

Tasks & Objectives

The following is a partial list of tasks and objectives completed to facilitate base closure on Adak:

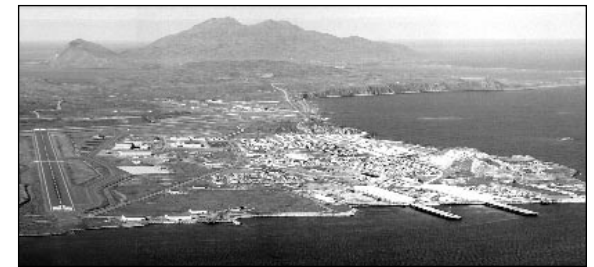
- 1994, Naval Air Facility Adak put on National Priority List of Superfund sites identified for long-term cleanup action by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- 1996, A Restoration Advisory Board was established as a citizen-based group to review documents and provide input for cleanup issues on Adak. The RAB has held public, monthly meetings.
- Studies were conducted on contaminated sites on Adak relative to chemical and petroleum contamination.
- Many removal actions have been undertaken.
- Three landfills have been closed and approximately 375 underground storage and field-constructed tank sites have been closed or removed. Above ground storage tanks at buildings not scheduled for reuse have been closed.
- More than 170,000 gallons of fuel have been recovered from 15 sites.
- Nearly 400 outdated monitoring wells were closed.

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Fact Sheet

Naval Air Facility Adak



November 1999

Naval Air Facility Adak
Record of Decision
on Operable Unit A

Naval Air Facility Adak Record of Decision on Operable Unit A

The United States Navy announced on October 14, 1999 the signing of a Record of Decision that



formalizes chemical and petroleum cleanup at the former Naval Air Facility on Adak Island.

The Record of Decision (ROD) for what is referred to as "Operable Unit A" is a road map to formalize petroleum and

chemical remediation in specific areas on the former

OU-A Record of Decision

The Record of Decision for OU-A formalizes remediation procedures such as:

- *Digging out, treating and disposing of contaminated surface soils and sediments;*
- *Covering solid waste sites;*
- *Initiating institutional controls where exposure to hazardous substances may occur;*
- *Monitoring groundwater for chemicals of concern;*
- *Monitoring aquatic life for exposure to PCBs;*
- *Monitoring naturally-occurring, biological breakdown of contaminants;*
- *Removal of oil and other contaminants.*

military base. The investigation and review of data related to the ROD was completed by three agencies pursuant to a Federal Facilities Agreement for closure of the Adak military base: the United States Navy; the United States Environmental Protection Agency Region X; and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation. The agencies applied federal standards defined by the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA) as the framework for the remediation decisions made on Adak. CERCLA is sometimes referred to as the Superfund Law. Naval Air Facility Adak was put on the National Priority List of Superfund sites identified for long-term cleanup action in 1994.

Though the Navy is the first of these agencies to sign the ROD, the process leading to the decision has been a cooperative effort between all three parties. The Navy holds responsibility for cleanup and closure, while the EPA and ADEC have federal and state regulatory oversight.

The ROD represents remedial decisions on approximately 200 sites on the island. The studies and investigation and cleanup activities have cost approximately \$160 million to date.

The Navy signed the ROD because it believes the document provides a comprehensive framework for protection of human health and the environment from chemical and petroleum contamination. It is also a step toward fostering community and economic development on the island.

The final Record of Decision reflects significant actions based on input from the citizen-based Restoration Advisory Board members and other stakeholders. Examples of actions based on this input include: removing ordnance issues from the Record of Decision and establishing a separate Operable Unit B to address remediation of unexploded ordnance and explosives; removing sediments with very low-levels of contamination from Sweeper Creek on Adak, and adding long-term biological monitoring.

Where to Get More Information

INFOLINE: 1-800-360-1561

University of Alaska Anchorage,
Library Reserve Room,
3211 Providence Dr.
M-F, 8 am to 5 pm, Contact: Librarian
907-786-1871

NAS Adak, Adak Island, Alaska,
Bob Reeves High School
M-F, 8 am to 5 pm,
Contact: Lt. Commander Ted Posuniak
907-592-8170

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