



Marine Corps squadron refueling over MCAS Yuma (2019)

Marine Corps Air Station Yuma  
Yuma, Arizona

# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PLAN



# INTRODUCTION

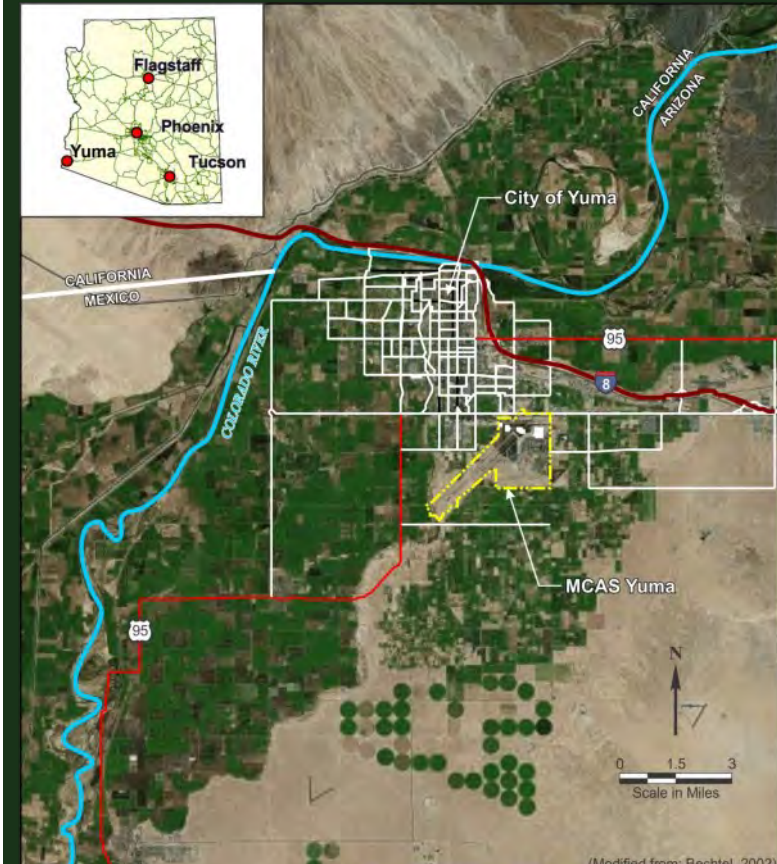
Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, or MCAS Yuma, is located on approximately 4,800 acres of land in southwestern Arizona near the California and Mexico borders. The United States Department of the Navy (DON) leads the environmental cleanup at MCAS Yuma to address contamination that resulted from historical airfield activities. DON cleanup activities and this Community Involvement Plan (CIP) follow federal and state laws and regulations. Regulatory guidance is provided by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) and the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ). Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Southwest (NAVFAC SW) provides consultation, lends technical and legal assistance, allocates funding and contracts administration support on behalf of the DON, and works closely with regulatory agencies and members of the Marine Corps command at MCAS Yuma.

Informing and involving the community in cleanup decisions is an important part of the DON's environmental cleanup program at MCAS Yuma. This CIP is a living document to guide community members and the DON in sharing information and feedback about the ongoing environmental cleanup at the installation. It will be reviewed and updated periodically as new information becomes available (typically every 3 to 5 years).

To support this CIP, the DON conducted a community survey during the month of May 2022. The purpose of the survey was to gather information regarding community preferences, interests, and concerns about the DON's environmental cleanup at MCAS Yuma, and get feedback on the best ways to share information with members of the community. The collected data helped the DON to develop the Community Involvement Action Plan described in this CIP.

The activities presented in the CIP meet requirements for community involvement set forth in federal law and regulatory guidance. The DON consulted with federal and state regulatory agencies, as well as MCAS Yuma Marine Corps command and relevant departments, during the preparation of this document. The DON believes this CIP presents effective outreach methods to share program information between the DON and members of the community.

The DON will continue to gauge outreach based on public interest. This CIP is available to the public by request from the Administrative Record File (see page 15) and on the MCAS Yuma Environmental Department website at [www.mcas-yuma.marines.mil/Environmental/](http://www.mcas-yuma.marines.mil/Environmental/)



**MCAS Yuma location map**

Regular evaluation of community feedback and outreach metrics will help the DON adjust outreach to meet the needs of the community. Effective outreach and dialogue will:

- Engage the community in the cleanup process;
- Offer information to educate the public about environmental cleanup activities and technologies used at MCAS Yuma; and
- Provide opportunities for the public to provide meaningful input during the cleanup process.

# MCAS YUMA COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PLAN ORGANIZATION

Page	Section	Description
4	Site Overview	This section provides a history of MCAS Yuma and an overview of its entry into the federal environmental cleanup program.
5-6	The Laws and Agencies That Guide Environmental Cleanup Federal Guidance Responsible Parties Requirements for Community Involvement Historical Community Involvement at MCAS Yuma Glossary of Technical Terms	This section describes federal laws that guide the DON environmental cleanup at MCAS Yuma and the agencies involved. It also provides a summary of historical community involvement at the installation. It provides a glossary of terms and a list of sources used in this document.
7-11	The Community Quick Facts and Community Overview Demographics, Economics, and Environmental Justice Community Outreach Survey Overview Community Interests and Preferences	This section provides information on members of the community in and around MCAS Yuma. Recent demographic, economic, and Environmental Justice data are provided. An overview of the May 2022 community survey and a summary of community interests and concerns are also presented.
12-15	The Community Involvement Action Plan Community Involvement at MCAS Yuma Resources for Program Information Other Community Participation Resources Other Program Resources	This section provides information on the methods available to the DON for sharing environmental cleanup information with the community. It describes opportunities for dialogue and feedback. It provides resources for other ways people can learn more about the ongoing environmental cleanup at MCAS Yuma. Information on the MCAS Yuma Emergency Notification System is also available.
16-18	Cleanup at MCAS Yuma The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Process Active Installation Restoration Program (IRP) Site Summaries Active Munitions Response Program (MRP) Site Summaries PFAS at MCAS Yuma	This section includes an overview of the CERCLA Process and summaries of the active cleanup sites at MCAS Yuma. It also includes an overview of the ongoing investigations into per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), emerging contaminants under a separate federal investigation.
19	Program Contacts DON and Regulatory Agency Contacts	This section offers contacts for more information on the environmental cleanup program at MCAS Yuma.
20	References	This section includes a list of references used in the preparation of this CIP.



