



# NAVAL BASE VENTURA COUNTY

FY13 CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD

Environmental Quality – Individual/Team



## INTRODUCTION

Naval Base Ventura County (NBVC) is comprised of three operating facilities: Point Mugu, Port Hueneme, and San Nicolas Island and several remote sites such as Laguna Peak, Fort Hunter Liggett and Santa Cruz Island. Point Mugu and Port Hueneme are both located along the Pacific coastline in southwestern Ventura County, California, adjacent to the cities of Oxnard, Port Hueneme and Camarillo. San Nicolas Island (SNI) lies in the Santa Barbara Channel, 75 miles west of Los Angeles. NBVC provides airfield, seaport and base support services to fleet operating forces and shore activities and employs more than 20,060 military and civilian personnel. These personnel work under 80 departments and/or supported commands that support the diverse missions of the Department of Defense. Examples of missions include combat and weapon systems testing on the 36,000 square mile Sea Test Range off the coast.

## TEAM MEMBERS

The NBVC Environmental Quality Team (EQT) consists of 8 key members from the Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Southwest Division:

- Dan Shide: Installation Environmental Program Director (IEPD) who leads the EQT
- Maggie McDonald: Environmental Management Systems (EMS) Lead
- Hasan Jafar: Air Quality Program Manager
- John Untalan: Hazardous Waste Compliance Management
- Chad Lousen: Environmental Planning Lead
- Lloyd Nash: Recycling Program Manager



The Naval Base Ventura County Environmental Quality Team: (left to right) Chad Lousen, John Untalan, Dan Shide, Hasan Jafar, Lloyd Nash, and Maggie McDonald.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### ***ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM***

The Environmental Management System (EMS) is a fundamental component of NBVC's daily operations. NBVC continued to enhance the way business was carried out by standardizing methods and processes regarding NBVC's practices that exhibit significant impacts to the environment. Over 100 practices throughout NBVC departments and tenant commands have been inventoried and documented for significant environmental aspects. For FY12-FY13, the three highest ranked aspects at NBVC were Hazardous Substances/Materials Management, Energy Conservation, and Recycling. Leadership support, which includes the NBVC Commanding Officer (CO) and other base senior management, was the key component for implementing EMS requirements and supporting continual improvement in environmental management at NBVC.

### ***- INTERNAL EMS AND COMPLIANCE AUDIT***

In FY13, NBVC introduced an innovative team of individuals from the NBVC Environmental Division and tenant command ECs to conduct the annual Internal EMS and Compliance Audit. The EQT decided to extend volunteer opportunities for designated ECs to participate on the Audit Team with a goal to increase tenant command participation and facilitate growth and improvement of the Environmental Program at NBVC. In past

years, the NBVC Environmental Division had comprised the Audit Team. However, in FY13, NBVC extended the opportunity to tenant commands, which acted as a work force multiplier in advancing EMS accountability to NBVC work centers.

#### - **ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT REVIEW**

Top Management support is a critical component to the success of NBVC's EMS. Over the years, the NBVC EQT structured their management reviews based on their audience: the NBVC CO; the NBVC Board of Directors (BOD); EC Management, and the Environmental Management Committee (EMC). In FY13, the IEPD and EMS Management Representative met with the NBVC CO and Chief Staff Officer to review the findings of the internal audit in preparation for follow-on leadership and working level Environmental Management Reviews. This enabled Top Management to review the findings and prepare a proposed plan of action for follow-on Management Reviews with the BOD, EC Management, and the EMC. This protocol yielded successful results in addressing status and implementation of NBVC Environmental Objectives and Targets.

