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1. Joint Task Force - Red Hill (JTF-RH) - Residual Fuel removal and Transition to Navy Closure Task Force (NCTF-RH)

- JTF-RH –RH began removing residual fuel from the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility's (RHBFSF). Approximately 64,000 gallons of fuel that could not be drained by gravity remain in the facility pipelines. JTF-RH will open low point drains and vent valves one-by-one to remove the majority of this fuel, approximately 60,000 gallons. This process is expected to be complete by the end of March. The start of residual fuel removal marks the official beginning of a transition period between JTF-RH and the newly established Navy Closure Task Force-Red Hill (NCTF-RH). The NCTF-RH will fully integrate with and learn from the JTF-RH team to ensure continuity of mission for safety, security, and community engagement as the Department of Defense (DoD) prepares to transition the main effort from Defueling to Closure and Long-term Environmental Remediation until the end of March. Subsequently, and in accordance with the DoD RHBFSF Defueling and Closure Plans, the NCTF-RH will remove the remaining 4,000 gallons of residual fuel in the pipelines and 28,000 gallons of sludge remaining in the storage tanks.
- JTF-RH completed gravity defueling of the RHBFSF storage tanks and pipelines. On Nov. 17, JTF-RH completed removing the “tank mains,” safely removing over 103 million gallons of fuel. JTF-RH completed removing the “flowable tank bottoms” Dec. 7, removing a little less than one million gallons, and completing the removal of usable fuel from the storage tanks. With regulator approval and on an accelerated timeline, JTF-RH completed unpacking the pipelines on Dec. 15, which was the last step in gravity defueling. Pending regulator approval, JTF-RH in January will begin removing residual fuel – approximately 60,000 gallons – from the pipelines.
- JTF-RH and Navy Closure Task Force-Red Hill (NCTF) will jointly host a Transition Open House Feb. 7 to share information about residual fuel removal and the transition from JTF-RH to NCTF-RH at this free public event. Members of the community will be invited to attend and learn about the ongoing efforts to defuel and permanently close the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility. Leaders from both task forces will be on hand to answer questions and listen to members of the public.
- JTF-RH commander Vice Adm. John Wade provided a defueling update in a video released Dec. 13. Watch the video on the JTF-Red Hill mobile app or on JTF-RH’s DVIDS webpage at dvidshub.net/unit/JTF-RH.
- DoD released Supplement 3 to the Defueling Plan Nov. 14. Supplement 3 reflects the outcome of continuous coordination with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Hawaii Department of Health to defuel and close the RHBFSF. Defueling Supplement 3 updates the DoD Defueling Plan to refine the distinction between defueling tasks and closure tasks, particularly with respect to residual fuel - the fuel that remains in the facility following gravity defueling's completion. It also discusses the transition of responsibility for RHBFSF from Joint Task Force-Red Hill to Navy Closure Task Force-Red Hill (NCTF-RH).
- To stay up-to-date with the latest information about defueling the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility, visit pacom.mil/jtf-red-hill/ or download the JTF-RH mobile app by searching for “JTF–Red Hill” in the Apple App store or Google Play store.

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2. **Navy Closure Task Force-Red Hill (NCTF-RH) begins initial operations.** The Navy Closure Task Force - Red Hill (NCTF-RH) completed its establishment phase and starts a formal transition with Joint Task Force-Red Hill (JTF-RH) beginning this week. The primary initiatives of the NCTF-RH are transition with JTF-RH, the removal of 4,000 gallons of residual fuel described as Navy responsibility in Defueling Supplement 3, removing sludge from and cleaning the tanks, removing approximately 10 miles of pipeline, and remediating the natural environment of the Red Hill site.

3. **Drinking Water Long-Term Monitoring.** The Navy completed the first year of Long-Term Monitoring (LTM) in March 2023. The Interagency Drinking Water System Team (IDWST) developed a long-term plan to monitor drinking water quality. LTM results are posted on the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Safe Waters website -- <https://jbphh-safewaters.org/>. With more than 7,300 tests taken to date, the Navy water system drinking water remains safe to drink. Navy remains focused on the safety and protection of the environment and community, ensuring the water meets federal and State safe drinking. Period seven began in January and is scheduled to end in March 2024. The Navy is discussing options and potential plans for further testing after March 2024.

- **The Drinking Water Long-Term Monitoring Information Booth** has been an important information tool in our outreach to those impacted by the Red Hill spill. The booth provides information regarding the LTM plan and allows affected residents to view testing results from their homes and neighborhoods, request sampling for their residence, and ask questions.