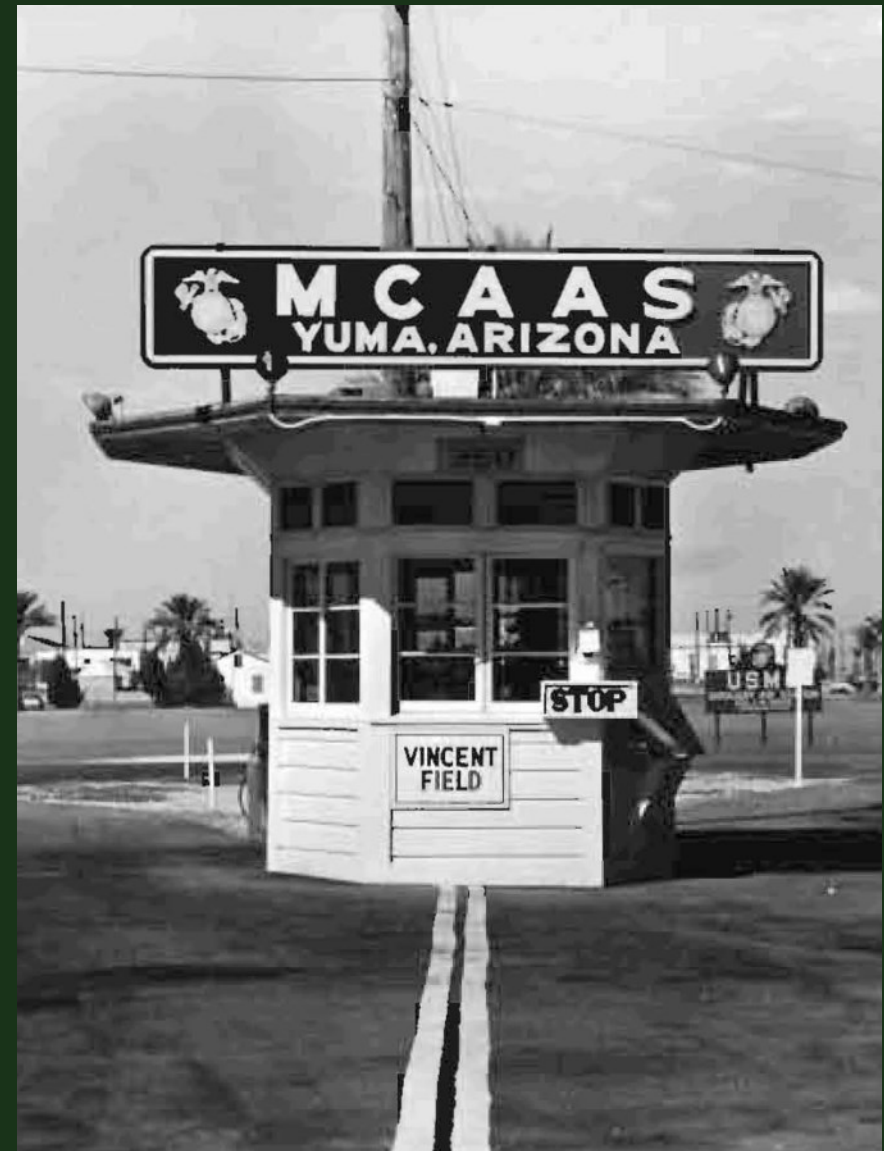
## SITE OVERVIEW

In February 1928, the U.S. Government (Bureau of Reclamation [Reclamation]) entered a long-term lease for 640 acres of desert land near the City of Yuma, Arizona for construction of an airfield. During World War II, the land was leased to the U.S. Army Air Corps where airfield operations were expanded for pilot and bomber crew training. From 1941 to 1946, the base was one of the busiest flight schools in the Army Air Corps, and at the end of World War II, the Army Corps closed the flight school. Reclamation regained management of the airfield until Yuma County claimed it for use in 1948.

The U.S. Air Force (USAF) reactivated the base as a Weapons Proficiency Center for fighter interceptor units in 1951, and in 1954, USAF declared it a permanent Air Force installation. From 1956 to 1959, USAF and Yuma County shared the airfield until it was transferred to the U.S. Navy in January 1959.

MCAS Yuma was established on January 10, 1959, with its primary mission to maintain and operate facilities, and provide services and materials, to support operations of a Marine Aircraft Wing and subordinate units of the Wing. The base spans about 4,800 acres on the Yuma Mesa, and includes a 13,300-foot runway, an Instrumented Special Weapons System, and a Tactical Aircrew Combat Training System. The base operates the airport as a joint military/civilian airport.

On February 21, 1990, the U.S. EPA placed MCAS Yuma on the National Priorities List (NPL) as a result of contamination from historical use as an airfield. In 1992, the DON, U.S. Marine Corps, and regulatory agencies entered into a Federal Facility Agreement (FFA) to clean up MCAS Yuma. The FFA provides a structure and schedule to investigate and clean up past contamination at MCAS Yuma, as defined in federal laws. To assist in the investigation and cleanup, the base was subdivided into three operable units (OUs), generally by media type (e.g., soil and groundwater). Chemical and groundwater cleanup at MCAS Yuma are managed by the Installation Restoration Program (IRP), while munitions-related contamination is managed by the Munitions Response Program (MRP). Currently, seven IRP and three MRP sites are actively managed at MCAS Yuma under the FFA agreement.



Historic image of main gate at MCAS Yuma (2010)

# THE LAWS AND AGENCIES THAT GUIDE ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP

## Federal Guidance: CERCLA, SARA, and the NCP

The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), also known as Superfund, was created by Congress in 1980 to identify, investigate, and clean up hazardous wastes. CERCLA enabled the revision of the National Contingency Plan (NCP), which provided the guidelines and procedures needed to respond to releases and threatened releases of hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants. The NCP also established the NPL. CERCLA was amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) on October 17, 1986, and the DON's environmental cleanup at MCAS Yuma follows CERCLA requirements, as amended by SARA. Page 16 of this CIP describes the steps involved in the CERCLA Process.

## Responsible Parties

The DON is the lead agency and manages the environmental cleanup program at MCAS Yuma. The U.S. EPA is the lead regulatory agency with federal approval and authority. ADEQ is the lead state agency that reviews site activities and documents to ensure that Arizona laws and regulations are followed. The DON works closely with U.S. EPA, ADEQ, other regulatory agencies, and the MCAS Yuma Environmental Department to ensure that cleanup is completed in an accurate and timely manner.

## Requirements for Community Involvement

Federal and state laws and regulations require community involvement during investigation and cleanup activities. The purpose of these statutes is to make sure that the public is informed and involved early; that public concerns are heard; and that public comments are considered in making final decisions on CERCLA cleanups. By implementing early and meaningful community participation, the goal of community involvement is achieved.



## Historical Community Involvement at MCAS Yuma

Over the years, the DON has shared information about their environmental cleanup at MCAS Yuma in a variety of ways. In April 1990, a Technical Review Committee (TRC) was established at MCAS Yuma to facilitate public participation by providing technical assistance to local community members in the review and comment of technical documents. The TRC was converted to a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) in 1995. Since that time, five official Public Comment Periods and no less than five public meetings have been held to offer members of the community an opportunity to participate in the DON's environmental cleanup process. In addition, 11 notices have been placed in local newspapers announcing the availability of reports, public comment periods, and various CERCLA-related activities at the base. Although the RAB was disbanded in the mid-2000s due to lack of community interest, the DON has continued to share program information with members of the community as individual sites continue to move through the CERCLA process.

# GLOSSARY OF TECHNICAL TERMS

**contaminant:** Something that has a negative effect on human health or the environment.

**groundwater:** The supply of fresh water found beneath the Earth's surface.

**hazardous waste:** By-products of industrial activities that can pose a hazard to human health or the environment when improperly managed.

**institutional controls:** Non-engineered instruments such as administrative and legal controls that help minimize the potential for human exposure to contamination and/or protect the integrity of the remedy.

**long-term monitoring:** Monitoring a site until it is not a hazard to human health or the environment.

**metals:** Metals may occur naturally or as a result from historical activities. Examples include copper, mercury, manganese, and nickel.

