

NAVFAC Headquarters Announces 2010 Drum-E Award Winners

Awards Recognize Excellence in Environmental Restoration

THE BATTLE EFFECTIVENESS— or Battle “E”—Award has long recognized Navy ships or units that demonstrate the highest state of battle readiness. Using this same standard of excellence, in the late 1990s the Navy’s Environmental Restoration program began recognizing outstanding individuals through the “Drum-E” awards.

4 nomination requires approval from NAVFAC Headquarters. The selection criteria is based on the outstanding contribution the Remedial Project Manager (RPM) made to the program during the past year either by saving money to the program, great progress towards our program cleanup goals, regulatory breakthroughs and teamwork or work on complicated or high

program at the former Hickam Air Force Environmental Restoration Projects. He was instrumental in transitioning the former Hickam Air Force Environmental Restoration Projects into NAVFAC Hawaii’s management of the restoration sites. He had a key role in ensuring that the Hickam site’s data was incorporated into the Navy’s enterprise systems, and was the

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visibility sites that requires a high level of coordination.

The following individuals have been selected to receive the Drum-E award for Fiscal Year (FY) 2010:

Brian Whitehouse

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawaii—Restoration Employee of the Year

Mr. Whitehouse is the primary RPM for the Navy’s Munitions Response

driving force behind ensuring all tasks were completed and rolled into the NAVFAC Hawaii environmental restoration budget.

Jan Kotoshirodo

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawaii—Restoration Employee of the Year

Ms. Kotoshirodo is the RPM for the Installation Restoration projects primarily at Ford Island and Navy retained parcels at former Naval Air



Cleanup efforts at Naval Security Group Activity Skaggs Island earned NAVFAC Southwest the California Transportation Foundation 2010 Environmental Enhancement Project of the Year Award.

Station (NAS) Barbers Point. She has also been a key force in ensuring the smooth transition of Hickam Air Force Environmental Restoration project data into NAVFAC. She developed and provided training for the Hickam RPMs on various NAVFAC enterprise systems, and was instrumental in working between Hickam and NAVFAC Headquarters to ensure agreement on the Hickam sites loaded into the NAVFAC system.

Brenda Reese

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southwest— Restoration Employee of the Year

Ms. Reese is an RPM at NAVFAC Southwest, Desert Integrated Project Team. During FY 2010, she worked on some of NAVFAC Southwest’s most critical and visible projects as an RPM assigned to Naval Security Group Activity Skaggs Island and Naval Undersea Surveillance Centerville Beach. She completed the environmental restoration program at Skaggs Island to facilitate the non-

Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) transfer of the property to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for wildlife preservation use. The transfer of this property is a high priority because of maintenance costs and unsuccessful past attempts to transfer the property due to ecological cleanup issues. Ms. Reese’s contribution to the Environmental Restoration, Navy (ERN) cleanup at Skaggs Island resulted in NAVFAC Southwest winning the California Transportation Foundation 2010 Environmental Enhancement Project of the Year Award.



Backfilling at Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office salvage yard, solid waste management unit 12, in Apra Harbor Naval Complex, Guam.



Mare Island.

Heather Wochnick

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southwest— BRAC Restoration Employee of the Year

Ms. Wochnick is the lead RPM for Mare Island, China Lake, and San Diego Naval Training Center, and served as interim BRAC Environmental Coordinator at Mare Island for six months. During FY 2010, she identified a number of problem areas at Mare Island, including areas with materials posing potential explosive hazard (MPPEH). Ms. Wochnick has since become the go-to person for MPPEH issues at the San Diego BRAC office. She directly managed Mare Island transfer issues, revived the Naval Training Center (NTC) Boat Channel Feasibility Study and organized regulatory agency meetings to help achieve the closure of NTC's final site.

Kris Saboda

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific— Restoration Employee of the Year

Ms. Saboda is NAVFAC Pacific's quality assurance manager and an RPM. She is building a successful quality management program for NAVFAC Pacific, Hawaii, and Marianas's restoration program. In FY 2010, Ms. Saboda earned a Manager of Quality/Organizational Excellence Certification from the American Society of Quality. Using these skills,

she prepared a Quality Management Plan in-house and finalized the Pearl Harbor and Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station Quality Assurance Protection Plan. Ms. Saboda also achieved a "response complete" designation for two sites in 2010 and volunteered to step in as a temporary supervisor preparing the fall budget and managing execution, while still performing her other assignments.

Joe Rail

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Washington— Restoration Employee of the Year

Mr. Rail has made significant contributions to the Navy Restoration program in his role as the remedial project manager for Naval Support Facility Indian Head (NSF-IH) and the former Naval Training Center in Bainbridge, MD. In FY 2010, Mr. Rail oversaw a challenging removal action at NSF-IH to address munitions and explosives of concern and polychlorinated biphenyls in soil. In addition to many technical challenges, the work required a tremendous amount of upfront planning and coordination with numerous parties at the Naval Surface Warfare Center. More than 2,000 items were successfully demilitarized and 1,400 tons of contaminated soil was removed from the site in four short months without incident.

Dwight Leisle

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Northwest—Restoration Employee of the Year

Mr. Leisle is the lead RPM for the Bremerton Naval Complex and the former Puget Sound Naval Station at Sand Point, Washington, supporting both the Navy Environmental Restoration program and the BRAC program. At NAVFAC Northwest's Jackson Park Housing Complex, Mr. Leisle successfully concluded data collection requirement negotiations for the Ecological Risk Assessment (ERA) Work Plan in a difficult regulatory climate. It is expected that the results of the ERA will result in a No Further Action decision, saving over two million dollars in monitoring costs.

