

NAWS China Lake & Local Community Join Forces for Earth Day 2011

First Earth Day Fair Stressed the Importance of Conservation

MEMBERS OF THE China Lake and Ridgecrest communities crowded the front lawn of the base's Headquarters Building to celebrate Earth Day 2011 and learn about what is being done locally to preserve the environment.

"Partnering for a Greener Tomorrow," was the theme of Earth Day 2011, and China Lake's first Earth Day Fair. Personnel from the Naval Air Weapons Station (NAWS) China Lake partnered with the local community to educate China Lake's workforce and affiliates with informative booths, displays and activities on 22 April.

"We've probably had about 500 people stop by," said Michael Baskerville, the Cultural Resource Program manager for China Lake, whose exhibit featured artifacts recovered from various time periods and locations on and around what is now NAWS China Lake, as well as a 'dig pit' filled with candy.

Youths from the Movin' on Up Program, as well as those attending with their parents, enjoyed running around, "excavating" their candy and using the atlatl (a precursor to the Native American's bow and arrow) to try to hit make-shift animal targets.

In addition to learning about the historical aspects of the local environment, visitors also explored booths that showed how energy is being conserved at China Lake, and how they can make a positive impact on the future of the region.

A history of NAWS China Lake's conservation efforts by the Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southwest China Lake Detachment was showcased at multiple booths, such as the Environmental Depart-

ment, which had a successful venture offering an exchange rate of five plastic shopping bags per reusable cloth bag.

The Recycling Office showed how the recycled material collected on base is bundled for resale, and the Facilities Engineering and Acquisition Division revealed future water conservation plans for China Lake.

For those who wanted to see renewable energy put to use, the Earth Day Fair featured the Utility Management Group's Solar Trailer—a portable source of energy that powered several appliances to demonstrate its capabilities.



Attendees take a close-up look at a desert tortoise, an endangered species, provided by BLM at China Lake's Earth Day Fair.



Children from the NAWS China Lake Child Development Center learn about the past as a volunteer shows how to use the atlatl—a precursor to the bow and arrow.



Children attending the Earth Day Fair got a chance to try their hand at excavating at the “dig pit” set up by the NAWWS China Lake Cultural Resources Department.

The Facilities Engineering and Acquisition Division booth featured past efforts and future plans to reduce the Station’s water consumption, a critical issue in any desert climate and a high priority of the commanding officer.

Visitors were also able to see how recycled material is bundled for resale and given reminders to recycle.

The Geothermal Program Office provided information and fielded questions on the industry-military cooperation that takes place between the Navy and those producing geothermal energy. NAWWS China Lake is the home of Coso Geothermal, one of the most productive geothermal fields in the world.

The Indian Wells Valley Water District, Pacific Gas and Electric as well as Southern California Edison showed their support for the event by informing the crowd of how they can conserve at home and in the workplace.

An innovative exhibit was the EcoTrek Foundation, which designs vehicles to run on renewable fuels and has been working with personnel from the Naval Air Warfare Center—Weapons Division (NAWCWD) China Lake in their efforts to reduce military dependency on oil. “Key to the

work in renewable fuels by NAWCWD,” offers Michael Owens, NAWCWD Energy Coordinator, “is our ability to partner and collaborate with industry, academic and other government agencies to provide renewable and sustainable energy solutions to our Warfighter that also addresses the Secretary of the Navy’s vision of reducing the Navy’s petroleum consumption.”

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) provided information about off-roading, and featured desert tortoises much to the admiration of attendees, many of whom had never seen the protected animal.

Movin’ On Up’s climbing wall hosted a constant stream of youths who waited in line for their chance to scale the portable mountainside—an environmentally-friendly activity. ⚓

Photos by Jessica Armstrong

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With EPCRA, Knowing is Half the Battle

What You Need to Know to Jump Start 2011 EPCRA Reporting

Get Ahead—New Policy on the Horizon

The Navy's environmental policy manual, "OPNAVINST 5090, Environmental Readiness Program Manual" is currently being revised and is due for release in 2012. Changes include new policy procedures for implementing the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA), specifically regarding EPCRA Section 313 – Toxic Chemical Release Reporting. Installations will be required, by 1 August of each year, to provide:

- Detailed information on the processes and activities contributing to toxic chemical releases at your installation
- Detailed information on events driving toxic chemical release changes from previous reporting years at your installation
- An explanation for non-reporting at your installation

To save time and effort during fiscal year (FY) 2012, now is the time to start collecting the materials and data pertaining to the new policy. The information you provide will help identify pollution prevention opportunities for Navy-wide implementation and direct research and development efforts.

