



FieldNOTE

AUGUST 2015

An Update
on NASA's
Cleanup Efforts at
Santa Susana
Field Laboratory



NASA is making progress with demolition of structures, roadways, and concrete surfaces in the Service Area.

DEMOLITION UPDATE

2015

NASA has been proceeding with demolition as part of preparations for cleanup of land it administers at Santa Susana Field Laboratory. In early February, NASA and demolition partners – the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and demolition contractor Bhate Environmental Associates – began demolition work in the northern part of Area II in the Service/Expendable Launch Vehicle (ELV) Area. Workers started on the inside of buildings, removing what is referred to as e-waste including lightbulbs, wiring, and mercury-containing light ballasts. Certified asbestos abatement contractors removed floor tiles, drywall, and ceiling tiles on the interior, and roof and wall shingles on the exterior of the buildings slated for demolition. NASA has made significant progress and several structures, roadways, and concrete surfaces have been demolished, including buildings 2231 and 2232. In addition, most of the aboveground structures of buildings 2201, 2202, 2203, and 2211 have been removed. Debris resulting from these activities was carefully inspected and safely transported off site to licensed disposal facilities. Demolition activity continues at buildings 2204 and 2207. NASA expects to complete demolition activities in the Service/ELV Area by the end of this year, at which time NASA will focus on demolition activities in the Delta Test Area. This work consists of a few metal buildings and tanks and the concrete bases where the test stand superstructure once stood. The next phase of demolition will include all remaining structures in Area II that are not associated with the three historic districts (Alfa Test Area, Bravo Test Area, and Coca Test Area).

NASA recognizes there is great interest in protecting the cultural resources as well as the rich history of the Santa Susana Field Laboratory. Through active participation in the National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 consulting process, NASA, the California State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians (SYBCI), and about 35 consulting parties identified measures NASA could take to address the adverse effects from demolition and cleanup activities. As a result of that process, NASA entered into a Programmatic Agreement with the SHPO and SYBCI that specifies at least one test stand in the Alfa or Bravo Test Area would be retained as long as NASA's cleanup goals could still be met, the abatement, operations, and maintenance cost were acceptable, and the Tribe's concerns were addressed.

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