**munitions and explosives of concern:** Specific categories of military munitions (unexploded ordnance [UXO], discarded military munitions [DDM]), or munitions constituents [MC] present in high enough concentrations to pose an explosive hazard.

**pesticides/herbicides:** Chemicals used to kill rodents, insects, or unwanted plants.

**polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs):** Compounds created when oil, gasoline, garbage, wood or coal are burned. PAHs are also present in tar and asphalt, and are common in clay pigeons historically used at small arms ranges.

**range:** A designated land or water area that is set aside, managed, and used for range activities by the DoD; includes firing lines and position, maneuver areas, firing lanes, test pads, detonation pads, impact areas, electronic scoring sites, buffer zones with restricted access, and exclusionary areas. Also includes airspace areas designated for military use in accordance the regulations and procedures prescribed by the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

**remediation:** Cleanup or removal of contaminants from the environment.

**site:** A specific area where contamination has been confirmed and requires further action.

**small arms:** Ammunition without projectiles that contain explosives (other than tracers), that is .50 caliber or smaller, or for shotguns.

**small arms ranges:** A range designated for use with small arms.



Anti-Submarine Squadron 37 (VS-37) over the Aerial Weapons Training Range, Yuma, Arizona (1970)



# THE COMMUNITY

## Yuma County Quick Facts

(U.S. Census Bureau, 2022)

- 91% of residents report that they are White
- 65% of people describe their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino (regardless of race)
- 75% have graduated high school
- An average of 2.76 persons live in each of the 74,624 households
- The median household income is \$48,790
- Women make up about 48% of the population
- About 15% of the population lives in poverty

## Yuma County

Yuma County includes about 5,513 square miles in the southwestern corner of Arizona, bordering California on the west and Mexico on the south. The City of Yuma lies approximately 23 miles north of the Mexican border where the Colorado and Gila Rivers meet.

Approximately 93% of the land in Yuma County is owned by federal and state governments and 1%, about

60 square miles, provides residential housing and related development. Yuma County’s total population has increased by 5% over the past 10 years.

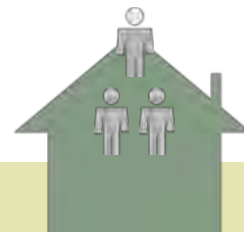
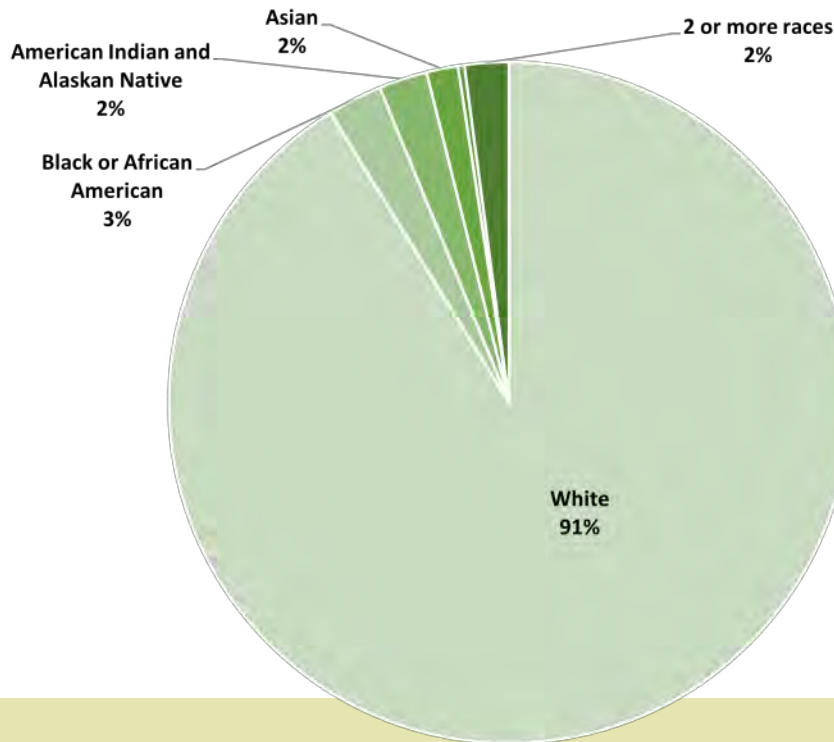
The City of Yuma encompasses approximately 121 square miles in the western portion of the county, and borders MCAS Yuma primarily along the installation's northern border. About 97,093 people live in the City of Yuma, almost half of the county’s population. (U.S. Census Bureau, 2022)

## Base Housing

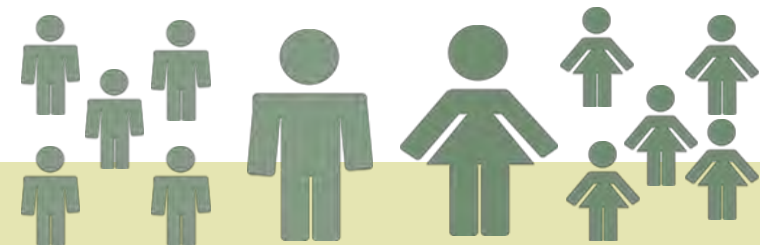
An important part of the MCAS Yuma community are its on-site tenants. MCAS Yuma Family Housing offers a total of 821 homes that include 693 homes on-base and 128 apartment-style units located seven miles from the base at the 16th Street Family Housing complex. MCAS Yuma Family Housing serves approximately 4,500 active military and more than 5,500 family members.

## Tenant Units

The base is home to a number of tenant units, including Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron 1, Marine Operational Test and Evaluation Squadron 1, Marine Aircraft Group 13, Marine Air Control Squadron 1, Marine Fighter Training Squadron 401, and Combat Logistics Company 16. (MCAS Yuma, 2021)



74,624 households



Total Population: 206,990

2.76 average persons per household

(U.S. Census Bureau, 2022)

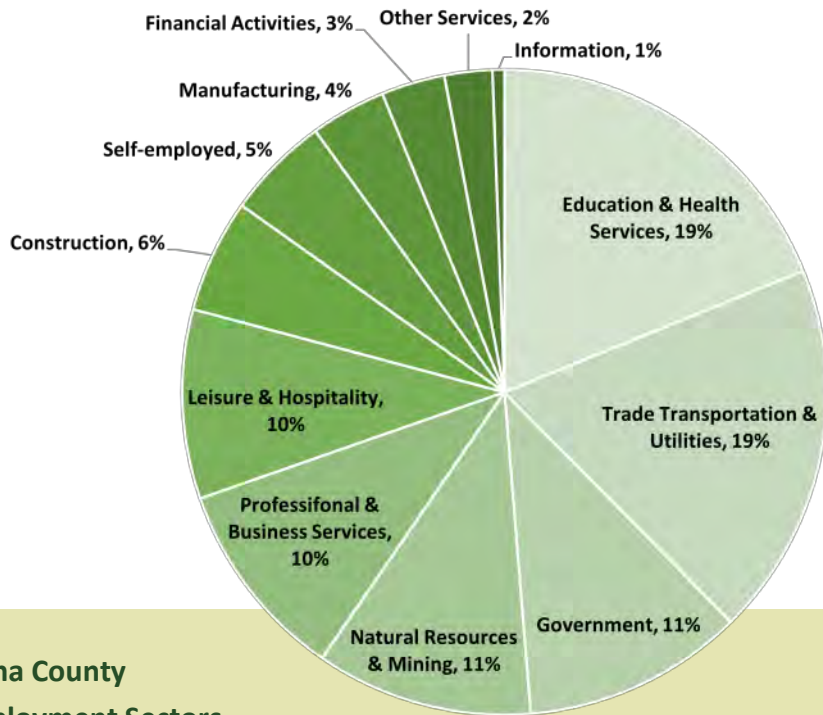
Yuma County Demographics:  
Race, Housing, and Population

# THE COMMUNITY

## Economics

Yuma County supports a civilian labor force of 101,048, of which 46,654 people (or 46%) are employed within the City of Yuma. (AZ Dept of Commerce, September 2021). Agriculture contributes substantially to Yuma County's economy, primarily along the Colorado and Gila Rivers. Light industry also contributes to the county's economic diversification. In addition, MCAS Yuma and the Army's Yuma Proving Grounds are important components of the local economy.