DoD SSPP

PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 13514, DoD developed a FY 2010 SSPP that assembled all of DoD's requirements pertaining to sustainability and performance into one cohesive strategy document. The SSPP applies to all DoD components, including military departments, defense agencies, and DoD field activities and facilities worldwide and will be developed and submitted annually through FY 2020. The FY 2010 SSPP contains four objectives, eight goals, and 21 sub-goals. Sub-goal 6.1 relates to EPCRA Section 313 – toxic chemical release reporting, and targets a reduction of toxic chemicals released on-site and transferred off-site by 15 percent by FY 2020, relative to RY 2006, excluding operational range releases.

In addition, guidance regarding the Department of Defense (DoD) Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan (SSPP) will also be included in the updated policy. The SSPP identifies goals established by DoD to reduce the use and release of chemicals of environmental concern. In support of DoD's SSPP, the Navy has committed to reduce non-range Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) reportable quantities of on-site releases and off-site transfers of toxic chemicals by 15 percent by FY 2020 relative to reporting year (RY) 2006. The new SSPP goal requires participation from all installations. Regional commanders and commanding officers will be tasked with providing detailed information on progress made towards the SSPP reduction goal annually by 1 August.

The SSPP identifies goals established by DoD to reduce the use and release of chemicals of environmental concern.

Here's how you can help meet the toxic chemical reporting obligation and reduction goal:

- Compile and file detailed information regarding the EPCRA Section 313 toxic chemical release materials identified above.
- Document success stories at your installation. This is an opportunity to promote your installation as a responsible and sustainable steward among Navy, DoD, and public communities.
- Characterize any issues inhibiting your ability to meet the reduction goal.
- Critically assess your installation's maintenance schedule, maintenance processes, and materials management practices in an effort to identify additional efficiencies and improved processes.

The Office of the Secretary of Defense will lead development of the SSPP's annual update which will cover progress made during the previous RY as well as plans for the current RY and beyond. Your knowledge, experience, and understanding of activities and processes involving toxic chemical releases at your installation are critically important to the Navy. The information you provide will

help to identify reduction and substitution opportunities, successful reduction actions, best management practices, and will help to more accurately portray and promote Navy activities in the sustainability field.

Preparing for RY 2011 Reporting

Annual reporting requirements for EPCRA make summertime an ideal time to wrap-up RY 2010 reporting and begin efforts for RY 2011. Next year's reporting can be made easier by taking the time now to review new guidance, complete the current reporting year requirements, and document key information and communication.

Quick Review—Available Guidance

The Chief of Naval Operations Energy and Environmental Readiness Division (OPNAV N45) has expanded the “Getting Started with the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA): A Primer for Navy Facilities” (May 2009) guidance, providing additional detailed guidance on the following topics:

- *How to Consider Batteries* (February 2010)
Provides an approach for analysis of batteries' chemical components significant to all EPCRA regulations by identifying steps to take when gathering the necessary data and suggests an effective way to use the data.
- *How to Consider Fuel Thresholds* (June 2010)
Provides guidance for gathering necessary data and applying available exemptions to toxic chemicals in fuels used in various applications at military installations, and presents an EPCRA Section 313 TRI assessment direction.
- *How to Consider Munitions and Range Activities* (March 2011)
Provides general guidance, such as munitions and range activity definitions, exemption application, TRI Data Delivery System (DDS) use, threshold calculation assistance, and Form R selection for performing an EPCRA Section 313 assessment for munitions and range activities.
- *How to Consider Nitrate Compounds* (due for release in summer 2011)
Once available, will provide an approach to calculating nitrate compound threshold and release amounts for EPCRA Section 313 assessments from wastewater treatment facilities.

In addition, an Excel™ template spreadsheet is available for each of the above guidance documents for calculation and documentation assistance.

RY 2010 Wrap-Up

Where to Begin—Assemble & Store

DoD and the Navy require facilities to keep documentation (e.g., copies of the signed Form R report, calculations, worksheets, other forms used for the Form R report) for at least five years from the submission date. This documentation can be referenced to assist in completing Form R reports and has the dual benefit of being useful as supporting information in the event a question arises regarding the Form R.

