



ERP Fact Sheet

May 2006

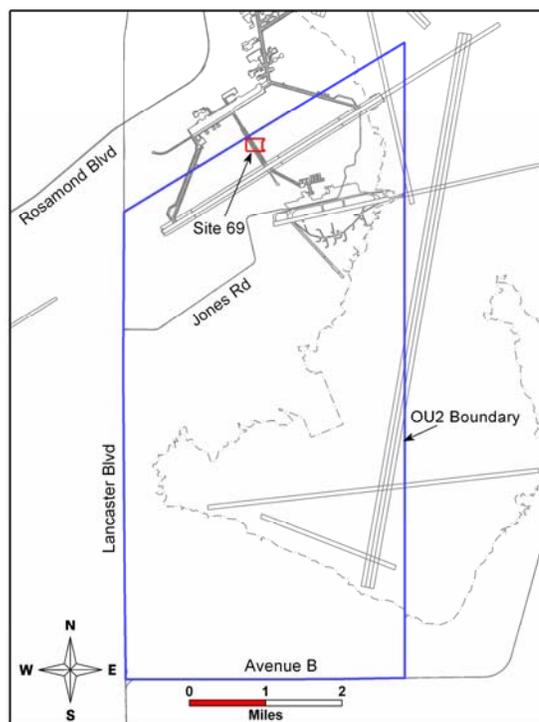
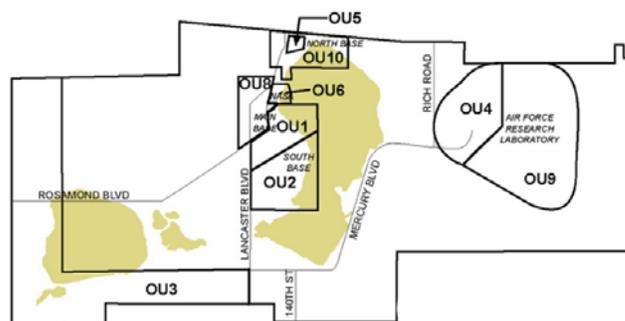
Removal of Debris and Disposal/Recycling at the Main Base Landfill Preferred for Site 69

This Fact Sheet describes how Edwards AFB proposes to clean up Site 69, South Base.

Air Force environmental engineers recommend removal of buried and surface debris from Site 69 and disposal at the Main Base Active Landfill.

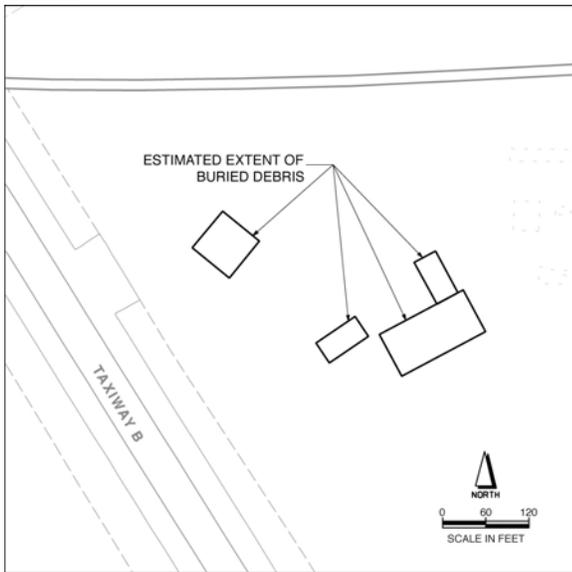
Site 69, the Old South Base North Landfill, is located in the Cantonment Area approximately 1,000 feet north of Main Base Active Runway 04/22 and encompasses approximately 28 acres. Debris was first deposited at Site 69 in the 1940s. The surface of the site is currently covered with scattered rusted cans, broken glass, metal wire, and railroad debris. Waste is also deposited in scattered subsurface pits throughout the site.

The Air Force conducted a geophysical survey at Site 69 to map the extent of the buried wastes. Four areas, encompassing approximately 0.9 acres, were identified as possible locations where wastes could be buried. Ten test pits excavated in these areas in 1995 verified the presence of debris. Soil samples were also collected



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The top map shows the location of Operable Unit (OU) 2 within the boundary of Edwards AFB.
The bottom map shows Site 69.



This map shows the estimated extent of buried debris at Site 69.

and sent to off-base laboratories to identify what chemicals were present.

Low levels of fuels, solvents, pesticides, metals, and other elements were detected in the soil samples collected at Site 69. However, calculations indicated that none of these contaminants were detected at concentrations that could threaten the groundwater, which occurs approximately 50 feet below ground surface.

As part of the remedial investigation, the Air Force calculated the potential risk to human health if future residents or industrial workers at Site 69 are exposed to the contaminants in the soil through ingestion, inhalation, or skin contact.

The cancer risk for hypothetical future residents or industrial workers exposed to the soil was calculated to be generally acceptable. The Hazard Index for hypothetical future residents exposed to the soil is unacceptable. However, the majority of the noncarcinogenic risk is from metal and other elements detected in only one of the total 15 samples, and the risk is likely overstated. The Hazard Index for industrial workers is acceptable.

Technical experts completed an ecological risk assessment and determined that there is no consistent and substantial risk from the contaminants to the plant and animal communities as a whole because the contaminants are isolated to a single “hot spot”.

Based on these risk assessments, the Air Force believes that there is no significant risk from the soils present at Site 69. There may be hazards associated with the buried debris at the site. Therefore, the Air Force proposes Removal and On-Base Waste Disposal of the Buried and Surface Debris (Consolidation at the Main Base Active Landfill) as the preferred alternative for preventing people and animals from contacting these wastes. This alternative includes excavation and removal of all surface and buried debris and stained soil, backfill and compaction of clean excavated soils, recycling of all suitable materials, and disposal of wastes. If the Main Base Landfill cannot be utilized for waste disposal, an off-base disposal facility would be utilized at an additional cost.

The OU2 Proposed Plan offers three alternatives in addition to the preferred alternative – No Action; Land Use Controls; and Removal and On-Base Waste Disposal of the Buried and Surface Debris (Consolidation at Site 29).

The No Action alternative would not cost anything, but there would be no protection of people or animals from surface or buried debris.

The Land Use Controls alternative would restrict access and land use at Site 69 to people, but not animals. Removal of the debris would still be required if construction were to take place in the area. This alternative would cost an estimated \$19,000 to implement.

The Removal and On-Base Waste Disposal of the Buried and Surface Debris (Consolidation at Site 29) alternative is similar to the preferred alternative, except that waste that could not be recycled would be taken to Site 29, the South Base Abandoned Landfill. This alternative would cost an estimated \$278,000 to implement, and would need to be implemented in conjunction with the installation of an engineered cover at Site 29, which would entail additional cost.

The preferred alternative, Removal and On-Base Waste Disposal of the Buried and Surface Debris (Consolidation at the Main Base Active Landfill), would cost an estimated \$280,000 (if the Main Base Landfill can accept the waste), and would return the site to unrestricted use.