The next long-term monitoring booths is:

- Thursday, Jan. 25 – Hickam Main Exchange from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

A community outreach schedule is now available on the JBPHH Safe Waters website at www.jbphh-safewaters.org

4. **The 2023 Navy Water Quality Report is Available.** The report can be viewed online. It contains information about the water delivered during the 2022 calendar year – information on where the water comes from, what is inside it, and there’s information on how the water compares to regulator standards for safe drinking water. You can find the report here: <https://cnrh.cnrc.navy.mil/Operations-and-Management/Environmental/Water-Quality-Information/>

5. **Air Quality Monitoring.** Navy contractors have installed air monitoring stations at various locations of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and Kapilina Beach Homes, and around the exterior of the Red Hill facility, to collect and monitor air quality data across the installation to establish a baseline of current environmental conditions. The measure is part of a greater spill response strategy to identify, quantify and assess potential threats to public safety. This deliberate, proactive approach will ultimately better inform the Navy, and improve its ability to respond to future contingencies. Air quality monitoring data is located on the Environmental section of the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Safe Waters website www.jbphh-safewaters.org.

6. **The Navy continues to work with the stakeholders and regulators on operations and work regarding Red Hill.** While DoD is working through the process of defueling, the Navy is working with regulators on tank closure planning. The most recent closure plan – supplement 2

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submitted May 31 – identifies the removal of the three Red Hill fuel pipelines. This key update demonstrates the DON’s commitment to never use the tanks for storage of fuel or other hazardous substance storage. More information is available at

<https://cnrh.cnrc.navy.mil/Operations-and-Management/Red-Hill/> - all info on defueling, closure.

- The Navy submitted its initial tank closure plan Nov. 1, 2022. The analysis of alternatives (4 options) was submitted Dec. 22, 2022, and the supplemental 1 went to the regulators Feb. 28. This supplemental provided amplifying information on the first major milestone in the Tank Closure Plan for cleaning the tanks. While DOH reviews the closure plan, Navy has provided them Supplement #1 (cleaning) and responded to all their RFIs that they had submitted.
- Other updates and responses to the regulators – EPA and DOH – can be found on the Navy’s Red Hill website closure page - [DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY CLOSURE PLAN, RED HILL BULK FUEL STORAGE FACILITY](#). Other updates include the May 31, 2023 Supplement 2, Oct. 2 response to EPA and DOH comments on Supplement 2, and the Dec. 22 response to EPA comments on Red Hill tank Work Plan, Environmental Protection Plan, and Waste Management Plan regarding Fuel Storage Tank Closure.

7. DHA PUBLIC HEALTH HOLDS WEBINAR FOR RED HILL

COMMUNITY DHA Public Health hosted a public webinar January 9 with COL John Oh, Chief, of the Occupational and Environmental Health Division at the Defense Health Agency Public Health. During the webinar, COL Oh gave an update on several DHA Public Health Red Hill initiatives and answered some of the questions that have been posed from the community. Many of the questions posed described ongoing health concerns and what medical advice could be provided by DOD to address those concerns. There were other questions on the Independent Red Hill Registry and when it will be functional. Nearly 130 individuals were in attendance. The webinar was recorded, and can be accessed here: https://dod.teams.microsoft.us/l/meetup-join/19%3adod%3ameeting_a690e3bd04aa4ce7b7ae3f0a590b9724%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22fae6d70f-954b-4811-92b6-0530d6f84c43%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22966b5624-43cc-4a2e-b335-0af977a69d5a%22%2c%22IsBroadcastMeeting%22%3a%22true%22%7d

8. Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS): The Navy is aware of several invasive aquatic species in Pearl Harbor and is working with local, state and federal agencies for effective management, and the development of methodologies for strategic removal, eradication, and long-term adaptive management in preventing the spread of it here in Hawaii waters. The Navy does not know definitively how these invasive aquatic species came into the area. They are not known to attach and travel on the hulls of ships, but they are a popular aquarium species and have been sold illegally within the state.

- Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam recently issued an updated base instruction that re-stated the Hawaii Department of Health 1998 health advisory that states fish and shellfish from Pearl Harbor should not be eaten. In addition to stating that fishing in these areas is “catch-and-release” only, the new instruction also restricts fishing in other designated areas due to the invasive octocorals.

9. Hawaii-California Training and Testing (HCTT): The Navy, in cooperation with the U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Army, and U.S. Air Force, is proposing to conduct at-sea military

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readiness activities within the HCTT Study Area. The Navy's Notice of Intent to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) and overseas (EIS) was published in the Federal Register on Dec. 15, 2023. The Navy welcomes and appreciates your comments during the public comment period (Dec. 15, 2023, to Jan. 29, 2024) to support development of the EIS/OEIS. The website is: www.nepa.navy.mil/hctteis/