Additional documentation that should be maintained for future reporting assistance include how data was collected, where and what type of exemptions were

Helplines for RY 2011

- **Training Courses:** The Naval Civil Engineer Corps Officer School (CECOS) will be offering EPCRA training, both full training and refresher courses, in the form of web conferences in FY 2012.
- **New EPCRA Guidance:** Copies of *Getting Started with EPCRA* and all available calculation manuals and templates (batteries, fuel thresholds, munitions and range activities, and nitrate compounds related to wastewater treatment (when complete)) are available at:
 - The Naval Facilities Engineering Command's Enterprise Document Library (at https://portal.navfac.navy.mil/portal/page/portal/navfac/navfac_docs_pp)
 - The CECOS web site (at <http://www.cecocosweb.com/handouts/EPCRA>)
 - The TRI-DDS web page (at <https://dod-tridds.org/tri-web>)

New Calculation Manual appendices will be announced via the Navy EPCRA e-mail group. To become a member, e-mail NavyEPCRA@urscorp.com.
- **Voluntary Form R Technical Review:** OPNAV N45 is again offering a technical review service for Form R reports. To support planning efforts, interested installations should send an e-mail to the Navy EPCRA E-mail Help Line at NavyEPCRA@urscorp.com.

Ideas for Future Calculation Manuals

OPNAV N45 HAS released EPCRA guidance on batteries, fuel thresholds, and munitions and range activities, and is developing guidance regarding nitrate compounds released due to wastewater treatment. OPNAV N45 is looking for suggestions from the field on new topics for EPCRA guidance.

If you have suggestions for a guidance topic for EPCRA compliance or any comments on previously released guidance, send your comments and ideas to the Navy EPCRA E-mail Help Line at NavyEPCRA@urscorp.com.

applied, calculation approaches and tools used, release estimates and supporting data, any assumptions made, notes on how reporting forms were compiled, proofs of delivery, EPCRA Section 313 Facility Data Profile, and any communication with EPCRA authorities. By ensuring your documentation is saved and available for future reference, your EPCRA reporting will be one step ahead, making next year's reporting easier and faster.

Next Steps—Report Up the Chain

OPNAV N45 will use the TRI information reported up your chain-of-command to develop the Navy section of the Defense Environmental Programs Annual Report to Congress (DEP ARC), which provides a comprehensive review of DoD's budget trends and environmental performance, as well as annual updates to the SSPP. It also outlines how DoD uses congressional funding to meet environmental program goals.

Close-Out Outstanding Questions

An OPNAV N45 representative may contact your installation to clarify reporting changes from the previous year in an effort to catch errors before the data is published in the publicly available DEP ARC and SSPP. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) may also contact the Form R contact for clarification of reported data. Be sure to document all contact with OPNAV N45 or EPA representatives. ↴

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Be Part of Our Winter Issue

Submissions Are Due by 21 October

We're already planning our winter 2012 issue. And you can be a part of it! If you have a story that you want us to consider, you need to submit your final text and images by 22 July 2011.

We look forward to reading your stories about all the great work you're doing as the Navy's stewards of the environment.

The power of your experiences is even greater when you share them with our readers.

Your chances of being published in *Currents* are dramatically increased if you follow our article template. Simply request this easy-to-use template by sending an email to Bruce McCaffrey, our Managing Editor, at brucemccaffrey@sbcglobal.net. Bruce is available at 773-376-6200 if you have any questions or would like to discuss your story ideas.

Currents Deadlines

Winter 2012 Issue: Friday, 21 October 2011
 Spring 2012 Issue: Friday, 20 January 2012
 Summer 2012 Issue: Friday, 20 April 2012
 Fall 2012 Issue: Friday, 20 July 2012

You can also refer to your *Currents* calendar for reminders about these deadlines.





SERDP & ESTCP Announce Program for Annual Environmental Symposium

New Location for This Year's Event

THE PARTNERS IN Environmental Technology Technical Symposium and Workshop, sponsored by the Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program (SERDP) and the Environmental Security Technology Certification Program (ESTCP), will be held 29 November to 1 December 2011, at the Washington Hilton—a new location for the event. The symposium will offer a dynamic opening plenary session, 16 technical sessions, five short courses, approximately 450 poster presentations, and a variety of networking opportunities for attendees from the government, academic, and private sectors.

