

Posted on Tue, Jan. 24, 2006

Agent Orange cleanup resumes

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GULFPORT - Work to clean up the poisonous remains of Agent Orange has begun again around Gulfport's Naval Construction Battalion Center after operations were shut down for several months because of Hurricane Katrina.

Gordon Crane, the center's environmental manager, said the project had been shut down for four months and that Katrina's surge did make contact with contaminated areas north of 28th Street, the northern border of the center.

"Out in the swampy area, we did have some piles of excavated soil. There was some water there," he said. "Something could have moved."

He said that both the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Navy took samples to see if pollution had spread as a result of Katrina. They expect results back within the next two weeks.