



February 2010

As we start the New Year, we look forward to working with you on our shared goal of cleaning Santa Susana and protecting it as open space for the benefit of future generations. We'd like to take this opportunity to give you an update on our cleanup efforts.

Many of you are aware that at the end of last year, we reluctantly asked a federal court to review Senate Bill 990 (SB 990) and clarify cleanup standards that are applied to Santa Susana.

In asking for the court's review, we challenged the constitutionality of SB 990 because the law singles out the site to meet cleanup requirements that far exceed what the state of California requires for any other site.

Typically, sites are cleaned up based on the future use of the land, which in this case is open space. We are, however, committed to meeting an even more stringent level and cleaning up the site so it is safe enough for suburban residential use. SB 990, on the other hand, requires cleanup for agricultural uses that will never occur.

By some estimates, three times as much soil—or enough additional soil to fill the Rose Bowl three times—would have to be removed to meet the agricultural standard. Excavation activities of this scale could add up to ten years to the schedule, destroy biological, historical and cultural resources at the site, and negatively affect local residents.

We remain committed to preserving our land at Santa Susana as protected open space upon completion of the cleanup. While the court decides the case, cleanup at the site will continue. We will also continue working with state and local agencies to complete the environmental investigations, continue interim soil and groundwater cleanups, as well as our efforts to improve storm water quality.

We invite you to visit the site and work with us so our goal of protected open space is realized.

Sincerely,



**Tom Gallacher**  
Site Director



**Steve Shestak**  
Director of Remediation

## Parks Representatives View Santa Susana as Vital Wildlife Corridor

Representatives from the National Park Service, the California Parks Department and the Santa Susana Mountain Park Association, visited Santa Susana for a tour of the site's plants and wildlife. Jack Unger, president of the Santa Susana Mountain Park Association, said, "Many birds and animals use this area as a 'bridge' to travel from the Angeles National Forest, the Los Padres National Forest and the Tehachapi Mountains to the north down into the Santa Monica Mountains to the south. It is vital to keep the Santa Susana Field Laboratory land as protected open space to preserve this crucial wildlife corridor."

In addition to its spectacular natural beauty, the former field laboratory is the site of riparian woodlands,

prehistoric pictographic art and rocket engine test stands. It sits within a wildlife corridor that connects the Sierra Madre-Ranges of Los Padres National Forest, to the Santa Monica Mountains and the Pacific Ocean. According to a 2008 South Coast Wildlands report, this 125,000-acre "Santa Monica-Sierra Madre Connection" is one of the few coastal-to inland linkages remaining in California's South Coast Ecoregion.

In an effort to preserve this vital wildlife corridor, Boeing initiated discussions with government agencies, community organizations and conservation groups on a land use plan to preserve its 2,400 acres of land at Santa Susana as permanent open space and dedicate it to serve the public for future generations.



*Suzanne Goode, senior environmental scientist, California Department of Parks and Recreation, studies vegetation during a site tour of Santa Susana.*

## Visible Clay Target/Lead Shot Removal Continues

Under the oversight of the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), Boeing continues cleanup of visible clay targets and visible lead shot in the rock outcrops on Sage Ranch, remnants left over from the Rocketdyne-Atomics International Rifle and Pistol Club.

From 1972 to 1991, the Rocketdyne-Atomics International Rifle and Pistol Club operated on land leased from Sage Ranch. As a result of club activities, clay target fragments were embedded in the Northern Drainage, while lead shot was dispersed in the outcrops just north of the shooting range.

Prior to the start of work, sensitive biological plants such as the Santa Susana tar plant and Braunton's Milk Vetch were protected, the potential presence of special-status birds, reptiles and mammals were noted and cultural resources were identified and secured in place.

The cleanup involves the use of vacuum trucks to remove visible clay target fragments from the streambed and banks and the use of hand tools to remove visible lead shot from the rock outcrops.



Workers use hand vacuums to remove lead shot from the rock outcrops on Sage Ranch.

## Outfall 8 Interim Source Removal Action Nears Completion

Storm water runoff is regulated under a permit issued by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board). The permit imposes numeric limits at multiple outfalls or drainage locations where storm water runoff leaves the site.

In an effort to meet the Regional Board's stringent water quality standards—which are for some constituents, like dioxin, a thousand times more stringent than drinking water standards—Boeing installed sophisticated drainage controls and multi-stage filtration systems at the outfall locations.

However, compliance at Outfalls 8 and 9 has posed significant challenges, largely due to the very steep terrain and the exceptionally large size of the watersheds.

In 2008, the Regional Board issued an Interim Source Removal Action (ISRA) and ordered Boeing and NASA to remove contaminated soil at Outfalls 8 and 9, respectively. The goal is to improve water quality by identifying soil contamination sources that may be contributing to permit limit exceedences.

The Regional Board worked with the Department of Toxic Substances



Water was used as a dust control measure when soil was removed from the outfall and loaded into transportation trucks.

Control, Ventura County staff and the Surface Water Expert Panel in overseeing compliance with the order.

In Outfall 8, Boeing removed approximately 5,000 cubic yards of non-hazardous soil as defined by California state waste classifications. The excavated areas were then recontoured and erosion stabilization techniques, like hydromulching and native restoration planting, were employed. This month, Boeing begins installation of water lines for irrigation as well as additional restoration planting.

This targeted cleanup is consistent with Boeing's commitment to a comprehensive and expeditious site-wide cleanup that protects human health and the environment.



After soil was removed, excavated areas were back filled, recontoured and hydroseeded.

## Construction of Groundwater Extraction Treatment System Complete



Boeing has completed construction of the Area I Groundwater Extraction and Treatment system, an upgraded treatment system that will pump and treat groundwater from extraction wells throughout the site. The system will treat the groundwater through a series of regulatory approved treatment technologies, including filtration, ion exchange, air stripping, carbon adsorption, and ultra violet oxidation. Once online, the system will be able to treat approximately 100 gallons of water per minute and remove chemicals such as trichloroethylene and perchlorate.

## In the Local Community



Boeing and TreePeople team up to plant seventy-five native oaks in Chatsworth Park, one of L.A.'s local wilderness areas.



Boeing presents hundreds of toys to Guadalupe Community Center, a non-profit organization that provides help and hope to more than 17,000 individuals each year.

## Boeing Supports Environmental Education Programs in Southern California

During 2009, The Boeing Company provided \$1 million in support to Southern California environmental organizations. The organizations were chosen for their work in protecting, restoring and conserving the natural environment within the Los Angeles basin. Some of the local recipients included:

- The Valley Economic Alliance (Los Angeles/Ventura) for the Canoga Park Green Learning Sustainable Living Garden.
- Infrastructure Academy (Los Angeles) for the Environmental Leadership and Workforce Readiness program, which prepares young people for emerging green careers.
- From Lot to Spot (Los Angeles) for Spaces of Blight: the Dominguez Enhancement Project to improve blighted urban neighborhoods and increase native upland habitat.

For more information or to attend a site tour, please contact:  
Kamara Sams, The Boeing Company, [kamara.sams@boeing.com](mailto:kamara.sams@boeing.com)  
[http://www.boeing.com/aboutus/environment/santa\\_susana](http://www.boeing.com/aboutus/environment/santa_susana)

**The Boeing Company**  
5800 Woolsey Canyon Rd.  
Canoga Park, CA 91304