County-wide unemployment averages 17%, which is higher than both the state and nation's annual unemployment rate. Within Yuma County, the average annual unemployment rate ranged from 11.1% in the City of Yuma to 37.5% in San Luis. Seasonal employment in agriculture and tourism industries are perceived as a major factor in the county's high unemployment rate.



**Yuma County  
Employment Sectors**

## Environmental Justice in Environmental Cleanup

### What is it and why is it important?

U.S. EPA defines Environmental justice (EJ) as the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. (U.S. EPA, 2022)

Fair treatment means no group of people should bear a disproportionate share of the negative environmental consequences resulting from industrial, governmental, and commercial operations or policies.

Meaningful involvement means:

- People have an opportunity to participate in decisions about activities that may affect their environment and/or health;
- The public's contribution can influence the regulatory agency's decision; and
- Community concerns will be considered in the decision-making process, and decision makers will seek out and facilitate the involvement of those potentially affected.

### Environmental Justice at MCAS Yuma

The DON is committed to cleaning up MCAS Yuma in a manner that is sustainable, equitable, accessible, and inclusive of all populations. Using the U.S. EPA's EJ Screening and Mapping tool, the DON can determine socioeconomic indicators (% low income, % people of color, and total population) for the community near the base. Compared to both state and national populations, the community surrounding MCAS Yuma are not identified as high risk in relation to EJ Demographic Indexes. (U.S. EPA, 2022)

As a standard practice to best meet the needs of all community members, the DON will continue to request feedback from stakeholders as information is shared about the environmental cleanup at MCAS Yuma.



# THE COMMUNITY

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH SURVEY

In May 2022, the DON conducted a survey of people who live and work on, and near, MCAS Yuma. The purpose of the survey was to better understand community members' preferences, interests, and concerns in relation to the DON's environmental cleanup at MCAS Yuma. In addition, information was gathered on the best ways to communicate program information with members of the public.

The DON determined that people within a 5 mile radius from the center of MCAS Yuma, and people who live and work within 1/4 mile of the installation boundary, are most likely to be affected by environmental cleanup activities. Included in this group are on-base personnel and tenants, as well as off-base residents and businesses.

A variety of methods were used to distribute survey links to members of the defined community. Flyers were mailed to more than 10,000 residential and business addresses from a purchased mailing list of ZIP Codes 85364, 85365, and 85366. MCAS Yuma resources provided support by posting a link to the survey on the MCAS Yuma Environmental website, sharing information with unaccompanied Marines, providing

flyers to Base Housing representatives for distribution, and posting a flyer at the Station Library. On-base distribution had the opportunity to reach an additional 10,000 service members, base personnel, family members, and visitors.

Several options to take the survey were offered, including a link to the online survey, a PDF version of the survey via email, and a print version via U.S. Mail. In addition, personal attention was available to take the survey by telephone or in a virtual meeting. The DON developed a list of 15 unbiased questions, with several opportunities for write-in responses. Thirty-three surveys were completed between April 25, 2022, and May 30, 2022. The list of survey questions may be found in the box to the right. A summary of survey responses is provided on the pages that follow.

### May 2022 Survey Quick Facts

- Distributed to ~20,000 addresses
- 33 responses
- 79% used survey link in U.S. mailer
- 91% took electronic survey
- No requests for translation

## MCAS Yuma May 2022 Community Survey Questions

1. What ZIP Code do you live in?
2. What ZIP Code do you work in?
3. Do you or members of your family prefer to receive information in a language other than English?
4. Do you participate in, or are you a member of, any local groups, organizations, and/or neighborhood associations?
5. In general, how do you prefer to receive information?
6. Have you reviewed and/or commented on a recent DON technical document for MCAS Yuma (for example, Record of Decision for Munitions Response Program Site 5 in October 2019)?
7. In the past several years, what resources have you used to learn more about the DON's environmental cleanup at MCAS Yuma?
8. What information would you like to receive about the DON's environmental cleanup at MCAS Yuma?
9. What activities related to environmental cleanup at MCAS Yuma are you interested in?
10. How often would you like to receive information on the DON's environmental cleanup at MCAS Yuma?
11. How can the DON involve the community in the environmental cleanup program at MCAS Yuma?
12. How likely is it that you will use [the following] resources in the future to learn more about the DON's environmental cleanup at MCAS Yuma?
13. Please share any comments and/or topics of interest related to the DON's environmental cleanup at MCAS Yuma.
14. Do you know anyone else who might like to participate in this survey?
15. Would you like to receive periodic updates on environmental cleanup at MCAS Yuma?

# THE COMMUNITY

## INTERESTS AND PREFERENCES

MCAS Yuma has a long history in Yuma County. The environmental cleanup program is mature, with only 10 active sites in various stages of the CERCLA process. Although community involvement in the base environmental cleanup program is historically limited, recent survey results show a general interest by individuals to have the opportunity to learn more about the program.

### Environmental Cleanup Activities and Schedule

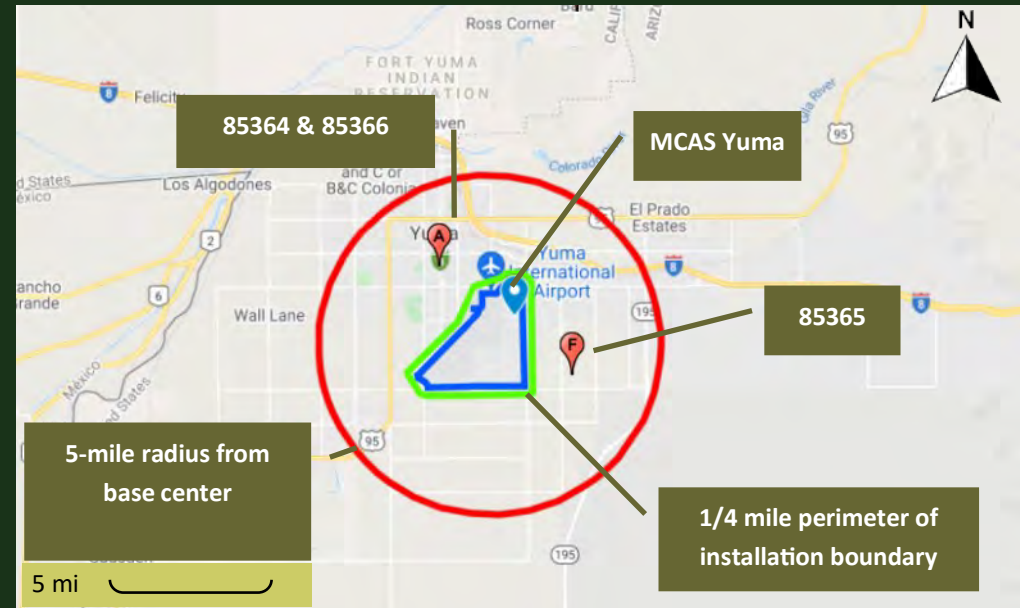
Information on the environmental cleanup at MCAS Yuma is important to most people (72%) who participated in the survey. People reported an interest in all areas of cleanup, with a specific focus on groundwater (100%) and soil (95%). Air quality and dust management were also common topics of interest (75%), followed by munitions cleanup and disposal of munitions from former ranges (45%). In addition, many people (45%) would like to learn more about the environmental cleanup schedule for MCAS Yuma.