#### - **ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR PROGRAM**

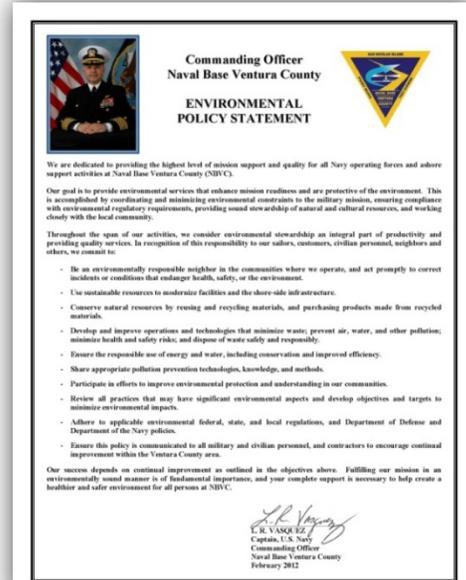
NBVC's EMS was extremely successful in FY12-FY13. Establishing and utilizing department and tenant command ECs ensured appropriate communication, training, and awareness of work center environmental aspects throughout NBVC. In FY12-FY13, there was active participation from 44 department and tenant commands with 116 formally designated ECs. In addition, there were 42 additional environmental points of contact throughout NBVC tenant commands. To support this program, the CONBVC signed a base-wide instruction, NBVCINST 5090.11, to document EC roles and responsibilities. A formally structured EMC was established in order to fully deploy the NBVC EMS and pollution prevention program. On a quarterly basis, the EQT conducts an EMC meeting to provide additional oversight of environmental compliance, recycling, and remediation activities, provide strategic direction for environmental management and compliance, and ensure conformance with NBVC's EMS on a continuing basis.

#### - **ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING**

At NBVC, personnel are required to complete environmental training through a computer-based curriculum via the ECATTS Web. In FY12-FY13, 37 revised training modules were implemented for personnel at NBVC: Air Quality; Polychlorinated Biphenyls; Pesticide Management; Pollution Prevention; EMS; General Environmental Compliance; Environmental Enforcement; Water Quality; Wastewater; Basic Stormwater; Comprehensive Stormwater (9 modules); General Hazardous Waste; Comprehensive Hazardous Waste (8 modules); Storage Tanks; Installation Restoration; Natural Resources; Cultural Resources; Wetlands; Spill Response; Refrigerants; Environmental Planning; and Recycling. ECATTS continued to be the primary tool for completing NBVC specific Environmental Training and is reviewed annually as part of the NBVC internal audit.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

The inspection program at NBVC is one of the strongest elements for ensuring a successful EMS. In FY12-FY13 NBVC made pivotal strides in improving its program. Utilizing the three-tier approach as mentioned in the NAVFAC Business Management Practice, B-17.4 Internal Compliance Assessment, the ECs, the NBVC Environmental Division, and other outside agencies all took part in the inspection and audit process. For the first tier, department and tenant commands were required to monitor their environmental aspects and practices as part of the EC Program. The second tier involved the NBVC Environmental Division conducting inspections based upon NBVC instruction and policy requirements as outlined in the NBVC Internal Assessment Plan (IAP). The third tier involved inspections conducted from external agencies. In FY 12-13, NBVC had over 50 visits from regulators to inspect the Air, Hazardous Waste, Tank, and Water Programs. In addition, the annual



The NBVC Environmental Policy

Internal EMS and Compliance Audits are also considered part of the third tier inspections. Metrics are provided on a Regulatory Tracker to the Environmental Business Line Top Management on a monthly basis.

In addition to scheduled compliance inspections as outlined in the NBVC IAP, random compliance inspections were conducted throughout NBVC to keep NBVC in excellent compliance stature.

**AIR PROGRAM**

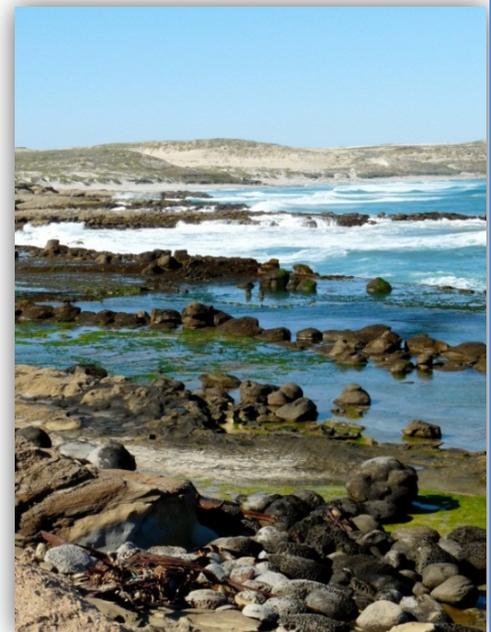
NBVC maintains three Ventura County Air Pollution Control District Title V permits. Over 200 emission sources and 22 separate emission categories are regulated in NBVC’s three Title V permits. *In FY13, NBVC sought and received a National Security Exemption (NSE) for SNI from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). This exemption is the only NSE that has been received in the Navy (a first of its kind for an entire facility to receive an EPA exemption).* Both the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants from Reciprocating Internal Combustion Engine (40 CFR 63, Subpart ZZZZ) and the Standards of Performance for Stationary Compression Ignition Engines (40 CFR 60, Subpart IIII) promulgate the requirement to operate compression ignition (CI) engines on diesel fuel having a maximum sulfur content of 15 parts ppm (0.0015% Wt) or less. All stationary engines on SNI are currently fueled with JP-5 (diesel is only delivered to SNI in small quantities for special projects). The MIL SPEC for JP-5 fuel sets a maximum sulfur content of 0.30 % Wt, which far exceeds the 0.0015% Wt sulfur limit established by the EPA. Historical records of fuel shipments to SNI and actual sulfur content of JP-5 delivered to SNI averages around 0.030% Wt.