Technical Program

- Energy Management and Technologies for Department of Defense (DoD) Buildings
- Renewable Energy on DoD Installations
- Microgrids for Energy Security on DoD Installations
- Challenges to Military Readiness Posed by Climate Change
- Pacific Island Restoration Challenges
- Role of Fire in the Carbon Cycle under Climate Change
- Incorporating Innovative Technologies to Meet DoD Restoration Goals from Remedy in Place to Response Complete
- Environmental Molecular Diagnostic Tools: Innovations and Applications
- Improving Our Understanding of the Impact of Contaminants Stored in Low Permeability Zones
- Best Management Practices for Controlling Munitions Constituents on Operational Ranges
- Classification Applied to Munitions Response—Development
- Classification Applied to Munitions Response—Production Applications
- National and International Regulatory Impacts on DoD Operations: Refining the Goals of DoD's Strategic Plan for 'REACH'

- Next Generation Energetic Materials—Striking a Balance between Performance, Insensitivity, and Environmental Sustainability
- Impact of Particulate Emissions from Gas Turbine Powered Aircraft

Training Opportunities

- Field Methods to Distinguish between Vapor Intrusion and Indoor Sources of Volatile Organic Compounds
- Estimating Dense Nonaqueous Phase Liquid Source Zone Natural Attenuation
- Thermal Treatment Technologies: Lessons Learned
- Implementing Classification on a Munitions Response Project

The Sponsors

SERDP and ESTCP are DoD's environmental research programs, harnessing the latest science and technology to improve DoD's environmental performance, reduce costs, and enhance and sustain mission capabilities. SERDP and ESTCP promote partnerships and collaboration among academia, industry, the military Services, and other Federal agencies. Both manage investments in five program areas, each of which focuses on a specific component of DoD's environmental responsibilities—Energy and Water, Environmental Restoration, Munitions Response, Resource Conservation and Climate Change, and Weapons Systems and Platforms. They are independent programs managed from a joint office to coordinate the full spectrum of efforts, from basic and applied research to field demonstration and validation. For more information, visit www.serdp-estcp.org.

Additional Information

For additional information, please visit www.serdp-estcp.org/symposium, send an e-mail to partners@hgl.com, or call the Symposium Contact Line at 703-736-4548. If you would like to receive the technical program and registration brochure and are not yet in the SERDP/ESTCP mailing database, you can subscribe at www.serdp-estcp.org or send an e-mail to partners@hgl.com. ↴

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NESDI Program Releases FY10 Year in Review Report

Annual Report Makes the Case for Success

THE NAVY ENVIRONMENTAL Sustainability Development to Integration (NESDI) program has released its annual report to highlight the program’s accomplishments in Fiscal Year (FY) 2010.

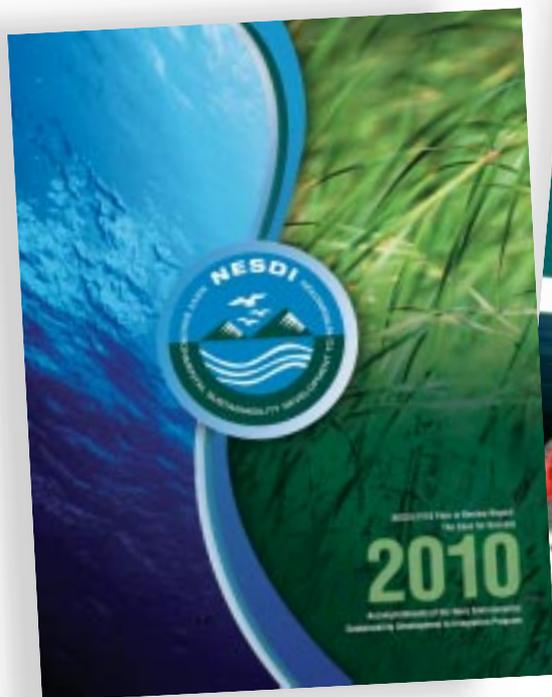
The report, entitled “Accomplishments of the Navy Environmental Sustainability Development to Integration Program in Fiscal Year 2010: The Case for Success,” contains insights into the NESDI projects that were particularly successful in demonstrating the use of an innovative technology or collecting critical information to enhance the efficiency of environmental management programs across the Navy. These projects, presented as case studies in the FY10 report, are presented in the following table:

FY10 accomplishments include not only technical achievements but also programmatic advancements. This report highlights upgrades to the NESDI web site, and introduces program staff, otherwise known as the Technology Development Working Group. Each of these components is key to NESDI’s continuing and timely programmatic operation, field response, and project execution. Behind each of the projects of distinction is a dedicated Principal Investigator and his/her technical staff. They, along with the many others involved in NESDI projects, are committed to providing their knowledge and expertise to help the Navy protect the environment and support the Fleet through efficient and effective execution of environmental programs.