Robert Magee

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Atlantic—Restoration Employee of the Year

In 2009, Mr. Magee volunteered to assist the NAVFAC Midwest Restoration Program manager in optimizing and developing an exit strategy for the Naval Industrial Reserve Ordnance Plant groundwater extraction system in Fridley, Minnesota.

Since joining the project team, Mr. Magee's role has expanded due his actions and reliability, to the point where he is essentially the leader of the Navy's team and the project manager's "go to" person. In late FY 2010, despite innovative well rehabilitation techniques, the primary extraction well essentially failed. Regulatory agencies demanded the Navy replace the well immediately or face significant consequences. With Mr. Magee's lead, the Navy team developed a strategy that addressed the groundwater plume hydraulic control issues. The strategy was accepted by the regulatory agencies and has led to an approach which, in the long term, will be more effective from a performance and cost standpoint.

Charles Cook

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southeast—Restoration Employee of the Year

Throughout FY 2010, Mr. Cook has effectively managed a challenging restoration program at the National Priorities List installation Marine Corps Recruit Depot (MCRD) Parris Island, South Carolina. Mr. Cook demonstrated a high level of technical proficiency in Navy guidance and risk management by applying his expertise to completing the MCRD Parris Island Site 3 Technical Memo and Proposed Plan in accordance with the Federal Facilities Agreement. In FY 2010, Mr. Cook decreased the Parris Island munitions response program cost to complete by over two million dollars. These refinements have resulted in a more accurate ERN funding profile and allow limited resources to be reallocated.

Mr. Cleland is recognized for his outstanding contribution to the Navy Environmental Restoration program as an RPM for Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune in Jacksonville, North Carolina. In FY 2010, Mr. Cleland

Dave Cleland

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Mid-Atlantic—Restoration Employee of the Year

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Department of the Navy Releases Environmental Restoration Program Progress Report

THE DEPARTMENT OF the Navy has just released its biannual Environmental Restoration Program Progress report, which provides the status of cleanup at the end of FY 2009 and outlines the Navy's plans for completing Installation Restoration and Munitions Response projects in the future. The report serves as a primer for understanding the process of cleaning up past contamination at Department of the Navy installations and is a valuable source of information on the overall progress and success the program has achieved.

The report is available for download at <https://portal.navy.mil/go/erb>.



awarded approximately \$11 million and over 40 contract actions related to ERN and Marine Corps activity funds. Highlights of Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune's ERN program include signed records of decision and remedial action implementation for two sites, seven installation restoration and four munitions response program No Further Action documents approved, a finalized five-year review, and a completed base-wide Explosive Safety Submission (ESS). The ESS allowed munitions response investigations to be completed more efficiently and safely, assisting the partnering team to reach concurrence on the path forward for 24 sites.

Todd Bober

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Mid-Atlantic—BRAC Restoration Employee of the Year

After providing 15 years of environmental restoration technical support while at Engineering Field Activity Northeast, Mr. Bober became an RPM for BRAC Program Management Office, Northeast in early 2008. With this move, Mr. Bober inherited an environmental restoration program at NAS Brunswick that was in the process of receiving stipulated penalties from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). While under the scrutinizing eyes of many, Mr.



Bober ramped up the BRAC cleanup program, reestablished relationships with regulatory agencies, and aggressively sought solutions for the continuous challenges presented by the complex and fast paced requirements necessary for base closure in 2011. In addition to his execution of NAS Brunswick's \$10 million annual restoration program in FY 2010, Mr. Bober also championed efforts to improve the sustainability of NAS Brunswick's groundwater treatment system by reducing power consumption while maintaining system treatment effectiveness.

Bryan Harre

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Engineering Service Center— Restoration Employee of the Year

Mr. Harre has made significant contributions to the Navy Restoration program in his role as a team leader and facilitator for NAVFAC's Munitions Response Program (MRP) Workgroup. In FY 2010, Mr. Harre worked closely with the MRP and cost-to-complete workgroups to develop Microsoft Excel-based workbook templates to assist RPMs in estimating cleanup costs for sites under the MRP. Two MRP templates have been completed to date—one pertains to removal actions for underwater munitions, and the other addresses the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study phase for terrestrial sites. Mr. Harre has also written proposals and been involved with several projects funded by the Strategic Environmental Research

In FY 2010, a High-Pressure Oxygen (HiPOx) unit was installed at NAS Brunswick to treat groundwater contamination. Three new groundwater extraction wells were also installed to optimize the groundwater treatment system.

and Development Program, Environmental Security Technology Certification Program, and Navy Environmental Sustainability to Development program. He is often used as a subject matter expert reviewer of these proposals.

Donna Caldwell

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Atlantic—Restoration Employee of the Year

Ms. Caldwell serves as the Navy's subject matter expert on Vapor Intrusion (VI), assisting RPMs with various complex issues. She leads the VI focus group—comprised of Department of Defense and industry experts—to advance the Navy's approach to VI. In FY 2010, Ms. Caldwell led the development of a VI web-based decision tool to further assist RPMs with the evaluation and communication of VI assessments. She was instrumental in the negotiation with various stakeholders, employing consistent processes across the Navy. Ms. Caldwell also works with the Navy and EPA to improve the quality of Navy Records of Decision. She has assisted NAVFAC with new and improved methods for the generation of Conceptual Site Models and Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements, and she developed a cost-effective strategy for the cleanup of landfills that will save the Navy significant resources and accelerate site closure. [↓](#)

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