



## 2020 Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards Sustainability, Industrial Installation Award

Each year since 1962, the Secretary of Defense (SecDef) has honored installations, teams, and individuals for outstanding achievements in Department of Defense (DoD) environmental programs. These accomplishments include outstanding conservation activities, innovative environmental practices, and partnerships that improve quality of life and promote efficiencies without compromising DoD's mission success. The 2020 Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards cycle encompasses an achievement period from October 1, 2017, through September 30, 2019 (Fiscal Year (FY) 2018-2019). A diverse panel of 54 judges with relevant expertise representing Federal and state agencies, academia, and the private sector evaluated all nominees to select one winner for each of the nine categories. These nine categories cover six subject areas including natural resources conservation, environmental quality, sustainability, environmental restoration, cultural resources management, and environmental excellence in weapon system acquisition.

### About the Sustainability, Industrial Installation Award

The Sustainability, Industrial Installation award recognizes efforts to prevent or eliminate pollution at the source, including practices that increase efficiency and sustainability in the use of raw materials, energy, water, or other resources. The sustainability award also recognizes energy efficiency and renewable energy practices, greenhouse gas reduction efforts, procurement of sustainable goods and services, waste diversion, and efforts to plan for adaptation and resilience. Sustainable practices ensure that DoD protects valuable resources that are critical to mission success. DoD industrial installations have a primary mission of manufacturing, maintaining, rehabilitating, or storing military equipment such as depots, fleet readiness centers, air logistics centers, regional logistics/supply support centers, armaments plants, shipyards, and other manufacturing plants. The 2020 winner of the Sustainability, Industrial Installation award is *Naval Base Kitsap, Washington*.

### About Naval Base Kitsap, Washington

Naval Base (NAVBASE) Kitsap, located near Seattle, Washington, is the largest naval installation in the Commander, Navy Region Northwest, and is the third largest installation in the Navy. Formed in 2004, NAVBASE Kitsap hosts 70 tenant commands on 9,704 acres and employs nearly 17,000 civil service staff, 16,200 military personnel, and 9,500 contractors. NAVBASE Kitsap provides critical and unique infrastructure to support a nuclear-licensed shipyard, Marine Corps Security Force Battalion Bangor consisting of 1,200 individuals, and the largest U.S. Coast Guard Maritime Force Protection Unit (MFPU) in the nation. The MFPU is tasked with protecting U.S. Navy ballistic missile submarines while transiting U.S. territorial waters. NAVBASE Kitsap also provides the largest Navy underground fuel storage facility in the continental U.S., a heavyweight and lightweight torpedo facility, and unmanned underwater vehicle research and testing facilities.



*Sailors and Marines stationed at NAVBASE Kitsap volunteer in the annual Tribal Journeys, carrying wooden canoes ashore. This event recognizes the importance of preserving local culture and tradition, one of the many facets of sustainability.*

## Major Accomplishments in FY 2018-2019

- As an environmental steward of the local community, NAVBASE Kitsap improved the quality of the water surrounding the installation by implementing several innovative conservation projects. Staff removed beaver dam associated debris from a culvert along NAVBASE Kitsap's railroad, providing access to over five acres of upstream habitat to endangered species. Staff at NAVBASE Kitsap also initiated a pilot program using oyster shells to lower elevated zinc levels in stormwater runoff; preliminary analytical results demonstrate a 75% reduction in zinc concentrations.
- NAVBASE Kitsap maintained a robust program of environmental review, analysis, and consultation to minimize environmental impacts and incorporate sustainable practices into project design and construction. In FY 2018 and FY 2019, staff reviewed over 1,000 construction and repair projects for compliance with air; stormwater; wastewater; drinking water; natural, cultural, and archeological resources; oil and hazardous substance; hazardous waste; National Environmental Policy Act; and hazardous materials regulations. To support NAVBASE Kitsap's environmental goals, all contractors are required to maximize material recycling, minimize hazardous material use, and use more environmentally friendly materials during project construction whenever practical.
- NAVBASE Kitsap reduced the amount of petroleum-based fuel used in the installation's fleet of non-military vehicles by using alternative fuels and electricity. Personnel used E-85, an ethanol fuel blend, and biodiesel to divert a total of 172,831 and 171,484 gallons from fossil fuels in FY 2018 and FY 2019, respectively. The installation's vehicle inventory is also comprised of 113 electric vehicles, or 11% of the local fleet. This further reduces the installation's reliance on fossil fuels and its generation of greenhouse gas emissions.
- To promote energy efficiency, NAVBASE Kitsap staff improved street and parking lighting by installing 5,495 high efficiency light-emitting diode lightbulbs. The new lighting provides improved efficiency and durability, reducing both energy consumption and material cost for replacement. Annual savings in energy consumption and material cost will amount to 5,588,528 kilowatts and \$336,931.
- NAVBASE Kitsap personnel continued to drive success in their Ship-to-Shore Hazardous Material Management Program and significantly reduced the generation of hazardous waste from naval vessels. Staff installed hazardous material lockers along the piers, making material reuse between ship and shore more accessible. This program yielded significant savings in the reduction of acquisition and disposal costs estimated to be \$1,701,057 for FY 2018 and FY 2019.



*Chris Jorgensen and Kelsey Hall, two environmental engineers within the NAVBASE Kitsap's Environmental Division, deploy crates of oyster shells. Zinc concentrations in the stormwater system of NAVBASE Kitsap Keyport are effectively lowered by deploying the shells.*



*NAVBASE Kitsap's Wildlife Biologist, Julia Stockton, inspects a culvert that was recently cleared of a beaver dam and debris. The unobstructed culvert provides access to critical habitat for many aquatic species including endangered salmon.*