The NESDI program relies on all Navy personnel to help identify environmental concerns and support the implementation of resultant solutions. There are many ways to participate in the NESDI program, including:

- Submitting and validating environmental needs
- Reviewing technologies already in development

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION
Containment and Long-Term Monitoring Strategies for Contaminated Sediment Management	This project is generating a suite of integrated containment and monitoring strategies for remediating contaminated sediments and assessing the long-term effectiveness of remedial actions—including a computerized tool to validate the effectiveness of sediment remediation technologies.
Real-Time Drinking Water Quality Monitoring Technology	The single most effective way to guard against water contamination is early detection. This project provides continuous, real-time water monitoring to ensure that high-quality drinking water is being delivered.
Pollutant Source Tracking	This project helps track contaminants in water to their respective sources, thus simplifying compliance.
Predictive Aquatic Fate & Transport Model	Water bodies listed as impaired must calculate Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) to bring the water body back into compliance with standards. This project utilizes predictive models to accurately calculate TMDLs.
Cadmium Alternatives Navy Specific Testing	Because cadmium acts as an excellent corrosion-preventative, it is widely used on Navy aircraft. However, various current and forthcoming regulations have impacted its use and disposal. This project explores Navy-specific alternatives to cadmium.
Improved Assessment Strategies for Vapor Intrusion	In response to the need to reduce costs and uncertainties associated with vapor intrusion—chemical migration from the ground into a building—a group of experts is identifying existing best practices, knowledge and data gaps, and future research in assessment strategies.
Environmental Effect of Lasers on Biota in the Marine Environment	In an effort to quantify and qualify laser usage in the marine environment, this project set out to determine the extent of underwater laser usage and to outline a means to assess its environmental impact.
Motion Assisted Environmental Enclosure for Capturing Paint Overspray in Dry Docks	This team developed a prototype Motion Assisted Environmental Enclosure to reduce hazardous material discharges generated during hull painting operations in dry docks.
Cleaning Solvents for the 21st Century	As part of the Department of Defense’s response to eliminating the use of volatile organic compounds and hazardous air pollutants, this project researches and validates alternative cleaning solvents and supported the development of a military specification and validated environmentally-friendly alternatives to PRF-680 (a degreasing solvent).



- Supporting transition efforts in your organization or at your installation
- Acting as a Principal Investigator on a NESDI project
- Providing demonstration sites for various NESDI projects
- Staying up-to-date by regularly visiting the program's web site

In the near future, a number of evolving policy issues and research agendas will further focus and define the NESDI program.

1. The merger of energy and environmental practices within the N45 organization
2. Climate change-related initiatives including greenhouse gas emissions, Arctic-related needs and issues associated with the execution of the National Environmental Policy Act
3. Renewable energy research priorities including wind, ocean and solar power, the use and implementation of alternative fuels, waste-to-energy conversion technologies, energy-related environmental planning issues and the intelligent integration of associated technologies into naval operations
4. Technology innovations to reduce waste generation and enhanced management practices at Navy facilities,

including green procurement and sustainable infrastructure

5. Other strategic issues as identified by the range, shipyard and aviation communities

The NESDI program is the Navy's environmental research and development demonstration and validation program, sponsored by the Chief of Naval Operations Energy and Environmental Readiness Division and managed by the Naval Facilities Engineering Command. The mission of the program is to provide solutions by demonstrating, validating and integrating innovative technologies, processes, materials, and filling knowledge gaps to minimize operational environmental risks, constraints and costs while ensuring Fleet readiness.

For a hardcopy of the NESDI program's FY10 and other Year in Review reports, please contact Lorraine Wass at 207-384-5249 or ljwass@surfbest.net. An electronic (pdf) version of the report can also be downloaded from the program's web site at www.nesdi.navy.mil. 

