



Alaska Tanaga Island

Facility and Location

Tanaga Island consisted of approximately 774 acres within the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Reservation. It was established as a Navy emergency landing field in July 1943 as an adjunct to the Adak Naval Operation Base. Navy Seabees built a runway, small craft pier, mooring area, office and storage buildings, radio building, galley and mess facilities, dispensary, and four miles of gravel road in 1943. The site was abandoned in 1945. The site is currently under the jurisdiction and management of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. There were approximately 30 anti-aircraft gun emplacements around the airfield. There was an air-to-ground rocket and bombing range located on the west side of the island used during the 1950s. The Navy conducted an open burn/open detonation (OB/OD) action during the 1980s to dispose of thousands of 20mm rounds. Two thousand pounds of explosives were used to dispose of the 20mm rounds in two separate OB/OD actions. A Remedial Investigation was conducted in August 2009 and approximately a dozen rounds were found and destroyed.

Media Sampled and Findings

Sediment — In 2009, 11 samples reported no detection.

Soil — In 2009, 39 samples reported no detection.

Surface Water — In 2009, eight of ten samples detected perchlorate from 0.02 to 0.06 ppb.

Appropriate Actions

Not Applicable. All samples were below the EPA and DoD Preliminary Remediation Goal of 15 ppb.