

N60201.AR.000227  
NS MAYPORT  
5090.3a

QUARTERLY ENVIRONMENTAL NEWSLETTER FOR NS MAYPORT FL  
6/1/1995  
NAVAL STATION MAYPORT

# NAVY Green

Mayport, FL

Naval Station Mayport

Summer 1995

NAVSTA Mayport Administrative Record  
Document Index Number

32228-000

13.06.00.0005

## Dear Neighbor:

It has been a very busy summer here at Mayport, especially for the members of the station's environmental staff. Between cleanup plans, natural resources management, new pollution prevention initiatives and protection of the many endangered species that live aboard the Naval Station, it is difficult even for me to keep up with all the important work they are doing.

Many of you may have read the article in the *Florida Times-Union* about the nationwide cutbacks in Federal environmental cleanup funds. As the article accurately pointed out, the impact on Naval Station (NAVSTA) Mayport was minimal. Our Federal funds were reduced slightly, affecting only two of our sites. But despite any reduction in fiscal resources, our resolve to carry out the safe and complete cleanup of the environment you have entrusted to us remains as strong as ever.

Our Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) members have been working diligently over the past three months, studying environmental reports and poring over regulations. They are preparing for the really important work of reviewing and providing input -- your input -- into our cleanup plans. Remember, the RAB is your voice into the environmental restoration program at Mayport. Meetings are open to the public, and I encourage you to attend and have your voice heard.

In addition to the RAB, we are working on a couple of other initiatives to help spread the word about our environmental cleanup programs and progress. We are currently putting the finishing touches on an informative video and a slide show which will summarize our restoration program. Both products are scheduled to be

completed later this summer and will be available for presentation to community groups. If you would like to schedule a briefing or a video screening, please call the Naval Station Mayport Public Affairs Office at 270-5226.

Later this fall, we are planning an environmental availability session to give you the opportunity to meet and talk with members of the Mayport environmental staff and the RAB to learn more about our cleanup plans. We will also have information available on our initiatives under the Navy's Environmental Leadership Program, our pollution prevention and recycling programs, and our natural resources preservation program. We will send additional details as the event nears. It should be an informative and enjoyable evening, and I hope to see you there.

I continue to be encouraged by the level of interest and activism in our environmental programs at Mayport,



and I thank you for your support. We will continue to honor our commitment to keep you informed of our progress.

SCOTT T. CANTFIL  
Captain, U.S. Navy  
Commanding Officer  
Naval Station Mayport

---

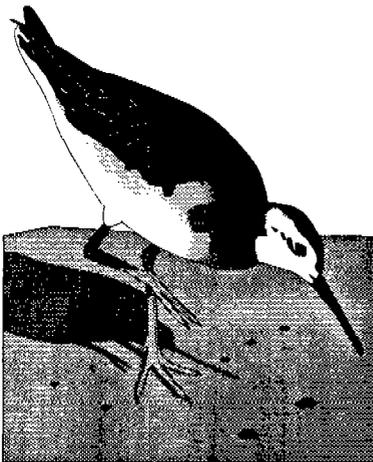
# The Least Tern

## A Most Important Bird

Being located on the beach, Naval Station Mayport is home to a wide variety of our feathered friends. One of these, the least tern, is listed as a threatened species by the State of Florida and also protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

Members of the gull family, least terns have white bodies with a black-tipped yellow bill. They feed on fish and crustaceans by skimming the surface of the water or by hovering and diving into the water while uttering excited cries of *kip, kip, kip*, or *kid-ick, kid-ick*, or a rasping *zreep!*

More than a century ago, the least tern was almost annihilated by hunters for the millinery trade. As many as 100,000 of these birds were killed in a single season. The least tern was fully protected in 1913 and has come back. However, destruction of its nesting habitat from beach development is causing the least tern population to decline once again.



Least terns nest on clear beaches above the reach of ordinary tides. In Florida, they will also nest on rooftops, especially those with white crushed rock or peagravel. Several rooftops at Naval Station Mayport support least tern habitats, as do the sandy beaches on the base.

Least terns are very protective of their nests. If they feel that their nests are threatened, they will dive screaming at the intruder and will drop excrement with accuracy. You can avoid this by leaving least tern nests alone!

To assist the survival of this threatened bird and to create a safe nesting environment for the least terns at Naval Station Mayport, we are working to protect least tern nesting areas from human encroachment.

By protecting the nesting areas of this bird, Naval Station Mayport hopes to see **more** of the least tern!

## Notes from the Field

Environmental investigation and cleanup continues at Naval Station Mayport! Field work at the Group III sites, located on the eastern side of the base toward the ocean, is almost done. Monitoring wells have been installed around the base, and sampling and slug tests are underway.

Slug tests at Naval Station Mayport are an important step, and, despite the name, they don't involve any small grey invertebrates! Simply put, "slugs" are weights that fit into the monitoring wells. The slug will displace a known amount of water in the well, based on its weight and size. When the slug is removed, water will flow into the well to fill the empty space where the slug was.

