http://www.nfesc.navy.mil/

- ❑ T2 tools and expert support
- ❑ Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) program
- ❑ Remediation Innovative Technologies Seminars (RITS) series.

Technology Transfer Tools and Expert Support

T2 tools promote and implement innovative technologies that allow more efficient completion of site response actions. T2 tools are tailored to particular technologies to most effectively help the end users implement the new technologies in the field. In FY01, T2 tools developed include Web-based decision tools, technical and regulatory guidance documents, environmental journal articles, environmental conference presentations, and a CD-ROM that highlights recent advances in cleanup technologies. Furthermore, NFESC provides expert technical consultation, third-party independent review, and other technical support by offering centralized and timely access to a wide array of internal and external organizations. The center also operates the Technology Transfer Booth, which provides highly visible technical support for the Navy and NAVFAC at several conferences and workshops across the country each year. During FY01, NFESC focused on numerous technology advances, including—

- ❑ Biodegradation of dense nonaqueous phase liquids
- ❑ Natural attenuation assessment tools
- ❑ Sediment characterization instruments
- ❑ Methyl tertiary-butyl ether cleanup technologies

- ❑ Toxicity identification evaluation of sediments
- ❑ Perchlorate cleanup methods
- ❑ Enhanced in situ biotransformation.

Broad Agency Announcements (BAA)

Since October 1997, NFESC has promoted the use of private-sector innovative technological advances within the Navy and DoD through the semiannual issuance of a BAA on the FedBizOpps Web site. This program encourages vendors, particularly smaller companies, and innovators to submit abstracts on their innovative environmental technologies to the Navy for potential application throughout DON and DoD. Technologies submitted for review are evaluated, and those that match the needs of specific facilities may proceed to the field application phase. Currently, 26 field application projects are complete, 19 contracts are in progress, and 2 are pending. FY01 awards for field application projects totaled approximately $3.7 million. The BAA program has been highly successful and will continue to promote environmental technology innovation into the foreseeable future.

Remediation Innovation Technologies Seminars (RITS)

Since 1996, NFESC has provided two series of technical seminars each year at the EFD/As. Presenting the latest remedial technologies and application tools, NFESC's 1-day RITS have offered training on a wide variety of technologies, including low-temperature thermal treatment, innovative capture and recycling methods for ammunition and use of "green" ammunition at small-arms ranges, capping methods for landfills, permeable reactive barriers and walls, phytoremediation, constructed wetlands, and air sparging. These seminars have been instrumental in providing RPMs with technical information on innovative technologies and in giving them the latest tools for implementing these technologies at their sites. During FY01, the RITS focused on rapid sediment screening technologies, diffusion samplers, thermal remediation technologies, unexploded ordnance (UXO) cleanup, monitored natural attenuation prediction and verification, treatment train technologies, and in situ enhanced bioremediation.

Navy Environmental Leadership Program (NELP)

Another important contributor to DON's technology transfer initiatives is the NELP. Based at Naval Station Mayport, Florida, and Naval Air Station (NAS) North Island, California, NELP is instrumental in developing and demonstrating cost-effective, innovative environmental technologies that can be transferred to, and adopted at, other DoD installations. A notable success under NELP is a Web-based database that compares various technologies for the destruction of volatile organic compounds. This database uses the results of a joint NFESC and NELP project at NAS North Island.

Alternative Restoration Technology Team (ARTT)

The ARTT, established in 1994, advances its chartered objectives by promoting practical and cost-effective innovative solutions for the Navy IRP. The team consists of members from EFD/As, the Chief of Naval Operations,

NAVFAC, and Headquarters Marine Corps. It is currently focusing its effort on testing the various chemical oxidation techniques for dense nonaqueous phase liquid-contaminated sites, and continuing to promote and assist in the implementation of diffusion samplers. The technical protocol for the diffusion sampler was completed this past year. This collaborative effort with the U.S. Geological Survey, EPA, the Air Force, and the Interstate Technology and Regulatory Cooperation (ITRC) is considered a model of successful partnership and a blueprint for future collaborations.

The ARTT disseminates information on technology among its member organizations through reviews, technical evaluations, newsletter articles, and findings on emerging technologies, such as enhanced bioremediation, chemical oxidation, monitored natural attenuation, barrier treatment cells, and phytoremediation. The team also assists the Naval School, Civil Engineer Corps Officers, Port Hueneme, California, the NFESC, and other federal agencies, such as the ITRC and the Federal Remediation Technologies Roundtable, in identifying relevant training topics and contributing to curriculum and training materials. An integral partner in the testing and evaluation of innovative technologies, ARTT helps improve the technical selection process, reviews technical proposals, and provides project recommendations to the Navy's Environmental Security Technology Certification Program and Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program.

Navy Environmental Leadership Program

http://www.nelp.navy.mil/

DON Training

DON personnel, regulators, and the public can benefit from effective environmental training in numerous ways—gaining a better understanding of the cleanup process, learning about the latest technologies and methodologies, and sharing lessons learned with other professionals. Two primary sources of such training within the Navy are the Civil Engineering Corps Officers School (CECOS) and the previously discussed RITs, which offer state-of-the-art training in restoration-related topics.

