

NEVADA DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

FACT SHEET

(pursuant to Nevada Administrative Code 445A.236)

Permittee Name: Naval Air Station (NAS) Fallon
4755 Pasture Road
Fallon, Nevada 89496

Permit Number: NEV95000

Location: NAS Fallon
Churchill County
Township 18N, Range 29E,
Sections vary by dewatering project location

Base Location:

Latitude: 39° 25' 00" N
Longitude: 118° 42' 30" W

Wellhead Protection

The above mentioned discharge area is not within an established wellhead protection capture zone. The facility is not within a 6000 foot Drinking Water Protection Area around any public water supply well.

General

Naval Air Station (NAS) Fallon operates a military airport and associated facilities (air station), located southeast of the city of Fallon in Churchill County, Nevada. The installation is used for aircraft/weapons training for U.S. Navy personnel. NAS Fallon maintains discharge permit NEV95000 to provide permit coverage for necessary dewatering associated with base construction activities. Permitted activity under this permit does not include activities on the NAS Fallon bombing ranges, which are also located in Churchill County. Typical dewatering projects under this permit have included replacement of an oil/water separator unit in the hot refueling pit, installation of a fire suppression materials retention basin, and construction of base housing. The permit allows for discharge of water from construction excavations to the ground surface within the near vicinity (typically 500 to 1000 feet away) of the construction workings. The discharged groundwater partially recharges the uppermost groundwater layer and partially evaporates during land application.

Receiving Water Characteristics:

According to previously reported observations made by the NAS Fallon Environmental Department, groundwater is encountered at approximately seven (7) feet below ground surface (bgs), due to the presence of shallow perched groundwater. The perched groundwater occurs due to the presence of a confining clay lens located approximately 24-30 feet bgs

NAS Fallon receives potable water from the City of Fallon, which draws water from several supply wells completed in the regional Fallon Basalt Aquifer. The wells are completed at approximately 500 feet bgs, and are not expected to be affected by NAS Fallon dewatering discharge activities because of the presence of the above mentioned clay lens.

Discharge Flow and Characteristics:

During the period from 2002 through 2006, there has been no discharge under this permit.

Proposed Effluent Limitations and Special Conditions:

The discharge to groundwaters of the State of Nevada from the NAS Fallon dewatering projects will be limited and monitored according to the following:

Table 1: Discharge Limitations

PARAMETERS	DISCHARGE LIMITATIONS		MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	
	30-Day Average	Daily Maximum	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Flow (gallons per day)	<50,000	---	Continuous	Flowmeter or Calculation Based on Pump Run-Time
TPH ¹ (mg/l or ppm)	1.0		Once/Each Project Location ²	Discrete

1. TPH = Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons. Report diesel and gasoline range fractions.
2. Construction dewatering in areas where TPH contamination is present or is expected to be present based on past site activities shall not commence without prior notification of and approval from the Division. In these locations, additional sampling and monitoring may be required based on the level and extent of contamination in the groundwater. If permit limit is exceeded, the Division may require collection, treatment and/or proper disposal of impacted water.

Schedule of Compliance:

The Permittee shall achieve compliance with the effluent limitations upon issuance of the permit.

Rationale for Permit Requirements:

There are no significant changes proposed for the renewal of this permit. The Division's rationale for the proposed monitoring conditions is as follows:

- *Flow:* Flow is tracked to assure compliance with the flow limit of < 50,000 gpd.
- *Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons:* TPH is monitored to ensure that possibly impacted waters are not commingled with un-impacted groundwater during percolation. Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons are presently monitored in dewatering activities to assess shallow groundwater contamination from activities such as fuel storage and aircraft refueling. According to the DMR and permit files from previous permit cycles,

construction dewatering activities exceeded the Division TPH limit (1.0 mg/L) in 1997 from remediation work occurring in the Hot Refueling Pit (fuel tank farm – aircraft refueling). This work involved the removal and replacement of a faulty oil/water separator unit. Free JP-5 product (\approx 300 gals. of aircraft fuel) was found and removed from this pit. During excavation work, the extracted groundwater was treated in a functional oil/water separator unit prior to discharge to the NAS storm drain system. Fallon NAS maintains a separate stormwater permit for these discharges.

The Division requires that NAS sample the discharged groundwater at each project location to assess the TPH level. In dewatering activities in locations where a probability exists that prior contamination may have occurred, the Division reserves the right to request additional sampling and monitoring if the TPH limit is exceeded

Procedures for Public Comment:

The Notice of the Division's intent to renew a permit authorizing the facility to discharge extracted shallow groundwater into the groundwater, subject to the conditions contained within the permit is being sent to the **Lahontan Valley News** for publication. The notice is being mailed to interested persons on our mailing list. Anyone wishing to comment on the proposed permit can do so in writing for a period of thirty (30) days following the date of the public notice. The comment period can be extended at the discretion of the Administrator. The deadline date at the Division for receipt of all comments pertaining to this public notice period is **June 28, 2007 at 5:00 P.M.**

A public hearing on the proposed determination can be requested by the applicant, any affected State, any affected interstate agency, the Regional Administrator or any interested agency, person or group of persons. The request must be filed within the comment period and must indicate the interest of the person filing the request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted.

Any public hearing determined by the Administrator to be held must be conducted in the geographical area of the proposed discharge or any other area the Administrator determines to be appropriate. All public hearings must be conducted in accordance with NAC 445A.238.

The final determination of the Administrator may be appealed to the State Environmental Commission pursuant to NRS 445A.605.

Proposed Determination:

The Division has made the tentative determination to renew the proposed groundwater discharge permit for a period of five (5) years.