



Arizona

Davis-Monthan AFB

Facility and Location

Davis-Monthan Air Force Base (AFB), located in Tucson became a military base in 1925. During World War II, it served as an operational training base for B-18 Bolo, B-24 Liberator, and B-29 Super Fortress aircraft. Since the end of World War II, the base has been used for a variety of purposes, including aircraft storage and preservation. The host unit, the 355th Wing, provides medical, logistical, and operational support as well as training for A-10 and OA-10 pilots to provide forward air control to ground forces worldwide. Davis-Monthan AFB also hosts a variety of aircraft from units that fly to Arizona for training purposes.

Davis-Monthan AFB has an explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) range which from 1969 to 1996 was routinely utilized for thermal treatment of ordnance. The EOD range is currently in use as an operational training range.

Media Sampled and Findings

Drinking Water — Prior to 2007, five samples, collected from eight different production wells and taken in conjunction with routine compliance sampling, reported no detection.

Groundwater — Prior to 2007, two samples (as a part of a basewide groundwater monitoring program) from wells located at Landfill-01 reported no detection.

Soil — Prior to 2007, three samples were collected from craters at the EOD open burn/open detonation site immediately after detonation activities. The results were non-detect, 510 ppb, and 28,000 ppb. Fifteen samples were also collected from the bottom of old munitions residue burial pits, from the open detonation range (one foot below surface), and from drainage swales where rainwater collects. Sampling results ranged from non-detect to 840 ppb.

Appropriate Actions

Drinking and groundwater samples were below the EPA and DoD Preliminary Remediation Goal of 15 ppb.

The "Perchlorate Investigations at the EOD Range" report was completed in 2004. Prior to the EOD range undergoing Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Closure in 2004, sampling was conducted for perchlorate in soils at the range and groundwater in base drinking water wells. Soil samples were found below the 55,000 ppb residential and 720,000 ppb soil screening levels recommended by EPA Region IX. Based on the local hydrology and test results, the Air Force has determined that additional sampling is not warranted. However, discussion with regulators will remain open.