FACT SHEET
AREA OF CONERN 1 (AOC 1)
FORMER CAPE MAY NAVAL AIR STATION
CAPE MAY, NEW JERSEY

The Former Cape May Naval Air Station is located at the United States Coast Guard (USGS) Training Base in Cape May, New Jersey.

AOC 1 is located within the USGS base in an undeveloped area, that is primarily beach and the beginning of the southern half Cape May jetty. The Cape May jetty was constructed in 1911 to allow permanent boat access to the Cape May harbor and its fishing industry. AOC 1 is adjacent to surface impoundments from periodic dredging of the Cape May inlet to ensure continued access for fishing and recreational vessels. Over the last fifty years AOC 1 has suffered severe erosion due to the impacts of the jetty on the shoreline of the inlet. It is estimated that up to 100 feet of shoreline has eroded in this area.

Remnants of old piers and associated structures are visible in the water and at low tide in this area. A review of historic photos show images of small sheds on piers at the beginning of the jetty and the AOC 1 beach. Visible debris includes wooden piers, concrete, rebar and miscellaneous metal pipes.

AOC 1 is located within the USGS base and is not accessible to the public. This area is also not routinely used by base personnel and is mostly underwater with the exception of low tide. The immediate area is vegetated with invasive grasses and weeds and there is no routine mowing or maintenance completed in this area. Infrequently, USCG veterans may fish from the shore or jetty in this area, but there are no routine recreation activities occurring in this area. Trespassers are also infrequent, as the main beach area, east along the jetty, facing the Atlantic, is part of the base and not open to the public.

It was suspected that historic dumping took place at AOC 1 and that an environmental investigation was warranted in that area to determine the level of impacts on the site soil, sediment and groundwater. In the fall of 2022 environmental samples were taken and analyzed for volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), pesticides, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), explosives, and metals as potential Site contaminants.

The investigation concluded that elevated concentrations of metals, SVOCs, and pesticides were detected in sediment and soil, but at levels that do not pose a risk to the site construction workers and recreational users. The data will be summarized and the risk assessment documented in the Remedial Investigation Report and placed in the document repository when finalized.

Contact
Gregory Hencir, Engineering Technical Lead
(978) 318-8873
gregory.m.hencir@usace.army.mil
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-New England District
696 Virginia Road, Concord, MA 01742
https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/