



SFWMD Plane Crash Assessment

South Florida Water Management District

Relevant Services

- Planning, Permitting and Compliance
- Emergency Response
- Contamination Assessment
- Soil Sampling
- Risk Management
- Investigative Waste Disposal
- Source Removal

Challenges

- Minimizing impacts to concurrent active operations
- Expedited field activities
- Rugged terrain and sampling conditions

OVERVIEW

On March 25, 2019, a 1969 Beech 95B55 aircraft attempted to land in an open field at the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) C-139 property. The privately owned and operated aircraft sustained substantial damage during the forced landing upon impact with the canal; passengers sustained minor injuries. A witness working the grove drove the three passengers from the plane out to the main road where they met with emergency fire/medical staff.

NovelEolutions, Inc. (NovelE) provided Prime Contracting services to the SFWMD on this key project. Liza Grudin, PE served as the Engineer-of-Record for this fast-tracked site rehabilitation. Gregory Lee Aumann, Project Geologist, provided the primary field oversight for site activities.

The Interim Source Removal was conducted in accordance with Chapter 62-780.525, Florida Administrative Code (FAC) to address the cleanup of the de minimis petroleum discharges pursuant to Chapter 62-780.560, FAC. To expedite cleanup and minimize contaminant distribution, NovelE completed the initial field activities within 7 working days of Notice to Proceed (NTP). Based on visual observations

of a soft landing by a privately-owned aircraft, it was suspected that leaking lubrication oil and aviation fuel may have impacted site soils. As such, this contract required expedited investigation of petroleum-impacted soil. NovelE screened soils with an organic vapor analyzer (OVA), directing removal of impacted soils through soil excavation, and conducted confirmatory sampling with submittal of the samples to a Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) approved laboratory. NovelE arranged for disposal of the investigative derived waste (IDW) by a licensed Transport and Disposal company.

An Interim Source Removal Report was submitted on August 9, 2019 to the FDEP South District office. The report was approved with no comments. Ultimately, the discharge was granted a No Further Action (NFA) with issuance of a Site Rehabilitation Completion Order (SRCO) on October 9, 2019.





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