To comply with the EPA requirements, NBVC would have had to reconfigure the existing fuel distribution system on SNI to meet the ultra-low sulfur fuel requirements or develop infrastructure to support a separate ultralow sulfur fuel system. Reconfiguring the existing fuel system was not a viable option because this would have resulted in the degradation of the Navy’s ability to provide forward positioned support from SNI in times of a national crisis, and would have significantly impacted the role NBVC SNI plays in the national defense framework.

Obtaining the NSE for NBVC SNI saved the Navy \$3,387,000, which is the estimated cost of developing an independent ultralow sulfur diesel supply system on SNI and meeting primary CI engine emission control requirements. In return, this exemption effectively eliminated the regulatory requirement to use ultralow sulfur diesel and install costly emission controls on SNI CI engines.

Criteria	FY 2012 TOTAL	FY 2013 TOTAL
NEPA Inspections	365	326
Regulatory Site Inspections	35	23
Regulatory Interactions*	652	547
Regulatory Site Visits	32	21
Permits / Regulatory Reports Submitted	110	96
Internal Insp.	3396	2924
Cultural Resources Studies/Surveys Completed	43	29
Cultural Resources Agreements, MOAs Active	2	2
Natural Resources Studies/Surveys Completed	150	74
Natural Resources Agreements, MOAs Active	4	4
Personnel Trained	326	286
INRMP Current	YES	YES

Environmental metrics are documented and communicated to Top Management to review. In FY13, there has been a decrease in numbers due to sequestration.



Navy missions include range operations at NBVC SNI. Obtaining the National Security Exemption from the Environmental Protection Agency allows the Navy to continue its operations while saving millions of dollars.

## ***ENERGY CONSERVATION***

NBVC established an aggressive and effective energy and water program designed to drive down the consumption of utilities on the shore, which supported the Navy's commitment as a Global Force for Green. NBVC is focused on its energy and water reduction goals and is currently meeting and exceeding the Executive Order (EO) 13423 goal for its reportable energy and water usage. The EO requires a 30% reduction in energy intensity by 2015 and a 2% reduction in annual water usage. In FY12, NBVC reduced energy intensity 30.8% from FY03 baseline and water usage by 48.1% from FY07 baseline, which greatly exceeded the EO 13423 directive of 3% per year reduction goal.

Although NBVC has met the EO 13423 goals, energy conservation efforts are a key factor in resource sustainability at NBVC. In FY12, irrigation improvements were made at NBVC Port Hueneme at 68 locations. And in FY13, NBVC awarded two contracts to replace incumbent lighting technologies in 52 buildings with new efficient systems that included advanced lighting controls including occupancy sensors, photocells, dimming control, and timers.



This is a photo of a Photovoltaic system on the roof of Building 401 at NBVC Port Hueneme. This is a 195 kW system, saving NBVC over \$54K per year in energy costs.

## ***ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING MANAGEMENT APPROACH***

In order to sustain military readiness, NBVC has three goals when reviewing proposed projects: (1) Ensure all projects are in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA); (2) Ensure projects are in compliance with health and safety regulations, security policies, and all other regulatory and environmental planning requirements; and (3) Ensure stewardship of natural and cultural resources on NBVC. NBVC successfully completed a large number of environmental reviews by utilizing a standardized checklist to capture key requirements for the Project Review Board (PRB) during review of major proposed projects.

