



## California Former MCAS El Toro

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### ***Facility and Location***

Former Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) El Toro was commissioned in 1943 and supported the Fleet Marine Forces in the Pacific Ocean, serving as the major West Coast jet fighter facility. The station was closed in 1999 under the Base Realignment and Closure Act. Of the approximately 4,670 acres total, almost 3,700 acres were sold by public auction, nearly 900 acres were transferred to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and approximately 70 acres (Installation Restoration Program [IRP] Site 1) were retained by the Navy. IRP Site 1, the explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) training range, is located at the northeast corner of the station and remains under the Navy's ownership. IRP Site 2 is located in a 900-acre area designated as a wildlife habitat that has already been transferred to the FAA. The Navy, EPA, California Department of Toxic Substances Control, and California Regional Water Quality Control Board reviewed all available environmental data, including perchlorate data, and determined with the July 2004 Finding of Suitability to Transfer (FOST) that the property to be transferred in the public sale parcels is suitable for residential or other proposed uses, subject to notifications and restrictions stipulated in the FOST. The regulatory agencies concurred.

### ***Media Sampled and Findings***

**Groundwater** — In 2011, 53 of 53 samples detected perchlorate from 0.71 to 938 ppb. In 2010, 190 of 293 samples detected perchlorate from 0.08 to 584 ppb. In 2009, 137 of 138 samples detected perchlorate from 0.86 to 511 ppb. In 2008, 57 of 57 samples detected perchlorate from 1 to 596 ppb. In 2007, 17 of 17 samples detected perchlorate from 1.43 to 320 ppb. Prior to 2007, 963 of 989 samples detected perchlorate from 0.8 to 710 ppb.

**Soil** — Prior to 2007, 227 of 227 samples detected perchlorate from 18 to 1,600 ppb.

**Surface Water** — In 2003, two of two samples detected perchlorate at 3 ppb.

### ***Appropriate Actions***

Groundwater samples were above the EPA and DoD Preliminary Remediation Goal of 15 ppb at IRP Site 1 (the former EOD Range) in 2011 and in past samples collected at IRP Site 2 (Magazine Road landfill area). Pilot studies have been conducted at both sites to test various technologies for in-situ treatment of perchlorate at the site. The source of perchlorate in groundwater is the central portion of IRP Site 1. Remedial options for perchlorate were included in the Final Groundwater FS. The preferred remedy presented in the draft Proposed Plan is In-Situ Bioremediation with Monitored Natural Attenuation. Following public review, the selected remedy will be documented in the Record of Decision.

Soil concentrations were below the EPA Region IX soil screening levels of 55,000 ppb residential and 720,000 ppb industrial soil screening levels recommended by EPA Region IX.