Slug tests are used to determine how fast and in what direction water moves over time. Samples are taken from monitoring wells to distinguish the content and chemical characteristics of the groundwater. Scientists and engineers will analyze the data that have been collected at each site throughout the summer to determine what kind of cleanup, if any, should be conducted.

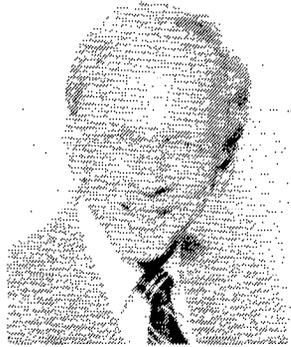
Work is also being completed at Groups I and II. Cleanup is being conducted at SWMU 2, Landfill B, where soil is being dug up and disposed of off site, and at SWMUs 6 and 7, the Waste Oil Pit and Oily Waste Treatment Plant Sludge Treatment Plant Sludge Beds, where the wastes are being pumped up from underground and treated before disposal. These are both Interim Measures, which are described in more detail in *Fact Sheet #2: Interim Measures*.

---

---

# Meet the RAB Co-Chairs

A native of our area, Bob Weiss graduated from D.U. Fletcher High School and attended the University of Florida. He has been flying for four decades since then, as a B-52 Captain in the Air Force and later as a 747 flight engineer for Pan American World Airways.



*Bob Weiss*

Currently, Bob is a City Commissioner in Atlantic Beach. He is working to improve beach renourishment projects and has successfully spearheaded the acquisition of intracoastal waterway property for city parkland, and improved garbage and solid waste pickup through privatization of service.

Bob is an active member of Kiwanis and the Ocean County Committee, and Vice-Chairman of the Beaches Republican Club. When not tending to his many duties, he may be found tending his garden of daylilies and torenias. Bob, his wife Lois, and his mother reside in Selva Marina. They have six children, all living in Texas.

## RAB Update

We have been working hard over the last six months to improve our communications with you and keep you up-to-date on our environmental cleanup up activities.

Our Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) is one of the ways we are keeping you informed. The board meets every month to discuss the status of cleanup activities, upcoming actions, and cleanup issues. The public is encouraged to attend these meetings. Navy Co-Chairs Cheryl Mitchell and Bob Weiss are committed to getting the community involved in the environmental cleanup process and making sure **your** voice is heard and concerns are addressed!

Cheryl Mitchell is currently the Installation Restoration (IR) Program Manager at Naval Station Mayport and Navy Co-Chair for the newly formed RAB. To keep the program moving rapidly and minimize communication gaps, Ms. Mitchell plans to keep the community involved during every step of the cleanup process.

Born and raised in Jacksonville, Cheryl attended both elementary and high school in the area. She received her engineering degree from the Georgia Institute of Technology in 1982.

Cheryl has worked as an environmental engineer at Naval Station Mayport since 1991. Before coming to Mayport, she worked as a Process Engineer at Johnson Controls Battery Division in Tampa, Florida, and as an Industrial Engineer at the Naval Aviation Depot (NADEP) at Naval Air Station Jacksonville.



*Cheryl Mitchell*

Today you may see Cheryl around the area taking part in her favorite pastimes, photography, browsing antique shops, and spending time with her pet dog.

Cleanup is progressing rapidly at Naval Station Mayport through our partnering efforts. Our agreement to work with the Environmental Protection Agency and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection is speeding up the process. We want to work with you in the same way. The RAB is making this happen!

This newsletter is another way that we have been sharing information with you. We have tried to write about the subjects you seem most interested in. Let us know what you think by responding to any of the sources listed on our back page — we want to be responsive to your concerns and suggestions.

**If you have any questions  
about the RAB, contact:  
Cheryl Mitchell at 270-6730  
Bob Weiss 246-4591**

---

# Questions & Answers

## Naval Station Mayport - who to call:

For general questions or information about Naval Station Mayport and the environmental programs, contact:

**Lt. John Wallach**  
**Public Affairs Officer**  
**(904) 270-5226**

An Information Repository containing documents related to the environmental cleanup activities at Naval Station Mayport is also available to the public.

The Information Repository is located at:

**Beaches Branch Public Library**  
**600 Third Street, Neptune Beach**  
**(904) 241-1141**

For more specific technical questions relating to the Installation Restoration program or cleanup activities, contact:

**Cheryl Mitchell**  
**Environmental Engineer**  
**(904) 270-6730**

### Upcoming RAB Meetings:

September 21

October 19

November 16

RAB meetings are held in the Atlantic Beach Council Chamber, 800 Seminole Road, at 6:30pm.

**Become involved in the environmental program at Naval Station Mayport; attend a RAB meeting!**

These meetings are held regularly and are open to the public. Notices of RAB meetings are published in the Shorelines edition of the *Florida Times Union* and are mailed to our mailing list.

*To get on our mailing list, please call Lt. John Wallach or Cheryl Mitchell.*

Public Affairs Officer  
Naval Station Mayport  
Mayport, FL 32228-0032

Bulk Mail  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit #2256  
Jacksonville, FL