



**NAVY BASE  
REALIGNMENT  
AND CLOSURE  
(BRAC)**

# HPNS UPDATE

Hunters Point Naval Shipyard

A QUARTERLY  
UPDATE OF  
CLEANUP  
ACHIEVEMENTS

## Overview

The HPNS cleanup team has a robust outreach program. One way the Navy shares information is through quarterly summary updates. This update summarizes outreach conducted between January and March 2021. One of the Navy's ongoing projects is spotlighted on page 3, and a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) received during a virtual event in March are also available.

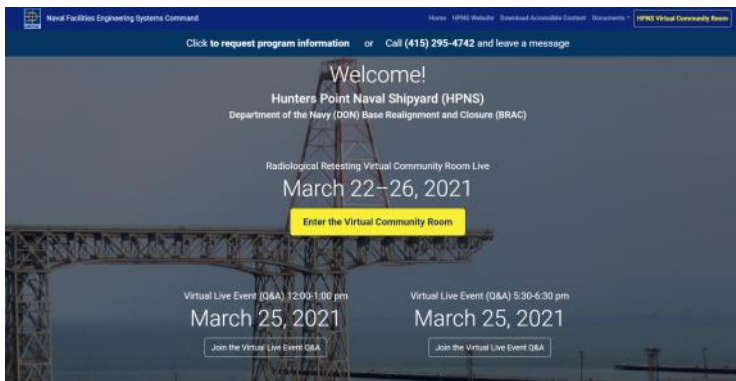
## PROGRAM OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

### Navy provides program updates during virtual presentations

#### Navy expands outreach, hosts week-long virtual event space

The Navy hosted a virtual community room, which was open to the public between March 22 and March 26, 2021. The virtual event space allowed visitors to learn more at poster stations. Topics included an overview of cleanup at HPNS, a summary of public safety during cleanup, and information on radiological retesting at the Shipyard.

In addition to self-guided access to program information, the Navy hosted two live question and answer (Q&A) sessions on March 25, 2021. Mr. Derek Robinson, HPNS Environmental Program Manager, moderated both sessions. He was joined by HPNS cleanup team members and Dr. Kathryn Higley from Oregon State University. They answered questions received during the live sessions, as well as those submitted through the virtual event space.



Approximately 250 people visited the HPNS Virtual Community Room and live event sessions held in March 2021.

See pages 5-8 of this document for Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) received during the week-long event.

#### HPNS Navy Point of Contact



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**Environmental Program Manager**

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#### HPS CAC Meeting hosts Navy presentation

The [Hunters Point Shipyard Citizens Advisory Committee \(HPS CAC\)](#) Environmental & Reuse Committee invited the Navy to their January 22, 2021 virtual meeting. The Navy presented updates on recent cleanup work at Parcels E and E-2. Progress on radiological retesting at Parcel G was provided, and initial soil sample results were shared with attendees. A schedule for completion of cleanup at HPNS and a Q&A period followed the presentation.

#### Navy provides update at San Francisco Shipyard meeting

Mr. Robinson participated in an update to approximately 50 homeowners and renters in the San Francisco Shipyard community on January 28, 2021. He was joined by Mr. Leo Larson, Navy Project Manager at HPNS. They presented updates on current fieldwork at Parcels C, E, and E-2. Mr. Robinson also provided an update on radiological retesting at Parcel G. In addition to fieldwork schedules, anticipated dates for cleanup completion at all HPNS parcels were shared. Following the presentation, Navy team members answered several questions posed by attendees.

**San Francisco  
Main Public Library**  
Government Information Center, 5th Floor  
100 Larkin Street, San Francisco, CA 94102  
(415) 557-4500

**Bayview Linda Brooks-Burton  
Branch Library**  
5075 3rd St, San Francisco, CA 94124  
(415) 355-5757  
*\*informational materials only*

**Navy's HPNS Website**  
[www.bracpmo.navy.mil/hpns](http://www.bracpmo.navy.mil/hpns)  
A link to the online Administrative Record is available on the "Documents" page of the HPNS website.

**Community Technical Advisor holds virtual office hours**

On February 10, 2021, Dr. Kathryn Higley from Oregon State University held virtual office hours. As the Navy's Community Technical Advisor, Dr. Higley is available to answer radiological health and safety questions from members of the greater Hunters Point community. Upcoming Technical Advisor sessions are scheduled for April 14, 2021 and July 14, 2021. Registration for Technical Advisor sessions is announced in HPNS outreach communications.

**Not on the mailing list?** [Click here to join or enter https://tinyurl.com/hpnsinfo](https://tinyurl.com/hpnsinfo) into your address bar. You may also send an email to [info@sfhpns.com](mailto:info@sfhpns.com) or leave a message on the HPNS Info Line at (415) 295-4742.

