

Environmental Action

UPDATE

A Quarterly Newsletter About McClellan AFB Environmental Activities - California

March 2000

Cleanup Continues Beyond Base Closure

The transfer of restoration functions to the Air Force Base Conversion Agency (AFBCA) begins in March 2000 and will be complete by April 2001.

As Environmental Management (EM) draws down, it continues to provide environmental support for other base organizations until closure, and will ensure that facilities are handed over to their owners in an environmentally compliant condition. However, the environmental restoration program will continue well beyond base closure.

Currently, EM oversees and directs all environmental programs in support of McClellan and its satellite areas: Lincoln and Davis transmitter sites and Camp Kohler. This includes environmental restoration, natural resource management, asbestos, and lead management, community outreach, and environmental support functions such as hazardous waste disposal, recycling of usable hazardous materials, support of emergency spill responses, pollution prevention activities, and compliance with environmental laws.

Under EM's Installation Restoration Program, the identification and cleanup of

hazardous sites, including groundwater contamination, is well underway. Complete cleanup is expected to be reached in the year 2034. Groundwater cleanup takes many years to accomplish using today's pump and treat technology. In some cases, such as with

landfills, the Air Force is required by law to protect and monitor certain sites for 20 to 30 years. In March, EM begins transferring the environmental restoration program to AFBCA, who will then be responsible for restoring contaminated sites beyond base closure.

Continued on Page 2

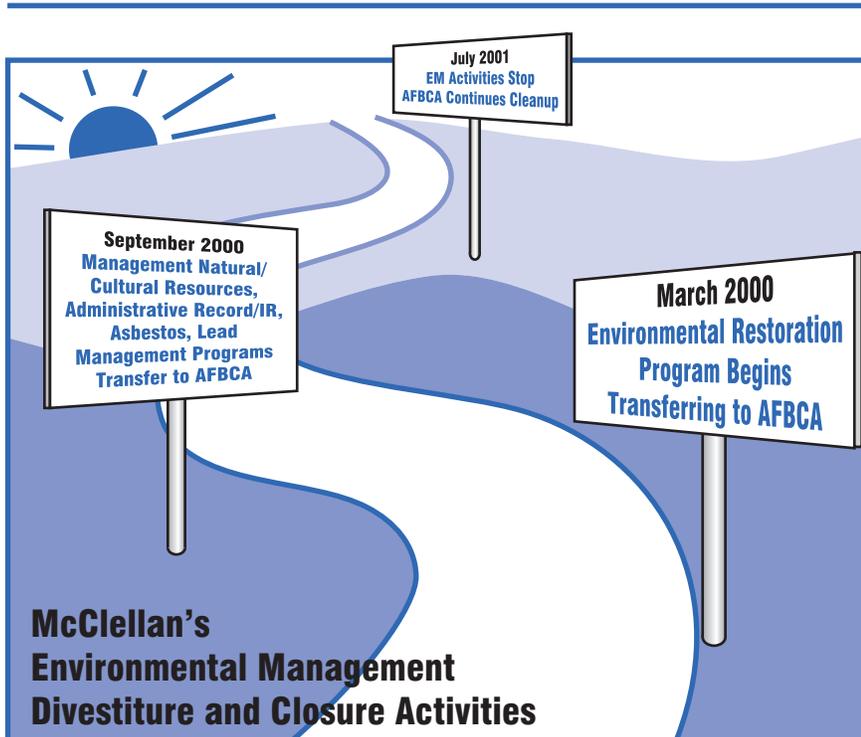
Monitoring in a New Way

McClellan AFB successfully demonstrated a new groundwater sampling technique that when implemented, will provide accurate results and save time and money. Regulatory approval is expected early this year. The technique, passive diffusion membrane sampling, when compared to conventional well sampling, proved to be accurate for testing volatile organic

compounds in groundwater. Preliminary analysis shows that passive diffusion membrane sampling requires two hours less in labor and promotes savings of \$85-335 per well sampled. The demonstration was conducted in tandem with several U.S. Geological Survey sampling projects sponsored by the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence. ■



*Radian Contractors
Brenda Callen and
Eric Wallace pouring
a sample from a passive
diffusion membrane
sample tube.*



Continued from Front Page

Cleanup Continues Beyond Base Closure...

Management of McClellan's natural and cultural resources, the environmental Administrative Record and Information Repository, and the asbestos and lead program, will

transfer to the AFBCA in September 2000. The asbestos and lead management program will continue until all buildings are transferred to Sacramento County.

The Air Force is committed to the protection and restoration of McClellan now and beyond base closure.