The Environmental Training Division within CECOS offers courses on diverse topics for military and civilian personnel. In FY01, a course on environmental background analysis was added to the 12 existing environmental courses. In addition, a MMRP course was being developed in FY01 and will be offered in FY02. CECOS provides environmental personnel with the tools and techniques they need to make intelligent decisions and develop strategies to clean up sites in a cost-effective manner while protecting human health and the environment.

Munitions Response Program Highlights

DON continues the inventory process of identifying UXO, abandoned military munitions, and their constituents at its closed, transferring, and transferred military ranges and at other locations on active installations that are not part of operational test and training ranges. In accordance with newly revised DERP Management Guidance, establishing the MMRP within DoD, DON plans to budget for its requirements at active installations beginning in FY02. DON munitions response projects under way at BRAC installations in FY01 include Adak, Alaska; Mare Island, California; and South Weymouth (Nomans Land Island), Massachusetts. Navy is funding military munitions response activities at these installations with BRAC IRP funding.

Outreach

In FY01, DON continued its commitment to involving stakeholders in the environmental restoration program. Communities and other stakeholders are critical constituents of the program, providing DON with insights on cleanup issues at Navy and Marine Corps installations. DON has 91 Restoration Advisory Boards (RABs) at active and closing Navy and Marine Corps installations.

To ensure that the RABs have all of the tools they need to provide input on cleanup decisions, DON held a RAB training workshop in Denver, Colorado, May 18-20, 2001. More than 120 community and Navy RAB co-chairs attended. Training included sessions on remediation technologies, understanding RABs, munitions response, natural resource injury, risk assessment, risk communication, site investigation, and remedial action optimization. This workshop was successful for both the community and the Navy. The community co-chairs, in particular, appreciated the interaction with the different levels of the Navy's organization.

DON's commitment to involving stakeholders in its restoration efforts has built trust and credibility through the years and has turned concerned citizens into motivated allies of the DON environmental restoration program. Working with citizens and regulators alike, the Navy will continue to embrace stakeholder advice and contributions in resolving issues and improving the DON restoration program.

Participants listen to a presentation at the RAB training workshop in Denver, Colorado.

Funding

The Navy's ER funding trends experienced a decline from FY94 through FY97, and then a slight increase from FY98 to the present. In FY96, DON encouraged RPMs to work closely with regulators to develop innovative and practical cleanup plans. The cost increase from FY98 until the present can be atributed to additional requirements from regulators,

refinement of cost estimates, and the introduction of new sites to the program. In FY01, the Navy saw an increase in funding due to the MMRP.

The Navy's BRAC funding trends experienced an drastic increase from FY93 to FY96, and then again in FY01. The previous increase in funding can be attributed to the fourth BRAC round. The sharp increase in FY01 can be attributed to extensive cleanup projects at a few BRAC installations. These installations include Alameda NAS, California; Adak Naval Air Facility, Alaska; Mofett NAS Station, California; Treasure Island NAS, California; and Hunters Point Annex, California.

In FY01, the Navy obligated $293.3 million in ER, Navy funds for environmental restoration work at active installations, including $3.0 million for munitions response activities. The FY02 funding level is projected to be $255.2 million, and the FY03 funding level is projected to be $256.9 million, including $8.0 million in each year designated for munitions response activities. These values are illustrated in the Navy Environmental Restoration Funding Profile charts, on the following page.

In FY01, DON spent approximately 64 percent of ER, Navy funds on design work, interim or final cleanup actions, and operations and maintenance. In FY02, the proportion of program funds spent on similar efforts is expected to be 63 percent.

In FY01, the Navy spent $337.0 million on environmental restoration work at BRAC installations, not including funds for compliance or planning. Navy's planned FY02 and FY03 investment levels for BRAC environmental restoration are $180.3 million and $236.3 million, respectively. Including compliance and planning costs, the total Navy BRAC environmental investments for FY02 and FY03 are $196.8 million and $249.1 million, respectively.

At active and closing installations, the cost of completing the environmental restoration program for the Navy and the Marine Corps is now estimated at approximately $3.9 billion, not including program management or munitons response costs (see bar charts on the following page).