**Community Technical Advisor Contact**



**Dr. Kathryn Higley**  
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*Dr. Higley is a Professor and Former Head of School of Nuclear Science and Engineering at Oregon State University. She sits on numerous boards and is recognized internationally as a radiological health and safety expert. [Click here to read more about Dr. Higley.](#)*

**Navy premieres new HPNS video; spotlights community outreach**

Mr. Derek Robinson hosts a new video that describes the various ways interested community members can stay up to date and provide feedback on Navy cleanup activities at HPNS. He gives an overview of the elements of the Navy's community outreach program and emphasizes the importance of the community's role in the cleanup process at HPNS.

Dr. Higley is also featured in the video. She answers several of the most common questions she receives from residents, describing radiation and the cleanup process.

The video will be available on the Navy's website soon. It is the fourth in a series of informational videos produced by the Navy to share information with the public about its cleanup at HPNS. [Click to watch all of the Navy's informational HPNS videos.](#)



**COMING SOON:** The Navy's new video [Hunters Point Outreach](#) provides information on ways the public can learn more about the cleanup at the Shipyard. It will be posted on the Navy's website soon!

**Quick Community Resources**

<b>HPNS Homepage</b> <a href="http://www.bracpmo.navy.mil/hpns">www.bracpmo.navy.mil/hpns</a>	<b>HPNS Email</b> <a href="mailto:info@sfhpns.com">info@sfhpns.com</a>	<b>Technical Advisor</b> Dr. Kathryn Higley (541) 737-0675 <a href="mailto:Kathryn.Higley@oregonstate.edu">Kathryn.Higley@oregonstate.edu</a>
<b>HPNS Radiological Cleanup Program</b> <a href="http://www.bracpmo.navy.mil/hpnsrc">www.bracpmo.navy.mil/hpnsrc</a>	<b>HPNS Info Line</b> (415) 295-4742	

# Project Spotlight: Installation Restoration Site 03

## Navy protects Bay, animals during cleanup at Parcel E

Included in the Navy's cleanup at Parcel E is an area on the southeastern edge of the Shipyard known as Installation Restoration Site 03, or "IR-03". From 1944-1977, an oil reclamation plant processed discarded oils used by the Navy during shipyard maintenance and repair. IR-03 was identified as an area requiring cleanup of oily wastes and sediment.

The Navy is cleaning up the contaminated sediment and protecting the shoreline. These activities will limit any remaining contamination from affecting groundwater or the San Francisco Bay.

Navy cleanup objectives at IR-03 include:

- Excavate chemically-contaminated shoreline sediment.
- Screen and process any radiologically-impacted media encountered during fieldwork.
- Stabilize oily wastes in-situ (in-place) with a cement mixture.
- Construct a below-ground barrier, known as a slurry wall, to prevent contaminants from migrating outside of the area.
- Construct shoreline protection features to protect the remedy.

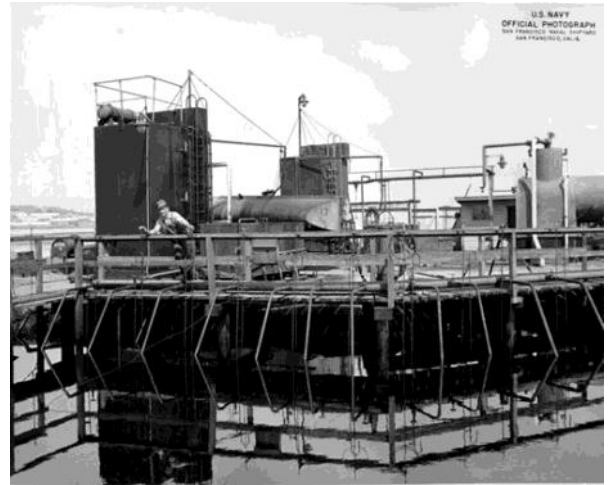
In January 2021, the Navy began to prepare for fieldwork at IR-03. The first activity involved relocating several borrowing owls from the site. Protection of this species of concern is one example of environmental stewardship, a component in every cleanup plan the Navy has at HPNS. Following relocation of the owls, the site was prepared for fieldwork.

Recently, the installation of a temporary sheet pile wall along the shoreline was completed. The Navy is currently preparing to construct shoreline protection features and import clean soil for construction.

Para más información sobre el programa de limpieza de la Marina en Hunters Point Naval Shipyard, favor de dejar un mensaje en (833) 202-888.

有关海军在猎人角海军造船厂的清理活动方案的更多信息，

请拨打(833) 350-6222并留言。



The oil reclamation plant processed discarded oils from shipyard activities (1944—1977).



A sheet pile wall is the first step in ways the Navy will protect the shoreline at IR-03.



Burrowing owls have been relocated during construction activities at IR-03.

**Radiological Retesting Questions**

**Q: How long will Parcel G retesting take?**

**A:** It will take about two (2) years to complete the retesting work. Staging, site preparation, trenching, and a number of steps need to be completed before soil samples are collected and tested. Weather can cause delays, as it has this year. [More information can be found in the Parcel G Work Plan.](#)

**Q: When will Parcel G initial retesting results be available?**

**A:** The Navy presented radiological retesting results for six radionuclides of concern during the March 2021 HPNS Virtual Community Room. Results through January 2021 were described on posters and depicted in graphs. More information about initial radiological retesting results can be found on the Navy’s website.