### Periodic Updates and Communication Methods

All survey participants expressed an interest in receiving periodic environmental cleanup program updates. Overall, U.S. Mail (62%) and email (55%) are the preferred methods of communication; however, the MCAS Yuma website was most frequently referenced as a resource people are most likely to use for program-related information. Eighteen people subscribed to the DON’s distribution list to receive information on the environmental cleanup program.

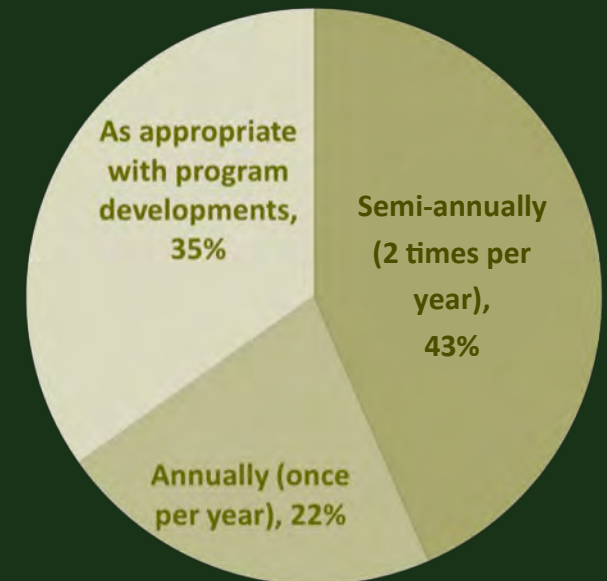
“Thank you for providing information and letting the public know of cleanup activities. I live directly bordering the base and appreciate knowing what is going on.”

- May 2022 survey participant



More than 10,000 mailers were sent to people who live and work in the community closest to MCAS Yuma

Most people (57%) would like to receive information on the DON’s environmental cleanup at MCAS Yuma annually, or as appropriate with program developments, but not more frequently than twice per year.



Community Preferences for Frequency of Environmental Cleanup Information





Marine Aviation and Tactics Squadron One participates in the Weapons and Tactics Instructors Course over MCAS Yuma (2019)



# THE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ACTION PLAN

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AT MCAS YUMA

This CIP provides a guide for the DON to engage the community, share information, and receive and respond to public input. The Community Involvement Action Plan in this document describes the primary methods the DON will use to provide information and involve the public in the MCAS Yuma environmental cleanup program. In addition, other activities and resources that may be used to support public involvement are described.

The outreach activities and resources described in this CIP are in compliance with community involvement guidelines set forth in federal law, with a focus on MCAS Yuma community interests as identified in the May 2022 survey results.

### Community Involvement Overview

The DON has developed an outreach program that provides opportunities for community involvement in different formats. The goal of the outreach program is to reach stakeholders, share program information, and receive community input.

Based on community feedback, sharing written information on a variety of topics will allow people to learn more about environmental cleanup at MCAS Yuma. The MCAS Yuma Environmental website is the community's preferred resource to provide links to documents, announce review periods, and share other program information. When appropriate, information will be developed on topics of interest and shared through various distribution methods. In response to survey feedback, electronic communications will be the primary resource used to share information and updates.

Information on the methods and frequency of community involvement activities is described in the pages that follow.

“As much information  
as possible. This is the  
first I’ve heard of it  
and I’ve lived [on] base  
for 6 years.”

- *May 2022 survey  
participant*

# THE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ACTION PLAN

## RESOURCES FOR PROGRAM INFORMATION

### Written Program Materials and Distribution Methods

Written materials provide a way to share information about MCAS Yuma’s environmental cleanup with the public. The DON will make every effort to write materials that can be understood without technical training.

As appropriate with program developments, MCAS Yuma materials may be distributed using electronic resources (website postings or email) or by U.S. Mail to subscribed distribution lists.

#### Website Postings

Program documents and other informational materials will continue to be posted on the MCAS Yuma Environmental website at

[www.mcas-yuma.marines.mil/Environmental/](http://www.mcas-yuma.marines.mil/Environmental/)

#### Distribution Lists

Several distribution lists will be used to communicate MCAS Yuma environmental cleanup information and updates to the community.

##### Subscribed Distribution List

Participants in the May 2022 community survey had the opportunity to share their contact information to receive program materials via U.S. mail or email. Periodically, the DON will send out information regarding program developments to subscribers, as appropriate. The DON will manage this list by adding or deleting subscribers as requested.

#### Base Mailing Lists

The DON will coordinate distribution of environmental cleanup materials to installation command, staff, service members, and families through MCAS Yuma resources. These include, but are not limited to, NAVFAC, MCAS Yuma Public Affairs Office, MCAS Yuma Environmental Department, and MCAS Yuma Base Housing.

##### USPS Mailing List

The DON purchased a list of all business and residential addresses within 5 miles of the center of the base. If a broader mailing is necessary, the DON may use this list to communicate program information.

#### Program Updates

Program updates describe site-specific activities and topics of interest during the DON’s environmental cleanup at MCAS Yuma. Examples of materials that may be shared about environmental cleanup at MCAS Yuma include environmental cleanup technologies, cleanup schedule, or health-related information relating to environmental cleanup activities.

In response to community feedback, the best way to share information is through electronic resources. Program updates may be posted on the MCAS Yuma Environmental website, shared via email, or distributed through other methods as appropriate.

## MCAS Yuma Program Resources: Quick Reference List

#### To be added or deleted from an MCAS Yuma distribution list:

**Donald Dressler, Remedial Project Manager**  
Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Southwest  
[donald.l.dressler2.civ@us.navy.mil](mailto:donald.l.dressler2.civ@us.navy.mil)  
(619) 705-5487

#### To learn more about environmental cleanup at MCAS Yuma:

**MCAS Yuma Environmental website:** [www.mcas-yuma.marines.mil/Environmental/](http://www.mcas-yuma.marines.mil/Environmental/)

**ADEQ website:** [www.azdeq.gov/superfund/YumaMarineCorpsAirStation](http://www.azdeq.gov/superfund/YumaMarineCorpsAirStation)

**US EPA website:** <https://cumulis.epa.gov/superfund/cursites/csinfo.cfm?id=0900885>

# THE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ACTION PLAN

## OTHER COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION RESOURCES

### Public Meetings, Public Comment Periods, Public Notices, Program Reviews and Emergency Notifications

#### Public Meetings

In accordance with U.S. EPA and Department of Defense requirements, public meetings will be held at critical times in the remediation process to allow members of the public to participate in cleanup. The DON may hold public meetings to share information on a Proposed Plan (PP), Record of Decision (ROD), Site Closure, or other key milestone that requires public participation. Notices of any upcoming Public Meetings will be published approximately three weeks before the meeting. Notification resources may include online or print newspapers (e.g. the Yuma Sun), the MCAS Yuma Environmental website ([www.mcasyma.marines.mil/Environmental/](http://www.mcasyma.marines.mil/Environmental/)), or other identified distribution methods.

