

Environmental Action **UPDATE**

A Quarterly Newsletter About McClellan AFB Environmental Activities - California

October 1999

Sampling Program Conducted in the West Area of McClellan

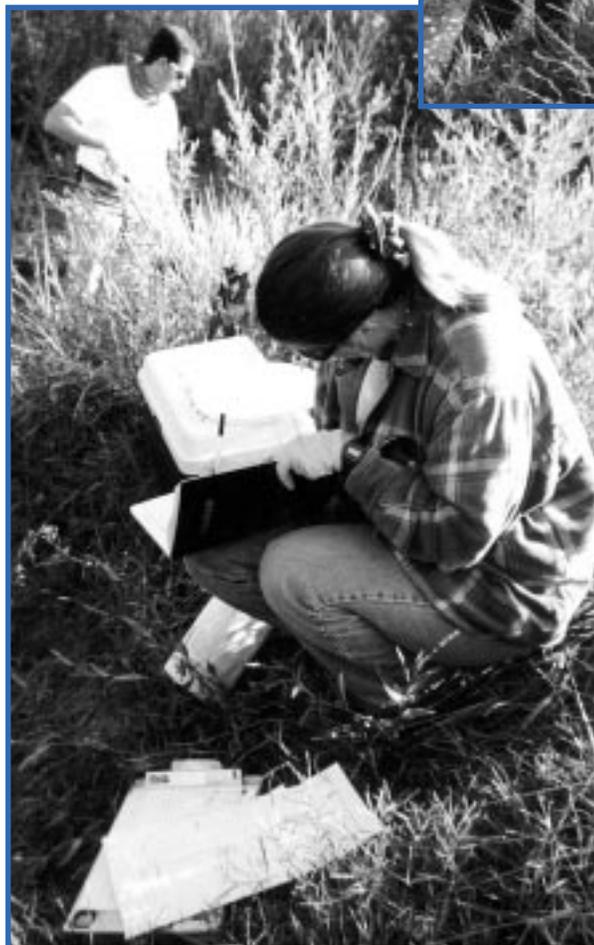
Extensive water, soil and sediment samples were taken in September on the west side of McClellan AFB, at Don Julio and Magpie Creeks. These samples will be analyzed and the data will be used to determine if there is any risk to the various species that live in the water and sediment along the creeks. The United States Environmental Protection Agency, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Game, Department of Health Services and Regional Water Quality Control Board will review the data and the risk assessment.

The Air Force plans to restore the west area of McClellan, damaged in the fall of 1997 when the creeks were cleared in anticipation of heavy rainfall. Initial sampling, prior to the restoration, indicated low levels of contaminants that are not a human health threat but could potentially be a concern for the various animal species that live in and around the creeks. Testing was scheduled at a later date but was moved up to coincide with the review process for determining the restoration of the west area.

Right: A field team from Radian International spent over a week compiling samples for the various tests. Tim Mathein, Rich Howell, and Martin Fahning (URS Corp.) are collecting sediment from a site along Don Julio Creek to be used in the bioassay testing.



Left: Laura Krebs (foreground), a Radian field team member, labels the samples and enters the data in a log.



This detailed look includes water samples to determine if any contaminants in the sediments are dissolving into the water and if they could pose an ecological risk. Soil samples near the creek were taken according to strict sampling procedures. This will determine if there is other contamination that could eventually wash into the creek by rainfall or by the ground that may be disturbed when plants are replaced for those lost during the creek clearing.

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IRP News Briefs

Progress on McClellan AFB's Installation Restoration Program (IRP) continues. The following are just some of the highlights of the work accomplished by the IRP this quarter.

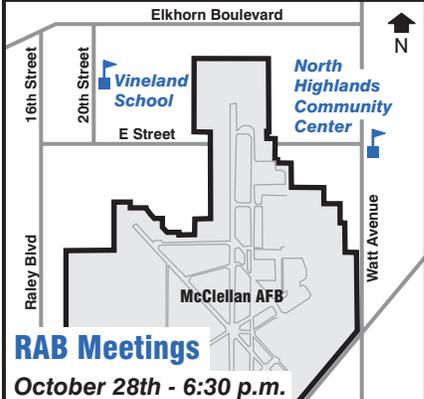
- The Ground Water Treatment Plant and Investigative Cluster 29 Dual Phase System modifications are complete. Both systems are operational.
- The video assessment of the on-base buildings' lateral industrial sewer lines is nearing completion with 41,183 feet and 2,810 drains inspected as of early September 1999.
- The main industrial sewer line inspection is nearing completion with over 46,300 feet inspected so far. Eight areas have been repaired and two are under construction.
- Results of pressure testing of 31,000 feet of petroleum, oils and lubricants pipelines showed 4,648 feet failed, 2,927 feet removed and 3,669 feet grouted. The estimated lines to be tested is 35,000 feet and the project is scheduled to be completed by the end of September 1999.
- Two soil vapor extraction systems were shut down for a scheduled rebound study to test the effectiveness of the system. Investigative Cluster (IC) 27 was shut down on August 1 for a five month study. IC 23 was shut down on August 12 and will be brought back on line April 2000. ■

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Sediment samples will be used for tests called bioassays. Sediments are removed from the pre-determined areas of the creeks. These are labeled and sent to an independent laboratory that specializes in this type of testing. The actual creek sediment becomes the home for worms and aquatic insects in the laboratory. The various lab tests take from 10 to 56 days and evaluate the effects of living in the sediment on generations of worms and insects.

