



## Massachusetts Former South Weymouth NAS

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

The Former South Weymouth Naval Air Station (SOWEY NAS) is approximately 1,442 acres in size and is primarily located in Weymouth but extends into Abington and Rockland. SOWEY NAS was also assigned responsibility for Nomans Land Island bombing range, located in the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of Massachusetts. After acquiring the site in 1941, the Navy used it as a lighter than air facility for dirigible aircraft used to patrol the North Atlantic during World War II. The station was closed at the end of the war and reopened in 1953 as a NAS for aviation training. SOWEY NAS had been in use continuously until its closure in 1997. The mission of SOWEY NAS was to train all assigned units for their mobilization assignment, provide administrative coordination and logistics support to the Marine Air Reserve Training Detachment South Weymouth, and administer the Naval Reserve Program. Activities performed at the site included aircraft maintenance, refueling, personnel training and housing, and administrative support services. In addition, the Coast Guard operates a buoy maintenance depot on former Navy property. Eighteen municipal drinking water wells located within four miles of source areas at SOWEY NAS provide drinking water to approximately 74,000 people. In addition, approximately 85 private drinking water wells located within four miles of SOWEY NAS draw from the same aquifer. Large tracts of wetlands occur throughout the surrounding towns. West of SOWEY NAS is a large wetland containing the Weymouth Great Pond. This is a source of municipal water for much of the area, including the air station. No drinking water wells are located on Nomans Land Island. Base Realignment and Closure Program Management Office Northeast is the caretaker of this property until transfer.

The station was closed on September 30, 1997 under the Defense Base Realignment and Closure Act (BRAC) program, Public Law 101-510 as part of the BRAC Commission's 1995 Base Closure List. The land surrounding the site is suburban with a mixture of residential, industrial, and commercial uses.

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

**Groundwater** — Prior to 2007, 13 samples reported no detection.

### ***Appropriate Actions***

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