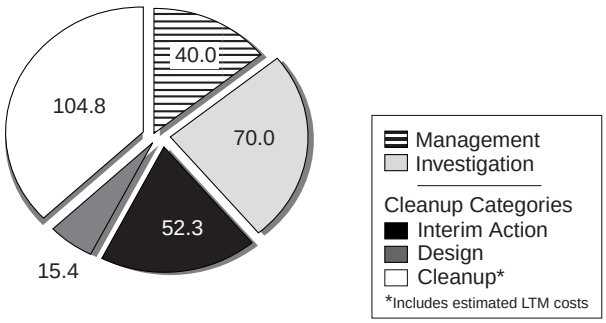
Focus on the Field:

TAPP Program Involves Stakeholders

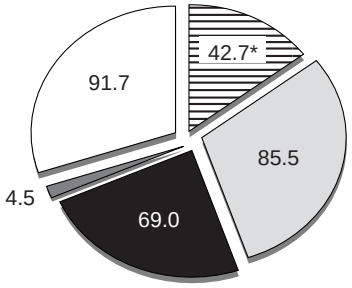
In FY01, DON continued to provide ways for the community to learn more about the technical issues around which the Installation Restoration program is built. The Technical Assistance for Public Participation (TAPP) program is one of those ways. The TAPP program has been instrumental in educating communities and providing community stakeholders with an understanding of the highly technical cleanup program. During FY01, Navy Restoration Advisory Boards (RABs) did not request any TAPP awards, although the Navy did provide RAB training.

Navy Environmental Restoration Funding Profile
(in millions of dollars)

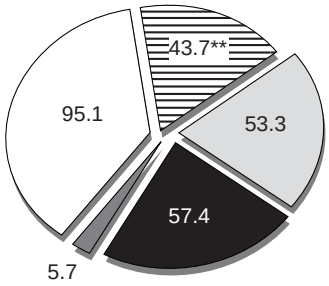
FY00 Navy Funds Obligated
Total = $282.5 million



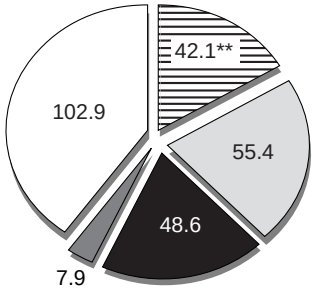
FY01 Navy Funds Obligated
Total = $293.3 million



FY02 Navy Execution Planned
Total = $255.2 million

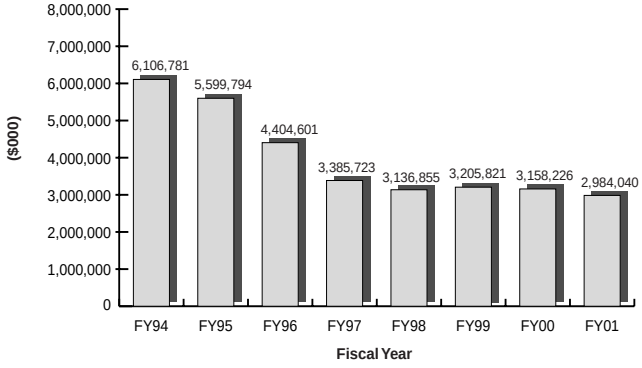


FY03 Navy Planning Estimate
Total = $256.9 million



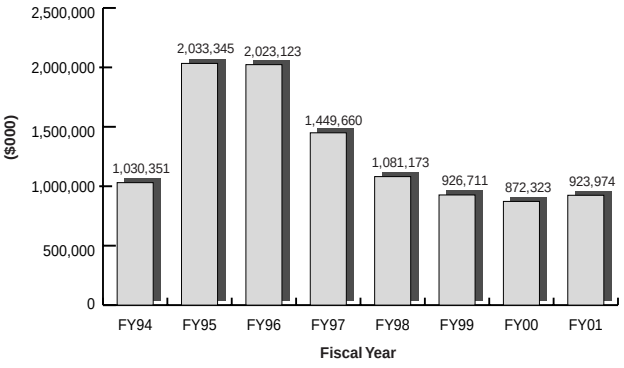
*Includes $3 million in munitions response costs.
**Includes $8 million in munitions response costs.
Due to rounding, category subtotals may not equal fiscal year totals.

Navy ER Cost-to-Compelete Trends
(in $000)



Note: Funding represents site level data and does not include management and support or other miscellaneous costs not directly attributable to specific sites.

Navy BRAC Cost-to-Complete Trends
(in $000)



Note: Funding represents site level data and does not include management and support or other miscellaneous costs not directly attributable to specific sites.

Focus on the Field:
Remediation Proceeding with Public Trust

Remedial efforts at Naval Station Treasure Island, California, require cooperative efforts with both local environmental regulatory agencies and the surrounding island community. Preliminary public meetings were held, during which the cleanup strategy was discussed and public comments were provided. The Navy continues to actively work with the California Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) to develop and implement cleanup goals that are protective of the residential community and San Francisco Bay's ecological resources. To share information and foster sound decision-making, the Navy, the RWQCB, and the Navy's cleanup contractor, IT Corporation, now attend monthly consensus-building meetings.

The City of San Francisco currently leases portions of the former base to civilians. Thus, the local residents are keenly interested in the Navy's environmental restoration activities within the community. The Navy encourages community participation in the petroleum remediation program and has recently hosted site tours and presented program updates at the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meetings. The RAB is essential since it facilitates the partnering of community leaders, EPA, RWQCB, and the Navy. This community partnering is crucial to a successful base closure and turnover.