“The worms and insects along the creeks would receive the largest exposure to the specific contamination at McClellan,” said Diane Arreola, McClellan AFB Natural Resource Program Manager. “That is why we study them to determine the effects of living in the sediment.”

The restoration work will move forward when all the tests are completed and reviewed at the end of this year. 



RAB Meetings
October 28th - 6:30 p.m.
 North Highlands Community Center
 6040 Watt Ave, Sacramento, CA
December 1 - 6:30 p.m.
 Vineland School Auditorium
 6450 20th Street, Rio Linda, CA

Restoration Advisory Board Members

The Restoration Advisory Board provides a forum through which the local community, McClellan AFB and regulatory agencies work together in an atmosphere that encourages discussion and the exchange of information on McClellan Air Force Base's Installation Restoration Program. To become a community member of the RAB contact Merianne Briggs (916) 643-1742 ext. 457 or 354 to obtain an application.

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McClellan Hosts Environmental and Industry Delegates from the Ukraine

McClellan Air Force Base Environmental Management Directorate hosted nearly two dozen representatives from the U.S. Department of Commerce's Special American Business Internship Training Program. The delegation members were from the Hazardous Waste Program for Ukraine.

The representatives received a briefing about the McClellan environmental program and the various technologies used in the cleanup of the base. This was followed by a tour of cleanup systems. The delegates were able to see a soil vapor extraction unit, the groundwater treatment plant and the areas of the base undergoing cleanup. This was followed by a tour of the Casting Emission Reduction Program test facility. The CERP was of interest to several of the delegates from industry in the Ukraine.

The delegates are participating in a United States exchange spending over a month in cities across the nation. Hosting the group as part of their California tour, the California State Department of Toxic Substances Control asked to come to McClellan. "On behalf of DTSC, I wish to thank McClellan AFB Environmental Management for accommodating my department in hosting the visit by Ukrainian industrial and environmental representatives," said Randy Adams,

California Department of Toxic Substances Control McClellan program manager. "The cleanup technologies discussed and demonstrated during the tour provided valuable information to the Ukrainian representatives."

The delegates represented a wide range of environmental interests including education, industry, engineering, environmental, waste and recycling, and the military. This specialized training program furthers the goals of the Gore-

the former Soviet Union while promoting trade in environmental technologies. "Through these programs we are able to share our experiences and exchange information. We are able to see first hand that the desire to clean up the environment knows no borders," said McClellan Environmental Management Director Paul Brunner. "The delegates were very interested in our cleanup systems and how they could apply in the Ukraine."

Valery Demyanenko, lecturer at the Cherkassy Engineering and Technology Institute and Executive Director of Ecological Education



Restoration Division Chief Phil Mook (far right) explains the workings of a soil vapor extraction system at McClellan to delegates from the Hazardous Waste Program for Ukraine. The group braved over 100 degree weather to view the treatment systems and remediation efforts at McClellan.

Chernomyrdin Commission to facilitate the evaluation, remediation and monitoring of environmental problems in Russia and the New Independent States of

was interested in the roles of government and the public in environmental cleanup. His goal is to bring more environmental classes and information to the colleges. 



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The *Environmental Action Update* is a publication of the Environmental Public Affairs Office at McClellan AFB, California, designed to keep the public informed of environmental activities at the base. For questions, comments, or to be added to the mailing list, please write to SM-ALC/EM, 5050 Dudley Boulevard, Suite 3, McClellan AFB, CA 95652-1389 or phone (916) 643-1742 ext. 457.

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Chief of Environmental Restoration **Phil Mook**
Director of Public Affairs **Maj Robert Gonzales**
Environmental Public Affairs Specialist and Editor **Merianne Briggs**

OCT99/CDR LCT 10.5.99 SAC

This will be the last Rideshare article. The contract Rideshare Coordinator position ended in September and was not renewed due to base closure.

1999 Rideshare at McClellan



Previous Year

**Renewals
Sept 1999**

1,112

926

**Commuter Cards Issued
for Regional Transit**

576

278

**Carpool Parking
Placard Applications**

7

5

Vanpools at McClellan



Web Site (Created April 1998)

Previous Year

**As of
Sept 1**

3,897

5018

Visits to the Site

46

62

**Applications for Carpool
Partners Generated**

What's the Score?

Environmental Management Remedial Scoreboard

As of
June 1999:

849,714

lbs. of contamination
removed from
soil and groundwater.



Check our web site:

<http://www.mcclellan.af.mil/EM/>
for documents and information.

All recently issued documents are also available at the Administrative Record at McClellan AFB. Call Danny Durkee at 643-1742 x 347.

Is Your Name and Address Correct?



We want our mailing list to be as accurate as possible. Please let us know if your name and address on this mailing is incorrect. You are welcome to mail us, fax us: (916) 643-5880, or call us: (916) 643-1742—either Merianne Briggs (ext. 457) or Roxanne Yonn (ext. 354).

Do you know people who would also like to receive this newsletter? Please let us know so that we can add them to the mailing list.

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