#### Public Comment Periods

Public comment periods are a federal requirement of the remedial action process and are established at critical times in the cleanup process. They provide an opportunity for the public

to review and provide feedback, and are typically implemented during PP and ROD development, and other decision documents. The DON considers all public comments during the decision-making process. Public comments that require an answer will continue to be addressed on an individual basis.

#### Public Notices

Federal and state laws require publishing Public Notices to announce the availability of specific documents for public comment. Examples may include a Proposed Plan (PP), availability of the Record of Decision (ROD), ROD amendments, and NPL delisting.

In response to community feedback, the best way to share information is through electronic resources. In compliance with CERCLA requirements, official Public Notices will be posted in a local periodical's electronic version whenever possible. In addition, Public Notices will continue to be posted on the MCAS Yuma Environmental website.

Additional electronic or print resources may be used to share public notices in compliance with current federal guidance.

#### Five-Year Reviews

The DON conducts reviews every five years to make sure that final remedies at MCAS Yuma are performing as expected, and that that they continue to be protective of human health and the environment. While there are no required community involvement activities during a Five-Year Review, the DON may use this as an opportunity to share information with the public.

The DON completed its fifth Five-Year Review in 2020. The Final Five-Year Review document for Operable Units 1, 2, and Munitions Response Program Sites 4 and 6 is available by searching the Administrative Record File:

<https://www.navfac.navy.mil/Business-Lines/Environmental/Products-and-Services/Environmental-Restoration/SOUTHWEST/>

#### Updates to Elected Officials

The DON holds the interest of local, state, and federal elected officials. The DON will communicate with government officials, as appropriate, to keep them informed of progress and ensure the needs of their constituents are met.

#### Emergency Notification System

MCAS Yuma's Mission Assurance Department, in conjunction with the Provost Marshal's Office (PMO) operates a mass notification system using automated telephone and email messages, both personal and work, in the cases of an emergency.

Points of contact for the MCAS Yuma Mass Notification System include:

#### Michelle Voor Den Dag

Mission Assurance Department  
928-269-6223  
[michelle.voordendag@usmc.mil](mailto:michelle.voordendag@usmc.mil)

#### Timothy Beeler

Mission Assurance Department  
928-269-6725 (desk)  
928-941-3623 (mobile)  
[timothy.beeler@usmc.mil](mailto:timothy.beeler@usmc.mil)



# THE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ACTION PLAN

## OTHER PROGRAM RESOURCES

### Administrative Record and Information Repository

#### Administrative Record

An Administrative Record File (ARF) of MCAS Yuma environmental cleanup program documents has been established by the DON, and is available for public review. This CIP is included in the ARF. It will continue to be maintained for at least 50 years after MCAS Yuma environmental cleanup activities are complete, and will serve as a legal and public information resource. Documents may not be removed from DON ARF. Documents are available for review online at the link at the bottom of this page.

Hard copies may be reviewed in-person by appointment. A copy of the ARF index is available for public review at the ARF.

The complete ARF for MCAS Yuma is maintained at NAVFAC SW in San Diego, California. Copies of documents located at the ARF are available by contacting:

**Diane Silva**  
 Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Southwest  
 2965 Mole Road, Building 3519  
 San Diego, CA 92136  
 (619) 556-1280  
[diane.c.silva.civ@us.navy.mil](mailto:diane.c.silva.civ@us.navy.mil)

#### Information Repository

Local information repositories provide the community with opportunities to review project documents.

The DON has established a local information repository at the Yuma County Library District’s Main Library.

A copy of the ARF index and recent program documents are available to the public at this location.

Documents available for public review during official Public Comment Periods will be available at this location.



Field data is collected at MRP Site 5

**Main Library, Yuma County Library District**  
 2951 South 21st Drive, Yuma, AZ 85364  
 (928) 782-1871

 A satellite-style map of the Yuma, Arizona area. A red pin is placed on a map of the Yuma County Library District building. A green callout box with the text 'Main Library' points to this pin. The map shows various landmarks including the Yuma International Airport, several industrial parks, and residential areas. A scale bar at the bottom left indicates 2,000 feet.

Location map of MCAS Yuma Information Repository

Review MCAS Yuma environmental documents by searching the Online Administrative Record:

[https://www.navfac.navy.mil/products\\_and\\_services/ev/products\\_and\\_services/env\\_restoration/administrative\\_records.html?p\\_instIn\\_id=YUMA\\_MCAS](https://www.navfac.navy.mil/products_and_services/ev/products_and_services/env_restoration/administrative_records.html?p_instIn_id=YUMA_MCAS)



# CLEANUP AT MCAS YUMA: THE CERCLA PROCESS

## Preliminary Assessment / Site Inspection (PA/SI)

The **PA** involves a detailed collection and review of all available information about a known or suspected waste site or release. An **SI** is a limited, on-site investigation to determine if there is a release or potential release of hazardous substances, and if the possible release may have a negative effect on public health or the environment.

## Remedial Investigation / Feasibility Study (RI/FS)

The **RI** identifies the types, amounts, and locations of contamination at a facility, and evaluates potential risk to public health and the environment from exposure to contamination. The **FS** identifies and screens different alternatives for cleaning up contamination.

## Proposed Plan (PP) / Public Comment Period

The **PP** is a summary of the cleanup alternatives considered for controlling contamination at a CERCLA site. The **PP** includes a description of the alternative preferred by the agency or facility charged with the responsibility for cleaning up the site. Community input on the **PP** is provided during a **Public Comment Period**.

