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Fact Sheet

Where is Camp Navajo?

Camp Navajo is located south of I-40 in Bellemont, Arizona, 12 miles west of Flagstaff and 17 miles east of Williams.

What are Camp Navajo and the OB/OD area?

Since 1982, the Arizona Army National Guard has used Camp Navajo, a 28,000-acre military facility, as a training site and storage facility. More than 60 years ago, however, Camp Navajo was established as a storage depot for explosives and other strategic war supplies. It was also a place where obsolete or unserviceable munitions were demilitarized in an area known as the Open Burn/Open Detonation (OB/OD) area. This area was used until the demilitarization mission ended in 1994.

What is going on at the Camp Navajo OB/OD area now?

Environmental professionals are investigating and cleaning up sites that historically were used for demilitarization of obsolete and unserviceable munitions in the Camp Navajo OB/OD area.

What is the nature of the debris pile in the NAAD 09C area?

Navajo Army Depot (NAAD) 09C, also referred to as the Closed Open Burn Area, underwent a removal action under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP). This 2.5-acre site is located in the east portion of the OB/OD area. The debris pile, which was suspected to be a continuing source of unexploded ordnance (UXO) and environmentally-related contamination, has been designated a landfill by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ). Potential sources of contamination included UXO at the ground surface and in subsurface materials, and residual explosives, propellants, and accelerants. Based on the nature of the wastes, NAAD 09C was also designated a hazardous waste site under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and as such, is subject to appropriate Subtitle C closure requirements.

How was the Removal Action Work Plan Developed?

The National Guard Bureau, in consultation with the ADEQ Federal Projects Unit, selected the removal action as a final remedy to clean up and close the site under RCRA, and a Proposed



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Plan was developed outlining the proposed remedy. The Plan was available to the public for comment for 30 days. A public meeting was held on July 22, 2004, where concerned parties could comment on the activities outlined in this Proposed Plan. None were received. The removal action remedy was presented in a Decision Document dated October 7, 2004, and was accepted by ADEQ. In addition, a Removal Action Work Plan was prepared, reviewed and approved by ADEQ, and finalized on October 20, 2004.

What was the result of the Removal Action Work Plan?

The removal action resulted in the excavation and recovery of more than 400 UXO items; more than 40 drums containing smoke canisters and/or fuse cans; more than 300 empty crushed drums; 4 drums one-quarter to half full of used oil; 1 drum one-quarter full of paint thinner; more than 125 tons of scrap metal; more than 70 tons of unsorted ordnance-related scrap; and more than 21,000 tons of unsorted soil. All of the recovered UXO items were destroyed during three separate on-site open detonation events in February and August 2005 and January 2006. The recovered liquid wastes were appropriately profiled, consolidated, and shipped off site to a treatment/disposal facility. The 125 tons of scrap metal were sent to a metals recycling facility. All of the unsorted ordnance-related scrap, drums containing smoke canisters and/or fuse cans, and crushed drums were transferred to an area within the OB/OD Area where these materials are currently being sorted by certified UXO technicians for subsequent off-site recycling or disposal. The 21,000 tons of unsorted soil is currently stockpiled at NAAD 09C, and, based on waste profiling analytical results, the majority of this material may be managed on site.

What is the current status of the debris pile in NAAD 09C?

The removal action eliminated all debris at NAAD 09C, returning the site to natural grade. Confirmation samples collected within the base of the excavation in late September 2005 were analyzed for a variety of chemical constituents including explosives, propellants, accelerants, pesticides, polychlorinated biphenyls, volatile organic compounds, white phosphorous, perchlorate, petroleum hydrocarbons, and metals. The analytical data indicates that, with the exception of certain metals, all chemical compounds are below laboratory reporting limits or State of Arizona Residential Soil Remediation Levels (R-SRLs). The metals are either below their R-SRLs or are within acceptable naturally occurring background ranges determined for the OB/OD Area. A report



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documenting the removal action and the confirmation sampling results will be submitted to ADEQ for review in mid March 2006.

How long has the cleanup been going on at Camp Navajo?

The National Guard Bureau has been investigating the extent and nature of contamination and cleaning up the Camp Navajo Open Burn /Open Detonation area for more than 10 years. In 2002, the National Guard Bureau committed substantial funding toward the cleanup of the OB/OD area.

Who is the lead agency?

The National Guard Bureau is the lead executing agency. The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality is the lead regulatory agency.

Who are cooperating agencies?

The National Guard Bureau works closely with the Arizona Army National Guard and the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. They also work with the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office to protect cultural resources, and with other organizations such as the Arizona Game & Fish Department, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Forest Service via its Stakeholder Advisory Group. Specific procedures, for instance, have been developed and are currently being followed to minimize any potential effect on bald eagles and Mexican spotted owls. Brown & Caldwell is the prime contractor hired by the facility to complete the work at the NAAD 09C area.

How can I get more information?

Camp Navajo strives to keep neighbors fully informed of actions that might affect the community. Notices are periodically distributed to neighbors of Camp Navajo. Also, you may visit the Camp Navajo web site <http://www.CampNavajoEnvironmental.org> for more information about the Open Burn/Open Detonation Area Closure Project. Additionally, you can view the Administrative Record at the Camp Navajo Administrative Building 1 or at the Northern Arizona University Cline Library, Special Collections.