

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION**

**STAFF SUMMARY REPORT (Naomi Feger)
MEETING DATE: August 20, 2003**

ITEM: 5E

SUBJECT: UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY; UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, SAN FRANCISCO DISTRICT; CALIFORNIA STATE LANDS COMMISSION AT FORMER HAMILTON ARMY AIRFIELD, NOVATO, MARIN COUNTY – Adoption of Site Cleanup Requirements and Rescission of Order No. 97-088

DISCUSSION: This Tentative Order (Appendix A) details Site Cleanup Requirements at the former Hamilton Army Airfield (HAAF), Main Airfield Parcel and adjacent Coastal Salt Marsh, names the Responsible Parties, and sets forth a schedule by which actions must be taken for site investigation and performance of response and environmental assurance actions.

Hamilton Army Airfield (Hamilton) is a former military installation located along western San Pablo Bay. Hamilton is being returned to civilian uses. This property is the subject of an early transfer request under CERCLA section 120(h)(3)(C) by the U.S. Army that requires the approval of the Governor. This Order will provide part of the assurances required by the Governor to approve the early transfer.

The former operating airfield portion of Hamilton consists of approximately 644 acres (Figure 2). 630 acres will be transferred to the State Coastal Conservancy (SCC) to re-establish fresh and tidal wetlands. Ten acres of the property lie outboard of the Bay front perimeter levee in the existing coastal salt marsh habitat. Transfer of fourteen acres of the main airfield parcel to the City of Novato is planned. The California State Lands Commission owns seventy-eight acres (Figure 2) of the Coastal Salt Marsh adjacent to the Main Airfield Parcel. Residual contamination from former military operations necessitates additional investigations, removals, remediation (placement of dredged sediment), and adoption of institutional controls, to assure that the proposed wetlands can sustain their intended uses.

By this order, the Regional Board will become the state regulatory lead for the final remediation actions required under a Record of Decision/Remedial Action Plan prepared by the U.S. Army, the Department of Toxic Substances Control and the Regional Water Quality Control Board. The U.S. Army (BRAC) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will be responsible for the environmental actions specified in this order. The State Lands Commission is named to the order as a property owner.

RECOMMENDATION: Adoption of the Tentative Order
File No. 2159.5008 (NLF)

Appendices: A: Tentative Order
B: Location Maps

APPENDIX A

TENTATIVE ORDER

APPENDIX B

LOCATION MAP