## Record of Decision (ROD)

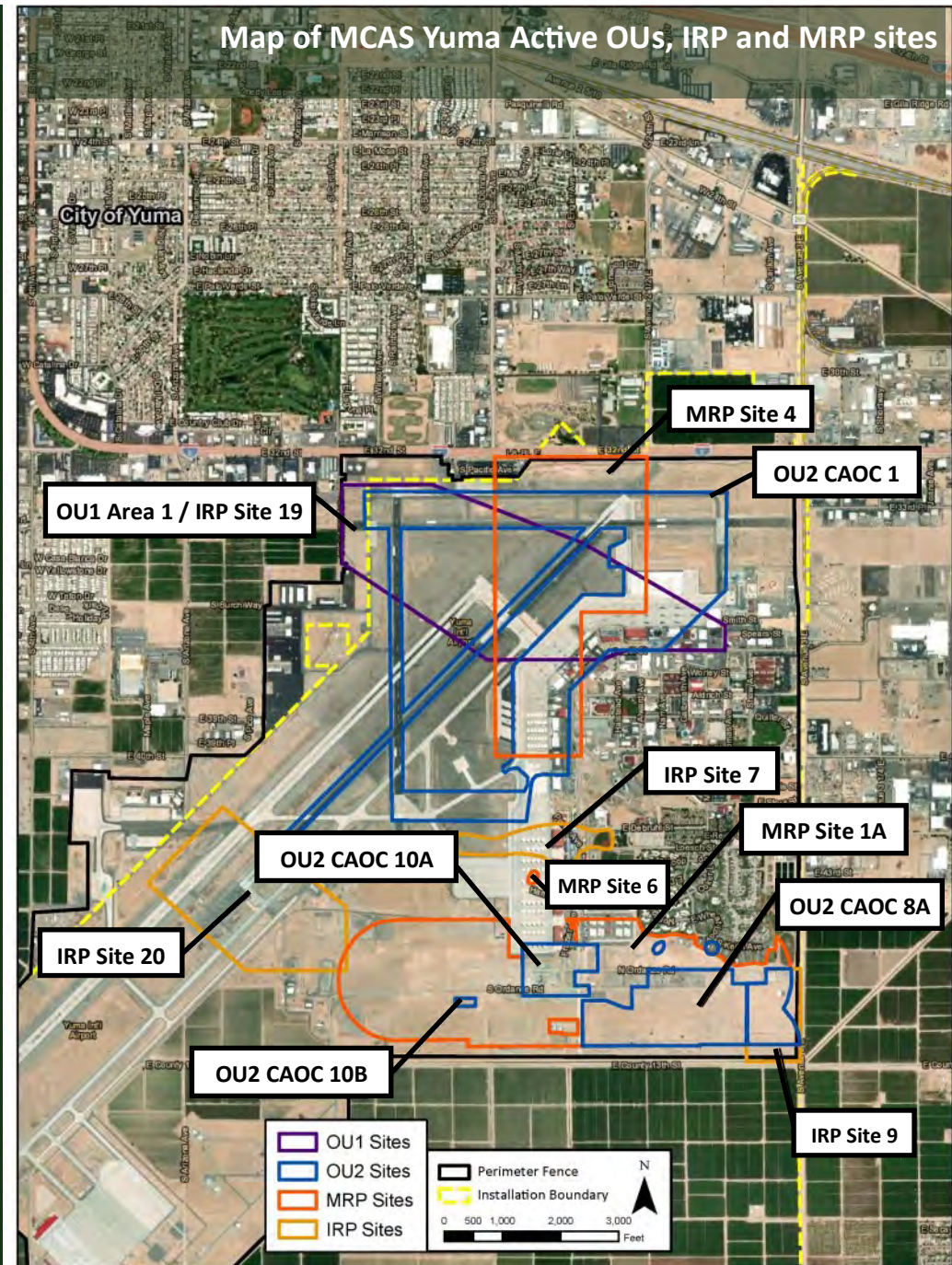
A **ROD** is a comprehensive source for information about the site, the remedy selection process, and the selected remedy for a cleanup under CERCLA. This public document contains a responsiveness summary that responds to public comments on the preferred alternative and other alternatives evaluated.

## Remedial Design / Remedial Action (RD/RA)

The **RD** involves the development of engineering drawings and specifications for a remedy selected to address contamination. An **RA** is an action taken at a CERCLA site to stop or significantly reduce a release, or threatened release, of hazardous substances to protect present or future public health, welfare, or the environment.

## Site Closure

**Site closure** involves the determination that no further action is necessary at a site. This is achieved with concurrence by regulatory agencies involved in the FFA.



# CERCLA AT MCAS YUMA: ACTIVE IRP SITES

## OU 1 Area 1: Chlorinated Groundwater Plume

**Location:** northern portion of MCAS Yuma, extending from the Building 230 area to the northwestern boundary

**Size:** approximately 60 acres

**Historical use:** aircraft maintenance

**Contaminants of concern:** chlorinated hydrocarbons

**Contaminated media:** groundwater

**Current status:**

- Long-term monitoring of groundwater wells
- Institutional controls (ICs) in place restricting groundwater access and use

## OU 2 CAOC 10A: Ordnance Munitions Disposal

**Location:** within the secured Ordnance Distribution Facility in the southeastern portion of MCAS Yuma

**Size:** less than 1 acre

**Historical use:** shooting range, ordnance storage, surface tank and drum storage

**Contaminants of concern:** oils, ordnance waste associated with nitroaromatics, fuel-related wastes, and metals

**Contaminated media:** soil

**Current status:**

- ICs in place restricting land to industrial use

## OU 2 CERCLA Area of Concern (CAOC) 1: Flight Line

**Location:** original flight line and aircraft-maintenance hangar facilities within the footprint of existing flight line

**Size:** approximately 170 acres

**Historical use:** flight line and aircraft support

**Contaminants of concern:** petroleum compounds, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs)

**Contaminated media:** soil

**Current status:**

- ICs in place restricting land to industrial use

## OU 2 CAOC 8A: Southeast Station Landfill

**Location:** southeast portion of MCAS Yuma, between North Ordnance Road and the southern installation property line

**Size:** 68 acres

**Historical use:** landfill

**Contaminants of concern:** vehicle and fuel related wastes, used oils, solvents, paints, thinners, pesticides, and herbicides

**Contaminated media:** soil

**Current status:**

- ICs in place restricting land use to former landfill; no intrusive earthwork

## OU 2 CAOC 10B: Ordnance Munitions Disposal

**Location:** within the fenced area adjacent to CAOC 8A in the southeastern portion of MCAS Yuma

**Size:** less than 23 acres

**Historical use:** shooting range, ordnance storage, surface tank and drum storage

**Contaminants of concern:** oils, ordnance waste associated with nitroaromatics, fuel-related wastes, and metals

**Contaminated media:** soil

**Current status:**

- ICs in place restricting land to industrial use



**Routine maintenance is conducted on groundwater monitoring wells**



# CERCLA AT MCAS YUMA: ACTIVE MRP SITES

## MRP Site 1A: Small Arms Range

**Location:** southeastern portion of MCAS Yuma, south of the installation's main buildings and southeast of the runways and taxiways

**Size:** approximately 367 acres

**Historical use:** multiple, overlapping small arms ranges (moving base, skeet, and trap ranges)

**Contaminants of concern:** PAHs, antimony, and lead from munitions

**Contaminated media:** soil

### Current status:

- 30,000 tons of non-hazardous soil removed during Time-Critical Removal Action (TCRA) from September 2019 to February 2020
- Pending ROD approval for industrial / commercial land use controls for two of three Decision Units (DUs), and No Further Action for the third DU



Fieldwork at IR Site 9 includes installation of a groundwater monitoring well

## MRP Site 4: Small Arms Range

**Location:** northern central portion of MCAS Yuma, overlapping OU 2 CAOC 1 boundaries

**Size:** approximately 240 acres

**Historical use:** small arms range

**Contaminants of concern:** arsenic, cadmium, copper, lead, and zinc associated with munitions constituents (MC)

**Contaminated media:** soil

### Current status:

- Continue use of ICs in place at OU 2 CAOC 1 and expanded boundary

## MRP Site 6: Firing-in Buttress Potential Munitions and Explosives of Concern (MEC) and MC Site

**Location:** south-central part of MCAS Yuma, in the southeastern portion of restricted runway area

**Size:** approximately 1 acre

**Historical use:** firing-in buttress range

**Contaminants of concern:** subsurface MC and MEC

**Contaminated media:** soil

### Current status:

- ICs in place restricting land use to industrial / commercial use

# PFAS INVESTIGATIONS

MCAS Yuma has historically used per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)-containing aqueous film-forming foam for fire-fighting purposes to enable Base operations. PFAS is an emerging contaminant currently being investigated by federal and state agencies to determine its effect on human health and the environment. A base-wide PA for PFAS was completed in August 2018.