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CNRSW Institutes a Sustainable Solid Waste Management Program

Successes Achieved Through Innovative Business Practices

ALTHOUGH IT ENCOMPASSES traditional recycling, the sustainable solid waste philosophy at Navy Region Southwest moves beyond the concept of just managing the traditional recycling streams of paper, plastic, cardboard, metals, and plastics. It is a holistic approach which examines operations that generate non-hazardous solid waste by developing policy, programs, and processes specifically to address the generating communities' needs for solid waste resource management versus landfill disposal. Institutionalized sustainable solid waste practices recognize that what we throw away and "waste" has value. These practices also assure that the Navy is able to realize and receive the highest possible value from managing commodities rather than paying to dispose of them as waste.

So with support from leadership, the Navy's Southwest Region's Integrated Solid Waste Management Program evolved to become its Sustainable Solid Waste Program (SSWP). According to Leslie McLaughlin, SSWP Director at Navy Region Southwest: "The heart of our approach is to manage solid waste as a resource because it's green for the environment and supports the Navy's mission."

Using the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) definition of solid waste, the SSWP categorizes waste into three manageable Divisions:

1. Municipal Solid Waste Management: The combined management of refuse and recycling.
2. Construction and Demolition (C&D) Debris Management: The diversion of C&D debris through mixed-C&D recycling.
3. Sustainable Solid Waste ASHORE and AFLOAT: Management of non-traditional solid wastes such as:

- Military Industrial Waste Management
- Disaster Debris Management
- Office Furniture Reuse and Redistribution
- Used Motor Oil
- Waste Vegetable Oil
- Agricultural Waste

Our goal is to fully institutionalize both economically and environmentally sustainable solid waste practices throughout all Navy enterprises, both within operational forces Afloat and the Ashore infrastructure.

Institutionalized sustainable solid waste practices recognize that what we throw away and "waste" has value.

The SSWP incorporates the concepts of sustainability into the three divisions by using Environmental Management Systems (EMS) to evaluate processes and develop more environmentally and economically sustainable ways of doing business; thus the concept of institutionalizing practices. As a great example, the successful SSWP in Navy Region Southwest is its C&D debris management program where a partnership was developed with the commercial construction community. Navy construction contract speci-



Naval Base Coronado C&D debris diversion.
Christian Dominguez

fications have been modified to include the sustainable solid waste practices. Policy has been written and promulgated for planning and executing sustainable solid waste practices within all Navy construction, demolition, and alteration projects within the Navy's southwest region. Training is on-going; metrics are monitored to show successes and the economic benefits of recycling. As a result, solid waste resource management of C&D debris has become the standard way of doing business within the Navy Region Southwest construction community and has provided a landfill diversion rate of over 46 percent.

Other examples include:

1. Working closely with facility managers and space allocation committees to incorporate sustainable reuse management of office furniture (cost avoidance of \$4.45M in 2010).
2. Planning organizational moves including realignments associated with Base Realignment And Closure (BRAC) to include office furniture reuse.
3. Forming a partnership with the Emergency Management and Contingency Engineering community to incorporate solid waste lessons learned from 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina.
4. Training and assisting military logistics communities and fleet forces in the proper disposition of items needing demilitarization and special handling.

By using the full range of the SSW toolbox, which contains Municipal Solid Waste Management, C&D Debris Management, and AFLOAT/ASHORE SSW Management functions, the Navy Region Southwest has achieved an impressive 135,000 tons of materials diverted from landfills, providing cost avoidance of \$5.45M during FY10.

In addition, the Navy Region Southwest's SSWP has begun the process of incorporating greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction management. Pilot projects have begun working with the University of Los Angeles to develop the methodology



Supporting the recycling of metal on a large scale.

Jose Amuchastegui

for calculation of GHG reductions for existing, traditional recycling operations and looking into evaluating future practices holding GHG reduction potential.

According to Leslie McLaughlin, "Our SSWP is a holistic approach to the management of RCRA non-hazardous solid waste. It uses EMS practices to institutionalize processes that manage solid waste as a resource and promotes a more economically and environmentally feasible way of doing business."

The Navy Region Southwest has achieved an impressive 135,000 tons of materials diverted from landfills.

The Navy Region Southwest's SSWP has received numerous accolades for its innovative models, most recently receiving the "Recycler of the Year Award" from the City of San Diego, and the C&D Debris Management Award from the California Resource and Recovery Association. ♻️

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