The NBVC PRB process begins with a brief narrative of each proposed project. A review package with specific requirements (e.g. map, building number, proposed commencement date, etc.) is developed and provided to the PRB, along with the standardized checklist that includes resource/program specific requirements. Such resource or program media areas applicable at NBVC as listed in the PRB Checklist include:

- Digging, Excavating, or Trenching Permitting
- Fire Prevention
- Industrial Hygiene
- Safety
- Physical Security
- Air Quality
- Ozone Depleting Substances
- Water Quality
- Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs)/Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Management
- Hazardous Building Materials (lead based paint and asbestos) Management
- Hazardous Materials and Hazardous Wastes Management
- Solid Waste Diversion / Recycling Management
- Pollution Prevention
- Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA)
- Installation Restoration or Cleanup Program Management
- Pest Management
- Wetlands Management
- Coastal Resources Management
- Cultural Resources Management
- Natural Resources Management
- Bird Air Strike Hazard (BASH) Management
- Environmental Management Systems (EMS)

Completion of the PRB Checklist assists the EQT in making a determination on whether the proposed project could be Categorically Excluded (CATEXs).

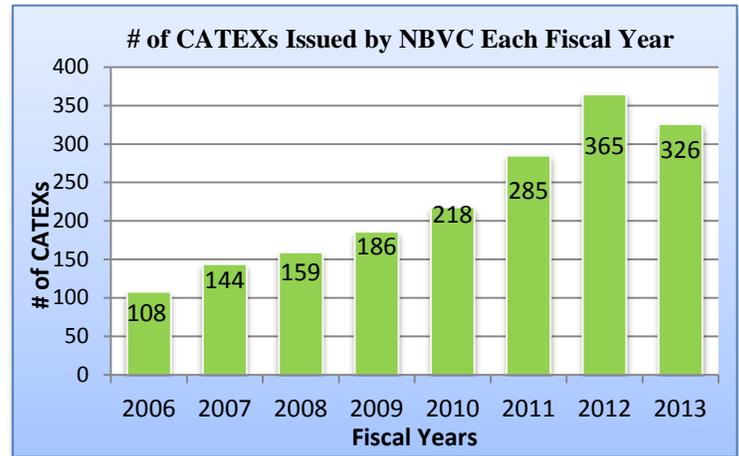
**- PRB AND SITE APPROVAL PROCESS IMPROVEMENT CHALLENGES**

In addition to the PRB process, proposed projects may also require a Site Approval from NBVC Asset Management. Obtaining Site Approval involves reviewing the projects for: (1) consistency with base master plans; (2) explosive safety; (3) electromagnetic radiation safety; and (4) airfield safety. Since, there has been a significant increase in projects proposed for execution at NBVC, successful completion of both the PRB and Site Approval became vital to ensuring project execution success at NBVC.

While our focus is to support the Navy mission, a number of projects were successfully executed by mitigating possible impacts to the environment. One