The PA Report identified locations at MCAS Yuma where PFAS may have been released into the environment. Based on detections of PFAS in surface soil and groundwater at MCAS Yuma, additional soil and groundwater sampling was conducted during an SI of the identified areas in 2019. The SI Report was finalized in March 2020 with recommendations for additional data collection.

An RI Work Plan was developed and finalized in May 2021 to address the PFAS SI results above current (at the time) regional screening levels (RSLs) for PFOA, PFOS, and PFBS. The RI Work Plan outlined the monitoring well installation and sampling procedures for IR Sites 7, 9, 19, and 20 to further delineate the extent of PFAS in groundwater. Soil sample collection activities were also detailed in the RI Work Plan for IR Sites 7 and 19 to further delineate the extent of PFAS in soil at those sites.

The PFAS RI fieldwork activities and data collection at IR Sites 7, 9, 19, and 20 were completed from November 2021 to March 2022. PFAS sample results will be evaluated in the forthcoming RI Reports for each site using the current US EPA RSLs (May 2022) for PFAS compounds, which now include a total of six compounds (PFOA, PFOS, PFBS, PFNA, PFHxS, and HFPO-DA).

## CLEANUP PROGRAM CONTACTS

The DON, Marine Corps, and regulatory agencies working to clean up MCAS Yuma are available to answer questions and provide program information.

Visit the MCAS Yuma website for more information - <https://www.mcasyma.marines.mil/Environmental/>



### DONALD DRESSLER

Remedial Project Manager  
(619) 705-5487  
[donald.l.dressler2.civ@us.navy.mil](mailto:donald.l.dressler2.civ@us.navy.mil)

#### Department of the Navy

Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Southwest  
750 Pacific Highway  
San Diego, CA 92132  
[www.navfac.navy.mil](http://www.navfac.navy.mil)



### TRAVIS WICKS

Project Manager  
(415) 972-3199  
[wicks.travis@epa.gov](mailto:wicks.travis@epa.gov)

#### United States Environmental Protection Agency

Region 9  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
[www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov)



### MARIO ICARI

Public Affairs officer  
619-705-4105  
[mario.t.icari.civ@us.navy.mil](mailto:mario.t.icari.civ@us.navy.mil)

#### Department of the Navy

Naval Facilities Engineering  
Systems Command Southwest  
750 Pacific Highway  
San Diego, CA 92132  
[www.navfac.navy.mil](http://www.navfac.navy.mil)



### KATELYN KANE-DEVRIES

Project Manager  
(602) 771-0167  
[kane-devries.katelyn@azdeq.gov](mailto:kane-devries.katelyn@azdeq.gov)

#### Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

1110 W Washington Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85007  
[www.azdeq.gov](http://www.azdeq.gov)

### SERGIO OBREGON

Environmental Restoration Program Manager  
(928) 269-5581  
[sergio.obregon1@usmc.mil](mailto:sergio.obregon1@usmc.mil)

#### Marine Corps Air Station Yuma

Environmental Department  
PO Box 99110, Building 328  
Yuma, AZ 85369  
<https://www.mcasyma.marines.mil/Environmental/>



DON environmental cleanup activities support the mission of the warfighter and keep MCAS Yuma tenant divisions mission ready.

## REFERENCES USED IN THE RESEARCH AND WRITING OF THIS CIP

- Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ). 2021. Superfund Site | Marine Corps Air Station Yuma. Date accessed 11/11/2022: <https://www.azdeq.gov/superfund/YumaMarineCorpsAirStation?page=0%2C0>
- Battelle. 2020. Final Five-Year Review Report, Operable Units 1, 2 and MRP Sites 4 and 6, Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Yuma, AZ. January.
- Department of Defense (DoD). 2018a. Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP). Date accessed 11/11/2022: <https://www.denix.osd.mil/derp/about/>. 2018b. Installation Restoration Program (IRP). Date accessed 11/10/2022: <https://www.denix.osd.mil/irp/about/>
- Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. (JEG). 1996. Final Operable Unit 2 Remedial Investigation Report, MCAS Yuma. March 26.
- Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Yuma. 2021. Date accessed 11/11/2022: <https://www.mcasyuma.marines.mil/Welcome/>
- Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Southwest (NAVFAC SW). 1994. Final Community Relations Plan for MCAS Yuma. 13 July.
- NAVFAC SW. 2000. Final Record of Decision for Operable Unit 1, Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Arizona. July (signed 05 October).
- NAVFAC SW. 2017. Final Land Use Control Implementation Plan Operable Unit 1 (Area 1), Operable Unit 2 (CERCLA Areas of Concern 1, 8A, and 10), Federal Facilities Agreement Assessment Program Area of Concern A, and Munitions Response Program Sites 4 and 6, Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Yuma, Arizona. October.
- Navy. 2013. U.S. Department of the Navy Headquarters, United States Marine Corps. Marine Corps Environmental Compliance and Protection Manual. July. Date Accessed 11/12/2022: <https://www.marines.mil/Portals/1/MCO%20P5090.2A%20W%20CH%201-3.pdf>
- Navy. 2018. Department of the Navy Environmental Restoration Program Manual.
- Tetra Tech EC, Inc. 2020. Site Inspection for Per- And Polyfluoroalkyl Substances, Marine Corps Air, Station Yuma, Arizona. Final. March.
- Trevet. 2016. Final Groundwater Investigation and Modeling Report at Operable Unit 1 Area 1, Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Yuma, Arizona. March 22.
- Trevet-Bay West Joint JV LLC. 2021. Final Work Plan for Remedial Investigations, Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances, Installation Restoration Sites 7, 9, 19, and 20, Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Yuma, Arizona. May.
- United States Army. Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy & Environment, Military Munitions Response Program. Date Accessed 11/9/2022. <https://www.asaie.army.mil/Public/esoh/mmrp.html>
- U.S. Census Bureau. 2022. <https://www.census.gov/acs/www/data/data-tables-and-tools/data-profiles/2020/>
- United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA). 1980. Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). Date Accessed 11/9/2022: <https://www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-cercla-overview>
- US EPA. 1994. National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP). Date Accessed 11/10/2022: <https://www.epa.gov/emergency-response/national-oil-and-hazardous-substances-pollution-contingency-plan-ncp-overview>
- EPA. 2020. Superfund Community Involvement Handbook, January. Date Accessed 11/11/2022: <https://www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-community-involvement-tools-and-resources#general>
- US EPA, 2021. Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool. Date accessed 7/23/2022: <https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen>
- Uribe & Associates. 1997b. Final Record of Decision for Operable Unit 2, Marine Corps Air Station, Yuma, Arizona. August (signed 02 December).
- Yuma County Arizona. Date Accessed 11/9/2022: <https://www.yumacountyaz.gov/>

“Give people a clear explanation of who or what caused the problem, how the community can actually assist DON in the cleanup, offer solutions for how it will be prevented in the future.”

- May 2022 survey participant