**Q: What is the status of radiological retesting at each HPNS parcel?**

**A:** Parcel G is the first parcel to undergo radiological retesting and will serve as the template for the remaining parcels once Parcel G retesting is complete.

**Q: Has the Navy thrown out all of the Parcel G data that was believed to be falsified?**

**A:** The Navy is not relying on any of that data. The Navy lost confidence in the prior work and made the decision to retest it so the Navy, stakeholders, and the public can have total confidence in the results.

**Q: Who is providing oversight of the Navy’s retesting work?**

**A:** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) are collecting and analyzing their own soil samples from Parcel G to verify site conditions. In addition, there is third-party quality control providing oversight of documentation and onsite fieldwork. [More information can be found in the 2021 HPNS Annual Update fact sheet.](#)

**Q: How were radiological background levels established by the Navy?**

**A:** Background levels for HPNS were established in collaboration with regulatory agencies and provide an essential understanding of the differences between Navy contamination and materials that may be present in soil throughout the San Francisco Bay area. The Navy uses background levels established and other relevant data to make sound cleanup decisions that ensure public health and safety. [More information can be found in the Background Levels Explained fact sheet.](#)



After a radiological surface scan, trench excavations at Parcel G involve removal of the durable asphalt cover.

# HPNS VIRTUAL COMMUNITY ROOM FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs) MARCH 2021

## Health and Safety Questions

**Q: Where are the detectors located that scan trucks?**

**A:** A radiological portal monitor is used to scan all trucks prior to leaving HPNS. The portal monitor is located east of Parcel E-2. [More information can be found in the \*\*Dust Control and Truck Management\*\* fact sheet.](#)

**Q: What parcels at HPNS pose environmental health risks to San Francisco Shipyard residents?**

**A:** Public health and safety is the Navy's first priority in the cleanup at HPNS. The cleanup goals established for HPNS are extremely conservative and have been confirmed by expert review across multiple regulatory agencies to be protective of human health. The Navy will not transfer property to the City of San Francisco until the cleanup goals for each respective parcel have been achieved. Durable covers, institutional controls, and land use restrictions protect the public from possible exposure to remaining contaminants.



Public safety is the highest priority to the Navy. The images to the right show several ways the Navy protects the public during environmental cleanup at HPNS

Air is monitored upwind and downwind of active work areas (top); radiological scans are conducted on workers and equipment as they exit radiologically controlled areas at HPNS.

### General Cleanup Questions

**Q: Why is the cleanup taking so long?**

**A:** Remediation takes time. In part, because the Navy follows a federal law that proceeds one step at a time and multiple regulatory agencies provide review and oversight. [More information can be found in the HPNS Community Involvement Plan Fact Sheet.](#)

**Q: Can contamination be brought to the surface by burrowing animals or plant roots?**

**A:** To ensure health protectiveness, the Navy implements protective solutions designed for each individual facility, including HPNS. One solution used to protect public health and the environment is called a durable cover. Environmental and civil engineers determine the correct type of cover – usually pavement or soil – and the cover thickness required to ensure public safety. Covers are inspected regularly by the Navy. Whenever problems are found, they are corrected. [More information is available in the Durable Covers fact sheet.](#)

**Q: How does the Navy ensure that dust generated by the cleanup work does not harm air quality?**

**A:** The Navy has several procedures in place at HPNS to protect the surrounding community during cleanup activities, including dust control measures. This includes watering areas that may produce dust during construction activities, maintenance of soil stockpiles, air monitoring, and truck management activities. The Navy collects data on dust and chemicals in the air to ensure these measures are working adequately. [More information can be found in the Dust Control and Truck Management fact sheet.](#)

**Q: Does the cleanup project account for sea level rise due to climate change?**

**A:** Yes. The cleanup solutions account for sea level rise. The Navy reviews those designs every five years as part of the Five Year Review and details its findings in a report. [More information can be found in the Fourth Five Year Review report.](#)

**Q: Are there restrictions the Navy is requiring for future use of the waterfront?**

**A:** No. The Navy's cleanup plans do not impose restrictions on future use of the HPNS waterfront. The City of San Francisco is responsible for redevelopment of the property, and will determine any restrictions as they relate to the City's plans.

**Q: Where can I find recent information on cleanup progress at HPNS?**

**A:** The Navy is committed to keeping the greater Hunters Point community informed about cleanup program progress at HPNS. The Navy has provided cleanup updates during several recent virtual meetings, in electronic newsletters, and in program fact sheets. [A recent fieldwork update can be found in the February 22, 2021 Navy presentation to the HPS CAC.](#)

#### For more information

- Join the HPNS mailing list - <https://tinyurl.com/hpnsinfo>
- Go to the Navy's website - [www.bracpmo.navy.mil/hpns](http://www.bracpmo.navy.mil/hpns)
- Email HPNS Outreach - [info@sfhpn.com](mailto:info@sfhpn.com)