



California NWS Seal Beach

Facility and Location

Naval Weapons Station (NWS) Seal Beach is located in northwest Orange County, southeast of Long Beach and Los Angeles. The site houses the Weapons Station, continental U.S. (CONUS) West Division, Navy Munitions Command headquarters, and various other DoD tenants. It contains waterfront storage and production facilities. It is the major Southern California ammunition storage and distribution point for the Pacific Fleet and receives stores, maintains, and issues conventional ordnance and guided missiles; maintains and operates an ordnance systems component rework facility for the Fleet and Office of Homeland Security.

Media Sampled and Findings

Drinking Water — In 2007, two samples reported no detection.

Groundwater — In 2007, six samples reported no detection. Prior to 2007, six samples reported no detection.

Indoor Debris — Prior to 2007, 7 of 49 samples detected perchlorate from 477 to 9,410 ppb.

Sediment — In 2010, 12 samples reported no detection.

Soil — In 2010, 85 of 108 samples detected perchlorate from 0.27 to 83 ppb.

Surface Water — In 2010, six samples reported no detection.

Wipe Sample — In 2010, one of two samples detected perchlorate at 13.7 ppb.

Appropriate Actions

All samples were below EPA and DoD Preliminary Remediation Goal of 15 ppb, the California Maximum Contaminant Level for drinking water of 6 ppb, and EPA Region IX recommended soil screening levels of 55,000 ppb residential and 720,000 ppb industrial. There are no state or regional standards for indoor debris. NWS Seal Beach is planning a Remedial Investigation and Action for sites identified during the Munitions Response Program Site Inspection where either potential munitions or explosives of concern or munitions constituents contaminants have been evident. All samples with high detections were found in soils or in buildings.

At Building 411, perchlorate found inside the building will be addressed during the execution of the demolition project through proper environmental and health and safety planning. The extent of contamination is not known without partially demolishing the building to expose the drain. Currently, the Ordnance Department is using the building for salvage operations for inert items. Decontamination of the building will be conducted prior to the building being demolished. At Building 68, the debris containing perchlorate has been removed from the building. At Building 75, perchlorate is not currently posing a threat to personnel utilizing the building and will be cleaned up in the near future.