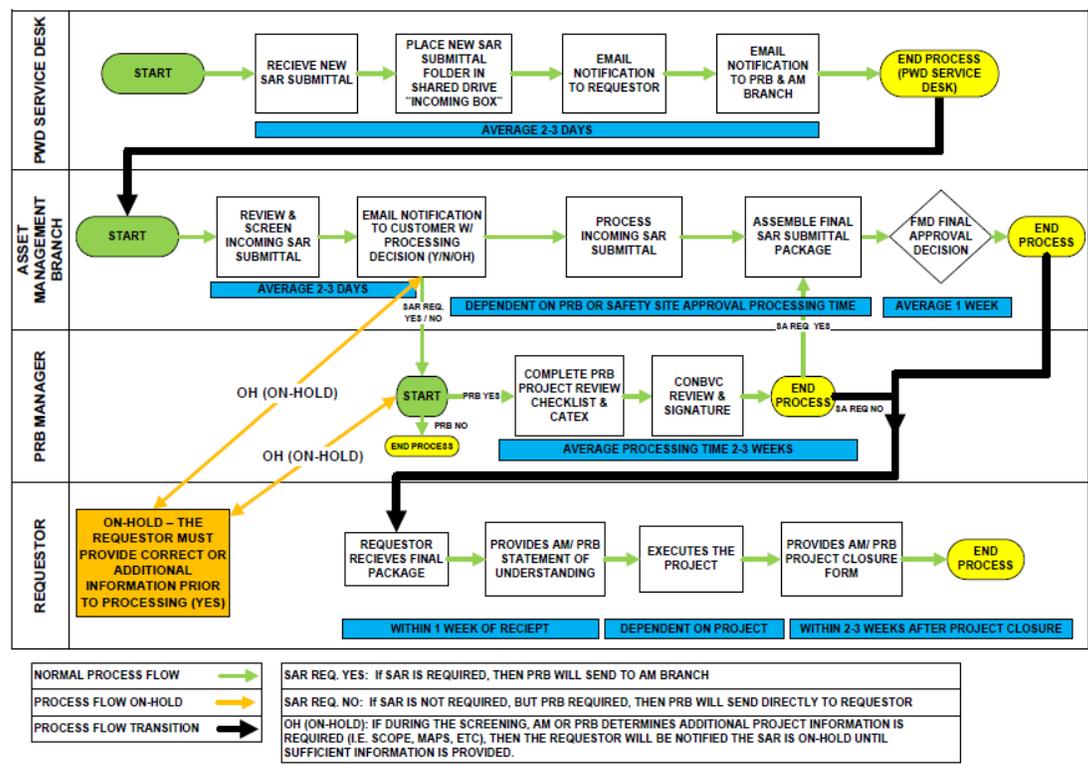
of these projects included the NBVC Black Dart Testing Demonstration. Black Dart is an annual demonstration that utilizes DoD, Inter-Agency, Industry, and Academia/ Laboratory Programs of Record (PORs) and near-term capabilities and technologies to support the Warfighter's emerging counter-UAS requirements. This demonstration was successfully completed with minimal impacts to NBVC's Natural Resources (e.g. flora/fauna).

And in support of NBVC's EMS, improvements were made to the PRB through standardization of an electronic review process, as well as successfully integrating EMS into the PRB process. Environmental planning achieved even more success by integrating the PRB into the NBVC Maintenance Execution Plan (MEP) process.



Metrics are developed to review CATEX completions. In FY13, there has been a decrease in numbers due to sequestration.

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NBVC Internal Site Approval Flowchart

**SOLID WASTE DIVERSION**

NBVC has an established Qualified Recycling Program (QRP) in-place to meet the specific goals set forth by Executive Order 13514, Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance. NBVC's Qualified Recycling Program promotes pollution prevention and elimination of waste with the goal of diverting from landfill disposal at least 50 percent of non-hazardous solid waste and at least 50 percent of construction and demolition (C&D) materials and debris by the end of FY15. The following items are recycled at NBVC and diverted from landfills: lead acid batteries (automotive), scrap metals (ferrous and nonferrous), plastics bottles types 1 and 2, cardboard, paper (color and mixed), paper shredded (white), office paper, aluminum cans,

appliances, refrigerators, air conditioning units, stoves, water heaters, microwave ovens, toner cartridges, electrical wires, wood/plastic pallets, newspapers, small arms expended brass (.50cal or under), glass bottles, empty metals cans, office furniture or office furnishings. At NBVC, waste diversion from landfills totaled 4,023.13 tons in FY12 and 5,772.82 tons in FY13.

At NBVC, recycling collection points have been established inside occupied buildings and industrial recycling collection points outside occupied buildings. All recycling collection points have been designated by the NBVC QRP Manager and have institutional controls to clearly delineate wastes that are collected in recycling bins or disposed in solid waste receptacles. All tenant commands are coordinated with to ensure recycling collection points are established and recycling bins are available. Regular bin pick-ups are scheduled with the tenant commands.



Recycling material distributed during FY13 Earth Day Events.

New initiatives completed in FY12-13 to boost waste diversion efforts at NBVC include the following: Installation Solid Waste and Recycling Instruction was updated; the NBVC Area Coordinator Program Instruction was updated to designate roles and responsibility (Area, Zone and Facility Managers) for property management, including oversight of recyclable waste; a reporting process was put in-place to track construction and demolition materials generated during contract execution and diverted from landfills and report the information to the NBVC QRP Manager; contract modifications were implemented to ensure shredded material diversion rates were provided to the NBVC QRP manager; and NBVC hosted an installation-wide Household Electronic Waste Collection Event.