From September 2000 to April 2001, EM will continue to provide environmental support activities to Air Force organizations on base until they have all left, including assisting them with closure activities to ensure that all permits are closed properly and areas are left clean when vacated. ■

IRP News Briefs

- All cleanup systems were shut down and secured during Y2K rollover weekend. No Y2K related problems were encountered.
- Sacramento County has taken over the drainage channel maintenance. Cleaning is underway to prepare for rainy season. McClellan AFB Environmental Management staff supervises the work to ensure sensitive habitat is not disturbed. ■

Does your organization want to learn more?

To keep the community informed of the McClellan Air Force Base Environmental Management program, speakers are available to come to your school, community group or organization. The presentation can be tailored to meet the needs of your group. For details, call Merianne Briggs at: (916) 643-1742 ext. 457. ■



Environmental Action UPDATE

March 2000

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.

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

Upcoming Event



Volunteers cleaned creeks throughout Sacramento County at last year's Creek Week Event.



Creek Week 2000 – Creeks Connecting Communities

Sacramento Urban Creeks Council, along with its partners and sponsors, presents a week celebrating our urban creeks. The main objective of Creek Week is to clean creeks so that they are healthier and contain

fewer flood flow obstructions. Creek Week is a venue for educating the public on the value of urban creeks. Splash Off, Friday, April 7, 2000: Activities during the week of April 7th include bird-

watching, wildlife and wildflower gazing, and fishing at creeks, wetlands, and vernal pools.

Clean-up and Celebration, Saturday, April 15, 2000: Volunteers will clean creeks of trash and man-made debris in the morning then are invited to attend the celebration at noon. Creek Week 2000 clean-up day will include for the first time, storm drain stenciling and the removal of exotic, invasive vegetation (red sesbania). The celebration at the Discovery Museum Learning Center on Auburn Boulevard includes a picnic, contests, live music and interactive displays.

For more information on how to get involved with Creek Week, please call Alta Tura from the Sacramento Urban Creek Council, at: (916) 454-4544. ■

Information Repository

McClellan AFB Environmental Management houses the documentation for the cleanup program in the Information Repository (IR).

The Air Force has documented every step of the cleanup process:

- Investigations
- Proposed plans

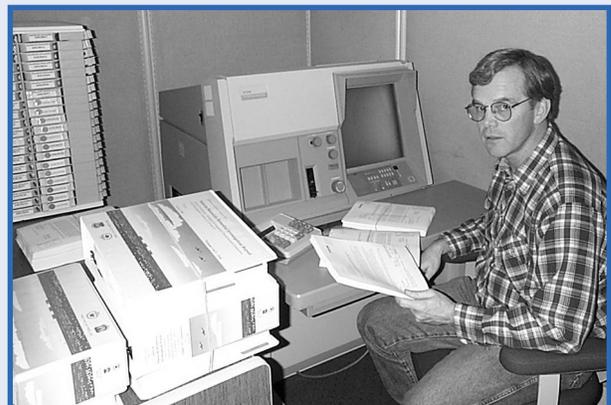
- Decisions on cleanup strategies
- Design and remedial actions
- Operations and maintenance

Danny Durkee is in charge of cataloging the copious amount of documents listed in the Information Repository

You can call Danny Durkee at (916) 643 1742, ex. 347 for a copy of a document, or you can visit the IR at:

SM-ALC/EM, Building 269D
5050 Dudley Blvd., Suite 3
McClellan AFB

For your convenience, the base has placed all recent documents, as well as a list of all IR documents on McClellan AFB Environmental Management's web site located at: <http://www.mcclellan.af.mil/EM/>





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.

Check our website:

<http://www.mcclellan.af.mil/EM/>

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

Other useful websites:

<http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/>

The site of California/EPA Department of Toxic Substances Control, which has information about cleaning up sites at military facilities, base closures, and reuse.

<http://www.epa.gov/>

A comprehensive US EPA web site containing many environmental resources.

<http://www.dtic.mil/envirodod/>

Department of Defense Environmental Cleanup Home Page, which discusses the latest on base realignment and closure.

It has information on the Defense Environmental Response Task Force, describes restoration advisory boards and provides a bulletin board for board members to exchange ideas with other boards nationwide.

What's the Score?

Environmental Management Remedial Scoreboard

As of
Dec 1999:

897,803

lbs. of contamination
removed from
soil and groundwater.

**For More Information
about McClellan's Installation Restoration
Program, please call:**

Merianne Briggs
Environmental Public Affairs Specialist
McClellan AFB
(916) 643-1742 Ext. 457

Nathan Schumacher
Cal-EPA/DTSC
Public Participation Specialist
(916) 255-3650

David Cooper
U.S. EPA
(415) 744-2179
(800) 231-3075

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Department of the Air Force
SM-ALC/EM
5050 Dudley Boulevard, Suite 3
McClellan AFB, CA 95652-1389



UPDATE
Environmental Action

PRESORTED
FIRST-CLASS MAIL
US POSTAGE PAID
SACRAMENTO, CA
Permit No. 2260