### ***COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT***

NBVC took pride in community awareness initiatives to educate thousands of individuals on an annual basis of its environmental programs. Throughout FY12 and FY13, NBVC participated in multiple community activities by hosting a photo and specimen display featuring NBVC's environmental programs in an effort to engage the local community by raising awareness and highlighting the success of integrating environmental stewardship with the Navy mission at NBVC. Events included: City of Oxnard Earth Day Celebration, Naval Exchange Earth Day Celebration, Bard Elementary School Earth Day Presentation, Annual Point Mugu Surf Contest presented by the Navy Region South West Sustainable Solid Waste Program, and beach clean-up events.

The surf contest was an exciting opportunity for NBVC to showcase its troops, their varied missions, and its award-winning stewardship of the environmentally sensitive beach and wetlands area inside its gates, while allowing the public and the surfing community to access some of the best waves in Southern California.

NBVC representatives also participated in judging student science projects in both FY12 and FY13 at the Hueneme High School and the Ventura County Science Fairs, which included entries from students in grades 6 -12 and addressed science related topics including environmental subjects.

### ***PROGRAM MANAGEMENT***

With over 60 Environmental Standard Operating Procedures, over 15 base Environmental Instructions, and over 20 permits/plans specific to a regulatory requirement, the EQT set polices and guidance to ensure environmental impacts were minimized throughout NBVC. Documentation and records remain a top priority to standardize procedures at NBVC and to keep roles and responsibilities clearly defined.



A surfer in the barrel as part of the 2012 NBVC Surf Contest.

## ***TECHNICAL MERIT***

With such a diverse team, the EQT stayed current in their program areas and implemented new and innovative ways to improve the program. Examples include the following: the EQT conducted the annual internal EMS and Compliance Audit by utilizing a cross-functional team of experts of environmental staff and coordinators; an electronic PRB was developed and implemented which incorporated EMS requirements to ensure that contracts included training requirements specific to the significant aspects of their projects; quarterly newsletters were issued to the ECs to further distribute throughout their commands; and provided visual presentations and guest speakers for the EMC meetings to better deliver the environmental requirements to the ECs. In addition to EMS program successes, new and efficient water and energy conservation projects were completed.

## ***ORIENTATION TO THE MISSION***

NBVC is staffed to provide environmental services that enhance mission readiness and protect the environment. This was accomplished by coordinating and minimizing environmental constraints to the military mission while ensuring compliance with environmental regulatory requirements. NBVC environmental staff was quick to aid as first responders (e.g. Spill Response, HW management) and efficient in meeting regulatory requirements early on in project planning stages (e.g. PRB). In many cases, environmental experts were in the field (e.g. Black Dart exercise) during critical operations to ensure successful execution of the military mission while protecting the natural resources that surround it.

## ***TRANSFERABILITY***

Active participation and coordination with other experts throughout the Navy was critical to leading a successful Environmental Program at NBVC. The EQT coordinated with ECs from other military branches within NBVC, environmental staff from other Navy installations, as well as continual coordination with the regional experts. As an example, NAVFAC SW has used the NBVC PRB Flow Chart as an example of how to implement a PRB at other installations. The General Environmental Specifications document from NBVC's Public Works Facilities Engineering and Acquisition Department (FEAD) was also used as an example by NAVFAC of how to incorporate environmental requirements into contract clauses. The EC Program Instruction was also distributed to several installations to use as a reference for their locations.

## ***STAKEHOLDER INTERACTION***

NBVC coordinated with local community members by involving them in conservation and educational efforts. NBVC developed partnerships with local government agencies, the community, and academic institutions, which benefited the Navy by raising community awareness of NBVC's environmental stewardship efforts in support of mission operations. During FY12-FY13, NBVC actively coordinated efforts with the following committees and groups: Calleguas Creek Watershed Task Force, Ormond Beach Task Force, Southern California Wetland Recovery Ventura Task Force, and Western Snowy Plover / California Least Tern / Light-footed Clapper Rail working groups. NBVC maintained an active Restoration Advisory Board (RAB), which fostered an atmosphere of mutual respect and cooperation between the Navy, regulators, and the local community. NBVC personnel and community members communicated and worked closely together as a team on common goals of environmental cleanup. The RAB facilitated community support of NBVC Installation Restoration Program (IRP) initiatives and is used as the forum for public meetings required in support of IRP initiatives.



As part of FY12 Earth Day Events, Bard Elementary 1<sup>st</sup> Grade students looking at Natural Resources specimen found at NBVC.



A Least Tern Chick found sitting on the beaches of NBVC Point Mugu.